



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

JUNE 2024

DEAR CONFRERES,

Cordial Greetings...

My prayerful wishes to all of you for the new academic year. May God bless all our efforts in uplifting the life of the young people. I am sure that all the communities are prepared for hectic plans for the academic year. As we celebrate the beautiful feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary in the month of June, I invite you to reflect on the profound depths of God's love for humanity, revealed in the pierced heart of His Son and the unwavering faith of His Blessed Mother. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is a powerful symbol of His boundless love, a love that transcends all limitations and endures even in the face of suffering. It reminds us of His sacrifice and calls us to live with the same compassion and benevolence towards those entrusted to our care. Mary, the Immaculate Heart, stands alongside Jesus as a beacon of unwavering faith and devotion. Her staunch faith in God's plan and her willingness to serve as the vessel of salvation are a constant source of inspiration for us. May we, as Salesians, draw strength and guidance from the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Let their love be the foundation of our ministry and guide us in our mission to serve the young, especially the most vulnerable. May the blessings of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary be showered on us.



Initial Visit

From the first week of June the Provincial team will start the initial visit to the communities where we have the installation of new rectors and the nearby communities. The schedule for the remaining communities will be sent later. In the beginning of every year, we have a good practice of forming and revising the Salesian Community plan of Life (SCPL), the Salesian Educative Pastoral Plan (SEPP), and the Youth Pastoral Plan (YPP). I exhort the leaders of the community to call for a meeting with all members to prepare all the documents and submit a copy to the Province Secretary at the earliest. It will improve the efficacy and clarity of our mission.

Sector Level Animation and Meetings

Every year at the start of the new academic year, we have the animation of all the departments, sectors, and commissions of our province. These animations help us to obtain insights about the organization of the province and to plan for effective functioning all through the year. Therefore, I urge all the members to actively participate in these meetings with the lay partners and contribute your valuable recommendations for the growth of our mission. To encourage greater involvement, I request all the community members where the meeting is being held, as well as the rectors and those in charge of specific sectors, to attend the meeting. The date and place of meetings are added in the monthly program and the respective heads will coordinate the meeting. The purpose of scheduling these meetings in different communities related to the sectors is to enhance mutual learning and sharing.

Bon Voyage

Fr. Lourdu Jayaraja has left for Nepal mission on 31 June 2024. Fr. Martin Joseph will leave on June 5 to New York. On behalf of the Province, we wish them safe journey and enriching experience in their mission.

Don Bosco Global Youth Film Festival Season 3

The Don Bosco Global Youth Film Festival (DBGYFF) Season 3, organized by the Social Communication Sector, Rome in collaboration with the Youth Pastoral Sector of our congregation, is scheduled for the 17th and 18th of October 2024. This year's theme, "I Have a Dream: Youth and Climate Change - Making Mother Earth Cleaner and Greener," aligns with the bicentenary of the Dream of Don Bosco at nine and the Strenna of the Rector Major, highlighting the urgency for the youth to engage in environmental stewardship. Please do encourage and motivate your young people to create stories on the theme, and the deadline for submissions of short films is 31st July 2024.

Please do mark the festival dates – 17 & 18 October 2024 in your academic programme so that as many institutions of our province can organize it and benefit our young people. The details will be provided later. This will be a tangible way to showcase our unity at the global level as one Don Bosco family and echo the name of Don Bosco and the Salesian Mission on those days worldwide. For further details please log on to www.dbgyff.com.

PROGRAMME OF THE MONTH

01, 02	Sat, Sun	Students of Theology Meet @ DBPH, Tiruchy
08	Sat	Higher Education Sector Meet @ Keela Eral
11	Tue	Missionary Animation@ Amsam

12	Wed	YaR sector Meet @ DBAI, Kovai
13	Thu	Parish Sector Meet @ Pallithammam
14	Fri	Rural Sector Meet @ Vilathikulam
15	Sat	Academic Sector Meet (forenoon) @ Pallithammam, Salesian Family Delegate Meet (afternoon) @ Pallithammam
17	Mon	Youth Service Coordinators Meet @ Manikandam Dept Meet @ Manikandam
18	Tue	Technical Sector Meet @ Madurai
19	Wed	Provincial Council
19-21	Wed-Fri	Training for the New Administrators @ DBPH
22	Sat	Administrators Meet @ DBPH DB Past Pupils Local Delegates Meet @ DBPH
27	Thu	Formation sector Meet @ Yercaud
28	Fri	All departments Meeting @ DBPH

RECALLING EVENTS

Perpetual Profession

Six of our clerics, Sebastin Adaikalaraj, Michael Allwin, George Vigilius, Georgy Clenton, Livingston Lawrence and Reymond Robinson made their perpetual profession on 24 May 2024 in Mary Help of Christians Shrine, Amsam, Tiruchy. It was a meaningful celebration with the participation of good number of confreres and family members. On behalf of the Province, I congratulate them and wish them all the best so that they continue to experience the call of God all through their lives. I express my sincere thanks to the Vice Provincial, Economer, Fr. Jeyan Joseph and the Rector and confreres of Don Bosco Amsam community for organizing the entire programme excellently well.

First Profession

Seven of our Novices made their first profession on 24 May 2024 in Idayadeepam Novitiate, Yellagiri. Let us continue to accompany them with our prayers that they may persevere in Salesian life and vocation. All of them have reached Yercaud for their study of philosophy.

Renewal of Profession

Twenty-four clerics of our province renewed their vows on 24 May 2024 in DBPH Kallukuzhy. I express my sincere wishes to all the brothers and pray that they may continue to grow in the love of God, understanding the value of their Salesian vocation. I thank the Rector and confreres of DBPH community for making all the arrangements for the renewals.

Vocation Camp

The Vocation Camp for this year was held in Don Bosco Thanjavur, from 02 – 18 May 2024 for the students who have completed 8th, 10th, 12th standard and College. Around sixty-five students attended the camp from various dioceses of our region. We appreciate Fr. Antonisamy Arockiadoss, the vocation promoter, and all the brothers who organized the camp with variety of programme to impart Salesian style and spirit in the young minds to step into the first stage of Salesian life. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Fr. Thomas Louis, the Rector and the confreres of Don Bosco Thanjavur for making all the arrangements for the camp.

Career Guidance Seminar for XII Standard Students

The Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department (SC/ST) in Tamil Nadu organized a Career Guidance Seminar for XII standard students across all 38 districts of the state. The initiative, led by Ms. Priya Lakshmi IAS, Secretary for ADWD, and Mr. Anand Raj IAS, along with their team, was executed in collaboration with Don Bosco Vazhikaatti Trichy & Chennai, MMT, and Nurture Association in two phases. The first phase took place from April 22 to April 29, and the second phase from May 14 to May 21.

The Don Bosco Vazhikaatti (Trichy & Chennai) team participated in 9 districts during the first phase, including Trichy, Dindigul, Pudukkottai, Karur, Coimbatore, Salem, Namakkal, Tiruppur, and Tirupatur, and covered 37 districts in the second phase. During the first phase, the Don Bosco Vazhikaatti team engaged 3,045 students and in the second phase, guided around 7,000 students and parents in the Arts and Commerce stream. The sessions were led by Salesian Fathers: Fr. Casimiraj, Fr. Felix, Fr. Andrew, Fr. Antonisamy, Fr. Januarius, and staff members: Mr. Christhu Michael Raja, Mr. Harish, Mr. Leo, Mr. Prem, and their team. The overall coordination for Don Bosco Team was managed by Fr. Gabriel Karunaraj. I express my thanks to Ms. Priya Lakshmi IAS, Secretary for ADWD, and Mr. Anand Raj IAS and all the Salesians involved. Let us continue to venture into more programmes of such nature so that we will reach out to the poor and people in need.

Anniversary of the Deceased Salesians

04.06.2021 – Fr. Sahayaraj Arulkannu died at Thanjavur at the age of 61.

05.06.2021 – Fr. James Theophilus died at Salem at the age of 68.

09.06.2007 – Fr. Amala Joseph Maddichetty died at Wisconsin at the age of 45.

14.06.2020 – Fr. Thommai Antonirajan died at Sri Lanka at the age of 56.

CONDOLENCES...

On behalf of the province, I offer my sincere condolences,

- To Fr. Renigo Roy at the demise of his beloved mother Mrs. Maria Selvam (68) on 04 May 2024.

- To the Provincial and confreres of INK Province at the demise of Rev. Fr. Mathew Maruvathrail (94) on 14 May 2024.
- To the Provincial and confreres of INC Province at the demise of Bishop Emeritus Joseph Gomes (80) on 18 May 2024.

May their souls rest in peace!

COMMUNITY REFLECTION

TOWARDS SILVER JUBILEE - YEAR 3: SPIRITUALITY OF WITNESS NEW YEAR – NEW LIFE – NEW HOPE

My dear confreres,

We are stepping into another new academic year which is very special to all of us as we are preparing for the final celebrations of our Silver Jubilee. Let us be grateful to the Lord for his benevolence, our Blessed Mother for her guidance and our father and founder Don Bosco for his inspiration and charismatic vigour. As we are reflecting on the spirituality of witness in this year, let me remind you of the rich traditions of our congregation and the typical style of our province.

1. We belong to the Salesian Community and as members we should always exhibit a great sense of belonging and reverence to the community. Let us learn to live in holy joy.
2. The Rector is the animating centre of the community, and all the members should love and obey him even if we do not like him. He is the living Don Bosco in the community. All the members have the freedom to express their opinion, but the final decision is made by the Rector and all the members should abide by it.
3. Prayer life is the hallmark of the community. Absenting from prayer calls for serious examination and assessment. We should not be simply present for prayer but joyfully and happily enjoy the prayer moments of the community.
4. Community life is very precious to the members. Avoidance of community moments are symptoms of unhappiness, and it should be remedied at the earliest. We should enjoy the company of one another and make memories of our experience in the community.
5. The mission is entrusted to the community. Hence, all the members should work towards the best results, everyone contributing their might without counting the cost. The Rector should be the unifying force and when division arises, he should promptly deal with confreres who do not fall in line and set right the unity of the members.
6. Taking care of the elders and giving importance to the young Salesians are signs of blessing to the community. Let us not bypass these aspects. All of us have to go

through these stages of life and the measure we give will be the measure we get back.

7. Lay partners are part and parcel of our community and the mission. They are not second-class citizens. Hence, respecting their role with dignity and loving them beyond limits are essential for smooth running of the community and the mission. The staff are to be given just salary and let us treat them with kindness and compassion.
8. Young people are our life. All our campus and space should be open to them. Let us welcome them with open arms and enjoy their presence. Guiding them and inspiring them are our characteristic traits and we should do them to the maximum.
9. A good assistant is one who observes everything, speaks little, and corrects the essentials. I remember well my classes on assistance in Yercaud. Let us be present to everyone, everywhere and always. Let us be angels of witness.
10. Let us breathe positivity. Negativity kills. Look at everything as an opportunity. Let us not be prophets of doom. Let us become a blessing to one another. We will never lack for anything. God will take care of us all the time.

There are many more aspects that I can mention but I guess few guidelines are better to remember and focus on our life. Let us do our best and God will take care of the rest. As I always share with you, we are not living with angels and saints in our communities. Everyone is ordinary human being with good and bad. We must put up with one another. And this should be done with great joy and happiness. As we are in the Jubilee mood, let us build up our province and take it to soaring heights. Let us imprint memories in the hearts of all the members. I am sure the new year will give us new life and new hope.

Prayerful best wishes to all in the Family,

Yours Affectionately in Don Bosco



Fr. Agilan Sarprasadam SDB
Provincial – Salesian Province of Tiruchy, INT.



**Happy Feast of
Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary!**