



Gabrielite

News Bulletin

For Private Circulation Only



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EDITOR'S NOTE

« Education continues to be the most potent means of evangelization, even where no other means of evangelization is possible ».

(An interpretation on the role of Catholic Education in the Church)

As the above interpretation states, we find ourselves more often doing our mission among people of other faith or non-believers. Therefore, it is a wonderful opportunity to bring Christian values through our mission amidst the challenges it contains.

I'm happy to bring you this 209th issue of the Gabrielite News Bulletin with the contributions from 15 Provinces, the maximum number of contributions in recent times.

The article from the Generalate is on the Farwell of Sr. Udaya who returned to India after 8 years of her service in the Generalate, and about the visit of Bishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal. This issue brings to you a lot of activities that took place in our educational institutions, our communities and at the Province level. The Articles from the Province of East Africa, Bengaluru and North-East focus on special education, inclusive education and social work programmes. On page 25 the Province of Pune shares the history of their Little Flower Institutions at Uppal and Hyderabad. Province level Meetings of the Local Superiors and Heads of the Institutes, meetings of the Bursars and Accountants, Retreats of the Brothers, Jubilee celebrations, Young Brothers' Meet and Pilgrimage have found commonplace in many of the articles. Brother Ronald BRISSETTE from the Province of Canada shares about Province level events including their Provincial Chapter. On page 35, Bro. Nicéphore Gilbert Pape TINE shares in detail about the preparation for perpetual vows which was hosted by the Province of Senegal. The three Formation Houses in India have shared the important events that have taken place in recent months. We find in the Partnership Section various seminars, sessions and meetings of the Associates held in India and Spain.

It is a combined effort and contributions of many persons which help us bring out this Newsletter once in two months. I thank Bro. Emmanuel P. J. for editing the English texts. We extend our sincere thanks to the translators, Bro. Marcel Chapeleau, Bro. Michel Mendy and Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue. My sincere thanks to Bro. Dionigi Taffarello for publishing news in the Partnership Section. A special word of thanks to Bro. James T.K and Bro. Bernard Guesdon. We thank all the Provincials, Secretaries and News Reporters from the Provinces, who have contributed news items for the publication of the GNB.

Have a good reading!

Bro. Louis Anthonysamy, SG

RETURN OF SR. UDAYA TO INDIA



After eight years of genial presence at the General House, Sr. Udaya, a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Kottayam, has definitively returned to India. The Community of the General House took the opportunity on Saturday, July 30, 2022, to thank her for all the valuable services she had been rendering to the Community with generosity, commitment and competence. It was in this context that **Bro. Jean Marie Thior** highlighted the 8 qualities that reflect the beauty and the goodness of Sr. Udaya's soul.

1 - The smile on the corridors, in the kitchen and the campus: **Sister Udaya** always wears a smile, a sign of her serenity. She could even be affectionately named: "our lady of the beautiful smile".

2 - The availability: Sr. Udaya is a person always ready to help, and with the greatest discretion. She does not make publicity about her activities. She is a very reserved person, who does things with efficiency.

3 - The ability: Sr. Udaya is an artist. She has a gift for sewing, embroidery, repairing clothes, etc. She is very good at making rosaries, and during festivals she often decorated the table in the dining hall, in order to stimulate the appetite. The Chapel also benefited from her artistic talents making the place conducive for prayer, especially meditation.

4 - The courage: In spite of everything that can happen to her, Sr. Udaya always knows how to keep calm, relying on the never-failing help of God.

5 - The attention: Even if speaking Italian fluently seems a hard task for her, Sr. Udaya finds the words and the simple gestures to give peace and calm to those who meet her, which is a way of saying that there is always space for the people in her heart.

6 - The respect: Sr. Udaya always gave due consideration to every person she met, young or old, man or woman, with no distinction of race, appreciating the efforts of each and every one.

7 - Precision in work: This requires meticulousness planning and optimum concentration. Who has not noticed the degree of precision with which Sr. Udaya creates her works of art? In whatever tasks she undertakes, she looks for perfection of the outcome.

8 - Imitator of St. Joseph, the holy protector of her religious family, example and model of Christian life, model of a life full of faith, abandonment, trust in God, charity, work.



On behalf of the Community, **Bro. John Kallarackal**, Superior General, handed over a symbolic gift to her in order to reiterate the heartfelt gratitude of all those who have benefited from her many talents and her keen sense of gratuitous service. In her response to the participants of the farewell ceremony, **Sr. Udaya**, after giving thanks to God for the 8 years spent in Rome, highlighted the beautiful collaboration between the Brothers of St. Gabriel and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Kottayam. She took this opportunity to express her deep gratitude to all the Brothers of the General House and Father Jobins Manimala, the Chaplain, all the resident priests and lay collaborators for all the support she had received during her stay in Rome.



An aperitif and a fraternal meal closed the beautiful day of Saturday July 30, 2022, which will remain engraved in the archives of the General House.

Bro. Jean Marie Thior, SG
Secretary General

VISIT OF BISHOP KURIAN MATHEW VAYALUNKAL



On Saturday, August 06, 2022, the Community of the General House had the joy of welcoming Bishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal, the Apostolic Nuncio to Algeria and Tunisia since 2021. After the words of welcome from the Superior General and the presentation of the members of the Community, Bishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal recalled with great emotion the fraternal links that bind him to the Congregation of the Brothers of St. Gabriel. Among other things, he noted two historically significant moments for him. On his very first visit to Italy in 1992 as a student, he was welcomed by the Brothers of St. Gabriel, and the General House remained his home base. In Papua New Guinea, where he was the Apostolic Nuncio from 2016 to 2021, the relationships were strengthened through the exemplary commitment of our confreres in mission

in Kiunga, Port Moresby and Lae. He ended his address by requesting the prayers of the Brothers for the fruitfulness of his mission in Algeria and Tunisia, two Muslim countries where the Christian minority deserves special attention and continued support. The evening began with a Marian Prayer and concluded with a fraternal meal prepared by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Kottayam.

Bro. Jean Marie Thior, SG
Secretary General

Province of Thailand



CONTINUED FORMATION FOR JUNIORS BROTHERS

From June 12 to 15, 2022 our Junior Brothers under the guidance of Bro. Nontacha organized the Continued Formation for Junior Brothers at Baan San Fan Punsuk, Jom-thong. The main purpose was “To live and experience with those who are in need and to examine the hardships of poor people, in order to follow our Founder and in practice of ‘Laudato Si’”. They had opportunities to exchange ideas with the Leader of volunteers working with Hmong tribe people, and also visit the center of drug addiction treatment.



Listening Bro. Anurak’s experiences at the center of drug addiction treatment.

CARING AND SHARING WITH LOVE FOR THE LITTLE ONES

On the occasion of Assumption Day, August 15, Bro. Achin Tengtrakul, the Vice President for Administrative Affairs with 25 service personnel went to visit the disabled children at the Camillian Social Center, Lat Krabang near the new Bangkok International Airport. The disabled children received treatment and had the opportunities to be trained in Arts, Music, and other skills to improve their physical, psychological, social and spiritual well-being, by volunteers and social workers. Their work was appreciated by all of us. We brought them educational materials along with lunch, love and

happiness and also, cash donated by well-wishers.



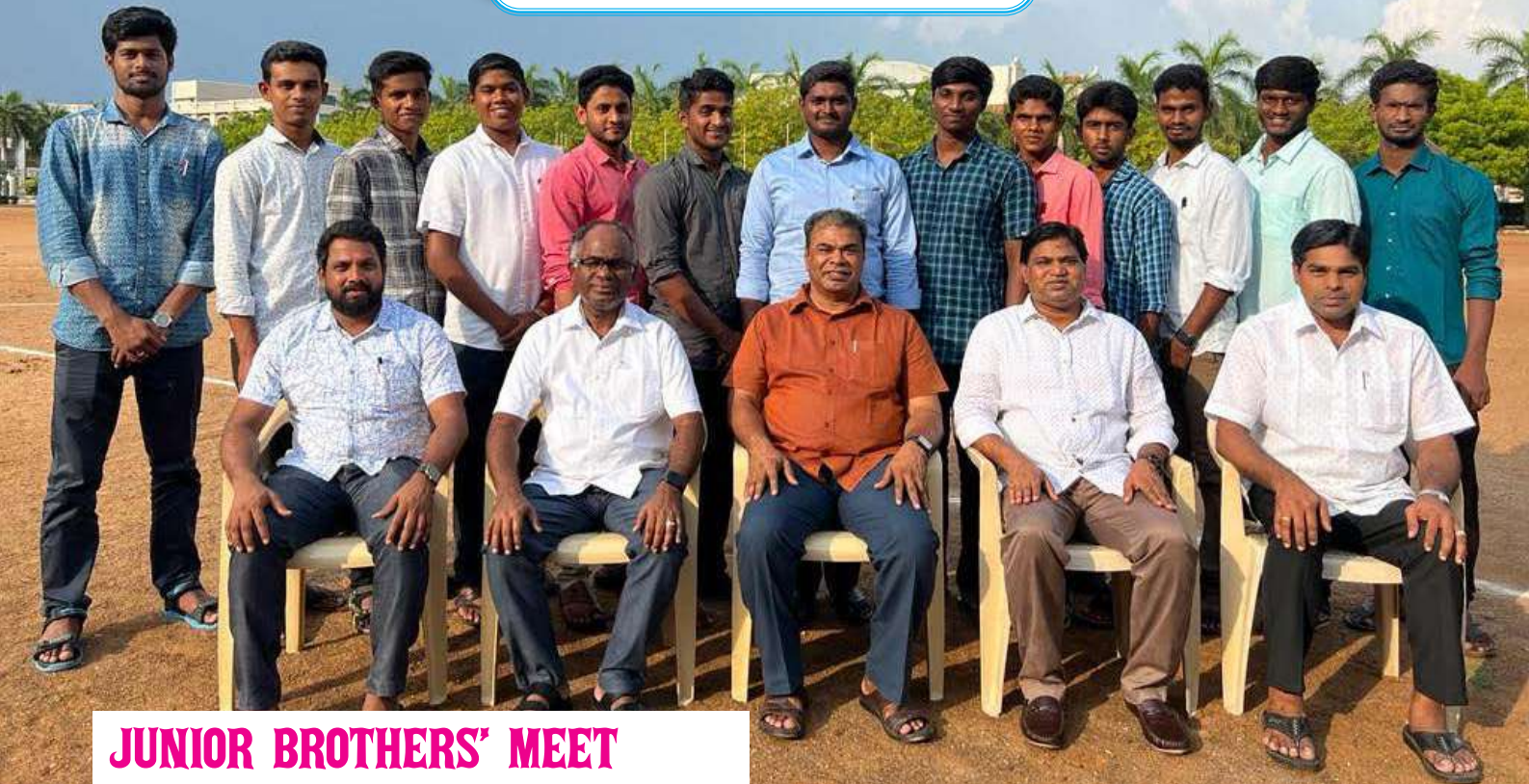


PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF BLESSED NICHOLAS BOONKERD KITBAMRUNG

Between August 12-14, 2022, our Bro. Provincial organized a Spiritual Pilgrimage for all the Brothers as specified in the Provincial Chapter on Fraternal Life, Conviction 4.1, Action 4.1. The topic for this pilgrimage was “In the footsteps of Blessed Nicholas Boonkerd Kitbamrung”, the first Thai martyr who died in prison in 1944 ; and who was Beatified on March 5, 2000. Together with this trip, the Brothers took the opportunity to distribute educational materials to children. During this pilgrimage to the shrine, we reflected that the

martyr taught us “we can stand for God no matter the circumstances, but only be bold and cling to Christ, and we will receive a reward for standing for our faith”. They returned to Bangkok with joy, happiness and they were blessed with opportunity to pray and sing together in the buses. There were 56 Brothers who joined this trip. Thank you Brother Provincial for organizing such a spiritual Pilgrimage for us.

Bro.Achin Tengtrakul, SG



JUNIOR BROTHERS' MEET

On 30th July 2022, the 13 Junior Brothers along with the Province Formation Commission Members gathered at Montfort School, Kattur for a day of reflection and sharing. The programme started with meaningful prayer and reflection led by Bro. Richard. Bro. George Fernandez, Province Formation Director (PFD) welcomed the gathering and Bro. Antonyraj adorned our Provincial Bro. Irudhayam with a shawl. Provincial Superior in his address encouraged all of the participants to persevere in their Religious vocation and equip themselves intellectually and spiritually. He promised his wholehearted presence in their ongoing formation.

Bro. George Fernandez and Bro. Dhanaraj introduced the mentors for the Junior Brothers and explained their role in the Junior Brothers' formation. They were asked to select a spiritual guide and were told to meet the Local Superior every month to share and reflect on their progress in religious life. They were exhorted to write their journal, read books and prepare reviews and to develop their soft skills and spend their leisure time meaningfully by engaging in personal hobbies.

In the afternoon, they had group sharing. They were asked to reflect and share on the following questions:

1. Are you convinced that you are called to Religious life? Yes or No? What makes you to say so?
2. What are the signs you have to show that you have

received this life (Vocation)? What are your efforts to persevere in this life?

3. i) These aspects of my Province/Community that I find most inspiring.

ii) These aspects of life in my Province/Community for which I have reservations and why?

iii) I am happy in the congregation for these reasons. What motives?

Bro. Dhanaraj was the moderator for the afternoon session. He helped them by his sharing on how to live a meaningful and fruitful Religious life. He also emphasized on time management and self-discipline. Bro. Provincial and Bro. George Fernandez intervened and explained the challenges of their mission and community life. Presence of Bro. Jesuraja, Bro. John Paul, Bro. Antonyraj during the day added great valour for the meeting.

They concluded the meeting with a meaningful Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Andrew, Rector, St. Paul's Major Seminary, Trichy. The hospitality and generosity of Bro. Robert and the Kattur Montfort School Community are well appreciated by the Junior Brothers. The Junior Brothers bid goodbye to each other in the evening carrying forward the inputs with a lot of positivity and hope.



THE DIAMOND – GOLDEN – SILVER JUBILEES

The Montfort School – Kattur, Trichy campus sported a festive look on Sunday 07 August 2022 when people from different districts started converging in Montfort for the Jubilee celebrations. Among the ten Jubilarians of the Province of Trichy, Bro. Xavier Montfort celebrated his Diamond Jubilee marking the 60 years of Religious life in Brotherhood. The golden Jubilarians Bro. V.C. Mani and Bro. Savari Antony were all in great delight as they celebrated their 50 years of God's fidelity and their response to it. The third set of Brothers namely Bros. Alexis Irudayaraj, Arockiaraj, Francis I, Jesudoss A, Philipraj, Robert Lourudsamy and Bro. Sahaya Benito were all in glee with their sparkling smiles as they celebrated their Silver Jubilee.



Besides, a few of the Jubilarians of the same batch also joined in this celebration along with two Provincials of Bangalore and Yercaud and a great number of priests and Religious Sisters and fellow Brothers from other Provinces. This sacred event was solemnized with the thanksgiving Eucharist presided over by the Bishop of Trichy Diocese Rt. Rev. Savarimuthu Arockiaraj and concelebrated by more than 30 priests. About 800 people participated in the Eucharistic celebration inside the tastefully decorated Montfort auditorium. The presence of their parents, siblings, relatives and

friends added more meaning and colour to the event.



In his homily, the Bishop elucidated the origin and growth of Religious life in the Church in early times, particularly the life of the Consecrated Brothers. He did not fail to uphold in high esteem the position of Religious Brothers and the great mission carried out by the Brothers around the globe today and more particularly in Tamilnadu. With a note of profound gratitude to the Lord for all the marvels the Lord is doing to the people through the Brothers he congratulated the Jubilarians and wished them many more years of meaningful life and mission as a good and faithful servant of the Lord. The Jubilee celebration came to a close with a sumptuous festive lunch served to a host of more than 1700 participants who came to felicitate and share the joy of the jubilarians. The Provincial Superior, Bro. Irudayam who had masterminded this happy jubilee event, generously appreciated and thanked the organizing committee and the Brothers of the Campion School, Trichy and Montfort School, Kattur communities for their committed involvement in the successful conduct of this memorable event.

Bro. Dhanaraj, SG

MONTFORT NIKETAN, KONBIR NOATOLI

On the 2nd of June, there was a handing-over ceremony in the community. Bro. Amar Kandulna handed over his responsibilities to the new local Superior Bro. Albinus Tigga.

The school celebrated international yoga day on 21st June. All the students participated enthusiastically in doing important *asanas*.



After one month of summer holidays, the hostellers came back on 12th June.

A seminar was organized on Health and Hygiene for girls of classes III to X in the hostel. Sr. Manju OSU explained elaborately on this topic.



Bro. Xavier Tete, SG

MONTFORT SADAN, KOLKATA

It is my pleasure to share some of the notable events that unfurled on our campus during the month of June 2022.

On 2nd June Bro. Anand left for Bangalore to do his theological studies. He was given a fitting farewell by the community. Bro. Avijit Lomga joined the Community and took charge as the Bursar. He was given a warm welcome by the Brothers.

On 13th June, the school reopened and students started attending the classes in persons.

It was a historical event for St. Montfort's Sr. Sec. School, Kolkata as it inaugurated the Plus Two classes





on 15th June 2022. The Plus Two was inaugurated by Rev. Dominic Savio, Principal of the prestigious St. Xavier's College, Kolkata in the presence of the Provincial Superior, Brothers from the Province, Teachers and Students. During his speech Father spoke highly about the quality of education imparted

by the Montfort Brothers as he is from Trichy and also in touch with some of the Brothers of Trichy Province. There are 110 students for the first Plus Two batch for the Academic session 2022-23.

Bro. Avijit Lomga, SG

MONTFORT BHAWAN, KONBIR-NOATOLI

On 5th June, Bro. Jacob Panjikaran reached the new community-Konbir-Noatoli accompanied by Bros. Clement Kandulna and Philip Surin. He joined again this community after 42 years.

Bro. Philip Surin joined the community on 17th June. He will contribute his mite in the progress of the Middle school. Bro. Vijay has been solely managing the Middle school and the hostel.

Bro. Jacob addressed the Mahila Sangh (women) of the parish on the present socio-political situation and the challenges ahead to awaken the collective consciousness of the community. There were about a



hundred participants.

The roof casting of the college auditorium was completed. The major works have also been almost



completed. The painting and furnishing works are pending. Bro. Sylvester Surin, one of the Selection Committee Members came from Nawatanr community to interview the teacher candidates for the Middle School Sections on 25th June.

Montfort Bhawan Community building is under renovation. The outside area of the building has been done up.

The results of Inter. College and High school were very good. There is a sense of joy and fulfilment prevailing among the Teachers, Students and the Administration.

Bro. Jacob Panjikaran, SG

Province of Hyderabad



THE LOCAL SUPERIORS' AND PRINCIPALS' MEETING

The Meeting of Local Superiors and Principals of Hyderabad Province was held on 29-30, July 2022, at Montfort Bhavan Hyderabad. All the Local Superiors and Principals participated in the meeting.

Bro Pratap Reddy, Asst. General, was present for the opening session. In his address to the gathering, he emphasized the need for leaders to be torch bearers of Montfortian mission and charism and to be ambassadors of the congregation. He stated "A gathering of this nature should help us to rediscover the founding objectives of establishing an Institution and adhere to the objective for which a Community or Institute is established. The core of our mission as Local Superiors and Heads of the Institutions is for the animation of mission and community life. We are not event managers or programme organizers. Community forms the basic element of our mission. We also need to evaluate how do others look at us? Are we men of God? More than ever before we need to become more accountable and transparent in our dealings. United as Brothers, we need to shun the corporate style of functioning. It is also important to keep in place the policy documents regarding Child Rights, Human Rights, Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place and other related documents for effective functioning of our Institutions. Bro Asst. General reiterated the need to appreciate and encourage each other so that the best in each comes to the forefront." He appreciated the Annual Year plan of the Province of Hyderabad and the Integration programmes for fraternal communion and Synodality

in the Province.

Provincial Superior Bro Shine Alex called upon all the Local Superiors to be:

A deeply spiritual man capable of leadership.

A mature person capable of autonomy, trust, acting intelligently and responsibly in a spirit of mutual respect and charity.

A well-trained administrator in spiritual as well as secular matters. He sees that Brothers follow the community time table for common meals, games and other activities to enjoy mutual presence, sharing of warmth of brotherly concern and love.

Local superior as a Community Builder, keeps the community united and to deepen fraternal bond by occasional community outings, sector gathering for birthdays and recollection etc. He is sensitive, patient, tolerant and gentle to inspire others by his way of life and caring for each member. School leadership is an influential driver in the realization of school mission and fostering student learning and development.

Provincial Superior highlighted the role of an Effective School Principal

A leader always strives for bringing innovation in different practices and activities and provides every possible support for innovation to happen.

A leader views appraisal as a continuous educative process.

A leader is sensitive to the emotional, social, professional and administrative contexts needed to operate and develops appropriate competencies.

Collaborative Leadership : The school leaders demonstrate effective communication, cross functional collaborations and build relationships.

Systems for Ongoing Quality and Change Management : The school leaders strive for continued improvement in the learning outcomes of

students. The school leaders demonstrate capacity to improve systems in the school and ensure an ethos of responsibility and accountability.

The school leaders promote innovation by introducing creative methods and techniques that equip students and the Institution with 21st century skills.

Bro. Jayabalan, SG

GLIMPSES OF PROVINCIAL' S VISIT TO COMMUNITIES, INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS AND STAFF



Province of Delhi

LOCAL SUPERIORS' AND PRINCIPALS' MEETING

The Local Superiors' and Principals' meeting was held at Montfort Villa, Bhopal on 23rd and 24th July 2022. The meeting started with a fitting prayer service by Bro. Edmond Soreng invoking God's choicest blessings upon all the participants. The two days of meeting contained various inputs on learning and executing in our educational institutions as well as for our Province's vision and community activities. The total number of participants were 19 Brothers and 07 Coordinators of our schools.

On 23rd July, we had New Education Policy 2020 (NEP) aligned Continuous Professional Development workshop on 'NEP CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES FOR HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION' organized by the head of Confluence Training and Development and Eupheus Learning, Mr. Surya Narayan Bahadur. He conducted the sessions with lively inputs and created a learning atmosphere. His creative presentation of NEP kept all the participants wonderstruck. Some mesmerizing activities and timely clarifications were the outcome of the session.

National Education Policy 2020 states, "Pedagogy must evolve to make education more experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner-centred, discussion-based, flexible and, of course, enjoyable." National Education Policy 2020 has made easy all-round development of Education in India.

NEP 2020 has 4 parts which include School Education, Higher Education, other key areas of focus and making it happen. The four stages of NEP 2020 are Access, Equity, Quality and Accountability. All the participants were enlightened with the four Pillars of Education: Learning to know, Learning to do, Learning to be and Learning to work with other people.

NEP is insisting on strengthening the foundation for Children's Development and Learning, leading to make children active and engaged learners and to enhance reasoning abilities, problem-solving skills, critical and analytical thinking skills.

Mr. Surya Narayan has been an inspiration to every participant gathered, and it is because of him that all those who participated now dream of making it big in the education field. This seminar only adds to our belief that education in India is growing and I am confident that the day is not far away when we will have Indian Education competing at the top international level. The seminar on NEP had a positive conclusion by inhaling blessings and exhaling gratitude and of course, with immersive learning experiences. Ms. Jyoti Nair, the senior coordinator of St. Montfort School, Bhopal summed up the seminar and proposed the vote of thanks. Just before the dinner, Bro. Mathew Montfort briefly presented his newly edited book, "Psychology of the Children."

For our province 2022 is a time not only to assess our successes and failures but also to ask ourselves what sort of province we have become. There are a few concerns that have to find definite answers. Each Brother of our province is responsible for the better growth and development. Though there is a lot more to do, what we have achieved so far is praiseworthy.

On 24th July all the Superiors and Principals gathered together make plans to make our Province more vibrant spiritually as well as in missionary dynamism. Province vision and goal for the next five years was presented by Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial Superior and requested the gathering to shake off the lethargy and complacency we are in and introspect if we are heading in the right direction. If not, what are the elements responsible for our laxity and ineffectiveness? He presented goals and action plans of our Province which is to create such an ambiance in

the community where in each member finds individual growth and fulfilment, we are able to re-energize the Montfort Associate Movement, to make all the commissions more effective by assessing specific powers and functions and make them target oriented, to make our mission committed, more authentic and enterprising, to revitalize the sector animation programme, and to chalk out a framework regarding expansion programmes and mission *ad gentes*. It was also discussed that the Provincial Council Meetings be held in different communities, especially in rural areas.

The five areas of our life discussed were the following:

Vocation Promotion and Formation, Spiritual growth of the Brothers, Education Mission, Taking care of the elderly Brothers, and Financial Resource Management. The Community Projects by Local Superiors were presented, discussed and clarified. The session by auditors was useful as they explained

the proposed amendments in the finance budget 2022-23. All the finance-related doubts were discussed and clarified.

The Convenors of province commissions presented an action plan for the coming year 2022-2023. The Local Superior's Companion was distributed and asked to go through with utmost care. The Evaluation and record of Monthly meeting of Junior Brothers was discussed during the meeting and LSs were requested to maintain the record of it. The two days meeting came to an end with concluding remarks and vote of thanks by Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial Superior.

The Province of Delhi had a shining yesterday and going to have a glowing tomorrow by upholding the timeless vision of our Founder to deliver quality and innovative education and we pledge to take a stride forward in the years to come.

Bro. Alex Diamond, SG

BURSARS' AND ACCOUNTANTS' MEETING



The annual meeting of Bursars and Accountants was held on 13th & 14th Aug 2022 at St. Montfort School, Bhopal. 14 bursars and 06 accountants from different schools of our province attended it. Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial, Bro. C.M. Simon, the Provincial Bursar and Bro. Monachan K.K., the Convenor of Finance Commission were the organizers of the same. The meeting commenced at 9.00 am on 13th Aug with a prayer session animated by Bro. K. M. Mathew. Then the Provincial welcomed the participants and the Resource Persons of the 1st day Mr. Raju Sonpar and Mr. Atul Sharma (our auditors) and he thanked Bro. Monachan for making all the arrangements for the meeting.

Mr. Raju Sonpar in his opening sentence stated that maintenance of account is a day-to-day activity and stressed that our accounts have to stand any scrutiny.

Then Mr. Atul Sharma explained to us how to make a proper budget and how to monitor the accounts.

During the 3rd session Mr. Raju Sonpar gave us many important guidelines and Mr. Atul Sharma briefed us

on the *Tally* system of accounting.

In the 4th Session we had a sharing by the Local Bursars.

The following day was exclusively meant for the Bursars. During the 5th and 6th sessions Bro. Provincial threw light on the strengths and resources of our Province and made certain observations and gave us certain guidelines regarding the duties of the Bursar. He shared with us about the Planning for a Financial Structure for the Province. He also explained to us the Accounting Manual of the Province.

The meeting came to an end with words of gratitude to the Provincial, Bro. Monachan and to Bro. Simon for having organized such a useful meeting after a gap of 03 years and for all the necessary arrangements. Finally, we wound up the meeting with concluding prayer at 1.00 pm on 14th Aug 2022.

Bro. T. T. Mathew, SG

MCDS, PALLAVARAM - CHENNAI

Community-Based Rehabilitation(CBR):

All the four CBR centres had their regular activities like Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Vocational Skills training and Monthly Parents meeting during this reporting period.



On the auspicious occasion of Tamil New Year Day, the **renovated CBR centre at Kannagi Nagar** for the Special Children was officially inaugurated by Thiru. S. Aravind, MLA, Sholinganallur Constituency and Rotary District Governor, Mr. Sridhar along with the members of the Rotary Club of Madras North. This centre was renovated with Floor tiles, False Ceiling and light fittings. Therapists for **Physio, Occupational and Speech** were giving regular training to these Special Children under the instructions of Dr. Bala Murali, Ex -Monfortian, Spine and Neuro Surgeon, Kauvery Hospital and Director, Hamsa Rehabilitation Services.



Sholinganallur MLA is introduced to the facilities in our Kannagi Nagar.

The Sholinganallur MLA was very happy with the facilities for these underprivileged children and appreciated the Rotarians for this noble gesture.

Study Centres:

All the Nine Study Centres in the relocated Slum areas with their regular strength attended their evening sessions. As part of the Annual Day, They had competitions in Drawing, Crafts, Sports and Cultural activities apart from their academic pursuit. They were awarded prizes for these events during the Annual Day Celebrations.



Photo: Dance performance during Annual Day Celebrations by Study Centre Children

Dental Screening and Awareness camps were held for the children at *Chemmencherry* Study Centres and about Sixty students availed this opportunity. This camp was conducted in association with Sathyabhama Dental College. The Children were busy with their preparations for the Final Examinations.

Health Programme:

The Clinic on Wheels with the trained Medical Practitioner and a qualified Nurse, along with support staff and equipped with sufficient stock of free medicines reached out to more than **Four**



Dental Screening at Chemmencherry CBR Centre



Eye Screening Camp in progress

Thousand and Three hundred beneficiaries in our predetermined areas in the Slums and Slum relocated areas during this reporting period.

An Eye screening Camp in association with 'India Vision Institute' _was organized for the SHG (Self

Help Group) women and their families at *Malligaipoo Nagar, Adyar, Srinivasapuram and Mandaveli*. More than One hundred and fifty people benefitted. Free Spectacles will be distributed to those with defective vision.

Bro. Joseph Louis, SG

DSEA BOYS TOWN—MALAYSIYA

Digital Training and Delivery Tools



In view of the COVID 19 pandemic, we embarked upon online classes for the students as well as the teachers. The Management organized a special training: 'Digital Training and Delivery Tools' for all the Teaching staff conducted by the

TVET staff as well. During the 3 days of training, the participants were tested on their theory and practical knowledge and awarded certificates of attendance. The best 5 performers were awarded certificates and mementoes.

Public Holiday Students activities:

The recent announcement of a Public Holiday called Wesak Day created great excitement among the students. It was a long-awaited occasion for the Students. They were involved in the 'Cooking Competition' and showcased their cooking skills.



The Cannosian Sisters and Student Affairs Staff were the judges as well. It was a festive treat for all the students to enjoy sumptuous meals. On the second day, the students enjoyed our very own 'customised game' called 'ring hockey'. The healthy competition created healthy bonding with one another.

Mr. S. Arul

Province of North-East India



LOCAL SUPERIORS & HEADS OF THE INSTITUTIONS MEETING 2022

The Local Superiors and the Heads of the Institutions Meeting in the Province of Northeast India was held from the 12th to 14th of July 2022 at the Montfort Provincial House, Guwahati.

On the 12th morning, Bro. K. J. Jose led the Brothers in Prayer, invoking the Almighty's blessings on the meeting and on each of the Brothers present on the occasion. Bro. Maria Soosai, warmly welcomed, the Resource Persons of the day, Dr. Fr. Johny P.D, SDB, Director, Don Bosco Institute, Guwahati, Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, the Provincial Superior, the Local Superiors and the Heads of the Institutions for this important meeting.

In his orientation address Bro. Provincial said that the lives of people, their works and education are changing rapidly. He said that it is a major concern for Educationists and Religious leaders to discern how to implement the reforms and restructuring required to match the changing Government Policies and the needs of our changing world.

He pointed out that the innovative practices and facilities that are at par with the international standards provided by the corporates and other educational institutions leave us with no choice but to upgrade ourselves to meet the present-day educational standards. He said, "The writing on the wall is clear – PERFORM or PERISH"

In the 1st session, Dr. Fr. Johny P.D, SDB, Director, DBI, Guwahati, explained the various aspects of the National Education Policy. He said that the NEP

focuses on the five pillars of education, namely affordability, accessibility, quality, equity and accountability. He also mentioned how the quality of Education depends on various areas like input, output, outcome and impact. He said that the school is as good as the Principal and that the effectiveness of the subject taught is as good as the Teacher and shared many other useful insights.



In the next session, the Brothers took time to discuss, share and reflect on the 'Concerns regarding the Educational Apostolate' in the North East. They had an in-depth discussion on the various challenges and apprehensions posed by the New Education Policy 2022, like the process to start the nursery schools, the new educational scheme of 5-3-3-4 (*Children will spend five years in the Foundational stage, 3 years in the Preparatory stage, 3 years in the Middle stage, and 4 years in the Secondary stage*), the status of our schools in Baghty and Boluchugre, filling in the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)



forms, regular evaluation of Teachers, rewarding Teachers who are better performers, dealing with senior Teachers, non performing Teachers, unqualified Teachers, fee collection, etc.

In the session that followed the Brothers listened to the plans of each commission shared by the convenors of the respective commissions, for the coming year and a report on the financial situation of the Province presented by Bro. Thomas Thannicken, the Provincial Bursar.

On the next day, the communities presented their 'Community Projects for the year 2022 – 2023 with their short term and long term goals.

Then the Brothers took the time to plan the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Province, reflected on the 'Action Plan on Laudato Si' and discussed the various provisions of the draft of the 'Local Superior's Companion.'

On the final day the Brothers spent time to read the various rules and code of conduct of the 'Revised Staff Service Rules'. The General Concerns expressed by some of the Brothers were then discussed and clarified during the last session.



In the concluding session, Bro. Provincial stated that there are new roads to walk on, new possibilities to explore, new questions to ask and new strategies to respond to as people are changing, objectives are different and new needs are emerging. He urged the Brothers to re-define their very life styles, their ministries, formation and administration to be more relevant to this present world.

He said that he prays and hopes that this important meeting will set the Province on the road of renewal and help the Brothers to return to the essentials of religious life, recapture the Montfortian charism, recommit themselves to live as "Men of God", strengthen their fraternal life in communities, and strive to become real apostles with hearts on fire to witness to Christ in the Church and in the Society.

The Brothers were glad to physically come together after a two year lockdown due to the Covid Pandemic and were happy to experience the warmth and share the Brotherly love of being together.

Bro. Thomas Platthotam, SG

CREATING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE

The Province of North East India, envisions making all its Institutions inclusive in nature. This will enable the Children with Disabilities (CWD) to study along with other children in the same classrooms and following the same syllabus.

Three of our institutions in the Province are fully INCLUSIVE and another three are in the process of adopting the INCLUSIVE Education System.

Students with 'Visual Impairment', 'Low Vision', 'Hearing Impairment', 'Intellectually Disabled', 'Autism' etc., are being admitted, catered to and imparted education to along with the other students

in the same classrooms in the High School Section and the Higher Secondary Sections of our Schools. In the primary section they are being trained and guided for adapting themselves to learn in a classroom with other students in the higher classes.

To reach out to the children and adults with disabilities, the Province, in collaboration with Chistoffel Blinden Mission (CBM), an INGO, has been implementing a multi-year project – namely, 'Creating Equal Opportunities for All' in six of our schools spread across four states in the North East.

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

I. STRENGTHENING FIVE VILLAGE LEVEL ‘DISABLED PEOPLES’ ORGANISATIONS’:

Forty-nine members of the 5 Disabled People’s Organisations in Rampur Block, Kamrup, Rural District, Assam and Dabellagre, Boldorenggre & Bandra Adinggre in Gambegre Block, West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya, along with 20 people without disabilities were the beneficiaries of the training and empowerment programmes. This programme was organized by Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, Province of Northeast India, and hosted by Ms. Kamini Das from Barihat, Kamrup Rural District, Mr. Deepak Nath, from Langkeshwar, Kamrup Metro, Ms Rosalia A Sangma and Ms Jacintha Ch Sangma from Tura.

The following were the highlights of the programme.

I. CREATING AWARENESS:

‘The rights of the Disabled People Act, (RPWD), Government Schemes are available to the disabled and so is the legal recourse available for their benefit’.

II. SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMMES (SELF – HELP) :



1. The techniques of manufacturing detergent soap.
2. The techniques of manufacturing bathing soap.
3. The techniques of Farming Mushrooms
4. The techniques of baking cakes, cupcakes and bread.

II. INCLUSIVE SPORTS:

Another significant activity organized and conducted by the Province was an **Inclusive Sports Meet 2022** for the students of the Government schools which



are involved in **Saksham Tripura** (A Government of Tripura project aimed at the comprehensive development of ‘Children with Special Needs’ CWSN, in close collaboration with four partners, two of whom are **Montfort School, Agartala;** and **Montfort Higher Secondary School, Champaknagar,** monitored and co-ordinated by the NGO, CBM, India Trust, Bengaluru) such as Subhash Nagar High School, Vidhya Sagar High School, Srinagar Kabi Sukanta High School, Amtali High School, Madhuban High School, along with Montfort School, Agartala.



Thus the project ‘Creating Equal Opportunities for All’ became a reality in a small way through this ‘Inclusive Sports Meet’ where the Children with disabilities (CWD) competed with other children equally, with enthusiasm and commitment which brought in a lot of appreciation from one and all.

Bro. Maria Soosai, SG

Province of Yercaud

MONTFORT SCHOOL, ICSE, YERCAUD

The year started off for Montfort School, ICSE, being vibrant and eventful as all the children were back to school after two years of virtual learning. It made the campus buoyant with the children laughing, learning and playing. The year was started with a special welcome assembly for the students making them feel distinctive with a mini ice-breaking session.

DSP, Salem Rural, as the Chief Guest.

All the students performed the fundamental postures of Surya Namaskar and the benefits were explained. The students then performed other postures pertaining to the benefits of different parts of the body. The Mudras used in Yoga were also performed with explanation. All these put together made the whole experience a sensual Yoga session

Choosing a Career



A seminar on the Trends of Children Today was conducted by Dr. Leo Akash Raj SK on 23rd June 2022. This down to earth person spoke about the “What” and “Why” of perusing a course or career. His life experiences were portrayed as examples in a comical way, where he brought out the positivity of his negative experiences, making the colloquium entertaining with deep embedded thoughts to ponder upon the idea of doing better what we do well.



The installing of the smart sense boards placing away with the blackboards was a major convenience as it brought technology into the classrooms, making them futuristic. The days were filled with close-fitting, interactive and fun schedule making school fascinating for the kids with the following events:

International Yoga Day



Montfort School, ICSE, gracefully succeeded in raising awareness of the benefits of performing Yoga amongst the students on The International Yoga Day, the 21st of June, presided over by Miss. Thiyal Nayagi,



You Be You - UBU

An orientation program for the students was conducted on 25th June 2022 by Mr. Vijay Kumar in an interactive and an enjoyable manner. The main idea delivered was - treat others the way you want to be treated. He also elaborated on the powers of positive thinking such as self-acceptance, self-confidence and being honest to oneself. On the whole the workshop made the students to realise that they need not be conscious always of what others will think about them but to just be themselves on the positive side.

Investiture ceremony



Our prestigious institution conducted its Investiture Ceremony on the 2nd of July to extend the great effort made to hand over the responsibilities of leadership to the apt students who would uphold the legacy of the school. It was presided over by Mr. Sree Abinav IPS, Superintendent of Police, Salem, as the chief guest who invested the students with their responsibilities. Dance by the three houses in unison and a mime performed added colour to the formal celebration.

Art from Nature



Mr. Umapathi, a specialist in art from waste and sand art was outsourced to facilitate the students to enhance their skills in craft. Individual sessions were conducted for three days, from the 4th to 6th of July, for different grades of students, where they made pen stands, photo frames, bullock carts, human figurines, lampshades, etc.... the final day was concluded with a display of the colourful objects made by the students. The prime take away for the students was that anyone can put anything which is considered a waste, into use.

Seminar on Stress Management and Mental Health



On the 12th of July, an interactive Seminar was conducted by Dr. Vivekanandan, a renowned psychiatrist from Salem, on Stress Management and Mental Health. He focused on the ill effects of social media and how taking up a hobby, listening to music, opening up to someone, etc..., can reduce the addiction which is the major reason for stress in the present generation. The seminar ended with a positive vibe of being socially compatible so as to have more of face to face communication than to have through virtual media.

Green Week



The Green Week was celebrated by the primary department, the "Primary Preppies", for a week starting from 11th July, with the final day highlighting the talents of the little ones dressed in green and presenting a green dance which was about saving nature, a green skit on saving natural resources, a green quiz on medicinal plants, etc... The cute lisp and the blinking eyes stole the hearts of all those watching. The acme was that all the kids did their part boldly onstage, without any hesitation or fear.

Sports Day

One of the mega events of the year, the 13th Annual Sports Meet-2022, was conducted on the 30th July with grandeur to bring out the sportsmanship of the students, that was witnessed by Mr. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamolzi, Minister for School Education, Government of Tamilnadu, as the Chief Guest and Mr. Shankar Manoharan Indian Defence Accounts Service, Ministry of Defence, as the Guest of honour.



The display of the athletic prowess, speed skills, sportsmanship, the drills and other displays, and the finale which was dedicated to the “Unsung Heroes of our Nation”, the armed force, took the spectators in awe, bringing prizes which made the children assertive and gave the impulse to perform even better.

Tamilnadu and Pondicherry Region CISCE Football Tournament



Our school hosted the Tamilnadu and Pondicherry Region CISCE Football Tournament from the 5th to 7th of August. Almost a thousand students from different schools, from all over Tamilnadu and Pondicherry participated in this tournament. It comprised of 65

teams, constituting of 3 categories, Under 14, Under 17 and Under 19, which came along with their Managers, Referees, Coaches.

Talentia – Louis House



The Talentia for the Louis House, one of the three Houses of our school was held on the 15th of August. The students of the Louis House displayed their talents through illusion dance, magic show, dress from waste, junk music, etc. This paved way to bring out the talents of the students individually and through team work.

Independence Day Celebration



The 76th Independence Day of our Nation was celebrated on the 15th of August with gusto of patriotism flowing from the students, highlighted through their programs. It was witnessed by Rev. Fr. Antony Brechmans who appreciated the sentiments of patriotism exhibited through dance and skit, where patriotism was being brought out through simple deeds of truth and non-violence, sharing and caring, shouldering freedom with responsibility, etc.

Bro. George I, SG

Province of France



AN OUTING DAY IN PORNIC!

Wednesday 27 July 2022

Hello,

My name is Audrey Lemarquand. I am hearing impaired. I am a Hospital Service Agent currently working as a care assistant at Maison Saint-Gabriel Residence in La Hillière.

Last year, on Thursday 29 July 2021, during a prayer, I came up with the idea of taking our residents to Pornic. My purpose in doing so was to help them get their mind off the routine of La Hillière and take some invigorating breath of the sea air.

We were 12 people in all, including 9 residents including Brs. Robert Baud, Louis Dousset, Stéphane Gasztowtt, Mathurin Le Bot, Jean-Marie Querville, André Ripoche, and Jean-Etienne Sanquer, Sister Anne-Marie Loez, a Daughter of Wisdom, and Mrs. Jeanne Bize.

My colleague Elena rented an accessible vehicle, with 9 seats, and I went in my car. We left at about 10.30 am, and a safe and sound journey! We arrived at Villa St Anne by 11.30 and were warmly welcomed.

At noon, we went to the chapel for prayer! Brother Jean Gentric made a moving welcome speech! After the mass, we settled down, had an aperitif and nice food prepared by the cook (Chief Laurent). We had a

great time chatting!

In the afternoon, while some stayed at the center, others went for a walk by the sea. We took lovely pictures! At about 4 p.m., we had a snack on the terrace, before Elena and I quietly started placing the residents in the car for the return to La Hillière. We thank our hosts and said goodbye.

Our return trip was quite calm. There wasn't too much traffic! We were back at La Hillière by 6 pm.

The next day at work, Elena and I received congratulations from the residents.

They were happy with the beautiful outing day and expressed their gratitude to the staff.

Let us remain united in prayer, and See you next year!

Many thanks to Brothers Jean Gentric and Gérard Egron for their warm welcome.

Thank you, Mr. Franck Boulay, Director of the care home, for supporting this initiative, and to Brother Gilbert Dugast, in charge of the Brothers at Maison Saint Gabriel in La Hillière!

Special thanks to Mrs. Elena Papon for accompanying us!

Mrs. Audrey Lemarquand

Province of Pune

LITTLE FLOWER INSTITUTIONS, UPPAL, HYDERABAD

The Little Flower group of institutions at Uppal-Hyderabad, in the South Indian State of Telangana, comprises of LittleFlowerSchool (LFS) that offers its course under the directive of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)- New Delhi; Little Flower Junior College (LFJC) -a Plus Two course after class 10, known as Intermediate Education offered under the directive of the Board of Intermediate of the state of Telangana, and LittleFlower Degree College (LFDC) offering both Undergraduate and Post-graduate programmes under the Osmania University, Hyderabad. The cluster of buildings running all three institutions are built on a seven-acre campus, the land for which was bequeathed by the then government about 48 years ago to start an Intermediate college. Two years from now, LFJC would be celebrating its 50th year of establishment.

About 15 years ago under the leadership of the then Director and Principal Bro. Franky Noronha, it was envisioned that the campus should be utilized for providing school and undergraduate levels of education so that once a child makes its entry at the Lower Kinder Garten level, he or she should have an opportunity to study up to a postgraduate degree of their choice, in the same campus; and today that dream has been fulfilled. We also have students after completion of their high school studies, choosing to study in our Intermediate College and up to under graduation. The postgraduate programme had been introduced two years ago and we have begun the courses with M.A Psychology and M.Sc. Statistics. All three Institutions are in popular demand. We would like to give some information in a nutshell about each of our three Institutions.

LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL

LFS has grown by leaps and bounds since its inception in 2007 with a humble start of 616 students and the present strength of the Teachers being close to 100 and



that of the students 2000. The management provides ample opportunities and provides a platform for the students to showcase their inherent talents.

Pillars of Foundation: The pioneers at the very inception namely: Bro. Franky Noronha, the then Correspondent of the school, Late Bro. Ravi Kumar Reddy, the then Principal, and Bro. Anthony Reddy, the Vice Principal of the school laid a strong foundation. The succeeding Brothers played a pivotal role to help the school flourish. The correspondent of the school at present is Bro. Vincent Reddy and the Principal is Bro. Joseph Pasala.

Little Flower Junior College (LFJC)



Among the three institutions, one needs a special mention and that is the Little Flower Junior College, which is going to celebrate the 50th years of its establishment in 2024.

LFJC was started in 1974 in the Little Flower High school campus at Abids, Hyderabad with 100 students and six teachers. Late Bro. Vicent De Paul was the first Principal of the college. The college shot to fame with 20 students securing the state ranks. The then Chief Minister of the State was so impressed with the performance of the College that he gave seven acres of land at Uppal to relocate the Junior College so that Brothers could expand the infrastructure and have more courses and more students admitted to the college.

We hope and pray the College maintains the high standards of holistic education in the years to come with the grace of God and the leadership of the Montfort Brothers of St Gabriel.

**LITTLE FLOWER DEGREE & PG COLLEGE,
UPPAL, HYDERABAD**



Little Flower Degree & PG College was founded in 2008 with 104 students on roll with four departments namely Commerce, Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science). At present the college consists of 23 departments with a strength of 1350 students. The college has been imparting quality education to students who come from all sections of society and it has been listed as one of the top colleges in the city. We have an illustrious history, albeit a short one which we endeavor to preserve, inspire and guide our future.

**LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY AT UPPAL,
HYDERABAD**

Little Flower Community added a new member this academic year. Bro. Joseph Pasala replaced Bro. Hruday Kumar Reddy who got a transfer to another Institution. Late Bro. Jose Varghese had been a member of the Community for a period of six years till his final days of departure in the month of May 2022. Bro. George M.A is the financial Administrator

of the community and the three Institutions. Bro. Yuju Francis is the Director of Montfort Counselling Center (MCC) in the Campus-offering mental health services to adolescents, adults and couples and a Professor in the Degree College.

Photo: Little Flower Community members.



- From left:
- Bro. Vincent Reddy,
- Bro. Yuju Francis
- Bro. M.A George
- Bro. Joseph Pasala

Bro. William Raymond D' Mello, SG



Province of Spain

EDUCA GABRIELISTAS SAN GABRIEL - ARANDA DE DUERO

The Hermano Celestino Awards promoted by the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel has already found a winner, or rather winners because, in this 8th edition the recognition went to Nazareth Aparicio and Samuel Sanz. The recipients are 2 young people who set up the Vermiduro company, located in Roa, Spain. The Vermiduro company is dedicated to bio humus production through the breeding of Californian earthworms. In 2020, the winners received the Excellence Award from the Spanish Ministry of Culture. Just two months ago, they were granted the Best Business Project Award in the province, and now they are receiving the 8th Hermano Celestino Awards.

Speaking on behalf of the Company, Nazareth Aparicio addressed the audience present at the ceremony thanking them for their support. "Entrepreneurship is a complicated path full of obstacles, and this type of recognition is significant and motivates us to go forward with renewed strength," He said. The two other finalists were also present: the historian Daniel Sanz Platero, from Peñafiel, was awarded for the success of his Watch Repair Business, and María Vélez for setting up the Veleza project, which is a mobile beauty service in the villages of La Ribera.

The Hermano Celestino Award also includes an Honorary Award, for entrepreneurs whose business trajectory had positive impacts on the region. The recognition went to 2 women who fought to maintain and successfully develop their businesses: Mrs. María Pilar Pérez de Albéniz, and María Ángeles Montero. Teachers' Awards went to Mrs. Inmaculada García Pomar, a retired teacher at the San Miguel de Roa school, and to Mr. Abel López, Director of the Michelin Foundation in recognition for his work over the last 18 years at the head of the Foundation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Hermano Celestino Business Initiative Award, we would like to express our gratitude to all the participants in this 8th edition. Congratulations to the 12 entrepreneurs who continuously show bravery and enthusiasm in making their business projects a day-to-day reality.

Source: Province Newsletter



Life goes on, day after day, without great sparkles, but in activities that are specific to the age of retired people. When you think about it, you would think that over a period of 4 months (our last article was in the April 2022 edition), few events had come up. Well, no!

Following the appointment of the Provincial Superior, there was a Provincial Chapter; there was also the annual retreat, the funeral of Brother Roland JACOB (103), the celebration of a change of leadership in the Province, the disappointment of not being able to host the session on the Rule of Life, the cancellation of the visit of the ADC, the presence of the COVID virus in the community of the Provincial House, the Havre Familial, the visitors, and Brother Jean-Claude MUSEMA's Province transfer... In the end, all of this deserves a few paragraphs.

1. The Annual Retreat, from 9 to 13 May 2022.

The Brothers gathered in Granby (Montréal), 83 km from Montreal. 21 confreres left the city for the House of Spirituality of the Trinitarians. Mindful of our responsibility concerning ecology, we traveled all-together, in a small bus, without having to bother about the traffic or the orange cones indicating the roadworks going on in and around Montreal. Some Brothers mentioned that it was the 3rd time that the community opted for the Trinitarian Center, others spoke of a 2nd time. Everyone quickly found his room, and tried to find out which corridors he had to follow to go to the chapel, to the dining room, to the conference room, or to the gardens.

Our retreat animator, a Ursuline nun, accompanied us on the bus. She was happy to know, in advance, the names, the feats of arms, and the spirit that animated her fellow travellers. For a year, her sister, Rita, also a Ursuline nun, had been approached to animate our retreat, but the COVID pandemic upset her schedule and she entrusted us to her own blood sister, Sister Angèle Gagné, osu. We knew and appreciated Sister Rita's animation. We also appreciated Sister Angèle for her simplicity, her spirituality totally in harmony with the Gospel message, and her typical Quebecer's expressions. Forget about the great mystical insights! Think rather of her work in the hospital, of those who suffer, of the people caught up in the intricacies of day-to-day life... The theme, "Attentive to the Word, attentive to my Brother" was well rendered. The

animation team appreciated this unexpected gift. On the way back, Sister Angèle still travelled in our little bus.

I also remember the activities of the 3 evenings: On Tuesday, we slowly prayed the Rosary with the pilgrims of Lourdes; On Wednesday, Brother Gilles Lindsay led us into the merciful arms of the Father while celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation; On Thursday, a double dessert was offered by the Provincial coming to the end of his mandate and by the newly-appointed Provincial. Bro. Rene gave us an overview of past activities, and Bro. André presented his vision for the future.



Sr. Angèle GAGNÉ, osu

2. Provincial Chapter (4 May 2022).

All the designated members were there to see to the election of the next team that would assist Brother André Roberge in his animation as Provincial Leader. Everyone, simply, fraternally, said what he expected from the next Councillors, especially since the Province is at a turning point of its existence. We even emotionally touched on the idea of modifying the structure towards a General Assembly instead of a Provincial Chapter. We all agreed that such a project deserved to be studied a little more! The main lines of action which were drawn up for the Councillors called for support, advice, and fraternal unity. The election gave the following results: Brothers Pierre Girard, Lucien Demers, Raymond Leroux, Jean-Guy

Blais. Congratulations and thanks, Brothers, for your availability!



5 members of the Provincial Administration

3. FUNERAL of Brother Roland Jacob (5 May 2022).



At the Sanctuary with the ashes. Brother Roland. At the cemetery for the burial



The community cemetery (Repos Saint François d'Assise) is close to the Sanctuaire Marie-Reines-des-Cœurs (Mary Queen of All Hearts Sanctuary) and, following the new way of doing things, we had the funeral in that Marian and Montfortian worship Center. The SMM have kindly agreed to host us for the time of the last farewell to our departed Brothers. Our Brother Roland Jacob left this world to join his

Mother and his mother, at the age of 103. This Mary Queen of all Hearts Sanctuary is sometimes a very large place for our small audience... Were present: a few nephews and nieces, and some twenty Brothers and friends. The ceremony, presided over by Brother Guy St-Onge, was a beautiful tribute to our confrere who traveled the world as a missionary. The homily highlighted the role of servant, educator, catechist of our confrere. Roland will remain for us a model of service and acculturation.

The burial of the ashes was followed by a light lunch which brought together some forty guests.

4. Return Trips and Visitors.

For many months, Brother Jean-François Bonang, who was on vacation in Senegal, had been waiting for the visa allowing him to come back to Canada where he had already spent 3 years, as a member of the Intercultural Community. The Canadian Embassies seemed overloaded with work and it is on 8 April 2022 that he could finally show us his visa!!! That new visa was given for a good number of years to come!!! Then, from 11 to 24 June, we also received, because of a non-refundable, non-exchangeable plane ticket, the visit of Brother Angel Llana Obeso, from the Province of Spain. It was his first visit, his first glance at a festive Quebec, a visit somewhat limited by anti-COVID measures. Luckily, some Brothers, former missionaries in Latin America, helped to facilitate the communications, though our visitor already had a very good knowledge of the language of Molière. Brother Angel would have been part of the group of confreres who were supposed to come to Canada, in June, for the revision of the Rule of Life. By decision of the ADC, that session, which was already well prepared, was transferred to Thailand... The reason: VISAS were not delivered in time to a good number of participants!!!

5. THANK YOU and WELCOME (23 June 2022).

Our National Day in Quebec (and that of Canada, a week later) have often been occasions for a Province gathering. Though becoming smaller, our group remains very fraternal. On 23 June, at the Provincial House, it was time to say Thanks and Welcome... We celebrated the transfer of responsibility between the two teams of leadership. A Eucharistic celebration brought us all together around the same bread, the same Lord. The Eucharistic celebration expressed our thanks to the out-going team, animated for three years, by Brother René DELORME. The Eucharistic

celebration ended with a wonderful speech with indigenous colors by Brother Gaetan GROS-LOUIS. The Eucharist celebration asked Mary to watch "over the young and strong people living along the great St. Lawrence River". It was also an opportunity to tell the new members of the leadership team that we will help them, with all our might.

While taking the glass of friendship and while eating appetizers, we also welcomed Brother Jean-Claude MUSEMA in the Province of Canada. A Province transfer confirmed by Brother Superior General. Jean-Claude, who is a member of the Canadian Intercultural Community, is very involved in the socio-pastoral ministry in the Ahuntsic-Cartierville neighborhood.

During the meal that followed, Gabrielite voices tried to resurrect rusty excerpts of hymns that were sung during the retreats of yesteryears!



Brothers Jean-Claude, Ángel, and Gilbert

6. STILL ONE MORE (27 June 2022).

The Provincial Plan of Action concerning the restructuring of the Province of Canada, which was adopted several years ago, is being lived according to the planned rhythm, though it is sometimes disturbed by unforeseen events. This year, after the communities of Saint-Bruno and of Trois-Rivières, the Community Saint-Arsène, on De Normandie Street, in Montreal, was closed. One of its occupants

joined the Community of Saint-Nicolas and the other joined the Community of the Provincial House. These two brave men deserve our congratulations for the hard work they did to empty the house they were leaving. The Brothers of St. Gabriel have owned that house for 46 years. From now on, there will remain, in Quebec, 4 Local Communities: 1 (Saint-Lazare) in Cap-de-la-Madeleine, and 3 others in Montreal (Saint-Nicolas, Garnier and Provincial House).



The house that was sold

7. HAVRE FAMILIAL.

In the contract concerning the sale of the Havre Familial, the Province had asked for two things: First, that a chalet (the former residence of the Brothers, called Auberge Saint-Gabriel) be set apart for the Brothers, full time, in the years to come; Second, that each summer, the Chalet L'AIGLON be reserved, free of charge and for 12 weeks, for the Brothers, their families and friends. That possibility is still there and, despite our small number, several Brothers are still enjoying that summer privilege.

It should also be noted that the Corporation of the Havre Familial has asked that the name of the lake "LAC CLAIRE" be changed to "LAC SAINT-GABRIEL". The Quebec Government agreed to the Corporation's request.

Bro. Ronald BRISSETTE, SG

Province of East Africa

RWANDA

The Butare Centre for the Deaf and Hard-Hearing (Centre des Jeunes Sourds Muets de Butare-CJSM) hosted a liturgical event to celebrate three important events :

The opening of the jubilee year of the 350th of the birth of Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort (1673-2023),

The 75th year of Montfort's canonisation (1673-2023),

The opening of the Golden Jubilee of the Centre for the Deaf (1973-2023)

The mass was presided by the local Bishop, His Excellency Monsignor Philippe Rukamba. During this mass, two young people received the sacrament of baptism and nine others were confirmed.

1. HISTORY

In 1960, Father Joseph FRAIPONT, a Belgian missionary and "Fidei Donum" had an inspiration to take care of physically impaired people. He began to bring them together and support them as best he could.

He started a center specifically dedicated to this mission. He would provide prostheses for those with difficulties walking. At the same time, he would provide the residents with intellectual and religious training as well as vocational courses that would help them get a future job and secure them a decent living.

Rwandans found this merciful mission similar to that of Jesus Christ and called it "Ndagijimana", which means "I entrust them to God". Later, in 1974, Father FRAIPONT was granted Rwandan citizenship.

In 1967, Father Joseph Fraipont took in the deaf and hard-hearing children at Gatagara, and integrated them with the other physically handicapped children already living there. But given the difficulties of providing adequate care for both groups together, he began to search for a religious congregation that specialised in deaf and hard-hearing education. He contacted the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel whose charism was to take care of deaf and hard-hearing people and who were running the Modern College of Humanities in Nyanza.



In July 1971, Father Joseph Fraipont went to Canada to meet the Provincial Superior of the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel, Champlain in Canada. They concluded an agreement for the brothers to take care of the supervision of the category of young deaf and hard hearing that he had been welcoming in Gatagara for 4 years. Brother Hervé Trottier was the first Montfort Brother of Saint Gabriel to be in charge of this new and first training center for young deaf and hard hearing in Rwanda, and even in the region.

In the meantime, Father Joseph Fraipont tirelessly continued to find land to build a specific center to welcome young deaf and hard hearing. Fortunately, the Rwandan government accepted to offer them temporary accommodation in the buildings of Kavumu near Nyanza for a period of 3 years.

In July 1971, Father Joseph Fraipont went to Canada to meet the Provincial Superior of the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel de Champlain in Canada. They concluded an agreement for the brothers to take care of the supervision of the category of young deaf and hard hearing that he had been welcoming in Gatagara for 4 years. Brother Hervé Trottier was the first Montfortian Brother of Saint Gabriel in charge of this new and first training center for young deaf and hard-hearing in Rwanda and even in the region.

In the meanwhile, Father Joseph Fraipont continued his efforts to find land to build a specific center for young deaf and hard-hearing. Fortunately, the Rwandan government accepted to offer them a temporary shelter on the premises of Kavumu near Nyanza for a period of 3 years.

At Easter 1973, Brother Hervé and his group of ten young students, including fifteen boys and three girls, left Gatagara to settle in Kavumu. Since then, the Brothers of St. Gabriel have taken over the re-education of young deaf and hard hearing. Unfortunately, because of political changes that occurred in July 1973, the new school had to move to Butare in the buildings which the Brothers received from the Dominican friars, founders of the National University of Rwanda.

After the refurbishing of the buildings, the re-education formation started with a motivated staff lecturing 38 students. Other brothers of Saint Gabriel from Canada joined the community in Butare.

In 1984, some other French brothers who specialised in the formation of deaf and hard-hearing people joined the Butare center. In addition to the integral formation of the young people, brothers also began to train specialised teachers. Among the teacher-trainers was Bro. Jules Daviaud who specialised in demutisation, Brothers Ambroise Thalamot, and Pierre Le Floc'h specialised in deaf and mute students as well as in specialised teacher-training. Brothers Marcel Bergeron and Robert Foucher provided specialised assistance in audio prosthesis and audiometry.

In 2016, the center launched inclusive education bringing together deaf and hard-hearing and hearing students. The Ministry of Education allowed the introduction of secondary education and since then, the center has been admitting hard-hearing children to be trained alongside deaf hard-hearing students.

And experience shows that the two categories cohabit wonderfully. The center, which started with 18 deaf and hard-hearing children and 3 teachers in Gatagara, now welcomes 400 students and 40 teachers.

Education cycles at CJSB at the Ngoma-Huye and in Butare centers

In Primary school, students first learn demutisation, spoken and signed language before starting normal primary education,

Those who are not admitted to High-School are directed towards a three-year vocational training,

The Middle-school section is called "Tronc Commun",

The High School section comprises one option: "Mathematics-Computer-Economy" (MCE).

Bro. Jean Chrysostome Rurangirwa, SG



Province of Kinshasa



ANNUAL RETREAT OF THE BROTHERS AT THERESIANUM CENTER KINSHASHA

In recent decades, there are more and more religious communities and lay groups that are offering a true break for a few days, a few weeks, or even a month depending on the context. Conscious of our busy lives rhythmmed with work, noise, and constant activities, we feel the need for a pause, a time to stop, known as a retreat. But what is a spiritual retreat?

Going on a spiritual retreat is "taking a few days away from everything that makes up your daily life, taking a time for yourself to connect with your spiritual dimension, which we often forget to do, a time to spend several days in a particularly beautiful and restful setting for a face-to-face with God. It consists of silence" Elisabeth Nadier.

A spiritual retreat is also a time to put oneself aside for personal prayer, it is a time to stop, a time to recover one's strength, and physical and spiritual energies, and a time of freedom.



August 2022

In keeping with their tradition, the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel, Province of Kinshasa, spent six days of retreat from 7 to 13 August 2022, at the Theresianum Spiritual Centre in Kinshasa, with the Brothers of the Order of Discalced Carmelites. The theme of the retreat was: "The religious community a family".

The preaching was divided into two main parts: "Potential obstacles to universal brotherhood" with its different sub-themes including the culture of indifference, Consecrated life and digital culture, Generation Clashes, and Individualism. The second part of the preaching focused on the "Pillars of Family Ties", mentioning: Fraternal Love, Communal Attitudes, and Dialogue.

Father Valentin NTUMBA Odc, a good preacher of his rank, was very practical. He developed the different points of his talks referring to the day-to-day realities of our religious life, using concrete examples and striking witnesses.

Concerning dialogue, Father NTUMBA said: "Fraternal life can only be achieved through shared words, through the desire to communicate, through dialogue, for this is the principal instrument of communion. He went on to say, "To build a religious community, communication among its members is indispensable. This communication is expressed in fraternal correction, in the sharing of the events of life, and the constant revision of life in the light of the charism.

Also, the lack of true dialogue and fraternal correction



closes each one in his ego and destroys communion. Lack of communication weakens fraternity. And it makes the brother a stranger in his own community, reduces relationships to anonymous relationships, and creates isolation, each one for himself. Communication is disrupted when we flee from fraternal dialogue".

The retreat ended with the renewal of the vows of eleven brothers.

Bro. Ephrem Willy MANGALA, SG

CLOSING OF THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR AT BO-TA-TUBA VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE



to the leadership of the provincial administration, the education authority, and the parents' association. It is worth mentioning that the Bo-ta-tuba Vocational Institute presented its 18th promotion to state exams this year with 32 candidates whose results are pending. Photo: Brother Pierre with the finalists

Bro. Pierre KAMBEMBO KAMBUYA, SG

The city of Kikwit, 530 km from Kinshasa, is home to BO-TA-TUBA (which means They will speak), a school for hearing-impaired students. I have been replacing Brother MAYALA Crispin Trésor, the headmaster of the school, who is currently in Senegal preparing for his perpetual vows.



Every good beginning has a good ending! The school year 2021-2022 at the Bo-ta-tuba Professional Institute went well with good academic results: A total of 115 students out of 126 successfully passed their final exams.



These satisfactory results are the fruit of the professionalism, rigour and contribution of all: "parents, who have played their role as first educators, teachers who have devoted themselves to quality education, all this under the watchful eye of the Headmaster and his team, whose sole aim is excellence.

These good results were achieved in particular thanks

Province of Senegal



Keur Moussa is a Senegalese town located 50 km east of Dakar, on the road to Kayar. This district of the department of Thiès is mainly known for its Benedictine abbey. It is this "holy land in the heart of the ancient Kingdom of Cayor" that hosted the session preparation for perpetual vows for the Francophone Brothers from 26 June to 21 August 2022. We were a total of 16 young Brothers coming from various provinces: 7 Brothers from the Democratic Republic of Congo, 2 Brothers from Congo Brazzaville, 2 from the Vice-Province of Madagascar, and 5 from the Province of Senegal.

The objective of our retreat was for us to confidently commit ourselves by following Christ in chastity, poverty, and obedience.

From an anthropological point of view, man is defined not only as a homo economicus but also and above all as a homo socius in the sense that he is open to the world, especially to others. So, what does it mean to make a commitment? It is nothing but "the fact for a subject to open up to another being, to the world, including others, in order to meet them by means of an action leading to effects, changes, a possible transformation of that other or even of oneself". Joël GAUBERT.

However, in a world dominated by consumerism, the fierce struggle for power, wealth, pleasure, and appearances, to the detriment of being, today we can confidently say that making a commitment to God in the world is no longer so easy.

How can we make our lives a pleasing offering to

the Lord whilst being marked by the seal of finitude, gnawed by illnesses and temptations of our time such as selfishness, self-reliance, indifference, the idolatry of tenderness, the virus of immediate action - to obtain everything, hic et nunc -, the culture of waste and mediocrity.

Is it not then urgent to consider the means and goals of a clear-minded and responsible commitment to the world and to people? Questioning the experience that man can have of God, of the world, of others, questioning our own experience of God implies a review of our history of love with this God who calls us to follow him: after six or even nine years of religious life, how far have we come?

If "being a brother" means living a Gospel-centred life, then does not the disenchantment with our religious life today stem from the disintegration of this fundamental unity? What kind of presence (the Brothers of St. Gabriel today in society and in the church) should we assure in the world?

What kind of spirituality do we need for our time (Spirituality of the encounter, otherness)? How can we know ourselves in order to better serve (human development)? How can the human being best fulfill his or her humanity in a world in which he or she is caught up in a network of relationships? (Philosophy and spirituality of ecology).

This formation session was mainly based on four points: spiritual life, intellectual life, community life and apostolic work. The commitment of a religious person is not primarily understood as an intellectual

adherence to dogma. It implies a spirit of faith which is expressed in a fervent trust in the merciful and benevolent Love of God.

Our founders' experience of God was based on the virtue of confidence in the God of Love in all things and in all circumstances. In Father de Montfort's teaching, this confidence -in God alone- is known as Providence. Saint John Baptist de La Salle (of the French school of spirituality) explained it in these terms: "I adore in all things the conduct of God towards me." The "Fiat" or "Yes" of Mary exemplifies this absolute confidence and trust in God.

Like Mary, the first on the road, Father de Montfort took to the roads of the world, hoping against all hopes. That is what led him to say: "It is done, I have taken a wandering mood to save my poor neighbour" Ct.22 n°1. Saying yes means daring to make new departures, embarking on new roads, and letting the Holy Spirit work in us.

Our Congregation values interculturality. That's why we reflected on living a "spirituality of encounter", and we started establishing international communities in Canada, Spain, and France.

Even if we aim at giving a testimony of a living universal brotherhood, we acknowledge that the encounter with different cultures necessarily provokes anxiety because it always gives people the sentiment is being both foreign and strange. Even if the aim of such a project is to give the world a testimony of a living universal brotherhood, the encounter with another culture necessarily provokes a feeling of anxiety because it always puts people in a strange and unusual context. In this time of self-enclosure, encounter remains a salutary philosophy. What is certain is that "every true encounter is at the same time a rediscovery of oneself and of the world" (Charles Pépin, Philosophy of Encounter).

This openness to God and to our neighbours also implies openness to living animals and plants, which raises the question of "inhabiting" the earth: how can we live on the earth with all living creatures (human beings, plants, and animals)? What kind of ethics does it take to inhabit the earth? How can we understand all living beings in a system of relationships? The Word Ecology comes from the Greek word 'Oikos=home', referring to the context for the relationships for all constituents that make it up.

Home symbolizes a knot of relationships. Ecology is therefore defined as the science that addresses the way in which we live in the home with other living beings (community of the Living creatures) which is why Pope Francis called for the safeguarding of "the common home" in *Laudato si*, 2015. The human

being is "a creature among creatures", and is therefore enmeshed in a network of interdependence.

For a human being to develop fully, he or she must move away from himself or herself in order to embrace others. It is a process of moving from the individual or isolated ego towards an exospheric ego. This implies going beyond theory, beyond the philosophy of ecology, and genuinely engaging in simple and concrete actions such as reforestation, waste management, recycling, and cleaning up our living environments: communities, institutions, etc.

What commitments should we make in the face of ecological challenges, in the face of situations where human dignity is violated, in the face of non-respect for the rights of the poor and the vulnerable (protection of children) in the face of violence? What are we spending our energy on? Living implies committing ourselves. This intimate conviction led the French writer Albert Camus to declare: This conviction led French writer Albert Camus to declare: "I have understood that it is not enough to denounce injustice, one must give one's life to fight it". There is an emergency: we are living in a context where man is losing his place in the world, or perhaps more precisely, is losing the very world that constituted the basis of his existence. There is an emergency: man is creating an unbearable world through his economic activities. There is an emergency: the crisis is already here, and perhaps life will no longer be possible.



There is an urgency: we are engaged in a process in which man is losing his place in the world or, more precisely perhaps, is losing the very world that formed the framework of his existence. There is an urgency: man creates an unlivable world through economic activities. There is an emergency: the crisis is already here, and perhaps life will no longer be possible. Who knows? " What shall we have to sacrifice to get out of this ecological crisis? Who shall be the "warriors", ready to fight the good fight?

For an earth ethic, we need ecological conversion (Benedict XVI) or even repentance for our numerous sins against creation (Pope Francis).

Furthermore, in the face of these many challenges, should we be convinced that "mission, in fact, before being characterised by external works, consists in making Christ himself present to the world through personal witness", at the risk of becoming media stars cf. Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Vita Consecrata*.



Openness to God, to our neighbours, to the world, and to ourselves necessarily involves the building of our inner self. But how can we shape our identity? Spiritual growth consists in the purification of our sinful passions such as hatred and resentment. It is a path to true, inner freedom that allows us "no longer being the servant of our passions" (Evagrius the Pontic). As exemplified in "Bildungsroman", an 18th-century German novel on formation,- which portrays a protagonist learning from his trials-, spiritual growth allows religious persons to make a move from naivety to a vision of the world enlightened by life experience.

Every religious brother experiences events that transform him and shape his history. Thus, far from being destructive or hateful, passions could be the key to our vitality. Yes, it happens that "I see the good, I approve it, I do the bad" (Ovid, *Metamorphoses*). "For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do-this I keep doing." (Romans 7:19). This self-knowledge is a stepping stone to the knowledge of God, the Supreme Other, the world (the cosmos), ourselves and our neighbours. That conviction made Saint Augustine stating one of his famous mottos : "Noverim me! Noverim Te. "Lord Jesus, let me know myself, and know you ! He therefore suggests an inner way: not to go out but to enter into oneself (Red in te Ipsum). Spiritual growth and self-knowledge require time, as with germination of a plant. It is therefore a matter of making one's own this word inspired by the wisdom of the Desert

Monks: "day by day, I grow more and more striving for the perfection of my being".

What is then, the purpose of the session?



By taking evangelical counsels (poverty, obedience and chastity), the religious strives to bring about the Reign of Christ in the world, by a witness of authentic community life. This is easily understood by reading Father de Montfort's hymn No. 14.

The sad reality is that "we are satiated with life in common, but starve for community life", although community life should be a real school of fraternity where people learn to become Brothers and Sisters.

"To love with the heart and the hand" expresses a human disposition to humanity. But how can this inner disposition be put into action? It could be translated into a lifestyle that is in some way Good News for our contemporaries. To attain this, we could chose to live with gentleness, empathy and moderation rather than living a violent and demanding and accusatory life. In conclusion, we can affirm that "every inhuman gestures must be followed by a humanity, all too human response". Cf. *The face of our anger*, by Sophie GALABRU.

Bro. Nicéphore Gilbert Pape TINE, SG

ADOZIONI A DISTANZA

Oasis of Peace and Spirituality and a flourishing Centre of the Educational Apostolate of Adoption at a Distance in India, Philippines and Tanzania.

The people are living in fear and uncertainty. Therefore, there is a hunger and thirst for the Word of God.

As we have not had enough rain since October 2021, many people come to our Institute to spend time to pray, to take rest under the green tree park and along the linden (tiglio) tree avenue of the Institute. This long avenue and green tree parks are used also for sharing fraternal meals.

Simple Birthday parties, marriage anniversaries, marriage celebrations and cultural celebrations and cultural exchange programmes are also being organised. Various religious groups also conduct their annual or regular formation get-together programmes.

Syro-Malabar Catholic Community has its monthly get-together, celebration of the Holy Mass, catechism for their children, singing practices, dance practice programmes and the annual patronal Feast of the Community. This year, due to many unforeseen obstacles, the Patronal Feast of St. Joseph was celebrated late. Three Priests concelebrated the Holy Mass: Fr. John Poochakkattil, Fr. George Malieckal from the United States, Fr. Roji Thoompunkal from Verona. There was a solemn procession with the statue of St. Joseph. Every participant at the celebration was given free good lunch prepared and offered by the Indian Community. A few Italian families also took



part in the celebration and in the community meal. There was also dance and other cultural programmes presented by the children and adults. The participation and cooperation from the entire community were very much appreciated.

The spiritual formation is holistic taking into consideration all the aspects of human life. The Montfortian Prayer Group “Regina della Pace” has two prayer meetings every month with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, spiritual hymns, holy Rosary, catechism, meditation and prayers of intercession. In addition, we have daily sharing of the Word of God



under the title “Daily Bread” through WhatsApp and daily sharing of the Gospel of the day through e-mail. We have also a brotherly sharing of meals organised by the prayer group.

We were blessed with the presence of a number of groups from different parts of the globe. We had visitors from Germany, Switzerland and England. We had a get-together of people from different countries of the African Continent.



Bro. Dionisio Santoro is fully engaged in the 5 parishes because the Priests are on the move with youngsters of the Parishes for summer camps in different places.

We were blessed with the visit of Mother General Sr Jaseantha and Sr Jessin (Doctorate student in Rome) of the Nazareth Bhavan Congregation of the Archdiocese of Tellicherry.



We had also the 27th Demonstration of Ploughing the fields with ancient varieties of small and big tractors. There was a marvellous participation of people and



tractors from different parts of the Veneto Region. All the people who took part in the manifestation and their families had a good lunch at noon and the feast continued till evening.



The members of the Christian movement “Cursillos” with their Chaplain had their annual meeting, holy Mass and brotherly meal in our Institute. As the climate was good, they did everything outside and the lunch was served under the green trees along the Linden avenue.



There was also a group who celebrated Mass, conducted adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Eucharistic procession outside with great attention and devotion.



Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, SG



MONTFORT ARULUDHAYAM (PRE-NOVITIATE)

INAUGURATION



On 16th June Bro. Irudayam, Provincial Superior of Trichy, Bro. George Padikara, the Provincial Superior of Bengaluru, and Bro. Johnson the Provincial Superior of Yercaud were present at the Inaugural Function. Bro. Irudayam, gave an inspirational speech and motivated us.

CLASSES

In the first week, we had classes on prayer. These classes were conducted by Bro. Binu Mathew, our Director. We understood the meaning of the each prayer and how to practise it in our daily lives.

From the second week onwards we have been learning basic English grammar. These classes too were handled by Bro. Binu Mathew. His classes are very useful for us, as we have been learning to improve our communication skills.

THE BIOGRAPHY OF ST. MONTFORT

Our founder, St. Montfort's life was like a journey. Bro. John Benedict explained to us Montfort's life journey. It is very useful for us, as we are going to imitate his life.

THE SCIENCE EXHIBITION

A creative mind makes the world new. On 20th July, we had gone to the Montfort school, D.G Pudur to witness the science exhibition by the students. It was a good experience for us.

THE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF OUR DIRECTOR



On 28th July, we celebrated the Birthday of Bro. Binu Mathew, our Director. We organized a meaningful prayer service and a small cultural programme.

Vimal (Pre-Novice)



SACRED HEART NOVITIATE

SACRED HEART NOVITIATE

It gives me great joy to pen down a few happenings that have taken place in Sacred Heart Novitiate at Eachinkadu.

CLASSES

On 6th June we attended the class on the topic ***Spirituality of our Lord's Prayer***. It was taken by Fr. Joannes Gopu from Salem diocese. His classes on Lord's prayer have given more emphasis on the bottom-up approach and deep meditation to encounter our Lord in daily prayers. He emphasized the importance of his fundamental teachings and supernatural values through the combination of the Holy Scriptures from both the Old Testament and New Testament. Thus, Old and New Testament books brought up the relevant meaning of our Lord's Prayer. His classes encouraged us to understand the relevance of the Bible and the right image with various concepts to strengthen our weaknesses and enlighten our minds in order to have the supreme knowledge of Jesus Christ.

We had classes from 14th to 18th June by Bro. Jesudass SSP, on ***Media and Communication***. Bro. Jesudass made these classes very appealing and effective through powerpoint presentations. He gave a brief introduction to media education. His classes mainly focused on digital media and communication. The classes on 'Media and Communication' have taken a widespread role in this present scenario. He gave virtuous insights and examples of his own life through which we are inspired.

From 1st to 05th August we had classes on ***Assertive communication for enhancing community life and personality of Montfort to copy as a Montfortian***. Classes were well conducted by Bro. George P.J. His

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classes were very effective to understand the various dimensions of community life. Through his effective classes, he enabled us to be assertive in all the fields of life. And also, we are inspired by classes on the personality of St. Montfort, our founder.



COMMUNITY BROTHERS

"A smile from you, can bring happiness to anyone, even if they don't like you"

On 4th June we thanked Bro. Savari, the Socius and Bro. Amit, the administrator for their selfless and valuable service to this Sacred Heart Novitiate, Eachinkadu. We had special prayer service, in order to seek the Lord's blessings for their better future.

On 13th June we were ecstatic to have new community members Bro. Rajashekar the socius and Bro. Patrick Alwin the Administrator. We welcomed them with open arms, to spread God's message by being united in community loving, sharing, working and implementing all the responsibilities enthusiastically.

SEMINAR

On 29th June we had gone to the Salesian Institute of Philosophy to participate in the Pope's Day Seminar. The theme of the seminar was 'Fratelli Tutti'. We

are very much inspired by the message of the Pope, that was presented by the second year students of Philosophy. We were divided into six groups to discuss about questions which were given. And we asked questions to get our doubts clarified.

MONTHLY RECOLLECTION

On 6th July the Recollection was conducted by Fr. Lukas. The theme of the Recollection was 'Responding to the Divine call.' It helped us to recall our own calls, that we are called by Him. It enables us to grow in the providence of God.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF BRO. RAJASHEKAR



On 14th July was a special day for all of us to celebrate the birthday of our socius. We had special prayer service in order to seek His blessing upon our brother.

Om Prakash (Novice)

ST. GABRIEL'S NOVITIATE, SITAGARHA, HAZARIBAG PHOTOS AND NAMES OF THE NOVICES (2022-2024)



Jeeva
Bengaluru

Arbind

Prajwal
Delhi

Shivbaran

Maneesh

Suresh
Hyderabad



Gabriel
North East

Portiush

Matias
Ranchi

Saroj

Pradeep

Santo
Trichy

Stephen

ST. GABRIEL'S NOVITIATE, SITAGARHA

Dear Brothers, warm and prayerful greetings from the novices and staff of St. Gabriel's Novitiate, Sitagarha. There are at present 13 novices belonging to 6 provinces coming from 7 Indian states. There are 3 brothers as staff of the Novitiate belonging to 3 Indian Provinces namely Trichy, Ranchi and Delhi. All of us have begun our academic and novitiate year quite efficiently.

INSTALLATION OF NOVICES IN THE NOVITIATE

We had the inaugural ceremony of the Novitiate on 13th June, 2022. Novices had a short prayerful recollection on that day. Two provincials from Ranchi

and Trichy attended the inaugural ceremony and gave exhortation talks and distributed the copies of the Rule of Life and Rosaries to the novices during the inaugural ceremony. Priests and Brothers from neighbouring communities joined the Holy Eucharist and agape thereafter.

COMMUNITY MEETING

Novices and staff had three days of Community Meetings to extensively discuss and deliberate about the two years programme, timetable, community projects, rules and regulations of the Novitiate, community living etc.



THREE DAYS RETREAT

Novices had 3 days retreat at the beginning of the novitiate, preached by Fr. Justin OCD from 18th to 22nd June, 2022. It was to taste the sweetness of silence, prayer and meditation.

CLASSES BY JESUITS TERTIANS

There are 12 priests who have agreed to handle classes on 12 subjects from July to December, 2022. Four tertians and the Director have already completed their classes this month and conducted their exams as well.

WELCOME BY SITAGARHA PARISHNERS

We were warmly received by the Parishners of Sitagarha after the Mass on 26th June, 2022. They offered us floral bouquet. We all of us introduced ourselves to the Parishners in Hindi. We assured of our collaboration, service and prayers for the wellbeing of the Sitagarha Parish.

A TOUR OF THE FORMATION HOUSES

The Novices and Staff paid a friendly and informal visit last Sunday, on 3rd July 2022, to all the 13 Formation houses situated in Sitagarha. We were received very warmly in all the formation houses. We came to know something about each formation house, its spirituality and their way of life.

FIRST MONTHLY RECOLLECTION

We had the first monthly recollection on 9th July on the theme "Identity and Purpose in life" preached by Fr. Tom Venad SJ. We also made a good confession followed by the celebration of Holy Eucharist.

FOOTBALL COACHING

Br. Jenerius, the socius has started intensive football coaching for the novices. All the novices and the staff actively take part in it and profit by it.

CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF MOUNT CARMEL

The Carmelite sisters invited us all for their feast day

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celebration. We led the choir for the Mass celebrated by the Bishop of Hazaribagh. The sisters and the invited guests appreciated us for leading the choir well.

FEAST OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Jesuits from SSC invited all the formees and formators of Sitagarha for their feast day celebration of their founder. We had a mega gathering on 30th July. As a usual custom there was a football match between SSC and St. Gabriel's .

GREEN CAMPUS

The Sitagarha campus has become lushy green once again after the seasonal rains. We also have planted lots of fruit saplings and many other vegetable plants and seeds to make the campus greener and more friendly to the eyes.

SECOND COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

The Novices and Staff had a second Community Dialogue on 2nd August, 2022 which lasted for three hours. All of us had been given adequate time, chance and opportunity to present our views and opinions in the community. As an outcome of the Community Dialogue, we have slightly modified the timetable of the Novitiate.

PADDY TRANSPLANTATION

We transplanted the paddy saplings with the collaborative efforts of the 21 minor seminarians of St. Mary's minor seminary on 5th August. We had a memorable day by friendly work, tea, lunch and football match with the Seminarians.

REGULAR LIFE

We are gradually getting used to the regular timetable of the Novitiate. We are being taught on daily basis to do yoga, types of prayers, types of meditation, intellectual works, physical exercise, manual work and to live in this community cordially. All of us are doing quite well.

Bro. Arokiya Raj, SG



PARTNERSHIP



MONTFORTIAN EDUCATION FOR LIFE



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

On 18th June 2022, Bro. Paul Raj conducted a one-day seminar for all the Staff of our school on the topic- "Montfortian Education for Life".

The day started with the Lighting of the Lamp & prayer seeking the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide us through the day and make the learning fruitful.

Bro Paul Raj started the Seminar by highlighting the

difference between 'teaching as a job and teaching as a ministry'. He clearly illustrated the difference and made us understand that the **commitment to the job we are entrusted makes it a ministry.**

He then brought to light the core qualities of a Montfortian follower: Absolute trust in God, courage to face suffering, restrained desires, Love & concern for the poor & needy. If we practice the above qualities, we certainly can be models to all the children entrusted to our care.

After the morning break Bro Paul Raj, introduced the SWOT analysis and divided us into smaller groups in order to discuss and thereafter to present the School's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats and thereby to fix a theme for the academic year.

This activity helped us explore all possibilities, realize the positives to be nurtured and identify the negatives to be corrected.

Towards the second half of the day Bro Paul Raj led



us into a session on "What is Montfortian Education"? During this session he stressed on the fact that **"Student is the Centre of Montfortian Education"**.

The Seminar was indeed enriching and boosted our morale in order to start the academic year with a lot of aspirations and dreams for our students and school as a whole. The positive vibes of the Seminar will definitely help us keep our students as our priority and work towards their progress and take each day as a learning experience, thereby keeping the spirit of St Montfort, our Patron, seeking the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, in every step of our process.



Bro. Sebastian Antony Samy, SG



MEETING OF ASSOCIATES FROM THE PROVINCE OF SPAIN IN ARANDA DE DUERO

On Saturday, 18 June, the associates of Madrid and Aranda de Duero gathered at the seminary-school of La Aguilera for a day of conviviality before the end of the academic year. About 60 participants, brothers and laypeople, attended the meeting.

As the day is long, there was time for everything. After greetings, hugs and catching up with those who, because of distance, are not always able to meet, a beautiful topic was presented, prepared by Brother Alejandro Martínez and presented by the zone coordinator, Dani Cebrián: **WOMEN IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE.**

Luke's Gospel devotes attention to women that we do not find in the other Gospels in the same proportion. Luke highlights, in a very special way, the attention, delicacy and compassion that Jesus has for women who are sick, possessed by evil spirits or who are widows.

And in this relationship that Jesus has with the women, **HOSPITALITY**, that is to say, welcoming the marginalised, the foreigner, the woman, the children, shows us a virtue that is so necessary in the times in which we live: welcoming those who are different from us in culture, race, beliefs, ideology, customs, etc. Hospitality requires, first of all, recognising the other as a human being, respecting their dignity as a person and accepting them as they are, as long as they do no harm to anyone.

After a rich debate, the Eucharist was celebrated, presided over by Brother José María Vicario, who is characterised by his interaction with the participants, favouring a pleasant and familiar celebration.

After lunch, the rest of the day was enjoyed, in good company, under the shadow of the trees and in the swimming pool of the seminary school. The weather and the location were inviting to do so.

We will meet again next year.



Eucharistic celebration



Sharing a meal



In the assembly hall

THE FIRST TRAINING MODULE FOR MCG PARTNERS IN THE PROVINCE OF SPAIN HAS BEEN FINISHED

The Province of Spain has started this academic year 2021-22 a **General Formation Plan** with the following general objectives:

- To offer an itinerary of theoretical and experiential formation to **the collaborators and associates of the Brothers of St. Gabriel** that makes possible the knowledge and identification of the Montfortian-Gabrielite spiritual baggage and its pedagogical style.
- To form positive and enthusiastic leaders who, by the quality and coherence of their witness, individually and as a community, lead the educational communities to the fulfilment of their own aims.
- To make the educational practices of the Montfortian-Gabrielite tradition known to educators so that they can be enriched by them, recreate them and bring them up to date.
- To enable all those who collaborate in the mission of the Brothers of St. Gabriel to revitalize experiences in the key of identity and mission in their works.
- To offer to those who commit themselves as associated Gabrielite Christians to live in a more conscious way:

The call to live the vocation to holiness common to all the baptized.

The call to "make family" as gabrielite associates, starting from the spirituality and charism of Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort and the intuitions of Sister Marie-Louise and Father Gabriel Deshayes, in the heart of the charismatic Montfortian family.



Institutional Training - SG Torroella de Montgrí



Pooling of reflection groups - SG - Madrid

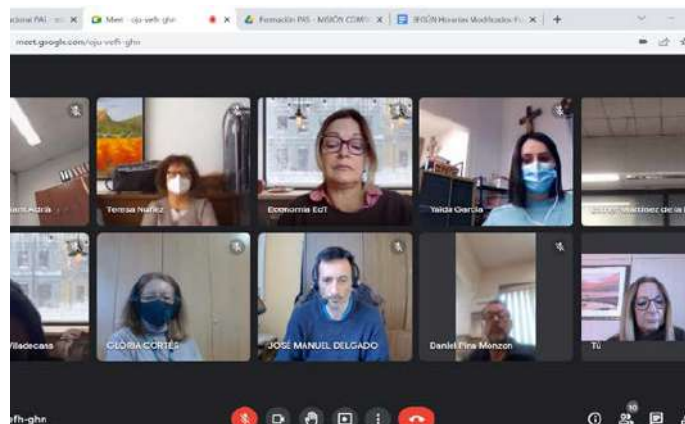
The call to live in spiritual communion and to commit oneself, each according to his/her gifts, to the apostolic mission of educating young people and adults in the face of today's challenges.

The Partner Training Program for our educational communities is made up of three modules to be developed over three consecutive years. Each module is divided into four areas:

<p>Personal growth</p>	<p>I understand that my life is, in general, to be and, in particular, to accompany the other. We discover what makes us persons, what humanizes us; we accompany by discovering others, the Other and the world. We face challenges, accompanying one another.</p>
<p>Transformation of the world</p>	<p>We are embedded in a given space and time. We get educated by looking at reality, through our relationships with others and with the world. The educator accompanies us in the process of awareness and commitment to action in order to transform our world.</p>
<p>Christian Spirituality</p>	<p>Our inspiration is the Gospel, the message of God's Plan, the Kingdom proclaimed by Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God.</p> <p>We cultivate our relationships with others, with God and the world from our Christian spirituality. And we celebrate it!</p>
<p>Gabrielite Montfortian legacy</p>	<p>We are a Montfortian Gabrielite school where we all make our way in community, we drink from our sources to continue the educational mission according to the signs of the times.</p>



Session on personal growth - SG - Ripollet



Training session in online for the non-teaching staff

Each module takes place in several sessions, with a total duration of 8 hours. Thus, at the end of the three modules, the teachers will have performed a total of 24 hours of training.

Non-teaching staff will be trained online for a duration of 2h 30', with a special focus on our Gabrielite Montfortian Legacy.

On 13 May we completed the first module for teaching and non-teaching collaborators from our educational communities with a very good reception of this training. For most of them it was a real discovery to know the richness of our heritage; they felt proud and happy to be linked to a history of which they are just writing new pages and feel themselves motivated to contribute with renewed enthusiasm and renewed efforts to this Shared Mission, following the guidelines of our charism.

On the 6th, 7th and 8th of July we will start the first module of a specific training for the management animation teams of all our educational institutions, similar to the one developed in the Province of France. This training will take place over two consecutive years and its aim is to raise awareness of the leadership task and to put the educational tradition of the Brothers of St. Gabriel at their service. We will give you an account of it in due course...



Session Gabrielist Legacy - SG - Aranda de Duero - Roa



Session Transformation of the world - SG - Madrid



Formation Session - SG - Aranda de Duero - Roa



Training Session - SG Torroella de Montgrí

MCG Training Team

THE 49 BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL AND THEIR CHAPLAIN

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



Crescencio GUTIÉRREZ MONEDERO
Brother Luis Gabriel, 20 years old
Born in San Medel
(Burgos)

Somewhat sensitive in character but courteous and social. Not of a very strong constitution. A model of piety, favouring a good community spirit. His missionary brother in Thailand, Brother Serafin, of beloved memory for his exemplary apostolic life, influenced him greatly and very positively. He studied in London to later join a Spanish missionary group. But in the end he remained in Spain -designs of the Lord- and his only apostolic work he performed in the San Sadurn de Noya School, where he performed brief but very effective work with the youngsters, winning the love of the children and their parents.

He was lucky to have as Director, Brother Frigola, an expert in pedagogical teaching particularly of the young Brothers in the Gabrielite pedagogy and true spirit. Brother Luis Gabriel achieved wonderful results in the teaching of reading and writing. His desire to persevere in his saint religious state always appeared to be very sincere to his superior.

Of an ordinary piety and an exemplary constancy, he follows his own pace, without worrying too much about other people or things, centring his life in his vocation. He sought refuge in what was actually not a safe house in Barcelona; but soon became aware of the danger and was able to escape to Can Valls.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Luis Gabriel grant us, Lord, his piety and loyalty in the carrying out of his duty.



Daniel VILLAVERDE DUEÑAS
Brother Alfredo María, 21 years old
Born in Valladolid
(Capital)

Of a rather sensitive and serious nature, full of good intentions and dedicated. A good spirit and constant willingness. According to Brother Adrián, his Director, in 1933, he was a serious person who performed well his obligations and was animated by the desire to do good deeds. He taught in Viladecans and Arenys de Mar. At the Arenys de Mar school we had the opportunity to see him in a classroom entirely dedicated to the education of the smaller children. He was faithful in the carrying out his professional and religious duties.

He had the characteristic Castilian seriousness and carried in his manner the strong common sense of his noble city of Valladolid. Humble and quiet he demonstrated a human maturity despite his youth. And he was notably intelligent. He stood out for his simplicity and humility. He intensely lived the complete consecration to Jesus through Mary in accordance with the Montfortian spirituality in our Montfortian Gabrielite Institute.

With great devotion he often uttered the favorite phrase of all the Christian families of Valladolid: "Sacred Heart of Jesus, in you I trust".

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Alfredo María grant us, Lord, his simplicity and humility and his intense living of the complete consecration of Jesus through Mary.

"Go and Do likewise"

The Break of Journey

Mt.10:30-37.

A Samaritan on a journey once
Was shocked to see a man on roadside
He was vandalized and wounded
Hardly could he move his head or hands
Shared his agony in words a few
The man felt moved and empathetic
Stood he a moment to run his eyes
Down the street a hundred metres
There he saw a man in a hurry
Fearsome of the wounded journey man
The gentlemen mused for a while
Said he to himself it's fear and fear
Oh! It's fear that plays the spoil sport
With the first thought in mind's horizon
To help those in trouble and sorrow.

The fear of consequences in help
Of spending time and ones own wealth
Of enquiries and legal tangles
Of standing strange and alone in ways
Of being questioned by ones people
Of pushing off ones personal tasks
Of facing inconveniences
Of being embarrassed at gazes
Of being like a field scarecrow
From which there is in truth no threat
Though some birds and animals keep off

There may yet be other vague fears
That till today prevents human help
To those in urgent need situations.

Lord, who will deliver us from
The inhuman plight and hurtful fears?
Lord who will make us a daring lot
With eyes that perceive the agony
Of men and women next door?
Lord who will make us move a few steps
And reach such with an eye of sorrow,
A few words in sympathy speak?
Lord give us a heart of flesh instead
And a mind that sees and bids a move
In view of the huge humanity
That live around in pain and sorrow.
Lord permeate our lives with joy
That we may spread joy as per your Word
"Come to me all who are burdened
I shall give you rest from labours".

Amen

Bro. Emmanuel P.J., SG

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS July 2022- August 2022

BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

Bro. Corentin LE BOT
Bro. Jean Bourasseau

COMPANY OF MARY

Fr. Toni NAUS

DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM

Sr. Maria Julia Rincón Prieto
Sr. François de Notre-Dam
Sr. Blanca Ines Peña
Sr. Cecilia dell'Incarrazione
Sr. Marie Ange GIBBS
Sr. Marie-Thérèse des Anges
Sr. May Lewis
Sr. Simone de l'Assomption
Sr. Estelle DESJARDINS
Sr. Helen BAIER
Sr. Cécilia RACICOT
Sr. Marthe JUTRAS

Dear Readers,

**Kindly send your News, Articles, Photos of happenings
in your respective Provinces latest by 15th November 2022.**

E- Mail to sginfo@fsgroma.org

WhatsApp +91 9445800156

The next Gabrielite News Bulletin will be released in November, 2022.

