

## YOUNG PRIESTS' MEETING

### A Journey of Reflection and Renewal

The annual gathering of young priests, held from **21st to 23rd January 2025**, proved to be a profound journey of spiritual reflection and vocational renewal. Guided by the Provincial, the Prefect of Formation, and enriched by the presence of six young priests, the meeting offered a meaningful space for growth, discernment, and strengthening of faith.

The three-day gathering began with a prayerful invocation to the Holy Spirit, setting a tone of reverence and openness. On the first day, Fr. Arul Sivan SJ, the keynote speaker, led a deeply reflective session centered on cultivating union and communion with God. He invited participants to revisit their most joyful life moments, reminding them of the role of gratitude, purpose, and interior freedom in nurturing their priestly vocation.

On the second day, Fr. Stanislaus CMF, the Prefect of Formation explored the various challenges of consecrated life. His thought-provoking talk encouraged the young priests to engage in sincere self-examination and to reflect on both the personal and communal dimensions of their vocation. The subsequent group discussions provided a platform for the participants to share their experiences, struggles, and hopes, fostering a spirit of mutual support and fraternity.

The final day was animated by Fr. Jesu Doss CMF, the Provincial, who articulated four guiding principles that shaped the purpose of the gathering:

1. To halt and proceed.
2. To seek and find.
3. To listen and learn.
4. To break and build.

Drawing parallels to the crossroads in the life of Jesus, Fr. Jesu Doss CMF invited the participants to identify their own moments of transformation. He encouraged them to embrace their mission with renewed clarity, courage, and openness to God's will. This session was particularly moving, leaving the young priests with a deeper understanding of their calling and a revitalized commitment to their vocation.

As the meeting concluded, it was evident that the experience had been one of spiritual enrichment and personal renewal. Rooted in prayer, introspection, and fraternity, the gathering strengthened the participants' relationship with God and one another, offering fresh perspectives for their

consecrated life. The 2025 Young Priests' Meeting stands as a testament to the power of reflection, fraternity, and faith in shaping the future of the Church, leaving an enduring impact on all who took part.

