



Congregazione Clericale
MISSIONARI DELLA FEDE

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M.F. News Bulletin

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Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year 2024





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From the Editorial Desk...

With joy we bring out the 30th issue of our Newsletter aimed at keeping all the members informed of the various activities, undertakings and events that are happening in the various parts of Congregation, may we kindly request everyone to collaborate with us. May the God grant us the grace to be courageous and joyful messengers of the Good News and a shining star that led others to the feet of the Lord. We wish everyone A very Happy Christmas & Grace filled New Year 2024.



Message from Superior General



Christus natus est nobis —Venite, adoremus!

In the nativity, the Christ child is the centre of everything. The animals, the star and the various people can't help but group themselves around Him. They know that He is something unique and special worth spending time in His presence.

To truly celebrate and rejoice at this Christmas time, we must view this event through the eyes of faith like the people in the nativity story. Mary and Joseph, the wise men, and the shepherds all, in faith, trusted what was announced by the Divine. We, too, hear this announcement, but are we listening? Do we know our role in this story and live our lives accordingly?

Mary and Joseph demonstrated faith and obedience as they followed the instructions of the Angel Gabriel. The Wise Men, in faith, followed the star. They believed in Christ when they had never seen Him. They trusted in God's Word and signs. They believed in Him when they saw Him, a little infant on Mary's knee, and worshiped Him as a king.

In the darkness, the shepherds waited and watched, like the little child at the centre of our souls, until the angels appeared. Then, in faith, they responded and ran to Bethlehem. It's in the darkness that the heavenly light dawns. In the silence, we hear the angels' song. They heard the Word of God by faith and, without any thought of who they were in the hierarchy of society, they acted straight away. That is Faith.

Unfortunately, now as then, many do know of His birth, but are troubled by it and fight against the Good News for many reasons i.e., fear of the unknown, fear to lose their power, money, possessions or reputation, fear of something greater than themselves. They have no Faith.

We, the Missionaries of Faith, are called to live and to communicate, by words and actions, how to have this Faith. We follow the example of Mary, Joseph, the wise men, and the shepherds. Let us meditate on this on the final weeks of Advent leading to this joyous occasion and to the Truth. Jesus, the Christ child, came to earth over 2000 years ago to save us, let us live and show our Faith.

I wish you a very blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fr. Jesus Dajac, mf

Superior General

VIII ORDINARY GENERAL CHAPTER OF THE MISSIONARIES OF FAITH:

“Synodal Path in our Congregation” was the theme chosen for the VIII Ordinary General Chapter of the Missionaries of Faith. The General Chapter was held at Via Nulvi 11 in Rome from 4 -25 September of 2023. There were 24 members from various provinces and vice provinces and delegation including the Superior General Fr. Jesus DAJAC and Council who have participated to the VIII Ordinary General Chapter.

Our Superior General Fr. Jesus Dajac during his opening remarks he states that, the General Chapter is always a time of reflection and discernment, seeking God’s will for the Congregation and for its members. The General Chapter is a time for everyone to work for the unity of the Congregation without any favouritism, we participate with a true spirit of our charism and spirituality. It’s time to really reflect on our call as members of an Institute chosen by Jesus to be His instruments of love and joy to His people.

Some of the highlights of the Chapter are the presence of His Excellency Mons. Paolo Ricciardi, Auxiliary Bishop and Delegate for Religious in the diocese of Rome, who led a day of retreat for the capitular fathers in preparation for the election of a new Superior General and Council. On September the 21, His Excellency Mons. Gian Rico Ruzza, the bishop of the diocese of Civitavecchia had also come to visit the Missionaries of Faith General Chapter and celebrate mass with them. Before the conclusion of the General Chapter His Eminence Cardinal Angelo De Donatis the Vicar of the Holy Father for the Diocese of Rome had come to visit the Missionaries of Faith and to celebrate mass with them. During his homily he once again underlined the importance of our role as a religious Institute in the Church by saying: That in the first place, I wish to note the very great importance of your Religious Institute, and to observe that your work is wholly necessary for the Church in these days. In bringing about this renewal of your Institute, your primary concern must always be the spiritual life of your members.

Therefore, among yourselves your duty it is to devote yourselves to works of the sacred apostolate. You lift your souls in hope, for the cause is not ours but that of Jesus Christ. Christ is our strength, our hope, our power. He will be with us always. Continue to diffuse the good odour of Christ as widely as possible by the integrity of your faith, by the holiness of your life, by your great zeal for all the virtues. Meanwhile, as I thank you for your obedience, we pray God through the intercession of Mary the Queen of the Confessors of Faith, that your Institute may continue to grow daily and bear ever richer and more salutary fruits.

All members of the General Chapter went to the general audience with the Holy Father Pope Francis on September 20, 2023. The Superior General and the capitular fathers after the audience, were also had the opportunity to greet the Holy Father.

Concluding Message of the VIII Ordinary General Chapter from our Fr. Superior General:

It is an honour for me to serve our Congregation. The VIII General Chapter is an event of grace. It is an assembly that experienced and authentic fraternal communion under the action of the Holy Spirit, attentive to His interior movements, open to the light of an authentic discernment, for a verification, for a new dynamism, for a projection, that is aware of the authentic good of our Congregation.

Best wishes to my new councillors, who, will help me to inspire the Institute, encourage, guide, and require the observance of the Congregations and fidelity to the Church and the Holy See on the part of all the confreres.

As we are gathered here at the conclusion of our VIII General Chapter sessions, I would like to pray with the prayer of King Solomon asking for the gift of Wisdom:

Now, Lord, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed David my father; But I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act- Give your servant therefore, a listening heart to judge people and to distinguish between good and evil. For who can give judgement for this vast people of yours?

The Superior General then, declares the official closing of the VIII Ordinary General Chapter of the Clerical Congregation of the Missionaries of Faith.

“Synodal path in our congregation” was the theme chosen for the 8th General Chapter, in compliance article 144 of our constitution. It was held in Rome from 4 -25 Settembre 2023. Altogether 24 priests from different Province’s, vice -provinces and delegation had participated.

The Chapter was a great experience of fraternity, and hospitality for more than three weeks, it was a time of spiritual discernment as we jointly sought the responses, we must make to address the new challenges facing our congregation today, to continue live as missionaries of faith. By the grace God, everything went on excellently with Election Fr. Jesus Dajac mf as the superior general. The following day chapter members have elected the Fr Domenico Borge, Fr. Joseph Phan Trong Quan, Fr. Andrea Atonio, Fr Mario Kurapatti, as general councillors.











Very. Rev. Fr Superior general and councillors.



Photo: closing day of the 8th General chapter



New Mission in Albania.

Installation of Fr Jesus Sair Yrady Blanco as a new Parish Priest of our new Parish of St. Nicholas and MF community in Milot, Archdiocese of Tirana in Albania.

Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac m.f, the Superior General and some members of the General Council were travelling to Albania to witness the opening of a new MF community in Albania, most importantly to participate in the installation of Fr. Jesus Sair Yrady Blanco as a new parish priest of the parish of S. Nicholas in Milot.

In local time at 4pm on the day 6 December 2023, the celebration of holy mass was presided by Archbishop of Tirana His Grace. Mons. Arjan Dodaj and Fr. Superior General Jesus Dajac m.f and the whole clergy of the archdiocese of Tirana, have concelebrated. During his homily, he underlined the importance of unity between the parish priest and parishioners.



In the past years, there was no unity, there was no freedom to preach the Good News about Jesus Christ because it was prohibited by the communists. People didn't have freedom to come to church. Now we are free to become faithful witnesses of the Good News. Having a priest from another country to be your parish priest is a big challenge for everyone, but Pope Francis speaks very clear when he said, "we must break down the walls of separation which can divide us". We all belong to one Father who is in heaven, and to one Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God. Fr. Jesus is a member of the Missionaries of Faith. The Missionaries of Faith are here in Milot to bring the faith to you and your families. We are unable to believe if we don't have faith and without faith we can't even hope for a better future. After my homily, Fr. Jesus will perform a very important gesture and action that can explain his whole ministry among you and that gesture is the washing of the feet.



Jesus during the Last Supper he washed the feet of his disciples and said, 'Like I did to you, do it to others'. Fr Jesus will continue to be your servant; he will exercise his ministry according to the teachings of Jesus Christ the High Priest. Do not be afraid to become witnesses of the truth, the Truth is Jesus, if you live according to the truth, you will always have joy and peace in your hearts, because Jesus is the Truth and He is the only one who can offer us joy and his peace, and the truth will make us free.

After the homily, Fr Jesus starts the washing of the feet according to the rite of the installation prepared by the archbishop. The Profession of Faith and Oath of fidelity on assuming an office to be exercised in the name of the church was followed.

The archbishop and the clergy and religious were all invited to a special dinner which was held in the presbytery prepared by the Congregation of the Angelic Sisters of Saint Paul. To conclude the beautiful evening, we all sang the "Immacolata Regina è Bella" to our Immaculate Mother Mary, and the final blessing given by the archbishop. **"È viva i Missionari della Fede"**



Province of St. Paul – (India)

News From Provincial House Community

Farewell: We the community members bid farewell to Rev. Fr Prince, the Superior of the Provincial House on 14th of October. The very next day he left to the Diocese of Graz-Seckau in Austria for the Ministry. All the community members wished him all the best for his safe journey and missionary work.



Silver Jubilee Celebration:

We the Missionaries of Faith, Province of St. Paul had the celebration of Silver Jubilee of our Rev. Fr. Jose Thakarappillil. The Thanksgiving Eucharist was celebrated by the Jubilarian on 27th November 2023 (Monday), 11 am at Provincial House. It was followed by felicitation and fellowship meal. The relatives of Fr Jose were present for the celebration as well as the priests and nuns from nearby communities, to congratulate and to encourage him to be faithful to the Lord as he has been till now, celebrating his 25th anniversary of his priestly ordination.





Annual Retreat:

The Annual Retreat was held in the provincial house from 27th November 2023 (Monday) at 9:00 pm to 1st December 2023 (Friday) evening. There were sixteen priests for the retreat from different communities and the retreat preacher was Rev. Fr Jacob Kumminiyil SJ



New Priest Gathering:

The newly ordained priests namely Dinesh Tudu and Amit Kumar Murmu offered thanksgiving Eucharist at the provincial house on 2nd of December 2023. Thereafter we had felicitation and fellowship meal.



Minor seminary, Mananathavady

Beginning of new scholastic year

Rev. Dr Martin Alukaputhussery officially inaugurated the academic year 2023-24 on the 24th of June 2023. On this great occasion, he presided over the Holy Eucharist, accompanied by the Council members, sisters, and brothers and this academic year welcomed thirteen newcomers, imparting blessings, and hope.



Onam celebration

The festival of Onam, which marks the season of harvest, was celebrated both in our Minor Seminary and at the Parish level. Onam holds great religious and cultural significance in Kerala. The festivities commenced with Onakalikal (Onam competitions), where winners were rewarded, and culminated with a grand Onam Sadhya feast.





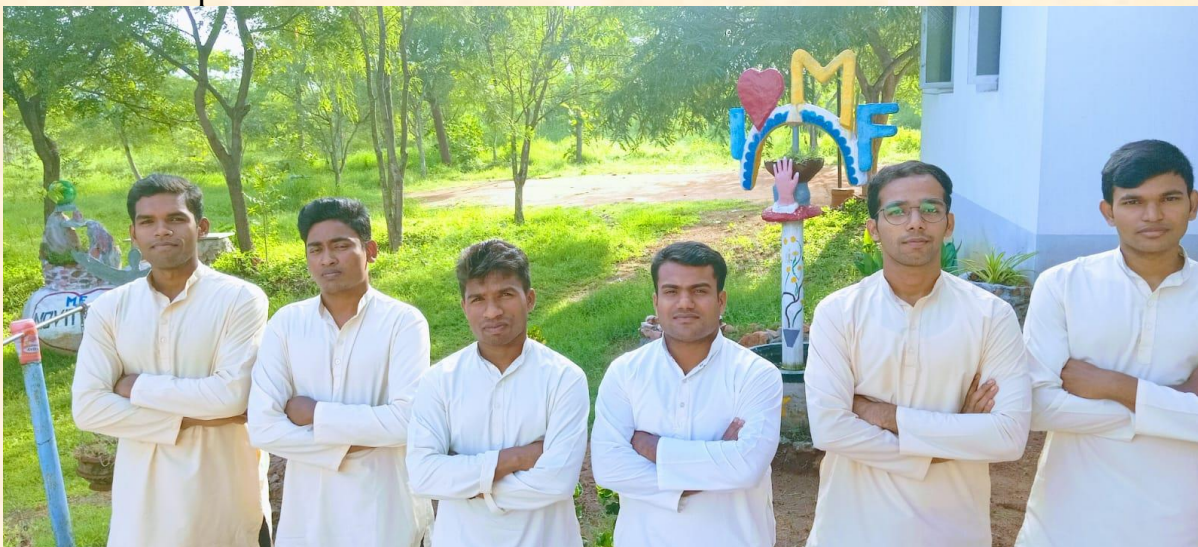
Study tour

Annual study tour was arranged to Mysore. And this trip brought a lot of enriching experience and relaxation, as they had the opportunity to learn about the culture and history.



Novitiate Community, Palayamkottai, Sempatti:

We, the Clerical Congregation of Missionaries of Faith in India, are blessed with Six Novices in this year 2023 – 2024. Three are belonging to St. Peter's Province, and three are belonging to St. Paul Province. We, the Missionaries of Faith, Novitiate Community Palayamkottai, Sempatti, Dindigul – Dt, Tamil Nadu, had ten days of Novena Prayer Service, which helped us to prepare to celebrate our Heavenly Patroness feast day, Mary Queen of Confessor's of Faith on 22nd August 2023. We also invited the fathers and sisters those who are near to us to enhance our Joy. The Solemn celebration started with the Holy Eucharistic celebration, followed by the cultural events which is performed by holy Novices and was ended up with the fellowship meal.



St. Joseph church, kattakulam – Kannur

The annual feast of St. Therasa of Child Jesus at Ayyothu in the Parish of St. Joseph was celebrated on the 1st of October 2023. Fr. Shyju Perer, Parish Priest of Thavam Fathima Matha Church celebrated the Holy Mass and Fr. Binu SJB and Fr. Rejimon concelebrated the Eucharistic celebration. It was a Faith witnessing celebration in the community.



A seminar on Anti - Drug Awareness was conducted on 20th of August 2023 in St. Joseph Church for the Parishioners. Mrs. Juna the Pappinisery range excise officer was the resource person.



Longo:

There was a retreat for women from 17th to 19th of November 2023 at Longo Parish and it was preached by bishop Dennis, the Auxiliary bishop of diocese of Miao. Retreat was concluded with the holy Eucharist celebration and Fr. Tom Jose mf presided over and the message was delivered by Fr. Mathius Tudu.





The children of St. Mary's school, Longo participated inter-school cultural competition 6th and 7th of November 2023. It was an opportunity for our young ones to explore themselves to go forward with lots of ambition.



St. Mary's school Longo had Annual Day celebration on 11th of November 2023. This day was joyful occasion for our children. Many dignitaries and parents coloured the occasion.



Month of October was concluded with the rosary processions in every village under the Longo Parish. It was noted that the people are very much devoted to Our Lady of Rosary.



Konsa: conducted a continuous 60-hour Holy Eucharist adoration from 6th to 8th of September 2023 and it was led by Longo Parish Priest at Noksa Village Chapel. In this holy adoration every catholic community under Longo Parish were partaken and prayed.



A small village chapel is under construction at Hollam village under Longo Parish. Only 8 catholic families are in this community. May I request your prayerful support for the completion of the church.



Longo Parish had a youth animation and drug awareness program on 16th of September 2023. It was led by SRM group under the leadership of Shri. James Ponglaham and his team.



The Hostel building at Longo is completed and ready for the inauguration.



Province of St. Peter (India)

Dharmajigudem Mission

On 06th November 2023, In the mission parish of Dharmajigudem, the Mattamgudemvillage celebrated the silver Jubilee of St. Anthony's church and the Anniversary of our Lady of Sorrows Tower. His Lordship Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera D.D., Bishop of Eluru, solemnized the celebrations. He has appreciated Fr. Anand Babu G and Fr. John V and all the faithful of the Mattamgudem village. Rev. Fr. Anand Babu Gantedi mf, the Parish Priest, thanked Most. Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera D.D., Bishop of Eluru. And expressed feelings of gratitude to all the priests and the religious who made the day a blessed. He also thanked the faithful of the village for their commitment and collaboration to make the celebration successful.



Nadipalli Mission

In the mission Parish of Nadipalli, the foundation stone for the New Chapel at Kallaryanagudem village was blessed and laid by Very Rev. Fr. Maria Joji RAI mf, the Provincial Superior on 20th November 2023. The Provincial Superior has appreciated Rev. Fr. Arulraj Dasari mf, the Parish Priest for undertaking this work. He also appreciated the people and asked them to give their total support to the parish priest. Fr. Arulraj Dasari mf, thanked Very Rev. Fr. Maria Joji RAI mf, the Provincial Superior. In a special way he expressed his gratitude to the donors and the faithful.



Yerraguntapalli Parish

On 25th October 2023 the annual Feast of Yeraanguntapalli parish was celebrated. Rev. Fr. Gnanaprakasam Bodu, the Vicar Forane of the Chintalapudi vicariate has solemnized the Holy Mass and the priests from the Chintalapudi Vicariate concelebrated in the Mass. Rev. Fr. Suvisesharao Nitta mf, has expressed his gratitude to all the priests and the people.

Azzampudi Parish

The Parish of Azzampudi celebrated the Annual Feast on 03rd December 2023. Most Rev. Raja Rao Thelagathoti D.D., Bishop of Vijayawada presided over the Eucharist and solemnized the celebration. The people had the spiritual preparation for the feast with the celebration of the Novenas in honour of Our Lady of Velankani.

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. Bishop has appreciated the people for their devotion and support to the church. Fr. Raju B mf expressed his words of gratitude to Most Rev. Raja Rao Thelagathoti D.D., and all the priests presents. He also thanked the parishners for their cooperation and collaboration.



The Priestly Ordination Day celebrations of Very Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior

With gratitude to the Lord for the manifold blessings that he showered upon Very Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf, the Provincial Superior in his 34 years of priestly journey, the province solemnized the celebration on 10th December 2023. As he entered the 35th Year of his Priestly journey, the confreres from MF and the priests from the vicariate of Chintalapudi joined him in the thanksgiving mass and prayed for him and for his intentions. The Provincial Superior expressed his sentiments of gratitude to all the priests, sisters and the faithful.



Province of Vietnam

The mass and sport festival on the solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, Titular of the Congregation of the Missionaries of Faith

At 5:00 AM, 4 June 2023, the Community of God's Word Institute celebrated the Holy Mass of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, the titular of the Congregation. The eucharistic celebration was presided over by Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, mf., the Provincial Superior. In the joy of the feast of the Holy Trinity, the community also held a sport festival with the participation of all the members of the community, the event went on well and achieved many spiritual benefits of brotherhood in the community life.



Saint Paul - the patronage of the of the family group of the Vietnamese Missionaries of Faith – 2023

The Family Group of the Vietnamese Missionaries of Faith has received St. Paul as the patronage saint, and on Saturday, July 1st, 2023, the members gathered to the Institute of the Word of God to celebrate the Feast of their Patronage. At 09:00, Father Paul Dinh Tien Nhan, M.F., in charge of the Family Group, shared with the members about plans, activities, information of the members of the Family Group in the past year, as well as the intentions and direction of activities in the coming time and reporting on the financial plan. After the sharing, the Father Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F.,

The Provincial, shared with members of the meaning of celebration, by receiving a saint as a Patronage. Following, the Mass started at 10:15 am. The provincial priests were the celebrants. In the lecture, Fr. Paul Nhan shared to the people about the life and vocation of St.

Paul, notably the life experience that the Saint recorded: “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” (Ep 4:32).



Admission to novitiate

Nine candidates were admitted to Novitiate of Vietnamese Province on 30 July 2023, at the chapel of the Provincial House. The celebration included the rites, blessing and giving of cassocks, and professing their promise as novices.

After a time of praying, discerning, and living the community life in the Congregation of the Missionaries of Faith, the brothers decided to respond to God's invitation, to continue the path of love that God called, "Speak, for your servant hears." (1 Samuel 3:10), to enter the Novitiate.



Weekly retreat and ordinary training in 2023

From July 31, 2023, to August 5, 2023, the priests, deacons, and professed religious of the Missionaries of the Faith - Province of Vietnam gathered for the annual Retreat and Ordinary Training at the Don Bosco K'Long Center in the Diocese of Dalat.

The theme of the retreat was "Communion in the Spiritual Life", based on the charism and spirituality of the Congregation. On this foundation, Fr. Joseph Ngo Sy Dinh, O.P. shared with the participants on the life of consecration.

After the retreat, the participants attended three days of ordinary training from Thursday, August 3, 2023, to Saturday, August 5, 2023.

In this year's ordinary training, the Most Rev. Anthony Vu Huy Chuong, the former bishop of the Diocese of Dalat, led the participants with the theme: "Holy Priests, Living in Community, and Doing Ministry".



The first and perpetual profession

The Vietnam MF Province is very glad to inform that on 07 August 2023, 5 novices made their first profession and 16 temporarily professed brothers made their perpetual religious profession at the chapel of the Provincial House. The Holy Mass was presided over by Most Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc, Bishop of the diocese of Phu Cuong. May the maternal heart of Maria, Regina Confessorum Fidei, spur them onto weave within the inner most of their spirit the same Christ whom she had formed in her womb.



First profession:

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



Perpetual Profession religious:

1. Br. Peter Nguyen Van Ba
2. Br. Joseph Tran Huu Hanh
3. Br. Joseph Mai Thanh Hoan
4. Br. Anthony Nguyen Van Hoan
5. Br. Joseph Bui Phi Hung
6. Br. Joseph Nguyen Vu Long
7. Br. Anthony Pham Duc My
8. Br. Peter Le Huu Ngoc
9. Br. Joseph Nguyen Tran Phu
10. Br. Peter Nguyen Van Son
11. Br. Peter Nguyen Vu Hoang Thanh
12. Br. Anthony Tran Ngoc Tin
13. Br. John Baptist Nguyen Van Tinh
14. Br. Peter Nguyen Viet Trung
15. Br. Dominic Do Hoang Tuan
16. Br. John Baptist Luu Quang Vinh



Sacred ordinations to priesthood and diaconate in 2023

The Vietnam MF Province was glad to give the good news that on 10 August 2023, 18 of the Perpetually Professed confreres of Vietnamese Province were ordained deacons and priests by Most Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc, the Bishop of the Phu Cuong diocese, at the Cathedral of Phu Cuong Diocese.

Concelebrating with him in the Mass were Most Rev. Peter Tran Dinh Tu, former Bishop of Phu Cuong Diocese, Most Rev. Raphael Masahiro Umemura, Bishop of Yokohama Diocese, Japan; Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., Superior of the Vietnamese province, and the priests.

The New Deacons:

1. Dc. Joseph Vu Duy An, M.F.
2. Dc. Joseph Phan Quoc Duy, M.F.
3. Dc. Peter Khanh. Phan Anh Duc, M.F.
4. Dc. John Baptist. Nguyen Dinh Hue, M.F.
5. Dc. Peter Nguyen Ngoc Hoang, M.F.
6. Dc. Joseph Pham Hoang Huynh, M.F.
7. Dc. Francis Xavier Tran Van Luat, M.F.
8. Dc. Peter Bui Duy Quan, M.F.
9. Dc. John Le Quynh Thu, M.F.
10. Dc. Joseph Ngo Minh Tri, M.F.



The New priests:

1. Fr. Ignatius nguyen thanh nha, m.f.
2. Fr. Dominic than hoang phi, m.f.
3. Fr. John baptist nguyen duy thanh, m.f.
4. Fr. Joseph pham minh thanh, m.f.
5. Fr. Paul tran khac thong, m.f.
6. Fr. John nguyen van trinh, m.f.
7. Fr. Joseph vo tan trung, m.f.
8. Fr. Joseph vo minh tuan, m.f.



Holy Mass with rite of institution of lector and acolyte, the handing over of the mission letters, and opening of the new formation year 2023-2024.

Holy Mass was presided over by Rev. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., the Vietnamese Provincial, with the presence of the fathers and brothers in the province, in the Chapel of the Community of God's Word Institute at 5:00 a.m. on August 31, 2023.

During the homily, Rev. Fr. Peter Nguyen Hung Hai, M.F., the Local Superior shared about the gift of fidelity and the joy of perseverance in the consecrated life.

After the homily, the Rite of the Institution of Lector and Acolyte was celebrated for the 07 in the second and 09 brothers in the third year of theology.

At the end of the Holy mass, Rev. Fr. Joseph Trinh Van Cung, the Provincial Secretary, announced the Mission Letters, and at the same time, the Provincial also handed over the Mission Letter to the fathers and brothers.



The Holy Mass was memorial the venerable Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan, name of the institute of philosophy and theology of the Missionaries of Faith - province of Vietnam.

On September 16th, in a spirit of jubilation, Father Provincial Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc celebrated the Holy Mass to honour the Venerable Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan, after whom the Institute of Philosophy and Theology of the Missionaries of Faith - Province of Vietnam is named. There were many priests from the God's word Institute and nearby communities to concelebrate the mass.

In his homily, Father Thomas reflected on the life of the Venerable, marked by challenges and adversities, to underscore the virtues of sacrifice, humility, and firm trust in the Lord's will, infused with earnest hope. These virtues are models for the brothers in their consecrated lives, especially in their future missionary ministry.



Ngoc chau sub - parish, hop chau parish, thai binh diocese - prayer mass for the elderly and newly baptized people.

Looking forward to World Mission Day 2023 with the theme: "Hearts on fire, feet on the move" (cf. Lk 24:13-35), At 2:30 P.M, on the afternoon of October 18th, 2023, the Ngoc Chau Sub - Parish organized a meeting. The meeting brought together 105 elderly people of different religions and 21 newly baptized brothers and sisters. Fr. Laurenso Vu Van Trinh M.F., shared the topic: "Catholics live religiously ". During the sharing session, Fr. Laurenso gave three ideas: The first, live religiously in Vietnamese tradition. Next, live religiously in the Christian life. Finally, a few suggestions on living a religious life today.

At 3:45 P.M., Fr. Peter Phan Anh Tuan M.F., Superior of Ngoc Chau Community, celebrated Mass to celebrate Saint Luke.



The Missionaries of Faith - Province of Vietnam awards “road of hope” scholarships

The Charity Board of the Missionaries of Faith - Province of Vietnam held an event to award the first “Road of Hope” scholarships to 3 high school students and 49 academically excellent university students in Ho Chi Minh city. This took place at 08:00 AM on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at the Sao Mai Student House, 87/22/41 Banh Van Tran Street, Ward 7, Tan Binh District, Ho Chi Minh City.

At 09:00 AM, Father Joseph Nguyen Bao Huan Chuong, M.F., Leader of the Committee, met with the students, encouraging them to bravely face challenges and excel in their studies. Following the interaction, a Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated for the benefactors and students by Father Joseph Nguyen Bao Huan Chuong, M.F., with Father Joseph Maria Le Xuan Dinh, M.F., as the co-celebrant. After the Mass, scholarships were presented: 49 university students received 4,000,000 VND each, and 3 high school students received 2,000,000 VND each.



Province of the Missionaries of Faith in Vietnam: Eucharistic adoration on behalf of the diocese of Phu Cuong in 2023

In a spirit of communion with the Diocese of Phu Cuong, on the morning of the 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time, which was also World Mission Sunday, October 22, 2023, the Missionaries of the Faith Province of Vietnam held a Eucharistic Adoration on behalf of the diocese at the province’s chapel. The theme was "Hearts on fire, feet set fast" (Luke 24:13-35), and the intention of prayer was: "Lord, open the eyes of my heart so that I may recognize you in my life and introduce you to my brothers and sisters."

At 5:00 A.M. on the same day, Fr. Thomas Dinh Ngoc Loc, M.F., Provincial Superior of the Province of Vietnam, celebrated Mass on World Mission Sunday. Immediately after Mass, the Eucharist was present in the simple bread that was reverently placed.

At 2:30 P.M., Fr. Anthony Nguyen Tien Hien, M.F., presided over the Hour of Adoration and Closing, with the communion of all the members of the community.



Fr. Dominic Vu Xuan son, m.f.: thanksgiving mass concludes the apostolic ministry at don vang parish, southwest Phu Tho deanery, Hung Hoa diocese.

On Sunday, October 22, 2023, Fr. Dominic Vu Xuan Son, M.F. offered a mass of thanksgiving to end the period of pastoral apostolate at Don Vang Parish, Hung Hoa Diocese.

At the beginning of the mass, Fr. Dominic invited the parish community to join him in celebrating the Mass of thanksgiving for ending his apostolic mission as parish priest of Don Vang parish after a period of 5 years, 3 months, and 27 days.

That was the time when he was present, accompanying and guiding the faith life of parishioners in the Parish. Concelebrating the Mass were priests and deacons from the Missionaries of Faith who are pastoring in the dioceses of Northern Vietnam. Present at the Mass were also Father's relatives and the integral Parish community.



Vice -Province of Italy:

Cardinals visit to Nostra Signoria di Czestochowa parish Rome.

The General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality concluded with Holy Mass on October 29, the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In his homily, Pope Francis said that "We may have plenty of good ideas on how to reform the Church but let us remember: to adore God and to love our brothers and sisters with his love, that is the great and perennial reform."

After the celebration in St. Peters Basilica His Eminence Cardinal Mario Grech General Secretariat of Synod of Bishops, His Eminence Charles Maung Bo S.D.B. Archbishop of Yangon Myanmar, His Eminence Oswald Gracias Archbishop of Bombay India, His Grace Bejoy Nicephorus D' Cruse Archbishop of Dhaka Bangladesh, and various participants of the synod from Asia had visited the parish, especially to the tomb of venerable Lorena D'Alessandro. It was also a coincidence to celebrate the 75th Birthday of His Eminence Cardinal Charles Bo. S.D.B



First Religious Profession and Renewal of the vows in Rome.

The preparation for first Religious Profession for the seven MF novices from Myanmar has begun on September 25 with a spiritual retreat. Retreat masters were Fr. Phillip Hla Phone and Fr. Maurice This Ha Htwe. The retreat was last one week with inspiring reflections, prayer moments, meditations, and Eucharistic celebrations. On the 30th day of September the novices went for the sacrament of penance at the Sanctuary of Divina Amore accompanied by their novice master Fr Joel.

The celebration of Holy Mass led by Fr. Jesus Dajac, Superior General with the participation of the MF priests in Italy, was held on October 7th, feast of “Our Lady of the Rosary” in the parish of Nostra signor di Czestochowa in Rustica (Rm). During Mass, the seven novices from Myanmar have made their first Religious Profession of vows. Three other seminarians from Samoa have renewed their vows during the same ceremony.

Fr. Jesus Dajac mf, superior general in his homily invited all confreres and seminarians to cherish and live the call which we have received from God, as Missionaries of Faith is unique and challenging. We can live our vocation and charism with the help of Mary Queen of Confessors of Faith.





Pilgrimage to venerable Lorena.

On September 9, 2023, all the capitular fathers have invited by the Parish Priest of “Nostra signory di Czestochowa in Rustica, Roma, to celebrate Mass and spend a day of fellowship and fraternal communion. With this visit they had the privilege to visit the tomb of venerable Lorena D’Alesandro. The programme was systematically organised by *Amici di Lorena Association*. The liturgical celebration was begun with a solemn procession accompanied with melodious entrance song. After that, Sofia Billi, member of the association cordially welcomes all those who have come to participate the celebration, especially our priests who came from different parts of the world.



The main celebrant was Fr. Stefano tan gun mf, the parish priest. After the gospel, Fr. Jesus Dajac superior general in his homily highlighted the dedication and courage of venerable Lorena, for loving Christ and the church. he also had shared his personal spiritual graces of Lorena during his stay at rustica.

At end of the celebration the president of the Association thanked all the participants. After the final blessing all the priests went near the tomb and recited the prayer and signed the visitors register. The celebration continued with delicious lunch and the distribution the first relics of Lorena to the Superior General Fr. Jesus Dajac and all capitular fathers.



Vice-Province of Myanmar

Unprecedented Escalation of War Conflict in Myanmar

The armed conflict in Myanmar has reached to a new level of dangerous escalation after several *ethnic armed organizations (EAOs)* and their allies launched the “Operation 1027” offensive on October 27, 2023, at northern Shan State close to the China border area. This armed conflict has spread to other places causing forced displacement of people, destruction of infrastructure, homes, closure of schools, imposed travel restriction, shutdown of telecommunications, shortage of food supplies etc.

Starting from November 11, 2023, fierce urban fighting broke out at Loikaw, Kayah State where the mission of MF Myanmar is based, with heavy air strikes and artillery shelling. As of 11.12.2023, only a few people remained in the town. Bishop, priests and religious fled to other remote places. On November 20, 2023, the new vice-provincial house of MF Myanmar, still under construction, sustained some damages caused by an air-strike bomb landed near the compound.

On November 27, 2024, Msgr. Celso Ba Shwe, Bishop of Loikaw Diocese, a few priests and religious were forced to leave the diocesan pastoral centre of Loikaw. The diocesan pastoral centre has been taken by the military soldiers to make it as a military base camp for them. Due to the deteriorating situation in terms of security and safety, Bishop, priests, religious, town's people were forced to flee to other places. The mission of the church at this time is mainly the spiritual, pastoral, and social care and support for the refugees affected by the civil war both in the urban and rural areas.

In collaboration with the diocese of Loikaw, MF Priests in Loikaw Diocese of Kayah State are rendering their service of solidarity with the people in need of spiritual and pastoral care. At this very challenging and difficult time, we'd like to solicit your prayer and support for us!





Retreats for Clergy and Lay Associations at Queen of Peace Pilgrimage Mountain

Fr. John Lasam (MF), parish priest of Shadau, Myitkyina diocese, has organized retreats for the clergy and some lay associations of Myitkyina diocese at *Mary, Queen of Peace* pilgrimage mountain site. In the months of October, November and December of this year, various groups of clergy, catechists and lay associations held recollections at the Pharo Mountain pilgrimage and retreat centre which is still under development by the Missionaries of Faith Fathers. The place has become well-known for its scenic view overlooking Irrawaddy, the largest river flowing from north to south of Myanmar. In collaboration with the General House and local benefactors, MF community of Shadau, Myitkyina is working hard to develop a mountain pilgrimage and retreat centre.



2023 Christmas Crib
at St. Peter's Square, Vatican

Merry Christmas

