

THE PREFECTURE OF APOSTOLATE

The province of Chennai can be compared to a seed buried in the earth remaining silent yet creating a change in itself and in the earth. We are small and the people whom we evangelize are also the little ones- the poor, Dalits, aged, invalids and infants. Yet we are big enough to make small differences in the Church and in the society. We provide pastoral service to 7, 626 families spread out in 10 parishes, attend to the education of 7, 527 students through the tuition centers, hostel and schools as in 2019.

We are not ones among the many but unique with our charismatic identity. This uniqueness comes from our creative obedience to the prophetic tradition of our Founder. Learning from his footsteps we live, interpret and proclaim the Word of God in our historical context. The past Twenty-seven years we engaged ourselves in such dialectics of evangelization making God known and the poor loved. The eventful celebration of the seventh provincial chapter has become an opportunity to evaluate our missionary life and to orient the evangelical objectives and lines of action in response to the historical demands. The ministries of the Province are grouped in the following ways.

1. Parishes/Missions
2. Special ministries
3. Education
4. Social Apostolate
5. Communication and book center

We, the Claretians, Province of Chennai are responding to the needs of the time ventured into varieties of ministries. Among the different ministries the ministry of the Word stands out to be the most important and from which other ministries evolve. “Go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation”. (Mk. 16:15). The ministry of the Word of God is carried out through the following ways.

1. 0. Ministry of the Word

1. 1. Retreat Preaching
1. 2. Popular Mission
1. 3. Preaching Novenas
1. 4. Formation of Laity for Evangelization
1. 5. Claret Eucharistic Friends

Besides the traditional and the regular methods of the ministry of the Word, COVID 19 has brought sweeping changes to use the digital platform to reach the people faster. Making use of the time our members and the communication team has adopted the following ways through digital media.

2. 0. Digital Media

2. 1. Daily Gospel Reflection
2. 2. Sunday Homilies
2. 3. Daily Bible Reading
2. 4. Daily Morning Praise
2. 5. Special masses and Eucharistic adoration.

3. 0. Social Apostolate

3. 1. Mercy Home
 3. 1. 1. Children
 3. 1. 2. Senior Citizens
 3. 1. 3. Out Reach Program
3. 2. MANASU
 3. 2. 1. Mentally ill
3. 3. MANITHAM
 3. 3. 1. De Addiction

3. 4. KAVASAM

3. 4. 1. Hostel for Boys

3. 4. 2. Housing Projects

3. 4. 3. Women Empowerment Projects

3. 5. Pahirvom Nam

3.5.1. Feeding the Poor

4. 0. Health Ministries

4. 1. Foot Reflexology

4. 2. Alternative Medicine

4. 3. Physio -Therapy

4. 4. Varma

4. 5. Training on Foot Reflexology

5. 0. Family Apostolate

5. 1. Seminars / Training program on Family Life

5. 2. Family Counselling

6. 0. SIRPI

6. 1. Counselling Ministry

6. 2. Individual Counselling

6. 3. Group Psychotherapy

6. 4. Counselor training Program

7. 0. Teaching Ministries

7. 1. School Education

7. 2. Teaching in College

8. 0. Publication Ministry

- 8. 1. Bible Diary
- 8. 2. Children's Bible Diary
- 8. 3. Books
- 8. 4. Video Cassette

9. 0. Youth Ministry

- 9. 1. Vocation Promotion
- 9. 2. Youth Camps

10. 0. SOMI –JPIC

11. 0. Mission in East Malaysia