

Report of the Quinquennium Program -2023

Province of Chennai

Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March

Two days seminar was organised for Quinquennium priests of our Province of Chennai from 15th to 16th March 2023 at Claretians-LIFE, Nochiodaipatty, Tamil Nadu.

Planning Session

We all gathered at 9:30pm in the Conference Hall for planning the program time table animated by Fr. S. Devadoss CMF the Vice Provincial and the Prefect of the Community and Spirituality.

The participants are namely,

Fr. Anjan Kumar Nayak

Fr. Packiaraj

Fr. Soosai Arul Praveen

Fr. Kulandai Yesu Rajan

Fr. Micheal Amirtharaj

Fr. Britto Prabhu

Fr. George Bush

Fr. Shyam

Fr. Francis Kumar

The reading was taken from GPF about ongoing formation and it was read by Fr. Britto Prabhu. Then, Fr. S. Devadoss CMF introduced about ongoing formation and its impact on us in nutshell and he explained about the forthcoming program for Quinquennium. Then, we finished our planning session at 10:00pm with a Marian hymn.

Day -I

Session –I

We all gathered at 9:00am for the session on “**Challenges and Hope of Religious Life**” it was given by Fr. Ulagaraja CMF.

He brought out the theme so well. They are as follows,

- Personal challenges and hopes
- Self-awareness
- Kinds of prayer
- Attractions and addictions in religious life
- Hopes to transform everything with Christ.

Session –II

We came together again at 2:00pm for the sharing based on the questions that we were given previously. Fr. S. Devadoss CMF and Fr. Ulagaraja CMF were present throughout the sharing and they enabled everyone to share freely and fruitfully.

The outcome of our sharing as follows,

- Need to be careful in using the social media
- Need to be proactive in our thinking and life
- Need to update according to the signs of the time
- Need to live in communion with one another in the community.

The sharing came to an end successfully. Everyone contributed something for the growth of the other persons which was useful and meaningful for our better living.

Fr. S. Jesu Doss CMF, the Provincial Superior’s Address

Fr. S. Jesu Doss CMF, the Provincial Superior addressed about the importance of ongoing formation. The outcome is as follows,

- The aim of religious life is not to become a priest but to follow the lord more closely
- Need to deny myself
- Need to face myself, my weakness and my struggles
- Need to personalize my life and see my own self in my hand.

Then, we all went for dinner out at 7:30pm after the rosary as part of the program accompanied by Fr. Santiago CMF and came back to our house at 10:30pm.

Day -II

Sharing on Ministry

We gathered once again at 9:00am for our personal sharing as we were given guidelines on previous day. Fr. S. Jesu Doss CMF the Provincial Superior and Fr. S. Devadoss CMF the Vice Provincial were present to animate and encourage us. Their valuable presence strengthened and motivated us to share our feelings well. The priests were sharing about their Ministry Life in their respective mission places. The experiential sharing of our brothers were very touching and genuine and then we had a break for lunch at 1:00pm.

Sharing on Community and Prayer Life

We came back at 2:00pm for continuation of our sharing on Community and Prayer Life. The brothers were very delighted to share openly their own struggles and drawbacks on community living and personal prayer. Everyone's sharing encouraged and inspired us to change our perspectives regarding community and prayer life.

Fr. S. Jesu Doss CMF, the Provincial Superior's final note

- Fr. Provincial thanked everyone for their availability and active participation in the program. He also insisted in the following things. They are,
- We shall have Quinquennium three times at Province level, once Regional level and once ASCLA West level. The reason is the priests could be accompanied at very close in the Province level programs.
- Batch outing or batch spirit is not advisable. We need to grow in community spirit in this ongoing period

- Need to give up Ghetto Mentality in our community
- Need to be assertive in your value system, especially during chapter process
- Need to be vigilant of being influenced by others whims and fancies

Evaluation

- It would be better if we have Quinquennium for three days. Two days for Quinquennium and a half day for recollection and a half day for outing.
- We can have a combined discussion during the sessions itself than having it later.
- We can have any psychological input sessions by our fathers who are experts.

Then, Fr. S. Devadoss CMF, the Vice Provincial thanked everyone for their commitment and hard work in their mission places and the meeting came to an end with a Marian hymn.

