



GABRIEL

News Bulletin

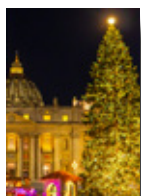
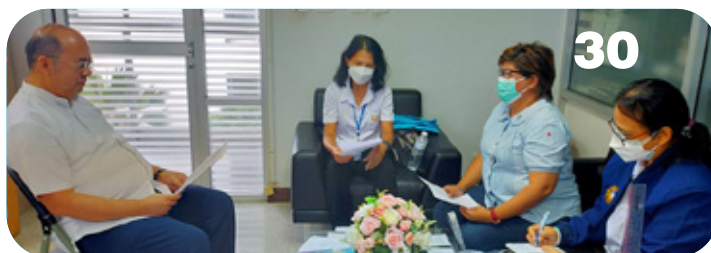
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St. Peter's Basilica, Rome.

Photo Credit : Fr. Jobins Manimala MCBS



Editor's Note

This 205th issue of the Gabrielite News Bulletin is a special edition published on the occasion of Christmas. It brings to you the Christmas Message from Brother Superior General. We have 16 news items in this issue, it comprises news from 9 Provinces, Formation Houses and Partnership (Montfortian Gabrielite Associates). We have two pages dedicated to the Spanish martyrs.

We thank Bro. Emmanuel P. J. for editing the texts. We extend our sincere thanks to the translators, Bro. Marcel Chapeleau and Bro. Georges Le Vern. Sincere thanks to Bro. Sébastien Ndabunganiye (Associate Editor) for coordinating the translation work. A special word of Thanks to Bro. Jean-Marie Thior for his assistance.

Wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2022.

Have a good reading of the Magazine!

Bro. Louis Anthonyamy, SG

Thank you dear Brothers for your service and availability



Bro. Dionigi Taffarello



Bro. Jean-Marie Thior



Bro. James T. K.



Bro. Emmanuel P. J.

Translators



Bro. Georges Le Vern



Bro. Marcel Chapeleau



Bro. Jean-Paul M.



Bro. Sébastien N.



Bro. Louis A.

Editors





Christmas Message



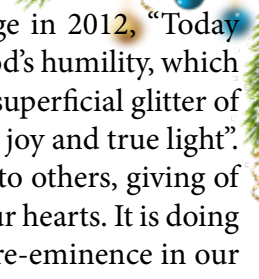
**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022**

As the Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore beautifully put it, “Every new born child brings the message that God is not yet discouraged of man”. Every new birth is also a sign of hope, a promise for the future. On the Christmas Day when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Church proclaims the words of Prophet Isaiah: “To us a child is born, to us a son is given” (Is 9:6). As Pope Francis rightly puts it, “The Child born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem was born for everyone: he is the ‘son’ that God has given to the entire human family”. And this is exactly what the Angels announced to the shepherds too: “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people”. This explains why Christmas is one festival that is celebrated by people of different religions and regions, and why the message of Christmas has an all time relevance and a universal appeal.

We are all well aware how the birth of Jesus has impacted and still continues to affect our society today. Thanks to the birth of Jesus, so many of us have found solace in solitude, comfort in hardship and have experienced joy in a society of glittery emptiness. Many of us have found purpose and orientation for life and hope for a life hereafter. Thanks to the birth of Jesus, today we have consecrated men and women and committed Christians who give up on so many things in life in order to serve. Thanks to the birth of Jesus, we have had so many great people who were inspired by the teachings and philosophy of Christ and who have lived an exemplary life, opened schools, universities, hospitals and incalculable support institutions.

We are all familiar with that simple poem titled ‘One Solitary Life’, where James Allen Francis, in a dramatic fashion describes the influence of Jesus on the world: “He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant. He grew up in another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30. Then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a home. He didn’t go to college. He never lived in a big city. He never travelled 200 miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He was only 33 when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied him. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his garments, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave, through the pity of a friend. Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race. I am well within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one, solitary life.



As Pope Benedict XVI reminded the Christians the world over in his Christmas Message in 2012, “Today Christmas has become a commercial celebration, whose bright lights hide the mystery of God’s humility, which in turn calls us to humility and simplicity. Let us ask the Lord to help us to see through the superficial glitter of this season, and to discover behind it the child in the stable in Bethlehem, so as to find true joy and true light”. In the words of Robert Rider, “Christmas takes place in the heart. It is opening our hearts to others, giving of our time and energy to others, forgiving when needed, and accepting others as they are in our hearts. It is doing for others what Jesus did for us. It is letting God’s spirit reign in our heart and giving his pre-eminence in our relations with others”.

Therefore, as we celebrate Christmas this year and welcome the New Year 2022, let us resolve that each one of us will strive to be the ambassadors of spreading the message of Christmas: the message of peace and joy, the message of love and forgiveness, the message of caring and sharing.

As we are once again going to be celebrating Christmas 2021 in the shadows of the corona virus pandemic, I wish to end this message with a story titled “I have made you”:

“There is a story told about a great devotee of the Lord, who spent long hours in prayers in the morning and evening, every day without fail. He was always grateful to God for blessing him and his dear ones with good health. He took up a good job in order to make a decent living. One evening when he was returning from his office, he saw a crippled man in rags on the road side. This pitiful sight naturally shattered his peace of mind. Further down the road, he was greeted by yet another misery, an old man seated right in front of his house greeted by an equally old wife. This sight made him further unhappy and he was lost in wonder. Before he could reach back home, this great devotee met yet another sight that shattered all his hopes; a dead man being carried by his relatives to the funeral place. Well, you can imagine the pain and anguish experienced by this great devotee of the Lord who had always enjoyed only the good things of this world. During his evening prayer that day, he raised his eyes to the skies and cried out: “Are you not watching these sufferings and misery of your people? Can’t you do something about it all?” There was a dead silence for a few moments, after which he heard a loud clear voice: “Yes, I have seen these sufferings of my people and I have already done something about it. I have created YOU”!

With prayerful good wishes for a very Merry Christmas 2021 and a grace-filled New Year 2022,

Bro. John Kallarackal, SG
Superior General





Casa Generalizia

Silver Jubilee of Perpetual Profession of Bro. Dionigi Taffarello

On Wednesday December 8, 2021, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Brothers of the General House accompanied with their fervent prayers Bro. Dionigi Taffarello who celebrated his Silver Jubilee of Perpetual Profession.

A favourable and providential opportunity:

- * to say and say again thank you to Bro. Dionigi Taffarello for his joy of living,
- * to smell the perfume of his wisdom every day,
- * to marvel at the aroma of his peaceful faith in the midst of so many generous commitments in the General Council.

Bro. Dominique Diouf, from the Province of Senegal, who had been his missionary companion in Poland for two Years, from 1998 to 2000, played his part by composing this acrostic in homage to the Jubilarian. Read and meditate on this stimulating poem.

Bro. Jean Marie Thior, SG
Secretary General



Homage to Bro. Dionigi Taffarello **On the occasion of his Silver Jubilee** **of Perpetual Profession**

Dionigi, from the summit of your twenty-five Years of Oblation
Inculcate in us your silent secret
O how great was your passion for your Samaritan Religious Life
No one is unaware of your sense of Brotherhood
It is not necessary to mention your generosity, your affability,
Great was your passion for the Mission in Slavic Lands
Impressive was your devotion to the Black Madonna of Jasna Gora.

Then, as a young man, you agreed to leave your beloved Vasto for Czestochowa
And so, you took your first steps as a Missionary Ad Gentes
For your credo you chose dedication
Figure of the Gabrielite Brother with a Sacred Fire
A combination of openness and rootedness
Respectful of the cultural treasure of other peoples
Et nunc, your Mission is taking root in the heart of Christianity and the Institute
Living this new Mission as a Commitment to serve the whole Gabrielite Family
Liberating all your potential to be a Universal Brother
Offer to each Brother of the Institute the "Pandora" of Fraternal Life and the
Montfortian mission.

Grazie mille!
Brat. Dominique Diouf, SG
Province of Senegal



Blessing of the Cemetery at ACS

The five Brothers, four French and one Canadian arrived in Thailand (Siam) on Sunday, October 20, 1901. By now it is 120 years, there are 59 Brothers buried in our cemetery inside the juniorate compound at ACS. Among these 59 Brothers who were buried in this cemetery, are 25 French, 3 Indian, 15 Spanish, 15 Thai and 1 Italian and another 22 Brothers were buried abroad. Every year on All Souls Day, all the Brothers will congregate here, remember them in prayers. Parents, friends, relatives of the deceased Brothers also joined us on this day. This year we held the prayer and memorial ceremony on October 30, 16.00 P.M. due to Covid-19 Pandemic protocol restrictions. We had limited people participating in this ceremony.



On-Going Spiritual Renewal Sessions

The Province of Thailand under the Leadership of Bro. Dechachai, Provincial Superior, realizing that On-Going spiritual renewal is very important for all our Brothers, organized special on-going formation renewals for our Perpetually Professed Brothers in two groups at Baan Phuwan Sampran, Nakorn Pathom. Those who attended these sessions shared that they feel revitalized and ready to face the challenges ahead of them.



Group 1 : 8-12 November 2021



Group 2 : 15-19 November 2021





Holy Mass Celebration for Gabrielite Brothers of the Province of Thailand

On Saturday, November 27, 2021 at the Golden Jubilee Building, Assumption College Sriracha, all our Brothers of the Province joined together with the parents, teachers, and Alumni to thank God for His kindness and for His mercies for having given our Thai Province five Brothers who took their Perpetual Vows and another two Brothers who celebrated the 25th anniversary of their First Vows. His Excellency Bishop Silvio Siripong Charatsri, Chanthaburi Diocese, was the main celebrant with many priests also concelebrating the Holy Mass.

The seven Brothers were congratulated for their generous hearts to continue to answer the call of God, forever.

Bro. Achin Tengtrakul, SG





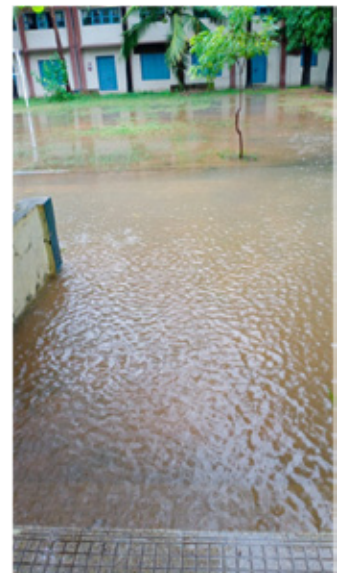
Jubilee Celebrations

We are happy to state that three of our Brothers namely David, Mariapragasam and Benjamin have celebrated their Silver Jubilee of their first profession along with Golden Jubilarian Bro. Sebastian Joseph and Diamond Jubilarian Bro. John Berchmans on 23rd October 2021. It was a grace-filled moment for us all. Most. Rt. Rev. Arockiaraj. S, Bishop of Tiruchirappalli, Concelebrated Jubilee Solemn Mass at Campion. More than 150 Brothers participated and felicitated our Jubilarians. Large number of Religious, relatives, friends and associates attended the Holy Mass and the program.



Cyclone

This year the Monsoon was severe, cyclones have caused a great damage to the belongings and properties of the people in the state of Tamil Nadu. The Institute of St. Louis, Adyar had 2 feet of water which was evacuated by continuous pumping. The city of Chennai and Trichy were most affected by this monsoon and cyclone. Our volunteers and NGO's along with Government machineries have worked round the clock to bring relief to the people.



Annual Retreats

There were two Annual Retreats conducted for the Brothers of our Province. 29 Brothers attended the first retreat jointly preached by Bro. Irudayam, the Provincial and Bro. John Xavier. The Theme of the Retreat was “Love the nature, enrich the world and glorify God” based on Laudato si and MATS. The Retreat was conducted at Yercaud, St. Louis Spirituality Centre. During the retreat Brothers undertook a journey to Eachinkadu to pray for our departed Brothers at the Heritage Park. They prayed for all the departed Brothers in our Congregation.

The Second Retreat was attended by 22 Brothers preached by Bro. Yuju of Pune Province. The theme of the retreat was “The application of eco spirituality for Religious specially – Montfort Brothers”. In all 51 Brothers have attended both the retreats.



Reopening of the Schools

After a break of 596 days the children are back to school. They are full of vibrations and energy. They are following the Government instructions very strictly. Brothers once again have become very busy in their mission and related activities.





Montfort School, Delhi

The Golden Jubilee celebration of Montfort School, Delhi was concluded on 27th Nov 2021. Due to the current pandemic situation, after the opening of the Jubilee Year, in 2020, many of the planned activities for the Jubilee Year could not be carried out. However a few online inter-school competitions were conducted and prizes were awarded during the year 2020-21. On 27th Nov 2021 the Jubilee curtain was lowered with the blessing and inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Block by Most Rev. Anil Couto, the Archbishop of Delhi and Rev. Bro. James Ekka, the Provincial. The presence of Rev. Bro.

Joseph Regis (R), one of the pioneers of this institution was specially noted and was honoured. The blessing ceremony was followed by an hour of scintillating cultural program by the students of the school. The presence of many Brothers, Fathers and Sisters from Ashok Vihar parish, the teachers and a few selected students added colour to the concluding function. The Jubilee Memorial Magazine and a Documentary Video highlighting the journey of Montfort School, Delhi during the past 50 years were released on the same day. The celebration culminated in a sumptuous lunch for all the invitees.





St. Montfort Hr. Sec. School, Banea

St. Montfort Hr. Sec. School, Banea has completed 25 years of its educational service to the rural children of Ambikapur diocese. It has been a coincidence that Bro. Jeet Francis, who is the present L.S. and Principal of the school, also completed 25 Silver Years of his consecrated life. To mark the occasion a thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration and a short felicitation program was organized on 18th Nov 2021. Rt. Rev. Patras Minj, SJ, the Bishop of Ambikapur and Most Rev. Pascal Topno, SJ, the Emeritus Archbishop of Bhopal and a few priests solemnized the Mass. Rev. Bro. James Ekka, the Provincial, Religious Sisters and a few Brothers from the neighborhood graced the occasion by their presence. It was followed by a colourful felicitation program by the students and the staff. The Provincial in his address recalled the valuable contributions of all the past Provincials, Principals and teachers towards founding and the development of the school and thanked them. He also congratulated Bro. Jeet Francis on his Silver Jubilee and appreciated his service to the school as the Principal and LS. In his message Bro. Jeet Francis also expressed gratitude to all the past Provincials, Formators, Province Formaton Directors, and all who have played a significant role in his perseverance as a Montfort Brother. At the end of the program all the guests and teachers were served a festal lunch and the students were served tiffin packets.



Reported by Bro. Mathew T. T





XIII PROVINCIAL CHAPTER MONTFORT NIWAS, KANKE

The term of the present Provincial Administration will come to an end on 24th March 2022. Therefore, it was decided on 16th May 2021 to have XIII Provincial Chapter in the month of November 2021. It chose the title “Identity and Mission of Religious Brother in the Church.” This is taken from the encyclical letter of Pope Francis, Vatican, October 4th, 2015 on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The members of the Provincial Administration studied the document as they chose it as the topic or the theme of the Chapter.

Bro. Provincial Superior divided the work among his Councilors for the preparation of the Preliminary Chapter Document. He asked them to frame questions on the sub-topics of the main topic. The Councilors sent the questionnaires to Bro. Provincial superior. The Provincial Administration felt that M.G.A. (Montfortian Gabrielite Associates) is too an important concern. So Bro. Provincial Superior asked Bro. Paulose Mekunnel to prepare the questionnaire on this topic. Having received the questionnaires from all, he compiled them. Thus the encyclical letter and the compiled questionnaire became the Preliminary Chapter Document. This document was sent to all the communities for discussion. Having discussed it, the communities sent their reports to Provincial Secretary. The community reports were sent to the Chapter Preparatory Committee which consisted of the following Brothers: Bro. Sudhakar Reddy, Bro. Mike

Jatrom, Bro. Johnson V. George, Bro. Jayapal Reddy, Bro. Pratap Kerketta and Bro. Paulose Mekunnel. This committee prepared the Chapter Document.

The Chapter participants were elected according to the new Decree No. III dated 21st September 2020 from General Council of Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel. According to this decree the Perpetually Professed Brothers were divided in two groups according to their seniority. Both the groups elected twelve participants each. Temporarily Professed Brothers elected three participants as their number is only eight. Thus the elected members were 27 in number. EX-Officio Members were six. Four members were nominated. The former Provincial, Bro. Clement Kandulna became nominated member as per the Decree No. III. Assistant General and in charge of the Province, Bro. Pratap Reddy could not come so Bro. Provincial



invited Bro. K.M. Joseph, the former Assistant General from Hyderabad Province as External Observer. He willingly accepted the invitation. So the total Chapter members were thirty eight in number.



The Chapter was held from 4th to 6th November 2021 at Montfort Niwas, Kanke. It began on 4th November at 9.00 a.m. with lighting of the lamp. Provincial Superior, Bro. K.M. Joseph, Bro. Clement Kandulna and Bro. Jaswant Ekka lighted the lamp. Bro. Sunil Indwar and Bro. Vincent Madhanu animated the prayer. The following took place after the prayer: Roll Call, Checking up the Mandate of the Capitulars, Welcome Address of Provincial Superior, Reading of Superior General's letter, Approval of Rules and Regulations, Time Table and the election of the Chapter Officials. Bro. Satheesh K. Don, Bro. Paulose Mekkunel, Bro. Sylvester Bara and Bro. Clement Kandulna were elected as Moderators. Bro. Jayapal Reddy as usual was elected as the Secretary. Bro. Amit Beck and Bro. Kuldeep Kujur were appointed by the Provincial Administration as Assistant Secretaries. Bro. Sudhakar Reddy, Bro. Thomas John and Bro. Arogyaiah K. were elected as Drafting Committee members. Bro. Sunil Indwar and Bro. Philp Surin were elected as Prayer Animators. Bro. Chandradeep Toppo and Bro. Anand Pradhan were elected as Tellers and the Assembly elected Bro. Prakash Purty as Time Keeper.

The mode of working of the Chapter was in General Assembly and in Commissions. First two days the participants discussed on the Chapter Document in the General Assembly as well as in Commissions. From the Commissions' reports the document for the First Reading was drafted. On the third and final day when the document was presented for the Second Reading the House did not find it suitable to the Chapter Topic. So there was discussion to take more time and make it suitable. Some wanted to keep the Chapter open.

But considering the time of the present Provincial Administration the Chapter could not be kept open, instead House allotted two more Brothers namely Bro. Johnson v. George and Bro. P. T. George to the Drafting Committee. The House exempted them from attending the discussions on Miscellaneous Topics such as Construction of Buildings and Purchase of land and Land Problems so that they draft it well under the guidance of the External Observer.

After the discussion on Miscellaneous Topics the newly Drafted Document was presented to the House. The House found it good as well as appropriate to the topic. So the Second and the Third Readings were done simultaneously and the House passed it. Thus the time was saved. The Drafting Committee had formulated Rules for the transparency on building constructions and land purchases. The House passed these Rules as well.



The evaluation of the Chapter took place after passing of the Document. Some Brothers expressed their opinion in short due to shortage of time. During this Chapter the participants were asked to use their laptop to save the use of paper. They did so and less paper was used. This was towards spirit of digital India. Bro. Provincial Superior thanked the Chapter Officials for doing their jobs well and all the participants and Brothers for their participation and contribution to the Chapter. He also thanked Bro. K.M. Joseph, the External Observer for his presence and timely interventions and guidance. He appreciated his knowledge of the rules and his vast experience which led the Chapter to come to a successful and fruitful end.

After the evaluation at 8.30 p.m. Bro. Herman B. Lakra, Provincial Superior declared the XIII Provincial Chapter closed. Thus the Chapter ended fruitfully.

Bro. Frederick Soreng, SG





Centre of Adozioni a Distanza

Many people of the Region of Veneto call our Institute as “Oasis of greenery, spirituality and solidarity”.



Really it is a place where everyone is welcome: Welcome to those who want to pray with us. Welcome to those who want join our project of helping poor students around the world. Welcome to those who wish to participate in the prayer groups of Bro. Mathew and Bro Dionisio. Welcome to join the monthly spiritual retreats conducted by Bro. Mathew Kavumkal. Welcome to the Sunday Masses celebrated by Bro. Dionisio Santoro. Welcome to many Scout-movement groups from all over the Region of Veneto. Welcome to the benefactors of the “Adozioni a distanza”. Really, they are the life-stream of the solidarity activities in favour of the poor and needy children in India, Philippines and Tanzania.

A short description about our house and community may not be out of place. Our Institute (our house or

community) consists of large extension agricultural lands, parks with plenty of trees, a beautiful avenue of linden trees, football grounds, cemented basketball fields, five separate buildings and a chapel building. The main and only educational project we have is to help poor children in India, Philippines and Tanzania for their education. Even though we are two Brothers here, we take part in the educational mission of the Congregation through our Adoption at a Distance Programme of providing education up to the maximum level of university education and professional education of a few thousands of students.

We had the blessing of the visits of Bros Jean Friant, Michel Le Gall and Montfort Father Efreem Assolari. We had ample time to talk with them. Bro. Jean Friant was very much taken up with the activities of helping poor students and he showed much interest to know





more about it. He expressed appreciation for this wonderful educational apostolate of our community. We are highly blessed because we have full time occupation every day. In addition, we have people coming to me and to Bro. Dionisio for spiritual guidance and for asking for advice to solve their problems and for getting out of their various troubles and difficulties. In this way, nearly every day, we are surrounded by people of every age group. As we have contact with many people, we take strictly all the necessary precautions to protect ourselves from eventual infection of Covid-19 and therefore we have taken three vaccinations prescribed by the Government.

Thus, we are fully occupied in spiritual matters and in the education apostolate of our Congregation. We are happy and we experience real fulfilment in our religious life and in the educational apostolate. Thanks be to God.

We take this occasion to wish all the readers of this newsletter a very Merry Christmas and a blissful New Year 2022. The joy of the Lord be your strength.

Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, SG





Province of East Africa

We are privileged to have the visit of Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, the Superior General, to the Province of East Africa, in fact, it is the first official visit of the Superior General to this Province after its inauguration on 8th December 2018. The Superior General landed at Blantyre, Malawi on the 15th November and he was welcomed by the Provincial Superior, Bro. Jimmy, and the Superior of our Community at Zomba, Bro. Prudence Shirubute. In Malawi, the Brothers are running a Primary School of the Diocese of Zomba, named after one of the Montfortian Missionaries in Malawi namely, Fr. Frederick Scragg. The School has already earned the reputation for its quality education and discipline. Hats off to our Brothers who have contributed to the success of our mission. Bro. John visited the School and got the opportunity to address the staff. As students were away on holidays he could not meet them. It was also the opportunity to visit the Montfort Missionaries and the Daughters of Wisdom. The Meeting with the Archbishop elect of Lilongwe, currently the Bishop of Zomba, was an opportunity to thank him for his support, help and blessings which we continued to receive over these years.

The second leg of the visit to the Province covered the communities of Burundi. The postulants' community at Gitega extended a lively welcome with dance and music which is special to Burundi culture. The new

School at Bujumbura is indeed a cynosure to the eyes. Bro. Marius, the Project Director, has executed the project with a lot of planning and professionalism. The blessing of the School and laying the foundation for the community by the Superior General were the highlights of the program. The visit to Burundi was wound up on 30th November.

For the final phase of the visit, he landed in Tanzania on 1st December. He received a warm welcome from the Brothers of Montfort Community at Dar es Salaam and in the School run by the Brothers. On 4th December, he received the First Vows of 4 Brothers who made their commitment at Montfort, Dar Es Salaam. On 8th morning, he inaugurated the extension block of the Novitiate Building. In the evening, he admitted the 9 novices to the Canonical year of their Novitiate. On 10th, he received the ceremonious welcome at Montfort Primary School, Kola, Morogoro with traditional dance and songs.

The visit is on and indeed it is a blessing for PEA to have the Superior General visiting the communities in spite of the threat of Corona Pandemic (Omicron) which is still large. We thank him for his words of encouragement and appreciation, his advice and his message to all of us. We experienced the unity as a Congregation and feel proud of our call as Brothers. We thank him and the members of the Central



Administration for the support that we continue to receive for our mission and we assure our prayers and wish him a fruitful and enriching visit to the remaining Institutions of the Province.

Bro. Jimmy Kalapurayil, SG
PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR





Province of North-East India

An Inner Journey Through An Art Retreat

The Province of Northeast India had a different type of annual retreat that called the Brothers to get in touch with the creative side of their personality and integrate it to encounter God during the days of retreat. The retreat provided the participants with time for artistic activities with lots of opportunity for creativity without the compulsions of being a professional artist. Initially the Brothers were apprehensive about painting and artistic activity that starts at 9.00 am in the morning and goes on till 5.00 pm could be part of an annual retreat. The whole idea was to help the Brothers to make an inner journey starting from their childhood. The age old question « Who am I » was the focus of inquiry. As days went many discovered that there were intimate connections between this inquiry and their relationship with God, the Source of their being.

In order to help the participants, go deep into themselves and discover more and more about their personality, they were helped to allow the child within to play and paint. Free painting, with hand and creative art work using clay helped them to discover their struggles, imagination and unexplored artistic talents. The sharing of their work and experience with the group and the evening adoration enabled each one to integrate the activities of the day for self-awareness and personal growth.

The Art Retreat facilitated the retreatants to build communion: with their own inner self, with others connecting to the created world around and finally with the Creator Himself. The activity of ‘making my door’ brought the participants in touch with their ‘hidden self’ which they find difficult to accept. In the Gospel of St. John Jesus says that he is the good

shepherd who knows his sheep and the door to the Father.

On the last day they worked in groups, painting Earth, Water, Fire, Air and ‘Akash’ on earthen pots; the realities of life we see and experience every day. The retreat concluded with a meaningful prayer service with all the participants sitting in a circle, with all the items prepared by each one placed in front, with the painted pots taking the centre stage, placed one over the other and ‘dias’ lit on the top. It was a beautiful moment of experiencing the presence of God amidst us. Though the Art Retreat involved a lot of artistic activities, the Brothers were invited to use these activities as a medium to get in touch with the inner child who is the true / real image of God.



Bro. Mani Karot of the Congregation of the Little Brothers of Jesus was the Preacher, who inspired with his reflections and enthused the Brothers with his artistic skills, journeyed with them during the days of retreat and helped them discover their inner creative selves.

Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, SG

Montfort Higher Secondary School, Champaknagar

All Soul's Day Memorial Service

The All-Souls' Day, 2nd November, is celebrated in a solemn way when we remember the departed members of our families. Every year at Montfort School, Champaknagar in Tripura this day is made very special with a memorial service that touches the hearts of everyone. This year being the 25th Anniversary of the death of Bro. Joseph John, the All-souls' day was especially dedicated to his memory.

We had the privilege of the presence of Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, our Provincial, Sr. Ishpriya, the niece



of Bro. Joseph John, who is the Provincial of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Mary of the Angels along with Montfort Associates, invited Priests and Religious from the neighboring communities.



The memorial service in the school had started at 12.30 pm. A large poster containing the pictures of the Montfort Family members who died this year adorned the place for prayer. The pictures of all the departed Brothers from North East Province were on the banner. The special service consisted of songs, reading from the scriptures and intercessory prayers.

The most touching moment was when the loved ones of the departed members placed lighted candles to pay tribute to their loved ones. This was followed by hundreds of students and teachers paying their respects to the departed members of the Montfort Family. Special messages were shared by both the Provincials during the memorial service.

Blessing of the Tomb of Bro. Joseph John and Holy Mass:



In the evening all the hostel students, staff and invited guests along with the Montfort Associates gathered near the tomb of Bro. Joseph John for the blessing of the tomb. The newly renovated tomb was well decorated with flowers and lighted candles. Fr. Valentine, the Parish priest, Fr. Freddy, the Asst. Parish priest, blessed the tomb.

More than 400 hostel students, Montfort Associates and invited Religious and Priests joined the Brothers in the special memorial Holy Mass celebrated in memory of the departed souls, particularly Bro. Joseph John. Sr. Ishpriya FSMA paid a rich tribute to her uncle recalling the life of the great social worker and Mary's missionary that Bro. Joseph John was – 'truly a passionate Montfortian'.

Bro. Boniface Pachhunga Fanai, SG



Francophone Intercultural Novitiate

The Francophone Intercultural Novitiate of the Montfort Brothers of Saint-Gabriel is located in Thiès, Senegal. Through this article, we are going to give you some updates of the Novitiate: Composition of the present formation team, welcoming new novices and sharing of their spiritual retreat experiences of October.

The present formation team is composed of the following Brothers:

- Brother AUGUSTIN DIOUF : Master of Novices (SEN)
- Brother MESMIN EDGARD LEKOUBI : Formator (BRA)
- Brother CLEOPHAS LUBUTUKU : Formator (KIN)
- Brother ROBERT THIAW : Community bursar (SEN)

This year, the Novitiate had the joy of welcoming eight (8) first year Novices of five nationalities: Cameroonian (1), Central African (1), Congolese from Brazzaville (1), Congolese from the DRC (2) and Senegalese (3). Their official welcoming was on 31st October 2021. Each one of them was asked to choose a personal motto to live throughout his Novitiate formation. Following are the various mottos of chosen:

- BROTHER VICTOR MODOU NDIER DIOUF: "He is the way, truth and life" (Jn14,6)
- BROTHER DEOGRACIAS IKASA: "I am in your midst as the one who serves". (Lk 22:27)
- BROTHER FRED JOCELIN KOCKONGBANDI: "He who obeys is never wrong"
- BROTHER CYPRIEN LUDOVIC BANCO CAPÈLE: "The griot of the Eternal"
- BROTHER HERMAN TEMBE MATONDO: "Love of the neighbor" Mt 22-39
- BROTHER DIEUMERCI MANGALA: "Let all be one" Jn 17,21
- BROTHER IDRIS PARFAIT HORST: "Your grace is enough for me" 2 Cor 12:7-10
- BROTHER PASCAL PIERRE NGOM: "I am the face of Christ"



This official entry to the Novitiate was preceded by a time of spiritual retreat at Sainte Scholastique Benedictine Monastery of Keur Moussa from 24th to 30th October 2021 in the company of the Master of Novices, Brother Augustin Diouf. "LIFE OF PRAYER" was the central theme of the retreat.

Deogracias IKASA,
1st year Novice



Visit of the General Assistant: Brother Jean Paul MBENGUE

The Province of Senegal had the joy of welcoming Brother Jean Paul MBENGUE, Assistant General in charge of Africa, in his canonical visit on continent where he visited different communities of Senegal, Guinea Conakry, Burkina Faso and Abidjan.



Mbour



Thiès Postulancy



Malika

Dédougou: Pilgrimage for Thanksgiving

Saturday, 4th December 2021, the community of Dédougou, students, collaborators and associates, organized a pilgrimage to "Young Gardener" Center of the Brothers of Saint Vincent de Paul, in thanksgiving for the two hundred (200) years of Father Gabriel DESHAYES and for the closing of the year dedicated to St. Joseph. Started with a morning prayer at Saint Gabriel College at 8 a.m , the pelgrimage was marked by hearing a preaching on « Laudato Si » by Father Stéphane of the Congregation of Saint Vincent de Paul, Holy Mass for peace in Burkina Faso, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Pelgrims concluded their programme of the day with the erection of a statue of Saint Joseph and a fraternal meal.



Bro. Patrice Mbengue, SG



Gabriel Deshayes. a Sower of Life

Meeting with Bro. Christian BIZON, Member of the Editorial Committee Of the album « Gabriel Deshayes, Semeur de vie »

PL: Brother Christian, many books have already been written on Fr. Gabriel Deshayes. Fr. François LAVEAU wrote the first biography in 1854, which was followed by Alexis CROSNIER (1917), Mgr LAVEILLE and Charles COLLIN (1924), Bro. Maurice CHOTARD (1968), the two GENDROT Brothers (1995), Fr. Louis PEROUAS (2003). In the 2010s, Bro. Jean CHÉORY published several books, one of which was devoted to "Gabriel Deshayes and the teaching of the deaf". So why did you decide to release a new book? Wouldn't everything have already been said about Deshayes? Why did you publish the album "Gabriel Deshayes, Semeur de vie" (Gabriel Deshayes; a Sower of Life) in 2021?

Bro. Christian: In December 2020, a small team consisting of Fr. Santino BREMBILLA (smm), Claude LAUNAY (Ploërmel), Jean FRIANT (Saint-Gabriel) and me, met to study the feasibility of such a project. To work more efficiently, the team immediately called in a professional in communication: Mr. Michel TANGUY, in charge of information for the Congregation of the Brothers of Ploërmel.

The project consisted in producing an album with new and dynamic approaches for different sorts of readers. At the second meeting, the Editorial Committee was enriched with the arrival of Sr. Antoinette BELLEIL (Sr. of St. Gildas) as well as two Daughters of Wisdom (Sr. Denyse BARANGER and Sr. Marie-Hélène JORRET).

Six months later, the album "Deshayes, Semeur de vie" was ready thanks to the competence of Mr. Tanguy, his inspiring spirit, his rigor, his efficiency, his enthusiasm and his network... 2500 copies were printed and an English version is in preparation.



Bro. Louis BALANANT, fic; Bro. Jean FRIANT, fsg; Bro. Claude LAUNAY, fic; Mr Michel TANGUY; Bro. Christian BIZON, fsg; Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, smm; Sr. Antoinette BELLEIL, sg; Sr. Denyse BARANGER, dw; Sr. Marie-Hélène JORRET, dw.



PL: Has the album "Deshayes, Semeur de vie" some original aspects?

Bro. Christian: First, the fact that it has been written by a group of editors from different Congregations. Everyone has been able to share one's knowledge about Fr. Deshayes. The second originality is the main angle chosen to present Gabriel Deshayes: a man of action, a coach as they say today. We have studied the working methods of a manager who knew how to launch, organize, develop, and secure the future of what he undertook. We believe that this can inspire people who, nowadays, must cultivate human resources, unite, mobilize or network.

PL: Gabriel Deshayes was also a spiritual guide! How did you present this important aspect of his personality?

Bro. Christian: We have not forgotten that his passion was to contribute on the one hand to the dignity of people but also to the "Glory of God". His spirituality as a man of action is expressed more in his deeds and actions than in his writings, that is why we have focused on seven traits of his spiritual life that we have presented in the form of one-week journey with Gabriel. From Monday to Sunday, we invite the reader to contemplate one of the spiritual qualities (humility, availability, simplicity ...) lived out by Deshayes, in his time, and to bring it up to date in his own life.

PL: How did you manage to interest the reader in the biography of this prominent figure?

Bro. Christian: It is true that sometimes you have to use some stratagem to arouse the desire to read the biography of a person whose main facts are already known. For this, we used the "I". In fact, over ten pages of the book, it is Gabriel Deshayes who is speaking about himself in a simple and lively way. We used the same method to recount the birth and development of the Congregations co-founded or inspired by him. For example, Brother Augustine recounts, in an imaginary way, the first steps of the Brothers of the Christian Instruction of Saint-Gabriel.

PL: What else can you add to encourage to read this album?

Bro. Christian: Reading "Deshayes, sower of life" is the opportunity of a meeting along the pages with someone who is not one of those people who get spotted right away and who will put themselves in the front row. Gabriel Deshayes is not one of those who theorize with great scholarly plans either. He looks, he listens. And he is looking for support, for help, for partners. In a word, he can mobilize ...

Here is a book with several keys of reading to understand the man, discovering his attitudes, his daring, his inner and spiritual resources and to look with admiration at all the fruits and achievements.



Bro. Christian BIZON, during the interview at RCF (French Speaking Christian Radio)

For, following in his footsteps, in the wake of their own founders, more than 5,000 Religious men and women, members of five Congregations and hundreds of Lay Associates are inspired by the spirit of a travelling companion who is just as much a leader of men as a spiritual guide!

As you read this book, you will be seized, amazed, inspired, and seduced... Through the pages, you will discover an inspiring figure for today, a coach for your life and a warm companion.



Blessing Of Community House Of Bertoua

On Wednesday, 17th November, 2021, the newly constructed community building of Bertoua was inaugurated by the Archbishop of Bertoua, in the presence of Brother Dionigi Taffarello, Vicar General, Brother Jean Paul Mbengue, Assistant General, and Brother Ambroise Ndougou, Provincial Superior. Were also present the parish priest, teachers, students and about sixty guests.



The blessing ceremony ended with a fraternal meal and a colorful cultural programme by the students.



In his address, Brother Ambroise Ndougou, Provincial superior thanked Brother Dionigi Taffarello and Brother Jean Paul Mbengue for their presence, a sign of communion and solidarity of all the Brothers of Saint-Gabriel. Moreover, he expressed his gratitude to the Central Administration and the Province of Canada, for their financial support for the construction of the Brothers' residence.



Bro. Guy SIROT, SG





Basketball coaching:



We were given an opportunity to learn Basketball and its expertise from 11th to 17th October 2021. Even though the starting part was difficult, we gained maximum from the coach.

Brotherhood Day:



“The crest and crowning of all good is Brotherhood”
As we have been enjoying brotherly love and care in the Pre-novitiate, we had celebrated the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi as a Brotherhood Day. In the evening we had a cultural programme and there were around 20 people from outside who participated in the programme.

1st Book Review:

Our first Book Review was held from 25th to 27th October 2021. Since it was a first time experience for many of us here, it was quite difficult due to lack of fluency in English language, confidence, etc. We were corrected after every review and we learned the formation of the sentences; it gave us confidence and increased our knowledge.

Music Classes:

Our music classes were taught by Bro. John Xavier who is a very humble, efficient and talented musician. It was a blessing for us to have him in the Pre-novitiate for a week. We attained so much knowledge about music.

The Visit of Bro. T. T. Mathew:

Bro. T. T. Mathew from the Province of Delhi visited us and taught us Yoga, Phonetics, and Meditation and these were really useful to sustain us in our mental, physical, and spiritual growth. We all enjoyed his presence.



The Visit of the Assistant General:

Rev. Bro. Pratap Reddy, the Assistant General, spent time with us. He had two sessions of classes wherein he talked about our Congregation, elaborately. We had a special prayer service and a cultural programme in the evening.

The Children's Day:

On 17th November 2021, we celebrated the Children's Day. We spent our day with various indoor and outdoor games and competitions. At last, we had a sumptuous dinner after which prizes were distributed.

The Community Meeting:

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

- Margaret I. Wheatley

On 19th November 2021, we had our first community meeting. First one hour as members we recollected the activities in silence for an overview and then we discussed everything in detail and made necessary arrangements for the welfare of the community. We had 3 hours of discussion.

The Monthly Recollections:

On 11th September, we had our first monthly recollection on the theme FORGIVENESS. Also, we had our 2nd monthly recollection on 3rd December, on the theme KNOW YOURSELF. Bro. Binu Mathew, the Director was the resource person.

Fabian
(Pre-novice)

Sacred Heart Novitiate



Assistant general's visit:

On 13th November 2021, Rev. Bro. Pratap Reddy, the Assistant General, visited us. We are glad about his fraternal visit and his short message that invigorated us to grow better in our community life.

Yoga:

Yoga class was taken by Bro T.T Mathew, which helps us to enhance our spiritual, mental and physical wellness. We do yoga every day and it helps us to be focused.



Book Review:

We had our first book review on 10th October 2021. It was a remarkable day for us and all of us presented



our reviews well. The book review enabled us to hone eloquence and receptive skills.

Walking Picnic:

We had a Walking picnic to the Honey Rock estate. We hit the road early in the morning and it took us one and half hour to arrive at the Honey Rock estate. Soon after reaching the venue, the Brothers of that community welcomed us with kindness. And they took us to various parts of the estate, and the spot from where we had a breath-taking view of the mountains.

Recollection:

On 17th November, we had an animated recollection, which was preached by Fr.Lucas. He emphasised on the different ways of prayer. We had a good confession followed by the Holy Eucharistic celebration.

Classes:



English Class

The English classes were taken by Bro. Thomas Montfort for five days. He shared his life experiences with us to become simple and humble Brothers in our future.

Spirituality Class

We had spirituality classes taken by Bro. Lambert for a fortnight. He taught us to tune ourselves in silence before we initiate the prayer.

Music Class



Music was taught to us by Bro. John Xavier for five

days. He taught us various musical instruments such as keyboard, guitar, and tabla. With his mellifluous voice, he mesmerized us. At present we are able to play the musical instruments.

Volleyball match:



On the feast of the Holy Cross, we had a cordial volleyball match with Holy Cross Novices. Where it helped us to have merriment with them and it helped us to swap our fraternal love with them.

Alex & Charles
(Novices)





PARTNERSHIP



www.fsgpartnership.org

Montfortian Spirituality Center - Thailand



Formation Plan for Montfortian Gabrielite Associates

Recently we had a meeting of Collaborators from various schools such as Assumption College Secondary Section, Assumption College Primary, St. Gabriel College and Assumption College Thonburi altogether 20 teachers in number which was held on 12th October 2021 at Assumption College Primary to decide how we should start to form the Associates. The meeting was officiated by Rev. Bro. Provincial who gave us encouragement to go ahead and promised us to lend us full support to our movement. The meeting lasted for two hours with a decision to appoint a committee to study its feasibility.

Soon after receiving a green light the committee planned to have its meeting on the 8th November 2021. It was held at the Office of Montfortian Spirituality Center, Thongloh. The meeting lasted for two and half hours with the following decisions:

- There will be a Formation arranged for the teacher collaborators between 17-19 February 2022
- A mobile meeting will be held at Montfort College Chiangmai with the intention to boost collaboration among Gabrielite Schools in the North Region
- Activities Plan and Budget for the year 2022
- A suggestion made for Pilgrimage in the footstep of Montfort in October 2022.

Next meeting will be held on the 9th, December 2021 at Assumption College Samutprakarn to approve such decisions. Meeting ended with a hymn of our Lady "Mother Dear".

Bro. Nicholas Phiranant Numkanisorn, SG



A new Website for Partnership

Towards the end of February 2021, you received the communication concerning the publication of the Website dedicated to the Partnership of our Congregation. Unfortunately, during these months we have encountered many technical problems which have finally led us to abandon this Website and create a completely new one with a new domain.

Therefore, I would like to inform you all that the new Website for Partnership is as follows:

www.partnershipsg.org

On this occasion I would like to remind everyone of the three objectives of this Website:

- To share information about the Partnership of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel;
- To network and share news and initiatives concerning Partnership between the various Sectors of the Congregation;
- To make available the formation programme for Associates and hopefully in the future also for Collaborators

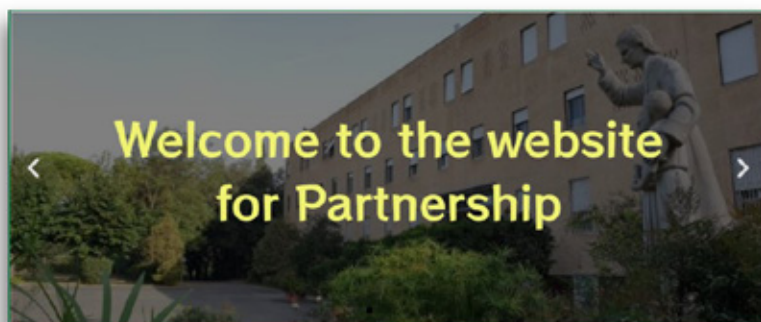
Regarding the formation programme for Associates, as it was already the case on the other Website, you need to register on the Website, and after the acceptance by the Administrator, you will be able to access the documentation and download it. For those who were registered on the former Website, it is necessary to register again on the new Website.

I ask you to spread the information about this Website among all Brothers, Associates and Collaborators, so that it may become an effective tool for sharing and providing information about Partnership.

Bro. Dionigi Taffarello
Vicar General in charge of Partnership.



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Montfortian Associates of Singapore Annual Retreat



Mary, Queen of All Hearts: The Role of Mary in God's Plan of Salvation

The most awaited MA annual retreat 2021 came as we celebrated the Queenship of Mother Mary last August 20-22, 2021. This year, the participants had the option to attend it in person at Montfort Centre or via zoom in the comfort of their homes. This offered flexibility to participants and catered to those who might be working or unable to leave their homes for personal reasons.



The retreat was conducted by Fr. Yulito Q. Ignacio a priest from the Philippines, who is the now resident priest at the Archbishop's Palace, Villa San Miguel, Mandaluyong City and an associate pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Welfareville, Mandaluyong.

Fr. Yulito Q. Ignacio was ordained as priest on September 19, 1987, Feast of Our Lady of La Salette, by Cardinal Jaime L. Sin. He took his Licentiate Degree in Sacred Theology in Spirituality, Magna Cum Laude, at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome from 1991-1993. Afterwards, he took another Licentiate and Doctoral Course in Sacred Theology with Specialization in Mariology at the Pontificia

Facolta Teologica MARIANUM in Rome in 1994 to 1996. From 1996 to 2013, he worked as Spiritual Director in San Carlos Seminary, Guadalupe, Makati City and was then appointed as Head Spiritual Director in the same seminary.

A key message in this retreat was an invitation for all of us to connect with Mary and emulate her way of life through her venerable virtues.

The virtues of Mary include (1) profound humility, (2) faith, (3) obedience, (4) prayerfulness, (5) universal mortification, (6) divine purity, (7) charity, (8) patience, (9) angelic sweetness and (10) divine wisdom. I believe that through these virtues, God is extending an invitation to each one of us, albeit differently one from the other, as a way to follow Him more closely.

A sharing from Fr. Yulito that touched me was his total dependence on God on his complete healing. God carried him every step of the way through his healing process. The attending doctor were surprised at how God made him well. Miracle is not impossible with God. Nothing is impossible for Him. Although we often wait for God's plan to manifest in our lives, God is actually working and making wonders in our life. And so we need to encounter Him and personally experience the graces He had granted for us all.

So, personally, the virtue of Mary that resonated with me the most was the total obedience to God. Being totally dependent on and obedient to God is definitely difficult. But this virtue was the start of Mary's YES to God, which eventually led to embracing God's plan for her life. So, we could begin to give our yes to God like Mary did. And perhaps, we would finally arrive at a point in our life where we could not just accept, but graciously embrace God's plan for salvation for us even if it entails pains and sufferings like Christ did. Begin by giving your yes to Mary, she surely gives us ways how to say our Totus Tuus to God.

Let us all say our yes to God, like the sweet, humble servant, handmaid of the Lord. Yes, be it done according to your will, O God. Fiat voluntas tua.

Testimony



The retreat was a faith-filled experience for me. God affirmed to me again His faithfulness through the care of Mary. Despite the pandemic situations, we were able to conduct this in person and online showing Mary's way of caring for her children. The prayer sessions felt powerful to me. I was looking forward to praying with everybody in the retreat. The morning prayer gave me inspiration to be with God, Mary and retreat participants. The evening prayers refreshed my soul before going to bed. Indeed, there was power in prayers said together as community.

Sharing by the Montfortian Associates helped me to experience the wonders that Mary had brought to each one of us. And the guidance of our Spiritual Directors during the one-on-one sessions became a visible sign to me that God is always present.

On the last day of retreat was the renewal of our consecration. As I attended the retreat via zoom, I went to Chinese Mass early in the morning as a preparation for the renewal. The readings and union with Jesus in the Eucharist helped me to learn to be evangeliser like Mary and to radiate love, which even a baby the womb was able to feel it.

Finally, the retreat was closed with mass celebration by Fr. Martin Low, OFM, and with the renewal of our vows on being consecrated to Jesus through Mary.

I hope next year we can all attend the consecration face to face.

By Roselily Hazel,
Montfortian Associate





France. Annual Assembly of "Wisdom - Saint Gabriel Network"



About forty members of the network (Directors, PAS, Staff, active members of the guardianship, Religious Sisters and Brothers, including the two Provincial Superiors (Sr. Marie Françoise and Bro. Claude) met during the annual assembly of our network, in St Laurent sur Sèvre. As this essential moment in the life of our network could not take place last year, there was a strong desire to meet and share together. The main theme of these days, in continuity with the previous assembly, and in coherence with the expectations and projects of the network's centres, was articulated around the second axis of the network's educational project, developed in our reference text: ENCOURAGE.

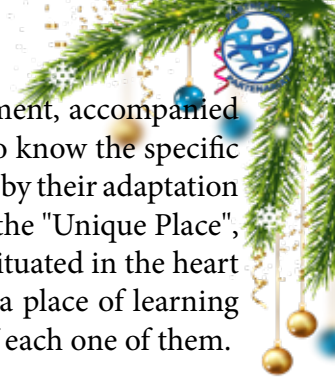
The interventions, which consisted of two conferences presented by Claude Berruer, former Assistant Secretary General for Catholic Education, and by Eric Joyeau, French, and Philosophy teacher at St. Gabriel St. Michel, Saint-Laurent, alternated between them and there were times for exchanges in workshops. All this allowed us to nourish one another with contributions, examples and reflections aimed at developing and reinforcing some of the strengths present in the daily life of our schools, based on the following questions:

- * The student at school: how can we ensure the development of each student while allowing him/her to achieve his/her own "excellence", which is not strictly academic?
- * Family spirit and "living together" within our educational community.
- * What team management should be proposed to serve the above-mentioned axes?
- * What soul, or supplement of soul, is present in our schools. How can we inculcate it, develop it and maintain it?
- * Fraternal relationships within the school, a breeding ground for creative innovation.

These hours of work were punctuated by various moments of discovery of the environment, always much appreciated by the Directors and their Assistant Professors, especially those who are geographically distant (Cambrai, Chaumont, Pont l'Abbé).



We were therefore able to enjoy a guided tour of the Saint-Gabriel Saint-Michel establishment, accompanied by Mr. Thierry Letard, Director of the School, and some Brothers. This allowed us to get to know the specific characteristics of the school in terms of formation and also the particularities that marked us by their adaptation to the project of "allowing encounters" and "proposing personalised itineraries", including the "Unique Place", a space for meeting, working and living together, open to all the adults of the School, and situated in the heart of the School: a place of meeting, exchange and conviviality, and the St Gab' Laboratory, a place of learning and openness for the Students, in a climate favourable to creativity and to the realisation of each one of them.



Resting place of Father Olivier MAIRE at the cemetery of the Daughters of Wisdom in Saint-Laurent



Right: Father Olivier MAIRE
(9 August 2021)

Moments of prayer and interiority were also present, in particular through a moment of recollection with Father Olivier Maire, in the cemetery of the Daughters of Wisdom.

At the same time, we had the opportunity to participate in the Eucharistic celebration of the school's patronal feast in honour of the Archangels. It was again an intense shared experience of praying, listening to the Word of God and singing in a Basilica filled with more than 650 young people accompanied by many adults from the School.

Led by the "PASTO" choir and the IMV, (Institut Musical de Vendée) made of the students of the school, the assembly prayed with courage and serenity, around the Montfort Missionaries (Superior General, General Assistants, Rector of the Basilica, priests of the Basilica) who concelebrated on this day on which the educational community remembered our Founders and Father Olivier Maire.





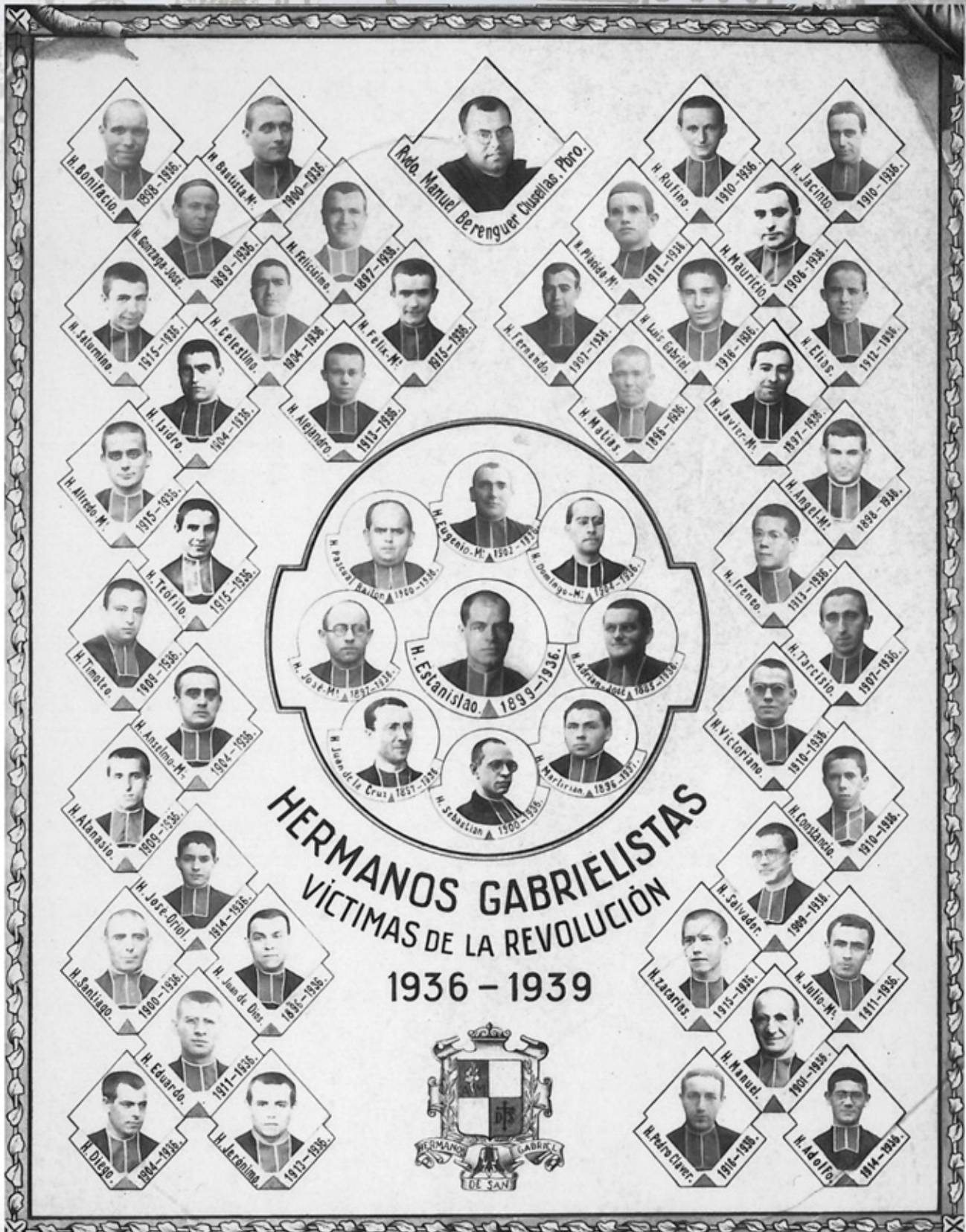
Our group was very happy to be able to share this moment of celebration with all the members of this educational community, during an enthusiastic Patronal Feast rich in shared experiences, which continued afterwards in the meadows on the banks of the Sèvre. Our annual meeting also allowed us to experience a time of fraternal community, in small groups, based on texts by, among others, Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort and Marie-Louise Trichet, on the theme "Vocation - Being of service". And there was no lack of conviviality, where communicative good humour brought joy and laughter, especially during the vigil, where the cooperative games and songs presented by each centre (and written by their interpreters) allowed us to appreciate the multiple talents of each person!

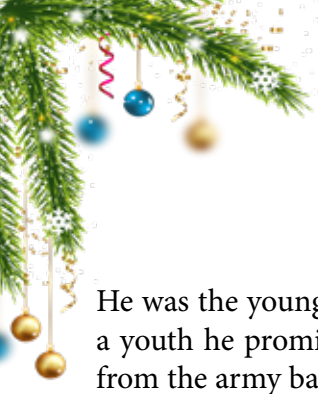
This annual meeting was eagerly awaited and everyone experienced it intensely, happy to meet again and make a "stop" in their daily life, allowing us to stop and recharge our batteries, where our roots are, under the Vendée sun that accompanied us throughout these two days, thus reinforcing the warm and fraternal atmosphere that was very present and that leads us all to sow the seeds and bear fruit in the daily life of our centre or our entity.



THE 49 BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL AND THEIR CHAPLAIN

MARTYRS OF THE RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION DURING THE
CIVIL WAR OF SPAIN IN 1936





Antonino ITURBE ALEGRE
 Brother Victoriano, 26 years old
 Born Palazuelos de la Sierra
 (Burgos)

He was the youngest of six brothers and lost his mother as a child. According to his teachers in Can Valls, as a youth he promised to be a man of courage and worked well on controlling his character. Upon returning from the army barracks he hands himself over body and soul to the service of the Church within the Institute of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel. Open and uneasy, he had to fight his serious demeanor towards his vocation dedicating himself with an unselfish dedication to all his students in the Formation House.

For a few months he is required to enter the service required of all religious persons during the Second Republic. Kindhearted and a lover of the young he was able to win them over by his good deeds and knowledge. He was a good sportsman and a good History teacher.

He was a true intellectual and had begun his University studies at the University of Valencia where he was enrolled in the History Department. He was extremely austere, particularly during Lent, since he rigorously observed the fasting on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Thereby Brother Victoriano was a decisive hope for the Spanish Province and a great example to those taking on their vocational training.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Victoriano grant that we imitate, Lord, his austerity and his natural and honest spontaneity.



Augusto VEGAS CORTÉS
 Brother Pascual Bailón, 36 years old
 Born in Pesadas de Burgos
 (Burgos)

Pious, giving of himself and very conscientious in the performing of his duties. He had a very profound and austere religious education very much geared towards sacrifice. He was a great devotee of the Holy Virgin. In his petition for the perpetual vows his Director Brother Ligorio, declares that he is a very serious religious person, who applies himself to his religious duties, who is good with his fellow Brothers and who does not like criticism.

He had an extraordinary personality and was quickly ascending in the ranks as a natural teacher deserving of being a Religious Superior. He taught with great success at the Schools of Bañolas, Valls, Arenys de Mar, San Sadurní de Noya, Castelló de Ampurias and in San Vicente de Montalt (Can Valls).

In 1932, in the middle of the republican storm, he was named Director of Castelló, where he had to confront the anticlerical Mayor who was a fervent republican. In his last years, he was always at the unconditional call of the Provincial Superior as a jack-of-all-trades; such was his willingness and he was very capable. He never closed the doors of the School to the poorest children with difficulties for paying the minimum monthly fees.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Pascual Bailón grant us, Lord, his solemnity in the performing of his duties and his great devotion to the Virgin Mary.



A Messenger of True Value

1. Who be this Messenger true?
It is he, John the Baptist
Fairly he speaks straight to rue
As his mind is clear and pure
And his message will endure
Mind not he's clad in coarse wool.
2. The messenger proved through life.
That he went before Jesus
Raised his voice from wilderness
Taught repentance for all sins
Leave all crooked deeds and ways
Paid he for such news with life.
3. Baptist lived for God's message
Live a clean life in public
Stand for truth and right justice
These are facts except for kings
They indulge in body's claims
Hit and kill for questions raised.
4. John and Jesus were real bold
Of lifestyle in shedding blood
For God's love, truth and justice
Tough values most men disdain
How true are these facts today?
"Yours is not to reason why"
Die if you question Rulers.
5. John "more than a Prophet" stays
He sees loaded visions bright
Of God's kingdom of pure light
Ways heavenly, men to turn
Back to trails of righteous ways
Leave this world for paradise.

Bro. Emmanuel P. J

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS November – December 2021

BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

Bro. AUGUSTINE M

Bro. BENJAMIN
(Varghese Oonnukallel)

COMPANY OF MARY

Fr. Héctor Gerardo PARRADO GUÉVARA

Fr. Robert DOUGLAS

Fr. Ariel Enrico AQUINO

Fr. Michael J. KARROTTUTHAZHATH

Fr. Jean MORINAY

Fr. Jean MORINAY

DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM

Sr. Rosemary McKenna

Sr. Marie-Louise NAKHULUMA





2022

Let your Kingdom come, Lord,
reign of love and truth,
reign of justice and peace.



Rev. Brother John Kallarackal, Superior General,
And the Brothers of the Community of the Generalate
Brothers of St. Gabriel Via Trionfale, 12840 – Rome

Happy

Christmas

Mosaic of the four Seasons : Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn.
Ostia antica, Rome.
Now in the Church of St. Paul-with-the-Three-Fountains, Rome.

Dear Readers,

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

E- Mail to sginfo@fsgroma.org

WhatsApp +91 9445800156

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