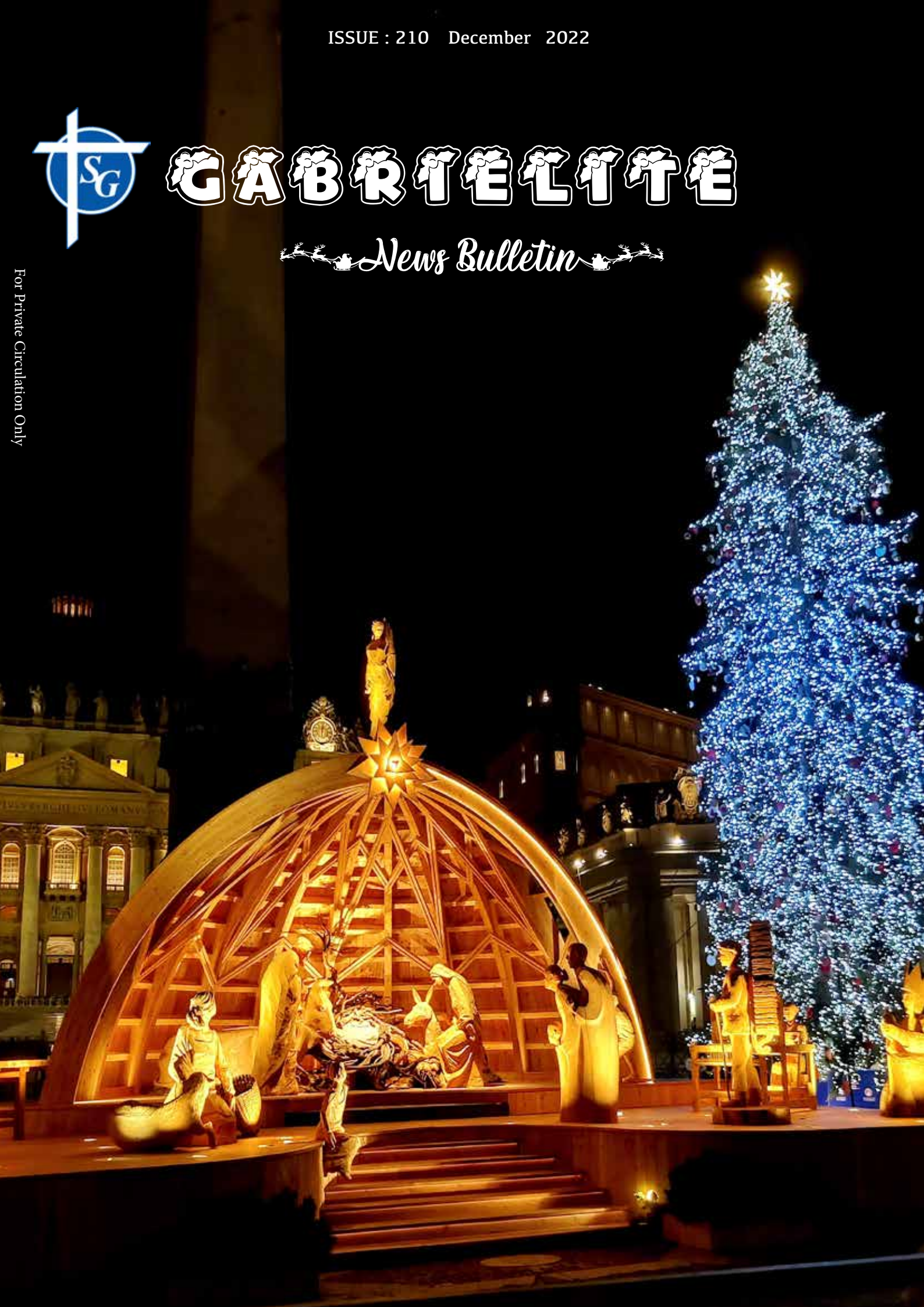




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News Bulletin

For Private Circulation Only





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Editor's Note

Wishing you all the Season's greetings, we bring to you this 210th issue of the Gabrielite News Bulletin (GNB). It is interesting to note that the first issue of the GNB dates back to 1st April 1989, consisting of 6 A4 pages, and it was published once in six weeks. We have certainly come a long way from there! This 210th issue of GNB consists of news from 13 Provinces, 2 Formation Houses in India, 3 articles in the Partnership Section, and a short Biography of the two Spanish Martyrs. In this issue, you will find information about the spiritual renewal sessions, visits, jubilees, activities of the institutions, sector meetings and much more.

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

Wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023.

Have a good reading!

Bro. Louis Anthonysamy, SG

Thank you dear Brothers for your service and availability



Bro. Dionigi Taffarello



Bro. Jean-Marie Thior



Bro. James T. K.



Bro. Emmanuel P. J.



Bro. Bernard Guesdon

Translators

Editor



Bro. Michel Mendy



Bro. Marcel Chapeleau



Bro. Jean-Paul M.



Bro. Louis A.



Casa Generalizia

Welcome to the General House

As part of their spiritual renewal session, the Brothers from the Provinces of India and East Africa stayed in Italy from 4th to 12th November, 2022. It was a joy for the Brothers of the General House who had not received groups of confreres for more than two years, due to covid 19.

This joy of encounter was expressed during the Welcome Ceremony organised on Friday, November 04, 2022, during which Bro. Dionigi Taffarello, Vicar General, gave them a warm welcome to Rome, the Eternal City.

Three moments punctuated his welcome message.



First of all, Bro. Dionigi Taffarello invited the Participants to the Session to become aware of the grace they receive by treading on the soil of the holy city of Rome where the General House

of the Brothers of St. Gabriel is located, the House of Animation and Administration for the whole Congregation.

Then he reminded them of the religious significance of their Session in the following Terms: "A Spiritual

Renewal Session is an opportunity to take a break from intense activities, to take time for your Formation, to have the time and the opportunity to discover places that are very important to us as religious, sons of Montfort, and to visit places that are magnificent from the point of view of culture, history and religion".

Finally, he concluded his speech with the following wishes: "During this period of stay in Europe and in particular in Italy, may your mind and your heart, but above all your spirit, be enriched, in order to give each one of you a new energy and inspiration for the accomplishment of the mission that will be entrusted to you in the coming years".

An aperitif and a fraternal meal ended this beautiful evening of November 04, 2022.





Farewell Ceremony for Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye

On Wednesday, November 09, 2022, the Brothers of the General House organised a Farewell Ceremony for Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye who, after 6 years of study in Rome, is returning to his Province of East Africa. A brilliant Student on Economic Sciences and a very warm-hearted confrere, Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye has other potentialities and qualities that Bro. Pratap Reddy, Assistant General, highlighted in his farewell speech.

Dear Brothers,

Bro. Sébastien comes across to me as a sincere, honest, diligent, and deeply committed religious Brother. He has always been passionate about religious life and his responsibilities. He always focused on the mission and community living. He has always been a community person with much humour.



Dear Brother Sébastien, you are a person who always tries to have a positive impact on everyone who comes into your life, and I believe this is the reason why everyone feels comfortable and secure in your presence. Your smile, patience, optimism, creativity

and, above all, your free spirit and commitment have always been an example of what it means to be an authentic Brother. Dear Bro. Sébastien, many, many thanks for all that you do. You truly live by the motto of giving everything and expecting nothing. We genuinely love and admire you as a religious and for contributing to community life.

Dear Bro. Sébastien, through my voice,

1. All the residents of the General House (Brothers, Priests and Sisters) renew their thanks to you. Thank you very much, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
2. Thank you once again for all that you have been for us: a simple, joyful Brother, doing a lot of service with discretion.
3. We wish you a safe return and a fruitful mission in your province. Our Lady of the Road cares for you and accompanies you.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for everything, dear Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye.



Farewell to the English-speaking Brothers

The Brothers of the General House took advantage of the Farewell Ceremony for Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye to express their gratitude to the English-speaking Brothers who stayed in Italy from November 04, 2022 to November 12, 2022, within the framework of their Spiritual Renewal Session led by Bro. Jean Paul Mbengue, Assistant General in charge for Formation. On behalf of the Superior General and the Community of the General House, Bro. Pratap Reddy, Assistant General, addressed them a message of sending.

experienced life in France and Italy. Living together, adjusting to the rigours of the schedule, setting aside personal conveniences for the common good, experiencing the cultures and accommodating each other is a beautiful spiritual experience. In this pilgrimage, you have discovered your new self. This journey certainly has inspired you in the Missionary Dynamism of our forefathers from France. It is an invitation to you to take the road less travelled.

Jesus sent his disciples to the ends of the earth to preach the Gospel. Now that you are enriched in the spirit of Jesus when you are back in your Province, share and spread the fragrance of the spiritual benefits you have obtained and make a difference in your communities and the Provinces.

The Central Administration and the Brothers in the General house deeply appreciate you for the way you have gone on this spiritual journey. We wish you all the best and God's continued blessings upon you and your Province.

Goodbye, fare thee well. Au revoir – Arrivederci.



Dear Brothers,

You have embarked on the pilgrim journey in Bengaluru. Your expectations and yearning for your soul's desire to renew your spiritual life and to connect your soul to God have been a marvellous journey. You have been connected to another during this spiritual journey itself is a community pilgrimage. There was the power of God around you during this journey.

You have encountered the world of culture and





Visit of Mgr Laurent Dabiré.

While visiting Rome, **Mgr Laurent Dabiré**, Bishop of Dori and President of the Episcopal Conference of Burkina Faso, made a visit to the community of the General House on Tuesday, November 29, 2022. A special opportunity to express once again the compassion of the Brothers for the people of Burkina Faso in general, and for the Christians in particular, who have become the new victims of the terrorists. In his address to the community, Bishop Laurent Dabiré stressed the worrying proliferation of terrorist groups, particularly in the area where his Diocese is located. As a Pastor, he works to keep faith and solidarity alive, and calls on the faithful to resist fear. Our common prayer is for peace and sustainable peace for Burkina Faso.



Bro. Jean-Marie Thior, SG
Secretary General

Province of Thailand



Appreciating the Resource Speaker at the session on Continued Formation

Continued Formation for Junior Brothers

On August 21-24, 2022 the Formation Commission organized the continued formation for our Junior Brothers prescribed by the Provincial Chapter on “Child Safe guarding”, by invited Fr. Jittapol Plangklang C.Ss.R. as the resource speaker, to give them knowledge and some hints on how to deal with problems, help and promote the

welfare of the pupils while taking all reasonable steps to protect them. This is because all children in our schools and institutions have a right to be safe when entrusted to us. We have to take all reasonable steps to protect them from harm whether from physical injury, abuse, neglect, emotional harm or from anything that interferes with their general development.

The Blessing of the Cemetery

On Saturday 29 October 2022, in the evening there was the Annual Brothers’ Cemetery Blessing at our Cemetery at Assumption College Sriracha. It began with the Eucharistic Celebration at the Cemetery site and then all the Brothers paid tribute and homage to the recent departed souls of the Brothers.



Rev. Bro. Superior General joined the ceremony



Traditional Cemetery Blessing



Brothers attend the ceremony

Golden Jubilee Celebration of Bro. John Vicharn Saengharn



Bro. Vicharn renews the vows.

October 30, 2022 The Province of Thailand celebrated the Golden Jubilee in Religious Life of Bro. John Vicharn Saengharn, presently Director of Assumption Technical School, Nakornpanom. He had his first Profession on April 27, 1972 at Eachinkadu, India. The celebration was in the Del Rosario Chapel, Assumption College, Sriracha. Rev. Msgr Joseph Yod Senarak, Vicar general of Chantaburi Diocese was the main celebrant in the company of the Rev. Bro. Superior General, Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Parents, Alumni and PTA members.

Bro. Achin Tengtrakul, SG



The Silver Jubilee Celebration Lake Montfort School, Bengaluru

“If four things are followed – having a great aim, acquiring knowledge, hard work, and perseverance – then anything can be achieved.”
— Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Lake Montfort School, stands as a true testimony echoing Kalam’s words. A small sapling was planted in 1998 which grew up in these long 25 vigorous years to be a big Banyan Tree providing opportunity, wisdom and enlightenment. The Management, Staff and Students came together on 12 November 2022 to celebrate these glorious 25 years with a vibrant mesmerising ceremonial occasion ‘UTSAV’ to mark its SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION.



It was a milestone for Lake Montfort School as the grand day was presided over by Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, Superior General, Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, Rome, as the Chief Guest and Bro. George Padikara as the Guest of Honour. The event was also attended by the Former Directors and Principals of the School, Provincial Superior of Daughters of Wisdom,

more than 5000 special guests, other invitees, religious heads, parents and past students.



The series of events started with the Traditional Welcome of the invited special guests followed by the Prayer Song and Lighting the Lamp to mark the auspiciousness of the flame of Education. A Welcome Dance by the students was an open extended warm welcome to all the spectators present at the venue. It was followed by the Principal’s formal Welcome Address to the gathering and an introduction to the honoured Guests of the day. The event was preceded by the Felicitation of the Former/Present Directors and Principals of the school and teachers for their selfless service towards the school. The Address by the Guest of Honour was even a note of imparting values and maintaining discipline, culture standing tall to RISE and Shine as the School Motto. It was followed by Prize Distribution for the academic achievers by the Chief Guest.

LMS created a history on this day as there was an official release of the School Wall Calendar 2022 which recaptures some of the ACADEMIC THEMES of LMS for the past academic years in the form of poetry well executed and exemplified by the students

showcasing new ideas, new opportunities and is an epitome of MONTFORTIAN values, culture, tradition and beliefs.

The Cultural Function was true to the theme of the day: UTSAV. The scintillating performances of the students featuring their talents, skills and values all culminating together was a feast to the eyes. The Performances of the kudos highlighting the Goan Vibes followed by Nature's Aesthetis, Bond of Fiesta was truly a colourful moment of visualisation. The Voyage of Eternal Quest spoke about our Patron Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort and his journey for the Quest of Life. The Beats of the Aboriginals, Celebrating Ethnicity and Insight to Human Expression added more to the fiesta.

The programme reached its pinnacle with the audio-visual presentation 'Touching a Milestone in Education' by the Director and Principal of the school, Bro. Jenny Kuriakose giving us an insight to the growth and progress of the school. The Chief Guest's Address was a note of appreciation for all the glorious achievements and to strive for excellence. He further elaborated and emphasised on the Values, Legacy and

Tradition of the school which is the responsibility of the students to carry forward in the coming years.

The Mesmerising Melodies of Silver was a magical performance by the Choir of the school with the Grand Finale being the cherry on the cake. It was the moment when all the special dignitaries, Management, Staff and Students came together to join their tune and steps with the SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION followed by the National Anthem.

The Bursting of Crackers marked the closure of the grand celebration. The students seemed to be determined and proud over the Legacy they were/are associated with and were/are focused to take it a level higher. The Silver Jubilee Celebration was a huge success with Optimism and Hope.

LAKE MONTFORT SCHOOL, shall continue its journey towards the GOLDEN ERA, while APPRECIATING THE PAST, CELEBRATING THE PRESENT AND INSPIRING THE FUTURE.

Bro. Jenny Kuriakose, SG



Montfort Juniorate Inaugural Function

It was an auspicious day for all the Antonians, a day to be inscribed in golden letters in the pages of the history of St. Antony's, because the opening ceremony of the Formation House of Montfort Juniorate, Bengaluru Province was held on 5th November 2022.



Earlier, the school was under the administration of Trichy Province. In the year 2019, when Bengaluru Province came into existence, Trichy Province was bifurcated. So a separate place to train the Juniors to grow in faith, love & humanity and also to prepare them both spiritually and academically, had become the need of the hour.

Brothers of Bengaluru Province had been working diligently for the right place. Having in mind many places finally they chose St. Antony's Hr. Sec. School, Coonoor an exquisite hill station which provides a panoramic view of the lush green hills with its ravine valleys and cascades, is the apt place they had been searching for.

A step into St. Antony's is the right step into the wider knowledge hub and personality development. Moreover, St. Antony's being the alma-mater for most of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, they decided it would be the best place for the juniors to

have a closer relationship with God.

Admiring and appreciating the service in Education, the Britishers donated a building to St. Antony's in the year 1906. It was renovated for the comfortable and peaceful stay of the Juniors.



The opening ceremony of the Formation House of Montfort Juniorate began with the solemn prayer service by the Most Rev. Dr. A. Amalraj, Bishop of Ootacamund. His Lordship cut the ribbon opened and blessed the house. The juniors,

overwhelmed by the love, and concern under the wings of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel deeply realised that they should bloom where they are planted.

Provincials and Brothers from various provinces not only made the ceremony more blessed by their august presence but also praised the efforts taken by Bro. Thomas Selvam.

They also wished the Juniors to be the epitome of the Bible verse,

“ Therefore be imitators of God as dear children and walk in love as Christ has loved us and given himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling aroma.”

Ephesian 5: 1-2.

Bro. Sebastian Antonysamy, SG



Province of Hyderabad

Integration Programme for Fraternal Communion and Synodality in the Province

Fraternal living, which characterizes religious life, is not an option, but it is a way of overcoming our individual interests and indifference to the call of the Spirit. Do we live fraternal life as a means to progress in our spiritual life? Is it a means or an obstacle? Fraternal life is prophetic and offers an alternative to individualism and corporate culture. It challenges the 'pseudo-values' of the contemporary world and announces that an alternative world is possible. It reveals, within our limitations and difficulties, that the power of God is there to help us to go beyond our corruptible human nature, enabling us to become His children. Fraternal life is also a mission for today's world and an instrument for a New Evangelization through example (not through indoctrination, but through a 'come and see' experience). It requires a sense of responsibility and total commitment from everyone and by everyone.

“ The Integration Programme for Fraternal Communion and Synodality in the Province” initiated by the Provincial Administration is an important opportunity for the Brothers of the Province to join with the Church to reflect on Communion, Participation and Mission and to make it a Lived Experience in the Province. “Living Synodality in the Church means that everyone has something to contribute and the synodal process wants to encourage everyone to speak out what is on their mind. We are all aware that the most difficult thing is to listen in an unbiased way, respectful way, without immediately answering, criticizing or giving good advice. But this is the only way to create an atmosphere of trust that makes good decisions possible and fraternal living in

our communities a joyful experience”. Letter from the Superior General; No:19/2018-24; Dated 15.8.2022.

The objectives of this programme are to facilitate Brothers to reflect on Our General Chapter Orientations on Fraternal Communion and Dimensions of Montfortian Mission, to recall the rich experiences of the past, to discuss openly and frankly the reality and the challenges in our Province, to share about the expectations and aspirations of the Brothers, to rebuild communion, to evolve a spirituality of Synodality in the Province and to seek the grace of unity in the Province.

It was a highly enriching experience and a moment of grace for the senior Brothers who participated in the first two sessions of the integration programme with total involvement and the Holy Spirit has been truly guiding and leading us.

Bro. Jayabalan, SG



Bro George Pralel (Bro Uncle): An Epitome of Joyful Religious Brother



Many Brothers, Relatives, Priests and Religious, Members of Staff, Students and Friends came in good numbers from all over to pay homage to our dear Brother Uncle, and to walk with him on his final journey. We have known him as a loving, affectionate, caring and genuine Brother, fellow-religious, friend, admirer, or mere acquaintance. We have been touched by his life in one way or another. Bro. Uncle went to his eternal reward on Friday at 10.35 pm at St. Ann's hospital. He was 95 years old, no one expected him to leave us so suddenly and in the way he actually did. Everyone loved him and we miss him. Yet we know that from now on, he'll be present with us even more fully and intensely. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his family members, near and dear ones. Dear friends, Bro Uncle after serving here in Boys town for 35 years, in the Platinum Jubilee year of his first profession. On 23rd September 2022, at 10.35 pm, he has begun a New Life in Boys town. When I saw him that night at 10.45 pm, I strongly felt that there was grace and a divine glow, serenity and gentleness on his innocent face like that of a 2-year-old child, which was truly the comment of a prominent doctor who had treated him earlier.

I was really excited like many other Brothers of the Indian Provinces to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Bro Uncle. I personally monitored him and cared for him daily for 8 days in the month of June when he was sick and admitted to Global Hospital. I had a first-hand experience of his fighting spirit, enthusiasm, energy and he had recovered exceptionally well. I felt very confident on his 95th Birthday and believed that Bro Uncle would easily hit a century. I got the news that Bro uncle was admitted to St. Ann's Hospital on September 18th Sunday, I visited him on Monday, and he was doing well. I went back to the Provincial House and completed my 5th circular to the Brothers of the Province. On Tuesday morning, Bro Uncle was very critical, I came back rushing to the hospital along with Bro C.A. James, consulted with a few more expert doctors and provincial councillors of the Province, when we saw Bro Uncle on Tuesday evening, he was better, he fought back, he surprised sisters and doctors. I went back to Provincial House and released my 5th circular stating that the Province is excited to celebrate his Platinum Jubilee on November 19th. I was very confident that Bro Uncle would fight back and become better. I feel very sad...

All the Doctors who had been treating Bro Uncle, told me that he has been suffering from severe lung infection for the past 2 years. Every time he fell ill during these 2 years, including the deadly covid, he was one of the oldest persons in the world to win the battle of covid, his willpower did wonders, performed miracles for him and made him better. The life of Bro. Uncle could be looked at as a beautiful mosaic creating a wonderful blending of gifts of both grace and gentleness. As a person, he was solid in his convictions and would go to any length towards achieving what he believed in his conscience to be right yet was so humble that he would always seek the permission of his Superiors before undertaking any project. He always obeyed his Superiors even when he did not agree. A lesson for all of us to learn. Those who know Bro. Uncle would certainly vouch for his love and caring affection. He always tried to be good for everyone. He was a safe custodian of finances as Bursar and was meticulous in performing his responsibilities. In the schools he worked, children, staff, parents and Brothers had admiration for the way he related with them. He was always caring and compassionate to everyone.

Bro George Pralel was truly an Uncle to everyone, for his heart was full of respect and affection to everyone including me right from the day I became the Provincial. We can never ever forget him for his genuine love, his loving embrace and his hug for everyone. Our memories of a simple, cheerful and an epitome of a joyful Religious Brother shall never disappear from our hearts but we are going to miss his smile.

Bro. Shine Alex, SG

Province of Delhi



Delhi Sector Meeting at Montfort School, Roorkee

Coming together is the beginning, growing together is progress, keeping together is friendship and sharing & caring together is joy. The Brothers of Delhi sector had gathered together at Montfort School, Roorkee on 23rd Oct 2022. All the four communities had been represented and it was a wonderful gathering altogether. The main purpose of coming together was to discuss on “Synodal Church.” On 10th October 2021, Pope Francis had solemnly declared a synod on Synodality with the theme: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.” It provides a blueprint for the life and mission of the Church today. The Synod is a prolonged exercise of renewal and animation in the Church which will be concluded with the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023 and 2024.

Focusing on the aspects of communion, participation and mission, consultations with and among different segments of the faithful are intended to include as many groups and classes of people as possible in the decision-making process. Keeping this in mind, Province of Delhi has decided to go through this process in the sector level and province level. Delhi Sector made use of the gathering of Brothers to discuss about the Synodal Church. Bro. T.T. Mathew gave us the gist of the entire document. He went on

to say that all the three keywords of Synodal Church help us to animate our walking together. He quoted Pope Francis who says, “A Synodal Church is a church which listens, which realizes that listening is more than simply hearing. It is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn. The faithful, the bishops and the pope: all listening to each other, and all listening to God’s Spirit, the Spirit of Truth.” Bro. T.T. Mathew concluded his talk with a couple of questions for personal reflection on how we can practise the concept of synodality in our community, educational institutions, province, local parish and diocese. Bro. Albert, the local Superior and Principal of Montfort School, Roorkee summarized and proposed the vote of thanks to all especially to Bro. T.T. Mathew who really took time to prepare and presented the topic well. He further added that the talk by Bro. Mathew could help us to journey together with the Church and its people.

As part of the sector gathering, the Brothers had gone to Jim Corbett National Park and Nainital to experience and explore the wild life sanctuary and the beauty of nature. It was worth visiting both the places.

Bro. Alex Diamond, SG





Jubilee Celebrations at Montfort Villa, Bhopal

A word of CONGRATULATIONS to the Jubilarians for their perseverance to walk up to this milestone of their lives. It is a well-earned honour. It was their commitment, passion, response to the call of the Divine and their fidelity which made it to celebrate this day. Others may have walked with them, encouraged them, felt with them, but no one walked it for them. May the Almighty God who has brought them this far, guide and protect them to go beyond what they can think of or imagine! May the spirit of our founder St. Louis de Montfort, under the care and protection of Mary, our Blessed Mother assist them to accomplish their commitment to its fullest, after her example, to be remembered and cherished proudly by numerous people they will come in touch with in your life and mission in the days to come! May the Good Lord who initiated the good work in them help them to accomplish it!

other Indian provinces. As Montfortains we walk the charisma of our founder, St. Montfort, aided by the blessings of Mary, our mother.



The jubilee celebration was well attended by a good number of Brothers who had just finished the retreat and were present, adding to it a sizable number of relatives of the jubilarians, Fathers, religious Sisters, friends, benefactors and well-wishers. Most Rev. Sebastian Durairaj, the Archbishop of Bhopal was the main celebrant along with many priests.

The program started on a different note, unlike the traditional style. It commenced with a 'Chenda melam'



It is a matter of great pleasure and privilege to acknowledge the organizers who facilitated the event so well; words would fall short of approbation to say, the planning and the efforts they put in produced admirable results. On 5th Oct 2022, Montfort Villa had a euphoric evening of commemoration of the filial commitments of ten of our Brothers - one Diamond jubilarian and Five Silver jubilarians from the province of Delhi, and four visiting jubilarians from



a traditional art of south of India, and a procession with the main celebrant, jubilarians and some of their relatives, the concelebrants and all Montfort Brothers, proudly a noticeable number, perhaps never seen before. Thanks to the Provincial and team for making things happen.

The jubilation resembled something like what is mentioned in the ancient Hebrew laws of celebration in Leviticus 25; where trumpets were blown in the jubilee year but here of course the ‘Chenda melam’ as a mark of exuberant celebration. The main celebrant in his homily did highlight and stress the importance of such jubilee celebrations and as far as possible how they need to be observed and tribute to be paid to these great men of honour for their unconditional and unmatched service in the vineyard of God Almighty. He applauded the fidelity and commitment of the jubilarians for the last 25 to 60 years.

It was a spectacular and eye-catching manifestation as the jubilarians dressed up in traditional white cassocks lined up, renewing and ratifying their religious vows, and Bro. Provincial gave the lead to this solemn event. After all, we have inherited a lot from the Christian traditions and customs, be it through cultural influences or spirituality imbibed from Biblical teachings, and surely there is a lot more that can adjoin enriching values.

After the liturgical celebration, it was time for felicitations of the jubilarians. Any anniversary seems incomplete without a cake, and the fabulous evening’s felicitation commenced with the cake cutting. Indeed, the stage was full of celebrities in the spotlight, and cheers of congratulations through the jubilee song complimented the event. It was a graceful



and emotional moment to be cherished for a lifetime. Following the cake-cutting ceremony Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial Superior said a short prayer gracing the occasion and welcomed his Lordship, the Archbishop and all present.

Any event is rather dull unless it has some spice in it. A big salute to the children of St. Montfort School, Bhopal, Middle section as more than 40 of them on the stage gave a soul-elevating dance of multiple cultures. Call it felicitation of jubilarians from multiple cultural backgrounds, the dancers did it wonderfully well under the choreography of Mr. Ajay, the dance teacher. The mesmerizing performance with elegant costumes, vibrant steps, and amazing talents kept everyone spellbound. It was followed by felicitation of jubilarians individually and every one of them was felicitated to their heart’s content. We appreciate our Provincial, and His Grace, the Archbishop for patiently presenting every one of the ten jubilarians a shawl and souvenir for reaching another milestone of their religious life.



True, the ceremonial event took a little longer than the anticipated time. The fact is all our dear ones were dignitaries, who travelled from far and wide for this event and only for this celebration. What was important for us Montfortians was that the Brothers who were celebrating the jubilee were given to us out of the generosity of their family members and we credibly saluted them and their representatives who attended this function. The celebrations came to an end with a sumptuous meal for all present for the celebration.

Bro. Chacko Azhaketh, SG

Montfort Home, Patna

Loyola High School conducted Half Yearly Examinations for the students of Classes I-X & XII from 19th September, 2022 to 30th September, 2022.



An interactive seminar was conducted by Loyola Montessori School on 25th September, 2022 on the topic “Positive Parenting”. The parents actively participated in this seminar and shared their views with the resource person Mrs. Amrita Basu. They also expressed their problems and challenges. The seminar was very fruitful and helpful for the parents.

Bro. Sunil Indwar, SG

Montfort Niwas, Kanke

On 3rd, September we had the Investiture ceremony of the Student Council. We had elected the leaders for the academic session 2022-23. The event was presided over by the school Principal. The Investiture ceremony signifies the reliance and confidence that the school consigns in the newly invested office bearers. They also pledge to bestow their duties to the best of their abilities. We believe that child-centric approach will frame them all as responsible citizens. The Principal and Teachers of the School appreciated and congratulated the Student Council.



On 5th September, We had Teachers’ Day celebration in the school. It is the day which students and teachers equally look forward to; the day is important for the students as it gives them a chance to understand the efforts put in by their teachers. In order to honour the Teachers we had a short cultural programme by the students. All the Teachers were welcomed on the stage by the students. They sang a welcome song for the teachers and danced for them.

Bro. Zephrenius, SG

We had a vaccination camp for the age group of 12-14 years in our school. Students came forward to take the vaccination without any hesitation. They were very excited to get the vaccination.



The Jubilee Celebration of Ten Brothers

The Provincial Administration decided to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Bro. P.J. Abraham and Bro. Calep Topno and Silver Jubilees of Bro. Benjamin Samad, Bro. Johnson V. Gorge, Bro. Herman Bijay Lakra, Bro. Pratap Kerketta, Bro. Rajesh Barla, Bro. John Berchmans Kullu, Bro. Thomas John and Bro. Sudhakar Reddy on 11th September, 2022 at Provincial House Kanke. An organizing committee was set up to stage manage the jubilee celebrations. The members of the organizing committee were Bro. Jayapal Reddy, Bro. Alphonse Toppo, Bro. Satheesh K. Don and Bro. John Paul Xess.

The organizing committee had its meeting at St. Aloysius High School Ranchi to plan the programme. The committee asked Bro. Frederick Soreng to contact the Bishops to preside over the Jubilee Mass. He contacted the Archbishop, the Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi Archdiocese. Unfortunately they were not available on that day. He contacted Bishop Anand Jojo of Hazaribagh Diocese. He also was not available on that day. Since the Bishops were not available he approached to Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, the Jesuit Provincial of Ranchi Province. He was available and gladly accepted to be the main celebrant.

The organizing Committee distributed the responsibilities among the Brothers. Bro. John Paul Xess was given the responsibility of shamyanas, decoration and chair arrangement. Bro. Manoj Kumar

Lugun was given the responsibility of the liturgy. Bro. Alphonse Toppo and Bro. Pratap Kerketta were in charge of food. Bro. Pratap Kerketta was given the responsibility of arranging lodge for the stay of the family members and relatives who were coming for the programme. He got the Invitation Card printed for all the Jubilarians.

There was a prediction of rain, therefore the main shamyana was made water proof. The stone dust was put around it to prevent the water to follow through. Another simple shamyana was made for serving the meals.

Local Superior Bro. John Berchmans Kullu requested the Local Superior of St. Anne's Convent and the incharge of the sister candidates to have the singing practice jointly for the Mass with our candidates. Both of them agreed and the Mass singing practice was done jointly.

As per the information received a good number of family members and relatives were coming to attend and participate in the event. So Bro. Pratap Kerketta booked 15 rooms at SDC Ranchi. Bro. Provincial asked the contractor to finish the servants' quarters so that some could be accommodated there. The Gabriel Block of Montfort Niwas was used to accommodate Brothers from other Provinces, the family members and the relatives.





11th September, 2022 became the memorable day for the campus of St. Joseph's School Kanke. 17 Brothers came from others Provinces to attend the jubilee celebration. All the Brothers, their family members, the relatives and the invitees gathered under the main shamyana before 9.00 a.m. The main celebrant Rev. Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess reached the place at 8.45 a.m. There were 12 other priests who joined him for the Mass.

The Jubilee Mass began at 9.00 a.m. as per the schedule with the entrance dance performed by the candidates of St. Anne's Sisters. All were pleased to see them. Mass singing was done by the candidates of Brothers and candidates of St. Anne's Sisters dance so well, it was excellent. This singing made the environment prayerful. There was Bible Procession led by the first reader Bro. P.J. Abraham and four candidates. A very prayerful song was sung for the Bible Procession. The main celebrant received the Bible respectfully and garlanded it and incensed it before reading. There were three readings to solemnize the celebration. After the gospel reading the main celebrant Rev. Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess gave very meaningful and touching homily which over whelmed the mind and the heart of the jubilarians as well as the crowd present. The offertory prayer was done with different symbols – salt, light, fruits, plants, foot prints, globe, bread and wine. A meaningful prayer was read out by the Master of Ceremony, Bro. Abraham Toppo and Bro. Amit Beck. The jubilarians presented them to the main celebrant and all of them were placed in proper places. The Mass took about two and half hours. The Mass singing was excellent. Congratulations to Bro. Manoj Kr. Lugun, Bro. Bimal Ekka, Bro. Jaswant Ekka, all the Brothers and the Brothers and Sisters of all candidates who were involved in it. The alter decoration was done by the Local Superior and all other Sisters of St. Anne's Convent Kanke. Brothers thanked them for their wholehearted cooperation and making the alter really beautiful.

The Jubilee Felicitations began with prayer dance by the students of Montfort School Hathiagonda.

The welcome song was sung by the Candidates of Montfort Vidya Deep, Hatiagonda. Bro. Satheesh K. Don welcomed the gathering and the felicitation and the honoring began. The main celebrant of the jubilee mass, Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, the Provincial Superior of Ranchi Jesuits and Bro. Lambert and Bro. Sleeva Reddy, the Novice Masters of many of the Silver jubilarians were requested to come to the dais. Bro. Frederick Soreng honored Rev. Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess and Rev. Bro. Lambert by presenting them bouquet, shawl and memento. Bro. Sleeva Reddy was honored with the same presentation by Bro. Edmond Toppo. The Golden Jubilarians, Bro. Abraham P.J. and Bro. CalepTopno were felicitated by Bro. Paulose Mekkunnel, Bro. Jacob Panjikaran and Bro. Sylvester Surin, Bro. Linus Kerketta respectively by presenting them bouquet, shawl, memento and gift from the Province.

The students of St. Aloysius' Ranchi presented a dance to make the programme lively. The Silver Jubilarians, Bro. Benjamin Samad, Bro. Johnson V. George, Bro. Herman Bijay Lakra and Bro. Pratap Kerketta were honored by presenting them with a bouquet, shawl and memento by Bro. Clement Kandulna, Bro. Nichodemus Tete, Bro. Joseph Regis, Bro. Cyril Chettiath, Bro. Amar Kandulna, Bro. Sushil Toppo, Bro. Subodh Kachhap and Bro. John Herman Ekka.

The students of St. Aloysius' Inter College Ranchi presented a dance to make the programme enjoyable. Bro. Rajesh Barla, Bro. John Berchmas Kullu, Bro. Thomas John and Bro. Sudhakar Reddy were invited



to the dais by the M.C. Bro. Thomas John was absent due to personal reasons so only three jubilarinas went to the dais. They were honored by Bro. George Turkey, Bro. Berchmans Toppo, Mike Jatrom and Bro. Jayapal Reddy by presenting them with a bouquet, shawl and memento.

All the jubilarians shared their life journey in three to five minutes after the felicitations. All of them touched the hearts of the crowd by their life experiences. They expressed their joys and sorrows. They also thanked God and the persons who helped them to come to this stage.

Golden Jubilarian, Rev. Bro. George Reddy and sixteen Silver Jubilarians namely Bro. B. Joseph, Bro. Antony Swami, Bro. Benny T. L., Bro. Mathias Minz, Bro. Philip Raj, Bro. Ignatius, Bro. Chezhan, Bro. Martin, Bro. Niju Thomas, Bro. Britto, Bro. Johnson A., Bro. Jeet Francis, Bro. Lourdu Mar Reddy, Bro. Vincent Reddy and Bro. Albanraj K. R. also were present from other Provinces to participate in this jubilee celebrations. They were felicitated and honored by Bro. Sathesh K. Don, Bro. Jayapal Reddy and Bro. Mike Jatrom by presenting them with a bouquet, Shawl and memento.

Before the end of the programme the chance was given to the family people and the relatives and those who were present to express themselves. They too

presented songs, garlands, bouquets and gifts. All these made the celebration enjoyable and memorable. Bro. Clement Kandulna thanked the main celebrant Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, all Fathers, Brothers, Sisters who were present for the Mass and programmes. He thanked the organizing committee and St. Anne's Sisters. He thanked the candidates who performed the entrance dance. He thanked all the candidates who sang jointly for the mass. He thanked all the persons in general who worked and contributed directly or indirectly to make the celebrations successful.

There was a very heavy rain during the programme. But the shamyana was rain-proof, so there was no disturbance. The programme went well without any problem. After the rain the sky was clear so everybody enjoyed the delicious meal.

The programme came to an end with cutting of the cake by all the jubilarians and the celebration ended with delicious meal which all enjoyed. Congratulation to all the members of the organizing committee who planned meticulously and executed minutely.

Bro. Frederick Soreng, SG



'LAUDATO SÌ WEEK'

Responding to the urgent call by Pope Francis' encyclical, Laudato Si, to tackle the current ecological crisis by making a paradigm shift, a conversion that will deal with environmental problems such as global warming, loss of biodiversity, hazardous chemicals and waste, marine pollution, destruction of forests, monoculture plantations, lack of clean drinking water and social problems such as inequity, greed and poverty the Province of Northeast India decided to observe a Laudato Si Week in the communities and the institutions in the Province.

The Laudato Si Week Celebrations in the Province of Northeast India were held from the 8th of August 2022 till the 13th of August 2022.

During the Laudato Si week, the institutions in the Province of Northeast India, conducted School Assemblies / Special Assemblies organized by different classes based on the themes 'Environmental

Protection', 'Save Trees', 'Afforestation', 'Cleanliness' etc., highlighting the fact that the earth, which is our home, is being destroyed every day by selfish people who don't care for anything except their profits. The students and staff took a pledge to safeguard Mother Earth which is our only home.

The use, reuse and recycle principles, the need to avoid the use of plastic and the need for conserving paper, water and non-renewable energy etc. were explained to the children in the presence of a good number of parents through various Seminars. They were also made aware of the rights of all living beings, humans as well as animals and that they should be treated with respect and care. Moreover, they were told to avoid the use of plastic on campus strictly and were discouraged from using plastic cups and plates to consume their favourite food items in the school and outside too. Instead, they were encouraged to opt for cups, plates and bags made from consumable/reusable material.





Some of our institutions organized cleanliness drives to clean up and sanitize different localities, including nearby marketplaces, public grounds and their own school campuses. Banners and placards were used during the drives to attract the attention of the public and to motivate and inspire people to care for and conserve nature.

Our students, motivated by their Eco Clubs, went on a plantation spree during the Laudato Si Week. Quite a number of trees and saplings were planted inside the school campuses and the localities nearby the schools. The students also volunteered to bear the responsibility of maintaining them in the years to come. Some of our students took saplings home to be planted in their localities/homes while some trimmed

the trees that were on the school campuses so as to beautify them.

On the whole, the Laudato Si week celebrations were fruitful wherein the students were given the opportunity to practically involve themselves in activities which comprised of taking proper measures to protect, conserve and nurture Mother Nature while experiencing the joy of working together for a noble cause.

Bro. Saiju P Michael, SG
Laudato Si Co-ordinator





BRO. MARTIN JOSEPH 1938 - 2022

A luminous flame that brightened our pathway for the last 62 years as a Montfort Brother, has merged with Eternity. Bro. Martin was a smiling, cheerful and dynamic fatherly figure who brought happiness and life to everyone who met him. As Bro. Martin has gone to his Eternal reward, he seems to be assuring us that he has done his best in the race, he has run the full distance and has kept the faith. Now he is enjoying the Eternal Reward prepared for him from Eternity.

Born on 2nd April 1938 at Piravom, Kerala in the Panathanath family to the late Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Elizabeth, he was the 5th of 8 children. Recruited by



With Bro. Thomas Platthotam & Bro. M. S. Kuriyan

late Bro. Stanislaus Joseph, he joined as a candidate at Coonoor, Tamilnadu, India and made his first profession on 9th April 1960 and the perpetual Profession on 19th May 1966 at Yercaud. He started his teaching career in 1960 and served many schools in Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh.

NORTHEAST SAGA:

Sensing his passion for the mission and enthusiasm in serving the poor and needy, Bro. Lawrence Joseph, the then Provincial of the Province of South India sent him to Chabua to help Bro. Anthony Padua to establish a Montfort School there in the year 1988. In 1992 he was sent to Champaknagar to do the pioneering work for Montfort School, Tripura, where he spent two years during the most difficult situations at the initial stages of that mission.



With the Bishop of Dibrugarh, Bro. Provincial and his community members

A DYNAMIC & GENIAL PERSONALITY:

Bro. Martin, like St. Montfort, was a Man on the move. Active and wanting to do many things for the students and the development of the institutions he worked for. When the Superiors wanted a strong Brother to take up the challenge of managing a school at a difficult place or starting a new school, Bro. Martin was the choice. He had a great gift to relate and network with various religious communities and people where ever he was.

A PIONEER OF MANY INSTITUTIONS:

Pioneering in many places with no knowledge of the local language, minimum financial support and other challenging situations never wavered Bro. Martin because he always took risks like Montfort his model, trusted in the Providence of God and had a great love for the Congregation. He established schools in Guwahati and Abhayapuri. Bro. Martin was a pillar of support to pioneers at Chabua and Champaknagar. The sacrifices he endured, his hard work and his struggles coupled with the blessings of God have transformed the institutions he started to become the best in the locality. He was a great administrator and an affectionate Principal. He served as an educator for half a century and made a difference in the lives of students, staff, parents and all who came into contact with him.



PASSION FOR RELIGIOUS LIFE:

Bro. Martin lived his life passionately. He faithfully adhered to the norms and practices of his religious calling. Regular for community prayers and the Holy Eucharist, he was a living example of Montfortian Spirituality and Marian devotion. His life bears witness to his fidelity and commitment. He proved himself to be a pioneer, builder, provider and a very loving and caring Brother to all. He was a man for all seasons and all places.

Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, SG
Provincial Superior



During Siver Jubilee Celebration
of the Province

EXCERPTS FROM THE PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Visit to the cemetery



Last September 21st, several Brothers gathered at the cemetery Sainte-Marie-Madeleine, in Trois-Rivières, to recall the names and the lives of those who preceded us in eternal life. When we arrived at the cemetery, Brother Denis Lefebvre was already there to complete the installation of a sound system to facilitate our prayer and singing.

After the gathering at the cemetery, we headed to



the Community of Saint-Lazare where a light lunch was waiting for us (corns and sandwiches). The atmosphere was very fraternal. It was an auspicious occasion to celebrate recent birthdays.

We wish to thank our Brothers of the Saint-Lazare Community for their warm welcome. Thanks also to Mrs. Hélène Périgny and Sylvie Venne who were the hostesses during the meal.

Brother Jean-François Bonang, f.s.g.

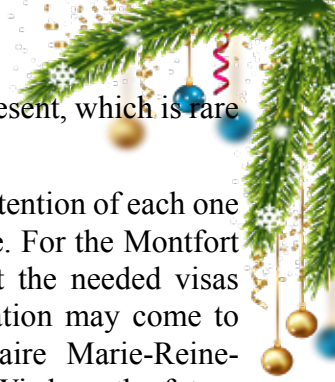
Since September 1st, 2022, Brother Jean-François is a full-fledged member of the Province of Canada. Welcome Brother Jean-François! We are happy to welcome you as a member of our Province. We hope you will be very happy here.

Alumni of Former Students of Orphelinat Saint-Arsène

The Alumni of Former Students of Orphelinat Saint-Arsène recently ended its activities due to the effects of Covid-19 and the lack of new members. A letter, on behalf of the Province, has been sent to Mr. Bourguignon, its president, thanking him for the happy moments we spent together and for the work that the members of the Alumni have done for the young men in need of the services offered by Maison Bonsecours and by Escale Notre-Dame.

Homage to Brother Guy Barbe, SG

On September 18th, in the church of Saint-Martin, in Laval, Brothers Léo Adam, André Roberge and Guy



of the Provincial Councils were present, which is rare in the history of those meetings.

We shared on issues needing the attention of each one of the Councils at the present time. For the Montfort Missionaries: the difficulty to get the needed visas so that members of the Congregation may come to continue the mission of Sanctuaire Marie-Reines-Coeurs; for the Daughters of Wisdom: the future of their infirmary in Ottawa; and, for us, Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, the future of the Province and of our Intercultural Community.

We also shared to see what we could do together considering that, in 2023, we will celebrate the 350th Anniversary of the birth of Louis-Marie Grignion. We thought of organizing a symposium somewhere around the 28th of April. You will hear about it in the coming months. We also thought of a second project: that of having a Facebook page which would be common to the Montfortian Family. This project still needs a little more thought before it is started.

Cemetery of Saint-Bruno



The cemetery of Saint-Bruno needed some embellishment work. The 2nd phase of the work is now completed. The monuments and cement slabs have been repaired. Next spring, in the 3rd phase of the work, the tombstones will be cleaned and the landscaping will be completed.



Guy Barbe
(Brother Vincent of Siena)

Born and baptized on 1st January 1919
in St. Martin
Quebec, Canada

Died on 14 October 1992
in Mount Alvernia Hospital
Singapore

A pioneer of the missions of the Brothers of St. Gabriel
in Singapore, Malaysia and Papua New-Guinea.
Died on 14 October 1992
in Mount Alvernia Hospital

He studied at l'École Leblanc, in St. Martin, at the Juniorate
and the Novitiate of the Brothers of St. Gabriel and, in England,
at St. Gabriel's College School of Languages, in Oakland,
and at King's College of London University.

He left for the Singapore mission in 1940, and was a prisoner
of the Japanese from 1942 to 1945. After the war, in 1948,
he founded the Boys' Town in Singapore; an institution comprising
an orphanage and a vocational school for children having difficulties,
as well as a regular school, Assumption English School.

Under his responsibility, from 1955 to 1972, numerous Primary and
Secondary Schools, Juniorates and Novitiates were created in Singapore,
Malaysia and Papua New Guinea, as well as the Montfort Boys' Town
in Batu Tiga (Shah Alam), Malaysia.

Appointed Justice of the Peace in 1979, he sat on the General Legal Advisory
Committee and on the National Social Service Council, in Singapore.
He presided over the Study Committee for the protection of children.

In 1987, he received the medal "Bintang Bakti Masyarakat"
(Public Service Star) from the Singaporean Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew,
for his contribution to the development of the country
and for his social commitment.

St-Onge took part in the celebration organized by Mr. Michel Barbe, in homage to Brother Guy Barbe, SG, his uncle.

All the Brothers of the Province had been invited to that celebration desired and organized by the family of Bro. Guy Barbe. There was a Eucharistic celebration presided over by the parish priest, Father Adam Klinhosz, the unveiling and blessing of a plaque in memory of Bro. Guy, and a meal which was served in the basement of the church. Nearly a hundred people responded to the invitation.

Members of the other two Congregations of the Montfortian Family were also there: the Montfort Missionaries were represented by Father Doris Tombaosa, the Vice-Provincial, and the Daughters of Wisdom were represented by Sister Jocelyne Fallu, Provincial Superior, and by Sister Desneiges Giroux.

There is no doubt that our Brother Guy Barbe was well honored in an atmosphere of joy and simplicity.

Meeting of the Provincial Councils of the Montfortian Family

For the first time in 4 years, the three Provincial Councils of the Montfortian Family met, in our Provincial House, on October 25th. All the members

Bro. Ronald BRISSETTE, SG

Province of East Africa



Montfort Primary School, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

As we inch towards the fag end of the year, many of our Institutions in Tanzania had their graduation programme for the students, who are completing the final year of their studies. The Form Four students (Ordinary Level) have started their national exams on the 14th of November and are expected to complete them after two weeks. While in Kenya the Form Four students will be doing their national exams at the beginning of December. We wish them all success.

We are happy to welcome back Bro. Sebastian Ndabunganiye, who was away in Rome for his studies. Bros. Odrick and Johnson are back after their spiritual renewal programme and pilgrimage to India, France and Italy. We thank the members of the Central Administration for meticulously organizing the programme and the Brothers were very happy to visit many places of importance of our founder and other significant places and they are back in the mission rejuvenated.

8th December will be a significant day for the formees at

St. Montfort Novitiate, Mikese, Morogoro, Tanzania. On this day, the second-year novices (numbering 8) will be completing the canonical year of the Novitiate. The first-year novices (numbering 10) will be entering the canonical year of their formation and at the same time they will be making their consecration to Jesus through Mary according to our founder, St. Montfort. Let us accompany them by our prayers.

I welcome you all to the **Province of East Africa** (PEA) either for a touristic visit or for a mission experience. Remember the following then you will know it is worth visiting PEA: **Malawi** - the warm heart of Africa; **Rwanda**- the land of 1000 hills, **Kenya**- the Pride of Africa; **Burundi** – the heart of Africa; **Tanzania** – the land of the big five (African Lions, Cape Buffalos, Rhinos, Leopards and African Elephants) and the snowcapped Mount Kilimanjaro. **KARIBU!**

Wishing you all a fruitful season of Advent in advance.

Bro. Jimmy Kalapurayil, SG
Provincial Superior



Montfort - Rujewa, Tanzania



Fr. Fredric Scragg School, Zomba, Malawi



St. Montfort Masimbwe, Tanzania



Montfort Primary School Kola, Morogoro, Tanzania

The school year 2022 -2023 has successfully started in all our institutions. The official start of the school year took place on Thursday 6 October 2022. It was preceded by the start of the new school year on Monday 3 October. As usual, at the beginning of each school year, the Provincial Superior visits the staff of a school to bring them a message of support. This visit is an opportunity for him to bring comfort to the teachers, and especially to thank them for the many services rendered to Catholic education in general and to our schools in particular.

This year, it was Collège du Sine, Fatick which was honored by Brother Étienne's visit. In his message, the Provincial Superior not only congratulated the staff for the excellent results achieved last year, but he also urged everyone to take up a single challenge throughout the year in order to keep up the results achieved. As the school cannot go beyond 100% achievements in all exams, it is a duty for everyone to maintain the quality of results. Finally, he invited the staff to be more determined and committed in order to honour the moral contract between the parents and the school.

Happy school year to all.

Passing of Bro. Dominique Patrick DIOUF and Bro. Théophile MBEMBA



On Sunday 23 October, we were saddened to learn that Brother Dominique DIOUF had been called back to God after a long period of illness. While we were praying for him at the prayer vigil on Friday 28 October, we were informed of the death of Brother Théophile, from the Province of Brazzaville who had been in Senegal, for medical treatment, since 2020.

The testimonies received about the Brothers say a lot about their personalities and the quality of their life.

Brother Dominique was a very social and sociable religious man, easy to get along with; a just man, available, open, sensitive, generous, and gentle. Moreover, most of the people who knew him to remember him for his enlightened intelligence: a Brother who was a solution to any question related to theology, to the conception of a conference, to the clothing of a theme. And finally, he was a Brother committed to the apostolate because he loved to work with children and for children, especially with those of the CV/AV movement.

As for Brother Théophile, everyone remembers his quietness, a Brother full of tenderness and always attentive to others with great kindness. He was also honest and faithful to his commitments and spiritual exercises. Finally, he was a hard-working person who spent his time repairing cars and doing the small tasks of the community.

The province has received many testimonies and messages of condolence. We will publish them in a special edition which will be available soon. Now, we would like to share a message from Brother Jean-Paul MBENGUE, Assistant General, and Brother Dominique's batchmate.



CONDOLENCES OF BROTHER JEAN-PAUL MBENGUE, ON BEHALF OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Rvd Brother Jean de Dieu Mandilou, Provincial Superior of Brazzaville,

Rvd Brother Étienne S. Kâ, Provincial Superior of Senegal,

Dear Brothers of Saint Gabriel of the Province of Brazzaville and Senegal,

Dear brothers and sisters in religious or priestly life,

Dear relatives, allies, friends, and acquaintances of Brother Théophile Mbemba,

Dear compatriots of Brother Theophile,

Dear brothers and sisters in the faith, fellow faithful,

Eight days after accompanying the beloved Brother Dominique Patrick Diouf to his final resting place, you are now accompanying the well-loved Brother Théophile Mbemba: 75 years old. Peace be with you!

On behalf of Brother John Kallarackal, Superior General of the FSG, and his Council, please accept our sincere condolences as believers and baptized. This is a lot in a short time, and if we are not careful we could become discouraged. However, we have better things to do: to embrace our Christian hope which invites us to listen to what the Scriptures say about death.

The Gospel expands the space and time of our lives. It opens us up to a reality that is beyond what our senses and minds perceive. It gives us the assurance that, just as our life is preceded by God's desire, it is summed up in God beyond our time on earth.

Brother Théophile leaves us with the memory of a humble, supportive Brother of Saint Gabriel, faithful to his daily community exercises. He was a man of faith, an obedient religious, ready to go where obedience beckoned, in his own country (Congo Brazzaville) as well as abroad. He was of frail build, probably due to an ailment that must have been eating away at him for some time. May he now rest in God.

United in their suffering, Brothers Dominic and Theophilus are now reunited in death. Let us believe that they are in God in what was most beautiful in them. If this is how they are in God's sight, this is how we should remember them.

"May the souls of our faithful departed rest in peace through the mercy of God. Amen.

Province of Brazzaville

School Start 2022

Early in September this year, Cameroon has been leading the way for School start, followed by Congo and the Central African Republic in October.

This year, the communities were smoothly formed and structured, with each Brother returning to his post on time.

In the five Schools of the Province, enrolment has increased compared to last year, leading to an increase in the number of students and classes.

Schools/Institutions	Primary	Secondary or Vocational schools	Total
Ecole Frère Hervé (Congo)	600	446	1046
Ecole des Sourds (Congo)	200		200
Case Montfort (Congo)	52	71	123
Bertoua (Cameroun)	657	800	1457
Bangui (Centrafrique)	400		400
Total	1909	1317	3226

As usual, it takes one to two weeks after the first day of school for teachers and latecomers to reach their posts or classrooms.

Given this particularity, the school year begins timidly. We patiently launch educational activities, organise discipline, and set a rhythm to the teaching-learning process until it reaches its normal pace.

From Monday to Friday, Brothers have long school days, from 7 am to 3 pm for some, or to 5 pm for others. Because of schedule constraints, it is sometimes difficult to attend daily Mass.

The start of the new school year in 2022 will bring together newness and continuity in all our communities and works.

Everyone feels helpful and proud of his role in the community and in the mission.

Bro. Guy SIROT, SG



Tribute to Brother Théophile MBEMBA

Eternal rest to you Brother Théophile MBEMBA!

With his appealing gaze, Théophile MBEMBA has Brother Théophile and has reposed in God.

Let us give thanks to the Father for the beautiful heritage of kindness that he gives us.

Now he left us his beautiful testimony of humbleness and humility.

Just in his simple walk, one could sense the gentleness with which he choose to make his relationships brotherly beautiful.

Brother Théophile, « Friend of God », faithful in calm friendship

Man of serenity, Brother Theophile knew how to live with his illness without complaining, bearing it in a spirit of absolute abandonment to God's holy will, always sharing a smile that accompanied his thanks.

While the disease was working silently, he remained a man of patience, without demanding anything.

He waited with an affable gaze, inviting and encouraging the Brothers to keep the torch of the mission burning.

Time passed, the harm progressed, and he grew weaker, between light and shadow.

He continued to hope in the light of faith.

Even when he was unwell, he remained steadfast in accepting what he was experiencing in his flesh.

More than welcoming, through his ordeal, he united himself to the Passion of Christ, clinging to the anchor of hope that held and maintained his morale.

Thank you, Brother Theo, for this perspective on suffering which makes us discover the infinite kindness of this God with wide horizons who binds our being and our life together.

With the immense crowd of saints, enter into the eternal joy of your Master!

A Brother from Senegal

Reopening of the Postulate

After a year of interruption, the Postulate of Brazaville reopened its doors on Monday 10 October 2022. This date was purposefully chosen to align with the opening of all formation houses of in the Archdiocese. In fact, it was on the initiative of Rev. Brother Jean de Dieu, the newly appointed Provincial, that the postulancy regained its prestige to the great satisfaction of all the Brothers. The reopening of the Postulate is sign of the vitality of the Province. It also demonstrates the serious concern of the Provincial for formation for both candidates and young Brothers. This is also proof of the attractiveness of our young province which still appeals to many young people that are knocking at our doors and waiting for admission to the postulate.

This year, we have welcomed 2 youngsters: Jean-Paul from the Centrafrican Republic and Franck from RDC, Congo. The Brothers attend classes in place from Monday to Friday and take part in monthly recollections at the inter-postulate. The formation team is composed of 5 brothers: 3 of them are part of the Community. These brothers have been commissioned to supervise candidates, accompany postulants, and animate the vocation group in our province.



Bro. Hubert NAKOUZEBI, SG

Final Vows in Kinshasa

On Saturday 10 September 2022, 7 Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel from the Province of Kinshasa took their final vows of consecration to the Lord.

Brother Célestin Luyenga, Blaise Ndukute, Crispin Mayala, Justin Tanganga, Elie Wabeno, Apollinaire Kikota, and Flavien Mvika.



The celebration, which took place in Marie Reine des Apôtres parish, in Righini, Kinshasa, was presided over by Monsignor Timothée Bodika, Bishop of the Diocese of Kikwit.

The feast day was marked by the Eucharist and by a festive meal. The Eucharist began with a procession. After that, the Parish priest addressed a welcome message then the Provincial called on the Brothers. After the biography reading of each of the 7 Brothers (by Brother Arsène Bwayomo), the Bishop started a dialogue with the Brothers. Just, he proceeded with his homely.

Quoting the first reading, (1Co, 14-22) Monsignor

Timothée Bodika called the Brothers' attention to the idols that Saint Paul mentioned in his letter to the Corinthians. He explained that these idols have an antagonistic relationship with living the vows of poverty, chastity, and, obedience. The first idolatry contrasts with. And given that, religious Brothers will take the vow of poverty, they should be attentive to the requirements of this vow which invites them to put together all their belongings to become rich together. The first idolatry hits close to home to the 2 others: power and sex. The antidote to these dangers is a serious commitment to the vows of obedience and chastity. Only the love of God and the love of others can fill the hearts of consecrated persons.

With reference to the Gospel (Lk 6:43-49), Monsignor Bodika summoned the Brothers to strive to live fruitful lives by listening to the word of God and following Montfort's footsteps. He invited them to put themselves at his school in order to perpetuate his great mission and works!

After the homily, the Brothers publicly professed their vows and signed official documents to seal their total consecration. The Eucharist ended with customary speeches.

The celebration continued with a festive meal shared in the Jesuit community near the parish. All present: guests and Brothers enjoyed the party and with joyful songs and dances, they expressed their joy of accompanying the newly professed Brothers. The feast ended around 5 pm.

Bro. Hyacinthe Kihandi, SG

The start of the new school year at the Isidore Bakanja postulancy



On Wednesday 28 September 2022, the Postulate Isidore Bakanja opened its doors to the young people who wanted to follow Montfort for the year 2022-2023. The first-year postulants arrived at around 5 pm before being welcomed by their second-year postulants who helped them to settle in.

After the installation, they shared a meal and a glass of beer. From 02 to 09 October, the postulants took part in the opening retreat of the year. The retreat was facilitated by Father Jean-Faustin Azwakate, from the diocese of Basankusu.

The retreat was based on the theme: "Following Jesus and Mary, Models of the Consecrated Life". In his introduction, the preacher set out five rules for a retreat: rest, meet God in silence, reflect on the meaning of one's existence by taking a step back, deepen the great questions of life, and connect with God by disconnecting from the world.

Questions of life, to connect with God by disconnecting from the world. Furthermore, he articulated his teachers around two points, namely "God calls us" and "Jesus, sent par excellence by the Father".

In the first point, he presented some great figures who responded freely to God's call. This is the case of Abraham (Gen 12:1-9), Moses (Ex 3:1-11), Samuel (1 Sam 3:2-18), Isaiah (Is 6:1-8), Jeremiah (Jer 1:4-10). From these vocations, it is clear that God calls whoever he wants and whenever he wants. He entrusts them with a mission. Man responds freely to this call. However, these calls culminated in Jesus Christ, sent par excellence by the Father. After having perfectly fulfilled the mission of the Father, he wanted it to continue. That is why he also sent disciples and apostles for the same cause. Today, as part of those whom Christ calls and sends into religious life, we are called to understand and live the three evangelical counsels of chastity, poverty and obedience. In order

to do this, besides Christ, Mary is a model for us.

The ceremony of the official re-entry to the postulancy took place right at the end of the retreat. It took place on Saturday 22 October 2022 at 3.30 p.m. in the chapel of the postulancy community. The meeting began with the Provincial explaining the reason for this gathering. Afterwards, the postulant Jean-Baptiste Bodisa read the extract from the Rule of Life (n°1) of the Montfortian Brothers of Saint Gabriel. The Superior provincial commented on this text, showing that to be called to live in God is nothing other than to cling to prayer, to know how to forgive, to avoid laziness, to transcend tensions and misunderstandings, to seek cohesion, to participate in the life of the church, to accept remarks with humility and love... He invited the postulants to live this. He urged the leader of this community to have patience, love and a sense of observation to help these young people discern their true vocation. The ceremony ended with the presentation of insignia, notably the pectoral cross, the rosary, and the rule of life of the postulancy.

Finally, the Provincial officially entrusted the postulants to Brother Blaise Ndukute, Master of Postulants. Everything happened in front of some confreres from other communities and two Sisters of Jesus Educator from Bondo. After the photos were taken, a glass of friendship was shared with all the guests.

This year, the Isidore Bakanja postulancy welcomed ten postulants, seven in the first year and three in the second.

The Postulants and
Bro. Hyacinthe

Echoes from the Provincial Council

The Provincial Council meeting took place in La Hillière Montfort on Monday, October 17, which gave us the opportunity to share lunch with the residents of the Care home, Maison Saint-Gabriel, and to meet with the managers of the establishment.

Following the resignation of Brother Roger Astier for health reasons, the Provincial Superior, with the consent of his Council, appointed Brother Maurice Hérault as Provincial Councillor.

We thank Br. Maurice for his willingness to take on this responsibility help and we wish Br. Roger a speedy recovery. After a week in hospital, he returned to his community on Wednesday 26 October. Let us keep him in our prayers, especially in this very painful time.

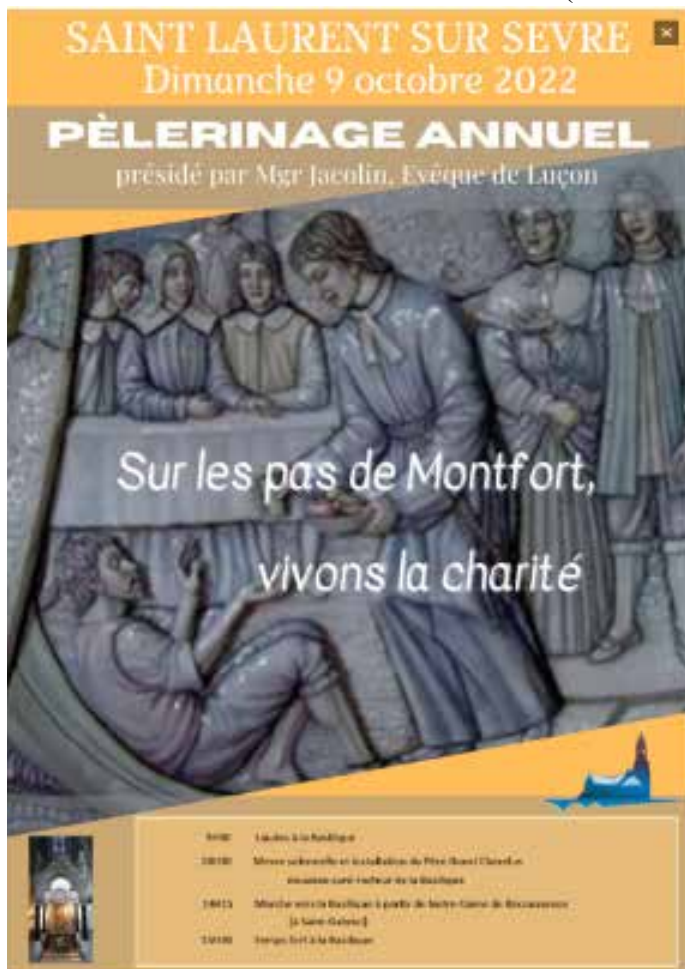


Annual pilgrimage: In the footsteps of Montfort

It is traditional to celebrate the diocesan pilgrimage "in the footsteps of Montfort" on the second Sunday of October. This year, the pilgrimage took place on Sunday 9 October, and coincided with the installation of Father Ronel Charelus (Montfort

Father) as new rector of the Basilica and new Parish Priest.

Mgr François Jacolin, Bishop of Luçon was among the guests who honored us with their presence. It is the whole Montfortian Family, that no one knows completely, which has been gathered here in Saint-Laurent, coming from so many countries in the world. Like Pope John Paul II, they came to pay homage to Montfort and welcome the graces that God grants us through Marie-Louise, and Gabriel Deshayes, as far as we humbly welcome them in the hollows of our hands.



At the end of the celebration, the many guests and Montfortian hospitallers were welcomed for a cold meal in the Salle de l'Îlot. The time of sharing allowed many to keep alight the flame of charity. Thanks to the spark produced in the Basilica during the celebration, to make it a great fire, under the breath of the Spirit, and to give each of us the energy to dare to abandon ourselves to Providence.

In the afternoon, a second service was offered to those who were willing and able: it was a short pilgrimage walk with four stages leading from the Virgin of Recouvrance in Saint-Gabriel Saint-Michel, to the Basilica, taking a typically Montfortian route: "In the footsteps of Montfort, let us live charity.

Bro. Claude Marsaud, SG
Gabriel Deshayes' International Community

Pèlerinage annuel - 9 oct. 2022



Our Jubilarians Confreres ! Celebrating a Jubilee

The journey of every trustworthy man is punctuated with significant events that are milestones in his life. These events manifest a need to look back at the past before moving on: Pausing, watching, and taking time to rejoice with friends.

On 3 September 2022, the brothers, their friends, and collaborators who share the same mission celebrated a series of jubilees at the La Hillière Care Centre to allow resident brothers to participate in the celebration. Some among them were well-honoured to mark 60, 70, or even 80 years of commitment. For almost three years, the Covid 19 pandemic prevented such a gathering to be held. Therefore, the list of jubilarians for this year doubled those of 2021 and 2022. In total, 49 brothers celebrated the anniversary of their first profession, their perpetual vows, or renewed their vows so long after the first steps in the congregation, and after venturing down unsuspected paths. The absent ones who could not cross the distances were surely among us when we sang: "He fills the hungry with good things!"



What does it mean to celebrate a jubilee?

Celebrating a jubilee implies a pause to weigh up the past and to thank God, through Mary: that is what we have done. It is also a time to put a healing veil over the numerous less-than-stellar overhangs in our lives. How many times have we failed to act like Jonah, even though he was a prophet of God? Moreover, this is surely the time to count our departed colleagues: they are now angels full of virtue and we no longer have to throw our sometimes complicated relationships with them into the fire of forgiveness.

Celebrating a jubilee is to remember the day we really entered the Congregation. It is not necessarily the day we entered the novitiate or the day of our first profession. For having "held on" to the steep paths of religious life, there was a founding click. Where? When? Why? It is up to each of us to detect it and then to sing our own melody; God that day was in ambush for good. He chose us and embarked on an adventure that few people can understand. On that Wednesday morning, September 7, 2022, Pope Francis said in a public audience: "There are so many moments in our lives when God invites us to unexpected things... And then, one day, we bought the 'treasure field', because it was the only good thing that was worthwhile..."



Celebrating a jubilee is to celebrate the love that we have tried to seed in our daily lives and in the lives of others, well beyond the time of grey hair. Didn't Sirach the Wise advise ploughing and cultivating to achieve Wisdom, then accepting destruction? If it is the death of our own flesh, the Wise Man shudders; yet he speaks so true ... What we have known will bloom in other hearts, like so many divine seeds. We have all been the Martha of the Gospel, who is wrongly placed in the lowest rank, but who was loved by the Lord. Did he not twice call out to her, full of tenderness, "Martha, Martha! We worked like Martha, we prayed like Mary, that's for sure! So praise you for all your love!

Celebrating a jubilee is above all a time to review and reflect. Should we bite our fingers off for perjury, or should we sing, with Mary, an eternal Magnificat for unfailing faithfulness? Is the right balance between the two? There have been choices, yeses,

and attempts to do the right thing, and then perhaps one has violated one's oaths. Let us rejoice if we have traced a straight and deep furrow, otherwise, let us rectify the trajectory because it is always God's time. Faithfulness can be recharged and everyone knows how to do it. This is what a real jubilee is all about!

Thank you, Lord, for your presence in our lives and for your Word that enlightens them.

Bro. Camille LUCAS, SG
Communauté Saint-Gabriel
Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre





Province of Spain

**Memories of celebrations!
Brothers and the Laity during their meeting at Can Xic**

WELCOMING THE BROTHERS OF THE INTER-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

October 5th is always celebrated as a day of thanksgiving in the Church. At the beginning of the academic year, Our Province of Spain wishes to join the Church in thanking the Lord for the opening of an inter-cultural community in Barcelona. This achievement is the result of the great desire of many Brothers, Associates, and collaborators. It is also the fruit of the determination and perseverance of many, and above all the unanimous prayer of the entire Congregation.

So this is a time of thanksgiving. First, we would like to thank the Generalate : Brother John, Superior General and his Council. The inspiring document you released about the Restructuring of the Western Provinces, has laid the foundations for a real move in both Provinces of France, Canada, and Spain. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

We are grateful to the 3 Provinces who have generously transferred some of their members to strengthen the Province of Spain, which is already very weakened by the limited number and the ageing of the brothers.

We want to express our special thanks to the Province of East Africa (PEA) and to their Provincial Brother Jimmy Kalapurayil for allowing Brother Robert Stanislas to join our community. Brother Stanislas finally arrived in Spain on 16 September 2022.

Our gratitude also goes to the Province of Hyderabad (INH) and its Provincial, Brother Shine Alex, for

accepting to post Brother Marreddy in the intercultural community of Barcelona. Bro. Marreddy arrived in Spain 10 days after Brother Stanislas.

We also thank the Province of Kinshasa (KIN) and their Provincial, Brother Rufin Nambu, for their generosity in sending us Brother Luc Kulapa, whose visa has been already granted. We hope to welcome him very soon in the Province of Spain.

Thanks to Brother Faustino for his interest in the project, and for the many hours, he devoted to preparing necessary documents and facilitating the arrival of the brothers at the intercultural community of Sant Adrià.

Special thanks to Brother Hilarino, the provincial bursar, for his unfailing collaboration in this same task.

Our gratitude goes to the brothers of the community and to their collaborators in Sant Gabriel de Sant Adrià de Besòs. Their fraternal and warm welcome; their willingness to help at any time show their great support and their commitment to the Gabrielite Institution.

The members of the Province also thank all collaborators and associates for their extraordinary welcome. Their keen interest in getting to know the new members of our community, and their willingness to help them are more than appreciated



Here are some impressions from the newly arrived Brothers:



Bro. Robert Stanislas

I arrived at the airport on 16 September. I was welcomed by Brother Provincial and Brother José Luis. They were carrying a welcome sign, which I did not need actually because I noticed them quickly, and went straight to meet them. I felt very welcomed. After the airport, we went to the community of Sant Adrià de Besòs. All the brothers were waiting for me there, in my new community. I immediately felt the fraternal and Montfortian warmth.

The community timetable (Lauds, Vespers, Eucharist) suits me very well! I have no problems with the food, and the Brothers make sure I have everything I need. What I need to work on is learning the language to communicate better with people.

Since our arrival here, thanks to the generosity of Brother José María Vicario, who accompanied me, I have been able to get to know the University and the whole centre of Barcelona. We walked down the Ramblas to visit the seaside and

visited the Sagrada Familia on another day.

With the brothers and associates, we went to spend a day at Can Xic, centre. It was a festive day in a very pleasant atmosphere. There were games and, I must say that brother Marreddy and I won three times at petanque. We had a good paella prepared by Luis Clemente. I also had a wonderful walk around the place.

This experience of meeting new people is not quite new to me because I visited many countries. I did my novitiate in Senegal, and I was posted in Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Kinshasa, and I also studied in Canada. So, I can easily adapt.



Bro. Marreddy T. R

I arrived a bit later than scheduled. Bros. Alejandro, Faustino, and José Luis were waiting for me at the airport. From the first moment, I feel good here. I am trying to adapt to the food and the climate. This is the first time I leave India. So, it's quite a discovery for me, but I feel good and comfortable. I want to learn the language as soon as possible to know Spain and its culture. I feel at peace, and calm, because in the environment where I am, among the brothers, there is peace and security.

Although they find the learning process difficult, the two brothers believe they will overcome the language barrier. This will allow them to show their interest in their host country and in Spanish culture. They are committed to doing their best to learn Spanish.

Dear Brothers, warm and prayerful greetings from 13 novices and 3 staff of St. Gabriel's novitiate, Sitagarha. We are delighted to share with you the significant happenings of our Novitiate.

ONE-DAY OUTING OF THE NOVICES AND STAFF:

We went on a day of outing to Ranchi in a hired vehicle. We visited a zoological park at Ormanji, Juniorate in Hathiagonda and the Provincial House in Kanke. It was the first time for many of us to visit a zoological park. We also visited the *Patrattu* dam on our way back to Sitagarha.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION:

We celebrated the 75th Independence Day and the Assumption of our Lady in a grand manner. Fr. Anil SJ, the Rector of SSC was our main guest. Sisters from CIC and Bon Secours also joined us for the celebration. Novices conducted a very good marchpast followed by a patriotic cultural show. Every programme of the Independence Day was very much appreciated by the onlookers and guests. On the same day, we also went to SSC to watch the football match played between SSC and TTC. We gave a patriotic dance in the Parish of Sitagarha organized by the Youth Group of the parish. The whole day was packed with lots of patriotic dynamism and vibrance.

MEETING OF THE FORMATORS AND THE PROVINCIALS:

The Director of novices attended the meeting of the Formators and Provincials on the 18th and 19th of August, 2022 in Pune. 27 participants took an active part in this conference. The two day meeting had the agenda of an orientation talk by Br. Pratap Reddy the Assistant General, 2 input sessions by two resource persons, a presentation of the report by 2 Novice Masters and a Pre-Novice Master, a presentation of the report by all the Provincials, revision of Pre-novitiate and novitiate syllabus and the final word by the National Chairman.

INTER-NOVITIATE ONLINE MEETING:

An informal inter-novitiate (Thailand, Sitagarha and Thailand) online meeting was held on 24th August, 2022 on a zoom meeting for more than 2 and a half hours. There were 43 novices and their formators along with the Provincials of Thailand and Tanzania and Bros. Dominic Yeo Koh and Paul Raj the organizer participated actively in the sharing session.



It was well appreciated by all.

ST. MONICA'S DAY:

We celebrated the St. Monica's Day in the Parish and in the Novitiate. All the mothers of Sitagarha Parish beautifully organized the Holy Eucharist followed by a nice cultural programme. We, on our part, honoured and felicitated the two mothers who work in the kitchen. It was a new and moving experience for many of us.

MONTH-END BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:

We had the month-end birthday celebrations of 5 novices namely Marak, Suresh, Stephen, Saroj and Jeeva. Brothers, Fathers, Sisters and families of our helpers attended the function. The function began with half an hour of prayer service, continued with an hour of cultural programmes and was followed by a sumptuous dinner.

TEACHERS' DAY:

We celebrated The Teacher's Day in a simple way. The novices greeted the Teachers with a song and gave an appreciative speech and bouquets. They conducted a special prayer in the evening for the intentions of the teaching community.

CELEBRATIONS OF KARMA AND ONAM:



We traditionally celebrated Karma and Onam

festivals. We had a special procession with songs and dances carrying branches and pooja items of Karma. Novices made a *pookalam* (Alpana with flowers) as well. We had a prayer service followed by a delicious lunch with 27 different types of dishes. Fr. Varghese OCD was our guest. Both the cooks too joined us for the celebration. It was a new experience for many of us.

PILGRIMAGE TO DHORI MATA'S SHRINE:



After having had the 9 days of novena prayers, all the novices and 2 Brothers went on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Dhori Mata to celebrate Her birthday and on their way back they visited the Konnar dam. We also joined in the evening for the feast day celebration of St. Mary's Minor Seminary.

VISIT OF THE SILVER JUBILARIANS OF 1998 BATCH:

13 Silver jubilarians of 1996, 97 and 98 batches visited the Novitiate. They spent quite a lot of time in the Novitiate reliving the beautiful memories of the past.

FIRST BOOK REVIEW:



We completed the first book review presentation after having worked so hard for more than 2 months. All of us reviewed the books with confidence and exhibited our teaching capacity to the full. The Formators were happy and contented with our performances as teachers in the making.

BRO. LAMBERT'S STAY:



Br. Lambert reached the Novitiate on 13th September and he was to be staying in the Novitiate till 7th November. He is fully engaged in handling classes on various topics namely prayer, meditation, who am I?, who God is for me? and Psalms. The novices are making so much progress in his presence and under his guidance.

MONTH OF THE ROSARY:

In order to have a loving and filial devotion to Our Blessed Mother and to honour Our Lady of the Rosary, we have decided to have a Marian procession all through the month, every day in the evening.

BROTHERHOOD DAY CELEBRATION:



We celebrated triple celebrations of Universal brotherhood day, Month-end birthday, and *Ayutha Puja* in a grand manner. We had a special prayer and Mass in the morning and in the evening, we invited the formators of some of the formation houses, Brothers of neighbouring communities and all our domestic helpers and animated a special prayer. There was an hour and 15 minutes cultural programme and all were provided a sumptuous dinner. 56 persons attended the programmes. All the invitees were impressed and inspired by our brotherhood day celebration and our witnessing fraternal life.



TEACHING MINISTRY:

Novices and staff went to Kanabandh for the maiden teaching ministry. Novices conducted a reading competition for the students, taught them some songs in the class and had lunch together with the staff of the school. We have decided to go for a teaching ministry at least twice a month.

DIWALI CELEBRATION: We had a nice Diwali celebration without firing a single cracker. We were divided into 2 groups and had Basketball, Volleyball, Table Tennis and Carom competitions. Novices decorated the whole house and the Chapel with lots of *diyas (lamp)* and organized a beautiful prayer service followed by dinner and a movie.

HAZARIBAGH SECTOR PICNIC:

Brothers from three communities of Hazaribagh sector had a picnic at Tilaiya dam on 30th October. All the 3 communities shared the expenses and brought delicious things prepared by them to be relished on that day. We also had the joy of cooking together certain items on the spot. As a whole, we had an enjoyable and refreshing day.

COMPLETION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF COMPOUND WALLS AND THE ROOF-TOP ON THE TERRACE:

The construction of the compound walls in front of the building, after 4 months of labour is finally completed and colour washed as well. The roof-top on the terrace especially the steel work after 6 months of toil has been completed and the civil work which is pending is expected to be terminated hopefully by the end of this month.

DESERT EXPERIENCE:

Novices went for a maiden desert experience in the nearby jungle to encounter God in silence and solitude. They went out of the campus by 9.00 am and were back by 4.00 pm. They shared their rich and profound experiences in the Chapel. All of them felt that this was a new and enriched their spiritual bond.



VISIT OF HYDERABAD PROVINCIAL:

Bro. Shine Alex visited the Novitiate on 8th November. He met all the staff of the Novitiate and the novices of his Province individually. He took time to address the novices in the class as well. He also spoke to the novices along with the staff. The novices organized a special prayer and cultural programme in honour of Provincial's visit. The nearby Formators of the communities joined us for the welcome ceremony and the banquet.

Gabriel N. Sangma
(First year Novice)

Montfort Aruludhayam (Pre-Novitiate)



A very warm greeting from Montfort Aruludhayam on behalf of the members of this community. We are happy to share our views and a report of activities of the Montfort Aruludhayam, Per-novitiate.

YOGA CLASS:

Yoga classes were taken by Bro. Binu Mathew on 1st August 2022, which helps us to enhance our spiritual, mental and physical wellness. We do yoga every day and it helps us to be focused.

BOOK REVIEW:



On 25th August, We had our first book review presentation. We chose the book and presented it to the whole class. The book review helped us to enhance our language, communication skills and to

overcome stage fear and to improve our inner talents. The presentation enabled us to express the message to the audience with confidence.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS:



“Togetherness is happiness”

On 30th August, we had a community meeting. We usually begin and end with a prayer. Brother Director gave us the agenda and the various issues to be discussed in advance. All the 22 pre-novices and the Brothers took part actively.

MONTHLY RECOLLECTION:

On 2nd September, we had our monthly recollection. Indeed, it was a great and unique experience for us to attend monthly recollection. It was the blissful experience of silent prayer, recollection and confession. The day was set apart for serious

recollection. It was animated by our director Bro. Binu Mathew, and that day right from the morning we maintained silence and it helped us to progress in our spiritual life and discern our vocation.

ONAM CELEBRATION:



On 3rd September, we celebrated the festival of Onam, which is the main festival of the people of Kerala. This festival is celebrated during the harvest season. In the morning hours, we had different kinds of fun games and enjoyed the games and then we made floral designs, and decorated the whole house. In the afternoon we had a prayer service to which Priests, Brothers and Sisters from different communities and also a few family members were invited to join in for the Celebrations and the delicious Onam lunch. The lunch was served on banana leaves.

TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION:



The Teachers day is celebrated in India on the 5th of September in honour of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Indian Philosopher and Second Former President of India. On that day, we had a friendly volleyball match with the Brothers. After that, we had a beautiful prayer service animated by pre-novices. We also organized a gorgeous cultural programme for our Brothers followed by a delicious dinner.

BASKETBALL COUCHING:



On 26th September we had basketball coaching. Mr. Dina from Salem was our coach. He taught us various aspects of playing basketball and helped us to improve our skills.

BATH AT KODIVERY DAM:



It was a wonderful experience to have had a bath in the Kodivery Dam, which is very close to our Institute. The Kodivery Dam's water comes from the Bhavanisagar. Kodivery dam is a small tourist place, where many tourists come to visit with their families, especially to bathe and enjoy the view. We the pre-novices along with three of our Brothers had gone on foot to take a bath. We enjoyed ourselves by swimming and it was a memorable experience.

Edison & Roshan
(Pre-Novices)

ADOZIONI A DISTANZA

Our community consists of two octogenarian Brothers. Yet we are full-time occupied in a chain of activities in and out of the Institute with continuous contact with every possible category of people. Activities are plentiful and often time seems to be lacking.

The secretary of the office of the *Adoption at a distance* is on her second maternity leave and as such I (Bro Mathew) am superbly engaged to complete the daily activities and contacts with the benefactors and with the students who are being helped.



Bro Dionisio Santoro is also very much occupied with the 5 Parishes, because the Parish Priests were making their annual retreats and participating in the ongoing formation courses for the Priests. Of late he had to visit the Community of Vasto and

go for the celebration of Mass in the cemetery of the Brothers in Rome.

For the third consecutive year, the Carmelite Fathers of Venice and Treviso conduct monthly formation programmes for the young couples in our Institute. A good number of these couples are also benefactors of the Adoption at a distance managed by us. They have already booked our halls for 8 months starting from September to May.



The Indian Catholic Community is very active in their participation in the monthly celebration of the Masses in our Institute. They also conducted the annual ONAM festival in our place. Indians and Italians took part in the celebrations and in the ONAM vegetarian lunch. It was appreciated very much by one and all. They conducted many cultural and sports activities for the parents and for their children. The winners were presented with prizes.





The monthly one-day spiritual retreat with lunch for the benefactors of the adoption at a distance and the bi-monthly prayer group meetings continue without any interruption. They show great interest and manifest their faith in the prayer life, openness to listen to the word of God and in the Monfortian Marian spirituality. They had organised a One-day pilgrimage to the Marian Sanctuary of Chiampo. There they participated in the Holy Mass celebrated in the Grotto of Our Lady, made a meditative way of the Cross and a shared lunch. Everyone had brought food to share with one another.



On Sunday 2nd October we celebrated the Annual Assembly of the Benefactors of the Adoption at a Distance. The presence of numerous benefactors was very encouraging. The spiritual animation group started the programme of the day with the holy Rosary and then with the Sunday Mass celebrated by Bro. Dionisio Santoro. After the Mass, there was a short interval. After the interval at the presence of all, Bro Mathew Kavumkal gave a touching report of the activities being conducted in India, in the Philippines, in Tanzania and the nourishing activities conducted in Italia to keep alive the charitable spirit of the benefactors. After that a lively video demonstrating the various levels of studies we offer to the students we help was presented. We also conducted a video conversation with the students in India and the benefactors could see and hear with their eyes and

ears and realise the efficacy of our activities. Then more than 120 people took part in the lunch. This year we served two types of menus: the Italian menu and the Indian menu. All those who opted for the Indian menu were very happy. During the lunch, two young children of benefactors went around the tables and collected offerings to purchase tailoring machines for the tailoring girls of Rujewa in Tanzania. They collected sufficient money to purchase 8 tailoring machines. In addition, one benefactor offered two more machines. Thus, we have collected help to purchase 10 tailoring machines.

Solidarity Manifestation of the Solid-Ali Group Istrana.



Well-planned and well-participated Solidarity Manifestation was organised by the team called Solod-Ali of Istrana in our Institute.

Bro. Dionisio Santoro and Bro. Mathew Kavumkal cooperated with the team for about 3 months for its detailed and precise organisation. It was the first time this event was conducted in our Institute. People from all over the places visited our Institute to have a vision of all types of exhibitions presented here. All the buildings, playgrounds and agricultural fields were occupied by this extraordinary event. The Military department, Police department, Carabinieri department, Airport department, Fire and safety department, and Municipal department with Municipal Chairman were present in our Institute. The event was opened with the celebration of the holy Mass by Bro. Dionisio Santoro at the Grotto of our Lady in Our Institute. In two days, a few thousand of people visited our Institute. It was an occasion for us to make known the apostolate of the Adoption at a Distance of our Institute and some new benefactors joined the great family of benefactors.

Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, SG



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"Our mission ceases to be fruitful, or rather, it is extinguished at the very moment when the link with the source is interrupted." (Pope Francis)

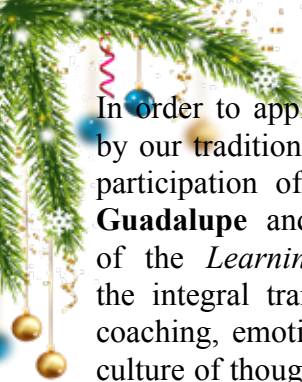
On the 6th, 7th and 8th July, the **20th Meeting of Management Teams of the Province of Spain** took place at the SG-Barcelona school. The objective of this meeting can be formulated briefly and partially as follows: "To lead our schools in the manner of the Brothers of St. Gabriel".

On this occasion, the Formation Team for Shared Mission with the collaboration of the Leadership Team developed two cooperative seminars out of a total of six, according to the Formation Plan of the MCG, designed for the leaders of our educational communities. These seminars are an adaptation to our context of those organised by the Province of France, in collaboration with the Gabriel Deshayes International Community in Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre, for the management teams of the educational network of France and Belgium.

The seminars are organised around themes that are approached from two angles: the historical point of view of the educational tradition and the articulation between this tradition and modern management.

During the first two days, based on the intuitions of our founders: Saint Louis Marie de Montfort and Gabriel Deshayes, we worked on the Founder's Project and Montfortian Gabrielite Leadership.





In order to apply the skills and priorities identified by our tradition to our current context, we have the participation of the facilitators **José M^a Bautista Guadalupe** and **Ana Isabel San José**, directors of the *Learningflow* consultancy, specialising in the integral transformation of educational centres, coaching, emotional intelligence, cooperative work, culture of thought, change management, institutional educational project, pedagogical audit, marketing, design thinking...



Working in workshops, mini-groups, macro-groups and school management teams, the facilitators provided and showed us the tools and techniques necessary for the implementation in our schools of their guidelines and priorities in our current reality.

Just as Father de Montfort and Gabriel Deshayes read the signs of their times and created something new, it is up to us to make our own reading and to imagine, create, take risks as they did for the benefit of our pupils and society. Because this return to the origin, far from being a circular process, is a creative process. The aim is to invent the present; to take charge of the signs of the times; to continue to give life to an educational history; to be tradition ourselves and to commit ourselves to transmitting the values, the principles and a common vision of education that can be found in any of our schools, not only in our Province, but in the whole Montfortian-Gabrielite network.



On the morning of July 8, we lived an experience that will remain engraved in our hearts forever. We visited **the parish church of Santa Inés**, the former **Czech San Elías**, where our Brother Martyrs, witnesses to the Faith, were imprisoned during the Spanish civil war and later shot in the cemetery of Montcada.

Brother Ángel Llana, vice-postulator of the cause, told us the facts and we all had at our disposal the notebook drawn up by **Brother Camille Lucas**, also vice-postulator in which he gives a detailed account of everything that happened to our Brothers at that time.



Afterwards we went to **Can Valls**, in Sant Vicenç de Montalt, where the formation house of the Brothers was located and where the armed revolutionary militiamen arrested our alleged martyred Brothers. Nowadays Can Valls has become **the Gabrielite Brothers' Park**. There we all enjoyed hearing first hand from the Brothers who accompanied us, the experiences lived in the house and the memory of what others told them about those times.

Equipo de Formación para la MCG



TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS CHRIST THROUGH MARY - 2022

St Louis de Montfort recognized that at its very foundation Christian life is nothing less than a total sharing and a profound participation in the life of Jesus Christ. Fr de Montfort's great desire was to produce a stable, deep, profound devotion to Our Lady in the heart of the Christian faithful. Because through that, he recognized that Christian life itself will be renewed and this is the key to the renewal of the Church. In the words of Fr de Montfort, no one can truly be a child of God the Father without also being a child of Mary.

Many of us come to the idea of consecration in various ways. We recall "The Heart of Living" seminar organized by the Montfortian Associates on 2 October 2021. 90 people attended the seminar and listened to Brother Dominic Yeo-Koh's sharing on how Mary gave her consent for God's will to be done. During the seminar, Brother Dominic also invited participants to reflect whether they have given their 'yes' to God.

This year as we celebrate the 180th anniversary of the discovery of True Devotion, Montfortian Associates Singapore embarked on the 5th batch of the Total Consecration to Jesus Christ through Mary (TCM) Journey. Upon attending "The Heart of Living" seminar, 57 participants were inspired to begin to learn the True Devotion and embark on this journey to make an act of consecration to Our Lady and endeavor to live the consecration.

Participants are divided into 6 groups and 12 Montfortian Associates from previous batches are involved in this journey as facilitators. The TCM

journey will take about 9 months.

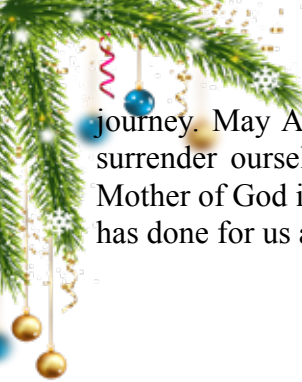
The Preparation for Total Consecration involves the following movements:

- Introduction and Renunciation of the world – 12 days, started on 22 January 2022
- Knowledge of self – week 1 (7 days)
- Knowledge of Mary – week 2 (7 days)
- Knowledge of Jesus – week 3 (7 days)
- Total Consecration Retreat on 7-9 October 2022



The first session was introduction and renunciation of the world; it was conducted online on Saturday, 22 January morning. Participants had the chance to get to know each other and to get to know the facilitators before sharing the reflection question. There will also be face-to-face sessions at Montfort Centre at the beginning of each movement.

We pray for God's graces and protection over all participants and all people involved in this TCM



journey. May Almighty God grant us His graces to surrender ourselves fully into the care of the great Mother of God in the same way that the Lord himself has done for us and for our salvation.

Livia Soetedjo,
Secretary of the MGA



The purpose of this communication from the Partnership Committee of the Province of Canada is to inform you of our way of working with people and groups who are connected to the community. Three fundamental elements have led us to a new way of working with our collaborators. Firstly, the decision of the General Chapter of April 2018 to breathe new life into the partnership in the Institute. Secondly, the fact that, for some years now, we no longer have the Montfort Gabrielite Associates. These existed for thirty years. There were more than a hundred of them divided into five groups and they met about ten times a year with a well-structured formation programme. The ageing of the members is the main reason why the Associates' activities have stopped. Finally, the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, where gatherings were requested to be cancelled or reduced to a minimum.

With this background in mind, the Partnership Committee set to work and it took several meetings before it was able to decide on a way to proceed in view of the availability of the brothers and also the ageing of the partners. The committee therefore chose to address the following people and groups: our employees, the laypeople involved in our committees and our boards of directors; the members of two groups: the former students of the Saint-Arsène Orphanage in Montreal and the Saint-Gabriel Network (an association which brings together people interested in making a just and fraternal world happen).

These people and groups who already know the community have not had or have received perhaps little information on the charism, spirituality and mission of Father de Montfort which inspire the three Montfortian communities, their partners and associates. To these people and to the members of these groups, we sent a letter or an e-mail to inform them of the objectives and the project of the Partnership Committee.

Project objectives :

- To provide information on the charism, spirituality and mission of Montfort, on the community of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel and also on the witness and commitments of people connected with the community.
- To create a family spirit around these themes in a communion of fraternal thought.
- To support, energise and grow our faith through

our witness, our words and our actions on a daily basis.

What drives the community to intensify the partnership is that we are aware that we have received a gift from God that we must share with others. This gift is not only for the Montfortian communities, but for the people of God and for the world.

Proposed project for 2021-2023 :

At the outset, it must be made clear that this new impetus to the partnership is an invitation to which people respond freely. Some people will be interested in reading the information that we disseminate, others will use this information to make a training course and finally, those who do not wish to receive our communications are asked to simply inform us.

When partners receive a communication, they are invited to read the texts attentively at their own pace, to meditate on them and perhaps even to discuss them with others. After reading these texts, perhaps people will feel called to live their faith in the light of the Gospel with Montfort. We have informed the partners that the project will last for a certain period, from 2021 to 2023. Furthermore, we tell them that the documents they receive are free of charge.

Training pathway :

- 1st sending: October 2021: Summary of the life of Montfort.
- 2nd sending: February 2022 : The Brothers in the time of Montfort and today.
- 3rd sending: May 2022: Spiritual sharing on the foundations of Christian life.

For the year 2022-2023, we have chosen three themes: October 2022: Jesus-Wisdom; February 2023: Mary; May 2023: Baptism.

Each mailing includes a letter of introduction, a document on a given theme, a reply envelope and an email. People are invited to respond by post or email on the content of the texts: questions, comments and so on.

Conclusion:

The members of our committee are well aware that they are conducting an experiment and as such, they are attentive to the reactions of the partners and their suggestions.

Bro. Yves Ladouceur, SG

THE 49 BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL AND THEIR CHAPLAIN

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



THE 49 BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL AND THEIR CHAPLAIN

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



Demetrio MORENO MONCALVILLO
Brother Plácido Maria, 20 years old
Born in Pinilla de los Moros
(Burgos)

A young brother and enthusiastic about doing good deeds. With a strong character, he attempts to control himself and achieves it, becoming a kind and smiling friend. It is documented that he was a pious religious person and an exemplary educator despite his young age.

He belonged to the Moreno family that had three Gabrielite Martyred Brothers, in part due to the interest and fervour shown by the Parish Priest of Pinilla de los Moros.

He was a youth with a penetrating gaze and very responsible in his vocation as an educator, he offered the Lord all that he had received first in his family and later with Gabrielite education.

His Director in Arenys de Mar considered him a good religious person, full of good intentions and very faithful to the exercises of piety.

Upon the arrival of the danger of the religious persecution of 1936, he made his way, with some difficulty, through the mountains to Can Valls to unite with his Brothers from other communities.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Plácido Maria grant us, Lord, his effort in self-control and his sense of responsibility as a teacher.



Dionisio ALEJOS GARCIA
Brother Jerónimo, 23 years old
Born in Redecilla del Campo
(Burgos)

His Director in 1932 said "he works better at manual tasks than in class".

"He entered the Scholasticate in February and has been ill for over a month and a half. Since he is not very apt for studies and he himself recognizes this, he is very willing to work on manual tasks".

He stood out for his piety and devotion to the Holy Virgin. It seemed he was exclusively available to be at the service of others with a smile permanently on his lips. "He has proved himself to be possessed of a goodwill and is pious and hard working and tries to please others".

He was a helper in the convent's vegetable garden, as the right hand of the Brothers in charge, Brothers Celestino and Isidro. He was a quick learning apprentice of all the agricultural techniques, both in the cultivation of vegetables and fruit trees as in the cultivation of carnations, his speciality.

With the greatest of integrity, he affronted the long months of violent religious persecution, without a doubt, the best preparation for the generous offering of his life on that 7th of November when he was taken prisoner by the militia along with his fellow Brothers from Can Valls.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Jerónimo grant us, Lord, his docility and brotherly service and his willingness to please others.

"JESUS IS PASSING BY."

LUK. 18:35-45

*It's known only to a few
That Jesus passes ever by
In honour and glory due
As the son of David high.*

*Those few are in dire need
And they drive themselves to plead
In lone pleas to heaven heed
Heaven's rays to them will yield.*

*There's a need for one to see
Dark and dreary niche there be
Life's enigmas from eyes hide
Lord I pray that I may see.
God's Son came for sinful weak*

*Those in mode to favour seek
Streams of grace their hearts will meet
Dance in praise of God for peace.*

*Father God you gave me life
I give my life back in praise
Along life's way in lovely scenes
Of nature's gifts in untold ways.*

Bro. Emmanuel P. J

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS September – November 2022

BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

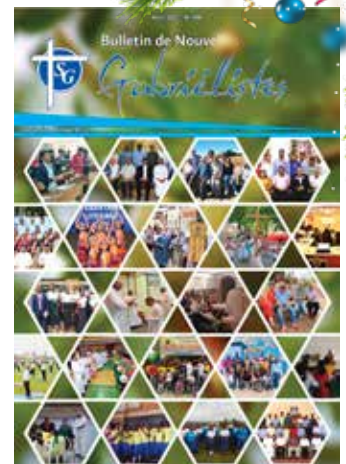
Bro. Anthony Arun Methaset
Bro. Alexander Joseph
Bro. Gomas Arockiaraj J
Bro. Martin Joseph
Bro. George Pralel
Bro. Dominique Patrick DIOUF
Bro. Théophile Mbemba

COMPANY OF MARY

Fr. Maurizio DEL PRATO
Fr. Andrés ARENILLAS SAN ESTEBAN
Fr. Charles RABERGEAU
Fr. Jozef (Joep) BRAKEN
Mgr Frantz COLIMON

DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM

Sr. Claire CHARLEBOIS
Sr. Marie-Elisabeth de la Trinité
Sr. Rosemary GAFFNEY
Sr. Yvonne BLANCHARD
Sr. Paul de Notre-Dame
Sr. Claire-Marie de Jésus
Sr. Marie TEXIER
Sr. Ancilla di Gesù
Sr. Hélène MAZOYER



Dear Readers,

Kindly send your News, Articles and Photos of the happenings in your respective Provinces latest by 15th February 2023.

E- Mail to sginfo@fsgroma.org

WhatsApp +91 9445800156

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

We will be publishing the newsletters once in two months in order to share the latest news.

Here are the tentative dates of publication of the newsletter for the year 2023.

Issue No.	Date of Publication	Last date of collection
GNB 211	28th February 2023	15th February 2023
GNB 212	30th April 2023	15th April 2023
GNB 213	30th June 2023	15th June 2023
GNB 214	30th August 2023	15th August 2023
GNB 215	30th October 2023	15th October 2023
GNB 216	23th December 2023	10th December 2023

The PDF of the Gabrielite News Bulletin is always available on our website www.stgabrielinst.org

<https://www.stgabrielinst.org/news-bulletins>

*Peace on earth
Peace among people
Peace in our hearts*

*Brother John Kallarackal, Superior General,
the Brothers of the General Council,
and the Brothers of the Community of the Generalate*

*wish you a Merry Christmas 2022
and the New year 2023, filled with joy, happiness and peace.*



Brothers of St. Gabriel, Via Trionfale 12840, 00135 Rome