



Gabrielite

News Bulletin

For Private Circulation Only



**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE THREE
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIONS**

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EDITOR'S NOTE

“It's the simple things in life that are the most extraordinary; only wise men are able to understand them.”

Paulo Coelho, *The Alchemist* (1988).

Yet another edition of Gabrielite News Bulletin comes to you with simple things from far and wide. The Bulletin begins with the exclusive report of Bro. Jean Marie Thior, the Secretary General, on the annual meetings of the three Central Administration of the Montfortian family held in our Generalate. This issue contains the news reports from 9 Provinces and 3 Formation Houses in India, 3 news reports from the Montfortian Associates in the Partnership Section, lives of 2 Spanish Brothers (Presumed Martyrs), detailed report from Brother Mathew from Istituto Ca' Florens Istrana and a special report on Fr. Don Carlo, former Chaplain of the Generalate community, by Bro. Bernard Guesdon, our Archivist.

Three Provinces have reported about the installation of the new Provincial Administrations. On page 8, Brother Mariyapragasam gives a brief report of the Sri Lankan mission from its inception. News from the Province of Brazzaville reports the visit of Bro. Dionigi Taffarello (Vicar General) and Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue (Assistant General) to Bangui.

We thank Bro. Emmanuel P. J. for editing the texts. We extend our sincere thanks to the translators, Bro. Michel Mendy, Bro. Marcel Chapeleau and Bro. Georges Le Vern. Sincere thanks to Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye (Associate Editor) for coordinating the translation work and editing the French texts. A special word of Thanks to Bro. James T. K for his assistance. We thank all the Provincials, Secretaries and news reporters from the Provinces, who have contributed news for the publication of the GNB. Thanks to Bro. Dionigi Taffarello for his continuous efforts in publishing news in the Partnership Section.

A sincere thanks to Bro. Georges Le Vern who returns to his Province after 22 years of his service at the Generalate in various capacities. He has been a big part of GNB, helping us with the translation and proof reading.

Bro. Louis Anthonysamy, SG



Bro. Georges Le Vern

THANK
YOU

VISIT OF FATHER BERNARD PLANCHE

On Saturday March 5, 2022, Father Bernard Planche, Ecclesiastical Counsellor of the French Embassy to the Holy See, visited the Community of the Generalate. His visit was not that of a tourist but that of a believer, a priest, a servant of Jesus, an Ecclesiastical Counsellor of the French Embassy to the Holy See. He was the Parish Priest of the Cathedral of Le Puy-en-Velay (Haute-Loire), and on September 01, 2020, he joined the Villa Bonaparte, in Rome, to succeed Father Michel Cacaud.

During his interview with the Brothers, Father Bernard Planche explained his mission. He spoke about the function of the Ecclesiastical Counsellor, a relatively rare figure since there are only two in French Diplomacy: one in the Jerusalem Consulate and the other in the Embassy to the Holy See. In Rome, few other embassies to the Holy See have such a full-time counsellor.



The role of the Ecclesiastical Counsellor, Father Bernard explained, is to follow the activities of the Holy See, the addresses, the initiatives and the publications of the Pope, and the news of the Catholic Church in the world and in France, in order to facilitate understanding by the State Services and thus avoid misunderstandings. The Embassy is also involved in the appointment of the Bishops of Strasbourg and Metz.

An aperitif and a fraternal meal followed this very enriching exchange during which the Brothers were made aware of the mission of an Ecclesiastical Counsellor, namely, to act as a "bridge" between the French Republic and the smallest city State in the World, the Holy See.



VISIT OF FATHER MARAMREDDY MARIA JOSEPH REDDY



On Sunday March 13, 2022, the Community of the General House had the joy of welcoming Father Maramreddy Maria Joseph Reddy, a former Student of Bro. John Kallarackal, Superior General. Father Maramreddy is newly appointed Secretary at the Apostolic Nunciature in Ukraine, a Country ruined by the present War. This was a special occasion for the Brothers of the Casa Generalizia to express their prayerful communion to Father Maramreddy Maria Joseph Reddy whose Mission will not be easy and to wish him a fruitful mission to the Ukrainian people.

During his speech, Father Maramreddy Maria Joseph Reddy first expressed his gratitude to Bro. John Kallarackal, an exceptional Educator, who is well known for his guidance, kindness and care for all. Another way of saying how much Bro. John contributed to his human, religious and intellectual Formation.

He extended his thanks to the Brothers of the General House for the warm welcome he received, the encouragement and the wishes for a fruitful mission in Ukraine. A fraternal meal concluded this beautiful visit.

Bro. Jean Marie Thior
Secretary General

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE THREE (3) CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIONS



For many years now, an annual meeting of the three (3) Central Administrations of the Montfortian Family has been organised in order to share the different events and experiences that rhythm the life of each Congregation. This meeting is also a way of consolidating the fraternal relations, the collaboration and the communion between the different Entities.

After the 2020 and 2021 editions held online due to the coronavirus pandemic, we were able to hold this year's meeting in presence, at the General House of the Brothers of St. Gabriel from March 24 to March 25, 2022.

The day of 24th March 2022, animated by the Superior General, gave each Congregation the opportunity to share its key elements of progress achieved, the qualitative and quantitative evolution of its varied ministries, the challenges being faced and the attempts made to respond to them. Some common projects for the Montfortian Family were pointed out: The future of La Maison Longue, the Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Canonisation of Father de Montfort on 20th July 2022, the 350th Anniversary of the birth of Louis Marie Grignion on 31st January 2023, and the FIM 2022 for the Francophone Group.

On Friday, March 25, 2022, the Montfortian Family celebrated its Patronal Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord with fervour. The Mass was presided over by Father Luiz Augusto Stefani. Following the dynamics of the Synod on Synodality, the celebrant invited each Superior General to share the fruit of his/her meditation on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord: God comes to man, the ability to listen to God's call, the generous response of man to God's call, the Incarnation of God in the realities of the world, the example of Mary, etc., formed the framework of the catechesis and the spiritual nourishment from which the participants at the Eucharist benefited.



After the Mass, an aperitif was served, during which the Superior General expressed a special word of thanks to Bro. Georges Le Vern, on behalf of the Congregation and the whole Montfortian Family, who after the 22 Years of services at the Casa Generalizia, will return to France in May 2022. The presentation of a symbolic gift was done by the three Superiors General, after a touching message from

Bro. John Kallarackal, as a sign of our deep sense of appreciation, amidst a loud applause from all the participants present.

The day ended with a fraternal table fellowship.

Bro. Jean Marie Thior
Secretary General



Province of Thailand



On January 31st Bro. Superior and Director of Montfort College, Chiang Mai together with school Administrators and Parents showed their gratitude to St. Louis Marie de Montfort and to the Thai Province for sending Brothers to work at this Northern Region of Thailand since 1932, that is 90 years ago with the invitation of MEP society. The MEP gave the Brothers a plot of land about 2 Hectares and a loan of 20,000 Baht bearing no interest. At the start there were only 24 boys, now there are 5,484 students in the two campuses. There were two Bishops, priests, men and women Religious and parents, benefactors who came to congratulate, and to give encouragement to the Brothers. There were many successful alumni from the College, including a former Prime minister, Governors, high ranking officers and business men in Thailand from Montfort College.

ANNUAL RETREAT 2022

All our Brothers joined the Annual Retreat 2022, at the Retreat House, Doi Suthep, Chiang Mai. The first group was from March 27 to April 3, 2022. The second group was from April 3 to April 10, Fr. Michael, the Jesuit priest talked about “The Pastoral Leadership and Animation with Renewed Religious Commitment in Line with the Spirit of Synod” In the first group, our 12 Junior Brothers renewed their Annual Vows.



The First Group



Daily Spiritual conference by Bro. Provincial was organised

Province of Trichy

MONTFORT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, ALLAIPIDY, JAFFNA

We wish to present you a brief sketch of our mission in Sri Lanka. After all the preliminary studies and visits, the Provincial in council decided to start the mission in Sri Lanka. The Brothers along with the Provincial landed in the mission land in June 2017. We were looking for the land and finally located the present location to start the mission. It is located where most part of the war took place and entire economy was ruined, most people migrated leaving behind their property and possessions. We can still find the effects of war and the scars thereof. People still share the sad stories of the war. They could not revive their family bond, culture, economy. No development could take place thereafter, as the Government would not allow any sort of developmental activities. This region was kept under suppression for a period of 10 years. People underwent utter miseries in life. The unemployment, led people to the extent of indulging in social evils like theft, robbery, even murders. Later when the change of government took place, it gave a little opening for development, little access for education and there was little hope of survival for the people. The rigid rules and regulations imposed in this region were as little relaxed. People started looking up to educational institutions as their only means of future. But the financial difficulty was yet another hindrance

in the process.

At this juncture, we Brothers decided to start a mission in this region, where people were direly in need of education and above all, the Bishop of the diocese also was keenly interested in starting a school by the Brothers in this region mainly for the war-affected children of the Islands and an area which was most affected by 30 years of civil war.



The Brothers started the preliminary works. As expected there were a lot of difficulties in the beginning itself and it took a lot of time to clear everything and the issue with land was yet another factor which caused a lot of delay. Finally, it took 2 years to clear off everything. In the meantime, pandemic played its part to delay the project further. With all these difficulties we carried out the project with utmost commitment and it went steadily forward and with the support of the Administration, the Bishop and the Religious.

All infrastructures were set to start the school. It was blessed on 19th January 2022 by the local Bishop. The response from the public is very encouraging. People, religious and priests are very cordial and positive about our mission. They are edified by the way we move and organize things. We have even invitations from other Dioceses too. We have already set up a campus



that which gives a pleasant learning environment. Lot of trees have been planted and they are coming up to create a green campus. The learning system is on digital basis. This is a mission school and service-oriented and not for profit which is really a humane and, down to earth. The school is at its infant stage and therefore lot of hard work, continuous monitoring of things is a must. Cluny sisters collaborating with



us, are doing a wonderful service, fully involving and fully at it. Lot of work and services are done by them for the school and which they do cheerfully with a missionary spirit. The school has a lot of hope for the future. As we foresee, it should become self-sufficient in three years time. We don't expect a big flow of students at once, due to the massive migration during the war due to which the population is very scarce particularly in Islands. Currently the country is undergoing a lot of crises, already food emergency is declared a few months back. The prices of the essentials shoot up every day. The political situation has been very precarious and not in favour of people. We need to challenge many things, our simple life



itself has become a challenge to say it in short. Things are tough still we keep going entrusting ourselves to the Providence. Working amidst all these difficulties and challenges, our lives become more colourful and meaningful and the mission becomes enriched.

Against all these odds, we have started the school smoothly. Quite a number of Seminars and Inservice training programmes both online and offline were conducted to prepare the Teachers to meet the class room challenges and demands. The Bishop visits us very often extending his support and encouragement for us. Children come to school with lot of interest and enthusiasm. Parents too show lots of interest in educating the children. The Children look to be very bright and quick to pick up any learning. Sri Lanka is not very far from our mother land (India). Frequent visits of Brothers will certainly enrich our mission. Requesting your prayers for the mission in Sri Lanka.

Bro. Mariapragasam, SG



MONTFORT NIWAS, CUTTACK

On 4th February, Bro. Gilbert Pinto's birthday was celebrated with the Holy Eucharistic followed by a sumptuous meal. The Parish Priest and FSI Sisters were invited for the celebration.

The Annual Examinations for Pre-Nursery to Class IX started from 14th February to 28th February by Online. Bro. Vincent attended the Seminar on Psycho-Spiritual Integration at Bangalore from 14th February to 18th February. The seminar's Resource Person was Bro. Yuju. It was well organized by the MSC team.

The NCC Cadets had their 'C' Certificate examination. The campus was filled with many Cadets on 27th February.

Bro. Vincent Madhanu, SG



GABRIEL NIWAS, DHAWAIYA

The inauguration of the new community building was held on 27th February. There was a thanksgiving Mass at 10:00 a.m. Fr. Anil Aind, the Rector of SSC Sitagarha was the chief celebrant for the occasion. The program was attended by nearly 25 Brothers. Soon after the Holy Mass Bro. Herman Bijay Lakra inaugurated the building by cutting the ribbon followed by the blessing of the house by Fr. Anil Aind SJ.

Bro. Manoj Lugun SG



MONTFORT SADAN, KOLKATA



On 26th February, we were blessed by the Presence of Missionaries of Charity Sisters who came from different Communities in Kolkata. They were very comfortable in our campus and enjoyed their outing.



The Senior Teachers completed their seminar presentation as part of internal training programme for the teachers. Teachers used varied skills to present their topics.

At present the construction of the third floor of the school building is in progress. We expect to have nearly hundred students in Class XI this year. Most of them are coming from the neighbouring English medium schools.

Our organic vegetable garden gives us plenty of vegetables and fruits. We do share the products with our Co-workers and our neighboring Religious Communities.

Bro. Blacius, SG



Province of Hyderabad



INSTALLATION OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL AND THE COUNCIL

The evening of 25th March 2022, was a memorable day for the province of Hyderabad. It was a day to thank the outgoing Provincial and his team, and the installation of the new Provincial and the council. There were as many as sixty Brothers present mostly from Hyderabad and Pune for the installation prayer service. It was an expression of thanksgiving for the wonderful, relentless services of the outgoing team which carried out its responsibilities of animation and administration with a sense of brotherhood and taking into account the welfare of the individual brother, institution and the Province as a whole during the covid time. During prayer as a symbolic gesture of passing the baton, Bro. Bala Showry handed over to Bro. Shine Alex a lighted candle and a Key to carry

fire, water, wind, sky, and earth respectively as an expression of unity, inclusiveness and preparedness for the mission. It was a meaningful, gracious, bonding and encouraging sign of transition of the responsibility on the day of the Annunciation.

A Short felicitation was organized for the outgoing administrative team especially to Bro. Bala Showry,



Bro. Lawrence D'souza, Bro. Show Reddy, Bro, James. CA, Bro. Rayappa Reddy and Bro. Jose Emmanuel for their tireless and fruitful services. Further, all wished the new administration best of luck with a bouquet of flowers, mementos and crosses. Bro. Shine Alex, in his maiden speech as Provincial Superior spoke about his plan and strategy for the province basing on the Rule of Life, Bible and from his own personal experiences. Bro. Bala Showry delivered his concluding remarks which included his experiences, the plans he had for the province and level of its accomplishment and some of the hard realities of life. He wished the new team all the best and requested all to give 100 percent support to the new team. The evening ended with a fellowship meal and a time to be together with the Brothers.

Bro. Jayabalan, SG



out the good works of the outgoing administration and to farther it. All the Brothers prayed for the new administration for a fruitful term as they consecrated themselves to Jesus through Mary and reflected on the Gospel reading Gospel of John 21:15-17. All the New councilors namely, Bro. Yesu Prabakaran, Bro. Rayappa Reddy, Bro. Santhosh Kumar, Bro. James CA, and Bro. Sudhakar Reddy along with Provincial Superior Bro. Shine Alex offered themselves to God with the symbols of five elements of the cosmos

Province of Delhi



INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Martin Luther once said “Everything that is done in the world is done by hope.” Hope is a small word but it is filled with amazing potentials. Perhaps that is why hope is called the parent of virtues. If there is anything that is not static it is change and it is an inevitable process of growth and maturation. Life is all about moving on, respecting changes and looking forward to what makes you stronger and more complete. Covid seems to be diminishing and larger part of life returning to near normalcy adapting to new life styles, better learning and stronger determination.

The month of March is well remembered for the feast of Annunciation, a day when the Church celebrates the transition from the old to the new. Importantly it symbolizes the coming of the new era, the age of grace, the coming of the Divine into this world to visit His people. The angel’s pronouncement is met with Mary’s willing consent – “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord” – and this positive response brings about the incarnation of Christ and the redemption of the world. The people who lived in darkness and dungeon awakened to hope and were promised a new life and a new beginning. Traditionally 25th of March was also marked as a red letter day for the Montfort Brothers as the day of religious commitment, which in time got lesser importance due to various reasons, yet still cherished by us as the day of Marian Consecration.

Once again 25th March (2022) dawned etched in golden letters as the newly appointed 12th Provincial Administration of the province with Bro. Thampy Alex at the helm and his team took charge officially. The ceremony was well organized with the Eucharistic celebration that was specially prepared for the event.



Fr. Davis, CMI, the Parish Priest of Poornodaya was the Main Celebrant, who beautifully brought out the role of Mary at the annunciation and the commitment bound by virtue at the core of the newly appointed leaders. The newly appointed Provincial Administration members are Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial Superior and the councilors are Bros. Mathew K. M., Jinu Abraham, Joy Thomas, Sunil Kumar Ekka and Edmond Soreng. Having accepted the mandate they consecrated themselves by making their promise to God, the Almighty to lead the province in the light of the Rule of Life and Constitutions that govern the Congregation.

The ceremony took place in the company of august guests in good attendance that included Brothers from Montfort Villa, St. Francis’ School, St. Montfort School, a couple of Brothers from Bangalore, Ambikapur, and some friends of the Brothers, a few well-wishers, and some invitees from neighbouring religious communities.

The newly appointed team of Provincial





Administration apparently young and vibrant looked buoyant to take the legacy of the Brothers forward with innovative leadership. Challenges for the new administration could be many, but firmly rooted in the illustrious history and at the same time open to the demands of changing times with an unconditioned response can be the hope of the futuristic authentic leadership. We firmly believe with a profound trust in God the Almighty and the blessings of our Founder St. Louis de Montfort and a child like confidence in Mother Mary who intercedes for us that no fear or uncertainty can dispirit us.

successor and wished him a graceful and fruitful time in office. He recalled with joy the time he spent in office as the Provincial and expressed his gratitude to God and to the Brothers for the memorable time and fraternal support he enjoyed during his mandate and urged the Brothers to continue to foster the missionary spirit as we march ahead under the leadership of the new Provincial team.



The short and sweet installation ceremony proceeded with appreciation, congratulations and felicitations of both the outgoing and incoming office bearers. The new Provincial Superior, Bro Thampy Alex addressed the gathering in an adequate manner, appreciative of the trust and confidence the Brothers and the higher authorities conferred on him. The words spoken spilled the message of animation, direction and collaborative administration in the service of apostolic life of the Brothers. He also expressed his firm hope to work with the new effervescent provincial councilors for the well-being of the Brothers, the growth of the Province and of the mission.

The significant day and the ceremony came to its conclusion with a sumptuous banquet for all present, with pleasant memories to cherish and good- byes. The fragrance of the occasion still lingering in the air most drove away to their destinations with a whisper on their lips, ‘May God Almighty who entrusted you with this responsibility help you to accomplish it!’

Bro. James Ekka, the outgoing Provincial thanked Bro. Thampy Alex for accepting the mandate as his

Bro. Sandeep Horo, SG

Montfort Villa, Patel Nagar, Bhopal





Province of North-East India

INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The 25th of March 2022 was a momentous day for the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, Province of North East India. In the August presence of Most Rev. Thomas Menampampil, the Archbishop Emeritus, Provincials from different Congregations, Priests, Brothers, Nuns and well-wishers, the New Provincial Administration of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, Province of North East India was installed. Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, the Provincial Superior, Bro. Maria Soosai, Bro. P. K. James, Bro. K. J. Jose, Bro. P. J. Philip, and Bro. Richard Lalroliana, gracefully accepted their responsibility as Provincial Councilors and leaders of the province for the next three years during a solemn ceremony.



The grace filled ceremony commenced with the Holy Mass, celebrated by the Most Rev. Thomas Menampampil, the Archbishop Emeritus, during which the members of the new administration listened to the relevant passages from the rule of life, read by Bro. M. K. Devassy, lent their ears to Superior General, Bro. John Kallarackal's letter read by Bro. P. J. Philip, lit the lamp symbolizing the presence of God and assumed their responsibilities as part of the new Provincial administration. The Members of the

Council received a copy each of the 'Rule of Life and Constitution of the Montfort Brothers from the Provincial Superior. The newly installed Provincial team recited the 'Prayer of the Consecration to Jesus through Mary' as taught by St. Montfort and gracefully took over the obligation of steering the members of the North East Province of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel guided by St. Montfort, through the never-ending grace of God.



During the felicitation programme that followed all the members of the new Provincial Administration were felicitated with Assamese 'Gamosa.'"

In his acceptance speech, Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, said that he was humbled by the call to continue and shoulder the responsibility of leading the Province of Northeast India by the Brothers of the Province, ratified by the Superior General and his Council, for the next 3 years. He said that he was grateful for the love, trust and confidence that his Brothers have placed on him and for re-electing him as their leader for another term. He affirmed that he shall try his best to fulfill his responsibility entrusted to him and be an exemplary leader based on Gospel values.

He then thanked the outgoing councilors Bro. M. S. Kuriyan and Bro. Jose Thekkedam for their contribution to the Province for the past two terms. He said that he was blessed with able and experienced councilors to help him move forward in his mission, expressed his preference for the servant leadership model of Jesus Christ, acknowledged the concept of leadership by example followed by Pope Francis. He called upon the Brothers to love with their hearts and hands as highlighted by the 32nd General Chapter, solicited the support and guidance from the Bishop, the Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and well-wishers in spreading the Kingdom of God. He expressed his gratitude to all who have made it a point to be present for the installation ceremony, giving him the gift of their love, support and valuable time.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Bro. P. K. James. It was followed by a sumptuous dinner served to the distinguished gathering at the Provincial House brought the festivities to its fitting conclusion.



Bro. Varghese Mandapathil

RECOLLECTION & ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR THE NEW PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

After the new Provincial administration of North East, India took charge on the 25th of March 2022, a two- day live-in session, was organized for the members of the team at Siloam, Barapani on 26th and 27th March 2022.



On the first day was spent in recollection and prayer. Fr. Gratian Carlos SJ, the resource person, invited the Brothers to go deeper in the Montfortian spirituality on the theme “Called to live in God with Our Brothers”. He said that our response consists in welcoming God’s love with the mindset of the poor, indulging in love and reconciliation, loving like Jesus Christ, offering our life to God for his glory, so that his Kingdom of love, justice and peace be revealed to the poor and the marginalized.

On the second day he spoke on authentic leadership and empowering communication that will positively influence and bring about change in people. He also helped the members of the team to understand the difference between dissonant needs and neutral needs and how to recognise and integrate dissonant needs so that they become means of growing in sanctity. He ended the day by giving some tips to be effective leaders so that the leaders of the Province could be like Christ for the glory of the Father in the Spirit by being a happy and joyful leader who is integrated.

The refreshing, motivating and informative sessions helped the members of the New Administration to equip themselves, be prepared to take up the responsibility of leadership and animate the Province of Northeast India, that is entrusted to their care.



The Provincial, Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, expressed his gratitude to Fr. Gratian Carlos SJ, the Resource Person, for accepting his invitation and for animating the two-day programme.

Bro. S. Maria Soosai

Province of Canada



Bros. Gilbert Goulet, Réal Milot, Jocelin Dussault, Guy St-Onge, Raymond Leroux, Ronald Brissette, André Roberge
Fr. Wismick, Vicar; Fr. Doris, Vice-Provincial, Fr. Luiz, Superior General, Bro. René Delorme

Fraternel greetings to each one of you.

In Canada in general, and in Quebec particularly, the months of February and March are months of atmospheric surprises. We have hot days that melt the snow on the flowerbeds but prepare lakes of slush at the corners of the streets... you have to be on your guard not to be watered... And there are the "potholes" that disappear under the water and make you lose hubcaps or even get punctures because you often damage the rim of the wheel. All these are signs that spring is on the way...

In March, it happens that we have some hot sun and impromptu storms: that of Saint-Joseph, of the crows, of the sugar, of... We can even invent some more!!! On February 25, 2022, our visitors of the Montfortian family: the Superior General and his Vicar, had a taste of it. They were invited to share a meal with us. The driver, newly promoted Vice-Provincial of Canada, got lost, maybe, in his civic numbers. At the time of the aperitif, he was struggling in the streets full of snow and the squalls in the East of the city of Montreal whilst the Provincial House is in the Centre-North. They were late for lunch, but laughter burst out and everybody was happy to share some good news.

However, the meeting was overshadowed by the sad news of the demise, at the De La Salle Residence, of bishop Gérard Deschamps, Emeritus of Bereina (Papua New Guinea). Thanks to all for the visit.

A few days earlier, on February 22, Bishop Gilles Côté and Fr. Sigouin, two Montfortian Missionaries had come for a meeting and a meal with us. We could hear quite a lot of stories by Missionaries from Papua and elsewhere. In the afternoon, both went to visit Bishop Deschamps and Fr. Bergeron, at the Residence De La Salle.

In the restructuring plan of the Province of Canada, the Brothers are regrouped in a few local communities. The Properties of Trois-Rivières, Saint-Bruno, Batiscan camp, and Lac Rose, have already been sold to other owners. Then, next July, it will be the turn of DE NORMANVILLE Residence in Montreal. There will be 4 Community Houses remaining in the Province: Saint-Lazare in Cap-de-la Madeleine; Garnier, Saint-Nicolas and the Provincial House in Montreal. Religious Members are aging and the concerns for the household maintenance must be less.

We had our Spring Recollection, on March 23, 2022. The theme completed the one of the first meeting held



Top Level Haitian Meeting between Mrs. Nathalie Grandoit, the cook, and Fr. Wismick, the Vicar.



Fr. Luiz Stefani, SMM, and the statue of Our Lady of Papua, a sculpture by Bro. Gilbert Goulet, BSG.

before Christmas which focused on ecology, care to the earth, our common home. This time, the theme was: AN OPEN HAND TO THE CRY OF THE POOR. It would have been easy to spend time, silently, studying, from a social point of view, our involvement with the poor, the forgotten, the homeless... NO! We wanted to centre our reflection on the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Magnificat, as we were on the eve of the Patronal Feast of the Institute. A few canticles and a video (*The Annunciation made to Mary*; <https://youtu.be/tuTwCQFK8BA>) helped to reflect, at length, to find words of the Magnificat that call or illustrate God's action towards the least, the poorer... Then we were requested to find out if, "in our personal life we know how to tread the path traced by Mary" then, to find out, what we can see in our context of life that echoes these paths. No wonder that the war in Ukraine, and the social rally for freedom in dealing with COVID-19 pandemic, have greatly contributed to focus on the words that have been chosen.

A Eucharist concluded the session before we celebrated, face-to-face, at last, the Feast of the Annunciation. We have strictly abided by the rules given by the Health Department, keeping the right

distance from one another, which did not prevent us from filling up our energies with an excellent meal.

There were also many birthdays of staff members which gave the opportunity for short meetings in the Local Community: the cook (Janine), the maintenance in charge (Christian), the Provincial Secretary (Sylvie), the Finance Secretary (Wensa), the Director of the Archives (Philippe)...

The next activities on the agenda of the Provincial Administration are the Provincial Chapter for the election of the Provincial Councillors; the Annual Retreat (9 to 13 May 2022); then, the preparation to host the International Session for the Revision of the Rule of Life along with the visit of the Central Administration, to be held in June; the transfers between the outgoing Provincial Superior and Councillors and the new Provincial Administration, on July 1, and many visitors to welcome. Let us hope that the 6th wave of COVID-19, will not disturb the whole schedule!!!

Bro. Ronald BRISSETTE, sg



Province of Senegal

A REQUIEM MASS FOR THE DECEASED BROTHERS OF THE PROVINCE

“When the hour of death strikes and the moment of ultimate option has arrived, confirmed by the ever-renewed acceptance of the Lord's will, helped by Mary your Mother, and assisted by your Brothers, you will say: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit". You will pass from death to life, vanguard of your Brothers and of the men you have led to God.” (RL. 83).

In addition to this Article of the Rule of Life, other provisions in the Constitutions and General Statutes request each Community to have a Mass celebrated when a Brother dies. For having a common way of action in the Province, the Provincial Superior in Council has decided to pay homage to the deceased Brothers of the Province once a year, during a common Requiem Mass. This provision does not overcome the suffrages for the deceased Brothers requested from each Community. It is just a matter of celebrating a Mass in a parish for the Brothers who have passed away, in a common spirit, united with the biological families of the deceased Brothers.

This year, the Community of Fatick hosted the event in the Parish of St. Joan of Arc. Initially scheduled

on January 8, 2022, this day of remembrance had to be postponed because of the funeral of Mrs. Cécile, the elder sister of Bro. Jean-Paul MBENGUE. This commemorative ceremony for our deceased Brothers was rescheduled on Saturday, February 19, at 10 a.m.

The day was organized according to the following program:

9:30 a.m. : *Rosary*

10 a.m. : *Mass*

11:30 a.m. : *Release of Bro. Henry Biram NDONG's book*

1 p.m. : *Lunch – Relaxation*

3:30 p.m. : *Final prayer – Departure of the delegations*

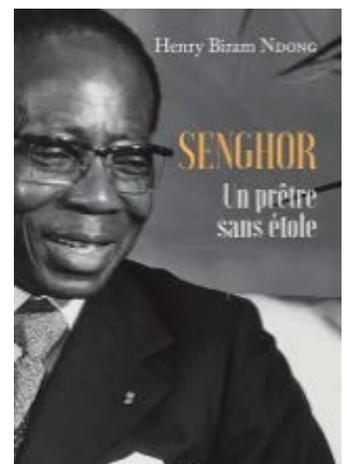
In addition to the Brothers of St. Gabriel of the Province, the delegations of the Institutions, we must place on record the presence of the biological families of our deceased Brothers. It was a moment of recollection and communion to recall the memory of our Brothers. An appointment was made in another Community, next year.



BRO. HENRY BIRAM NDONG'S BOOK: "SENGHOR A PRIEST WITHOUT A STOLE" HARMATTAN, 2022

In collaboration with the publishing Company l'Harmattan, the Province finally published posthumously and put on sale the book written by Bro. Henry before he passed away. The book was published on January 10, 2022, and it was proposed to wait till the Memorial Day for the deceased Brothers to put it on sale. Initially, 100 (one hundred) copies were printed. The price of the book is fixed at 10,000 F (6,000 F for the Province and 4,000 F for the social works of the Brothers: sponsorship of children, support for boarding schools, etc.)

All those who are interested are requested to send an email to the following address: patombengue@yahoo.fr



FORMATION SESSION

On Saturday, April 02, 2022, at Tivaouane Peul, the Brothers involved in the Province of Senegal, met for a formation session. The Province took advantage of the break of the second quarter to organize a formation session on the theme, “The Essential Conditions for the Involvement and Performance of Staff in Organizations.” It was the first Empowerment Session for the Brothers as part of a training module in the management of human resources offered by the Centre for Research and Studies for Development in Africa (CREDA). This first seminar was facilitated by Mr. Alioune Badara LY, a consultant and formator in Social Sciences and Chairman of CREDA.

The Session began with the presentation of the participants who expressed their expectations regarding the theme. The participants had to introduce themselves and present their expectations in a simple way. Then, the Facilitator explained the meaning of management, involvement, and performance. Management is a set of actions made by a person or a group of people within the framework of a structure

to get results. For an easy and quick understanding of management, just remember the acronym DOLE: D: Design – O: Organize – L: Lead – E: Evaluate.

Involvement means working as a team. It must lead to an active participation.

Performance means doing better in less time.

Then, the participants were invited to reflect, in groups, on the possible interactions within the internal and external environment of the organization, to fill in an organizational diagnosis and elaborate a table with the possible solutions. After sharing the findings and some information, in general Assembly, the formation session ended at 1 p.m. The next training Session is to take place on April 22, at Malika.



Province of Brazzaville

A GLIMPSE OF THE BROTHERS' LIFE IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – BANGUI

The Community Saint-Sauveur in Bangui received from November 13 to 18, 2021, a strong delegation of Leaders of our Congregation coming from Rome and Brazzaville, namely: Bros Dionigi TAFFARELLO, Vicar General, on his maiden visit to the Republic of Central Africa; Jean-Paul MBENGUE, Assistant General; Ambroise Désiré NDOUGOU, Provincial Superior and JEANTY Montrelor, Provincial Bursar, who was coming to Bangui for the first time as well.

The Brothers had a meeting with his Eminence Dieudonné Cardinal NZAPALAINGA. They shared about the presence and the services rendered by the Brothers in the Archdiocese of Bangui.

In addition, the Brothers could meet the leaders of MSF (Doctors without Borders), tenants of our property in 92 lodgements area; the teachers of St. Gabriel School Complex in Bimbo (Bangui); the Brothers of the Community. Some teachers were happy to see the Leaders of our Institute for the first time.



FORMATION OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE ECAC (ASSOCIATED CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA)



Formation of the Directors of the ECAC

As part of the empowerment of the Personnel, the improvement of the pedagogical practices and the management of educational staff, the Diocesan Secretariat of the Associated Catholic Education of the Central African Republic (SDECAC) organized a Seminar for all the Heads of the ECAC Schools, from April 11 to 13, 2022. The following topics were shared and even vigorously discussed: The role of the Director in the context of education, the school legislation, the labour legislation, litigation in case of dismissal, and the protection of Minors.

This training was organized in collaboration with the General Direction of the National Institute for Research in Education and Animation, the General Director for Private Education and Labor Inspectors. It was aimed at making the work and the services provided by the various schools more efficient.

FORMATION OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS



Teachers and Students Participating in the Training

The teachers and some students of St. Gabriel School Complex took part in a Seminar organized by the Association Our Lady of Fatima for Development (ANDFD) from April 6 to 8, 2021. It was meant to deal with the management of conflicts, human rights, and social cohesion. This

training was organized for the Institutions of our area that received many displaced persons during the various conflicts that our country has experienced.

The formation was aimed at equipping teachers and students about human rights, non-violence, and working to restore peace and social cohesion in the Central African Republic. The training ended with the setting up of a Committee for Peace, made up of five students and teachers from the seven schools that took part in the Seminar. This Committee will be formed by the various persons in responsibility in each Institution. They are requested to be the educators of the other students (children) in the country. They will be sent to the hinterland (provinces) to sensitize both children and adults on non-violence and social cohesion between all Central Africans, whether Muslims or Christians.



Peace Committee of the School Complex St. Gabriel



CSSG Student Peace Committee



Brothers meeting the school staff



Family photo : Teachers & Brothers

ADOZIONI A DISTANZA

The principal educational apostolate of our community consists in collecting money and in distributing it for the educational expenses of the poor and needy children in India, Philippines and Tanzania through the project of Adozioni a distanza.

A new fruit of the Adozioni a distanza:

Recently one of the students, Justin Koottiyannickal, who is being helped right from November 2000, has been ordained Deacon on 28th January in the Dominican Order at Nagpur, India. By the end of this year or in the beginning of the next year he will be ordained a Dominican Priest. It is one of the marvellous fruits of our helping the needy children for their education.

Ongoing Family Formation:



Padre Adolfo Scandurra OCD, Carmelite, conducted an ongoing formation programme on Sunday 13 March in our Montfort assembly hall. It was attended by 40 young couples, means 80 people and their formation team along with Father Adolfo. It was concluded with the celebration of the Holy Mass by Father Adolfo.

The Syro-Malabar Catholic Community:



On Sunday 13 March and on Sunday 3 April, the Indian Catholic Community celebrated their monthly Holy Mass in their Syro-Malabar rite in Malayalam language in the Brother Marino hall of our Institute. The Mass was celebrated by Father John.

Spiritual Retreat for the Benefactors of Adozioni a distanza:



The monthly spiritual retreat of the benefactors of month of March was held on Sunday 20 March in our Chapel. It was started at 9.30 with a song sung by the animators Lisa, Maria Luisa and Giampietro and the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. It was followed by the liturgical morning prayer, solemn recitation of the holy Rosary, catechesis by Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, personal meditation and adoration, video projection on Adozioni a distanza, celebration of the Holy Mass by Bro. Dionisio Santoro and fraternal lunch. In every different moment of the retreat, inspiring songs were sung by the animator group. Everything came to a conclusion at around 15 hours of the day.



Consecration to Jesus, the Incarnate Wisdom through the Hands of Mary:



From the month of January, we have been preparing a good group of faithful to Consecrate themselves to Jesus and others to renew their consecration according to the Treatise on the true devotion to Mary taught by our Founder St. Louis Mary Grignion de Montfort. We had fixed the Consecration for Saturday 26 March evening. We started the touching ceremony animated by our spiritual animation group at 20 h. Even 8 students participated and consecrated themselves to Jesus. There were 5 new adults who also took part in the three months preparation and consecrated themselves to Jesus through Mary. The consecration was done before the blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar. It was the 20th Consecration that Bro. Mathew organised at Ca' Florens Istrana. After the Consecration, Bro. Dionisio Santoro celebrated the Holy Mass. At the conclusion of the Mass all the participants proceeded to the dining hall for the fellowship Meal. Every family brought one or more snack items and drinks. Finally, towards 22.30h exchanged goodnight greetings and returned to their homes.



Ongoing Formation to Scout leaders:

Don Massimiliano Costa, diocesan director for Scout movement and Parish Priest of Sala and Pezzan Parishes had organised a three days ongoing formation programme for the scout animators or leaders. They

utilised the entire St. Gabriel house for their internal activities and our grounds for their external activities. They grow well in the Christian faith rooted in the Word of God.

New Benefactor:

The Municipal Chairman (Sindaco) (le Maire) has become the latest of the many benefactors of the Adozioni a distanza. She has filled up the form to become member of the Benefactors and has chosen a poor boy to help for the educational expenses of his studies. She has already paid for one full year. The son of the le Maire, Francesco, will keep the correspondence with the boy in India.



Montfortan Prayer Group "Regina della Pace"

The first prayer meeting of the month of April was held on Saturday 9th April in our chapel. It was started at 8.45 pm and terminated at 10.30 pm. The spiritual animation group with their soul touching songs animated the group. Bro. Mathew Kavumkal shared the word of God with appropriate catechesis. Bro Dionigi Taffarello, Vicar General also took part in the prayer meeting.

The Palm Sunday 10 April

The Palm Sunday, in our community, was celebrated with a joyful spiritual retreat of the Benefactors of



On 22 April 2022, Bro. Dionisio Santoro is 80 years old. He and myself now belong to the class of the “strong” as the Psalm 90,10 says: “Eighty years if we are strong”. The birthday of Bro. Dionisio was celebrated with a lunch with the participation of the Parish Priests of our Vicariate: Don Fabio Baracco, Parish Priest of Istrana, Villanova and Ospedaletto, don Massimiliano Costa, Parish Priest of Sala and Pezzan, don Mario, parish Priest of Badoere, don Mario, Parish Priest of Morgano, and with the presence of the Municipal Chairman of Istrana (Sindaco) (le Maire) Dr. Maria Grazia Gasparini.

Adozioni a distanza as a solemn preparation for the Holy Week and the solemnity of the Holy Easter. The day was also enriched by the presence of our Vicar General, Bro. Dionigi Taffarello. At the conclusion of the retreat, we had arranged a good lunch for all the participants of the retreat. During the lunch we anticipated the 80th Birthday celebration of Bro Dionisio Santoro with the Benefactors of the adozioni a distanza and with Bro. Dionigi who had come to visit the Brothers and to meet some important people. Really, on Monday after the retreat, we had a meeting with some important people who also took lunch with us.



Bro. Mathew Kavumkal SG



Birthday of Bro. Dionisio Santoro with local Priests and civil authority:



Sacred Heart Novitiate



Let Brotherly love, and joy be shared among us because sharing is the new beginning for all of us and to those who join in. I take it as great privilege to reunite with the events, which had taken place throughout this month.

On 3rd March the invitation was given by Salesians to take part on a friendly Football Match to enrich our virtuous relationship with them. The match was kicked off with a short prayer and hymn. Both the teams played well with their skills and scored 1-1. Indeed it was also favourable occasion for us to explore the new place.

The Annual -Prize Nite celebration of the Anglo Indian Hr. Sec School, Yercaud was held on 4th March. We were cordially invited to participate in this event and to make it a memorable one.

We had ten days of Ashram experience from 12th to 23rd March at Sachidanada Ashram, Shanttivanam, Kulithalai, which belongs to Benedictines Fathers. We utilized our time in meditation, prayer and Yoga to discover oneself deeply and to seek God genuinely.

We all were guided constantly to maintain silence thus it led us to Indian spirituality to find peace, joy and love within and in the nature which comes from the Supreme Ruler of the universe. The priests over there had organized two sessions each day. Through these classes we acquired the knowledge which empowered and fostered us to know about one's life.



While returning to our community we paid a short visit to four communities at Manaparai of Trichy province namely: Montfort School CBSE, St. John's farm, Montfort Matric School, St. John's ITI, and St. Antony's Boys Town. At last we had a distant view of Malayadipatti Mountain it was a profound experience for all us.

The 4th community dialogue was held on 30th March, The sharing was on the experiences of our life at the Ashram.

Gabriel Pradhan

(Novice)



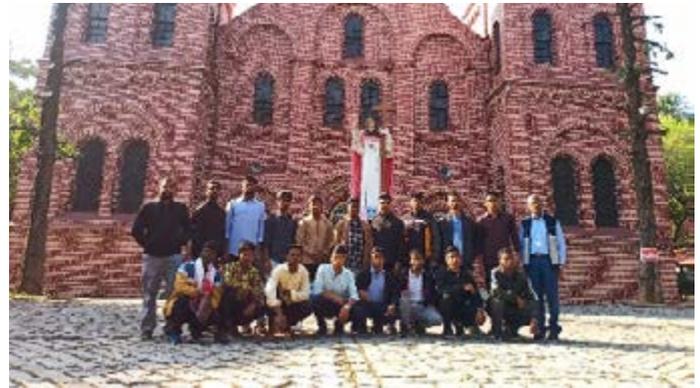
St. Gabriel's Novitiate



Visit to Rajgir:



We went to Rajgir on 19th Feb, 2022 with the students and Priests of St. Mary's Minor Seminary and students and a Priests of OCD by a sleeper coach. We were all together 68 of us who undertook this journey. We visited rope way, Jain museum and hot water sources.



two places namely Nawatoli and Provincial house, Kanke. We were well received in all the communities that we visited. We could see the good works and tireless services of our Brothers in all the institutions. We played matches with the students and Brothers. We participated in the cultural programs of the institutions. We enjoyed the sumptuous dinners in all the communities. As a whole, we could heartily enjoy the warmth love, care, concern, friendship and fraternity of all the Brothers in the communities.

Visit to our communities in Jharkhand:



We the Novices made three days visit to our communities in the state of Jharkhand from 24th to 26th February, 2022. We had overnights stay in

Inauguration of a new building in Dhawaiya:



We took part in the celebration of the inauguration of a new building in Dhawaiya community held on 27th February, 2022. Novices sang for the Mass on that day.

Monthly Recollection:

We had the final monthly recollection this month on the theme 'From Comfort to Service' preached by Fr. Maria Louis SJ, a social worker on 5th March.

Visit of 3 Provincials:

Provincials of Trichy, Yercaud and Ranchi visited us on 21st March, 2022. They interacted with their respective Novices and the Staff of the Novitiate.

Season of Harvest:

We have just harvested wheat, mustard, chana, potatoes, garlic and onion by the grace of God and thanks to the hard labour of every member of the Novitiate.

Canonical Retreat:

Novices have begun their 8 days of Preparatory Retreat for the first profession from 7th April, which will come to an end on 15th noon. Fr. Edward SJ, animates the retreat for them.

Holy Season of Lent:

We have begun well the holy and prayerful season of lent by giving due importance to silence, prayer, fasting, penance, almsgiving and serving one another.

First Profession:

The ceremony of the first commitment of 17 novices belonging 7 Indian provinces will take place on 23rd April, at 10.00 am. Bp. Anand Jojo, the bishop of Hazaribagh, has consented to solemnize the occasion.

Bro. Arockiaraj J SG,



On 23 April 2022, 17 Novices (IND-2, INE-1, INH-4, INP-1, INR-3, INT-5, INY-1) from the St. Gabriel's Novitiate, Sitagarha (India) made their First Profession. Rt. Rev. Anand Jojo, the Bishop of Hazaribagh, presided over the Eucharistic celebration.



Montfort Aruludhayam (Pre-Novitiate)

“Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of men.”

Pongal Festival:



It is a four day harvest festival celebrated in the state of Tamilnadu. We celebrated the Pongal festival with great ecstasy and interest in the company of Brothers in the Pre-Novitiate and with the Brothers of the School community. In the evening we had a friendly volleyball match among us, and everyone played well. The following day we had a football match with the parishners.

3rd Book Review:



In this 3rd book review, all of us participated well. It was a good opportunity for each one of us here to sustain our skills in reading, writing as well as modulation of language (English). *Bro. Binu Mathew* was the Judge and Evaluator of the book reviews.

Feast Day of St. Joseph:



The feast of St. Joseph was celebrated on 16th March at Kongarpalayam Parish Church. We participated in the Way of the Cross, Holy Mass, Lunch followed by a short programme. It was a good celebration with the parishioners.

Visit of North East Provincial:



Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, the Provincial Superior of North-East visited us on 21st March. We welcomed him with the song and in the evening we had a short cultural programme. Moreover, he has taken classes on the topic of Attitude and Change in life. It was excellent and also it encourages us to focus on the life that we live. We were happy with his classes and we like to follow the insights we gained from it.

Portiush (Pre-Novice)



PARTNERSHIP



SHARED MISSION PROVINCE OF SPAIN



2nd Meeting of Associates groups of Madrid and Barcelona

The second face-to-face meeting of Shared Mission Associates of the Province of Spain was held in Madrid and Barcelona on 12 and 19 February, respectively.

The theme dealt with was the special importance that Saint Louis Marie de Montfort attached to Baptism and the renewal of baptismal promises in his parish missions at the beginning of the 18th century.

In order to understand his missionary action and the importance he attached to this practice, we refer to the pastoral renewal movement of the 17th century. Father de Montfort was the bearer of the post-Council of Trent currents, but even if Saint Louis Marie was the heir of his illustrious predecessors in the mission, it seems that none of them received as vividly as he did the slogan of the necessary return to the meaning and demands of baptism in order to "renew the spirit of Christianity" among the faithful and in the

Church. This is shown by the solemnity with which he surrounded this act and, in particular, the signing of the "covenant contract" in his parish missions. For Montfort, baptism will not only be an important practice of the mission, but will become the ultimate goal of the whole mission. To this it must be added the innovation brought by our founder concerning the role of the Virgin Mary, the maternal bond of the Mother of Jesus with every baptized person to help him to be faithful to the commitments made to the Lord, her Son.

Father de Montfort was faithful to the Church and to the pastoral purpose promoted by the Tridentine Reform, faithful to the mandate received from Clement XI - who recommended him to teach Christian doctrine well in order to awaken the spirit of Christianity, through the renewal of the promises of baptism - but with his personal note, a more and a better inspired by his apostolic charism: that of illuminating fully

the role of Mary in the life of the baptised for a total fidelity to Jesus Christ.

At both the Madrid and Barcelona meetings, we reflected in small groups on the content of the Covenant contract and its expression; and on Mary's bond with every baptised person, with the reading of several numbers of The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary. We then shared, in a large group, all the ideas that had emerged. The topic was very much appreciated because it allowed us to get to know and get closer to St. Louis. And of course, we also

enjoyed a time of relaxed chatting over a delicious breakfast offered by the hosts of the school in Madrid and in the Provincial Curia in Barcelona, where the two meetings were held.

MCG Training Team





MONTFORT MAT HR SEC SCHOOL, ST THOMAS MOUNT

MGA LENTEN PILGRIMAGE - 26TH MARCH 2022

“ If you do not take risk for God, you do nothing great for him.” - St Louis de Montfort.

Members of MGA, St Thomas Mount (Montfort ITI & Montfort School) made a Lenten Pilgrimage to Mazhai Malai Madha church at Acharapakkam along with the brothers of the community on Sat, 26th March 2022. In total 57 of us made the pilgrimage. We began with a prayer and thereafter boarded the bus at 8.00 am for an 85 km long journey.

A team of MGA Members animated the Way of the Cross with very meaningful reflections, prayers & hymns.

We came down the hill for Holy Mass at 11.30 am during which we offered up our thanksgiving, petitions & intentions and solemnly participated in the Eucharistic celebration.



A group photo as soon as we reached the Shrine of Mazhai Malai Madha

We offered the Rosary, Litany to our Blessed mother & devotional hymns throughout our journey. We reached the Shrine of Mazhai Malai Madha by 10.15 am and headed to the hill steps to do our Way of the Cross.



MGA members along with Ms. Indira the care taker of the 30 inmates at the Orphanage

At 12.45 pm we left Acharapakkam & went to an Orphanage situated about 30 minutes away from the church with 30 inmates comprising of a mix of normal children & children with special needs. The school management had sponsored a day's meal for them. We were welcomed with so much of love & gratitude, which overwhelmed all of us. The simplicity & innocence moved us to tears. Some of us served them the lunch & spent some time with them. We greatly appreciate Ms Indira who is in charge of the home & the dedicated staff for their unconditional love & sincerity in taking care of the children under their care.



Bro K KThomas leading us in prayer during the Way of the Cross up the hill at the Shrine of Mazhai Malai Madha

As a return gift we were all given a bag of organic red rice which is harvested by them. We left the home with a heavy heart, but at the same time inspired & encouraged to do whatever we could to support them in the days to come.

We had a sumptuous lunch on our way back. We reached school at 5.00 pm with a lot of happiness, gratification and fond memories.

We express our sincere thanks to our Principal, Bro. K.K. Thomas, our Bursar, Bro. Sebastian & Bro. Jeyabalan for organizing and giving us this opportunity to have a fulfilling Lenten Pilgrimage.

Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary & the guidance of our Patron St Montfort we seek the grace, mercy and blessing of our dear Saviour Jesus Christ and be part of his Passion and make a heartfelt pious practice during this season of lent.

Mrs. Monica D'Souza MGA-President
Montfort School, St Thomas Mount.



A short prayer before boarding the bus at the start of the Pilgrimage



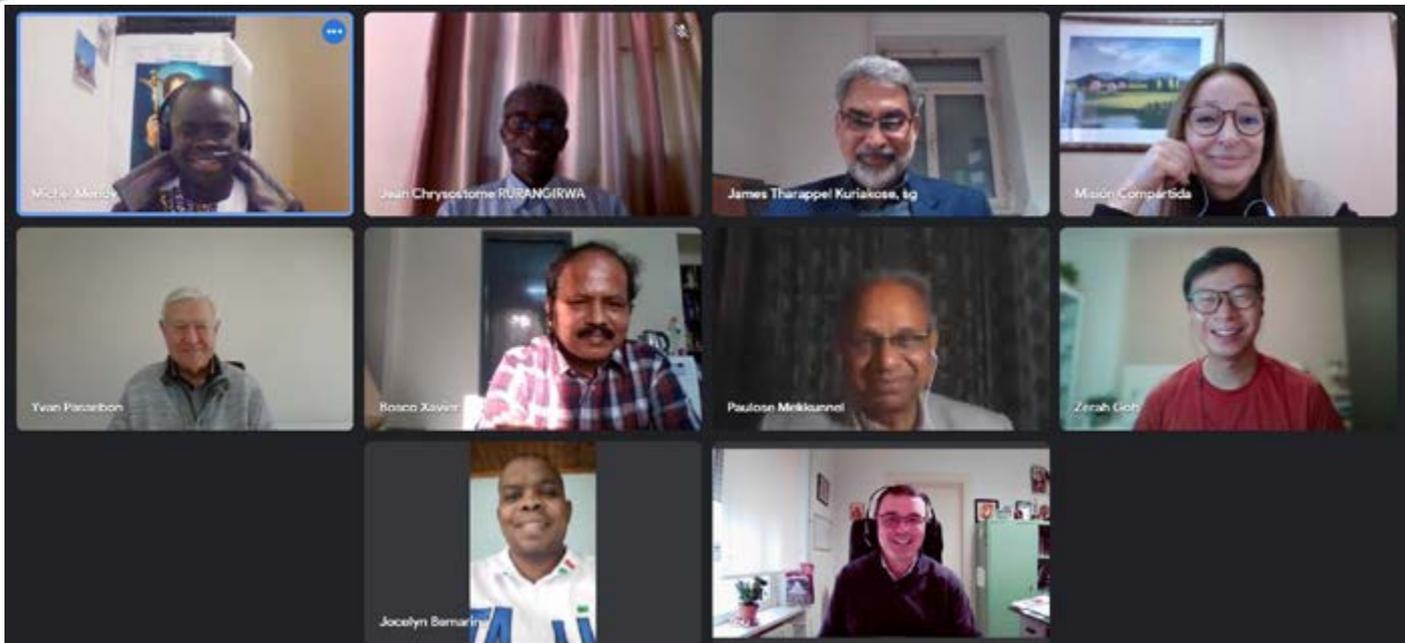
MGA animators leading in prayer during the Way of the Cross



A short prayer before boarding the bus at the start of the Pilgrimage



MGA animators leading in prayer during the Way of the Cross



First meeting of the new International Commission for Partnership

The first meeting of the new International Partnership Commission, which was appointed in September 2021, was held online on 25th February 2022. This Commission will have to continue the work started by the previous one until the end of its mandate in September 2024.

This first meeting was an opportunity to evaluate the work done by the previous commission and to plan the work for the coming years. At the invitation of the General Council, the commission will particularly reflect and make suggestions on the next circular letter of our congregation which will focus on partnership.

Thanks are due to all the members of the commission

for their active participation and to Brother Michel Mendy for helping us with translation and interpreting work. During the meeting, the commission offered a special prayer for Brother George Pottakaran who was absent for health reasons.

The next meeting of the commission will take place in four months and for the time being, it will still be online due to the difficulties in travelling because of the pandemic.

F. Dionigi Taffarello

Seigneur, bénis mon cœur
afin qu'il soit un temple de ton Esprit.
qu'il soit, comme Marie, notre Mère,
un refuge chaleureux pour les autres,
un oui pour servir et une porte vers l'espérance.
Mon Dieu, vous pouvez disposer de moi
avec ce que je suis et avec ce que j'ai.
Seigneur, sois avec nous sur notre chemin. Amen

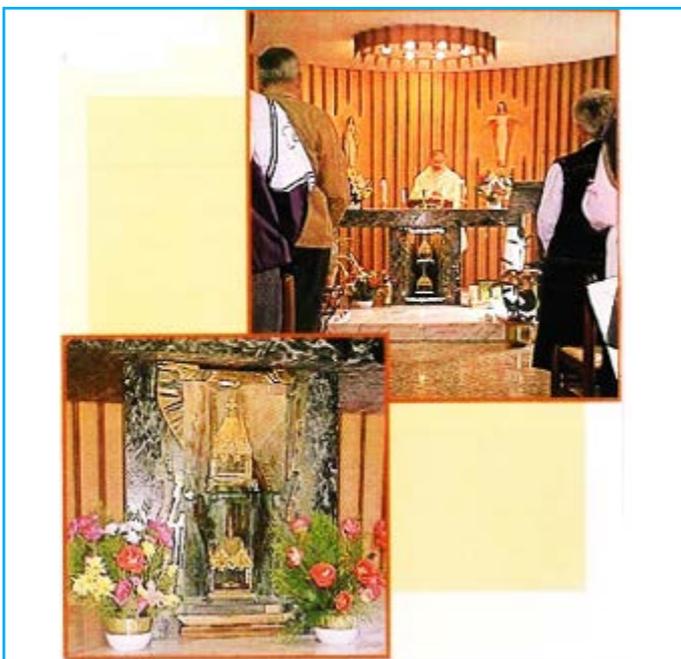
Lord, bless my heart
that it may be a temple of your Spirit.
may it be, like Mary, our Mother,
a warm refuge for others,
a yes to serve and a door to hope.
My God, you can dispose of me,
with what I am and with what I have.
Lord, be with us on the way. Amen

DEATH OF Fr. (DON) CARLO BESSONNET (1922-2022) **CHAPLAIN OF THE GENERAL HOUSE FROM 2000 TO 2010**

Don Carlo Bessonnet (1922-2022) priest from the diocese of Poitiers (France) was parish priest of the cathedral of La Storta (Rome) from 1956 to 1993. He was the Vicar General of the diocese of Porto-Santa Rufina, for many years. He had acquired the Italian Nationality.

In 2000, at the age of 78, during his retirement, he became Chaplain of the General House of the Brothers of St. Gabriel for 10 years. Many Brothers, as Members of the Community of the Generalate, have known him. Student Brothers, Capitulants, Brothers participating in Formation Sessions, in pilgrimages, etc., came to know him as well.

In 2010, when he was 88 years old, Don Carlo was welcomed by the Sisters Ancelle della Visitazione, in their Rest Home "Oasi Tabor" in Santa Marinella (Lazio): the Sisters watched over him admirably. He died on Easter Monday, April 18, 2022, at the dawn of his 100th Birthday.



March 26, 2001 – the Reliquaries of St. Louis-Marie and Blessed Marie-Louise of Jesus given to the Brothers of St. Gabriel **on September 29, 1997** by Fr. William Considine and Sr. Barbara O' Dea, are deposited in the large bronze Reliquary wanted and offered by Don Carlo Bessonnet. Fr. Bill Considine celebrates the Eucharist.



December 19, 2005 – Opening of the 30th General Chapter – Don Carlo Bessonnet, Chaplain of the General House, blessed the Statue of St. Louis Marie offered by the Brothers of the Province of Thailand.

We can see all the Members of the Central Administration: from left to right, Bros Pierre Girard, Robert Thiaw, René Delorme, Georges Le Vern, Fr. Don Carlo, Sirichai Fonseca, Paulose Mekkunnel and Camille Lucas.



Here is the testimony sent by **Brother René Delorme, Superior General from 2000 to 2012, after the announcement of Don Carlo's death:** "I keep the memory of Don Carlo as a man with a great heart, benevolent, generous, always ready to help. I appreciated the prayerful way in which he celebrated the Eucharist, his deep reflections on the Word of God, and his authentic testimony of life. He leaves us the memory of a holy man of God! Our Brother Camille Lucas had been well inspired when, in 2000, looking for a Chaplain for the Casa, he had contacted him. "Yesterday, at 9:00 a.m. (Quebec time), as we began our Provincial Council meeting, we joined all those who, at the same time (3:00 p.m., Roman time), paid him a last homage in the Cathedral of La Storta. »

Brother Camille Lucas gives this other testimony: "Don Carlo, although at the end of his life, did not take his mission as chaplain of the General House as a useful pastime for a retiree. On the contrary, he had a high idea of his mission and served it according to the pastoral rules which he knew to perfection...and this was the PASTORAL SERVICE of a General House. It really impressed me."

The **Community** of the Generalate **benefited liturgically from Don Carlo's interest and support.**
We owe him:

- The large bronze Reliquary dedicated to St. Louis-Marie and Blessed Marie-Louise, wanted and offered by him in 2000-2001. It is a valuable legacy,
- The purchase of several chasubles of different colors, for the celebration of the Eucharist,
- The purchase, in 2008, of new liturgical lectionaries, in Italian, for our Chapel, with the new translation requested by the Italian Bishops' Conference.

Grazie mille, Don Carlo!

Bro. Bernard Guesdon / Rome, April 25, 2022





Cayo BAÑUELOS PALENCIA
Brother Salvador,
27 years old
Born in Urbel del Castillo (Burgos)

Already in the Juniorate and in the Novitiate he was considered one of the best. He was very pious and an admirer of the Holy Virgin.

Intelligent and of strict judgment, according to his Master of Novices, Brother Cyprius. His saintliness and modesty was reflected in his countenance.

He was a teacher at the Schools in Arenys de Mar, Bañolas, Valls and at the Formation House of San Vicente de Montalt (Can Valls).

He had an admirable sense of family and a complete dedication to teaching. Given his excellent qualities as a religious person he was named collaborator of the Master of Novices, Brother Estanislao. He became a great support to the Master of Novices, as the latter declared on numerous occasions: "He adds to his beautiful qualities of spirit and heart, a great piety, and an admirable sense of family and a complete dedication to his position as teacher and collaborator.

He never raised his voice to his novices and he knew how to command respect from the group of teachers who appreciated and respected him greatly, despite the fact that he was somewhat innocent in nature.

Brother Salvador demonstrated a great serenity and courage when he was surprised in the chapel with his novices by the militia assaulting the convent.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Salvador grant us, Lord, his great piety and his admirable family spirit.



Cesäreo VILLANUEVA IRIARTE
Brother Tarsicio, 29 years old
Born in Jaurrieta
(Navarra)

Early on he was orphaned. Due to his beautiful voice he enrolled in the choir school of the Real Colegiata de Roncesvalles which he attended during seven years that marked him for the rest of his life.

He was fervent as a novice. In his file we read that his strength of judgment was excellent, he had an energetic and nervous character, and his intelligence was outstanding. He had a strong sense of family, was pious and quiet and attentive and persevering in his work.

He was a teacher at the schools in Valls, San Adrián de Besés and in San Vicente de Montalt (Can Valls).

A brother filled with good will. He completed his musical education in France becoming a good organist. He was melodious and a musical virtuoso.

At the Formation House of Can Valls he was a teacher of the Juniorate, Organist, music teacher of the Novices and the Scholasticate until November of 1936.

Beloved by his students of the Juniorate, who responded strongly when he was detained by the militia on the 7th of November of 1936, some exclaiming out loud and with great feeling when they were taking him prisoner to the buses that waited on the road to transport them to the jail in Barcelona.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Tarsicio grant us, Lord, his honesty, his patience and dedication to the every day tasks.

A Gentle Lamb's Defining Love

Create in us Oh! Lord
A pure and strong will
To follow you in your passion and death.

God inspired Prophets to foretell
The nature of Messiah's death
Under God's own salvific plan
Right from the time of Adam's fall.

The New Eve's fiat delighted God
The Son of God embarked on Earth
He grew up in wisdom and grace
Per home of Mary and Joseph.

Their home was upbeat in all ways
Despite painful demands and chores
Stood they the test of troubled times
Caused thus for Son, full time of grace.

His hour had come to pass o'er death
He was distressed in the spirit
He spoke of his sorrowful death
His disciples strayed for their fear.

He willed to die to rise to life
What an ignominious death
A gentle lamb's defining love
Love's labours to liberate men.

His will merged with his ardent goal
He thus crushed pain, horror and death
His mother's soul trembled in pain
But her mind held him in her lap.

What lesson do I learn Oh! Lord?
True love surpasses pain and death
Millions conquered the sting of death
They too willed to rise to new life.

Bro. Emmanuel P. J., SG

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS March 2022 – April 2022

BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

Bro. Joseph MARZIN
Bro. Yves DONNART
Bro. Yugastin Packia Prathap
Bro. Robert Bauvineau

COMPANY OF MARY

Fr. Gilberto MAGNI
Fr. John Mary AHIMBISIBWE
Fr. Ignacio José Vicente BELTRÁN CRUZ
Fr. Pierre BONHOMMEAU
Fr. Lucien RIJANIAINA
Fr. Maurice DUPÉ

DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM

Sr. Monique MICHAUD
Sr. Mary MICHAEL
Sr. Marie Bernadette
Sr. Marie-Madeleine SIMIER
Sr. Bernadette LETELLIER
Sr. Camille SOLIS
Sr. Angela dell'Immacolata
Sr. Brigitte MICHAUD
Sr. Thérèse LECLUSE
Sr. Marie Brizard



Dear Readers,

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

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