



Congregazione Clericale

# MISSIONARI DELLA FEDE

Via Nulvi, 11 - 00148 ROMA, ITALIA

## M.F. News Bulletin

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### 2022 Christmas Crib at Peter's Square, Vatican



The outdoor nativity scene at Peter's Square, Vatican is made of life-sized figures hand carved out of alpine cedar trees from Italy's northeasternmost region, Friuli-Venezia Giulia.

### From the Editorial Desk...

With joy we bring out the 27<sup>th</sup> issue of our *News Letter* aimed at keeping all the members informed of the various activities, undertakings and events that are happening in the various parts of the Congregation. May we kindly remind everyone, especially the Provincial, Vice Provincial and Delegation Governance, to send us on time the news items to be published. Let us, as one family, share among ourselves all our achievements and our endeavours. We always welcome the corrections and suggestions for the betterment. We regret also for the errors and omissions if any. May the God grant us the grace to be courageous and joyful messengers of the Good News and a shining stars that lead others to the feet of the Lord. We wish everyone

*A Very Happy Christmas & Grace filled New Year 2023*

## **MESSAGE from Superior General** **The 40th Anniversary of the Foundation of** **the Clerical Congregation Missionaries of Faith**



My dear fellow Missionaries of Faith, Friends, Benefactors and Supporters

On this 40th anniversary of the foundation of our religious family, I would like to mark this occasion by expressing my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has played a part in this wonderful mission.

First, I give thanks to the Lord God Almighty for the inspiration of our founders Anna Maria Andreani and Fr Luigi Duilio Graziotti. Without their love for God and true vision we would not be celebrating our ruby anniversary today. “The Lord has made use of thier activity to give to the Church a specific

charism that the Church herself has accepted, approved and made it to become its own and that now lives in our Congregation and its members. Therefore, while speaking of the charism of our Institute, we must not only look at the initial impulse of the Holy Spirit or how the Founders have welcomed this grace in thier lives, but we must recognize that we are in front of a charism that is already configured and institutionalized in the Church. One must know to distinguish between the Founders who received a charism and the charism itself, which is donated to the Church.CA-MF, art. 7.”

We must thank the church authorities who, 40 years ago, helped us to be recognised as a religious institute (congregation) on 25 December 1982. On this date, the decree of approval of diocesan right of the Congregation, was approved by His Eminence Cardinal Giuseppe Siri, Archbishop of Genova. (cfr. DE, 1982)

Then 7 years later (15 April 1989), Cardinal Ugo Poletti accepted the institute to the Diocese of Rome (Vicariate of Rome Prot. PER158/89) where we transferred the general house of the congregation from Genova to Rome where we continue to serve according to our charism.

On 23 May 2019, the revised constitution of the congregation was approved definitely by Cardinal Angelo De Donatis (Vicariate Palazzo Apostolico Latgeranense, Prot.n. 302/19) and through the Vicariate of Rome we asked the Holy See for the approval for the Pontifical rights. On 2 December the request of the congregation was officially submitted and registered by the religious congregation of the Holy See.

I thank all the people who believed in and initiated the congregation in the early days and to the people since then who have continued to faithfully serve it's charism of Faith and Mission. From small beginnings, we now have four provinces, three vice-provinces one delegation and are present in thirteen nations.



I thank the benefactors, without whose generous and ongoing material support no mission can survive; even Jesus needed his Joanna's to support his mission. As well as financial support we need spiritual support and so I thank the ceaseless spiritual support of the families and parishes who keep us in their daily prayers.

We continue to pray too for all our deceased congregation members who have departed this world, some far too early, and we know that they too will be praying in the presence of our Heavenly Father and all the angels and saints for our continued mission in the future. We pray for their families who mourn but who continue to pray for us and I know they will be praying for vocations for the future generation of priests and religious to the church and to our congregation. I ask you all to pray fervently for this in these challenging secular times and in a world struggling to recover from the pandemic of the last few years. We must pray and trust that God and the Holy Spirit will touch minds and hearts and will provide us with future labourers and that us and fellow Christians will always be faithful to our mother church.

It is my sincere privilege to be the Superior General of this congregation at this time and I feel blessed every day to serve the Lord, the Church and my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. So with the charism of faith and mission and with our motto of grace and joy in faith, I offer my love and prayers to you all and I pray that you all have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

“Mary Queen of the Confessors of Faith”, our patroness, pray for us.

God bless you all.

25 December 2022



*Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac, mf*  
Fr. Jesus Dajac, mf  
Superior General





## NEWS from the Congregation



### Missionaries of Faith with His Holiness Pope Francis

On 21 December 2022, Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac, the Superior General organized and made an opportunity to visit His holiness Pope Francis in General Audience. All the MF Priests and Sisters of Missionaries of Faith working in Italy and also priests from the province of Oceania and Delegation of North America visited Pope and received blessings.



Fathers and Sisters of  
**Missionaries of Faith**  
At Peter's Square in Vatican







## Celebrating the 40th anniversary

The Joy of celebrating the 40th anniversary of foundation of Missionaries of Faith is shared with a fraternal meal. Fr Eufraim Bobby Baylon started the programme with 'Hail Mary ....' Prayer, Rev. Fr Luigi Duilio Graziotti, the founder addressed the gathering over the phone and wished everyone. Fr. Domenico Borge gave an short message representing the Vice Province of Italy. Fr. Joel Jores sang a song with awesome voice. Fr. Benjamin Magnaye gave a very motivational and inspiring speech, sharing his experience and contribution to growth of the congregation. The song 'Holy Night...' was sung by all the members of Congregation bringing a mood of Christmas. Rev. Sr Christine Tee, the Mother General of Sisters of Missionaries of Faith also gave a short message and conveyed the Christmas wishes on behalf of Sisters of Missionaries of Faith.





A song was sung by the Priests and Sisters from Myanmar in Burmese language. Fr. Peter Quoc voiced the message and wishes of the Provincial Superior of Vietnam province. Fr. Thomas Edassery addressed representing both the province of India and followed by Marian Song was sung in Telugu language. Fr. Augustin Montan, the canonist and well-wisher of our congregation, addressed the congregation shared his relationship with Congregation and encouraged everyone to move forward with courage and in prayers. Fr. Aldo Sperolini, Ex. Superior General recollected the early stages of the Congregation. A beautiful song by Samoan priests and sisters adorned the program as the delicious meal was being enjoyed. And finally, Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac, the Superior General, thanked everyone and gave final blessing and Christmas wishes.



## **Province of St. Paul (India)**

### **Ordination & First Mass of Fr. Joe Francis**

The Priestly Ordination of Dn. Joe Francis was held on 17 September 2022 at St Antony's Shrine, Virudhuvillangan, in the Diocese of Vellore, Tamilnadu by Most Rev. Dr. S. Singaroyan, Bishop Emeritus of Salem and Fr Joe Francis celebrated the Thanksgiving Mass on the following day.





## Ordination & First Mass of Fr. Joseph P.

Dn. Joseph Pulluparambil was ordained as Priest on 24 September 2022 at St Joseph's Church, Puthenchira East by Mar Pauly Kannookadan, the Bishop of Irinjalakuda.





## Ordination & First Mass of Fr. Kulandairaj

Dn. A. Kulandairaj was ordained as Priest on 16 October 2022 at St. Xavier's Church, Vadakku Vandanam by Most. Rev. Dr. S. Antony Samy, Bishop of Palaiyamkottai and Fr Kulandairaj celebrated the Thanksgiving Mass on the following day.





## Ordinations in the diocese of Bhagalpur

Dn. Santhosh Murmu, Dn. Pradeep Murmu, Dn. Mathius Tudu and Dn. Manoj Murmu were ordained as priests on 28 October 2022 at Immaculate Conception Cathedral Church, Bhagalpur by Most Rev. Dr. Kurien Valiyakandathil, in the presence of Rev. Fr Martin Alukaputhussery mf, the Provincial Superior of the Province of St Paul, Rev. Fr Saji Vellaramkalayil mf, the Provincial Vicar, Rev. Fr Bosco Aruldoss mf, the Finance Officer and the newly ordained priests Rev. Fr M. Joe Francis mf, Rev. Fr Joseph P mf and Rev. Fr A. Kulandairaj mf have witnessed the ceremony. There were 260 priests and 70 sisters were present on that occasion. There were maximum 3000 faithful present on that beautiful celebration.





### The First Thanksgiving of Fr Manoj

Fr. Manoj Murmu had his first Thanksgiving Mass on 29 October 2022 in his own Village, Bacha, in the presence of the Provincial Superior and his council members including all newly ordained priests. Many diocesan priests, religious nuns, relatives and parishioners participated.



### The First Thanksgiving of Fr Pradeep Murmu

The Thanksgiving Mass of Fr. Pradeep Murmu was on 31 October 2022 in his native village, Lilatari. The Provincial Superior, his council members, the priests from Missionaries of Compassion and sisters, relatives and Parishioners have joined and doubled the joy of the celebration through their presence.





## The First Thanksgiving of Fr Santhosh Murmu

The Thanksgiving Mass of Fr. Santhosh Murmu mf was on the first of November 2022 in his native place, Baromasia. Rev. Fr. Martin the Provincial Superior, Fr Saji, Fr Bosco and all the priests, sisters, relatives and Parishioners who made a joyful celebration with their presence.



## The First Thanksgiving of Fr Mathius

Fr. Mathius Tudu had his first Thanksgiving Mass on 3 November 2022 in his own Village, Bhalua, in the presence of the Provincial Superior and his councillors including all newly ordained priests. Many diocesan priests, religious nuns, relatives and parishioners participated.





## Diaconate Ordinations

The Missionaries of faith, Province of St Paul expresses a great joy to the Lord for the gifts of three perpetually professed members namely Amit Murmu mf, Antony Raj mf and Dinesh Tudu mf who are ordained as Deacons on 21 November 2022 conferred by Rev. Dr. Peter Abir Antony, the Bishop of Sultanpet.



## News from Minor Seminary



Visited the tomb of St. Mariam Thresia on 24 September 2022.



## News from the Novitiate House

The community at Sempatty, Dindigul expressed a Hearty welcome to Rev. Fr. Joseph Phan Trong Quang, the delegate of the Superior General of Missionaries of Faith. The blessing of the grotto of "Mary, Queen of confessors of faith" constructed newly by the self-initiative and hard work of the members in the Novitiate House was held on 3 December 2022.





### News from Sempatti Parish

The annual feast of the Our Lady of Good Health Church, Sempatti, Dindigul was celebrated on 10 September 2022. Fr Sagayaraj Augustine, the parish priest initiated three days of celebration. Rev. Fr T. Sagayaraj, the Vicar General of the diocese, Fr Vicar Forane and many other priests of surrounding parishes and also the religious participated in the celebration.



### News from Akamalavaram Parish

Fr. Benzigar, the Catechism Director of the Diocese of Sultanpet, visited to see the Catechism students and staff at Velakanni Matha Church on 18 September 2022





## News from Longo Parish

### Construction for the Extension of Boarding

The extension of St Mary's boarding which is the dream project of the Province of St Paul is on progress to educate the poor children in Longo mission.



### Women Convention

The Longo Parish conducted a convention for women held at Bera village from 4 to 6 November 2022. It was Inaugurated and led by Sr. Jisna Vargees SJ. Convention was concluded by Holy Eucharist in which the main celebrant was Fr. Shoby Simon.





## Provincial Chapter

The Province of St Paul, Missionaries of Faith celebrated the Provincial Chapter from 21 to 29 November 2022 at MF Provincial House, Malampuzha, Palakkad, Kerala. The Theme of the provincial Chapter was “Live the Charism of the Congregation of Missionaries of Faith in the context of India”.



## General Body Meeting & Thanksgiving Mass

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Province of St Paul was held on 30 November 2022. Almost all the members who are serving in India participated in the meeting. The Thanksgiving Mass of the Newly Ordained Priests were celebrated on the same day.





### Visit of Provincial Superior to Vietnam

Fr Martin Alukaputhussery, the Provincial Superior visited Vietnam. Fr. Joseph Phan Trong Quang mf, General Councillor and Prefect of Missions celebrated 28th anniversary and Fr Martin also celebrated the 20th anniversary of their Sacerdotal Ordination on 9 December in the presence of Bishop Joseph NGUYEN TAN TUOC, Bishop of PHU CUONG Diocese, Rev. Fr. Thomas Dinh NGOC LOC mf, Provincial Superior, Province of Vietnam. It was a wonderful experience.





## **Province of St. Peter (India)**

### **The Provincial Superior with the Novices**

On the first of August 2022 Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior of the Province of St. Peter had personal talk with the Novices of the Province of St. Peter. He has talked about the period of Novitiate and its importance and given the guidelines to be a good Missionaries of Faith with the spirit of Charism and Constitution. The Novices were happy to spend time with the Provincial Superior and being given valuable guidelines to them.



### **News from the Formation House**

The Solemnity of the **Mary Queen of Confessors of Faith** was solemnized on 22 August 2022, in the Holy Trinity Major Seminary at Nadipalli. The Celebration was





marked with the installation of the **ministry of Acolyte and Lectorate** by Rev. Fr. Maria Joji RAI mf, the Provincial Superior. Bro. Ramesh Babu J to the ministry of Acolyte and Bros. Suraj B, Madhu Babu G, Prem Kumar K and Johnesh Babu T to the ministry of Lectorate. The confreres from various communities have participated in this solemn celebration.



### Priestly Ordinations

The Province of St.Peter rejoices and thank God for the blessing of two more priests to the Clerical Congregation of Missionaries of Faith. **Fr. John (Sandeep Kumar) Vankayala mf**, was Ordained Priest on 1 September 2022 at Khammam Cathedral by Most Rev. Maipan Paul, the Bishop Emiritus of Khammam Diocese. And **Fr. Sanathan Malabisoi mf**, was Ordained on 05 September 2022 at Chandrapur Parish in the





Rayagada Diocese, by Most Rev. Dr. Aplinar Senapati, the Bishop of Rayagada Diocese. The Bishops have appreciated the presense of Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior of the Province of St. Peter and his council and the good number of confreres in the celebrations. The Provincial Superior along with the council have expressed gratitude to concern Bishops, Parish Priests and the Families of the candidates for offering their sons to the family of Missionaries of Faith.





## The Annual Retreat

The confreres of the Province are divided into two groups for the participation in the Annual Retreat. The first group of confreres had done their Annual Retreat from 08 November 2022 to 11 November 2022, at Mary Matha Shrine, Visakhapatnam. Rev. Fr. Joseph Kondala MSFS has guided the confreres. After their spiritual renewal, the confreres had a visit to Araku valleys. The confreres participated in the retreat had expressed their sincere thanks to Rev. Fr. Maria Joji RAI mf, the Provincial Superior and his council for arranging this blessed and graceful retreat.





## The Second Ordinary Provincial Chapter

The Province of St. Peter celebrated its Second Ordinary Provincial Chapter from 06 to 09 December 2022 at St. Peter's Provincial House, Eluru. The Theme of the Chapter: ***"Synodal Life – As Missionaries of Faith."*** Eighteen confreres have participated in the chapter. Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Phan Trong Qunag mf, the General Councillor was the Delegate and President for the Provincial Chapter, and Rev. Fr. Velangani Dola MSFS (Canonist) was the Moderator. Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior has thanked Very Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac mf, the Superior General and his Council for their prayers and support for making this chapter successful and remarkable in the history of the Province. He also thanked all the chapter members for their active participation.





## News from Azzampudi Parish

The Parish of Azzampudi celebrated the Annual Feast on 03 December 2022. Most Rev. Raja Rao Thelagathoti D.D., Bishop of Vijayawada presided over the Eucharist and solemnized the celebration. The priests from various Dioceses and Missionaries of Faith



concelebrated in the Holy Eucharist. Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior greeted the people with his prayerful blessings and festal greetings. He also appreciated Rev. Fr. Raju Baluvuri mf, the Parish Priest for his commitment and dedication in his mission. Fr. Raju B mf expressed his words of gratitude to Most Rev. Raja Rao Thelagathoti D.D., and all the priests present. He also thanked the parishners for their cooperation and collaboration.





## News from Bathili, Srikakulam

In the Parish of the Bathili there took place the Denary level catechists meetings represented by the diocese. The Youth of the parish had a privileged to have an Annual youth gathering with different input sessions and annual sports and games in the parish premises. Rev. Fr. Yesu Babu Pureti mf, the parish priest has thanked everyone for their co-operation, collaboration and participation.





## News from KK Basti, Kalwakole Mission

05 October 2022, is a great and unforgettable day for the people of Arogyamatha Church at KK Basti, Kalwakole Parish, in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. On this gracious day the foundation stone was laid for the construction of new Church in KK Basti, Kalwakole Parish. Fr. Raju Kolli mf, thanked all the priests present. In a special way he expressed his gratitude to the donors and the faithful.



## News from Nadipalli Parish

### Nitya Sahayamatha Grotto

At Ramachandrapurma in the Mission Parish of Nadipalli, Nitya Sahayamatha Grotto was blessed on 20 August 2022, by Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior of





the Province of St. Peter. The Provincial Superior have appreciated Rev. Fr. Arulraj Dasari mf, the Parish Priest and the villagers particularly the family who constructed the grotto as a token of gratitude to our blessed Mother. Fr. Arulraj expressed his words of gratitude to Rev. Fr. Provincial Superior, and to all the priests present. He also thanked the villagers for their cooperation and collaboration.



### **Renovation of the sanctuary**

The Chapel at Nadipalli Mission was beautified with the renovation of the sanctuary. Very Rev. Fr. Maria Joji RAI mf, the Provincial Superior appreciated Rev. Fr. Arulraj Dasari mf, the Parish Priest and he thanked all the donors. Fr. Arulraj D mf, thanked the donors for their generosity and love towards the house of the Lord.





## News from Yerraguntapalli Parish

On 25 October 2022 the faithful in the mission of Yeraanguntapalli praised God for all the blessings and celebrated the Annual Feast of the Parish. The people had the spiritual preparation for the feast with the celebration of the Novenas in honour of Our Lady of Velankani. Rev. Fr. Anand Babu Gantedi mf, the Provincial Vicar has solemnized the Holy Mass and the priests from the Chinthalapudi Vicariate concelebrated in the Mass. Rev. Fr. Suvisesharao Nitta mf, has expressed his gratitude to all the priests and the people.

## News from Viswasapuri Retreat Centre

The Holy Name of Jesus Christ is being proclaimed in the form of a public road show of the crib. Rev. Fr. Xavier mf, the director of the Viswasapuri Retreat Centre at Eluru has arranged the road show of the crib in the eve of the Christmas celebrations. It was successful with the co-operation many faithful and the road show have attracted many to know about the spirit of Christ and the Christianity. Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior has appreciated Fr. Xavier D for organizing this event.





## **Province of Vietnam**

### **The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles, the Patron of the MFVN Family**

Joining the joy with the Universal Church on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, the Province of Vietnam organized a Meeting and Celebration of the Patron of the Family of the Vietnamese Missionaries of Faith (MFVN Family) on 25 June 2022, Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., the Provincial, talked with the members of the MFVN Family. The Program is a convenient opportunity for the Province and the MFVN Family to meet, exchange and inform the Province's activities in the future.

Rev. Fr. Dominic Nguyen Cong Khuong, M.F., the Spiritual Director of the MFVN Family, informed attended members about the personnel situation of the Representatives Team, the number of members, and the report on the Statement of Operating Revenue and Expenses in 2021-2022, and at the same time discuss the operation orientation in 2022-2023.

The Holy Mass for Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles, the Patron of the MFVN Family, was celebrated at 10:45 a.m., presided over and preached by Rev. Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., the Provincial Superior.





## The annual spiritual retreat and ongoing formation 2022

From 4 to 9 July, 2022, the Program for annual spiritual retreat and ongoing formation was conducted at the Diocese of Dalat, with the theme: “Consecration and Mission” under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Peter Truong Van Phuc, S.J. There were 85 attended members, including the fathers, the deacons, and the perpetually professed members.

Before the end of the Program, Rev. Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., the Provincial, met with members and announced personnel in the communities. All the official members of the Province voted to move the 2nd Provincial Chapter 2023 to have a good preparation for this Session of the Provincial Chapter.



## The Admission to the novitiate and renewed profession

On 12 July 2022, Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc M.F., the Provincial Superior, presided over the Mass for the admission of candidates into the novitiate at the Chapel of the community. Attending the Mass were fathers, brothers and postulants in the community.

In the presence of fathers and brothers in the community, Deacon Joseph Nguyen Thanh Trung, M.F. named 05 candidates to be accepted into the novitiate.

The list of candidates:

1. Mr. Anthony Nguyen Chi Cong
2. Mr. Joseph Nguyen Van Linh
3. Mr. Louis Le Anh Minh
4. Mr. Ignatius Nguyen Duy Thao
5. Mr. Joseph Tran Van Thang







The candidates unanimously expressed their wishes to be admitted to the novitiate of the Missionaries of the Faith. And the Provincial officially admitted 05 candidates to the novitiate of the Missionaries of Faith of the Province of Vietnam in the novitiate year 2022-2023.

Besides, on 13 July 2022, at 5:30 a.m the re-professing Mass of 56 brothers from the Province of Vietnam took place at the Chapel of the community presided over by Provincial Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F. In the presence of the priests and brothers in the community, the 56 brothers renewed their profession following the evangelical counsels of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience.

### **The First Profession and the Perpetual Profession**

On 14 July 2022 at 6:00 a.m, Most. Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc - Bishop of Phu Cuong Diocese - presided over the Mass for the first profession of 09 novices and 09 brothers of perpetual profession of the Missionaries of Faith of the Province of Vietnam.

#### **The first professed members are:**

1. Br. John Bt. Vu Hong An
2. Br. Peter Le Van Bac
3. Br. Peter Pham Van Dong
4. Br. Joseph Truong Van Hong
5. Br. Anthony Nguyen Duy Linh
6. Br. Anthony Nguyen Van Noi
7. Br. Thomas Aquinas Hoang Van Quyet
8. Br. Paul Nguyen Tien Thong
9. Br. Paul Tran Xuan Thuong

#### **The perpetual professed members are:**

1. Br. Joseph Vu Duy An, M.F.
2. Br. Joseph Phan Quoc Duy, M.F.
3. Br. Vincent Mai Pham Hai Dang, M.F.





4. Br. Peter Khanh Phan Anh Duc, M.F.
5. Br. John Bt. Nguyen Dinh Hue, M.F.
6. Br. Peter Nguyen Ngoc Hoang, M.F.
7. Br. Joseph Pham Hoang Huynh, M.F.
8. Br. Vincent Pham Hai Nam, M.F.
9. Br. Peter Vo Thanh Phong, M.F.



In the rite of vow, Bishop interrogated the first professions and the perpetual professions. Then, the candidates had the courage to profess their lives to follow the evangelical counsels as Poverty, Chastity and Obedience in the hands of the Provincial Superior in the presence of the Bishop and the community. After the Communion prayer, Father Peter Nguyen Hung Hai, M.F. also spoke on behalf of the professions to express his gratitude to Bishop Joseph, brothers of community, relatives, benefactors and all the people.



### **Sacred ordinations to priesthood**

The MF Vietnamese Province is glad to give the good news that on seven deacons of the MF Vietnamese province on 20 July 2022:

- Dc. Dominic Nguyen Thai Binh, M.F.  
 Dc. Peter Nguyen Van Hien, M.F.  
 Dc. Joseph Nguyen Van Luong, M.F.  
 Dc. Joseph Nguyen Huu Tien, M.F.  
 Dc. Luke Nguyen Thanh Trung Tin, M.F.  
 Dc. Lawrence Vu Van Trinh, M.F.  
 Dc. Joseph Nguyen Thanh Trung, M.F.





And three deacons of The Society Of The Divine Savior (Salvatorians): Dominic Pham Quoc Khanh, SDS; Andrew Nguyen Dinh Thai, SDS; Paul Tran Trung Tin, SDS were ordained priests at the Ba Tra Parish, Phu Cuong Diocese, by His Excellency, Most Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc, the Ordinary of the diocese of Phu Cuong.

Please pray for their holiness and perseverance as they live the call to be totally conformed to and only for Christ, “Sequela Christi evangelizer”, for the salvation of many souls. May the Holy Trinity, through the intercession of Our Mother, Maria Regina Confessorum Fidei, bless us!





## The Thanksgiving Mass for the gift of consecration at the community of the God's Word Institute

On 21 July 2022, all of the new priests of the Vietnamese Province (ordained priests on 20/07/2022) celebrated the Mass of thanksgiving for the gift of consecration at the community of the God's Word Institute.

As of now, with these new priests and new ordained deacons, there are 67 priests and 15 deacons in the Province of Vietnam. 5 novices, 9 first profession brothers, 19 perpetual religious profession brothers, 56 temporarily professed brothers.





## Trung hoa parish, holy mass of promise, eucharistic youth movement

The Mass was presided by chaplain Fr. Nguyen Van Tu, M.F. and concelebrated by Fr. John Baptist Nguyen Trong Van, M.F. By rituals of promise, the youth at Trung Hoa parish walk another step in the Eucharistic Youth movement. The New governance of 2022-23 was announced. May our God bless youth in Trung Hoa parish.



## Trung hoa parish, feast of the assumption of mary into heaven

The Mother's privilege of being taken into heaven both body and soul is a great and meaningful event for all mankind. That great privilege is the perfect reward that God has reserved for her; She is the beginning of the fullness of the Church, the great joy and hope of the holy people in their earthly pilgrimage.

May you pray to God for our parish to always follow your example to live a perfect life, quickly say "yes", in order to enjoy the glory with you in Heaven in the future. The sum up and distribution of catechetical rewards for the school year 2021-22 was taken place





## Trung Hoa Parish: Mid-Autumn Festival Night 2022 -THE MOON OF LOVE.

On 15 August (lunar calendar) evening at 19:30, Trung Hoa Parish held a Mid-Autumn Festival night for children inside and outside the parish, in a joyful and joyful atmosphere.

Pastor Joseph Nguyen Van Tu, M.F. inaugurated the Festival. He also thanks the vice father, the deacon, the assistants, the parents, the benefactors, who have contributed to the children's gifts and joy on the Mid-Autumn Festival.

The Festival's program include: Lion's dances was performed by Dong Son Parish; musical performances by children; the QA (question-answer) contest and the lantern parade competition of the participating teams. At the end of the festival was the announcement of the results for the winning teams and the giving of Mid-Autumn gifts to children inside and outside the parish.



## Confirmations at the Parish of Trung Hoa, the Diocese of Vinh



It was a memorable day in the history of the Parish of Trung Hoa, the Diocese of Vinh, as 76 children received the holy sacrament of Confirmation on 16 August 2022, by the Most Rev. Alphonse Nguyen Huu Long, the Bishop of the Diocese of Vinh, who presided over the solemn Eucharistic celebration and administered the sacrament of Confirmation.





## Deaconate Ordination

With the theme "If ministry, in ministering " (Rm 12,7a), Most Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc, Bishop of Phu Cuong Diocese, ordained 10 candidates of the Missionaries of Faith, Province of Vietnam, at the God's Word of institute, on 30 August 2022. Present at the Mass was Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F, Provincial Superior, priests, brothers, and the deacons' parents.

### The name of deacons are:

Br. Joseph Vu Van Dinh, M.F.  
 Br. Anthony Nguyen Ngoc Linh, M.F.  
 Br. Ignatius Nguyen Thanh Nha, M.F.  
 Br. Bartholomew Le Thanh Phu, M.F.  
 Br. Joseph Dang Xuan Quy, M.F.  
 Br. John Baptist Nguyen Duy Thanh, M.F.  
 Br. Joseph Pham Minh Thanh, M.F.  
 Br. Paul Tran Khac Thong, M.F.  
 Br. Joseph Vo Tan Trung, M.F.  
 Br. Peter Pham Trong Viet, M.F.

The bishop has interrogated the positions of the duties that are about to be entrusted and progress will publicly promise to Him and the community of God, and at the same time virtue. The bishop also invited people to pray for the promotions to be full of God's grace.

At the end of the Mass, the representative of the new deacons expressed their gratitude to the Bishop, priests, brothers, and their parents, who have accompanied, supported, guided and prayed for them in the path of their vocation.





## The first day of school – at The God's Word of Institute.

On 1 September 2022, Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F. Provincial superior, presided over the Holy Eucharist praying for the first day of school and the mission services of the Priests and brothers at the God's Word of Institute. The Priests in the community and from neighboring communities together with the brothers in the Province participated.

At the end of the Mass, Fr. Joseph Trinh Van Cung, M.F. the Provincial Secretary read the mission letter and Fr. Thomas shared it with other Priests and brothers. Fr. Thomas raised a drum to start the new academic year 2022-2023.



## The Annual Retreat for Postulants

On 2 September 2022, postulants of the Vietnamese Province began their annual retreat with the theme: "Committed to follow Christ". Lecturer Galgano Tran Quoc Toan, O.Cist helped the brothers to realize the role of the Holy Spirit in the consecrated life. It was the Holy Spirit who inspired brothers to recognize God's voice so that they could come and stay, be taught and given the necessary graces by Him to become a skilled reaper.

The Postulant also welcomed Fr. Joseph Mary Dang Huu Ton, M.F. and Fr Joseph Nguyen Van Luong, M.F. as their two new companions along with Fr Joseph Nguyen Bao Huan Chuong, M.F.





## The memorial of saint Teresa Calcutta – the patron of Muoi Men Group

On 7 September 2022, Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., Provincial Superior presided over the Mass to celebrate the Memorial of Saint Teresa Calcutta - the patron of Muoi Men group at God's Word Institute. It is an opportunity for the Province to show gratitude to Muoi Men Group, Gao Group, and benefactors for having given assistance to the Province in various ways.

At the end of the Mass, Mr. Hieu, on behalf of groups, gave thanks to Father Provincial, priests and brothers for having accompanied, guided and paved the way for the group to have the opportunity to celebrate the Mass.



## Don Vang Parish: Mid-Autumn Festival 2022

In the jubilant atmosphere, on 11 September 2022, the children were celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival. Don Vang parish held a Festival Night for nearly 300 children inside and outside the parish with the theme: "Moon Jesus - I'm Happy with Mid-Autumn Festival".

Fr. Joseph Nguyen Minh Thien, M.F., the Assistant Priest celebrated Mass on Saturday afternoon, celebrated the annual liturgy of the twenty-fourth Sunday with the intention of giving thanks and praying especially for the children in the parish.

The Mid-Autumn Festival 2022 at Don Vang Parish ended in the laughter of children with their arms hugging the meaningful mid-autumn gifts received from Pastor Dominic, Vice-Father Paul and Assistant Fr. Joseph.





## Commemorating venerable card. *Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan*, the patron of institute

On 16 September 2022, in the small chapel of the Missionaries of Faith's Institute, Province of Vietnam, Fr. Anthony Nguyen Tien Hien, M.F., presided Mass in memory of the Venerable Card. Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan, concelebrating with him were Fr. Peter Nguyen Hung Hai, M.F., and a number of priests from the Province.

Students of the Institute have chosen the Venerable Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan as a patron with the name: Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan Institute; with this year's theme: "Lord, I don't want to wait. I am determined to live in the current moment and make it full of love."

After Mass, Fr. Anthony, on behalf of the community, congratulated and expressed joy on this great day. One brother of the Institute, on behalf of brothers, expressed his gratitude to the fathers for being present and praying in a special way on this holiday.

## The recollection of religious congregations in Phu Cuong Diocese in 2022

On 17 September 2022, a recollection was held in Phu Cuong Diocese with the theme "The Synod Process of the consecrated life". There were priests, religious man and women from more than 70 religious congregations serving in the Diocese of Phu Cuong participating in the recollection day.

Fr. Joseph Phan Trong Quang M.F., on behalf of the religious families of the Diocese, summarized the activities in the past year. Besides, he also introduced new religious orders joining the Diocese. Moreover, he also emphasized the missionary religious communities in Phu Cuong Diocese in the near future.

Bishop Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc - Bishop of Phu Cuong Diocese came and celebrated Mass with the co-celebration of Fr. Joseph Phan Trong Quang M.F. After the Mass, all religious shared a meal in communion and solidarity.





## Bo Ket Sub parish Celebrating Eucharistic Adoration

On 25 September 2022, in the spirit of communion with the Diocese, on the morning of the XXVI Sunday of Ordinary Time, more than 50 catholics of Bo Ket sub-parish, Don Vang parish, joyfully adored the Eucharist on behalf of the Diocese, at the house of the leading man of the sub-parish.

The assistant priest Joseph Nguyen Minh Thien, M.F. presided over the annual Mass of the 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday with the intention of giving thanks and praying for the evangelical mission of the Diocese, particularly for the members of the Bo Ket subparish.

Followed by there was Eucharistic Adoration, placing the Eucharist on the monstrance reverently. In addition to the Bo Ket sub-parish community, there are also other religious communities of the parish such as: Don Vang, Soi Ca, Buc, jointed the adoration.



## Scholarships and Gifts for Students at Trung Hoa Parish, Diocese of Vinh

In October, the MFVN Charity Office had the opportunity to visit parishes entrusted to the Missionaries of Faith religious and priests in the North and Central regions of Vietnam.

At Trung Hoa parish, Diocese of Vinh in the Central region, the MFVN Charity Office visited the missions 7-15 km from the parish.

On 13 October Most Rev. Alphonse Nguyen Huu Long, Bishop of Vinh Diocese, paid a pastoral visit to the parish of Trung Hoa, together with the MFVN Charity Office, awarded 8 scholarships: 4,000,000 VND each for poor studious students and 2,500 notebooks for 250 students.

May there be more hands to connect love with poor students through educational programs called ROAD OF HOPE that the MFVN Charity Office is implementing.





## The Eucharistic Youth Union of Theresa of The Child Jesus at Thu Chinh Parish

The Mass was solemnly held at Thu Chinh parish, in the presence of Fr. Joseph Nguyen Van Tuyen and Fr Joseph Tran Ngoc Phuong, MF.

Fathers and all the students entered the ceremony of promise. In this rite, 150 students expressed their desire to participate in the eucharistic youth union of Thérèse of the child Jesus in Thu Chinh parish.



At the end of the Mass, Fr. Joseph, the parish priest, congratulated the children for the new mission that each child is carrying from today. He also thanked the parents for working wholeheartedly in the parish and making arrangements for the celebration.



## Pastoral Visit To Trung Hoa Parish by Bishop Anphong Nguyen Huu Long

As part of the program of pastoral visits towards Mission Sunday, on 13 & 14 October 2022, Bishop Alphonsus Nguyen Huu Long, Bishop of Vinh Diocese, visited Trung Hoa parish

On 13 October 13 2022, Bishop Alphonse arrived in the parish in the welcome of the parish priest, the assistant pastor, the Pastoral Council of Trung Hoa parish.





After the procession, Bishop Alphonsus presided over the Mass for Our Lady of Fatima. To encourage people, especially children to pray the rosary, he blessed and gave rosaries to them.

After Mass, parish priest Joseph Nguyen Van Tu announced the list of 8 students receiving scholarships and invited Bishop Alphonse to give to them. Next, the priest also gave gifts to all the children in the parish: notebooks and crayons.

### Visiting Families

On 14 October 2022, Bishop Alphonse visited four parishes of Trung Hoa Parish. These are the four remote parishes. The first place he visited was Xuan Hoi parish, 7 km from the Trung Hoa church. The bishop celebrated morning Mass at 5am here. After that, he visited Nguyen Khiet parish; Thanh My parish, and Thinh Duc parish, where there are only 7 religious families. The people of Trung Hoa parish thanked Bishop for the Pastoral Visit.



### **The Eucharistic Adoration at the Word of God Community**

On 23 October 2022, with the theme “you shall be my witness”, Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., Superior of the Vietnamese province, presided over the Mass of World Mission Sunday, praying for the evangelizing mission of the Church, the Phu Cuong Diocese and the Congregation of Missionaries of Faith

After the Mass, the community celebrate the Eucharistic adoration to pray for the evangelizing mission. The other communities of Ba Tra Parish and Ba Lua Parish joined the Eucharistic adoration in turn.





## Retreat for the Postulancy and Aspirants

At the end of the month of the Rosary, the postulancy and aspirants of MF Vietnamese province had a retreat on 30 October, with the theme: "Vocational Holiness in Our World" at the Institute of God's Word, the Provincial House.

Rev. Joseph Nguyen Van Thanh, mf, the novice master of the Vietnamese Province was the guiding person for this retreat with the theme. Fr. Giuse Nguyễn Bảo Huân Chương, M.F., in charge of the postulancy presided over the Eucharist with Fr. Joseph Nguyen Van Luong, M.F., in charge of the aspirants, and Fr. Joseph Maria Dang Huu Ton, in charge of the



## The Missionary of Faith Celebrated the Solemnity of All Saints

On 1 November 2022, the whole Church celebrates the solemnity of all the saints.

Joining that joy the God's Word community joyfully celebrated the Feast of All Saints. Celebrating Mass, having the presence Fr. Peter Nguyen Hung Hai, MF, the superior, other Fathers and brothers, the postulancy and the entire community. Specially, there was the presence of the Superior General of the Sisters of the Missionaries of the Faith.



Fr. Peter shared and introduced the community to her. After that, Sister General also expressed a few words of gratitude to the Fathers and brothers in the community, recollected beautiful memories of Missionaries of the Faith Priests and Sisters with the Founders in the beginning days.



## Remembering the People who Passed Away at the God's Word Institute

On 2 November 2022, Fr Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, the Provincial Superior presided over the Eucharist at Our Lady's Station, for the faithful who had passed away. The priests of the Congregation of the Monastery of the Word of God, and the priests of the neighboring community concelebrated. A special prayer was offered for Fr. Anthony Maria Phan Sy Nguyen and Fr. Peter Phan Danh Uy, Fathers and Brothers in the Province who passed away. On the same day, Holy Eucharist is celebrated for the departed souls of benefactors, great-grand parents and relatives of members of the Province.



## The Feasts of St. Andrew, the Apostle & St. Vincent Liem celebrated

On 20 November 2022, Eucharist was celebrated for the postulancy and aspirant at the Monastery of the Word of God for Vietnamese Teachers' Day and the feast day of saint Andrew, the patron.

The Mass was presided over by Fr. Joseph Nguyen Bao Huan Chuong, M.F., in charge of the Postulancy and Aspirants. Priests from the Province, seminarians, teachers, benefactors and relatives also joined

After the Mass, all the community enjoyed the fraternal party together. In the party, the brothers showed their gratitude to their fathers and teachers on the occasion of Vietnamese Teachers' Day.





### Third Year Anniversary of departure of Fr. Dominic Nguyen Minh Tuan, M.F.

On 2 December 2022, Fr. Peter Nguyen Hung Hai, M.F Superior of the Community, presided over the Eucharist on the occasion of the third anniversary of departure of Father Dominic Nguyen Minh Tuan, M.F., at the community chapel. Priests in the community, priests in other communities, monks and nuns joined together to pray for him on this occasion.

At the end of the Mass, Fr. Peter, the Superior expressed his gratitude to fathers and brother in the community, and especially the family and relatives of Fr. Dominic who came to pray for him on the occasion of this anniversary.



### The Sports Festival Between Parishes of Don Vang And Kiet Son

To live in Synodal Church with the theme of Pastoral Year 2023 of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Vietnam, the sports festival between the two parishes of Don Vang and Kiet Son took place on 5 December 2022, with the theme: "Strengthening Communion", at Vo Mieu Stadium, in Don Vang Parish.

Rev. Fr. Dominic Vu Xuan Son, M.F. welcomed the two parishes and announced the opening of the sports festival.

The sports on the day of the festival were held: (1) men's tug of war, (2) women's tug of war, (3) men's and women's tug of war, and (4) men's soccer. The sports day's subjects closed with the results of 4 first positions belonging to the parish of Kiet Son and the second belonging to the parish of Don Vang. Both parishes had a fraternal Agape buffet and musical performances as they conclude the event





## The Christmas Carol Show 2022

With the theme "Emmanuel - God be with us", on 19 December 2022, the Christmas carol show took place at the Institute of God's Word. A large number of priests, brothers, and especially guests and benefactors of the Province attended to share the joy of Christmas.

The show began with a choir honoring the Child through the song "Đợi chờ Giêsu (Waiting for Jesus)" performed by brothers.

The AGAPE party was followed with various dishes prepared by brothers. And an indispensable part of this festival is choirs and dancing performances performed by the brothers. The program "lucky wheel - Bringing God home" also took place very happily with very meaningful gifts whichs were small christmas crib made by brothers too.

The Provincial Superior and other priests gave the blessing to everyone, the program ended with the song "Hang Be lem (Bethlehem Crib)". Everyone left and rejoiced with meaningful and loving spiritual gifts.





## Vice-province of Italy

### International MF formation is reopened in Rome

The Missionaries of Faith International formation house is reopened at Via Nulvi in Rome, as a priestly formation centre responding to one of the most important needs of the Congregation, and the Church at large.

The most relevant formative principles of the Congregation are integral formation, personal accompaniment, and a deep spirit of belongings to the call. After the formation the seminarians open themselves to the horizon of the missions. Our formation house in Rome offers future priests a privileged opportunity to consolidate their love for Christ, Mary Queen of confessors of faith, the Church.



### Novitiate in Rome

In the year 2022, the MF General Government decided to help the MF Vice-province of Myanmar by bringing the 7 postulants to Rome for their Novitiate year. Here They are in “Casa Nuova” purposely erected as Novitiate House on 26 September 2022. And the Novitiate started on 15 October 2022.

Just like in all other major organism, we are also trying to learn whatever is necessary to learn within the limits of our environment and capabilities and Integral Formation context. Within the Institute’s mandate of the “Novitiate Program”, we are studying the Italian Language from 11 January, 2023 at Società Dante Alighieri in Roma. We will attending classes every Wednesday till the 2nd week of April.

We do remember every MF Priests for their intentions and good health and their special days such as birthday and ordination anniversary, and these are our daily Mass intentions.



- Fr Joel Jores mf



## Dedication of the church

The pastoral care of St. Andrew the Apostle's parish, Morena, Rome in the dioceses of Frascati was entrusted to Missionaries of Faith on 15 November 2021. It is a parish in the periphery of Rome, a famous summer destination of Romans from ancient times. Presently it has a population of around twelve thousand faithful. Fr. Jason Francis Kalathiparambil M.F., the new parish administrator had the strenuous work of the completion of the construction of the new parish church, along with the pastoral activities. By the grace of God, under the valuable guidance of Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac M.F., our Superior General and his council, the parish church and the compound wall were completed within one year of our taking up. The solemn rite of the dedication of the church was celebrated 30 October 2022 by Most. Rev. Raffaello Martinelli, the bishop of Frascati in the presence of many priests, religious and faithful. Our sincere thanks to each and everyone for their prayers and support.





## Ordination Anniversary

Fr. JAISON FRANCIS M.F. celebrated his 20th ordination anniversary on 9 December 2022 in the parish of Sant'Andrea Apostolo. It was a blessing to have Rev. Fr. Jess Dajac, our Superior general, General councillors and confreres along with parishioners for the concelebrated solemn Eucharist and for the dinner thereafter.



## Living the MF charism at Rustica Community

The community at Rustica in Rome is truly witnessing the charism of helping the priest in need. From the past one year of its begging in the diocese of Rome, the community is taking care of one elderly diocesan priest at the very request of cardinal Angelo De Donatis vicar of the Rome. Mons. Don Manfredi Deodorico is Diocesan priest. He is 85 years old, completed his 50 years of Priestly ordination anniversary on 2 September 2022. He is highly intelligent and one of the best formators of his time. Some of his students are cardinals, bishops and obviously priest. He is well prepared and equipped with details of the church in Italy.



As his age is advancing, he is facing health issues. Our mf community is taking care of his accommodation, nourishment both physically and spiritually. He expresses every day his gratitude towards the community and the congregation for living our charism with love and dedication.





## **Vice-province of Myanmar**

### **Mission in Myanmar Amidst the Challenges**

The arm-conflict which started in May 2021, is still on-going. Loikaw Diocese where MF Priests are mainly present for the mission, is a stronghold of the so-called people resistance. Due to the fighting, (14) parishes of the total (39) parishes were closed. Currently, the episcopal see of Loikaw diocese is still vacant. The vice-provincial curia of MF Myanmar at DOUNGANKHA was closed and now moved to Domus Trinitatis, Mailon, Loikaw. This new house has sustained some minor damages by motor and small arm attack in January of this year. One parish assigned to MF Priests, Donoku, was closed as it was in the war zone. Fr. Martino Soe Thein, parish priest of Donoku, is residing at a sub-station village. Fr. Martino Soe Thein and Fr. Peter Htoo Bwe Mu are deeply involved in the pastoral and spiritual care for the refugees at different refugee camps. The prospect of a peaceful ending of the conflict in the Kayah State where the MF Fathers are mainly working is still very little. We'd request your solidarity through prayers!



**Domus Trinitatis  
House Damage**



## Acolyte Ministry for MF Brothers

Two MF Brothers, Dionysius Nay Myo and Henry Phabaw received the ministry of *acolyte* at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Taunggyi Arch-Diocese, Myanmar. His Grace Basilio Ah Thai, Arch-Bishop of Taunggyi presided the Mass celebration in which the ministries of lector and acolyte were conferred.



## Feast of the Holy Cross Celebrated at Shadau, Myitkyina

On the feast day of the Triumph of the Cross, on 14 September 2022, the MF Community of Shadau, Myitkyina Diocese, Myanmar celebrated the occasion with the blessing of the Cross on the Mary, Queen of Peace pilgrimage mountain site. His Excellency Francis Daw Tang, Emeritus Bishop of the diocese, has presided the celebration. Fr. John Lasam, mf, parish priest of Shadau, has been working very hard to prepare the beautiful mountain place as a place of pilgrimage.







### Annual Retreat

MF Priests from Loikaw Diocese of Myanmar made their *annual retreat* at the diocesan pastoral center on 13-19 November 2022. This is an integrated program of annual spiritual retreat and pastoral meeting session. Both diocesan and religious priests working in the diocese participated the program. Due to the blockage of roads caused by the armed fighting, a few priests could not join the retreat.

### Ordination to Priesthood and Diaconate

The Vice-Province of Myanmar has been graced with the priestly ordination of one priest and the diaconate ordination of one deacon. On the Solemnity Feast of Christ the King, 20 November 2022, Fr. Saw Giovanni MF and Deacon Khun Marthusalem MF







were ordained by His Excellency Peter Hla, Bishop of Pekhon Diocese at the Christ the King's cathedral of Loikaw Diocese. The newly ordained priest, Fr. Saw Giovanni celebrated his Thanksgiving Masses at Mailon Parish community on 21 November 2022 and at his native parish of Htee Thar Saw, Taungngu Diocese on 11 November 2022.

## **Vice-province of Oceania**

### **Feast of Mary Queen of The Confessors of Faith**

The Novice Master Fr. Etuale To'alepai and the Novices celebrates the Feast of our Patroness "Our Lady Queen of Confessors of Faith" at the house of the Novitiate





## Missionaries of Faith - Oceania September Happenings

Fr Andrew Atonio, our Vice Provincial Father graced our shores with his canonical Visit to our community in Samoa. It was a great chance to continue the spirit of 'Synodal' journey after a year of contemplating under the dark shadows of Covid 19. All our borders in the Pacific Rim have been opened up again and the islanders have flocked home to recuperate the family connections so tarnished with the 3 years fright of contamination. It was a joyous occasion for our Religious Family too, to see the famiglia rostros of our confreres in the earthly walk. This is another platform in continuation of the synodal event; walking together face to face on the road as expressed by Pope Francis. The first week was dedicated for the Priests to gather together in the spirit of renewal Retreat where we were mediated deeply on the local Samoan cultural and social view about Leadership in our age and time. We revisited the magnificent paper presented by Fr. Agostino Montan on 16 September 2021 when we had our Zoom meeting on Synodal. "**LEADERSHIP E SINODALITA**" The inculturated '*icon*' that was revealed to us in the three day's sharing is that of the *FISHERMAN*. In spite of the evolution of the



democratic society and our secular world surrounding us all, our mystical connection to the first Apostles of Galilee is our evangelical calling as ***Fishers of Men***. This is the unifying spirituality that connects us all and our diversity of race, culture, language and cuisine to our MF Charism but deeply in our mystical communion to our ecclesiastical vocation as missionaries to the nations. We concluded on the fourth day, treating ourselves to a vacation on the eastern side of Upolu where the sun raises seaside at Lalomanu beach to retaste the saltiness of being fishermen and we spend the whole day, 5 priests, 3 Novice and 2 aspirant brothers seeing Nature' Glory at the sea. It was a cool recreational moment, relaxing in the natural energy and the beauty of the Samoan evening, thanking God for the gift of being called as Fishermen for the kingdom of



heaven. The following second week, Fr Andrew gave the three Novices, Anitele'a, Etinasio and Lusiano their spiritual Retreat before the completion of their Noviate in preparation for the receiving of the Religious Vows in the next month.

The visit will continue for Pago Pago from 30 September until 3 October. The visitor will be visiting our community in Pago Pago before he will return back to Aotearoa, New Zealand

The service of the Visitation will thus be, first and foremost for us, an exercise of faith, hope and charity. In short, it is not a service that we render outside ourselves, but from what we are and what the Lord calls us to become. That is why rendering the service of a Visitor is first and foremost a gift for us and, to the extent that we welcome it, for the confreres we meet. May the Lord accompany our journey and bless us, make our steps light, open our hearts, and make our understanding and sensitivity fruitful to sow good, tirelessly and against all expectations. I am confident that even in these complex and often dark times, the Lord still wants to open up for us, as a Vice Province and as a Congregation, a beautiful road ahead, considering our often very poor situation. God is not tired of us and pushes us forward, moves us and motivates us, and precedes us on the paths of the world. Let us allow God to do his work and let us not be the first to put up resistance and obstacles. May the Spirit of the Lord give us momentum, the presence and intercession of Mary Queen of the Confessors of Faith comfort and clarity of vision and choices, and the presence of the Holy Spirit for the charism that through him has been given to the Church, to the world and us.

### **The First Mass of Fr. Peter Timoteo MF at his parish, Pago Pago Am. Samoa**

Fr. Peter Laupapa Timoteo was ordained to the priesthood on 2 October 2020, at St Joseph's Parish in Grey Lynn – Auckland New Zealand. Two years after his ordination, Fr. Peter Laupapa Timoteo, celebrated his Thanksgiving Mass along with his family and friends at his home parish of The Sacred Heart of Jesus in Pago Pago American Samoa, on 2 October 2022. He was joined by several concelebrating priests from the diocese including his congregation leader and homilist



Fr. Andrew Atonio from Wellington New Zealand. His Excellency Bishop Peter Brown was also present at this important celebration. Fr. Ioane Anitelea parish priest of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pago pago together with Fr. Micheal Vito, Fr. Eneliko Auva'a parish priest of St. Peter Chanel, Fagasa. Fr. Peter expressed his gratitude and appreciation to



Fr. Andrew in particular for his leadership and assistance in the ministry they both share, as well as for the many ways he has sustained and enhanced his vocation to the priesthood. He thanked his MF family for the opportunity given to him to celebrate his thanksgiving Mass with his family and friends

Fr. Peter also offered his thanksgiving Mass for the souls of the two most important people in his life “my loving parents” may their souls rest in peace. Thanking them for their constant love and prayers throughout his journey. He also thanked his brothers and sisters and their children for their love and support. He addressed those in attendance, thanking them for all their love, support and most importantly for their prayers.

Fr. Peter expressed his sincere thanks to the Missionary of Faith for allowing him to celebrate his Thanksgiving Mass with his family as well as for the chance to travel to see his families in the USA, Manu'a, and American Samoa.

The day started with Fr. Peter's Thanksgiving Mass, followed by the customary welcoming Ava ceremony and lunch provided by the parish. It was a day of thanksgiving and celebration, which concluded with the presentation of gifts by Fr. Peter's family.

Fr. Peter Timoteo is still serving at the Holy Family parish in Porirua, Wellington New Zealand, where he has been serving as a deacon.





## Preparation of Three Novices for the First Religious Profession

Our three MF Novices in the Vice Province of Oceania were on retreat from 19 to 25 September 2022, in preparation for their First Profession of Vows on Friday, 7 October 2022 at our MF Residence at Vaitele, Samoa Apia. Members of the novitiate house were joined by Father Provincial, Fr. Andrew Atonio, MF who was preaching at the retreat held at our MF Residence Center at Vaitele, in the Diocese of Samoa, Apia. The schedule includes two conferences each day along with time for prayer, recreation, reading, and the Eucharist. Fr. Andrew, underlined during his reflections that ‘Consecrated life is a witness of the search for God.’ Religious life is not about the seeking of self but rather the seeking of God.



The only reason for this choice in life is to seek to know his will, to build a community of brothers and sisters in which God is sought after and loved before all else. At the end of the retreat Fr. Provincial expressed his gratitude and thankfulness to our soon-to-be newly professed brothers (novices) for their enthusiasm, for their generosity, and for their joy. We bring all of this to the Lord — and to his table of sacrifice. May the Eucharist — during which we are privileged to gaze upon the face of the Lord — affirm you and strengthen you in your resolve to give up everybody and everything to embrace Christ and His Gospel.

## “Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord” - Pre-Christmas Celebrations

### Holy Family Parish, Porirua East, New Zealand

4th Sunday of Advent 2022 - The Annunciation to Mary in Luke’s Gospel is the subject of thousands of fine paintings, poems and prayers, and it’s a central feature of the Rosary and the Angelus. The Annunciation to Joseph is sometimes overlooked but it, too, is transformative. Joseph’s “Yes” sets a glorious example for us to

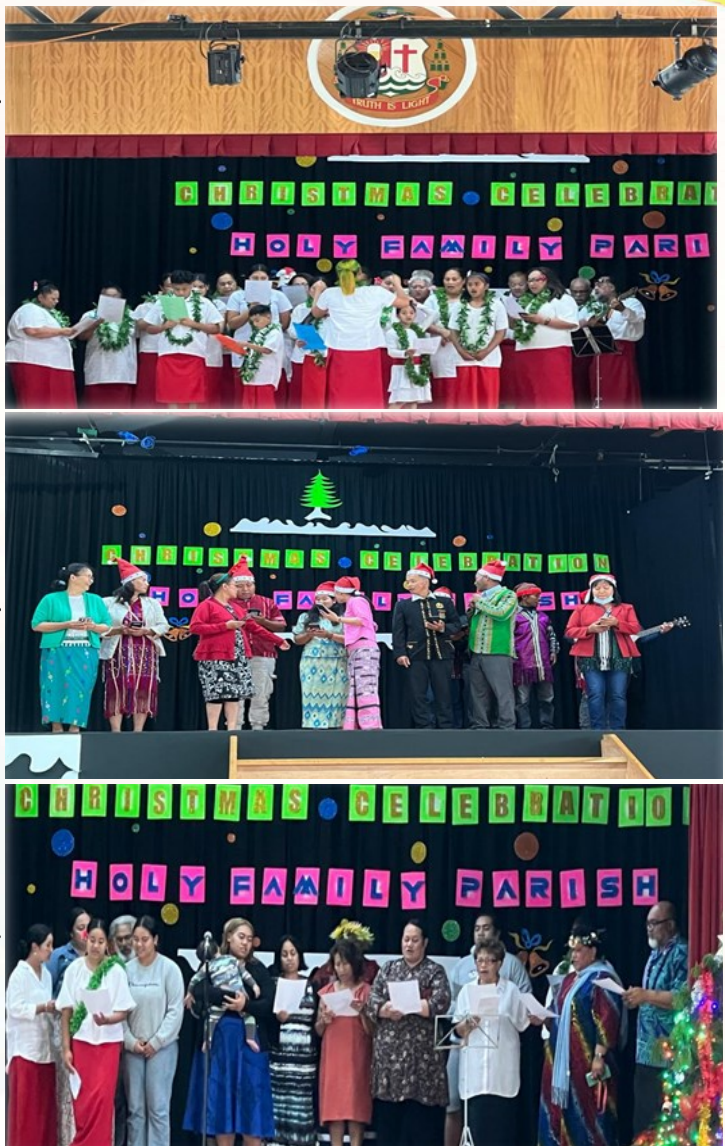




follow, just like Mary's 'Yes'. It's the "Yes" that embraces God in the very fabric of our lives in the unlikeliest of scenarios.

Embracing the love of God with its tangible implications in the here and now was very evident at the Holy Family Parish pre-Christmas celebrations held on 18 th December. In a parish that is so rich in culture, in talents and love of God and the Church we were all part of the celebration of the coming of the Lord amongst us - Emmanuel, God with us - and there was a wonderful sharing of talents.

As we entered the well-decorated Viard College Hall we did so to happy chatter and also to a beautiful string quartet playing traditional Christmas carols. This was followed by a Nativity Play performed by the younger members of our Parish. Features were a live baby who behaved beautifully, 'Mary' who knew how to hold a baby and looked after him so well, 10 tiny Burmese angels and three



'wiser than usual' wise men who were adult members of the parish. Special thanks to the Missionary Sisters of Charity who had trained the children. Next was the distribution of gifts to all the children, beginning with the youngest. Santa and his large 'elf' did a great job in keeping all the children happy.

All the choirs in the parish had been asked to prepare two carols and so began a festival of song from the following choirs:

All Saints, Burmese, Cook Islands, Samoan, St John of the Cross, the Parish Choir and the Legion of Mary Choir. The Samoan Choir and the Legion of Mary Choir incorporated some dancing into their routine and the St John of the Cross Choir had an interactive audience with all encouraged to clap to the rhythm of 'The Little Drummer Boy'.

Following this wonderful preparation for Christmas and most beautiful singing the large crowd was treated to a shared meal. The hall then was quickly put to rights, with chairs stacked and floors cleaned. The day was enjoyed by all present and many lingered to continue the enjoyment of one another's company, reluctant to end what had been a great sharing of our faith as well as of our talent



## **Delegation of North America**

### **Mission Accomplished in Canada**

Delegation of North America (DNA) closed the curtain on our mission in the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador in Canada, a suffragan of the Archdiocese of St. John, Newfoundland, on 31 August 2022 after 13 years of ministry. Fr. Biju, may he rest in peace, was the first to serve the diocese followed by Fr. Gabriel, Fr. Lourdu, Fr. Poulouse and Fr. Mariababu, all from the provinces of India. Our priests served in different parishes and different capacities in the diocese throughout these years. We give thanks to God for serving His people in this region. We appreciate the hospitality of Bishop Peter Joseph Hundt and Bishop Bart van Roijen and our aforesaid confreres who gave their years of priesthood in this diocese. Thank you.

All four of our confreres have joined our communities in Green Bay, Wisconsin and in California and are assigned in parishes.

**Photo:** Fr. Mariababu, before leaving the Diocese, left a memory cross in the spot where Fr. Biju passed on.

Reporting: Fr. Benjie Magnaye, mf



### **Delegation of North America Assembly Gathering**

From 5 to 9 September 2022 were five productive days when all priests, but one, of the Delegation of North America (DNA), members and on loan confreres, convened at Gibsonton, Florida in a Vrbo house paid for by the cousin of Fr. Hai Nguyen, Ms. Huong. This was our 2022 DNA Assembly. Nestled by the quiet neighborhood and the Alafia River flowing to Tampa Bay, DNA elected officers, Fr. Benjie Magnaye, Fr. Robert Chinnapan and Fr. Judah Pigon, presented to everyone the current state of the Delegation – from current ministry of each one to financial reporting transparency; of community and vocation strategies to future continuity and stability; finally struggles and possibilities were exchanged and brainstormed seeking the common good.

Like before, the good old days in the seminary, we celebrated the Liturgy with tasteful quality and clear intentions, honoring our jubilarians and remembering our deceased confreres, seminarians, and counterpart sisters of Missionaries of Faith. Some prepared the meals while others washed the dishes and swept the floor. A glass of wine kept the differences away and laughter burst into air. The camaraderie continued by the swimming



pool side while others played canasta, a rummy card game. And each one found time to visit one another.

Overall, it was absolutely a blessing to be together and as we flew back to our parishes, each member was reminded and being renewed by what constitutes a Missionary of Faith.



**Right to Left Back:** Gabriel, Joseph, Lourdu, Mariababu, Benjie, Robert, Chacko, Celso, Poulouse, Joy.

**Right to Left Front:** Jojo, Judah, Ni Ni, Hai, Dee Du, Kuriakose

**Not in the picture:** Joel

**Reporting:** Fr. Benjie Magnaye, mf

## MF NEWS BULLETIN

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# The opening ceremony of 40th year Anniversary

