

## Claretian Provincial House

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Dear loving brothers,

Happy Christmas to all of you. I am happy to meet you all through this mail during this season of the Birth of our Lord Jesus. May the Child Jesus grant us good health, fill us with his joy and guide us with his wisdom in the New Year 2018. I am sure that all of you are busy in the preparation according to your different ministries. With the felicitation of this solemnity, I am happy to bring to your kind notice the following points.

In the year 2018 we will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Province of Chennai. This is the year of Grace for all us. Let us thank the Lord for the gift of our vocation as Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Lord has blessed our province with his innumerable graces and so we overflow with the sense of gratitude to him and to all who journey with us. Deliberating on it in our superiors meetings, the Provincial Government has decided to celebrate it throughout the coming year with various projects.

Thus, the inauguration of the Silver Jubilee of our Province will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, the birth anniversary of Rev. Fr. Franz Xavier Dirnberger, CMF, our beloved Thatha in Claret Bhavan, Karumathur in a simple and family atmosphere among ourselves. As you have been informed, we shall have an inaugural session at 10 a.m. followed by the Holy Mass at 11:30 a.m. Therefore, I ask all the superiors to animate our brothers for a maximum participation in this celebration. The closing ceremony of this jubilee year will take place in Claret Nivas, Barrackpore. The date will be informed to you in the course of time. The plan for this Jubilee year will be presented to you in the Inaugural session.

To mark this Jubilee year, Fr. Michael Mariadass has prepared on our request the materials with claretian outlines for the monthly recollections for the whole year. He has accepted to prepare them for the years to come also. It will be sent to the superiors of the communities every month. Therefore, dear superiors, see to it that you use these texts to animate our brothers in our Claretian Missionary vocation. Thanks a lot to our brother Mariadass for his generous service to all of us.

The provincial council has decided to conduct the annual retreats for our province a part from the retreats organized in the AsCla West level. The retreat for the coming year will take place from 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 in LIFE, Nochiodaipatty, Dindigul. Rev. Fr. Alexandar Kurikkattil, CMF has generously consented to accompany us during those days. These days fall just before the Ash Wednesday. I request the superiors to animate our brothers for a maximum participation in it and inform Fr. Maria Joseph about the number of participants from your communities. All those who do this retreat are asked to carry their Holy Bibles with them. It starts with the supper of 4<sup>th</sup> February, Sunday and ends with Tea on 9<sup>th</sup> February, Friday. The week prior to Ash Wednesday may be taken as the time for our province retreat in this sexennium.

On 20<sup>th</sup> of this month I am leaving for Malaysia for the canonical visit to our community there. I shall be back to the Province on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2018. During this time, kindly approach Fr. A. Susai Manickam, the Vice Provincial for your needs.

Wishing you all A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND GRACE FILLED NEW YEAR, I remain.

Take care and pray for me

Thanks a lot

Fraternally yours

S. Jesu Boss, cmf