



Salesian Province of **Tiruchy** Annai Velankanni



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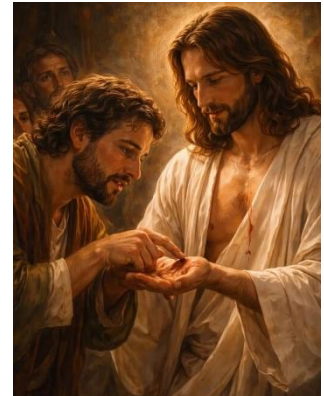
PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

JULY 2026

MY DEAR CONFRERES,

Cordial greetings from Don Bosco Provincial House Tiruchy!

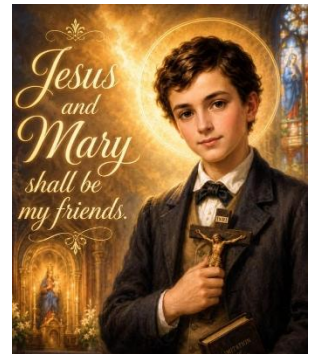
The month of July begins with the joyful celebration of the Solemnity of St. Thomas the Apostle, the patron saint of India and Sri Lanka due to his traditional missionary work and establishment of early Christian communities. The fearless disciple's journey from doubt to unwavering faith transformed him into a courageous herald of the Gospel. Tradition tells us that his missionary zeal brought him to the shores of India, where he proclaimed Christ with conviction and ultimately laid down his life in witness to the faith. His life reminds us that true discipleship is born not from certainty alone, but from a personal encounter with the Risen Lord. As Salesians we are called to imitate his apostolic spirit, carrying the Gospel not only to distant lands but, more importantly to the hearts of the young entrusted to us. Our classrooms, playgrounds, parishes and youth centres become the mission field where we sow the seeds of faith, nurture them with reason, religion and loving-kindness and accompany young people towards lives of hope, holiness and responsible citizenship.



We offer our warm greetings and prayerful best wishes to the Provincial and all the confreres of the Salesian Province of Chennai, our mother province, as they joyfully celebrate the feast of their heavenly patron, St. Thomas the Apostle. Through his powerful intercession, may the Lord continue to bless the province with renewed missionary zeal and grace to serve the young with unwavering faith, courage and joy.

As we continue our journey through this month, we also celebrate St. Dominic Savio, the youthful disciple who discovered the path to holiness under the guidance of Don Bosco and the loving care of Mary Immaculate. From his first meeting with Don Bosco, Dominic desired to become 'beautiful garment for the Lord.' He learned from Don Bosco that sanctity is found not in extraordinary deeds but in faithfully carrying out one's daily duties with joy, prayer and charity. Dominic soon became a joyful apostle among his companions, leading not by

authority but by the witness of life. His courage in preventing a violent fight between two classmates revealed his deep love for Christ and his conviction that forgiveness is stronger than revenge. His motto 'Death rather than sin' continues to challenge our youngsters with the call to choose goodness with courage and joy. Although the liturgical feast of St. Dominic Savio falls on 6th May, we celebrate it on 6th July with our students and young people, inviting them to embrace the joy of holiness and become builders of peace, faith and hope.



We will also begin the Marian month on 16 July and end the Marian month on 15 August on the solemnity of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother. In all our Salesian houses, the 'Marian Month' is a cherished tradition of honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Principal Patroness of our Congregation. Throughout this month, which culminates on 15 August, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we are invited to renew our filial love and confidence in our Blessed Mother. Don Bosco entrusted all his works to Mary's maternal care and constantly reminded his sons that she continues to guide and support our congregation. I warmly invite every Salesian community to celebrate this Marian month with renewed devotion and creativity that help our young people grow in their love for Mary.



All Departments Meeting

The All Departments Meeting will be held on [02 July 2026 at DBPH Kallukuzhy](#). All the members of the Provincial Departments [ILAMAI – Youth Services Core Team, VAZHIKATTI – Career Guidance, CHRISTODAYAM – Catechetics, ALAIHAL – Social Communication, JANANAM De-Addiction Ministry, DBCARES – Counselling Services, PAYANAM – Migrant Ministry, Scouts & Guides, Sports Academy] are requested to be present for the meetings without fail. The schedule of the meeting has already been shared in the INT Rectors / Leaders and INT News WhatsApp groups. The active participation of all the departments is highly appreciated for the effective coordination and animation of various ministries of the Province.

Leaders Meet

The meeting for all the Rectors and Leaders of our communities has been scheduled on [03 & 04 July 2026 at DBPH Kallukuzhy](#). This meeting will focus on Salesian Consecrated Identity, inviting us to deepen our understanding, renew our commitment, and strengthen our vocation as consecrated Salesians, in the spirit of Don Bosco. I request all Rectors and Leaders to make it a priority to participate in this important gathering without fail.

Training for New Administrators and Administrators & Accountants Meeting

A two-day training programme for the newly appointed Administrators will be held at [Don Bosco Provincial House, Kallukuzhy](#) on [06 and 07 July 2026](#). A meeting for the Administrators and Accountants will be held on [08 July 2026](#) at [DBPH, Kallukuzhy](#). All the newly appointed Administrators, Administrators and Accountants are invited to take part in these animation meetings without fail.

Formation Course for the Newly Appointed Provincials

I will be attending the Formation Course for newly appointed Provincials organized at Sede Centrale Salesiana, Italy, from [09 to 28 July 2026](#). Therefore, I will be away from the Province from [09th July to 28th July 2026](#). During my absence Fr. Victor Antonyraj, Vice-Provincial will oversee the ordinary administration and coordination of the Province. All matters requiring immediate attention or follow-up may be directed to him. May this time of renewal and learning help me to serve the province: 'TOGETHER AS PILGRIMS TO REJUVENATE SALESIAN LIFE AND MISSION'.

Assessment Procedure for Holistic Salesian Youth Ministry in our Province

Every Salesian presence should be guided by the Oratorian heart of Don Bosco, a primary criterion, which prevailed in Valdocco: a home that welcomed, a parish that evangelized (gave God Experience), a school that prepared them for life and a playground where friends could meet and enjoy themselves. These aspects are embedded in the Dimensions and Pastoral Choices of Salesian Youth Ministry.

To bring a scientific temper to our Salesian Youth Ministry in the province, the Youth Ministry team has prepared an assessment tool that will enlighten us on how all the four dimensions (Education to Faith, Educational and Cultural, Social Experience and Vocational) and the three Pastoral Choices (Vocation Promotion, Missionary Animation and Social Communication) are strategically applied in all the sectors, while carrying out Youth Ministry. This assessment tool will be sent to our communities as a Google Link. I request the communities to spend time in going through and rating the realistic impact status of the 4 Dimensions and 3 Pastoral Choices in your mission.

PROGRAMME OF THE MONTH

02	Thu	All Departments Meeting @ DBPH, Tiruchy
03, 04	Fri, Sat	Leaders Meeting @ DBPH, Tiruchy
05	Sun	Provincial Council @ DBPH, Tiruchy
06,07	Mon, Tue	Training for the New Administrators @ DBPH, Tiruchy
08	Wed	Administrators & Accountants Meeting @ DBPH, Tiruchy
10	Fri	Training for Asst. PP @ Madhakottai
11	Sat	Youth Service Coordinators Meeting @ Manikandam

11, 12	Sat, Sun	DBPP National Council @ DBPH
17,18	Fri, Sat	Orientation Training for Staff & SDBs by DB4M @ Manikandam
18	Sat	Orientation for New Academic Staff @ DBPH, Tiruchy
25	Sat	DB Past Pupils EC Meeting @ DBPH, Tiruchy

RECALLING EVENTS

Blessings and Inaugurations:

In the Salesian Tradition, every building project is much more than a physical structure. The recent blessings and inaugurations of new facilities across the province stand as visible signs of our collective dedication to the mission entrusted to us by Don Bosco. The following projects have been made possible through the generosity of benefactors, donors and the tireless efforts of Salesians and collaborators who continue to invest in the future of the young.

Additional Rooms at the Retreat, Yercaud: An Additional twelve rooms were blessed and inaugurated on 21 March 2026, marking another step towards strengthening the facilities, services and hospitality at Retreat Hospitium, Yercaud. I express my sincere appreciation to Fr. Arul Maran, Rector and community for taking this initiative and successfully completing this project.

AI – Driven English Language Lab at Don Bosco, Thanjavur: An English Language lab was blessed and inaugurated on 23 March 2026 at DB, Thanjavur. This Lab has been developed to provide a high-quality English learning experience in line with Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) standards. I express my sincere appreciation to Fr. Suresh Felix, Rector and Don Bosco Thanjavur Community for their vision and efforts in bringing this innovative initiative a reality. This project was made possible through the generous support of past pupils, students, parents, teachers, Salesian Cooperators, friends of Don Bosco, Well-wishers and the CSR initiative of South Indian Bank.

Don Bosco Farm, Sengipatti: A new additional block comprising dormitories and an animation hall at DB farm, Sengipatti was blessed on 29 April 2026. I gratefully acknowledge Rev. Fr. Amaladoss Sanjone, former Economer of INT, and all the Salesians who were involved in the project. This project was funded by JuWe Foundation. A special word of appreciation goes to Fr. Januarius Lourdusamy, a qualified engineer, for his dedication and commitment in bringing this project to completion. Being his first project, he carried it forward with great sacrifice, perseverance and personal involvement.

New Additional Block at Don Bosco School of Excellence, Sayalgudi: The Newly constructed additional block of Don Bosco School of Excellence, Sayalgudi was blessed on 20th May 2026 by Rev. Dr. Susaimanickam, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Sivagangai. I express my gratitude to Rev. Fr. Arockiam Vedamuthu, former Rector of DB Sayalgudi, and the Salesian community, benefactors and donors whose generous support made this project

possible. The new facility stands as a sign of the continuous commitment of Don Bosco towards quality education and the holistic development of young people.

New Facilities at Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Salem: On 23rd May 2026, the newly constructed kitchen and toilet block at Adivaram and Dormitory Block at Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Mulluvadigate, Salem were blessed and inaugurated. The facilities were funded by Schlooz foundation. I am grateful to Rev. Fr. Casmir Raj, former Rector of DB Anbu Illam, Salem, the Salesian Community, benefactors and donors for their valuable support. The new facilities enhance the care and welfare of the children entrusted to Don Bosco Anbu Illam.

New Bathing and Toilet Facilities at Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Coimbatore: The newly constructed bathing rooms and toilet facilities for the boys of Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Coimbatore were blessed on 27th May 2026. The project was supported through the CSR initiative of Bosch, enhancing the living conditions and dignity of the children. Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Amalorpavaraj Annappan, former Rector of DB Anbu Illam, and the Salesian community for their dedication and efforts in making this facility a reality.

Sector Level Animation and Meetings

The sector meetings of the Province were held during the month of June and I had the opportunity to be present in these meetings and animations. Fr. Vice-Provincial and Fr. Economer were also present adding their support and contribution to the sharing and discussions. The Higher Education Sector meeting was conducted online. I sincerely thank all the sector heads, commission members, lay collaborators and communities for their active participation and valuable contributions during these animation sessions and discussions. It really helps to strengthen the mission and move forward with greater unity and clarity. I express my appreciation to Rectors and communities of NEST Tiruppur (YaR Sector), DB Thanjavur (Formation Sector), Manikandam (Academic Sector), DB Sayalgudi (Rural Sector) and AMSAM (Parish & Technical Sectors) for hosting these meetings and providing a welcoming space for sharing and learning. May these sector animations continue to inspire and guide us towards effective ministry and fruitful service at the vineyard of the Lord.

Installation of New Rectors

Seven (7) New Rectors were installed in their respective communities in May and June 2026. The newly appointed Rectors are Fr. Dominic Savio at Kuthenkuly, Fr. Amala Jeyarayan at DBAI Salem, Fr. Alphonse Lazar at Sayalgudi, Fr. Albert Johnson at DB Dindigul, Fr. Agilan Sarprasadam at Nettur, Fr. Amaladoss Sanjone at Moolakadu and Fr. Arnold Mahesh at DBAI Coimbatore. I pray that inspired by the Spirit of Don Bosco, they may lead their communities with wisdom, in strengthening fraternity and commitment to Salesian life and mission.

Initial Visit to our Communities

I have completed the initial visit to all our communities along with the Vice Provincial and the Economer. I sincerely thank all the Rectors and Leaders, and Confreres for your wholehearted cooperation, careful preparation of the required documents for the Initial Visit. I appreciate the commitment and dedication shown in preparing the SCPL, SEPP, YPP, Annual Plan of the Mission and Budget for the academic year 2026-2027. Your collaborative efforts reflect your concern for the growth of our communities and the effective service of the young people entrusted to our care. The corrections and observations shared during the Initial Visit be incorporated and the revised documents be forwarded to the Provincial Secretary at the earliest.

Animation and Orientation for WELEAD



The Salesian Province of Tiruchy organized an animation and orientation programme for the representatives of seven Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) under the WELEAD project on 5 June 2026 at DBPH, Kallukuzhy. The programme focused on “Constitutional Leadership and Critical Understanding of Contemporary Tamil Nadu Politics” promoting leadership of women and awareness of

current social realities. I express my sincere appreciation to Fr. Ricopar Royan, the Economer and Fr. Ashok Lawrence, Ex. Dr: CAUVERI for their coordination and commitment in organizing this programme and strengthening the mission of empowerment and social transformation.

Meeting of Local Delegates for Missionary Animation

The first meeting of the Local Delegates for Missionary Animation (LDMA) of our Province was held on 21 June 2026 at Don Bosco Provincial House, Tiruchy. Fr. Joseph Palemthattel (Sunny), Regional Delegate for Missionary Animation, animated the Salesians under the theme “Rekindling the Missionary Flame”, highlighting the significance of the Salesian Missionary Vocation, the role and responsibilities of the LDMA, and the way forward in promoting a missionary spirit in our ministries. I express my sincere appreciation to Fr. Suresh Felix, Provincial Delegate for Missionary Animation, for organizing the meeting and coordinating this important initiative. I am also grateful to Fr. Ashok Lawrence, the Rector and DBPH community for hosting the event and providing a welcoming environment for the meeting.



Oratory and Youth Center Coordinators' National Meet

Oratory and Youth Center Coordinators of the South Asian Salesian Provinces gathered at Don Bosco Provincial House, Kallukuzhy, Tiruchy from 26-27 June 2026 with the purpose of revitalising, rethinking and re-launching the youth ministry in South Asian Provinces. The meeting was organized by Fr. Patrick Lapcha, the South Asia Delegate for Youth Ministry. It was coordinated by Fr. Casmir Raj, INT Provincial Delegate for Social Experience Dimension. Representatives from ten Salesian Provinces participated with the shared mission to revitalise, rethink and re-launch the youth outreach programmes.

The meeting focused on deepening the Salesian vision of Oratories, understanding the present realities of young people, sharing best practices and exploring new approaches through the Salesian Youth Ministry framework. Session on vocational discernment, youth empowerment and livelihood opportunities highlighted the need for spiritually rooted and relevant youth ministry. I express my gratitude to Fr. Albert Johnson, Provincial Delegate for Youth Ministry and Fr. Casimir Raj, Provincial Delegate for Social Experience Dimension for coordinating this significant meeting. I am also grateful to Fr. Ashok Lawrence, Rector and DBPH, Kallukuzhy community for hosting the programme, taking care of the details and ensuring all the arrangements for the successful conduct of the meeting.



Youth Ministry and Fr. Casimir Raj, Provincial Delegate for Social Experience Dimension for coordinating this significant meeting. I am also grateful to Fr. Ashok Lawrence, Rector and DBPH, Kallukuzhy community for hosting the programme, taking care of the details and ensuring all the arrangements for the successful conduct of the meeting.

Anniversary of the Deceased Salesians

07.07.2007 – Fr. John Nedumpuram died at Vellakinar at the age of 85

15.07.2015 – Cl. Nicolas Ouseph died at Salem at the age of 26

30.07.2007 – Fr. Philip Kutiannil died at Madhakottai at the age of 73

COMMUNITY REFLECTION

OUR PASTORAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE

We have started the academic year in full swing with energy and enthusiasm. Vice Provincial, Economer and I have witnessed such enthusiasm in every one of our confreres during our initial visit to our communities in May-June 2026. Keep up the energy throughout the year. As Jesus began his mission with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we too begin our ministry, at every moment, invoking the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” (Lk 4:18-19)

Our mission to the young is termed in our constitutions as Pastoral Educational Service. We don't separate the pastoral from educational or educational from pastoral. Our service is at once pastoral and educational. These two elements always go together. When we educate the young, we educate as good shepherds and when we shepherd (accompany) them, we educate and prepare them for life. There are many elements involved in this process of Pastoral Educational service.



First of all, we are **evangelisers** of the young, a mandate given by the Church. Hence, we share in the mission of the Church (C.31). Following the mandate of the Church, we educate and evangelise to benefit the total human well-being (C.34). Don Bosco was intending to form the young as upright citizens and good Christians. This is the sole purpose of our youth ministry. If this goal is not there in our SEPP, all that we do becomes useless in the Salesian Youth Ministry.

Secondly, as **educators** we work together with our young people to bring all their talents and aptitudes to full maturity (C.32). For this purpose, besides giving them shelter, food and skill, we give them all-round holistic formation through our educational services. Particularly, in every intervention, we help them to be open to truth and appreciate true values in their life and service. This aspect is very important, because in today's world, more than ever, insincerity prevails over sincerity and non-truth prevails over truth. We are the only youth ministers who can form them to be sincere, truthful, transparent and altruistic.

Thirdly, we prepare the young people to become **socially conscious**. We work with them, educating them to assume their moral, professional and social responsibilities (C.33). Don Bosco clearly saw the social implication of his work. Following Don Bosco, we too get them involved in total social transformation through group activities in smaller and larger communities. We introduce the catholic youth to the experience of ecclesial faith community (C.35). In these the young people grow in the awareness of their own responsibilities and learn to give their irreplaceable contribution to the transformation of the world and to the life of the Church.

Fourthly, we educate the young to develop their own human and baptismal **vocation**, through animation, formation and accompaniment. As a result, we are able to produce good shepherds among the young, for social life and ecclesial life. This work of collaboration with God's design is the crown of all our educational and pastoral activity, is sustained by prayer and personal contact, above all in spiritual direction (C.37). Besides all the services we give to young people, we have to accompany them spiritually, on one-to-one basis personally, to help them find out the purpose for which they are on this earth as human beings.

Fifthly, the methodology that we employ for our pastoral educational service is the **Preventive System**. For us Salesians it is not only a methodology but a spirituality, handed over by Don Bosco, based entirely on reason, religion and loving kindness. Instead of constraint, it appeals to the resources of intelligence, love and the desire for God which every youth has in the depths of his/her being (C.38). It calls for a continuous presence among the young, marked by a spirit of family, trust and dialogue.



Salesian presence is a disposition on the part of the educator, with an empathy for the young and a willingness to be with them: “Here in your midst I feel completely at home; for me, living means being here with you” - DB (C.39). We are present as brothers among the young in an active and friendly way, helping them in their efforts to grow in what is good, and encouraging them to cast off every form of slavery, so that their weakness may not be overcome by evil. This presence affords us a true understanding of the world of the young and unites us with them in all the healthy aspects of their restless energy.

Finally, the Salesian **option is always for the poorest** of the poor young people and poverty-stricken area (C.33). We reject everything that encourages deprivation, injustice and violence and collaborate with all who are trying to build a society more worthy of human dignity, in line with the commitment of the Church to justice, love and peace.

Wish you all the best in Salesian Youth Ministry.

Yours Affectionately in Don Bosco,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Doss Kennedy SDB". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.



Fr. Doss Kennedy SDB
Provincial – Salesian Province of Tiruchy, INT.