



Congregazione Clericale

MISSIONARI DELLA FEDE

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M.F. News Bulletin

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Inside.....

- ♦ From the Editorial desk
- ♦ Message from Superior General

News from Major Organisms

Province of St. Peter (IND)

Province of Vietnam

Vice province of Italy

Vice province of Oceania



From the Editorial Desk ...

With joy we bring out the 28th 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.

HAPPY EASTER





MESSAGE FROM SUPERIOR GENERAL

HAPPY EASTER !

My Dear Confreres,

“Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ Our Lord”

as the hymn beautifully states, peace is a gift from God Himself. Peace be with you my confreres.

We start Holy Week filled with joy at the triumphant entry of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, only to find ourselves losing this joy as the week progresses towards Friday.

How often does this happen in our daily lives? How often do we see it happen in the lives of our family, friends and even our congregation members? What should we do when joy and peace are absent?

We follow the example of Jesus. He always proclaimed and brought love, joy and peace to those around Him despite the difficulties and negativity that often resulted and that we see, so clearly, played out in Holy Week.

The whole force of human bad behaviour was seen in one event; arrogance, plotting, betrayal, denial, abandonment, violence and death and yet through all this Jesus remained courageous to His purpose of proclaiming the Good News and He led us to the joyful event of the Resurrection.

Courage is a also a gift we all need. We see the courage of many people everyday facing war, the courage of a parent dealing with a sick child and the courage of individuals as they face their own personal crosses. Life is filled with fears and trials and so we see how to face them through the Passion of Christ. His courage, humility and love for those around Him and his trust in God, demonstrates how we should face the trials of our lives. We surrender to God and trust He knows what's best for us even if we don't see it.

In today's world, we need courage to spread the joy of the gospel and we sincerely pray for our brothers and sisters throughout the world that are persecuted and become martyrs for doing this. We are Missionaries of Faith and proclaiming the resurrection with peace and joy in our hearts is our daily mission. We are called to share the Good News by our words and our actions. We should be courageous with our witness, and share the love of God for all by proclaiming “Christ is Risen; He is Alive”. We continue to pray for peace in the world and peace in our hearts.

Assuring you of my prayers for each of you, your families and your communities during Holy Week and Eastertide.

God Bless and protect you always.
Rome, 04.04.2023



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

NEWS FROM the Major organisms

PROVINCE OF ST PETER - INDIA

Diaconate Ordination

The Province of St. Peter rejoices and thank God for the blessing of brothers Bro. Anthony (Arun Kumar) Sathulagalla mf, and Bro. Rajib Kdaiska mf, the perpetually professed members who are ordained as Deacons. The ordination to the Diaconate was conferred by Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, the Bishop of Eluru, on 27 March 2023, at Vianney College, Janampet, Eluru.

Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior of the Province of St. Peter, confreres present and the newly Ordained Deacons have expressed their gratitude to the Bishop.

The Provincial Superior Congratulated the newly Ordained Deacons and wished them all the best.



Annual Feast of Allipalli

The Annual feast of Allipalli Mary Matha Shrine was celebrated on 31 January, 1 and 2 February 2023. Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, the Bishop of Eluru had solemnized the Eucharistic Celebration on the final day. The priests from near and far have concelebrated in the Holy Eucharist. The great number of faithful have paid their homage to God and honoured and beseeched the prayerful blessings of Allipalli Kaanuka Matha. On behalf of Very Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior, Rev. Fr. Uday Kumar Garikimukula, the Parish Priest has thanked all who have worked for the graceful celebration of the feast.



The Visit of Apostolic Nuncio

The visit of Apostolic Nuncio, Most Rev. Bishop Leopoldo Girelli, to the Allipalli Mission was a blessing. His short visit to the mission has given great joy to the children studying in the mission and encouragement to all the people working for the mission. Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior expressed his gratitude for giving his valuable time.



Church Blessing at Dharmajigudem Mission

The Church constructed in honour of Nithyasahaamatha at Tholchilakarayudpalem (B) in Dharmajigudem parish was inaugurated on 11 February 2023, by His Lordship Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera D.D., Bishop of Eluru, in the presence of Rev. Fr. Adam Songa, the donor for the construction of the church.

Fr. Anand Babu Gantedi mf, the Parish Priest, thanked Most. Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera D.D., Bishop of Eluru.

A special gratitude was expressed to the generous donors and the faithful. He also thanked the priests present.



Lenten Prayer Services

Lenten prayer services were conducted in different mission parishes for the spiritual renewal and reunion with God and neighbour.



Allipalli



Azzampudi

Bathili



Dharmajigudem

Kalawakole



Mariveedu



Nadipalli



Pallaghuta



Pedakorukondi



Penugolanu



Yerraguntapalli

PROVINCE OF VIETNAM

Scholarships to Poor Students - Scholastic Year 2022 – 2023

After giving 28 scholarships to poor students, the Charity Office of Vietnamese Province of the Missionaries of Faith continued to award 58 scholarships to students with difficult circumstances, regardless of race or religion.

On behalf of these students, the Provincial Charity Office would like to sincerely thank benefactors for trusting and generously sharing financial resources to help carrying out this meaningful program.



BAN BÁC ÁI
TỈNH DÒNG THỪA SAI ĐỨC TIN VIỆT NAM

**HỌC BỔNG ĐƯỜNG HY VỌNG CHO HỌC SINH
NĂM HỌC 2022 - 2023**

The Solemnity of Saint Joseph

On 20 March 2023, Fr. Joseph Dao Van Riep presided the Mass of St. Joseph, at the chapel of the Institute of the God's Word. Attending the Mass, there were many Priests and seminarians in the community and few guests.

In the homily, Fr. Peter Nguyen Hung Hai, Superior of the community, reminded us: As people living a consecrated life, we also need to learn to live by the example of silent self-sacrifice and courage of St. Joseph

to commit in religious life in order to fully devote himself with confidence and enthusiasm in the mission. At the end of the Mass, Father Peter also spoke on behalf of the community with congratulatory messages to the fathers and many brothers who have St. Joseph as patron saint.



The Ash Wednesday

The Ash Mass was celebrated by Rev. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc mf., at the community chapel for the opening of the Lenten Season.

In the homily, deacon Anthony Nguyen Ngoc Linh shared: Lenten season is the most favorable time to direct our hearts to spiritual realities. And this is an opportunity to look back our relationship with the Lord and with our brothers and sisters; so that we may return to the Lord in repentance and determination to change your lives.

After the homily, Rev. Thomas, provincial superior, performed a rite of blessing the ash, then, giving ashes to the members of the community as a sign of repentance. This gesture helps us recognize of the sinful, mortal conditions of the humanity.



The Feast Conversion of Saint Paul The Apostle - Patron Saint of The Province of Vietnam And New year's Eve Party

On 31 December 2022, Rev. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc mf, provincial superior, met with all brothers' parents, teachers and brothers in the Province. Fr. Thomas announced the activities of the last year and talked about the orientations and training plans of the coming years so that the parents would know and pray more for the Province in the process training of the brothers in the future.

Most Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc, Bishop of Phu Cuong Diocese, presided over a Mass to celebrate the feast of conversion of saint Paul the Apostle - Patron Saint of the Vietnamese Missionaries of Faith. Concelebrating with him were Bishop Peter Tran Dinh Tu, former Bishop of Phu Cuong Diocese, Bishop Michael, Fr. Phillip Hla Phone mf, Provincial Superior of Myanmar and all the priests in The God's Word Institute.

At the end of the Mass, Rev. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc mf, spoke on behalf of the priests and all brothers in the Province, expressing gratitude and thanks for the care and support of the Most Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc for the Province in the past years as well as give the best wishes to him on the occasion of the new year coming.



After the Mass, everyone shared a friendly meal to celebrate the New Year's Eve together with special musical performance prepared by all the brothers and guests.



Gifts to The Disabled in Dau Tieng Parish, Binh Duong Province

On 11 January 2023, the MFVN Charity Office had given gifts to the disabled people and those whom in difficult circumstances, regardless of religion at Dau Tieng parish, Binh Duong province.

After that, everyone shared a warm and friendly New year's eve party together. During this time, 290 gifts, prepared by the MFVN Charity Office the day before, were hand-delivered to all. Although these are simple gifts but encapsulate the hearts of many benefactors, to contribute a little warm and wish a happy Lunar New Year for them.

Finally, the parochial priest Joseph Tran Van Lam, M.F., on behalf of everyone expressed gratitude to the MFVN Charity Office, Caritas Office of Phu Cuong Diocese and his collaborators, spent time and effort to hold this meaningful program.



Christmas Celebration at Nhan Ai Hospital

On 24 and 25 December 2022 the Priests and Postulants - The Province of Vietnam - together with benefactors and sisters of Mai Linh Community organized a meaningful Christmas celebration for patients at Nhan Ai Hospital, Phu Van commune, Bu Gia Map district, Binh Phuoc province.

The trip included activities such as organizing Christmas Mass, visiting, encouraging, organizing music, distributing gifts, and celebrating Christmas Day for more than 450 patients at Nhan Ai Hospital.



Program To Support Coffins for Poor People

"Wishing people departed to rest in peace in a deserving place" is the sentiment behind the program to support coffins for poor people by the Charity Office of the Missionaries of Faith in Vietnam for over two years.

In 2022, with the financial support of kind-hearted individuals, the Charity Office purchased 319 coffins and sent them to 24 parishes and religious congregations to be shared with families in difficult circumstances after losing loved ones in the Western provinces and Central Highlands.

In 2023, we plan and hope to support 500 coffins to poor people through parishes and religious congregations in remote mission areas.

We sincerely appreciate the contributions of our benefactors and their families. We ask that you continue to accompany the Charity Office of the Missionaries of Faith in Vietnam in this program.



The 10th Anniversary of The Dedication of Our Lady of The Rosary Church in Don Vang Parish

The Thanksgiving Mass and Sports Day was conducted on the 10th Anniversary of The Dedication Of Our Lady Of The Rosary Church In Don Vang Parish

On 26 February 2023, Parish priest Dominic Vũ Xuân Sơn, M.F. organized a sports day with the theme **"10 Years of God's Grace"**. All members of the nine missions in Don Vang parish and Ngoc Quang mission, belonging to Dong Can parish, competed joyfully, and laughed with six traditional games, women's football, and men's football.



On 28 February 2023, Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the parish community. Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, the non-resident representative of the Vatican Holy See in Vietnam, and the Most Rev. John Mary Vu Tat, the bishop of Hung Hoa Diocese, presided over the Dedication Mass of new church in Don Vang parish to God, with the title of Our Lady of the Rosary.



The Lenten Season 2023 at Ba Tra Parish

According to the good tradition of the Vietnamese Catholic, in Lenten season, all Catholics gather to contemplate the Passion of Jesus and his self-sacrificing love on the cross for us. Realizing the spiritual benefits of contemplating the Passion of Jesus, Father Michael Hoang Do Doc, M.F., pastor of Ba Tra Parish organized specific liturgical programs for the parish.

During the weeks, the parish makes the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons in the hope that the parishioners came closer to God, love God more, and take the liturgical hours sufficiently. Moreover, the parish pastor invited the priests to give the retreats to the parishioners and hear their confessions on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent.



His Excellency Rt. Rev. Dominic Dang Van Cau, New Bishop Of Thai Binh Diocese Celebrated A Mass Of Thanksgiving At Ba Tra Church

The new Bishop Dominic Dang Van Cau presided over the thanksgiving Mass at Ba Tra Parish, where his relatives are living. At the beginning of the Mass, pastor Michael Hoang Do Doc, M.F. introduced and greeted Bishop Dominic and the priests. In response to the pastor's words, Bishop Dominic invited the whole community to join with him in offering gratitude to God for many blessings God has bestowed. The Mass was celebrated solemnly and fervently. At the end of the Mass, the parish's representative sent Bishop Dominic a congratulations and gratitude.



Perpetual Profession

On 4 March 2023, Rev. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., the Provincial Superior, presided over the Mass of the perpetual profession of two brothers Peter Hoang Duc Nang, M.F., and Joseph Tran Van Nghiep, M.F., at Ninomiya Parish Church, Diocese of Yokohama, Japan. Currently, the two brothers are studying third theology at Tokyo Major seminary, in the diocese of Yokohama, Japan.

Although the Priests and Brothers of MFVN could not attend the Mass, everyone in the spirit of communion directly agreed to pray for the perpetual profession so that they would always have the courage to live following the evangelical counsels in their consecrated lives.



The Ministry of Lector

On 18 March 2023, at the chapel of the General House, Rev. Jesus Dajac, M.F., Superior General, presided over the Mass install the Ministry of Lector to three brothers studying in Rome, Italy: Br. Dang Khoa. Le Hong Cong, Br. Peter Do Hong Quang and Br. Joseph Pham Van The. Priests and brothers have also joined in a special prayer so that they will always love, courageously proclaim and bear witness to the Good News of God through the ministry entrusted to them by the Church.



VICE PROVINCE OF ITALY

Visit of Superior General at MF community, Chianciano

On 3 April 2023, Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac, the Superior General visited MF community at Chianciano Terme. At evening celebrated the Holy Mass in the parish and addressed the Philippine community.



General Superior Meeting with Card. Augusto Paolo Lojudice

On 4 April 2023, Fr. Jesus Dajac, Superior General had a meeting with His Excellency, Card. Augusto Paolo Lojudice, together with Fr. Antonio Canestri Vicar General of Diocese of Montepulciano and Fr. Carlo Sensani, the Parish Priest.



VICE PROVINCE OF OCEANIA

Chaplaincy Auckland Hospital

Recently the re-arrangement was made between the MF Oceania and the Auckland Diocese for the Auckland Hospital after the resignation of one of our Lay Chaplain. Fr. Talipope as a Full time Chaplain from Sunday to Thursday. Frs. Iosefo, Joseph and Consedine as On Call Priests from 5pm – 8am in the morning and every weekend. The rearrangement from March 2023 Fr. Consedine will take 3 hours every Wednesday, and Fr. Iosefo Timu and Fr. Joseph every Friday for 3 hours at the Hospital visiting, distributing Holy Communion and attending the Spiritual needs of the patients.

The MF Oceania is taking over the Chaplaincy ministries. Not only for the patients but with the staff at the Hospital. Mass every Sunday and Catholic Service every Wednesday for the staff. Distributing for Ashes on Wednesday was well attended by the Staff who requested to receive Ashes. Working together with the Ecumenical Team at the Hospital is going very well, sharing our ministries and towards the patients. We meet every 1st Tuesday of the month for our to share and discuss if any problems or issues need to be improved in our Chaplaincy Ministries.

The number of our Catholic patients is very high between 60/70 every day not counting the unlisted Catholic patients. Always received a call or a referral for a patient at the point of life ended. A lot of Baptism for new born children born before due time and born struggle and fight for life. Counselling and spiritual directions for parents, reconciliation and anointing always needed and asked. We ministry at the Hospital as Missionary of Faith and as a Team of Priests from Our MF Order. Communication is very important in our Chaplaincy Team so the Hospital will not leave unattended. Ask your prayers for our ministry and keep you all in our humble prayers.

Fr. Talipope Vaifale

on behalf of the Auckland Chaplaincy Team.

The Providence of God at work in the Parish of Our Lady of the Assumption, Onehunga.

The parish, Our Lady of the Assumption Onehunga, is one of the first Parishes (after Avondale) our Congregation has had the opportunity to Serve in the Diocese of Auckland. With many years serving the people of Onehunga, we have had the luxury of genuine benefactors from The Parish. Just recently an anonymous benefactor donated, to The Parish, a new carpet for inside the church. The carpet was very beautiful and looked very expensive, but the benefactor did not stop there. They even went as far as to get people



to pull out the old carpet, and install the new.

Now this was very significant, because on pulling out the old carpet, we discovered three graves located on the west wing of the church. Bishop Joannes Edmunds Luck, who died 1896, Monsignor James Paul, who died 1905 (was the parish priest of Onehunga for 47 years) and William John Kemp (the architect and builder) who died in 1906. These people are a part of history for the Diocese of Auckland, with a lot of questions being answered, especially “where is the grave of Bishop Luck.” For the time being, Fr. Talipope Vaifale, the Parish Priest, has put through all the necessary paperwork for the parish to expose the three graves. The parish has been buzzing with the news about the graves, and we can tell the excitement it brings as we know all three men were very well known in their fields of work.

After the Christmas and New Year’s celebrations, we started to see more people coming back to Church. But it was a little difficult trying to get them to congregate for certain activities. Surely and steadily, we started to see the changes, elderly coming back to Mass, Youth coming back from studies and asking us for activities to do, and parents coming out of their bubbles with their children.

We have just celebrated our Palm Sunday and Anointing Mass with some of our beautiful parishioners as we enter into Holy Week. For the past couple of weeks, our Parish has begun to open up like a flower, and is now in preparation for the Triduum and for our Ecumenical service on Good Friday, where we combine with the Anglican Church and cooperative church for Stations of the Cross, and we walk the streets of Onehunga. Our ministry here is very diverse as we also have St Joseph’s Primary School, who we visit every second week, 4 rest homes for communion to the sick, with one whom we celebrate The Holy Mass. With having three priests, Father Talipope Vaifale, Father Vijay Palle and Father Tino Toleafoa, delegating whom to go where is done in the community, and also very blessed to share the Charism of our Congregation in all parts of the Diocese.



We are looking forward to celebrating the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Ecumenical Stations of The Cross

For the past few years three Onehunga churches have gathered together on Good Friday for The Stations of the Cross. The Co-operative church, the Anglican Church and The Catholic Church, where Fr Talipope Vaifale is the parish priest, walk the streets of Onehunga contemplating on the death of Jesus Christ. It was forecasted to be heavy rain and cloudy skies, but the Lord had other plans. This year we started at St Peters the Anglican Church, then made our way down to Our Lady of Assumption Catholic church. Prayer and blessing were given to everyone and then off again to the co-operative church, where we recited and contemplated the way of the cross with our brothers and sisters. Each minister had his turn to read and meditate upon each station, accompanied by the beautiful hymns of different ethnic groups. As we mixed and mingled along our path, we continued to share and show The Charism of our Congregation, especially in our ecumenical services. We have a beautiful relationship with these two churches, who are always willing to celebrate together no matter the circumstances. The beauty of today was witnessing everyone



touch the Cross, either as we walked along the streets or at the co-operative church. Witnessing the people as they came to the cross and give reverence, the words of St Francis of Assisi echoed in my head "We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You, because by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world."

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