

# GENERAL BULLETIN

MISSIONARIES OF THE SACRED HEART

MARCH 2024

## *A man with a heart on fire for mission*

May the Sacred of Jesus be loved everywhere, forever. Two hundred years ago, a child was born into a poor family in Richelieu (March 15, 1824). No special attention was paid to the child of Jean Charles Chevalier and Louise Ory in those days. No one could have guessed that God destined the child for a great mission in this world. That child was Jules Chevalier. He was a man whose whole life was inspired by the vision: May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere, forever—a man with a heart on fire for mission.

This year is a special occasion for us, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the entire Chevalier Family. It is an opportunity to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of our founder, Fr Jules Chevalier. The theme of the celebration is Jules Chevalier, a man with a heart on fire for the mission. Our history shows that Chevalier clearly emphasised the mission when deciding the congregation's name. We are missionaries. We are not only priests; we are religious brothers and priests. We are Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The first edition of this year's bulletin emphasises the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fr Jules Chevalier. There are interesting reflections on Fr Jules Chevalier from our two confreres Daniel Auguié MSC and Joaquin Herrera MSC. There are also several contributions from our MSC confreres, lay members of the Chevalier family, and, of course, news from various places about the 200th anniversary of Fr Jules Chevalier. Thank you to all the contributors and the editors: John Walker MSC (English translation), Raymond Lièvre MSC (French translation), Javier Trapero (Spanish translation). To all the confreres, enjoy reading.

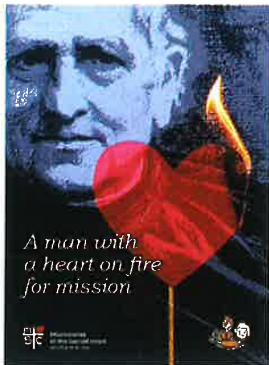
| Bram Tulusan, msc |



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## 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Fr. Jules Chevalier.

March 15th, 1824 - 2024

To/ All members of the Chevalier Family  
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart,  
Daughters of Our lady of the Sacred Heart,  
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Hiltrup,  
Laity of the Chevalier Family.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For all the members of the Chevalier Family, we hope that this 15 March 2024 will be a day on which we can remember and celebrate our Founder, Fr Jules Chevalier.

The Chevalier year for many communities will end symbolically on the feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, 27 May 2024. However, we do not want to miss the opportunity on this 15 March, the day of our founder's birth 200 years ago, to express our closeness to you and our best wishes to the whole Chevalier Family.

We are a *Family with a Mission*, just like Fr. Chevalier. So, we encourage you to make this 200th anniversary a time to recharge our missionary *batteries* so that our *operating systems* throughout the world continue to be a response to the evils of our time and become more authentic disciples and missionaries, following Jesus, *who loves with a human heart*.

One of the best ways to celebrate this anniversary would be to take the risk of continuing to be strong, constant, and bold people, as Pope Francis told us during the last General Chapter: *close, tender, and merciful*. All this is for the sake of the Mission.

Like St. Paul, we must feel in our hearts a kind of missionary *pacemaker* that makes our heart beat stronger and tells us: "*Woe is me if I do not evangelize!*" (1Cor, 9:16). Thus, our hearts will continue to burn for the Mission.

The People of God and Mother Earth continue crying out to us, members of the Chevalier Family, to build a world in solidarity according to Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation—a world based on the sentiments of the Heart of Christ.

May the celebrations on this day be a place of encounter, joy, and renewal for all. Congratulations to you all.

Abzalón Alvarado Tovar  
Chris Chaplin  
Bernard Mongeau  
Bram Tulusan  
Simon Lumpini  
Gene Pejo

**MSC General Leadership Team**

&  
Mike Miller,  
Richard Suresh,  
Beny Laisina,  
Fernando Clemente,  
Irudyaraj Savarimuthu,

**MSC General Administration Team**



[Please send photos of your activities to the Jubilee Year Commission.]

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us.



# MSC GENERAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

## Organizational Chart 2023 - 2029



### GLT TERRITORIAL TEAMS

- **Asia Team:** Chris, Gene, Bram
  - India, Vietnam & Korea – Gene
  - Philippines – Bram
  - Indonesia, Japan – Chris
- **Oceania Team:** Gene, Simon, Chris
  - Australia & PNG – Chris, Gene
  - Pacific Islands – Simon
- **Europe Team:** Bernard & Simon
- **Africa Team:** Simon & Bernard
  - U.A.F. & Mozambique – Bernard
  - Anglophone Africa - Simon
- **Latin America Team:** Bram, Bernard
- **North America Team:** Chris, Gene



### GLT PORTFOLIOS

- Dependencies of the Generalate (DG's), OGF Commission - **Chris Chaplin**
- Finance (FAB, GFC, Projects Office, Serra Fund), Brothers Commission - **Bernard Mongeau.**
- Brothers Commission, Initial Formation Commission - **Simon Lumpini.**
- Initial Formation Commission - **Bram Tulusan**
- Laity, Administration (incl. Archive process) - **Gene Pejo.**



### GLT LIAISON

- Communications Desk – **Bram Tulusan.**
- JPIC Desk – **Simon Lumpini.**
- Cor Vitae Tri-Generalate Liaison – **Gene Pejo.**
- Cor America Tri-Generalate Liaison – **Bernard Mongeau.**
- Safeguarding – **Bram Tulusan.**
- DG's Europe – **Bernard Mongeau.**
- Territory Executives – **Chris Chaplin.**



### GLT DESKS

- DG's Europe & Issoudun – **Carl Tranter, MSC.**
- JPIC - **Richie Gomez, MSC.**
- Initial Formation – **Humberto Henriques, MSC.**
- Communication – **Javier Trapero.**
- Safeguarding Office – [pending restructuring - Bram Tulusan & Tina Campbell].
- Project Office - **Irudaya Raj, MSC** [pending restructuring].



## JAPAN



I arrived in Nagoya on Friday, January 19. The main purpose of my visit was to meet and listen to each of the members of the MSC Japan Mission, to see their activities, and to discuss the change to a Community under the Generalate, as in the background just outlined. Bern Tethool, current local superior, organised an excellent itinerary of opportunities to accompany our confreres individually and see their places of mission and a gathering with all the members.

On Sunday, January 21, I joined Kenji Konda and his mother, Nobuko, who was visiting from Randwick, Sydney, for the Parish Mass at Johokubashi Church, presided by Rey Tibon. This is our main church in Nagoya. It was the first occasion for Deacon Toan Le MSC to read the Gospel during Mass in Japanese. His reading was well received, given how demanding is the Japanese language training which Toan is undertaking. I met Sister Marie Teresa SSND, who gave a lengthy talk at the end of Mass to the parishioners about their mission in Nepal. In the parishes, there is at least one Mass in Japanese on Sunday as well as Masses other

than separate language. Many Japanese parishioners are immigrants from Nagasaki who came after the war to find work in industrial Nagoya. Many Catholics are married into non-Catholic families. Among the 120 million Japanese, less than 1% are Christian, with less than 300,000 Catholics nationally. Many non-Japanese are not assimilated into Japanese society. After Mass, my first conversation was with Kenji. He is Australian but born in Japan. He has a great sense of hope. He took me to the Mikokoro (Sacred Heart) Centre in Nagoya, in the afternoon, where I met with Keith Humphries who celebrated Mass in English with a lovely mixed group.

On Monday, January 22, the community gathered for the morning together. On Tuesday, 23, I travelled and talked with Frits Ponomban to the Ono Mass substation in Fukui Prefecture, and then to Fukui parish church. It had begun to snow, which added to my delight. We continued on to Tsuruga Church to meet with Arun Kumar and to a restaurant for lunch together. Fritz returned home to Fukui, now in heavy snow. My conversations then continued with Arun as we drove to Obama substation church and eventually back to the Honbu (main house) at Nagoya. Unfortunately for Arun, he had to drive back to Tsuruga through the snow covered roads, a very long day for him and Fritz. I am grateful to you both. On Wednesday, January 24, I met with Sadami Takayama, our Japanese confrère, who had come to Nagoya that morning on the Shinkansen speed train from Tokyo. He has been working in university fields for some years. I had time with Priyo Susanto, and then with Rey Tibon. In the afternoon, I had a group gathering with Devid Abram (Indonesia), Babetara Anetoka (Kiribati), and Toan Le (Vietnam), who are in the CCFE (Cross-cultural Formation Experience) and are undertaking the arduous studies in Japanese language and culture. After this, I spent a short time with each individually. I was impressed by their dedication to their studies and the possibility of continued ministry in Japan. Thursday, January 25, Bern drove us through the continuing snow to Ogaki Church to have time with Joey Mission. From here, we went to Gifu church and kindergarten to visit Brian Taylor and Carroll Sompotan. The lifework of Brian in the parish and kindergarten is phenomenal. After lunch and individual conversation with Brian and Carroll, Bern drove on to have time with John Graeme at Kakamigahara. John's resilience and dedication is inspiring. **Chris Chaplin, msc**

## VIETNAM

On December 15/16, on my way to Australia, I stopped in Ho Chi Minh City to meet with Hoang Nguyen (Superior Vietnam) and the MSC Vietnamese community of the Australian Province, regarding a proposed discernment process recommended by the Provincial Chapter. Abzalón was already there, undertaking his accompaniment of the whole community.

On Sunday, December 17, I met with stakeholders in the discernment process. I listened to important reflections on our congrega-





tion's mission in Vietnam and the approaching discernment planned for July this year. There are very significant matters being considered in Vietnam including what shape future ministry will take, what mission work we will be done, how to move forward with the process of recognition as an entity in Vietnam law by the national communist government, after the successful recognition of the community by the City of Ho Chi Minh. There are always questions about the capacity of a group of young man to boldly go into mission in a new way. Our young community in Vietnam can be proud of their courage and willingness to open up the MSC mission in their own land. There are many proposals including engagement with indigenous Vietnamese and social projects. "Do here in Vietnam what you are called to do, be missionary," were the words of the Archbishop of Saigon to our MSC confrères. The Vietnamese discernment process will take place under the guidance of two well qualified and experienced guides, Khoi Nguyen MSC and a Diocesan Priest Hien Vu, both of who have studied and been on staff at the Heart of Life Spirituality and Pastoral Centre, in Melbourne, Australia. They will be using the Communal Wisdom process developed by Brian Gallagher MSC who held training in the process at Heart of Life. The discernment will take place in July 2024 in Vietnam. At the end of my first day, I joined Abzalón and the MSC community at the new house, Thu Duc, to talk with the aspirants



and Lay members of the Chevalier family. We celebrated Mass together and then a large meal.

On the morning of Monday, January 18, I met with one of our confrères who is doing the MSC Ongoing Formation Training in the Practice of Group Facilitation to interview him for the coming Training. In the afternoon I joined the professed members at Le Van Sy House together with Gene Pejo. We discussed the process of communal wisdom discernment so they could understand it well. To help them clarify better, we entered into an adapted communal wisdom session. Then, we reflected on the potential strategy that would be in place as we approach the discernment. We shared a meal together. I left for Adelaide early the following day.

**Chris Chaplin, msc**

## PHILIPPINES



The accompaniment started in the District of Manila, composed of 25 members. The meeting with old acquaintances and friends was profound and energising. The elders' presence and commitment give much life to the Province.

The parish communities of St. Quiteria and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart are still very much alive and give much hope and meaning to the MSC mission.

Then, it was time to accompany the District of Nueva Ecija. Due to the time factor, we could only have community meetings in each district. In Nueva Ecija, there was a spirit of celebration and sharing with lay people from the Chevalier family and with the eight members of the District

I thank God for the opportunity to pay homage and pray at the grave of Leonardo Cabrera (Bogey), a friend and partner in congregational leadership. As you all know, Bogey passed away last year while serving the Province.

Then, we travelled together with Edwin Borlasa (Provincial) to Butuan and then to Surigao District, comprised of six members. We met with 20 students from the pre-novitiate stage, which is called 'college' in the Philippines. The enthusiasm of many young people's initial vocational motivation revitalises our mis-



## ACCOMPANIMENT



sonary commitment. As in the other districts, we had a community meeting.

We also had the groundbreaking ceremony for the new College building. It was a very significant moment for all the MSC in the Philippines. Among the members of this District is Fr. Mac, who, at 88 years of age, continues to live up to the nickname of Father 'Laudato si' because he is a tireless fighter for the care of Mother Earth, the planting of trees and the fight against mining that destroys so much of our common home. Thank you, Fr Mac, for being such a loving and faithful witness to JPIC.

One of my priorities in accompanying the Philippine Province was to follow the spiritual workshop (retreat) 'Spirituality of Creation - Healing the Earth is Healing the Soul - Integral Ecology' that our confrere Richi Gomez offers at MSC-Cepagco in Del Monte, Southern Mindanao. Cepagco is a cooperative that presents an organic, alternative, and non-destructive approach to production without destroying Mother Earth and is connected to the Centre for the Poor. The Centre is a project of the Philippine Province that is now based in Butuan City but has branches in Cebu and the Camotes Islands.

The experience was unique and commendable. To have the experience of direct contact with Mother Earth, to accompany the farmers in their work, and to learn from their wisdom is something that cannot be adequately expressed in a few lines. Also, the grace of being guided by our confrere Richi Gómez and the team of lay people, professionals, and farmers is something so valuable and unique. I recommend that all those who can have the experience or access the internet look for what MSC-Cepagco presents as alternatives to the situation of our world. Do not hesitate to look for or get in touch with this experience of the Kingdom of God that takes place there, which could be replicated in other parts of the world.

Then, there was the meeting with the members of the Mindanao District. And there began something very peculiar to this accompaniment: a series of blessings of places and life projects, all signs of the JPIC advocacy.

To mention a few:

- New facilities for bakery and other products at the Centre for the Poor in Butuan.
- The administration building of the Centre for the Poor in Lapo Lapo City and the Cebu area. The site is located in what will soon be the MSC Centre of the MSC Cebu District, which is composed of fourteen members.
- A house made of ecological bricks from bottles and plastic waste in the 'Laudato sí Park in the MSC District of the Camotes Islands.
- Refurbishment of part of the MSC Scholasticate for use by Core Vitae programs in Manila.

After Mindanao, we travelled to Cebu City to participate in the Chevalier Family Laity International Assembly. This incredible experience and the declaration that emerged from it will be the subject of another article.

Thirty days of many blessings and accompaniment in challenging situations and deep listening to personal and communal reality. I strongly feel that the Spirit is inviting the Philippine Province to think beyond the established to seek new horizons, presences, and even new countries. This province has had this experience before, the fruit of which is the Province of Korea.

Thus, we conclude this intense, profound, wonderful and challenging accompaniment. Salamat Po to all the MSC members, lay and religious members of the Chevalier Family for this tremendous opportunity of accompaniment and sharing of life in mission. **Absalon Alvarado, msc**





SOPHIE PAMART

# The 200 Anniversary of The Birth of Jules Chevalier

Today's celebration of Fr Chevalier's 200th birthday invites us to talk about him: his work and his mission in Berry and throughout the world. I like to say that, thanks to him, the Church of Bourges is the Mother Church of more than thirty dioceses throughout the world because of the missionary expansion of the MSC Congregation.

I'm not the most expert to speak. André BOHAS, who is writing the POSITIO for the cause of beatification, is among us, but he told me that he was bound by a certain reserve and could not therefore lead our meeting. Perhaps we'll call on him if we come to an impasse!

I've been asked to give a quick historical overview. I'll do it in 5 points :

- I. Birth... the path of the Providence that watches over us!
- II. The discovery of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- III. The experience of priestly ministry
- IV. Parish priest of Issoudun for 35 years
- V. The missionary "ad gentès"

## 1. Birth... the path of Providence watching over us!

Chevalier was born on 15 March 1824 (200 years ago today!) in Richelieu, the town that the Cardinal had created as a French garden. Jean-Jules was taken in by a poor family, which is to say more than modest. He was the third child, 12 and 10 years younger than his brother and sister.

His mother sold vegetables on the square and his father was a small baker. One market day, she went to lay the bassinet at the foot of Notre-Dame des Miracles in the church. The priest, intrigued by the child's cries, came to the family's aid. Jules expressed his desire to enter the seminary, but in order to do so, he had to contribute to the boarding school, and his mother made him understand that this would not be possible. Jules decides to learn the cobbler's trade to earn money and be able to pay for board at the seminary.

He was 17 when his father was offered a job as a forest ranger near Vatan. Mr Just hired him and paid for his education at the minor seminary in St Gauthier. This is how Jules came to Berry. His parents returned to Touraine, but Jules became a Berrichon with the Berrichons and continued his studies at the major seminary until ordination. Let's remember his will in a decision that would guide his life: he wanted to be a priest. Let us also remember the place of Mary (Our Lady of Miracles) who welcomed his mother's distress and her cries for help.

It seems that Father Chevalier entered life with an idea to which he devoted himself unreservedly and without return. It was a mystical idea, devotion to the Sacred Heart, and a very practical one, the founding of a Society of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. His whole life was there. He is the man of an idea and a work. Having taken his place, so to speak, in the Sacred Heart, he would never leave it, whatever happened. Once, twice, his chapel or basilica may be closed for various reasons, but he will not despair of returning. He doesn't like noise; he doesn't do violence; but he doesn't give up his rights; he goes slowly towards his goal, without anyone being able to divert him: he's a gentle stubborn.

Florilège Chevalier on 29 October, Testimony of Abbé Belleville.

## 2. The discovery of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

At the major seminary in Bourges, the professors, Sulpician fathers, including M. Pélissier, echoed the mandate of Mgr De Villèle who, following the example of Marseille, consecrated the diocese to the Sacred Heart. In Marseille, Mgr de Bulsence, in order to eradicate the plague, consecrated the town to the Sacred Heart. Cardinal Aveline likes to say that Marseille was the first city in France to be consecrated to the Sacred Heart.

In his mandement, Mgr de Villèle said that the plague in Berry was more moral than physical. In his lecture, inspired as he was by the French school of spirituality, M. Pélissier showed that in

the person of Christ, in his heart, God loves us in a unique and personal way.

Vatican II made this clear in *Gaudium et Spes*: “By his Incarnation, the Son of God united himself in some way to every human being. He worked with human hands, he thought with human minds, he acted with human will, he loved with a human heart. Born of the Virgin Mary, he truly became one of us, like us in every way but sin”. (GS n°22)

This discovery would be engraved forever on Jules Chevalier’s heart and would guide his whole life.

He became a “missionary” of this loving Heart. The discovery of the Sacred Heart of Jesus At the major seminary in Bourges, the professors, Sulpician fathers, including M. Pélissier, echoed the mandate of Mgr De Villèle who, following the example of Marseille, consecrated the diocese to the Sacred Heart. In Marseille, Mgr de Bulsence, in order to eradicate the plague, consecrated the town to the Sacred Heart. Cardinal Aveline likes to say that Marseille was the first city in France to be consecrated to the Sacred Heart.

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In studying the treatise on the Incarnation, our professor added a thesis on Devotion to the Sacred Heart. He developed it with great knowledge and piety. I transcribed it in its entirety. This doctrine was close to my heart and the more I understood it, the more I tasted its new charms. My teacher lent me the life of Blessed Marguerite Marie by Mgr Languet. This reading aroused in me a strong desire to become an apostle of this devotion, which Our Lord himself had given to the world as a powerful means of sanctification and which he wanted to see spread everywhere.

Chevalier, *Notes intimes* p.13 and Florilège Chevalier au 5 décembre.

**3. The experience of priestly ministry**

In Ivoy-le-pré, then Chatillon-sur-Indre and finally Aubigny-sur-Nère... he became a vicar. It was in Aubigny that he discovered the secret of the mission in Berry. He assisted the parish priest in his last moments, who made this confession to him, which Chevalier wrote down in his intimate notes:

“My dear Abbé, I am going to die, but before I do, allow me to give you some advice. In the course of my long ministry, I gave myself too much to pious and devout souls; I devoted long hours to them in the confessional without much use, and this to the detriment of what I owed to men, young people and my other duties. It is a great fault that I reproach myself with pain. Alas, this fault is shared, I know, by a large number of parish priests. Too much attention is paid to women and not enough to men. Avoid this pitfall. Let your preferences be for the little ones, the poor, the ignorant and the neglected rather than for the great, the rich, the learned and the worldly”. I promised him; then I knelt down and his failing hand reached out to bless me”.

During this period, he received a letter from the archdiocese. Even before opening it, he declared that he accepted everything it contained. He was appointed to Issoudun. His seminary dream of being a missionary in a Issoudun was considered to be the most unworthy parish in the diocese. At the same time, the archbishop appointed Emile Maugenest, a friend from the seminary. They had not forgotten their project: to create a missionary institute in response to the prevailing de-Christianisation. They spoke to Abbé Crozat, the parish priest, who was like Simeon at the end of his tether. He saw in these two young vicars a possible renewal and promised to help them. It was decided to make a novena to the Virgin Mary, which would end on the day of the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception (8 December 1854). Chevalier asked for a sign from heaven, which was given to him by a benefactor who promised a large sum of money to set up a missionary house.

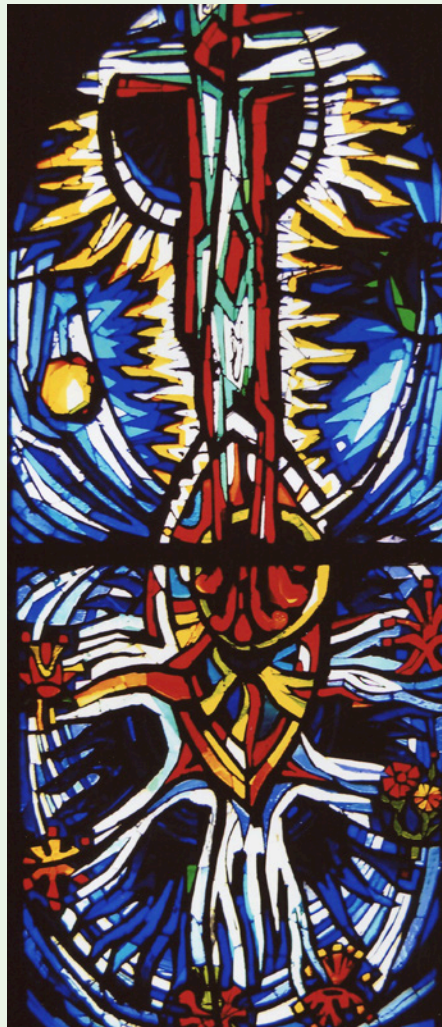
In discussion with the archbishop, Jules Chevalier founded a missionary institute that would include the MSC, the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, the Third Order, now called the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Fraternity, and the Issoudun ANNALES.

**4. The parish priest of Issoudun for 35 years**

Maugenest was taken away from him to become parish priest of the cathedral and later left the diocese to join the Dominicans. Chevalier lost a valuable ally... The archbishop told him: “If your work comes from God, it will continue even without Maugenest”. There would be no shortage of difficulties, not least the first wave of expulsions. All the MSCs left Issoudun. Chevalier was able to stay because Mgr de la Tour d’Auvergne, a visionary, appointed Chevalier parish priest of Issoudun. Depending on the situation, he will be able to say that he is a priest of the diocese of Bourges or a religious.



SOPHIE PAMART



Chevalier will be criticised internally and externally... many diocesan priests, no doubt out of jealousy of what is happening in Issoudun, will criticise him to the archbishop. Some thought he was abandoning the parish in favour of his congregation. His relations with the various archbishops were not always easy, but he always had great respect for the person and the office. Within the Congregation itself, he had to face several criticisms.

He was a builder... the place where we are today bears witness to this, and he was going to rebuild the parish church of St Cyr. More than that, he was a “builder of souls” if I can put it that way. Contrary to the accusations against him, he did not abandon parish life in favour of his foundation. Some texts shed light on these aspects; you have them on the sheet... I’ll go through them with you, not reporting on them.

Documentation summarised in CUSKELLY, The man and his mission, Jules Chevalier, pages 266-268, 318: Mgr Marchal succeeded Mgr de La Tour d’Auvergne. The first contacts with Father Chevalier were delicate, as the archbishop had received a large number of letters from priests in the diocese complaining that Father Chevalier was more concerned with the Sacred Heart and his personal works than with the parish.

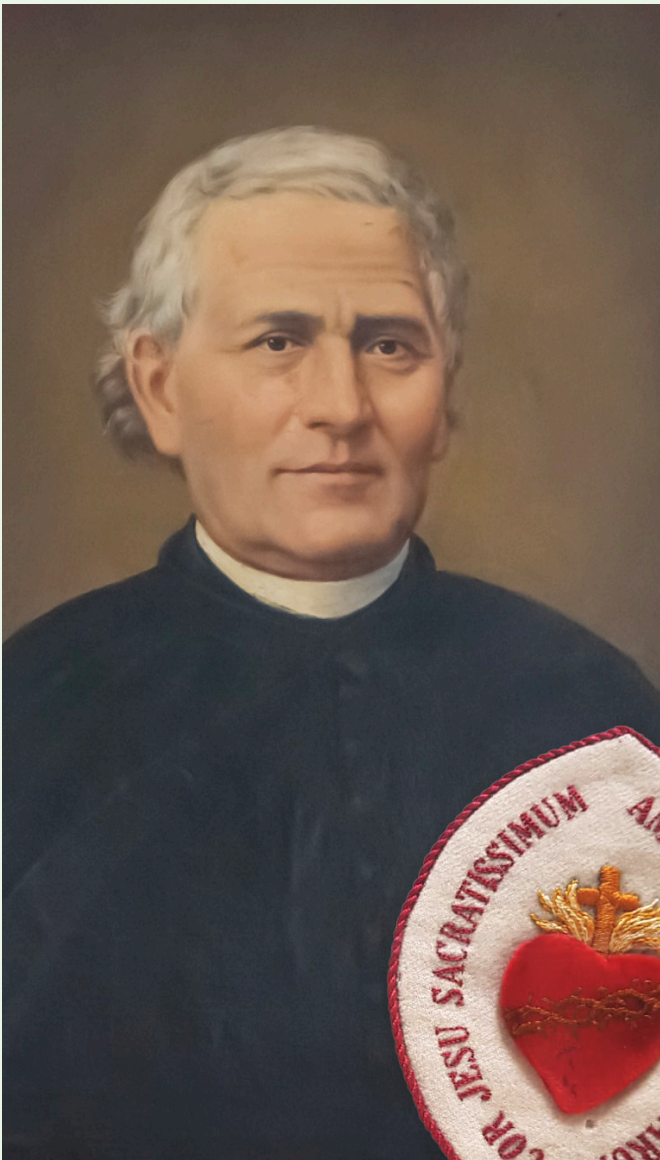
When Bishop Marchal came to Issoudun for confirmation, he discovered that Chevalier and his missionaries had set up nearly twenty parish projects to proclaim the Gospel. The list is impressive:

We brought him (Mgr Marchal) about ten registers: that of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, the Christian Mothers, the Children of Mary, the Youth Work, the Catechism of Perseverance, girls and boys, the Military Work, the Volunteer Catechists, the Domestic Work, General Communion for young girls on the first Friday of each month, for young boys on the first Sunday of the month, the Conference of St Vincent de Paul to visit and help the poor, the Work of the Sisters of the Sick, the Work of the Propagation of the Faith, of Holy Childhood, of St François de Sales. All these works were established in the parish by Father Chevalier or his missionaries. His greatness and his brother the Vicar General alternately examined these registers. They examined the church and its new reconstructions.

As used to be the case in the past, before giving confirmation, the Archbishop and the Vicar General questioned the children indiscriminately.

“Mgr brought four before him: two boys and two girls and questioned them about the whole catechism. After the questioning, His Grandeur rose and, after conferring with his brother, address-





“I’ll tell you one thing, my dear Father: I’m not that keen on appointing canons, and even less so the one you recommend, because he’s one of those who wrote to me against you when I was appointed Archbishop of Bourges. - Well, because of this, Monseigneur, I recommend him doubly to Your Grandeur and to his benevolence. She could not please me more than by giving him the mosette for services rendered to the diocese”.

There were also MSCs who denounced him to the archbishop, Mgr Boyer. After his death, his auxiliary, Mgr Bardel, who had just been appointed Bishop of Sées, came to see Father Chevalier and told him:

“My Reverend Father, not all your fathers are your friends. Before I leave Bourges, I am bringing you all the letters they wrote against you to Mgr Boyer. I did not want this file to remain in the Archbishop’s archives. I’m bringing them to you. You will be able to read them and see what you are accused of”. The good Father Chevalier knew all his enemies, even those who committed the indignity of slandering him about his morality. [He took revenge on his enemies by receiving them with kindness and charity. He invited them to his table and treated them better than his friends. I saw several at his table who were far from suspecting that he had in his possession their letters of denunciation to Cardinal Boyer. When he read this famous file, he simply repeated “may the Good Lord forgive them”. (Cuskelly, p. 318-319)

### 5. The missionary ad gentes

As Mgr Plateau said at the diocesan synod: “Let’s not let the mission shrink to the geographical limits of Berry”. Chevalier responded to the Holy See’s request to go to Melanesia and Micronesia... present-day Papua New Guinea and the Republic of Kiribati in the heart of the Pacific (I think Mgr Beau would say that we shouldn’t encourage self-centredness).

We have his admirable reply to the Holy See on 16 april 1881... Father Chevalier accepted, even though the foundations of his young congregation were not yet fully in place. This was to be the development of the mission that still characterises us today, beyond Berry. It should be remembered that the seminary published the ANNALES de la propagation de la foi, which was an opening to the universal mission.

“Following Mary’s example, we have made known with simplicity our notorious inadequacy and our legitimate concerns. Since, in spite of this sincere admission, Eminence, you say to us like the Angel: ‘Do not be afraid; accept the offer made to you, the Spirit of God will be with you, and the virtue of the Most High will cover you with its shadow’, we bow down respectfully, and our humble congregation responds with the Virgin of Nazareth: ‘Behold the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word. Letter from Father Chevalier to Cardinal Simeoni, Prefect of Propaganda.

In this way, Father Chevalier’s motto took shape and became a reality: LOVE THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS EVERYWHERE.

**Daniel Auguié, msc**

sed the children and complimented them on their knowledge. I am obliged to admit,” said His Grandeur, “that the parish of Issoudun is one of the first in the diocese for the organisation and science of children. (Cuskelly p. 267).

Before leaving Issoudun, Mgr Marchal took Father Chevalier in particular and said to him:

“During my first visit, you must have found my way of dealing with you very strange. Well, I can tell you now that I had preconceived ideas against you and your parish administration; you must forgive me because I had received a whole series of letters from priests in the Diocese who slandered you indignantly. I have the names of these priests here,” he said, striking his forehead with his hand. Oh my Lord,” said Father Chevalier, “may Your Grandeur please forget all that. Humanity is like that. I’ve seen many others.

On another occasion, Fr Chevalier proposed the name of a priest to Mgr Marchal so that he could appoint him canon of the cathedral. Here is Bishop Marchal’s response:



# Getting to know Jules Chevalier

By letters from the founder and a little more.

We all know that our Founder wrote a lot. His books, letters, and sermons are abundant in our historical archives. Sometimes, wanting to read all his contributions at once takes time. That is why we present some of his phrases that, on the 200th anniversary of his birth, can help us reflect on his works, his person, his sense of being an instrument of the Spirit in the environment in which he lived, about how he dreamed of his work at the service of the Church and humanity. They are written from his culture; let's look not for how he says it but what he wants to convey. What we present is not an academic work; it is just a small contribution to learn more about our "small society", to love it more, and to admire the figure of the Founder even more. Reflecting on the 200th anniversary of the birth of Jules Chevalier, "a man with a mission".

## 1. A Little History

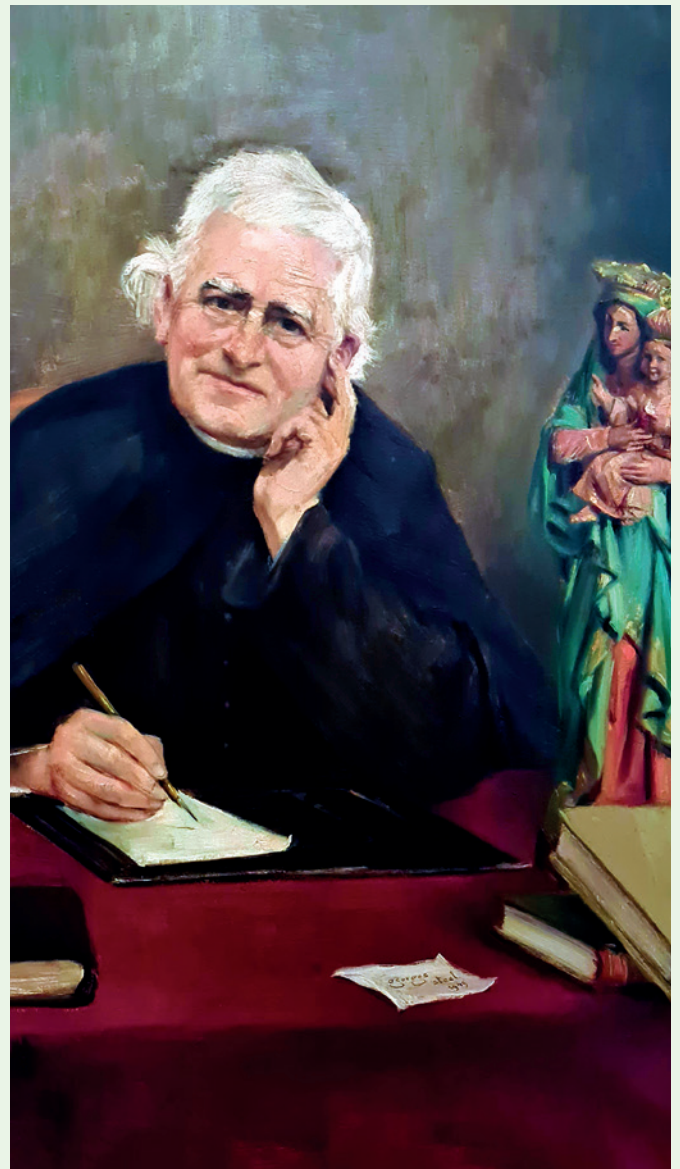
**1.1. The beginning of a foundational Charisma:** this charism is the peculiar vision of Jesus in the Gospel. Jules discovered, lived, and announced it through the heart of Jesus as the revelation of God's love, which is tender, compassionate, merciful, strong, and constant love.

- "The Heart of Jesus, the centre where everything in the Old and New Testaments converges, the pivot on which everything in Catholicism turns, the sun of the Church, the soul of our souls, the furnace of our love, the cradle of our holy religion, the source of our mysteries, the origin of our sacraments, the guarantee of our reconciliation, the salvation of the world, the remedy of our evils and the arsenal of the Christian. This is how I understand devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus; it encompasses everything, responds to everything." (9-XII-1862)
- "Devotion to the Sacred Heart is the essence of Christianity and contains all other devotions. The Heart of Jesus is God, the love of God incarnate. God is love". (1887)
- "Jesus is the first missionary of his Heart. He is the first to make men know his love for them. Everywhere, always, in all his actions, our Lord was concerned about the mission he came to fulfil on earth." (1870)
- Although composed of diverse members, humanity forms nothing more than a single body, a single blood, 'unum corpus multi

sumus'. The heart that gives life to all the members of this body is the Heart of Jesus. He alone brings us together, and He alone unites us to God. The moment we separate ourselves from Him, we separate ourselves from each other, and with the divine life - whose source is He - we lose the true meaning of human brotherhood. This divine Heart is, therefore, the centre around which all hearts gravitate." (1865)

- Two plagues corrode our unfortunate century: indifference and selfishness. An effective remedy applicable to these two evils is necessary. This remedy is found in the Heart of Jesus, which is love and charity. "Priests would be needed to work to make it known; they would bear the name of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus." (1856)

- "From the cradle to the cross, the strength and sweetness of Jesus appear in a very special way . . . As Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, we must bear the seal that marked Jesus with the qualities of kindness and strength . . . The Heart of Jesus "He has all the virtues we tend to admire the most, such as courage, strength, perseverance, generosity."



### 1.2. An ideal

- “We had promised the Blessed Virgin that, if she listened to us, we would take the title of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and strive to make its beautiful and profound meaning true.” (9-XII-1862)
- “The small Congregation of the Sacred Heart is not man’s work but of God! “He was born in the Sacred Heart of Jesus under the powerful protection of Mary.” (1855)
- “The Congregation is not the work of men; you all know it as well as I do. You know its origin and the wonderful circumstances that accompanied it. It arises entirely from prayers to Mary, to the Heart of Jesus, the source of all blessing. It has driven our courage amid the efforts of hell and the thousand difficulties we faced. Only God knows their number and entity. It is also the cause of our unlimited confidence. Yes, heaven loves our little Congregation...” (No. 1852 Cir.)

### 1.3. A historical path

- “Since then, the small mustard seed, which seemed suffocated among the brambles and thorns of our poor village, has germinated under the gaze of heaven and grows day by day, what will be its fate? It is the secret of the Heart of Jesus.” (9-XII-1862)
- “The undertaking may seem risky, but we have guarantees of divine blessing, and as long as the hand of God remains in us, trust is a duty. May the divine Heart of Jesus always shelter and protect the Congregation and grant us, among his favours, great fidelity to seek only that which can give him glory.” (1866)
- “When God wants work, obstacles are means for Him. According to her, he laughs at human wisdom: he confounds his predictions and calls to life what should never see the light of day. He develops and fortifies in fertility what she had condemned to die. The founding and development of the small congregation of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart are proof of this truth.” (1870)
- “It is my conviction that our Congregation is destined, in the designs of Providence, for great things and that it has a great future; but on the condition that it is not half-religious, but completely and without reservation.” (March 5, 1887)
- “You don’t have to be surprised by our religious imperfections. An oak takes many years to reach its perfection. It is already a lot for us to experience what we lack. In time, we will get there. I consider it a great blessing that our course is charted and that we know the path we must follow.” (March 30, 1887)
- “Let us not be more rebellious than Saint Peter! May our human prudence not oppose the will of the Master ... Many of our works were established amid the greatest contradiction. A set of circumstances that seemed providential pushed us forward. Today, we see that the Spirit of God directs all things, and we congratulate ourselves.” (04-1-1881)
- “I see that in Rome, for example. Mons. Felipe and others have taken the habit of calling us Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Issoudun. I protested. Force them to say Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is our official title: we belong to the Holy Catholic Church, not Issoudun.” (01-II-1889)

- “Do not allow the true religious building that we want to build to be demolished by reckless criticism, by trickery ... If we heed the complaints that the love of comfort, the lack of generosity and religious spirit can inspire, we would never end. We want to lead an essentially religious life; those who do not wish to do so will look for a more comfortable life elsewhere. It is not the number that strengthens a community but the quality of the strongly disciplined members. We desire, above all, true religious, animated by the spirit of prayer, self-denial, obedience and sacrifice. That is what will constitute our strength, attract serious subjects to us, and ensure the prosperity of our Institute, with the blessing of heaven.” (27-VII-1888)
- Union gives strength. With the precious elements at our disposal, let us confidently look to the future. Born from the Heart of Jesus, under the powerful auspices of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, what can we fear? Are we not his favourite children, his chosen apostles? Has not her all-powerful and maternal protection over our Congregation been made visible from the beginning? Who could enumerate the maternal kindnesses of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart? How many wonders she has performed and performs every day on our behalf! Trust, then! Let us walk together in an intimate and cordial union! (5-VIII-1891)
- “Do not forget, dear friend, that we are Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and that our spirit must be a spirit of sweetness and

## *The Heart of Jesus is God, the love of God incarnate. God is love.*

- charity, piety, submission and great mercy. We will form souls better and win them better with kindness than inflexible severity. *Discite a me qui mitis sum et humilis corde.*” (26-02-86)
- “If you do not want to see our beloved Congregation founder or vegetate, it is time to listen and give satisfaction to those who complain. Direct your efforts towards the true religious spirit, discipline, mortification, observance of the rules and fulfilment of the three vows. The more serious our Congregation is ... the more the Sacred Heart will bless it, and the more vocations will multiply.” (24-II-1906)
  - “Persecution, like poverty, is a blessing. Far from complaining, let us rejoice, like the Apostles, for having been considered worthy to suffer for and with our divine Master.” (13-IV-1906)
  - “Where have you heard, Fr. Meyer, that Religious Orders cannot be reconstituted? He forgets, consequently, that the life of perfection is an essential part of the Holy Church.” (13-IV-1906)





## 2. With a Spirituality from the Heart

**2.1. Congregational spirituality** is living and practising the peculiar vision of one's own Charisma. For us, it is a spirituality of the heart. Father Cuskelly, in his book on Jules Chevalier, in chapter 5, points out the following characteristic notes of our spirituality of the Heart: a sense of mission, called to offer the richness of love and mercy of the Heart of Christ everywhere, being strong, constant and bold (in the words of the current Pope Francis: close, tender and merciful); with obedience in fraternal charity (sense of community belonging); aware that true love carries with it a dynamic of personal renunciation, (in the words of Saint John Paul II: to love is to put the 'you' above the 'I', the self); with a special devotion to Mary under the invocation of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; living the mystique of love for the total Christ, (with a spirit of synodality and liberation from sin and its consequences: reparation).

Jules Chevalier was not an intellectual, but he lets us perceive what Cuskelly synthesised in his letters.

**2.2.** • "I conjure my beloved brothers to always be faithful children of the Chair of Peter and of his supreme Head, whose judgments are irreformable; to live among themselves the most cordial and perfect union, to have great respect for authority in general and for their superiors in particular, to practice obedience to the point of heroism, to renounce their own will, their personal judgment, to submit in everything and willingly submit to the wishes of those who have the right to command them; to practice interior and exterior mortification, to generously embrace sacrifice to the point of self-immolation, to never back down from the cross that heaven imposes on them, to seek in everything nothing more than the will of God, his glory and the good of souls; to flee from vanity, the search for oneself and one's own comforts, to fortify oneself in a great spirit of faith, in distancing oneself and fleeing from the world; to observe with inviolable fidelity their Constitutions and Rules, mainly everything concerning the three vows of religion. I implore on my knees the various superiors of the Congregation for exact observance of all these points." (1st Spiritual Testament, January 25, 1881)

• "Religious spirit is, above all, esteem for one's vocation. Adhesion to something is a function of appreciation. There are numerous reasons for appreciation, esteem and love for the vocation. First of all, a grace of election by being called to the service of God ... the fact of having been called to religious life in a Congregation dedicated to the Heart of Jesus ... chosen with the mission of being his missionaries and extending his kingdom throughout the world. The religious spirit does not consist only of this but also of the obligation to strive for perfection always, in everything and everywhere. It is the proper purpose of our state. Whoever forgets it, more than a useless member becomes dangerous due to bad example ..." (No. 2577. Cir.)

• "Let us make ourselves worthy of new favours by our piety, self-denial, observance, spirit of discipline, and obedience to the Constitutions. If we are what we should be, Heaven will bless the little Congregation, which has a great future before it." (24-XI-1904).

• "May they always be united to each other by ties of intense charity. Division within a society leads to ruin, says the Lord. It is, therefore, necessary to avoid, at any cost, this misfortune." (1904. Testament).

• "The MSC, constituting nothing more than a single family, must first and foremost live and work for the Congregation that formed them and not for the various nationalities." (No. 1966. Cir.)

• "They are blinded by the critical spirit, which is the ruin of communities..." (27-VII-1888)

• "Science is dangerous without mercy, but with it, science converts and saves souls. Convinced of this truth, far from boasting about the knowledge they have acquired, they will boast with the Apostle that they only know Jesus crucified; "Like the example of the Saints, they will learn more at the foot of the cross than in books." (1857)

• "Science without mercy is deplorable." (11-02-1881)

• "A religious person who refuses to participate in the progressive development of human knowledge would create fatal gaps in his formation. But what is science without mercy? A resound-

ing cymbal. Therefore, the Missionary of the Sacred Heart must become a man of faith and sacrifice.” (1901)

- “It seems that you pay little attention to the habitual violation of the rules and the responsibility incurred. The ruin of the religious spirit and communities always begins there. We will never do enough, especially today, for their exact observance and to inspire sufficient respect for them.” (27-VII-1888)

- “You know, as I do, that older religious often have a greater need than young people to be called to order.” (27-VII-1888)

- “May the spirit of poverty reign among them, fleeing from vanity, luxury, superfluity, useless expenses. Being content with what is necessary in all things.” (1904)

- “May we realise the greatness of the ministry entrusted to us! ‘May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere.’ To provide an effective remedy to modern societies, which are sliding into the abyss of impiety, our Lord Jesus Christ presents his Most Sacred Heart to men. And we are the ones sent to apply this remedy to the world.” (1900)

- “We only need true missionaries, pious, zealous, obedient and truly apostolic men.” (19-XI-1889)

- “Our missions abroad and among the infidels have great importance. They are the purest glory of our Institute. The Major Superiors will have to try to send them only chosen, pious, judicious, observant men with uncompromising dedication and inviolable affection towards the Congregation. “Inconstant, versatile, adventurous characters introduce disorder.” (No. 2665, Testament)

- We have proposed to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, imitate his virtues and strive towards perfection daily through the constant practice of the three vows of poverty, obedience and chastity. We have stripped ourselves of ourselves to put on Christ crucified. And if we want to maintain these dispositions, we must preserve the religious spirit until the end of our life under penalty of perjury.” (1887)

- “Persecution, like poverty, is a blessing. Far from complaining, let us rejoice, like the Apostles, for having been considered worthy to suffer for and with our divine Master.” (13-IV-1906)

“Great charity must reign in the community. Respect each other. Treat each other with kindness and cordiality; avoid everything that tastes of affectation and sufficiency; never seek to dominate or shine. Strive to practice the virtues of the Heart of Jesus: his meekness and humility.” (1855)

- “Without a doubt, we have before us a beautiful future with the Sacred Heart of Jesus as a point of support, but it is necessary to know how to take advantage of it. To do so, we must be selfless, disciplined, obedient men of study and prayer. How far we are still from it! It is time to react and have true religious worthy of this name. Let us ask the Sacred Heart and Our Lady to come to our aid, and if we succeed, we will do wonders.” (1896)

- “Among the members of the small community of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the greatest charity and the most perfect union will always reign. Affability, humility, obedience, the spirit of poverty, zeal and self-denial will be his endowment.” (1855)

**2.3 An expression of Julio Chevalier** is: “obedience in fraternal charity.” It is a way of living love in a community where each of



the members has a mission to carry out in a “common union.” The Constitutions remind us that we must all support each other in spiritual and human growth to carry out the mission effectively. They remind us of the principles of subsidiarity, co-responsibility, inter-responsibility, animation and union. In the last General Chapter (2023), the theme of congregational internationality was added. Jules frequently wrote about the mission of the Superior in this conception of obedience in fraternity that excludes despotism, dictatorship and believing oneself to be master and lord in the work to be carried out according to the mission entrusted, with an attitude of listening to discern with the brothers of the community what God’s will is for them.

- “Those who enter our Congregation can allow others to surpass them in science, in mortification, in poverty; but they will not allow themselves to be defeated in obedience in fraternal charity.” (1869)

- “Obedience and humility must be the capital virtues of the Congregation because they are those of the Heart of Jesus.” (1857)

- “In the Congregation no one is a stranger, nor an upstart, but all are brothers in the Heart of Christ.” (1897)

- “We have had Superiors of ‘ama et fac quod vis’ (love and do what you want). With this principle, some have been a cause of ruin for many and an extreme weakening of religious observance. If we continue down these paths it will be the loss of vo-



cations. You have to take men as they are. They need to feel vigorous discipline. Only in this way can regularity and virtue be maintained..." (07-04-1880)

- "I think it is wise on the part of superiors and typical of good administration to think about the future and prepare for it, without compromising the present, that is, especially when Providence seems to lead the way." (26-02-1884)

- "Accept only safe vocations. It is much better to have fewer, but they are good. Never focus on the number; otherwise, you will have troublesome spirits that will make the Congregation tremble. And when you realise that a religious person is not suitable, do not hesitate to fire him. It is necessary today that discipline be firmer than ever and that obedience be practised by all. Obedience is the touchstone! (León XIII to Julio, Cfr. N° 1966. Cir.)

- "He complains about some novices who are not very intelligent and weak in health. Why keep them so long? They then constitute a big nuisance, and we don't know what to do with them after having cost us so much money. It is not advisable to be so condescending. Good intelligence and excellent health are required. Be severe. Never admit to the vows of those docile and sensual natures that do not want to correct themselves. The Spirit of piety and interior does not usually ally itself with these characters. It requires true piety, blind obedience, generosity, and a spirit of mortification. *Pauca sed bona*" (few but good). (03-01-1885)

- "The missionary must radiate unwavering faith and perfect trust in God so as not to allow himself to be carried away by discouragement in setbacks and problems, and not to lose heart in the face of the difficulties he encounters in his work." (1855)

- "As far as possible, the Superior will never make his brothers feel the weight of his authority; he will not treat them in a domineering manner but with kindness, sweetness, charity and cordiality." (1855)

**2.4.** We know the filial devotion of Jules Chevalier towards the Mother of Jesus. Something maintained by all of us throughout our history. We cannot deny that in several places, we are known more by it than by our title.

- "We recognise her as our founder and sovereign. We will associate her in all our works and make her loved in a particular way." (1856)

- "Do not forget that He was given to us by Mary, that God wanted Him to take His life from the most pure heart of the Virgin, His Mother; that she is, furthermore, the mysterious channel through which graces reach us. Through her, then, and in union with her, you must go to the Heart of Jesus. Sure of pleasing Jesus, call His Mother: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. (1863)

- "We will put our effort into making Mary loved ... to make known to the people her powerful intercession with God and her tenderness towards human beings." (1855)

- "This title of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart contains a deep meaning: It wants to show that Mary, on the occasion of her divine Motherhood, has a great influence on the Heart of Jesus, and it is through her that we must walk towards the Heart of your son". (1857)

- "Like Mary, we have made known in all simplicity our notorious insufficiency and our legitimate concerns. Since, despite this sincere manifestation, you tell us like the angel: 'Do not fear anything, accept the offer that is made to you, the Spirit of God will be with you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you', we bow with respect, and our humble Congregation responds with the Virgin of Nazareth: 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word.' And with Saint Peter: 'In your word I will cast the net.' (1881)

### 3. About His Person

**3.1. We know that Jules Chevalier** rarely talks about himself. We present texts to help us enter his interior and value him even more.

**3.2.** • "I even try to go further and recreate myself, like Saint Paul, in the trials and find my consolation in the cross. I know that the works of God are only founded on Calvary and suffering. This thought strengthens me." (14-02-1866)

## *Great charity must reign in the community. Respect each other.*

- "I wholeheartedly forgive my enemies, if I have had any, those who have sought to hurt me with their words or actions, anyone who has responded to my dedication, my benefits, with ingratitude or slander. My soul is free of any resentment." (1st Spiritual Testament, January 25, 1881)

- "I do my duty. If your opinion remains the same, I will resign within eight days." (to his advisors, 26-02-1884)

- "If things continue like this, it is advisable a thousand times to abandon the parish and be content with a modest position, where religious life can be carried out seriously ... ." (17/05/1889)

- "Do not admit those who are sick, those who lack sincere piety, those who lack judgment. These subjects are more harmful than useful to the Congregation. Sooner or later, they become a serious nuisance and serve as a bad example. It is preferable to have less and to be excellent religious, pious, edifying, obedient to the point of sacrifice, who renounce their own will and are willing to do anything and go wherever the Superiors send them." (20-IV-90)

- "It causes me great pain, dear friend, to say that I abandon him, to me who, on the contrary, always support him, justify him and always take his defence in all things; to me who praise you in all circumstances, your zeal to all proof, your limitless love for the Congregation, your adherence taken to the



point of heroism, etc. To me who look at you as another self, in which I rest with perfect security. To me who have no secrets for you, to whom I entrust our fears, our hopes, my most secret thoughts. Please, I beg you, do not doubt me anymore ... and do not be sad from now on for things that do not exist or that are not against you. (3-XII-90)

• “Our personal union with Jesus surpasses all imagination. It is not only a union through imitation and love. It is making us one with Him. The complete Christ is made up of Him and us.”

• “If we do not fully live the life of the Heart of Jesus, we must consider ourselves unworthy of the name of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. . . Those who assume the glorious name of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart can consider themselves worthy of it only to the extent that they have managed to bring the very life of the Heart of Jesus.”

• “It is true that my life is far from being that of a contemplative; But tell me, who can know how I spend my nights after 10 p.m., or what I do when, for 20 years, I get up at 4:30 in the morning? Furthermore, who can know what are the inner feelings that animate me during the long hours that I spend morning and afternoon in the temple? (28-01-1891)

• “A great spirit of prayer and good example must be evident in the missionary. With this, it will produce more fruit than with all the science and eloquence that could be used ... Let us apply ourselves carefully to prayer so that it may be our supreme delight, considering it as the most precious moment destined for our conversation with God. (1855)

• “There is a need for men imbued with a spirit of prayer and apostolic zeal, willing to give everything and give themselves

in favour of their brothers. Let us be like this, beloved brothers, and then we will be true apostles of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.” (1900)

• “I can assure you, before God who knows me, that I have had no other objective in everything I have done than to seek his glory and the good of others. He would have preferred death a hundred times over doing something solely for human reasons. I affirm that I have always sought the Kingdom of God and the justice of it.” (1891)

• “We have no other purpose than to make his love known everywhere . . . Being a Missionary of the Sacred Heart means being an apostle of the love of Jesus.”

• “As modern societies enter a new phase, it is necessary that we find new ways of fighting and combating that respond to their needs” (1887)

• “We believe that we can affirm with complete certainty that Our Lady of the Sacred Heart will never stop protecting our Congregation if we are faithful to her.”

### Conclusion

You have in your hands more than seven dozen texts by Jules Chevalier. Two hundred years after his birth, they can be a means to return to the sources. Leaving aside literary styles and cultural expressions of a time, yours, let us try to discover and live what the Spirit transmits to us through Him.

The ways are from yesterday, the message from today; the style is of its time, and the dynamic inspiration of the Charisma, Spirituality and Mission of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart is for today. **Joaquín Herrera, msc**



# Tribute to the Revere Fr. Jules Chevalier

On the 200th Anniversary of his birth



*Rejoice in Issoudun, providential cradle of a work that has irrigated the earth!  
Rejoice Beri, first listener to the cries of innocence of a child whose story travels the earth  
Remember the days of yore, lands of decay, laboratories of emptiness, vast deserts of meaning  
Peoples of the earth, be silent and listen to the echo of a life of charity led in the direction of meaning*

*200 years ago, God's love manifested itself in the midst of the torments of the new France  
The genesis of a world without God, the crucible of a suffering humanity  
The seed may survive in the harvest, but grace transcends the obvious  
This is why, in order to experience the generosity of providence, Chevalier was deprived of abundance from the start*

*The harshness of conditions led Chevalier towards the ideal  
Entrusted to Mary from dawn to dusk, Christ always had a central place in his life  
Like the beloved disciple, Chevalier looked at and saw the pierced Heart  
In that Heart, he found the remedy for all of life's proven inconsistencies*

*Throughout his life, Jules strove to make the Sacred Heart known and loved everywhere.  
In grace, he gave birth to the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the Fraternity of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart  
For the mission and in gratitude to Mary, he founded the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart  
The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart were born out of sorrow sublimated by faith  
As well as a plethora of institutes that share this beautiful spirituality of the Heart through irrigation*

*Knight, man of God, apostle of the Sacred Heart, silent martyr of love  
Father Des hommes whose smile had no more time, man of character and humour  
By his person and his works, Jules drew so many souls from worldliness to divinity  
He helped to shape the face of the world by directing it towards the Heart, the source of true civility*

*Jules Chevalier did so much that even a book cannot contain  
I'm not denying the merits of Cuskelly, Tostain and the others, I'm just evoking the memory  
With this text, let a vibrant tribute be paid to this worthy son of the Church of Touraine  
His life was a blaze of fire that blazed from metropolises to distant shores  
From Europe to Asia, from the islands of Oceania to the lands of Africa and America, God is with the living  
His heart must be known and loved in return, today, tomorrow and in the days to come.  
In wishing Father Chevalier's sons and daughters a happy jubilee, I would like to express one wish*

*That he be proposed as a public model of holiness. I should have said two wishes!  
That the celebration of this event will be a Kairos for the rediscovery of our spirituality  
That spirituality of the heart that soaks the soul and frees it from the jails of rituality  
This spirituality that re-energises the Church in its Zeal  
This spirituality that presents God at the heart of his creation  
This spirituality that reminds man of his primary vocation  
This spirituality that transcends immanence and introduces man into the life of God  
This spirituality, a boulevard of holiness*

**Romain Danem, msc**

# *The experience of a global Church*



## **Very pronounced internationalisation**

The 2017 General Chapter was an exceptional experience for me compared to all the other Chapters since the 1980s. Over the decades, I have been able to experience the transformation that has taken place in our Congregation. Whereas in the 1983 chapter, the assembly was still primarily made up of European, Australian or North American representatives, the 2017 Chapter was very colourful, with a large majority of confreres from the southern hemisphere. This highly international and intercultural composition is an evident reflection of the changes that have taken place in the Catholic Church since the Second Vatican Council and the demographic changes that have occurred, especially on the old continent of Europe. All the congregations and religious orders are experiencing these changes and bear witness to this universality, which has become very evident in our Chapters and General Conferences. The proceedings of these assemblies also contain more and more reflections on the internationality and interculturality that mark the life of the confreres in the entities. The “Chevalier Family” idea has also been expressed even more. In this respect, our last Chapter in 2023 in Nemi was an extraordinary experience because, for the very first time, delegations of observers from the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, the MSC Sisters and lay members of the Chevalier Family were invited and took an active part in our discussions. During the Chapter of 2017, Fr Abzalón asked me to serve as General Councillor. I had just finished 12 years as Provincial in Belgium. A new challenge awaited me.

## **A new world**

If globalisation and belonging to a worldwide congregation had interested me for a long time, now I would experience it like never before. The world was indeed going to become my village. A member of the General Council is not only responsible for the geographical area assigned to him, but the whole congregation must be of concern to him. He is no longer the representative of ‘his country’ or ‘his continent’, but, together with the team, he is a servant of the whole congregation. At Council meetings, you see the congregation “parade” in all its rich diversity, with its formidable achievements and weaknesses, and the confreres with their joys and sorrows. There is a lot of discernment to be done, and each team member contributes his or her own. Together, we look for the best way to move a situation forward and create or facilitate opportunities for growth for the confreres concerned. The most comforting meetings are those where we can approve professions, ordinations and new initiatives to develop the mission; the most difficult are those where complex issues are put on the table, such as expulsions of the Society, requests for exclaustation, the accompaniment of crises situations, etc.

## **Africa and Europe**

I was entrusted explicitly with supporting the entities in Africa and Europe. While we are confronted with the ageing process and its many well-known consequences in Europe, staying among the confreres in Africa is like a breath of fresh air. It’s an experience of vitality and a search for how



best to accomplish the mission in a continent where the Church and religious life face many challenges. The Union of French-speaking Africa (Congo, Cameroon, Senegal) and the mission in South Africa and Mozambique were entrusted to my care. Accompanying the UAF was the most intensive. I also had the joy of learning about the life of the MSCs at the Chapters in Australia and Canada and at the APIA formators' meeting in Fiji.

As for the eight provinces of Europe, listening to our older brothers, I was always struck and edified by their missionary commitment to the missions of the South and their countries of origin. The psalmist's phrase often came to mind:

*For me, JPIC has been a passion for a long time. Since the 2017 chapter, we have tried to make progress in this area as a "Chevalier Family".*

"He is still bearing fruit in his old age ...". What a testimony for us youngsters! In many places, I was struck by the dedication of many lay people who desire to share our spirituality in the Chevalier Family. This is undoubtedly a great fruit of the renewal and rediscovery of the intuitions and desires of our Founder.

#### **Peace, Justice, Integrity of Creation (JPIC)**

Apart from their territorial responsibilities, each team member has a specific portfolio. For me, JPIC has been a passion for a long time. Since the 2017 chapter, we have tried to make progress in this area as a "Chevalier Family". Of course, each entity chooses its actions according to the priorities dictated by the situation on the ground. But since 2015, Pope Francis has invited humanity, in his encyclical *Laudato Si*, to combat climate change and take greater care of our common home, the earth. We have promoted this through the action/prayer on the first Friday of the month, which has always been dear to our congregations. We are not alone;

what we do together, we do better! We are also committed to the 7-year plan developed by the World Movement *Laudato Si*. Entities that have yet to become involved are invited not to stand by and watch. The Pope says that action is urgently needed, and everyone must get involved. It's not just ecological conversion and climate change that need to be tackled, but other injustices and violations of human rights are also on the spot. It is justice that creates lasting peace! Despite COVID, these six years at the Generalate and in the world were a great challenge and a considerable personal enrichment. Not all projects came to fruition. I have seen the vitality of our Congregation, especially in the southern hemisphere. Organising North-South solidarity and involving more confreres in the Commitment for a Better World (JPIC) is challenging for our mission under the aegis of the Spirit and the new General Administration. I remain convinced that the promotion of international collaboration and the formation of intercultural communities is the emerging future that will enable our mission to progress "ubique terrarum". Our world is changing at a dizzying pace, with a widening gap between the rich countries and the countries of the South that are suffering most from climate change. The challenges and responsibilities for our communities are enormous if we are to fulfil our prophetic vocation in a synodal Church. Avanti!

**André Claessens, msc**



# Reflections on the Assembly of Laity on the occasion of the celebration of the end of the Year of Chevalier

## Alison McKenzie – General Secretary

After nearly 5 years of collaborative planning between the laity of the Philippines and the International Council of Laity we were finally able to see the fruits of our prayer and our labours come to fruition. The Assembly occurred between 21st – 29th January, 2024 with a theme of ‘One in Heart in Caring for our Common Home.’ The program was developed to support the two elements of the theme: One in Heart and caring for our Common Home. Heartbonded is the word we used during the preparations to express our hopes for transformed hearts and it would seem, by the Spirit that emerged as we travelled the journey of the Assembly together, and in what is emerging since in so many countries, that we were actually heartbonded. The prayer and the hope of the outgoing and incoming Council is that we all understand more fully that a key aspect of our lay charism is to care for creation in the places from which we have come. That also seems to have come to fruition.

We had four aims that guided our Assembly work:

1. Deciding/discerning together our mission as laity
2. Enhancing global solidarity
3. Formation in Spirituality of the Heart
4. Organisational matters.

As we interpret the formal evaluations and respond to the communications since the Assembly, I think we can be very confident that each of those aims have been achieved during the Assembly itself and in the weeks that have followed in developments that are happening in individual countries.

You may be interested in the Assembly papers that can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FE-GOz6O8r7zJaguaYFOj3lMe9MoXsmu\\_?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FE-GOz6O8r7zJaguaYFOj3lMe9MoXsmu_?usp=drive_link)

The daily updates can be found here:  
<https://1drv.ms/f/s!AmTqno0pbTh7kJl7s9sW-FyC5Z394tA?e=8D2aKV>

### Assembly papers



### The daily updates



What follows are short testimonials from some of the incoming Council members and there will be many more reflections and reactions to the Assembly over the next few months. For me, it is the culmination of my life commitment to the vision of Jules Chevalier to be able to offer myself in service for the next 6 years.

## Patricia Antonieta Rivas Molina - (Guatemala)

Since it was made official, there was news that the IV LAY ASSEMBLY OF THE CHEVALIER FAMILY would be in the Philippines, but the pandemic came and the Assembly was delayed. COVID-19 has hurt us with so many deaths that made me think, I Didn't KNOW IF I WOULD STILL BE BREATHING IN 15 Minutes; and I didn't dare make plans. In October 2022, the 2nd National Council (of my country Guatemala) was elected and I was elected as “coordinator” for our Council. I paid attention to the previous information from the IV Assembly, and among others, it was indicated that there would be proposals to modify the Guiding Principles and Organisational Directions document, and therefore the course the election of the next International Council. In Guatemala, we needed to send more copies to be printed, so it would be convenient for them to already include the modifications that were approved in the IV Assembly, as well as to listen to post-pandemic experiences of lay people in other countries. Having organized the trip, but not without overcoming some obstacles, I arrived in the Philippines. My objectives were achieved, but The Sacred Heart of Jesus had its own plan for me, the unimaginable, to be considered to be part of the International Council. The responsibility for this opportunity and challenge is very great. I pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for your help to be attentive to his guidance and for Our Lady of the Sacred Heart for her protection, both for me and for all the members of the International Council, for the work to be done.

I wish to express my gratitude, first to God, for everything it has meant to participate in this IV Assembly, to all the participants for their sharing and a special thanks to the Chevalier Family of the Philippines, for their overflowing and loving welcome.





**Aidan Johnson -(Australia)**

The Assembly was a great opportunity to see the extent to which the Chevalier Family really is an international family. I enjoyed meeting people from all around the world and celebrating our diversity. The Assembly gave us a lot to think about, and called us as a Council, and as individuals, to make concrete commitments to act both for the environment and to build our Chevalier Family. The sense of international connectedness is something I knew of, but had never really experienced it quite like this. Having the Trigenalate members present was also a highlight. Hearing their insights and seeing the authentic support that they give to the lay movement was empowering.



**Sr Merle Salazar, fdnsc**

It is now more than a month since the Lay International Assembly in Cebu. I attended as a spiritual companion with the role of facilitating the Assembly. As I look back, I am more and more convinced that the Assembly was the work of the Spirit. From the time of preparation (which was a long time indeed) to the actual days of the Assembly, I felt the Spirit leading and animating us. I guess the coming days, months and years will confirm this. As we say, “by the fruits, we will know!” May the Assembly bear concrete fruits in our unity and in our caring for the earth and the poor! What is it that the Spirit was doing? To me, one very clear thing is the empowerment of the Laity. That Assembly was organized, managed and led by our lay leaders and members. It was truly amazing to see! How fortunate the Chevalier Family is to have such good lay members! We religious were a small minori-

ty in that meeting and we were happy to participate. In that Assembly, we religious and lay, were companions to each other, “heartbonded”!

What a blessing and what a challenge it is to bring the experience of the Assembly to the ground!

**Petrus Maringka (Indonesia)**

This was my first time participating in the International Assembly of the Laity of the Chevalier Family and it was an amazing experience to meet many people coming from different countries who share the same mission from Father Jules Chevalier “To be on earth the heart of God”. I could feel the Holy Spirit work within this Assembly and make all of the participants connected although we had language and cultural barriers. But that does not stop us from getting to know each other, rejoicing, and praying together. We could feel the same atmosphere and understanding when we heard the presentation and discussed the topics presented by different keynote speakers. There were times when the language barrier did not matter as the Holy Spirit worked among us and we started to understand what the presenter wanted to convey to us. For me, I became clear about our movement as the Laity in the Chevalier Family and how they operate differently in some countries knowing that different region has different approaches. For example, the Laity family from Korea consists of many devoted people and they need a few years to go through many steps before becoming an official member of the Laity of The Chevalier Family. However, in another country, the process of becoming a member of the Laity family is extremely simple.

Although the movement itself and its mission and vision had been cleared for me, there was still one thing that was bothering me regarding the activities and tasks of the International Council members. So, when Alison (Elected Secretary General for 2024-2030) chose me to be one of the International Council members, I accepted as I thought this was God’s plan to make me understand more about all activities and duties of the International Council. I sincerely hope by being a member of the International Council, I can contribute to the growth of The Laity family in every country member.

Thank you and blessings to all.







# *The Statements from Assembly of the Laity of the Chevalier family*

Statements. 22-29 January 2024

The Laity of the Chevalier Family, inspired by Jules Chevalier’s charism, lives Spirituality of the Heart. It leads people to an encounter with the Heart of God and to move from this inner encounter to an outward embodied and lived mission. We are one in heart and yet diverse, and so with open hearts and by being present, we will participate in the healing of the world. We are like a bridge over troubled waters, connecting people and encouraging them to cross safely during these challenging times.

We commit to a ‘greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share’ (Laudato Si, 14). We recognise our inter-connection with our Creator, each other, and Creation. Love and care for Creation is at the centre of Spirituality of the Heart. We will advocate, educate, and celebrate actions that show our embodied love and care for our common home - ‘from little things, big things grow’.

We will accompany with love, compassion, and empathy those people experiencing poverty, exclusion, or unjust treatment. We take the inclusive, welcoming example of Jesus as our guide on how to be one in heart with the suffering and oppressed. We draw inspiration from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, mother-disciple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our model and companion. We accept the challenge of transforming our hearts to ‘be on Earth the Heart of God’. We reviewed and approved the revised ‘Guiding Principles and Organisational Directions of the Laity of the Chevalier Family’ and are committed to supporting the work of the International Chevalier Family.



The painting is made up of a series of layered symbolic images. In the foreground is a stylised heart with a faint cross following the contours of the form. The heart floats above the centre of a white flower known as a sampagiuta in the Philippines. This image, in turn, floats above an opalescent dark background. The painting has been framed in a simple white floating box frame.

The iconography of the work is related to the 4th International Assembly of the Laity of the Chevalier Family held in the Philippines from 22-29 January 2024. The Assembly theme is ‘One in Heart in Caring for Our Common Home’.



# Father Jules Chevalier, a man ahead of his times



I am a convert to Catholicism. I was entranced when I first met an MSC community whose life, more than their words, pointed to a God who loved and to what that love looked like when it is reflected in a fully lived human life. That community whose lives reflected a vision of God as understood by Fr Jules Chevalier changed my life.

For me, Jules Chevalier was a man with a vision well beyond the confines of his times.

He is a man I can identify with. He had his great encounter with love during Seminary lectures on devotion to the Sacred Heart and spent the rest of this life exploring what that encounter meant. Hans Kwakman has explored the life long journey of Chevalier to fully understand the implications of his encounter with the divine. Chevalier's struggles to fully understand his experience permeate his writings. His journey throws a light on my own journey – to come to unders-

tand the encounter I had with a God who loves and to let that encounter transform my own life. I feel at home with Chevalier's life journey. I can relate to him as a person and he is an ever-present beacon pointing back to the Sacred Heart. He is within my reach.

When I read the story of his life I see a person who was deeply influenced by the things that he experienced in his day-to-day life. His religious understanding did not take him to a place where he was separate from the people and from the things that were affecting the people of his time. He was deeply moved by the struggles of ordinary people. I often think there is great significance of him hearing the stories of the dismantling of Cardinal Richelieu's palace when he was a young boy and watching the walls of the palace be repurposed as houses for the villagers and farmers of Richelieu. Perhaps that story offered a symbol for his own understanding of church - that it is not meant to be a grand place away from the people but a place that offered refuge like the stones of the palace. Maybe also the falling down of the barn wall in the first chapel in Issoudun that led to the people seeing what the first missionaries were doing and becoming involved symbolised his understanding of church. It is a way of being church that I relate to. Church begins where the peo-

## Jules chevalier was a man of deep prayer.

ple are and where the needs are. From there – the people follow the source of the love. I feel at home in a barn church with tumble down walls. I find refuge there.

Jules Chevalier was a man of deep prayer. Much of what he writes could sit alongside contemporary Christian authors who write on the metaphysical. He had a deep understanding of the mystery of God's love in a human heart. His writings reveal a person who knew intimately and personally what it means to have two hearts beat as one. His image of the Heart of God and the Heart of humanity uniting in the Heart of Jesus is powerful and contemporary. These images give form to my own experience of the intimacy of God and I draw from them as I live my life.

So – for me Chevalier is a very human man. I am happy he is not a saint (perhaps I should not say that) I can relate to him and his life points easily to the way of Jesus and to a way I want to emulate.

He was a man close to the people for whom theology and religious practice were a means to an end – to lead people to a God who loves. That is what changed my life and it is what I want to offer to those around me. **Alison McKenzie**

# MSC Centre for the Poor



A few years back, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC) decided to establish a centre that would completely express our concrete concerns, particularly for the poor and the little ones or marginalised in society; thus, the MSC Centre for the Poor was born. It is a grassroots, non-profit organisation dedicated to taking care of the environment and the well-being of the people and providing services to the community in terms of Spiritual, Pastoral and Socio-Economic needs.

This is a place where we can promote and realise our commitment to the total development of a human being, leading to the conversion of the heart, and ultimately experience the transformative effort in building a new heart and a new world. We established the pilot area in Butuan City in 2018. Eventually, it gave birth to an agriculture cooperative movement among farmers in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we called it the MSC-CENTRE FOR THE POOR AGRICULTURE COOPERATIVE (MSC-CEPAGCO). It is registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) and is now classified under a 'Medium Level' Coop Category with the Department of Agriculture (D.A.) Learning Site, and a Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (TESDA) Farm School. I am proud to say that it was awarded as the country's most outstanding Civil Society Organization (CSO) in 2022. With 300+ members, it has been in operation for 2 ½ years.

Developing our integrity, mastery, professionalism, and being faithful to our advocacy and taking things seriously in all aspects of life are the most significant impacts we are garnering today. Many are signing with us for partnerships and fruitful engagements, and some stay with us for exposures/immersions, on-the-job training, bench-making, and (PGS) - Participatory Guarantee System. We want to expand to other places. We want to transfer our knowledge and technology and replicate best practices that promote the virtue of permacultu-

re. "Care for the Earth, Care for the People, Share the Surplus". We already have the model. Going back to the discerning stage of the province, "The Conference agrees that there is a need for a pilot project in one designated area that provides focus to the concept – faithful to the desire of the 2017 Provincial Chapter – and can serve as the "flagship" of our Centre for the Poor." We cannot manage a Provincial/Global initiative of this size without sufficient funds to run a well-staffed and well-equipped office. The monthly expenses keep rising with the growing demand. Admin operations, electricity, IT, wages/salaries, programs, hosting fees, printing, consumables, phone calls, travel costs, fuel, accommodation - time for planning, writing, meetings, presentations, training, and other costs we often forget about. Multiply this by several outlets, and you see the problem, and at the same time, you see empowered communities growing. If we are going to succeed with our mission, we need to do it with the knowledge that we have sufficient funding and personnel for the short-term and long-term future. We need to strengthen the foundation of the mother Centres (Butuan & Del Monte). Harnessing the potentialities that can be translated to a concrete replication with a unique reading of the signs of the times for every local community situation, needs and advocacy.







PHILIPPINES

## 'Chevalier Youth Day'

The 200th birth anniversary was celebrated in the MSC Philippine Province throughout the different districts. Before the day, activities were held to celebrate his life and thank the gift of mission. Chevalier Youth Day. Some districts call this event the Chevalier Youth Festival or Chevalier Youth Conference. Different districts gathered young people to instil awareness of the founder's life and mission and encourage a vocation to the Chevalier family. The MSCs, DOLSH, MSC Sisters, and CFLA participated in the activities in the Manila District. Also, the Cor Vitae program gave a tribute to the founder through a creative presentation. In Camotes District, Agusan District, and Suriago District, the MSCs and the Laity of the Chevalier Family gathered to celebrate the founder's birth anniversary. A Eucharistic celebration and flower offering were made. Moreover, the outreach program is part of their activity for the whole day. They celebrated the birth anniversary of the founder with the Indigenous people called "Badjao" in Suriago City. **John Cheste, msc**



VIETNAM

## The theme: Setting "the Heart of Jesus before (us) as a model"

On the occasion of the 200th birthday of our Founder, Fr. Jules Chevalier, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Vietnam community celebrated this event in a solemn spirit. There were two celebrations. On Friday evening, March 15th, each house had a special communal prayer: postulancy house, study house, pastoral house. On Sunday, March 17th, we had a large gathering of Chevalier's family in Vietnam with many activities: solemn eucharist celebration, meal, and special presentations.

The whole Chevalier Family, including MSC priests, brothers, postulants, and aspirants, together with MSC Sisters, OLSH sisters, MSC Laity members and their children, attended this wonderful celebration on the 5th Sunday of Lent in Thu Duc house (Study



House). There were approximately 100 of us all together. We welcomed visitors and started the day with a Eucharist celebration at 16.00. We also listened as the letter sent by the General Superior was read to all present for the occasion.

After mass, the opening announcement from Hoang was made to begin the program. The program commenced with a short video clip about the history of the life of Fr. Jules Chevalier and his outstanding work in establishing the MSC congregation. After the presentation, all attendees had activities to warm up to and some games based on information about our founder, the history of his life, and his mission until 18.00. Then, we had a buffet dinner prepared and given by our MSC Lay members and benefactors.





After the meal, we returned and were ready for the “Music Night” to celebrate our founder’s birthday. Members of our Chevalier Family from different groups of MSC brothers, MSC sisters, OLSH, Laity, and students prepared and performed all the presentations. The MSC brothers sang the “Moving Forward in the Spirit” hymn composed by James Maher (Australian MSC).

A group of lay people sang the song “God’s Love” and presented a beautiful short drama: “Continuing the Journey of the Founder’s Mission”, by the MSC sisters. The young lay group performed the song “Jesus Sending Me!” and a challenging short drama “How to Bring God’s Love as a Remedy for All Evils of Our Times”. We also interviewed three Vietnamese laypeople who joined the recent International Assembly in the Philippines and shared their experiences of the Assembly. The celebration closed with the lighting of candles, offering prayers and the final blessing from Hoang, MSC, Superior of MSC Vietnam Community.

This was a meaningful and touching experience for all of us as we celebrated the 200th birthday of our Founder. We were inspired to share our presence with joy, solidarity, confidence, and faith in God’s grace for all of us. We felt the unity among us as a true family to help each other understand more deeply the charism and spirituality – the legacy of Father Chevalier. And with the light shining in our hearts, we move forward and set “the Heart of Jesus before (us) as a model” so we can spread God’s love to everyone, everywhere. **Hoàng, msc**

■ AUSTRALIA

## *Bicentennial Celebration of the Birth of Fr Jules Chevalier at St Thomas Blackburn Parish*



The Chevalier family in Melbourne, including the MSCs, the MSC sisters, the OLSH sisters and the Chevalier laity, gathered on this day at St Thomas’ Church in Blackburn for a Eucharistic celebration, presided by Fr Mark Hanns msc. Lee Toll, an associate with the Daughters of our Lady of the Sacred Heart, who had been to the 4th International Assembly of the Laity of the Chevalier Family in Cebu, the Philippines, last January, gave a presentation and reflection on Jules Chevalier and his life, and her



experience in this Assembly. One of the aspects she presented was the ‘open-hearted Jesus’ that Jules discovered, upon which his vision and charism were founded. Today, this image of an open-hearted Jesus calls us, even demands us, to take great care of our common home, our earth planet, through our concrete actions and daily life activities. After the Eucharist, we all shared morning tea and cut the birthday cake for Jules. We tried our best but couldn’t find enough 200 candles! Some parishioners who attended the mass expressed their appreciation for learning more about Jules Chevalier, his vision and mission, and more of the works that the Chevalier did and continues to do at this time in history. **Grace Noviana**

■ USA

## *200 Anniversary of Jules Chevalier*

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Sacred Heart Villa, Pennsylvania USA on March 16, 2024, celebrated the 200th Birthday Anniversary of our Founder, Father Jules Chevalier, MSC. He was born on March 15, 1824. Because this date was on a Friday during Lent, we celebrated the occasion the day after. Bishop Alfred Shlert, Bishop of the Diocese of Allentown, presided at our Mass of Thanksgiving. We had about 95 persons in our chapel: MSC brothers, priests, Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Lay members, diocesan clergy and seminarians, and many friends of the MSC. Our Provincial, Fr. Richard Kennedy, MSC, provided the homily for us. **Warren Perrotto, msc**







BRAZIL

# Vulnerable and Happy Servants

Since March 11th, the Chevalier family of Brazil met in the city of Aparecida, state of São Paulo, to experience the Chevalier Congress, an activity where they reflected on the life of our founder. Likewise, members of the MSC mission from Paraguay and Ecuador participated.

During these days, the family spirit was part of all the lived moments. The speakers, who were there every day, delved into some aspects of Chevalier's life and in the afternoons, the participants met in groups, in workshops, in which they discussed and reflected on some aspects related to the founder of our family and how it could be related to their own lives.

This Congress, this event, had more than a year of preparation, and more than 100 people participated and joined the spirit of communion and family in all the celebrations that took place around the world.

On the first day, we had the presentation of Monsignor Antônio Carlos Cruz Santos, MSC, Diocesan Bishop of Caicó - RN, who rescued the history of Chevalier, showing the historical context he lived in the 19th century and the challenges he had to face. For Monsignor Antônio, Chevalier's current situation is to see that he was a man of his time, which leads us to assume the reality of our time. And this results in having your eyes open, as the founder of our family had, to see the evils that plague our humanity. When contemplating Jesus crucified and pierced, Chevalier saw that from his open side, the remedy to fight the world's evils came out. And we are called to continue his legacy.

On the second day, it was the opportunity of Sr. Fabilene Santos Castro, FDNSC general counsellor, who spoke of Fr. Chevalier like a man with a burning heart. For the religious woman, to live these days of Congress is to be empowered by a spirituality and to look for tools that respond to the

screams and calls of our time. For her, Fr. Chevalier made an itinerary from the devotion to the Sacred Heart and experienced that love and made the deep experience of God's love and wanted other people to live that. And we, as the Chevalier family, are called to be a welcoming church, a tender church, a reflection of God's love.

On the third day, P. Humberto Henrique, MSC, former general councillor, spoke about the spirituality of the heart for our times. For Humberto, to revive the charism, to return to the origins of our foundation is to be able to perceive how much that man, Chevalier, was taken by the charism, the gift of the spirit that was granted to him and how he communicated it through the spirituality of the heart. For the missionary, Chevalier had the conviction from the beginning that God deeply loved him, and because of that love, he needed to do one thing for the world: for humanity. That's why he founded our congregation so we could reflect his love everywhere.

In the words of Fr. Absalón, during these days, we stepped on sacred ground, shook the earth and felt the power of the Holy Spirit through the founding intuition of Fr. Chevalier. We are convinced that we are heirs of a missionary, prophetic and current charism and that it is necessary to update it in order to be faithful. We need our hearts to burn for the mission because we feel loved by a human heart. Chevalier is alive and present in all the missionary territories where we are present.







The Father General emphasised that the Congress ended with each participant feeling strengthened in the method of community discernment, of community wisdom. It is necessary to nourish and enhance communion in diversity as the Chevalier Family. The common house waits and calls for our attitude changes and concrete actions.

On the last day, the 15th, where we remember the birth of our Founder, the celebration of this Bicentennial was crowned with a mass in the Basilica of Our Lady Aparecida, patron saint of Brazil and with the presidency of Msg. Manoel Ferreira, MSC, bishop of the Diocese of Registry. In the Mother's house, as the Brazilians call the National Sanctuary, the meeting was given to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fr. Chevalier and, together, all of us who were present thanked God for the life of our Founder.

Fr. Moacir Goulart de Figueiredo, Provincial Superior of Curitiba, in charge of making the homily at the central mass, recalled that Fr. Chevalier spent his life with his eyes fixed on the Heart of Jesus and that nourished and strengthened

him always. And everything we feed grows. In addition, he recommended to all those present to feed three things in their lives: their dreams and the willingness to be missionaries; the Marian devotion, the seed of fraternity and social friendship, the central theme of this year's Fraternity Campaign in Brazil, proposed by the Brazilian bishops.

For Fr. Absalón Alvarado, MSC, this experience, which was beautiful, was of renewal for everyone and of recharge for our missionary vocation and continue to be the heart of God in the lands where God himself has planted us. Likewise, this meeting renewed our being and our identity as a Chevalier family. Like the disciples of Emmaus, we return to Jerusalem, to our realities, to carry the news of the Lord, his Good News of love, full of his grace, to continue to be his heart in the world. "We are aware of our weaknesses and challenges, but we do not lose hope or good humor. We appreciate the possibility of the meeting, the conversion, and the mission that awaits us." With these words, Father Absalón ended his speech in Congress. **Miguel Alejandro Ibarra, msc**



ISSOUDUN



KOREA



BELGIUM





KIRIBATI



ROME



INDONESIA



SPAIN



COLOMBIA



PERÚ



# India, the new MSC Province

Saturday, March 16th, was indeed a memorable day for the Indian branch of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart: Four celebrations rolled into one. Father Mike Miller, General Secretary in Rome, and Father Michael Huber, Provincial in South Germany/Austria, were present for the occasion.

1. The first of the four celebrations was the Ordination to the Diaconate by the Archbishop of Bangalore, Peter Machado, of the following three MSC :  
 Vinodh Kumar from the Bangalore Archdiocese, Karnataka State, aged 39  
 Karthik Raja Kekar from the Madurai Archdiocese in Tamil Nadu State, aged 30; and  
 Sesu Raj Sekar from the Mysore Diocese, Karnataka State, aged 31.

2. The second celebration involved the Formal Erection of MSC INDIA as a Province.

It was established as a Union back in 1997. Now that MSC INDIA has become a Province, Father Darwin Thatheus will continue on until December as Provincial, assisted by the current Council members. Father General has indicated that a Provincial Chapter should be held sometime in August 2024 to approve our new Provincial Statutes. Subsequently, an Elective Assembly should be held in October to elect a Provincial and Council. Whoever is elected (or re-elected) will take office in December.

3. The third celebration was the 200th Birthday of our Founder, Father Jules Chevalier.

4. The fourth celebration involved the Official Blessing and Opening of the Chevalier Academy.

This primary and secondary school was built on the site that formerly housed the MSC Formation House at Bellandur Gate. The Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church occupies



the other major portion of this property. The Chevalier Academy will serve the needs of many of our parishioners' children in what is now a major growth area of Bangalore. The Academy started enrolling a few Grade 1 students last year, utilising the few ready classrooms. Now that the construction has been completed, a formal opening and blessing of the Academy was appropriate.







## The Provincial Conference in Indonesia

The 2024 Provincial Conference meeting, which is a meeting of Provincial Leaders, the Daily Council, and Leaders of Regional Communities/Houses/Formations, took place from 19 to 24 February 2024 at Panti Semadi Ratna Miriam, Malino.

Nineteen participants attended this meeting. The meeting began with a Eucharistic Celebration led by Fr Samuel Maranresy MSC, Provincial Superior of MSC Indonesia. It continued with a reflection, guided by Fr Hendrikus Nyong Wawo MSC, who invited participants to explore the spirit and charisma of Fr Jules Chevalier (Founding Father) through his writings, using the Communal Discernment method. This reflection was placed in the context of the 200th anniversary of Fr Chevalier's birth (15 March 2024) and, at the same time, invited the participants of the DPL meeting to move from ego to eco (thinking and acting congregationally) as the ideal of the Founding Father "Let the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved throughout the world".

The Provincial Superior officially opened the meeting with the DPL participants' roll call and the meeting officers' ratification. After the Provincial Superior read out the agenda of the 2024 DPL meeting, he handed over the mandate to lead the sessions to Fr Teodorus La Edi MSC and Fr Marselinus Subi MSC as moderators.

The meeting discussed topics such as the report of the Province's journey during 2023 (which included the committees) by the Provincial Superior and the reports of the Regional Community/House/Formation Superiors on the implementation and evaluation of the results of the Tomohon 2023 Chapter and the 2023 Provincial Assembly meeting, as well as the map of personnel and works in each Regional Community/House/Formation. Also discussed were the draft Provincial Formation Guidelines by the Formation Committee, the draft Provincial Work Guidelines by the Work Committee, Administrative and Secretarial matters

by the Provincial Secretary, the 2023 financial report and the proposal for 2024 by the Provincial Treasurer.

This year's meeting also provided particular time for the Provincial Superior to discuss several important life topics and work with the Regional/Home/Formation Community Leaders. The meeting then discussed mutations. This part of the meeting was conducted in a congregational spirit with an eye to priorities. In addition, several other matters were discussed in the Varia, namely: reviewing the decisions and recommendations of the 2023 Tomohon Chapter and the 2023 DPL meeting, the construction of the Provincial House, information about the Protocol for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults, Agung Sedayu Group's offer for



MSC to manage the school in Pantai Indah Kapuk-Jakarta and the 2024 Calendar. The meeting produced several statements, recommendations and decisions that will be implemented during 2024 both at the Provincial level and Regional/Home/Formation communities.

On Saturday, 24 February 2024, the Provincial Superior, Fr. Samuel Maranresy MSC, officially closed the conference, which was followed by a Eucharistic celebration led by the Vice-Provincial Superior, Fr. Ignatius F. Wong Sani Saliwardaya MSC, at Ratna Miriam Samadi Home Chapel, Malino. The following day, the participants had mass with the parishioners of Mamajang, followed by a city tour and meeting with Archbishop Mgr Francis Nipa in the evening. **Joseph Harbelubun, msc**

# Celebrating and Transition of Responsibilities

On Wednesday, 28 February 2024, there was a celebration in the chapel of the MSC Generalate, a handover ritual from the previous General Leadership Team (GLT) to the new Team. In his reflection, Absalon reminded us, “Positions function; they are adjectives; they come and go. The substantive continues to serve. We are called to serve, to be human and genuine members of the Chevalier (family).” The celebrations continued after mass, with our Sisters from the FDNSC Generalate joining us.

Special thanks to the outgoing GLT, and all the best for your new missions. Congratulations to the incoming Team, and may the Sacred Heart of Jesus continue to inspire you in your new mission.

The following identifies the areas of regional responsibility, the individual Council members involved, and changes to the Administration Team (ATEAM) for 2024. In each group, the first name identified is the coordinator of that team. **Bram Tulusan, msc**

## GLT Territorial Teams

### 1. Asia Team:

- Chris Chaplin MSC, Gene Pejo MSC , Bram Tulusan MSC
- India, Vietnam & Korea: Gene
- Philippines: Bram
- Indonesia, Japan: Chris

### 2. Oceania Team:

- Gene Pejo MSC, Simon Lumpini MSC, Chris Chaplin MSC
- Australia & PNG: Chris, Gene
- Pacific Islands: Simon

### 3. Europe Team:

- Bernard Mongeau MSC, Simon Lumpini MSC

### 4. Africa Team:

- Simon Lumpini MSC & Bernard Mongeau MSC
- U.A.F. & Mozambique: Bernard
- Anglophone Africa: Simon

### 5. Latin America Team:

- Bram Tulusan MSC, Bernard Mongeau MSC

### 6. North America Team:

- Chris Chaplin MSC, Gene Pejo MSC

## GLT portfolios

1. Dependencies of the Generalate (DG’s), Ongoing Formation (OGF) Commission: Chris Chaplin MSC
2. Financial Advisory Board (FAB), General Finance Commission (GFC), Projects Office, Serra Fund, Brothers’ Commission: Bernard Mongeau MSC
3. Brothers’ Commission, Initial Formation Commission: Simon Lumpini MSC
4. Initial Formation Commission: Bram Tulusan MSC
5. Laity, Administration (incl. Archive process): Gene Pejo MSC





**GLT Liaisons**

1. Communications Desk & Safeguarding: Bram Tulusan MSC
2. JPIC Desk: Simon Lumpini MSC
3. Cor Vitae Tri-Generalate Liaison: Gene Pejo MSC
4. Cor America Tri-Generalate Liaison & DG’s Europe: Bernard Mongeau MSC
5. Territory Executives: Chris Chaplin MSC

**GLT Desks**

- a. DG’s Europe & Issoudun: Carl Tranter MSC
- b. JPIC: Richie Gomez MSC
- c. Initial Formation: Humberto Henrique MSC
- d. Communication: Javier Trapero
- e. Safeguarding Office: Bram Tulusan MSC, Tina Campbell (pending restructuring)
- f. Project Office: Irudaya Raj MSC

**Reconfiguration of Services the General House**

**Administration Line Manager:** Gene Pejo

**A. Secretariat Team**

- Secretary General: Mike Miller MSC (On June 1st – Richard Suresh MSC)
- Administrative Assistant: Richard Suresh MSC (On June 1st Iruday Araj MSC)
- Procurator & Postulator: Fernando Clemente Santos MSC
- IT : Stefano Angelucci

**B. Finance**

- Finance Line Manager: Bernard Mongeau MSC
- General Bursar: Benny Laisina MSC
- Office Assistant: Sofia Amante

**C. Generalate Local Community**

- Local Superior: Mike Miller MSC (On June 1st – Richard Suresh MSC)
- House Manager: Sofia Amante
- Household Services: Jhonatan Palacay Viesta & Willy Castro Ku



# Recharging our Spiritual Battery

“Lent is a time of grace and a time of blessing. We are called to go into the sacred space of our hearts and look at the things that cause us to do wrong and direct ourselves to God through prayer.” This was the introduction of Sr Sophie Francis MSC on th recollection in Generalate house community.



In the light of the theme ‘Recharging your spiritual batteries’, the community members were reminded that in the midst of busy lives, there are many batteries that we need to recharge. In many ways, our spiritual life is very similar to a mobile phone battery. There are times when our spiritual batteries are fully charged. Times when our passion and enthusiasm for our spiritual life is at its highest.

There are times when our spiritual battery is running low or even dead. It is the time when neglect to feed ourselves spirituality. We have no hunger for the word of God and spend little or no time in prayer. Our spiritual passion is gone. “When our spiritual batteries are running low or dead, we need to get away for a while and reconnect with Jesus, the source of our spiritual power, which is the heart of Jesus.” This is a call for us. It is at such times that we need to recharge our spiritual batteries. We have been reminded to “unplug” from the world and “reconnect to God” every day. The recollection was divided into four parts: reflection from Sr Sophie, personal reflection, communal discernment, adoration led by Richard Suresh MSC. **Bram Tulusan, msc**





## Younger MSC in Europe: “A Heart for Europe”

Like a baby who is being formed in its mother’s womb, so the MSC European entity must be formed in the spiritual womb of our Mother, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Thus, we gathered from all over the world, from Fiji to Cameroon, from Congo to Belgium, from India to Haiti, Korea, Senegal, Indonesia, and Ireland, in our maternal church: la Basilique du Notre-Dame du Sacre Coeur in Issoudun. This is the place where our founder, Fr. Jules Chevalier MSC, was inspired to form our congregation.

“It is always nice to come home,” many emotionally shared. It is also lovely that brothers get together and get to know each other; that’s the delight of their parents.

Fr. Daniel Auguie MSC welcomed us, saying, “Set the example for the provincial gathering next week. Jules Chevalier’s vision is also our vision. Europe has aged, but it is not dead”.

On these encouraging words, we began the meeting. The first morning, we shared a bit about our lives, who we are, and how we got there as men and as MSCs. Then, in the afternoon, we were invited to reflect on what struggles hinder our mission and how to use European problems as advantages for the mission. As Fr. Chevalier reminds us, “Obstacles are means”.

On the second day, we were all very excited to visit Richelieu. It’s always a profound experience to be in this town and literally step on the same stones walked by Fr. Chevalier. However, we were somewhat disappointed to discover that the bir-



thplace is rather run down and the commemorative plaque is barely readable.

Some of us, wanting to emulate the young Jean Jules in everything, were hoping to find a fruit stall selling apples in the nearby market, yet our mischievous intentions remained unsatisfied. Despite these minor setbacks, when we had the honour of celebrating Mass in the church, our desires were widely fulfilled and even increased by the privilege of using Saint Vincent de Paul’s chalice. Each one got a picture holding it.

Like Jesus saving the best wine for last, the third day was dedicated to hard work. The morning was spent in uplifting conversations based on the “Affirmations & Recommendations” document issued by the General Chapter. The sharing focused on several of its topics, with an emphasis on MSC identity, internationality, mission, formation, the role of the laity, and vocation.



The afternoon saw a very encouraging and enriching conversation on practical suggestions for the emerging European entity. “A European entity, independent from Provinces, is a necessity”, seemed to be the predominant voice. Despite the usual miscommunication and the natural and healthy disagreements, one brother beautifully concluded, “During these days, I actually felt like being with my brother MSC”. Indeed the “Heart for Europe” is already beating.

The group shared a deep sense of gratitude for each other’s sharing. Everyone was especially grateful to Fr. Mark MSC and Fr. Sebastian MSC for the huge effort they put into organising the gathering.

One last thing: As an English confrere always says, “a bird cannot fly only on one wing,” so neither can we talk only about business. Each night was characterized by very enjoyable socialising, relaxing, singing, and dancing.

The last evening, Sr. Marie Christine Kunzi FDNSC, French Provincial Superior, joined us for Mass, which we celebrated in the chapel at the foot of the statue of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. With the help of our Mother Mary, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, may we be formed by the Holy Spirit, that the new European entity may come into light and bear much fruit, so that the love of the Heart of Jesus may set the whole world on fire. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us. **Giacomo Gelard, msc**

## 40 Religious Anniversary of Chris Chaplin



## Beginning the Novitiate in the Australian Province



In the afternoon of March 1st, we continued our spirit of celebration from the morning, the parish Bicentenary Mass, the MSC, OLSH, MSC Sister, Laity of the Chevalier Family, with Jules and his passion to spread the human and unconditional love of Jesus everywhere, by celebrating the beginning of our Novitiate March 2024-May 2025. Nang Dinh VU and Van Long TRAN were officially received into the Novitiate by Fr Khoi Nguyen msc, the Director of Initial Formation and Novice Director, on behalf of the Australian Province.

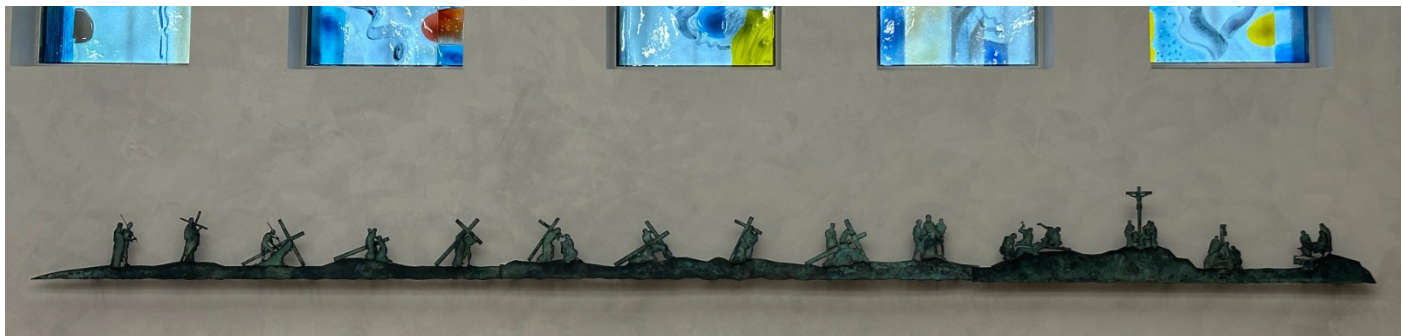
During this reception liturgy, Khoi reminded Long and Nang of the ‘radical’ invitation of Jesus to each of them at this stage of their formation and urged them to be open, to be ready to take risks with God, and with God’s grace, to go out of their comfort zone, their own security, and to find God in new ways, beyond their expectations and imagination. Fr Stephen Hackett msc, the Australian Provincial, who could not be there in person, conveyed his greetings and best wishes, his prayer and support, to the novices as they embarked on this unique and important journey. Many MSCs, parishioners of St Thomas’ Blackburn parish and friends of Long and Nang were present at the church to show their love and support to them. We continue to keep them and Khoi, their director, in our prayers and thoughts. **Khoi Nuoye, msc**





# The New Provincial House of Korean MSC

The South Korean Province celebrated the blessing of their new Provincial House and chapel on 17 February. Lee Ki Heon, the Bishop of Weijeongbu Diocese, presided over the blessing mass alongside MSC priests. Many priests, brothers, sisters from other congregations and dioceses, the Lay Chevalier family, and other guests joined this sacred and rustic moment. One of the still-young MSC provinces founded in 1985 by a few dedicated missionaries from a Philippine province now has a lar-



ge community in its new house for the first time in its history, with over 13 professed brothers in it. The previous Provincial House was a connection between two old and small buildings, which could host only a few brothers of provincial administration and staff working for them. Provincial Superior Benedict Ko said, “It is a precious gift from God and a tough challenge for us to have this big community. However, I believe we can be transformed closer to the will of the Lord, building a warm fraternal community in this new house of God.”

Korean MSC spent over six years of discernment before they began raising funds for the new house. As they grew for over 30 years, they faced many difficulties, such as a lack of rooms, safety problems, and a small parking place, which they are now delighted to have solved.



The building has two basements, four floors, 17 rooms (including 2 for guests), and facilities like an administration office, recreation room, library, etc. The signature of the Provincial House is the chapel on the second floor, the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, which will take your breath away when you enter. A beautiful and artistic cross, tabernacle, altar, station of the cross, and stained glasses will inspire you. One of the walls was filled with thousands of small square-shaped stones named Ex Voto, making the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The names of the benefactors were engraved on several levels of the grey-coloured stones, and more names will hopefully be added.

Local Catholic churches and people have welcomed and were happy to have a wonderful congregation at their site. In the homily of the blessing mass, Bishop Lee described MSC as a village on the mountain. He expressed his joy and wishes that all the people in the diocese would be comforted by witnessing MSC's fraternal love and precious spiritual heritage. The Korean Province is taking its second step in the Korean mission with its new Provincial House. The members are burning with missionary zeal, asking for more prayers and support to keep being the heart of Jesus on earth.  
**Richard Kim, msc**

## Tribute to Lieutenant Bourjade (Fr Leon Bourjade, msc) in Papua New Guinea

Very beautiful tribute paid by the sailors of the French ship Auguste Bénébig during its stopover in PNG, to Lieutenant Bourjade (Fr Leon Bourjade, msc) buried on Yule Island. This army pilot, also a missionary, distinguished himself during the First World War by his piloting prowess which made

him famous. He died 100 years ago among these missionary brothers. The tribute, as well as the welcome on the island, by the community and by the brothers and sisters succeeding our missionaries was very moving. **Olivia de Saint Luc**



French Embassy

## *‘TeleMadrid’ at the Sanctuary of Madrid*

The journalist wanted to know about Lent and Easter. Chema Álvarez, msc, explained the traditions and how people can live this moments with pray and charity in the 21th Century.



## *Opening of The Formation House in Pemba (Mozambique)*



## **NECROLOGIUM** (Deceased MSC between July 2023- February 2024)

Name	Province	Date	Place
Leonardo (Bogey) Cabrera	Philippines	18.07.2023	Bulacan
Agustinus Soplanit	Indonesia	27.07.2023	Karawang
Paul Weiss	France	02.08.2023	Château-Gombert
Yohanes Purwo Dwiatmodjo	Indonesia	21.08.2023	Karawang
Jaak Spreuwers	Belgium	30.08.2023	Borgerhout
Albert Oliver Yelds	Australia	03.09.2023	Douglas Park
Siegfried Otto Maria Schäfers	North German	18.09.2023	Hiltrup
Bastian Adhi Dwiyanto Sa'pang	Indonesia	23.09.2023	Tomohon
Alfred Niedermaier	South German	06.10.2023	Birkeneck
Friedrich (Fritz) Biermann	North German	02.11.2023	Hiltrup
Johann (Hans) Josef Limburg	North German	15.11.2023	Hiltrup
Karl Luzian Hofer	France	29.11.2023	Rieg Brig
Tarcisius Wignyosoemarto	Indonesia	21.12.2023	Kaliori
Titus Rahail, Sr.	Indonesia	30.12.2023	Langgur
Bernard Girard	France	31.12.2023	Les herbviers, Vendée
Manfred Laschinger	South German	03.01.2024	Siezenheim
Dirk Oscar Marie Paul de Vis	Belgium	15.01.2024	Borgerhout
Matheus Yatno Yuwono	Indonesia	07.02.2024	Kaliori
Ludovic Prémont	Canada	24.02.2024	Quebec
Aloysius Lerebulan	Indonesia	25.02.2024	Tomohon
Anton Karg	North German	26.02.2024	Rebdorf



# PROFESSIONS AND ORDINATIONS (October 2023-March 2024)

## PERPETUAL VOWS

Name	Entity	Place
Agustinus Yokit, Argonius Forkas, Belly Yoakhim Resubun, Claudio Engelbertus Tumbel, Petrus Eki Lehalima, Meibivis Xaverius Rotikan, Thomas Nelles Babaubun, Yohanes Esserey, Yohanes Ngaga Mbira Lando, Yofalandus Litong Taa	Indonesia Province	Pineleng-Indonesia (October 21, 2023)
Daniel Magadia & Trieu Nguyen	Australia Province	Blackburn-Australia (December 2, 2023)
Jose Adriano Moraes da Costa da Silva	Rio De Janeiro Province	Belo Horizonte-Brazil (December 9, 2023)
Leonardo Henrique Agostinho	São Paulo Province	São Paulo-Brazil (January 13, 2024)
Ioakim Iabeta	Pacific Islands Province	Fiji (January 25, 2024)

## DIACONATE ORDINATION

Name	Entity	Place
Dominique Pierre & Robson da Silva Pires	Curitiba Province	Curitiba-Brazil (October 22, 2023)
Roland Kabore Wendbarka, Alfred Gomis	UAF	Nior du Rip-Senegal (October 29, 2023)
Brinda Nguele Auchemy	UAF	Bourrha-Cameroon (November 26, 2023)
Alex Sandro Pereira, José Augusto, Luis Claudio, & Richardson Bruno	São Paulo Province	São Paulo-Brazil (March 9, 2024)
Thanh Vu Nguyen	Australia Province	Ho Chi Minh City-Vietnam (January 29, 2024)
Vinodh Kumar, Sesu Raj R & Karthik Raja Sekar	India Province	Bellandur Gate-India (March 16, 2024)

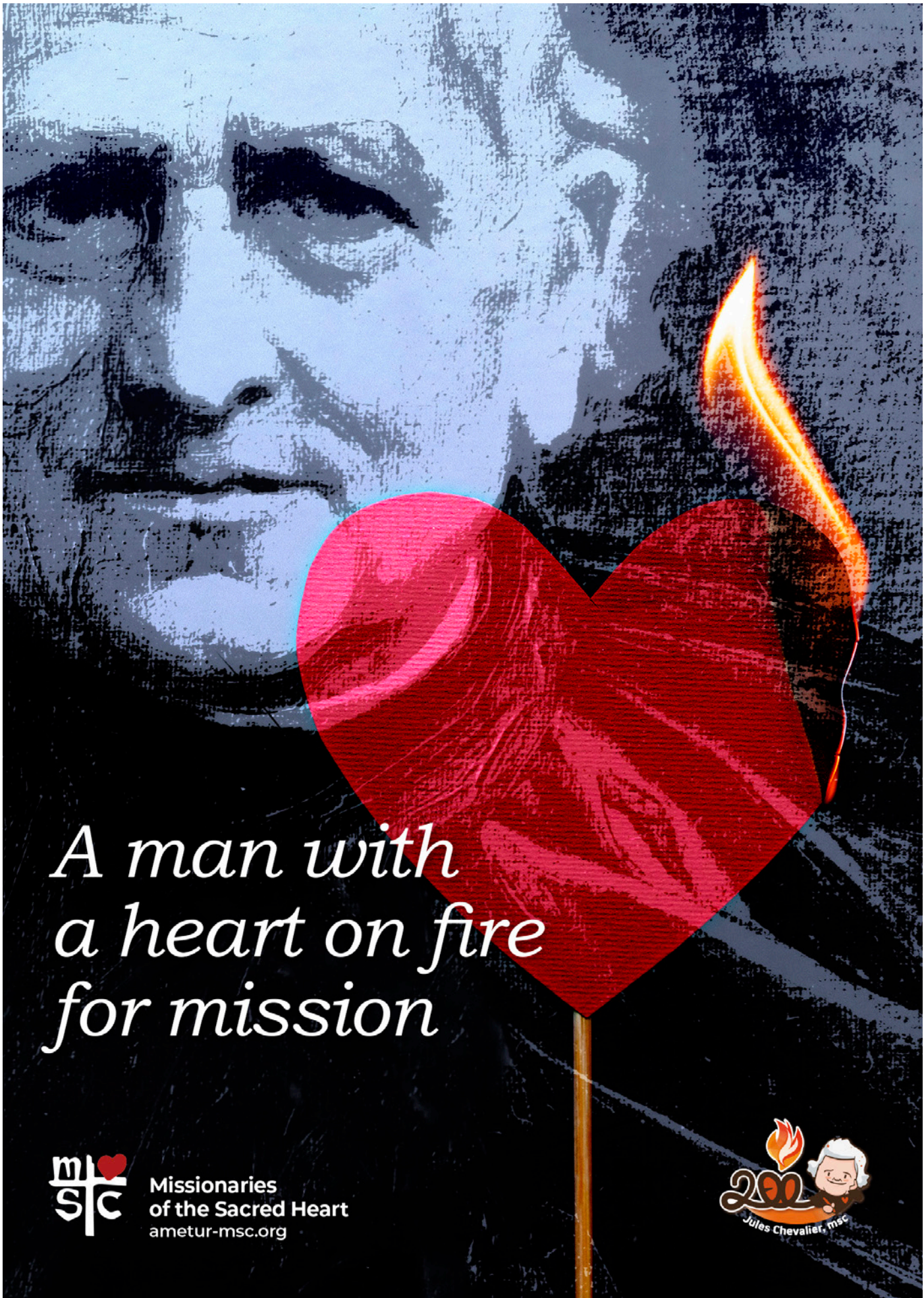
## PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION

Name	Entity	Place
Lotu Faraniko Maotapule Tuloto & Mendhi Iva	Pacific Islands Province	Fiji (December 2, 2023)
Kulandai Arul Raj & Joseph Charles Chervier	India Province	Ottarathotti-India (December 8, 2023)
Izaias Oliveira da Silva	Rio De Janeiro Province	Joaima (February 24, 2024)
Kenji Konda	Australia Province	Randwick-Australia (February 10, 2024)
Dean Navona	Papua New Guinea Province	Papua New Guinea



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 English Correction: John Walker, msc





*A man with  
a heart on fire  
for mission*

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