

MISSIONARIES OF THE SACRED HEART

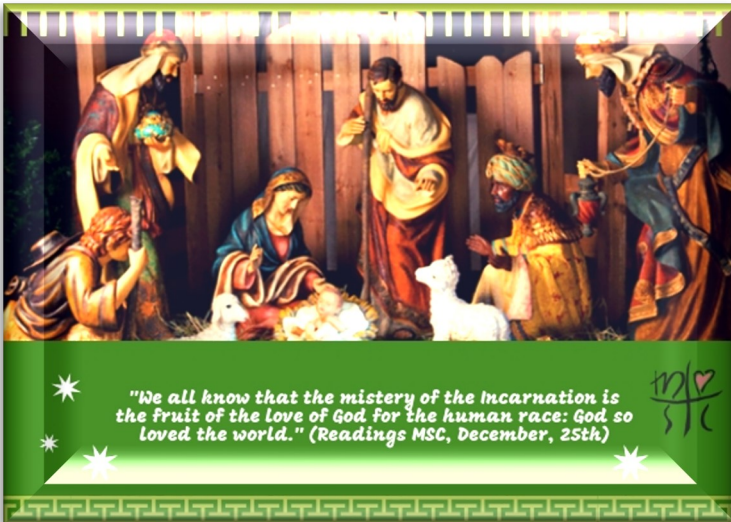
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere Loved!



Vol. 07 / N° 5 - December 2018

GENERAL BULLETIN

DEAR CONFRERES, FORMANDI AND ALL OF THE CHEVALIER FAMILY,



"We all know that the mystery of the Incarnation is the fruit of the love of God for the human race: God so loved the world." (Readings MSC, December, 25th)

This time of Advent is time to be thankful for the harvest gathered during the year that ends and to place it in the manger, in the hands of Jesus together with Mary and Joseph on Christmas day just as we are doing in the General House. In this month of December we take the opportunity to REVIEW again where we have come from - in fact, one year has passed since we started this work as a Leadership Team - JUDGE the work we have done in the light of the Word of God; PLAN the next steps and CELEBRATE our consecration as MSC. Four events helped us to live this evaluation: The celebration of the 164th anniversary of our Congregation (December 8th), our retreat in Innsbruck (December 10-

15), the Tri-Genate meeting (December 17-19) and the Workshop with an expert on accompanying Leadership Teams (December 20-23). All this has helped us to improve our service to the entire Congregation, the Chevalier Family and the Church.

It is with great joy in our hearts that we share with you, in this last Bulletin, the reports and photos of the visits that we have done in the various Communities, be it at the provincial level, international community, formation, lay MSC, etc.

In addition to sharing these rich experiences of sharing with our brothers and sisters, in this time when we renew our energies to continue the journey, we dare to ask all MSCs, inspired by the Youth Synod, to ask the young Jesus to rekindle in us a young spirit, so that we can keep our Charism alive the world.

The episode of the disciples of Emmaus, narrated by the evangelist Luke is the thread of the Final Document of the Youth Synod. It is in the light of this Gospel that we renew our commitment to accompany one another. Three attitudes mark the document of the Synod. They are: "He walked with them"; "Their eyes were opened"; "They left without delay."

We believe in the strength of the youthfulness present in each of our hearts - even the oldest MSC - and we believe that if we continue to walk together, our eyes always open for something new, we will have the courage to pick up and move always toward the most needy.

Fr. Humberto Henriques, MSC

TRANSLATIONS AND CORRECTIONS

ENGLISH—Joseph Jablonski, MSC
(USA Province)

SPANISH—Hugo Londoño, MSC
(USA Province)

FRENCH—Benjamin Hoesiou, MSC
(France Province)

INDIAN UNION



dy of the Sacred Heart Parish in Bangalore. We shared an evening meal with members of *Hridhaya Bavan* Community (Richmond Town). On the outskirts of Mysore we stayed at the *Hridayalaya* Aspirants House overnight before returning to Bangalore. We drove five hours in the opposite direction to St. Anthony's Parish, Gangapuram, Tamil Nadu to meet with MSC and parishioners. We then drove back to Bangalore in the evening. Next day was a further drive of seven hours south to Chevalier Academy, and meeting with the MSC community in Dindigal, Tamil Nadu. We participated in a blessing and opening of second floor of the Academy. The school presented dancing, coordinated marching, speeches and prayer. We also called in on St. Anthony's Church *Kombayanpatty*, not far from the Academy. Back in Bangalore we attended a meeting of some of our members going to the USA on mission. On Saturday 14th we celebrated the Silver Jubilee Mass of Fr. Jaya Kumar. The next day we celebrated Mass at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Bangalore and in the afternoon met with Daughters.

Abzalón (the Superior General) and Chris Chaplin visited the Indian Union between Tuesday June 19 and Wednesday July 4, 2018. The members of the Union offered generous hospitality and arranged our travels to different communities. Our visit began at Chevalier Bhavan the main MSC centre, the Scholasticate and Our La-

During our visit to the Indian Union we had the chance to listen to many of the members and begin to get some understanding of the rich diversity of the members and ministry there.

Fr. Chris Chaplin, MSC



CHEVALIER FAMILY

The presence of the lay people in our congregation is very important for our mission. Our last General Chapter in 2017 reaffirmed the importance of a deeper understanding of the necessity of sharing our charism, spirituality and mission with the laity. We thank God that in these last years many groups of laity are growing among our different entities. Recently I visited Papua New Guinea and I met with many groups of laity of the Chevalier Family. I had a very beautiful and meaningful experience with them. They are very enthusiastic, and they have participated in sharing our charism and spirituality. Although they are formed by the different entities, they are the same. Many of the Chevalier family have been already working with the laity. We are called to continue to build communion, to collaborate with each other in order to form a greater and stronger charismatic Chevalier Family imbued with the Charism and Spirituality of our Founder. Whatever the name we use for every group in every entity, we have one and same mission as Chevalier Family, living out the Spirituality of the Heart in our daily life and work. Of course, the lay people themselves must be the protagonist in their field. We accompany them in fulfilling their mission, especially by helping their formation. We need a coordinator in each group or entity, but all members are called to participate.

Here are some points from the last meeting of the International Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family, in Issoudun July 12 – 15, 2018. We continue to adopt and to implement the General Guiding Principles and Statutes of the Laity of the Chevalier Family, adjusting them to each local situation. We appreciate and continue to use the online course developed by Fr Hans Kwakwan msc as part of the formation and we have the possibility of exchanging formation experiences between the different groups. We need to use modern communication means with each other. Also, we recognize the central importance of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation as central to the lay vocation. The International Council is: Alison McKenzie (General Secretary), Doris Machado dos Santos (Deputy), Rita Cleuren (member) and Hans Kwakman msc (Spiritual Counsellor). The next General Assembly is scheduled for 2023.

Let us work together for the progress and development of the Laity of the Chevalier Family. If you have something to share: materials for formation, events or suggestions, etc, please send to:

polcepitoy@yahoo.com.



CHEVALIER FAMILY
INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr. Paulus Pitoy, MSC

NORTH GERMAN CHAPTER AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF ISSOUDUN

Barely back from the Congo, André was leaving for Münster-Hiltrup where the provincial chapter began on September 2nd. In the evening, after supper, Fr. Provincial Martin Kleer opened the chapter and presented his report on his government for the last three years. The following days were devoted to the reports of the communities of the Province, the Region of Peru and to the listening of the confreres name were presented for the ministry of Provincial. Two drafts on the future of the province were also presented. There was not suficiente clarity about the future and the Assembly in August was not able to find anyone to take on the leadership for the years to come. As a result, the chapter decided to have a second session January 8-9, 2019 to give itself more time to clarify questions about he future with the communities of Johannesburg and Johanneum.



NORTH HERMAN CHAPTER

On Sunday, September 30, while it was still dark, André left for the airport. On the scheduled trip to France-Orly and Issoudun with a side trip to Orleans, he had the opportunity to visit not only the two communities, but especially to Fr. Karl Hofer who was his companion for 10 years in Cameroon. That afternoon they continued their trip by car to Issoudun. The next day he went to the Community of Tours for a community week and the evaluation of their first year of life and work as an "international community" dependent on the Generalate. During the first two days, they reflected on listening and interculturality with Mrs. Capucine Couchet in order to improve the quality of life of the community. During the last two days André accompanied the team of 8 members to evaluate their

lives and team work both at the parish and a the Basilica as stipulated in the Charter established in 2017 under the aegis of Fr. C. Tranter and Fr. McDonald. On Saturday they all returned encouraged to Issoudun while André took the train for Paris. He had an early Sunday morning to Madrid where he was welcomed by the community of the provincial house at Avenida Pio XII. He is to do an intensive language course at the International House. His colleague Fr. Polcey was already in Valladolid for a private Spanish course. They returned to Rome at the end of the month.



ISSOUDUN

Fr. Andre Claesens, MSC

APIA MEETING (10TH–21TH SEPTEMBER 2018)



The province of Australia opened its doors to receive all the delegates for the different meetings of Apia for this year 2018. After an arduous preparation and organization by Australia Province and the secretariat of Apia, we started the Formators meeting, Brothers meeting and JPIC meeting. Everything was developed as planned and after a joint sharing, we gave way to the Meeting of the Provincials, Regional Superiors and Union Superiors of the APIA area, and we having as guests representatives from the UAF, as well.

We reflected on the reality of each MSC Entity and on the challenges that are presented to us; likewise, we resume future commitments and possibilities of new missions in some other country in Asia. Interprovincial projects were also reviewed.

During one day we received a training workshop on the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults. This helped us reaffirm the need to continue in ongoing formation on this reality that is everyone's responsibility.

We also live the moment of election of the new secretary of Apia, but not before thanking John Mitakta for all these years of service as secretary. The new secretary is Rey Tibon (from Philippine Province and in mission in Japan).

So, we end up hoping to continue facing today's challenges throughout the APIA area. Bellow, there are some themes that were reflected in each Meeting.

The conference also concluded that we should endeavour to have a common program across society with regards formation of the heart.



BROTHERS Meeting

Although clericalism is present in the Church, even among brothers, our MSC brothers are encouraged to live and witness personal life;

We can't talk about 02 kind of vocation, remember Absalon, because it was the indication of the lack MSC identity. In the formation, we need to talk about MSC, not priest or brother;

JPIC Meeting

Growing awareness among the members of climate change and the real responsibility of MSC. JPIC is not part of our mission, rather JPIC is a life of MSC;

At the level of General Administration, Andre Claessens is passionate and committed person to work on JPIC;

Is urgent to work out a structure in on going formation program to include the issue of JPIC with the hope to change member's mindset;

FORMATORS Meeting

The theme of this year's was "Formation of the Heart". As MSC formators, we have the moral obligation to enable formandi to be deeply aware of the inequality between what they have in their formation setting and what others around us do not have.

Formation of the Heart requires of us a deep awareness of the current realities regarding the sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults in our congregation and the church.

The following focus topics for a Formation of the Heart emerged from their discussions: Discernment, Accompaniment, Self-Discovery as a priority in formation of the heart, Trust, formational Space, Formators as Examples / Models for formandi, Formator Appointments as a dedicated role.



VIETNAM



MSC COMMUNITY IN VIETNAM

My visit to the Australian Province community of MSC in Vietnam took place between Saturday 22nd and Friday 28th September, 2018. I was warmly welcomed at the Ho Chi Minh airport by Quang (Vietnam) and a few of our confreres on two motorbikes - one to carry me and one to carry my baggage. After dropping me off at the place where I was staying, I met with Bob Irwin (Australia) for the evening meal. My first day was spent with the MSC family of MSC brothers, sisters, Daughters, and three different groups of MSC lay members. We gathered at the Benedictine Convent retreat house for lunch, reflection, sharing and mass.

We had a lively meeting with some wonderful reflection and interaction. The next morning was a visit to the Postulancy House and a talk to the Postulants followed by a lunch they prepared. In the afternoon I visited the Le Van Sy Scholastics house. I met with each of our professed members and celebrated Mass and dinner with them. Our Vietnamese members live in very small rented houses, sharing rooms. Gratefully, they have a wonderful sense of humor and laughter abounds. The newly appointed leader of the Community, Hoang arrived from a visit to Australia for the APIA meeting. We met and also had time with our OLSH Sisters' community. The afternoon included a visit to the Banh Van Tran Scholastics house, for our students live in separate houses. I also met with our MSC's aspirants, and the MSC Sisters community in Ho Chi Minh City. Minh, one of our Vietnamese priests showed me a nursing facility in the city and explained his hopes for a similar MSC ministry for the elderly who find themselves abandoned by their families. Towards the end of my stay, I had an afternoon discussing styles of leadership with the new local council at the Benedictine Retreat House. I wish to congratulate our confreres in Vietnam for their dedication, wonderful example and warm spirit of hospitality and fun.



OLSH Sisters, MSC Sisters and Chevalier Laity

Fr. Chris Chaplin, MSC

JAPAN



With Arun Kumar and Parishioners



With Arun Kumar



Priyo Superior of Japan



With Kiki Kuntag



With Sadami Takayama

I visited Japan Saturday 29th September to Tuesday 9th October. I'm grateful to Priyo Susanto (Indonesian Province) and all of our confreres there. I feel deeply respectful towards them for their sacrifices being there. I joined Joey Mission, from the Philippines, at Mass at the *Mikokoro Centre* in Nagoya, and Masses for the Missionaries of Charity. Deacon Carol Sompotan from Indonesia is very dedicated to his language and cultural studies and ministerial experience. I was grateful he took time off and we had a look around the city. My experience of the community in the *hombu* the main MSC house in Nagoya was very welcoming. I met Brian Taylor (from Australia) in *Gifu* parish, and the assistant priest Frits Ponomban (Indonesian).

It had time with John Graham (Australia) after many years, in his little place at *Kakamigahara* and experienced his Masses in Tagalog, Portuguese, English and Japanese. He is also parish priest of a second parish at *Konan*. Rey Tibon who was on holidays in Philippines, however, I did have a quick visit to the church in *Ogaki* where he is parish priest. With Priyo I traveled on bullet train to *Tokyo* to the *Sophia University* to meet Sadami Takayama, our only Japanese MSC. He is touching the minds and hearts of many young people in his lecturing in interfaith studies at the university. I travelled through to the northern side of Aichi Prefecture into Fukui Prefecture where I was grateful to meet Kiki Kuntag (Indonesia) at *Tsuruga* parish. He drove me to see Arun Kumar (Indian Union) in *Fukui*. I missed seeing Bern Tethool (Indonesia) who is the parish priest of *Fukui* as he was on leave. In my last days at the *Hombu* there it was good to see Keith Humphries (Australia) again as I had celebrated with him his jubilee in Melbourne. I was also invited to join in the Sunday celebration of Mass with Priyo and Carol at the main Church in *Johokubashi*. Thanks to all!

Fr. Chris Chaplin, MSC

FORMATIONS HOUSES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Continuing our work community accompaniment, especially in the Initial Formation, I had the chance to step on the holy ground that is Papua New Guinea. *Holy* because of its history and its peoples, as well as because of our MSC history which has deep roots in Papua, it being our first mission outside Europe. In 1882 the priests Navarre and his companions arrived on the island of Matupit. In 1885 Monsignor Verius and his companions arrived on Yule Island. Since then, the evangelization of Papua has been marked by our charism and mission.

In the 21 days I spent in Papua, I had the joy and honor of being able to celebrate the Eucharist with the people on Yule Island, where there is a monument that marks the arrival of Monsignor Verius. We also had the opportunity to see Matupit and the place where St. Peter Tu

Rot was murdered, all this in the joyous company of our confreres.

The people were very friendly and helpful. Our first stop was at the Scholasticate in Port Moresby (Boimenu College). There are currently 12 formandi preparing for the Presbyterate. Then I traveled north to Rabaul, where I spent most of my time. In Vunapal are 3 Houses of Formation: Postulancy (with 4 students); Novitiate (with 8 novices); and Scholasticate for the brothers (with 10 formandi).

The relationship between the formandi and the formators was of openness and fraternal spirit with pleasant conversations where simple and cheerful environment, where we can easily perceive the MSC Family spirit.

I thank the whole Province of Papua and the formators and formandi for their warm welcome.

Fr. Humberto Henriques, MSC



PÓS-NOVITIATE FOR PRIESTS



POS-NOVITIATE FOR BROTHERS



PRE-NOVICES AND NOVICES



MSC PNG—RETREAT

FORMATIONS HOUSES IN INDONESIA

The first thing to know about the Initial Formation in Indonesia is the great number of formandi. Besides being the Province with the largest number of members, it is also the province with the largest number of formandi. Being that Indonesia is a country of a Catholic minority it is even more interesting to see the contrast of so many members.

Because of so many formandi, the Houses of Formation need be to large structure, but they are no less familiar and jovial. The times I spent accompanying the formandi and the formators in the 4 Formation houses were very intense and profound, marked by the joy in the conversations and sharing.

My first stop was in Manado (Pineleng) to our Pre-Novitiate (this year with 33 formandi and 3 formators) and our Scholasticate (this year with 70 formandi and 11 formators). These days that I spent in the land of smiling people and spicy food, I also had the chance to meet several MSC Communities and to receive the perpetual vows of 10 scholastics. I also participated in the Meeting of the Formators of Indonesia, which took place between the 22nd and 25th October.

Then, I went to the Central part of Java Island. There, I first visited the Novitiate (this year with 18 novices and 3 formators) and soon after that, the Scholasticate (this year with 11 formandi and 3 formators).

The reception was always warm and full of surprises and good humor. In the individual and group conversations, we capture the sincerity of the desire to become true missionaries to the world. Such a large province needs to be aware of its mission at home and abroad. The formandi, through the formators and the confreres, increasingly feel the responsibility in their vocation to make the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere.

Fr. Humberto Henriques, MSC



POSTULANCY



PRE-NOVITIATE



NOVITIATE



FORMATORS



POS-NOVITIATE

'SALAMAT PO' (THANKS)



One of the most famous desserts in the Philippines is called "Halo-halo". This dessert reflects very well the cultural diversity of this MSC territory. Even Halo-halo would be a very good metaphor to describe the experience I had during my introduction, on behalf of the General Team, to the MSC Province of the Philippines: Different colors, flavors, music, dances, faces, languages, races, etc. It is worth mentioning the wonderful commitment with which almost one hundred MSC live and develop the mission in the Philippines. During the introduction to all missions, parishes, houses of formation, schools, CFA etc. I found confreres living on the *edge* of the edge of poverty. The CEBs (Ecclesial Base Communities) that other

continentes yearn for, in the Philippines is na option for all the parishes of the province. The closeness of the MSC to the people is admirable. There is a clarity of pastoral lines that give this province a living and prophetic face. The struggle for justice and integrity of creation is very present in all missionary and community projects. To name a few: Bocashi, CFA(Asian Communication ?) , and our beloved Fr. Mac (Fr. Laudato Si)

I had the opportunity to dialogue with each MSC in all the MSC Districts, I can confirm that we have a dynamic Charism and that "the path ahead is forged by moving forward". The great opportunity to have contact with the people of our parishes and colleges (groups, parish councils, teachers, youth, etc.) with indigenous and mestizo peoples, as well as with CEFLA (Chevalier Family) showed me that, over a hundred years of presence MSC in the Philippines, they have left deep roots in the Heart of the people that continue to bear fruit.



In the midst of a very difficult and violent socio-political reality and, at the same time, with great personal and community challenges and vulnerabilities, our confreres continue to promote insertion experience (living among the poor), imersion among the poor and alternative, ecological and innovative prophetic projects. I returned from this MSC Province of the Philippines with a heart full of hope. The presence of: so many young msc, of the interprovincial novitiate, of the older ones with "accumulated youth" who live in "Chevalier Home" and the organization of permanent formation for which they are striving for at present (generational groups) makes me see that it is worthwhile to continue believing in what is said in No. 13 of our MSC Constitutions: "The spirit of our Congregation is a spirit of love and kindness, of humility and simplicity; it is, above all, a spirit of love for justice and concern for all, especially for the poorest



Thanks to the province of the Philippines for being one of the entities that empowers us to live with prophecy our doing and being MSC.

Fr. Abzalón Alvarado, MSC





We congratulate our brothers, Brs. Tadeo Camaitoga MSC (Fiji), Fetaraisa Popese MSC (Samoa) and Br Babetara Anetoka MSC (Kiribati) on their first profession. The day was celebrated on 8th December 2018



Between 10th and 14th of December, the MSC Leadership Team held the annual retreat in the city of Innsbruck (Austria). We thank the community of Innsbruck who welcomed us to this important moment.



The last meeting of the Tri-Generalate (MSC, OLSH Sisters and MSC Sisters) took place in our MSC General House from December 17th to 19th.