



INM-DBL-CIR 08/09-2023

SEPTEMBER 2023

### **One thing I ask of the Lord: 'To Be with Him' – 'Salesian Meditation'**

***"One thing I ask of the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to see Him in His temple"***

Ps. 27:4

Yes my dear confreres, 'first things first' if we want other good things to follow! These words of the Psalmist must be always the first thing in our heart all the days of our life when we wake up every morning when we walk, when we go out, when we lie down or whatever we may do, as the Lord Himself demands His people through Moses in Deuteronomy 6:4-9. If we do not have this desire to be with Him, we surely cannot be 'sent forth'. All our going forth then will be moved by our own wanton passions, vain ambitions and unquenchable cravings like *Sheol*/ from the sources of death and not from the 'Springs of Living Water'.

There is a very serious crisis, in many of us and in many of our communities, in this daily life of 'meditation and contemplation': the longing 'to be with the Lord'. This is not an option to be taken or left out but **the very breath of our consecrated life as willed by the Lord for His disciples**. Let us in the first place, be aware of this crisis and accept honestly that there is a crisis. Only then we can do something about it. Do we like to do something about it really? Do we like to address this serious issue beginning from those of us who are elderly to the youngest novice or pre-novice?

I say let us start from the elderly as in the Gospel of St. John, to whom the invitation of Jesus to cast the first stone on the woman caught in adultery, the elders take the initiative to leave her alone followed by the younger ones. It is because the elderly with their long life of experience will be more realistic and true to themselves in making the right decisions than the younger ones who always need and look up to their elders to do the right thing. Do we look up to our elderly confreres who inspire us with their regular life of 'communion and union with the Lord'? And do we as elderly confreres inspire our younger confreres with this primacy of our consecrated life?

In this circular followed by my previous circular on 'Confession', I would like to reflect with you on 'our Salesian meditation' most recommended by Don Bosco our Father as our daily nourishment for our community life and mission. I am sure, we would have heard, so many nice things as to what a 'Salesian meditation' is. Having my eyes, ears and heart on both our Constitutions and the Bible I would like to dig deeper, together with you, into this our essential and life-giving, regularly allotted, time of our daily life. Normally we have Lauds, then meditation followed by the Eucharistic celebration. This order is a practical and priceless pedagogy to get the maximum out of these three steps, each gently leading us to deeper levels of our 'Experiential Encounter' with our One and Triune God in relation to ourselves, the other and the world.

Salesian meditation in essence should be like the simple and humble childlike prayer of Solomon to God for a '**listening heart**'. It is a literal translation from Hebrew of the '*lev shomea*' – a heart that listens (cf. 1 Kgs 3:9). This whole prayer of Solomon is preceded by a listening heart and followed by the prayer. For the Lord appears to the young King Solomon in a dream and tells him to ask Him whatever he wants. To which Solomon responds with this lovely prayer: '*Give thy servant **a listening heart** to judge/govern thy people that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy great people?*' (cf. 1 Kgs 3:5-12).

Our getting up every morning and going for Lauds itself is an invitation of the Lord in the first place. So a listening heart needs to precede the **first step** of our day i.e. Morning Prayer, to realize like Solomon that it is the Lord who is speaking to him and inviting him in his dream to open his mouth and ask him whatever he wanted. Otherwise we will be lost in our dreams either continuing with our sleep in our room or we may continue to sleep and dream even if we with great difficulty manage to come to the 'House of the Lord'! Instead our Lauds/prayer will turn out to be a moment of really placing and praying for our deepest needs or 'the need' before the Lord, if only our heart is awake and listening to His voice calling us even in our dreamy and sleepy morning/life.

The **second step** of our day, namely 'meditation', will then be a real treat having sat at the 'table of the Word' with its Psalms and Canticles in the Lauds culminating in the **Benedictus** and crowned by the Lord's Prayer. For meditation will become an enjoyable rumination of the Lauds so beautifully and systematically prepared and provided by the Church, according to the liturgical cycles and seasons of the years, to immerse totally in the mysteries of Christ: His birth, hidden life, teachings, passion, death and Resurrection. Meditation thus will literally become not a time of reading or mental cogitation but 'breathing in and breathing out' together with Christ, His very life: an experiential encounter!

The first step of the 'Word', becoming 'Flesh' in the second step of the Meditation, will lead us to the next deeper level of our experiential encounter with the Triune God in Christ through the Spirit i.e. **the third step**: Eucharist/Communion. Yes, the 'Word' becoming 'Flesh' was not just to be lost in the life of the flesh but 'to offer His Flesh and Blood' as His total and ultimate gift i.e. the gift of His entire self once and forever. Showing us and giving us that in person with so much passion, longing and desire and hence asking us: 'to do this in memory of Him'. This is true communion or becoming one with Him who became one with us, and one with the other in the way He shows us how to become one with the other and God!

Do we not see in these three steps the best 'praise and thanksgiving' of Christ to His loving Father through the Spirit in Body? It was His whole 'life-breath', breathing in with the **Lauds/Praise**, held/sustained or nourished by His life of deep **Meditation**/contemplation or 'being with' the Father and thus breathing out with the thanksgiving/**Eucharist** or Communion! They are so interconnected and one flows from the other and one cannot exist without the other.

If we take a close look at these three steps, they are not three steps but indeed one step of 'Being with' expressed or favoured in three different ways. Hence when we speak of 'Salesian Meditation' it is not just about the '30' minutes which is just the bare minimum but yet a real must to trigger the real 'life style' of Christ Himself in us which Don Bosco our Father and Founder would call as 'uninterrupted' interior dialogue with God.

The Lauds-meditation-Eucharist 'pattern' in the morning for us Salesians, has a similar structure in the evening in the first step of **Vespers** with psalms and canticles culminating in the **Magnificat** and crowned by the Lord's Prayer; in the second step of **Spiritual reading and Rosary**, meditating like and with Mary our Mother the mysteries of Christ; and in the third step of **Night prayers**

culminating in the ***Nunc Dimittis*** of the canticle of Simeon, which is a joyful and hopeful reconciliation with one's whole life and impending death in the contemplation of the face of Christ the light and life of all the nations at the evening of life. The Last Supper or Eucharist itself is such a deep expression and experience of Christ's reconciliation with His whole life as the Son of Man and Son of God in the context of His impending Passion, Death and Resurrection filled with hope and trust in His Father and in each one of us!

The 'Salesian Meditation' is thus for us the sons of Don Bosco a '**sustained being with**', as we pray in the Third Eucharistic Prayer, from the rising of the sun to its setting gathered by the One and Triune God to offer a pure sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving like Christ in the Spirit to the Father. In this 'sustained being with' we are 'sent forth'. Thus 'being with' and 'sent forth' are not two different and distinct moments but as we see in the life of Jesus and Mary, they are the one same act of perfect communion with God and neighbour in total self-emptying and self-giving. In this connection for priests the 'office of the readings' does not become a daily unattractive burden to be easily dispensed with but a very sumptuous nourishment for this 'being with and being sent forth' from dawn to dusk.

Yes dear confreres let us approach our 'Salesian Meditation' in this its larger horizon crying out longingly like Jesus and Mary in the words and conviction of the Psalmist: ***"One thing I ask of the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to see Him in His temple"***. Father Eugene Ceria discovered such a depth in the life of Don Bosco which he beautifully passed on to us as 'Don Bosco Union with God', thus calling us all to do the same if we want to share his true Charism, which is not a life filled with activities for the sake of activities but a visible and concrete expression of an invisible life of deep interior 'being with God and neighbour'.

### **Feast and Saints in the Month of September**

In this month of September may the feast of the Nativity of our Blessed Mother, whom we celebrate in India as our Lady of Good Health, help us understand our need for this indispensable 'interior health'. For without this, we will never be able to unearth the wealth of the 'Exaltation of the Holy Cross'. May St. Mathew the Evangelist and St. Jerome who unearthed such wealth and transmitted it to us in a lasting manner be our intercessors. May the Archangels Gabriel, Michael and Raphael inspire and brighten this our interior journey as they did to Tobias, St. Joseph and Mary.

## **NEWS FROM THE PROVINCE**

### **1. Don Rua Community @ Tirupattur**

The Rector Major and the General Council have approved the request to bifurcate the community of Don Bosco Aspirantate, Tirupattur. The patron for the new community will be Bl. Don Rua. The newly bifurcated community will consist of Don Bosco School of Excellence and the Bosco Hostel. This will come into effect in the coming scholastic year. We thank the Rector Major, Regional Councillor Fr. Biju Michael and the General Councillors for their approval.

### **2. Cardinal Elect Rev. Fr. Angel Fernandez Artime**

Our Rector Major, Rev. Fr. Angel Fernandez Artime SDB, is one among the select group of 21 individuals chosen by Pope Francis to receive the esteemed title of Cardinal of the Church during the upcoming Consistory on September 30, 2023. As representatives of the Salesian Province of St. Thomas the Apostle, Chennai (INM), we wholeheartedly convey our warmest congratulations

to our esteemed Rector Major on this significant occasion as he becomes a member of the esteemed College of Cardinals by the end of this month. On behalf of the Province, I will take part in the most solemn event in Rome.

### **3. CSR Conference**

SURABI organized a comprehensive training workshop titled 'Corporate Social Responsibility Conference (CSR) for Sustainable Development' over the span of two days, on August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 2023, at Citadel. The event garnered the active participation of nearly a hundred individuals, a diverse group that encompassed Salesians from both the INM and INT provinces, women Religious, and dedicated lay Collaborators. The collaborative support of BoscoNet, Delhi, underscored the importance of our credibility, accountability, and the assessment of our impact. This collective effort sought to highlight CSR as a potent catalyst for positive transformation, an avenue for sparking innovation, and a bridge to foster collaboration among businesses, governments, and Civil Society.

Mr. Nikhil Pant, the founder of Lakshyaa, Delhi, an experienced Resource person adeptly elaborated on the essence of CSR and Section 135 Companies Act & their corresponding compliances. The province wholeheartedly thanks Fr. Joseph Leo, the Director of SURABI and Fr. Santhanam SDB, Director of BoscoNet and Lakshyaa, Delhi for wonderfully presenting this event for us.

### **4. The World Youth Day**

World Youth Day (WYD) was celebrated this year with the theme "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk. 1: 39) in Lisbon, Portugal from 1-6 August 2023. It was an encounter of young people from all over the world with our Holy Father, Pope Francis. It was a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and a powerful moment of evangelization for the world of youth. It was a time for widening the circle of friends across borders, radiating the Easter HOPE as Pope Francis says, to transform one's image, attitudes and way of life more worthy of God's plan and cherishing festive spirituality with cultural extravaganza. There were more than 12,00,000 young people who received the good news and became the first to be evangelized. There were 63 participants from SDB India. 9 from INM Chennai (3 girls, 3 boys and 3 SDBs). The participants had an extended pilgrimage to Turin, Paduva and Rome. The team returned safely back to India on 15<sup>th</sup> August. The participants thanked Fr Provincial for his encouragement, support and blessings. It was truly a blessing to every youth and Salesian who participated in this memorable event.

### **5. Inauguration of Kalvi Solai and Lay Dimension Centre**

On 26<sup>th</sup> August, the auspicious ceremony marking the blessing and inauguration of the DON BOSCO KALVI SOLAI Centre for the animation of Laity in Pedagogy and Leadership was held at Thattanchavady, Pondicherry. The event unfolded in the esteemed presence of Fr. Provincial, the Vice Provincial, the Economer, provincial councillors, and confreres from neighbouring houses within the region. The Provincial, Rev. Fr. Don Bosco SDB, blessed the Centre and the renovated residential building. He then opened the Mamma Margaret animation hall along with Fr. Jefferson, the Rector of Don Bosco Boys Home, Jeevanandapuram. As the DB Kalvi Solai team embarks on its journey of animation and formation, we extend our heartfelt wishes for its continued success. We are grateful to Fr. John Britto Savarinathan and his team for coordinating the renovation work in the stipulated time.

### **6. Don Bosco SYM & Migrant Services**

The New building built in Peravallur will be blessed and inaugurated on 24<sup>th</sup> September for the youth ministry and migrant services of our Province. This will serve as an office and residence for the Salesians working in these ministries. Fr. John Christy the Youth Ministry Delegate, Fr. Ferk Simolin, the Director of DB Migrant service and Fr. Lourdhu Anthony Raj, the Assistant Director

will reside there and execute their ministry. We thank the Divine Providence for this gift that will strengthen the youth ministry department and entrust it to our Blessed Mother for her protection and care. We thank Boscosoft for collaboratively funding this project.

### **7. Trimonthly Recollection**

I would like to remind the Rectors/Leaders of the communities to arrange the trimonthly recollection for the community. We are recommended to discuss on theme of poverty (*Scuritnium Paupertatis*) in the first trimonthly recollection. Let us make this spiritual exercise a moment of grace for the nucleus houses and the Province. Therefore, the usual monthly recollection is suspended for the month of September.

### **8. Sharing of Resources**

Demonstrating our care for those in need involves the act of distributing our resources to others. We hold in high regard these instances where communities engage in resource-sharing through the provision of materials and financial contributions. It's essential that our resources are managed effectively, as some communities benefit while others do not receive any assistance. To ensure an equitable distribution, it is advisable to seek approval from the Provincial before engaging in resource-sharing. This proactive step is aimed at harmonizing our resource allocation and preventing any potential misunderstandings within the community.

### **9. Accounting and Documentation**

Considering the authority of the Union government to review accounts and pertinent documentation at their discretion, it becomes crucial for us to remain vigilant and punctual in submitting all the documents. Timeliness is a critical factor. I earnestly urge you to address this matter promptly. Additionally, let's engage in a thorough discussion to develop strategies and approaches that uphold the principles of poverty within our respective communities.

### **10. POCSO Act**

India has one of the largest populations of children in the world – UNICEF data of 2023 shows that India has a population of 431 million children below the age of eighteen. We are forerunners in catering to the vulnerable children and the children below the age of eighteen. Therefore, it is our duty to safeguard them in all the ways possible. To prevent the children in our care, we must be aware of the POCSO Act (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012) and the law should be explained to the animators and beneficiaries and get signed by all our settings. Any violation of the POCSO Act needs to be called to the attention and immediately reported.

### **11. Periodic Assessments**

It is our duty to follow up our younger brothers in initial formation. Therefore, reviewing them will help them to do their ministry efficiently and joyfully. Kindly send the assessments of the confreres in the initial formation to the Vice Provincial office duly communicated to them on or before 23 September without fail.

### **12. Team Visit**

The Provincial council will meet for four days to finalise the SCPL, SEPP, Financial Budget and master plan for each of the houses for the coming six years.

### **13. Provincial Visit to the Communities**

As highlighted in the previous circular, there won't be a formal Provincial canonical visitation. Instead, the Provincial will undertake visits to the houses as the need arises, engaging in personal interactions with the confreres individually, alongside the house council and the house Assembly. Further details about these visits will be communicated at the appropriate time.

#### **14. Yar Conference @ Ennore**

National YaR Forum Seminar and Annual General & Governing Body Meeting is scheduled in Chennai. The event will begin on 19<sup>th</sup> and conclude on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September at Ennore. The theme of the seminar is "Mental Well-being" which includes the issues of staff & YaR. We welcome all the participants from various provinces and the heads of the YaR forum to our Province and wish them success as they plan for the betterment of vulnerable children and youth of our region.

#### **15. South Asia Provincials Meet**

The South Asia Provincial Council is scheduled to meet in Sri Lanka from August 31st to September 5th. Consequently, the Provincial will not be present at his office in Citadel during this period. Your prayers for the fruitful outcome of this event are greatly appreciated, and I kindly ask that you keep the Vice-Province of Sri Lanka in valuable prayers.

#### **16. DBTC Kavaraipeetai**

Don Bosco Theological Centre is accredited by the Salesian Pontifical University. The quality assessment is done periodically, and the renewal of accreditation takes place. Currently, it has been renewed for five years. We wish DBTC joyful progress towards holistic excellence.

#### **17. Congrats!**

It is a great moment in the history of Don Bosco College, Dharmapuri as it has been accredited by NAAC in its first cycle with a score of CGPA = 2.92 and a B<sup>++</sup> grade. We are grateful to all the former rectors, principals and the Salesians who contributed to the growth of the college and in a special way the present community at Dharmapuri. We wish for many milestones to be achieved for the deserving youngsters of the region.

#### **18. TNCRI Meet**

TNCRI is inviting all the clergy and the religious for a human chain and prayer service to bring peace and harmony to Manipur. This event is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 03.00 p.m. at Santhome Cathedral. We are requested to come in our religious habit for the event. TNCRI members are also gathering on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in Trichy to discuss the forthcoming Union Government election and intervention towards Manipur issues. We request your prayers for the fruitfulness of the meeting and a plausible step thereafter.

#### **19. Salary/Pension**

The salary and pension of confreres will be pooled into a corpus fund towards providing education to deserving orphans and semi-orphans studying in our institutions. We appreciate all the confreres who hand over the amount on time to support the development of the deserving candidates.

#### **20. From Strength to Silver @ Bagalur**

In 1998, the responsibility of overseeing the spiritual growth of the Catholics working across various industries in and around Hosur and Bagalur was entrusted to the Salesians, marking the inception of Bagalur mission. This endeavor was initiated with gratitude towards the late Bishop Joseph Antony, who had a pivotal role in assigning this significant mission. Over the course of 25 years, this mission has thrived, culminating in the establishment of Sagai Press, a Hostel, and a Parish.

On 18<sup>th</sup> August, Fr. Provincial was present to inaugurate the Silver jubilee of the presence of the Don Bosco Mission, Bagalur. As the flag mast was installed and newly renovated Church dedicated to Mary Help of Christians was opened, Fr. Provincial thanked God for this wonderful mission, through which we were able to serve many youngsters and in particular to take care of the faith formation of the Catholics. In the spirit of thanksgiving, we extend our appreciation to God and Our Blessed Mother for their unwavering presence in guiding this mission's journey. Our heartfelt gratitude also goes out to all the dedicated confreres who wholeheartedly dedicated their efforts

to shape this mission. May this mission continue to flourish and progress, evolving from strength to strength as it moves forward.

### **21. Fr. Gerard Multipurpose Hall @ Basin Bridge**

The community of Don Bosco Tech Campus in Basin Bridge inaugurated Fr. Gerard Memorial Multipurpose Hall -DBYC on 27<sup>th</sup> August at 5.30 p.m. presided over by Fr. Provincial followed by Eucharistic celebration and felicitation in the presence of Fr. Sebastian Vanathian, the Rector, Fr. Joy Kurian, the Parish Priest, members of the community and 875 people from different walks of life. People expressed their gratitude to all the Salesians, the past the present for the multipurpose hall. The toppers of the institute were also awarded merit certificates on that day. The Don Bosco Tech Campus expressed its gratitude to Beatrice and De Arthur, Furer-Hofer Foundation. The Rector and the community thanked Jugendhilfe Weltweit, Switzerland for their collaborative initiative to complete this project.

### **22. Deepagam: Training and Empowering Lay Apostle**

From 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> September, the first phase of the training and empowering program of lay apostles is organised by Deepagam for the lay people of our parish, who are actively involved in our parish ministry as a catechist or as a volunteer. Deepagam along with DB Animation Centre Ennore have planned this program as a time of spiritual refreshment, worship and fellowship from all our parishes of our province. The aim is to come together, unite together in Faith and experience God's presence in a powerful way so that our lay apostle may bring back the families who have gone astray from the parish church.

### **23. General Elections 2024**

The General Elections 2024 is fast approaching and we face the moral imperative to protect our constitutional rights. We must respond and act swiftly as Don Bosco did in his time. In view of the GE 2024, we have drafted a **Strategic Action Plan** to be implemented at multiple levels through diverse strategies such as seminars/workshops, interactive sessions, social media, OTT platforms and art forms. Initiatives have been planned at multiple levels – institutional, province and district/state levels. I earnestly appeal to every community to be prudently proactive in implementing the strategies spelled out in the Strategic Action Plan for GE 24 and join hands with civil society organisations diligently. We are called to play a key role at this point of our nation's history and act like the yeast in our collective endeavours to restore democratic values and constitutional rights.

## **REPORT OF THE MEETINGS HELD IN AUGUST**

### **South Asia Formation Delegates meeting**

The Annual South Asia formation delegates meeting was held from 2<sup>nd</sup> August to 5<sup>th</sup> August at Citadel. The Salesian formation delegates from 12 different Salesian provinces of South Asia, the animators from the RMG formation team Fr. Jose Kuttianimattathil and Bro. Raymond Callo and the special invitees from the South Asia region took part in this meeting. The aim of this meeting was to get into the work mode to analyse and carry forward the Salesian formation scopes, especially, the Salesian formation in mission. The Chennai Province, being the host province, felicitated the special dignitaries and geared up the smooth running of the meeting. We express our gratitude to Fr. John Alexander, our Vice Provincial, the Salesians and lay collaborators who worked tirelessly for the successful execution of the event.

### **Don Bosco Scout and Guide District**

The members of the Don Bosco Scout and Guide gathered in Deepagam Hall on 21 August to discuss various agendas of their union. Fr. John Alexander SDB, the Vice Provincial and the President of Don Bosco Scout District and other office bearers participated in the meeting. It was

decided to have the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Don Bosco Scout and Guide at St. Bede's Auditorium on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 from 9 a.m. to 01.00 p.m. The members also discussed how to strengthen the Scout and Guide movement in our Provinces.

### **INM & INT Coadjutor Brothers' Meet**

On 19<sup>th</sup> August, Coadjutor brothers from Chennai and Trichy provinces were present for their annual meeting with the theme "Salesian Brother at 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at the Citadel campus. In the meeting, they discussed the Church document "Gift of Fidelity and Joy of Perseverance." The preparation for the National Brothers' Congress at Kolkata was an agenda of the meeting. The meeting enriched each other with their personal sharing and their life in the mission.

### **Rectors/Leaders Meet Report**

The meeting of the Rectors and Leaders was held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at The Citadel. The following agenda were taken up in the meeting:

- The letter of Pope Francis to his Priests of the Diocese of Rome, offering the gathering a contextualized understanding of what "Pastoral Conversion" means was presented by the Provincial.
- The Vice Provincial presented the draft of the Overall Provincial Plan (OPP) and the Template of the SEPP of the province.
- The primary Goal, the Priorities and their Operative Criteria for the next six years.
- The General guidelines in two distinct areas: the Preparation of Personnel and the Economic and Structural Development envisioned.
- The themes for the upcoming GC29 in February 2025 were presented to the participants and these three themes were chosen. They are: 1. Fidelity to growth in the community; 2. Spiritual and apostolic vitality in commitment to new responses to young people's poverty (new apostolic fields); 3. The direction for initial and ongoing formation of Salesians and lay people.
- The Provincial Chapter is scheduled to commence on the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and conclude on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 with the Provincial Community Day.
- The extraordinary visitation by Fr. Giovanni Rolandi will begin from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024. The Annual retreats will be scheduled to coordinate with extraordinary visitation. The details will be communicated later.
- Updates and information from the Economist's desk: The Province's Auditors Mr. Rosario and Mr. Kamalesh presented new norms and regulations concerning the accounting system and the urgent need to ensure a robust and meticulous system of accounting at the local level.
- The Economist then gave some reminders and clarifications regarding the accounting process and the system of communication regarding the same. He also mentioned the audit being done of the orphans and semi-orphans in our schools and the appointment of dedicated staff for it.
- The Councillors in charge of the Youth Ministry Dimensions and the Councillor in charge of land and legal issues briefly presented their programme proposals for the current academic year.
- The necessity of obtaining permissions for any investment over 2 lakhs from the Provincial Council was insisted.

### **Curatorium**

Curatorium meetings of the joint Provincials, Vice Provincials of INM & INT together with formators of our formation houses were held during the last two months on the following dates: Don Bosco Theological Centre, Kavarapettai on 13<sup>th</sup> July, Don Bosco Pre-Novitiate, Dindigul on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023, Jnanodaya Salesian college, The Retreat, Yercaud on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023. The Curatorium for the Novitiate will soon take place.

### **Religious Discipline Meet**

On 30<sup>th</sup> August, the members of the Religious Life and Discipline Committee headed by Fr. John Alexander, Vice Provincial met at Citadel for a fruitful discussion with regard to the present state



of religious life in our province. The committee discussed on several pertinent issues such as unlawful absence, POCSO Act, misuse of finance, general lacuna in the religious life etc.

### **Reviving the INTERCOM Magazine**

The INTERCOM magazine holds significance beyond being a platform for news sharing; it serves as a valuable resource for future reference. With our intention to rejuvenate the magazine, we kindly ask the Rectors and Leaders to provide us with a written account, accompanied by photographs, of the important events that have taken place in your community from June to August 2023. We appreciate your promptness in sending this information to [inmbis@inmsdb.com](mailto:inmbis@inmsdb.com) by 7<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Province-Level Events in September**

1-5	SPCSA Council Meeting – Sri Lanka
7 & 8	Quinquennium Meet @ Dindigul – First 2 Years of Priesthood
10-12	Provincial Council
19-24	YaR Conference
24	Meeting of Clerics due for Perpetual Profession in 2024 & Due for Pre-Perpetual @ Citadel

Yours affectionately,



**Fr. Don Bosco SDB**  
INM Provincial



Date: 01.09.2023  
Place: Chennai - 10.

