

# MISSIONARIES OF ST.FRANCIS DE SALES - MSFS

## SOUTH WEST INDIA PROVINCE



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Bangalore 560 055, INDIA

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Circular BK/2

February 17, 2016

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### My Dear Confreres,

Fraternal greetings to each one of you. We are all in the thick of activities. As the academic year is coming to a close we are kept occupied with all the concluding activities of this year as well as the preparations for the next year. The pastoral ministry and the orientation programs in the formation houses are at its peak with all spiritual and physical preparations of the Lenten season and the forth coming Holy Week and Easter. The commitment in the field of innovative ministries keep us occupied in showing the tender mercy of God to those who are entrusted to our care, especially the unfortunate children of our Children's Homes and Senior Citizens' Home. My dear Confreres, let this season of Lent become a wonderful opportunity for us to find the meaning of our lives as **Committed MSFS** by expressing our love for Jesus through our ministries. May all the abstinences that we undertake during this season of Lent purify our thoughts, words and deeds.

My dear Confreres, in my first circular I had introduced you to the theme of the Provincial Chapter, which we are going to conduct from the 11<sup>th</sup> April to the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016. We have chosen the theme: **FORMING COMMITTED MSFS ROOTED IN COMMUNITY LIFE FOR PROPHETIC MINISTRIES TODAY**. This theme is relevant and significant for us MSFS in four respects.

- a) It is in tune with the vision thrust of the General Chapters 2007 and 2013
- b) It is in tune with our religious life that invites us to have a constant rediscovery and renewal of community life.
- c) It is in tune with the specific theme of the Year 2016 for MSFS as the 'Year of Formation for a Mission of Mercy and Compassion.'
- d) It is in tune with the renewal and revamp that we need as a province family in spiritual and ministerial dimensions of our life.

From a close perspective and keen look at this theme, the following factors stand out clearly:

- a) The target to be accomplished or the goal and the objective to be reached through our provincial chapter is to be **Committed MSFS**
- b) Two traits of this commitment are **Being rooted in Community Life** and **Flourishing in Prophetic Ministries**.
- c) The essential condition and requirement for this is **Formation**.

1. **Committed MSFS:** In accordance with the spirit of our Salesian Spirituality and in fidelity to the Word of God and the Constitutions and Directory of our Congregation, to be committed MSFS implies that we live and foster true spirit of being MSFS. We need to be clear, convinced and committed to the values of Christ as lived by our Patron and Founder. It also invites us to live contrary to the values of the world, in terms of not being conformed to the false standards of the world and not being carried away by worldliness and comfort seeking. It also demands from us that we are not shallow or tepid or lethargic, being content with the bare minimum or dry obligations. It challenges us to retrospect our commitment at various levels:

**Personal Level:** In Integrity and Spiritual Primacy

**Collective Level:** In Community Life, In Fraternal and Spiritual Communion

**Consecration Level:** in Joy and Fidelity to the vowed way of life

**Mission Level:** In Passion for Jesus and Compassion for the Humanity

2. **Rooted in Community Life:** Community life is something very deep and integral to the very core of our religious life. **St. Francis de Sales** says: *The fullness of our love for the divine goodness of our Heavenly Father is expressed in the fullness of our love for our brothers and Sisters.* Our Community life demands that we need to be honestly conscious of the possible and real dangers in community life, such as, a) slackening of the value and vitality of community life b) Increase of individualised and institutionalised life-style c) Rise of individual-centred apostolates as private projects or self demarcated enterprises d) Decline of witnessing values and increase of aberrations and deviations.

**Art. No. 80 of our Constitution** states: *Our Fraternal Communion lived meaningfully in our community is the sign and the symbol of the Trinitarian communion as well as of the Kingdom of God proclaimed by our Lord and Master.* It demands that we need revitalise the sense of oneness, belongingness and loyalty to the community in mutual respect, collaboration and understanding. We also need to ensure that more and more of our ministries are community centred wherein the collaboration of every confrere is extended.

3. **In Prophetic Ministries:** It means that we strive to be authentic witness through our prophetic ministries. **Art. No. 45 of our Constitution** states: *...we place ourselves fully at the service of the Kingdom of God and become totally free to carry out the mandate received by the Church.* This would urge us to a twofold task: a) we are constantly in search of those ministries and avenues that can effectively and powerfully give a prophetic witness. b) We constantly re-charge and reinforce the already operative ministries with more focus and energy.
4. **Formation:** Formation is a continuous and ongoing process. Such Formation embraces both the duration of the formal formation in the Formation Houses, which is generally till the point of priestly ordination and also the post

ordination formation which is all through one's life. Accordingly we need to update and renew ourselves in progressive formation in virtues and values and in a transformed life. In this way, formation is a sacred and collective responsibility, which is of a crucial concern. We should never compromise on any count the quality of the Formees and we must evolve and implement a graded, integral and comprehensive system of formation. We also need to ensure a combination of both competence and personal witness in the life of the Formators.

My dear Confreres, I have placed before you the main thrust of our Provincial Chapter for our personal and communitarian preparation for this important event of our province. I request the animators of our Apostolic Communities to convoke two Apostolic Community Meetings before the Provincial Chapter. The first one shall be during this month itself, wherein we read and reflect on these orientations I have proposed before you and come out with certain concrete suggestions and responses for the provincial chapter. Please do send your suggestions and responses to the provincial secretary within a couple of days after the first Apostolic Community Meeting. There shall be yet another Apostolic Meeting in the month of March wherein we shall study the Provincial Statutes and give our suggestions to the Chapter for its further perusal and implementation. I request the Convenors and Secretaries of the Apostolic Communities to convene the meeting at the earliest and I request all the confreres to participate in it meaningfully.

## **Second Provincial Chapter of South West India Province**

My dear Confreres, as I have convoked the Provincial Chapter with the permission of the Superior General, it demands that we elect the delegates to the Provincial Chapter. In consultation with me the steering committee has formulated the method of election for the forth coming provincial chapter. Please read through it carefully and elect the chapter delegates within the stipulated time as per the directives given below.

### **Election of Delegates to a Provincial Chapter**

Art. 273 of General Directory of the MSFS laying down guidelines for the election of chapter delegates states:

In the election of delegates to the Provincial/Vice-Provincial Chapter the *ex-officio* members of the Chapter are not allowed to vote.

*Ex-officio members as per Constitution # 238:* Directors/Rectors of houses of formation here would imply directors of formation, rectors of all minor seminaries and pre-novices, rectors of philosophate/s and theologate/s or study houses' major seminaries.

*Rector of inter-provincial formation houses:* He would be an ex-officio member of the Chapter of his own Province and an invitee to the Chapter of other participating Provinces.

*Delegates:* For the election of delegates, the Provincial/Vice-Provincial council should choose any one of the following methods:

First Method: The electors form a single electoral college and elect all delegates.

Second Method: The Provincial/Vice-Provincial and his council establish different electoral colleges on the basis of geographical areas or types of ministry. Confreres who are Brothers could be grouped together to form one of these electoral colleges. Each electoral college elects the number of delegates allotted to it.

Third Method: Half the delegates are elected using the first method. The other half is elected using the second method.

***The delegates are elected with an absolute majority at the first ballot. If the results are inconclusive, a second ballot is held after the publication of the results of the first ballot. Only a relative majority is needed at the second ballot.***

In compliance with the provisions of art. 239 of the MSFS Constitutions and art. 273 of the General Directory, the Second Method is proposed for the election of Chapter delegates.

- All the members of our province working in India and abroad are grouped either under a particular Forum or an electoral college.
- All the members of the Forum will be provided with ballot papers to elect delegates from within that specific Forum.
- All those confreres who were till now in more than one Forum are assigned to just one Forum to maintain equilibrium between Forums.
- The ratio for the election of delegates from the Forums is 5:1, and the members from the electoral colleges abroad will follow the ratio of 10:1.
- All the scholastics are grouped under two electoral colleges depending upon whether they are temporarily or perpetually professed. All temporarily professed scholastics will have only one elected delegate.
- The confreres of the Philippines delegation will not hold an election for delegates since they are adequately represented by their ex-officio members.
- As per art. 239 of the MSFS Constitutions, the **ex-officio** members will neither vote nor be voted for, for the election of the delegates.

### **Mode of distribution and collection of ballot papers:**

- Each confrere will receive an envelope which contains a list of members belonging to his Forum, from which he can choose to vote on a ballot paper provided based on the formula of 5:1 for the members of the Forum and 10:1 for the electoral colleges abroad.
- The ballot paper has to be inserted in a small envelop and put in a bigger envelop provided and handover the sealed envelope to the convener of the respective Apostolic community as stipulated.

- In order to speed up the process of electing the delegates, it is highly recommended that the convener of each Apostolic Community convene a meeting of all the confreres belonging to the South-West India Province and hand over these envelopes to the respective confreres personally. He will also ensure that all the sealed ballot papers are collected before the deadline and handed back to the office of the Provincial.
- If, due to some inconvenience, one or two confreres fail to attend the Apostolic Community meeting when scheduled, the convener will take steps to reach the ballot papers to those confreres and get the sealed ballot papers back as per the deadline.
- The electoral colleges abroad will vote through e-mail.
- All the ballot papers from all the Apostolic communities should reach the office of the Provincial latest by 01 March 2016. If a second round of voting is required, those votes should reach the provincial's office latest by 15 March 2016.
- To facilitate easy travel arrangements for the confreres working abroad, the first round of e-mail votes should reach the provincial's office latest by 22 February 2016 and if a second round of voting is required, those e-mail votes should reach the provincial's office latest by 29 February 2016.

**Ex-officio members as per Constitution # 238:**

1. Fr. Amougou Amougou Emile Paulin ( Rector - La Feuillette, Cameroon)
2. Fr. Anchanickal Thomas (Novice Master)
3. Fr. Arackal Manoj (Chad–Cameroon Mission Superior)
4. Fr. Crasta Herold Christopher, (Councillor)
5. Fr. E. Erudayaraj (Rector – Sannidhi)
6. Fr. Kalathungal Mathew (Rector – Tejas)
7. Fr. Kanattu Vinod (Councillor)
8. Fr. Kodikuthiyil Henry Jose (Councillor)
9. Fr. Koottanal Benny (Provincial)
10. Fr. Kumblolickal Jose (Former Provincial)
11. Fr. Kuzhuppil Binoy (Rector - MSFS Scholasticate, Philippines)
12. Fr. Manjackal Jiji (Rector - MSFS Formation House, Philippines)
13. Fr. Mattathil Joby (Rector – SFS Seminary Ettumanoor)
14. Fr. Parappillil Jose (Superior – Charis Bhavan)
15. Fr. Pathiyakam Ginu (Delegate superior-Philippines)
16. Fr. Puthenpurackal Binod (Delegate Superior - GAH)
17. Fr. Thazhathukunnel Joshy (Bursar)
18. Fr. Tigga Praful (Novice Master - Philippines)

**Members of the Social and Innovative Forum who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Fr. A.C. Arokianathan  | 3. Fr. Cheravelil Jikson |
| 2. Fr. Chemplanickal Jijo | 4. Fr. Cherukat Thomas   |

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5. Fr. Choorapuzha George    | 16. Bro. Pindipuzha Joseph   |
| 6. Fr. D. Doraiswamy         | 17. Fr. Plathottathil Jino   |
| 7. Fr. Edasseril Jose        | 18. Fr. Ponnambel Josey      |
| 8. Fr. Jeevan Prashanth      | 19. Fr. Puthiaparampil Johny |
| 9. Fr. Kalariparambil Thomas | 20. Fr. Puthussery Shino     |
| 10. Fr. Kalathil Mathew      | 21. Fr. R. Santhosh Kumar    |
| 11. Fr. Kanat Tom            | 22. Fr. Thondampallil Anil   |
| 12. Fr. Karekatt Joseph      | 23. Fr. Vadakkedath Saji     |
| 13. Fr. Kazhukanolickal Joji | 24. Fr. Valakodiyil Philip   |
| 14. Fr. Kokkandathil Jose    | 25. Fr. Vazhaparambil Riju   |
| 15. Fr. Palathadathil Aneesh | 26. Fr. Vazhappillil Joy     |
|                              | 27. Fr. Vechuvettickal Jose  |

**Members of the Education Forum who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Fr. A. Jabamalai           | 18. Fr. Maroor Soby             |
| 2. Fr. A. Johnson             | 19. Fr. Marottikudy Shalbin     |
| 3. Fr. A. Mathias             | 20. Fr. Mecheril Jais           |
| 4. Fr. A. Prashanth Kumar     | 21. Fr. Olickal Sijo            |
| 5. Fr. Barthalomio            | 22. Fr. P. Maria Lawrence       |
| 6. Fr. Chirayil George        | 23. Fr. Parakottil Timson       |
| 7. Fr. Eanthanamkuzhiyil Saji | 24. Fr. Plathottathil Roy       |
| 8. Fr. Erniyakulathil Tony    | 25. Fr. Puthiyaparambil Jose    |
| 9. Fr. Kolarickal Jojo        | 26. Fr. Puzhakkara Subin        |
| 10. Fr. Kottam Wilson         | 27. Fr. Sudeep Paul             |
| 11. Fr. Kujur Prabhu Prakash  | 28. Fr. Thoppil Joseph          |
| 12. Fr. Kurakalayil Binoy     | 29. Fr. Ummikkuzhiyil Cyriac    |
| 13. Fr. L Selvaraj            | 30. Fr. Vallisserikettil Majish |
| 14. Fr. Mamala Mathew         | 31. Fr. Victor Kujur            |
| 15. Fr. Manickathan Siby      | 32. Fr. Vilachirayil Saju       |
| 16. Fr. Manjackal Jijo        | 33. Fr. Y. Mathias              |
| 17. Fr. Mariyaraj George      |                                 |

**Members of the Formation Forum who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Fr. A Jerome                    | 10. Fr. O.V Zacharias           |
| 2. Fr. Chirackalpuraidathil Anish  | 11. Fr. Parappally Jacob        |
| 3. Fr. Ekka Francis                | 12. Fr. Parayankunnel Shinto    |
| 4. Fr. J. Pangiraj                 | 13. Fr. Pathanmackel Sibichen   |
| 5. Fr. Joseph Charles Perianayagam | 14. Fr. Puthukary Jose          |
| 6. Fr. Kallacheril Joseph          | 15. Fr. Puthuparambil Tito      |
| 7. Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam        | 16. Fr. Santosh Pereira         |
| 8. Fr. Mookenthottam Antony        | 17. Fr. Valachathinakathu Vinoy |
| 9. Fr. Mullenkuzhy Joseph          |                                 |

**Members of the Mission Forum who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Fr. Aranjani Paul    | 3. Fr. C. Joseph        |
| 2. Fr. Belavendra Jacob | 4. Fr. Conrad Sebastian |

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| 5. Fr. Chackiath Bijil               | 27. Fr. Manickathan Shajan        |
| 6. Fr. Chennakattukunnel Thomas      | 28. Fr. Manjackal James           |
| 7. Fr. Chirackal Justin              | 29. Fr. Mattakkarathundiyl Thomas |
| 8. Fr. Chirackalpuraidathil Tomy     | 30. Fr. Mullasseril Tomy          |
| 9. Fr. D. Robert                     | 31. Fr. Mundiyanickal Anish       |
| 10. Fr. Ekka Anand                   | 32. Fr. Narikunnel Regi           |
| 11. Fr. Elanjimattathil Baby         | 33. Fr. Ottalankal Chacko         |
| 12. Fr. Illikkattil Thomas           | 34. Fr. Ouseparambil Joseph       |
| 13. Fr. Jabamalai Perianayagam       | 35. Fr. Pendanam Abraham          |
| 14. Fr. James Thomas                 | 36. Fr. Pulikkalath Nirmal Jose   |
| 15. Fr. Kanjirampambil Johny         | 37. Fr. Pulinthanam Tomy          |
| 16. Fr. Kannadom Joseph              | 38. Fr. Pulpara Joseph            |
| 17. Fr. Karickal Kurian              | 39. Fr. Puthuparambil Varghese    |
| 18. Fr. Kavithazha Mathew            | 40. Fr. Puthussery Abraham        |
| 19. Fr. Kizhakkethazhe Francis       | 41. Fr. Puthussery Thomas         |
| 20. Fr. Kochuputhenpurayil Josemon   | 42. Fr. S. Arockiya Samy          |
| 21. Fr. Koikkara Dijo                | 43. Fr. S. Innacimuthu            |
| 22. Fr. Kollarayath Jaison           | 44. Fr. Salvador Fernandes        |
| 23. Fr. Kulamkuthiyil Mijo           | 45. Fr. Thadathilankal Lalu       |
| 24. Fr. Kulangarathottiyil Sebastian | 46. Fr. Thottukadavil Jose        |
| 25. Fr. Kumbidiamakkal Manu          | 47. Fr. Thudipara Jacob           |
| 26. Fr. Kuzhuppillil Aloysius        | 48. Fr. Thundathil Shibu          |
|                                      | 49. Fr. Vellaramkunnel Sebastian  |
|                                      | 50. Fr. Vettukattil Joseph        |

**Members of Chad-Cameroon who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|---|---|
| 1. Fr. Christophe Bertrand<br>Abessouguie | 7. Fr. Onomo Ayissi Innocent<br>Parfait |
| 2. Fr. Dung Dung Marcel                   | 8. Fr. Pallassery Sujith                |
| 3. Fr. Kujur Kuldeep                      | 9. Fr. Panamattathil Gijo               |
| 4. Fr. Lakra Giridhari                    | 10. Fr. Thonikuzhiyil Robin             |
| 5. Fr. Moongamakkal Thomas                | 11. Fr. Tirkey Sandeep                  |
| 6. Fr. Nellimalamattam Joshy              | 12. Fr. Xess Bipin Kishore              |

**Members of the USA who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Fr. A. Anthony Swamy         | 8. Fr. Palamkunnel Biju         |
| 2. Fr. Edathumpambil Binu       | 9. Fr. Pannalakunnel Tom        |
| 3. Fr. Elayidathumadam Mathew   | 10. Fr. Pezhathinal Jaison      |
| 4. Fr. Kochupoovathummuttil Joy | 11. Fr. Punnakuzhy Sunny        |
| 5. Fr. Kochupurackal Santy      | 12. Fr. Thottiyil Mathew        |
| 6. Fr. Mannampambil Augustine   | 13. Fr. Valliamthadathil George |
| 7. Fr. Melukunnel John          | 14. Fr. Vattappara George       |

**Members of the GAH who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Fr. A. Antony Sathiya Seelan | 3. Fr. D. Jeevan Prasad |
| 2. Fr. Cherolickal Joe          | 4. Fr. Ekka Sunil       |

5. Fr. Kannanaikkal Jose
6. Fr. Kochuveedu Sibichen
7. Fr. Kolencherry Antony
8. Fr. Koottarapallil Devasia
9. Fr. M. Periyamayagam
10. Fr. Mangalath Joshy
11. Fr. Mannukuzhumpil Joseph
12. Fr. Mekkattu Thomas
13. Fr. Mukalel James

14. Fr. Muthukattil Reji
15. Fr. Panickerveetil James
16. Fr. Parappuram Louis
17. Fr. Pattarakalayil Joseph
18. Fr. Pazhayattil Joseph
19. Fr. Puthenparambil Bobby
20. Fr. S. Arokia Jayaraj
21. Fr. S. Rajakumar
22. Fr. T. Paul Raj
23. Fr. Thekkekarote Thomas
24. Fr. Vellakada Sen

### **Members in ENGLAND who can vote and be voted for as delegates**

1. Fr. Cheriyakavil Prince
2. Fr. Kuttivayalil Joseph
3. Fr. Maliekal Jose
4. Fr. Marangolil Benny
5. Fr. Neendoor Saji
6. Fr. Valiyaveetil Benny

### **Fr. James Manjackal & Fr. Jijo Manjackal – Missionaries of Mercy**



On 10th Feb. Ash wednesday Frs. James Manjackal & Jijo Manjackal from our province are nominated "Missionaries of Mercy" by Pope Francis during his mass at St. Peters Basilica. They have special faculties to give absolution to those sins that are reserved to Rome only during this jubilee year of mercy. They had the opportunity to meet the Pope

personally in his apostolic palace while he had called all above 700 missionaries for instructions. After his speech, the Pope walked straight to the direction where Fr. James was sitting on his wheel chair in white cassock along with Fr. Jijo Manjackal. Fr. Mario from Pune province too was there to be a missionary of mercy. The Pope gave them all special written faculty and a violet stole with the symbol of jubilee. Now they have the faculty to absolve the following: 1. Profaning of the Eucharistic species by taking them away or keeping them for sacrilegious purpose 2. Use of physical force against the Roman Pontiff 3. Absolution of an accomplice in a sin against the 6th commandment of the Decalogue 4. A direct violation against the sacramental seal by a confessor.

## Let us Pray for the Departed

Fr. Jacob Parppally's Aunt, Mrs. Helena Earani, aged 87years, passed away on February 14, 2016.

## My Program

### February 2016

- February 1 - Council Meeting, Steering Committee meeting at Vinayalaya
- February 2 - Superiors' Meeting at Vinayalaya
- February 3 - Visitation to Charis Bhavan, Charis Niketan
- February 4 - Episcopal Consecration of Mar Jose Pulickal at Kanjirappally
- February 5 - Visitation to SFS Seminary, Ettumanoor, SFS School, Ettumanoor
- February 6 - Annual Day, SFS School (State Syllabus), Hebbagodi
- February 7 - Institute Day Mass at Visvadeep, SDB Spirituality Centre, Bangalore
- February 8 - Visitation to Chintamani, Srinivaspura, Kadisenahalli, Sidlaghatta
- February 9-10 - IIS, Bangalore
- February 11 - Formators' Meeting, Steering Committee Meeting, Vinayalaya
- February 13 - Visitation to PSI Kengeri, Bathery
- February 14 - Visitation to Makkiad, Sannidhi Mysore
- February 15 - Visitation to Sannidhi, Mysore, Tejas ,Kengeri
- February 16 - Visitation to Tejas, Nest, Fides India
- February 17-29 - MTH Defences in IIS
- February 20 - Diaconate, Tejas
- February 21 - Council Meeting, Vinayalaya
- February 25 - Visitation to Gokunte, Kolar (PU College, Parish, ITI)
- February 27 - Visitation to Malur, and School Annual Day, CBSE, Hebbagodi

### March 2016

- March 1 - MTh Defence at IIS, 9<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony at Suvidya
- March 2 - Adoration and preparatory address for the retreat at IIS
- March 3-4 - Visitation to Mermier Bhavan, SFS Parish Community, Boys' Home
- March 5 - Comprehensive Exam of the Post Graduate Students at IIS
- March 6 - Visitation to Atmajyothi, Pattikad
- March 7 - Visitation to SFS Vidyashram, Aluva
- March 10 - Convocation Ceremony, IIS
- March 12-18 - Visitation to the Philippine Delegation
- March 20 - Palm Sunday, at IIS
- March 22 - Visitation to Vinayakumar Ashram, Chokkad
- March 24 - Maundy Thursday Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Thavalapara (with Fr. Francis Kizhakkethazhe)
- March 25 - Good Friday, Liturgical Celebration at St. John of the Cross Church, Adoor (with Fr. Baby Elanjimattathil)

- March 26-27 - Easter Vigil at St. Francis de Sales Church, Vattiyoorkavu (with Fr. Reji Narikunnel), visitation to ITSSCAT-India  
March 29-30 - Visitation to Kattappana, Kozhimala, Chappath

### **April 2016**

- April 1 - Benefactors' Meet at Charis Bhavan  
April 2-10 - Immediate Preparations for the Provincial Chapter  
April 11-15 - Provincial Chapter  
April 16 - Orientation Programme for the New Administration with the Assistant Superior General  
April 17 - Council Meeting

### **Salesian Thought:**

**The Fullness our love for the divine goodness of our Heavenly Father is expressed in the fullness of our love for our Brothers and Sisters – St. Francis de Sales**

**Fraternally,**



**Rev. Fr. Benny Koottanal MSFS  
Provincial**