

Dear Brothers and friends of Edmund,

Greetings from Goa. The long awaited monsoons are here and this has brought some relief to the earth and all of us.

At the beginning of the month we celebrated the birthday of our founder Edmund. We pray that we may never forget his pioneering spirit and keep going with energy and vigour despite the odds.

School has commenced in real earnest in "normal" mode in Regina Mundi. The children seem to be a trifle subdued, one is not sure if it is due to the rains or the novelty of having off line classes.

The month has seen a small number of visiting brothers staying with us for varying periods of time - Conrad D, Senan and Bob Beddoe,

What seems to me to be of major concern to me is that we are living in a highly polarised world. People are bitterly divided on the basis of religion, race, colour, etc. Pope Francis brought out the encyclical-<u>Fratelli tutti</u>. The Parable of the Good Samaritan is at the heart of this document. Universal Sisterhood and Brotherhood is the key to the survival of our world order but is a forgotten value today. "The choice is no longer between violence and nonviolence," said Martin Luther King Jr. the night before he was assassinated, "it is between nonviolence or nonexistence.

The Brothers of the Province joined other well wishers in praying for Roshan and Iban on their wedding day. The ceremony was held in the Cathedral of Mary Help of Christians in Shillong on the 6^{th} of June.

Bap Finn left on the 15th for Ireland. We wish him all the very best during his stay in Ireland. News from him is that he is well settled in his sister's house.

Conrad Cerejo is running a spirituality centre in Sierra Leone. Included in this newsletter is a write up on this centre.

Yours fraternally

Mark

PAGE 2



Thomas Aquinas once said, "Every choice is a renunciation".

Every choice is a series of renunciations: If I marry one person, I cannot marry anyone else; if I live in one place, I cannot live anywhere else; if I choose a certain career, that excludes many other careers; if I have this, then I cannot have that. The list could go on indefinitely. To choose one thing is to renounce others. That's the nature of choice.

In most areas of our lives, we do not feel this so painfully. We choose and there isn't a lot of sting to the loss. But the area of love is more sensitive. Here we feel the sting of loss more strongly and here we often find it hard to accept the real limits of life. What are those limits? They are the limits that come with being an infinite spirit in a finite world.

We are fired into this world with a madness that comes from the gods and has us believe that we are destined to embrace the cosmos itself. We don't want something, we want everything. That's a simple way, though a good one, of saying something that Christianity has always said, namely, that in body and soul we are meant to embrace everyone and we already hunger for that. Perhaps we experience it most clearly in our sexuality, but the hunger is everywhere present in us. Our yearning is wide, our longing is infinite, our urge to embrace is promiscuous. We are infinite in yearning, but, in this life, only get to meet the finite.

That's what makes love difficult. We are over-charged for our own lives. We have divine fire inside us, want everything, yearn for the whole world, and yet, at a point, have to commit to one particular person, at one particular place, and in one very particular life, with all the limits that imposes.

Infinite desire limited by a finite choice, such is the nature of real life and love. Life and love, beyond the abstract and beyond the grandiosity of our own daydreams, involve hard, painful renunciation. But it is precisely that very renunciation that helps us grow up and makes our lives real in a way that our daydreams don't.

Ronald Rolheiser

CONTON

GENTLENESS AND TENDERNESS OF OUR HEART,

OUR GREATEST STRENGTH LIES IN THE

INDIAN PROVINCE NEWSLETTER



Truly Free Truly Alive





Simplicity Is about Freedom

Sister José Hobday (1929–2009) was a modern Franciscan whose life exemplified her faith commitment to activism and contemplation. Editor Mary Ford-Grabowsky described Hobday as:

A Seneca elder, a prominent Roman Catholic leader, and a Franciscan sister who adheres fully to St. Francis's radical ideal of holy poverty. . . . She is also a mystic and contemplative; she is an earth warrior and elder guide on the wisdom path; and above all, she is an impassioned servant of the poor, especially poor Native Americans.

Sister José lives in the maximum simplicity of voluntary poverty in a tiny house in Gallup, New Mexico, surrounded on all sides by Indian reservations and pueblos. As people once flocked to Julian of Norwich's cell or to Dorothy Day's Hospitality House, so people today come to Sister José's warm hearth for spiritual guidance and material help, and no one leaves without assistance.

Hobday took her Franciscan vow of poverty seriously; she did not view it as a burden to be endured but as a pathway to simplicity and freedom:

Simple living is not about elegant frugality. It is not really about deprivation of whatever is useful and helpful for our life. It is not about harsh rules and stringent regulations. To live simply, one has to consider all of these and they may be included to some degree, but simple living is about freedom. It's about a freedom to choose space rather than clutter, to choose open and generous living rather than a secure and sheltered way.

Freedom is about choices: Freedom to choose less rather than more. It's about choosing time for people and ideas and self-growth rather than for maintenance and guarding and possessing and cleaning. Simple living is about moving through life rather lightly, delighting in the plain and the subtle. It is about poetry and dance, song and art, music and grace. It is about optimism and humour, gratitude and appreciation. It is about embracing life with wide-open arms. It's about living and giving with no strings attached....

Simple living is as close as the land on which we stand. It is as far-reaching as the universe that makes us gasp. Simple living is a relaxed grasp on money, things, and even friends. Simplicity cherishes ideas and relationships. They are treasured more because simplicity doesn't cling nor try to possess things or people or relationships. Simplicity frees us within, but it frees others, too. . . . Simple living is a statement of presence. The real me. This simplicity makes us welcome among the wealthy and the poor alike. . . .







GENTLENESS AND TENDERNESS OF OUR HEAR! OUR GREATEST STRENGTH LIES IN THE

We will not be happy living selfishly in a small world. We must live in awareness and in association with the whole real world. Our universe. Our cosmos. Our environment. Our earth. Our air. Our water supply. Our country. Our neighbour. Our car. Our homes. All are part of simple living.

Richard Rohr

PRAYER: Transfigure us O God

Break the chains that bind us.

Speak your healing Word.

And where you lead we'll follow. Transfigure us O God.

Bob Hurd

VOCATION PROMOTION AND VOCATION CAMPS AT VARIOUS PLACES

VOCATION CAMP IN THE HUB: On 16 May 2022, a Vocation Camp was organized in the Hub for the students who have finished their Metric and Higher Secondary Board Examination this year. Seven students from Nongpoh Parish attended this camp. It was a half day "Come and See Program!" A number of Brothers were there at the Edmund Rice Centre after the Post Chapter. The seven boys got an opportunity to meet and interact with a number of Brothers. A few brothers shared their vocation stories with the boys. The Brothers in the Hub community were actively involved in this program.







The boys were well fed with a delicious lunch prepared by Kong Juliana and Bah Davis.

GENERAL VOCATION PROMOTION IN ROURKELA: Sameer and I attended the General Vocation Camp Kalunga, of Rourkela Diocese on 21 May 2022. About 446 boys (those who finished Metric as well as HS) were present. Sudeep Xess (who had joined us and left) from Rourkela also came to help us. We were given two minutes to talk on our Congregation and Mission. When the boys were free to move and meet the different Congregations and Diocesan Priests, we interacted with quite a number of them. It was indeed a great occasion to meet different religious brothers and priests as well as the boys from different parts of Rourkela Diocese. We were happy and satisfied with our encounter with all whom we met.

The next day, Sameer and I went to Jharkhand; we visited the houses of Vinod Topno, Ajay Dang and John Dang in Bongera. It was a wonderful occasion to meet the families of these young brothers who are in different stages of formation in India. We met the families of the two new candidates from Bongera who are interested to join us this year. We also had time to visit the Sisters of the Handmaid (HM) in Bimitrapur and in Lungai, Vedvyas, Rourkela.



VOCATION CAMP IN DUM DUM, KOLKATA: Eighteen boys from the Rourkela Vocation Camp who were shown interests towards our congregation were contacted over the phone and What'sApp. Eight boys from these eighteen were eager to join the Vocation Camp in Dum Dum. On 3 June, I went to Rourkela Railway Station to collect these eight boys. A three day (3-5 June) Vocation Camp was organized at SMO Dum Dum. A session on our Founder, our ministries and a number of other



OUR GREATEST STRENGTH LIES IN THE SENTLENESS AND TENDERNESS OF OUR HEAR! activities were conducted by Jayanti and Willie Mac and Bob shared their experiences with these boys. The boys were taken to a few tourist attraction places in Kolkata. The Brothers from the Community were a great support.

William D'Souza

A "Holiday" IN GOA

We decided to go on a Goa tour as we had a short break from college since our professors were engaged in evaluation work. We were happy and excited as it was our maiden trip to Goa.

On 16th June, Thursday we left the house at five in the morning and we were in Goa by 10 A.M. It was a wonderful journey and we enjoyed the journey as well as the beautiful scenery on the way. We had carried our breakfast with us and we ate it as we travelled without having to stop for it.

Our first stop in Goa was at Assolna, where we met Br. John's friend. After spending some time there we went to Colva beach. Though it was extremely hot, we walked on the beach and captured some beautiful pictures on our cameras. Thereafter brother



took us to the Three King's Church. We spent some time there and continued on our journey and went to the Edmund Rice Centre, Bogmalo. We were welcomed by Brothers Placid, Frank, and Len. We were delighted to meet the brothers. After lunch we rested for some time.

Later in the afternoon we went to "Bigfoot", a museum, which depicts the tradition and culture of Goa. Br. Placid joined us on this trip. We enjoyed and were excited to know the customs, occupations and other activities of Goans. Thereafter we visited RMS and met the senior brothers in there. We were glad to meet them and talk to them. We had







tea and after spending time with the brothers and watching some creative craft work produced by Br. Arthur.

At the Big Foot

We went to the Japanese Garden, and some of us went down to the seashore nearby. After that we visited the harbour. We could see the ships being unloaded from a distance. By now it was dark, so we came back home. In the evening we celebrated Br. Len's birthday with cake and some delicious food. Since we had been on the move from early morning we were exhausted by now and went to sleep early.



Early next morning some of us went for a walk to the Bogmalo beach. It was a nice walk and enjoyed being at the beach and watching the beautiful scenery. After breakfast we visited Old Goa to see the St. Francis Xavier Church. After that Br. John took us to see a light and sound show on the life of St. Francis Xavier and St. Joseph Vaz. Though it was quite long, we learnt a lot about these two saints. The settings looked natural and the statues were moving as they explained. Soon after this we visited the archaeological museum and the Se' Cathedral.

St. Francis Xavier's Church, Old Goa

Thereafter, we went to see the ruins of the St. Augustine Church. After that we went to the Dona Paula beach where the Shingham movie was shot. It was a beautiful place and had a nice scenery. It was now lunch time. Mr. Parab(former art teacher) and his wife who had come to meet us took us for lunch to a Dhaba. We had a nice meal and some soft drinks.

The ruins of St. Augustine's Church

After lunch we went to the Reis Magos fort. This fort is located on the coast of the sea. We made a tour of the fort and read its history, which was pictorially displayed over there. Then we went to the Aguda fort, which is located just beside the sea. It is a beautiful and well maintained fort. At this place there is a big light house. We spent some time watching the structure and its design. After that we went to Calangute beach. It was hot when we reached there and crowded. Thus we didn't stay for long and left





the place after having gola ice-cream.

After that we returned home. Lat

After that we returned home. Later in the evening we went to Aunty Dulcina's house for dinner. We enjoyed being at her place, having fun and eating some Goan delicacies. We also made time to watch a bit of cricket game between India and South Africa.

On the third day after breakfast we visited RMS. There we spent some time being with the brothers and learnt a little craft work, some songs and the guitar from Br. Arthur. We were a little careful there since some brothers had tested Covid positive. Then we proceeded towards Mrs. Celine's house. She had taught us English and spent time with us when she visited us a couple of years ago. We spent a



little time with her and had coffee and light snacks. She also sponsored our lunch at Anathashram. We went to Quepem to meet Sajit's father and his Aunt. We reached there by 3 P.M and had to wait for them for a while. At 4 o'clock they arrived and we were happy to see them. We had tea and snacks with them as we sat and chatted for a while in a nearby eatery. After that we went to a nearby church and took some pictures. It was a joyful moment for Sajit as he was meeting his father after 4 years. On our way back we went to Dulcina's house to pluck some mangoes before coming to RMS for the Saturday evening mass.

On our last morning after breakfast we went to meet the senior brothers in RMS and to say Good bye to them. After that we went to Hollant beach which was close by. After being there for some time and taking some photographs we proceeded towards Bogmalo beach. There we met Br. Ryan and Br. Senan. We also bought bracelets with our names written on it. We took a group picture with the brothers and after that we had a delicious lunch over there. The lunch was sponsored by Br. David. At lunch we introduced ourselves to Br. Ryan, who wanted to meet us. We were extremely happy and enjoyed having a meal with them. Thereafter, we went back to the Edmund Rice Center and picked Br. Placid and Dulcina on our way back home. Finally, we left Goa at about 2 o'clock and we reached Bajpe at 7:30. We enjoyed our journey and reached home safely and peacefully.



OUR GREATEST STRENGTH LIES IN THE GENTLENESS AND TENDERNESS OF OUR HEART





During this three day trip we learnt so many things by watching and visiting places. We took many pictures of different places. It was a wonderful trip and we enjoyed every bit of it.

We are thankful to God who guided and protected us throughout our journey as well as to Br. John, who took us to so many places, driving safely and showing us different places. We are grateful to those who sponsored our lunches and dinners. A big thank you to the Edmund Rice Centre Community for your care and hospitality.

Abinash, John, Mukesh, Sajit and Selvin

An Update from Emmaus

I thought the Indian Province Newsletter, might be interested in how the now, nearly two hundred, Ukrainian refugees, men women and children, are getting on, in our 'Emmaus' Conference Centre, here in Ireland.

The overall number of refugees coming to Ireland from the Ukraine, is now over 10,000 and rising - a heavy burden on a country of just over five million people.





Refugee Students learning English at Emmaus

The government has given Social Welfare Cards to those Ukrainians who have not found jobs - quite a number have. All have been given Medical Cards, entitling them to free medical care. They have free accommodation.

The refugees in Emmaus, having compared lots with refugees in other Centres, prefer to stay in Emmaus, with Brother Declan and the carers who doing an excellent job.



PAGE 10

A few problems.

Transport: Since our Retreat Centre is out in the country, the bus service is poor, for those going to work, or to shop. However, a local bus company has agreed to change its route and has established a bus stop convenient to the Centre, from which buses go frequently into Dublin City and back. It also gets the children to the various local schools. The parents of the other children in these schools have agreed to a car pool, to drive the children back to Emmaus after school.

Education: The "Lions" Business Club Charity has provided the children with I-pads for their schoolwork.

Contact with the local people: the local sports clubs have organised sessions for the children to join their junior members in playing football, etc.

The government has hired an Events Organising Company to run the Centre, providing meals and care etc. The Company have in turn, hired a Ukrainian lady to run the service in Emmaus, who is doing an excellent job.

Brother Declan Power, the Director continues to teach English there and liaise with the refugees. He says that one has to try and avoid references to Ukraine in talking to them, because they can become very emotional about Ukraine. The <u>Laburnum Tree</u> is the symbol of Ukraine. Declan played a tune by an Irish singer about the Laburnum Tree for them and many of them burst into tears.



Barry Lynch's Brother, one of the Donors, surrounded by his refugee friends. (Barry Lynch was an Irish Brother who spent many years in Africa)

Having talked to refugees in other Refugee Centres, the refugees in Emmaus feel they

GENTLENESS AND TENDERNESS OF OUR HEART OUR GREATEST STRENGTH LIES IN THE







are being well looked after there, (thanks to Brother Declan and the Company!) and have no wish to leave for another Centre.

The only thing the rest of us can do, I suppose, is to pray for them, for their husbands and relatives and men back in Ukraine, and for an end to this tragic war.

John Ledwidge

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS SPIRITUALITY & RETREAT CENTRE, HAMILTON VILLAGE, SIERRA LEONE

The Christian Brothers Spirituality & Retreat Centre is situated in Hamilton Village in the west of



Conference Halls and Dining Room

and a large dining hall with an adjacent kitchen. There is a need to construct a separate Prayer room on the property. At present I have converted a room in one of the conference halls into a Prayer room. I hope to have a library of Spiritual Reading books for the Brothers and other religious in the city. Good Spiritual Reading books would always be welcome.

The Centre has a big palm grove which acts as a source of income from the sale of palm

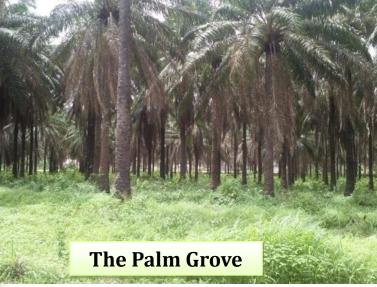
Freetown, Sierra Leone. The construction work was completed last year and the Centre became operational this January. The purpose of building this Centre is to provide the Brothers and other religious congregations here a suitable place to have their annual retreats and meetings. A good view of the sea can be had from the Centre.

The Centre consists of six residential buildings each having five bedrooms. The bedrooms are on suite and each bed has a mosquito net to keep the pests away. In addition, there are two conference halls





GENTLEMESS AND TENDERNESS OF OUR HEART OUR GREATEST STRENGTH LIES IN THE



kernels. The plan is to have a fruit orchard and vegetable gardens at the Centre. A poultry, and piggery enclosure for goats are in future plans.

With the recent hike in fuel rates, the price of food and hardware has gone through the roof. Tomatoes and potatoes are considered a luxury. A 25kg sack of rice costs 500,000

leones (nearly 50 US\$).If we Christian Brothers are feeling the pinch, you can well imagine the plight of ordinary Sierra Leonians. To make life more difficult we have several unannounced power outages every day. Recently, we had thieves stealing seven long lengths of electric cables in our area. It took us more than a week to get power back. We are spending a lot of money on diesel just to keep the generator running for two hours in the evening.

A hope the Centre will be well patronized and become self-sustaining. Money is at present in very short supply.

Courad Cerejo

POETRY SECTION

What Is It We Cannot See?

This Unveiling This is the pressing question of every age:

What is it that we cannot see? For life is hiddenness. as is God. and we have been given the gift of searching. The unseen works on us, always.

Waves pulsing through our flesh, unfelt. Forces pulling at our bodies. Forces





putting black bodies in cells en masse.

Each one underneath a veil of opacity that we call law.

All that is hidden
is meant to be
revealed,
yet revelation cannot be achieved.

It comes when it comes,
when it wants to unearth itself—
fall from the heavens like light
to those who have insisted it lay itself bare.

This unveiling,
daring us
to live differently.

Drew Jackson (Center for Action and Contemplation)

WHERE AND WHO

Philosophers probe all the whys of our days. Psychologists note our behavioral ways. Society knows that our choice will be thus, And so we define ourselves, knowing we're us.

A farmer's a farmer, and thus he's defined. The land and the animals furnish his mind. But cities are centres that thousands call home, And millions proclaim their locale as their own.

Chandigarh 's been my centre since 20-19 – A campus for thousands, a thinking man's dream. But my peace was derailed by a call from 'on high' – To Shillong, Meghalaya, a home in the sky.

Thence my story is mapped (even Google must frown) – Rajasthan, Asansol, Naini Tal, I was found. But the streets of Kolkata shaped thirty-plus years, Whence departure at last was occasion for tears.

Kolkata I love you, your whiffs and your throngs, Your language, your buzz, your car horns and your songs, Your beauties are matchless, your restaurants smart, And even the poor find their homes in your heart.

So philosophers probe and psychologists note,
But the place shapes the person, in faith, love and hope.
Add Jesus and Edmund to India's grace –

But my destiny's scaled: Chandigarh is my place.

But my destiny's sealed: Chandigarh is my place. **3 Secretary June 2022**











JTI CLUSTER BULLETIN JULY 2022

"Questions Before Dark" is one of my go-to poems. I read it in the evening as a way of reviewing how I've lived my day, happy with some of my answers, not so much with others. In the morning, I read it again to remind myself of the inner work I need to be doing today.

Is there a question in this poem that speaks to you? I think my work at the moment is to allow "the bewilderment that invites the possible" to do its work on me.

There are a thousand things to be bewildered about right now. I want to engage with a few of them to point me toward new possibilities, that promise something better.

Jeanne Lohmann died in 2016 at age 93, and wrote fine poetry to the end of her life. She always invites us to consider what is truly important in the limited time we have on earth

Questions Before Dark

Day ends, and before sleep
when the sky dies down, consider
your altered state: has this day
changed you? Are the corners
sharper or rounded off? Did you
live with death? Make decisions
that quieted? Find one clear word
that fit? At the sun's midpoint
did you notice a pitch of absence,
bewilderment that invites
the possible? What did you learn
from things you dropped and picked up
and dropped again? Did you set a straw
parallel to the river, let the flow
carry you downstream?

-Jeanne Lohmann

UMTYRKHANG

The 5th of May was a significant day as it was the Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice and inauguration of Edmund Rice Hall in Umtyrkhang. It was a culmination of the collaboration of the village community with the Brothers for over a year. The celebrations began with Mass followed by lunch for all the people. Post lunch there was an entertainment program put together by the youth of the village. Some of the leaders of the village spoke of the venture and described that working with the Brothers was like working as a family. Vinod, Jerry and Ajay renewed their vows at Mass that day.

Ajay is going to Pamlatar school, Jerry to Mawlaho and Edwin in Umtyrkhang Primary School. Afternoon study has been started with few children attending. Environment Day was celebrated on the 4th June with the participation of the children from all the three villages along with a tree plantation drive around the Lower Primary School and Brothers residence.

As part of the Livelihood project, 100 kgs of turmeric has been planted. Some of that







has been planted at the Brothers residence and the Brothers have identified one family who has provided the land in which the rest of the turmeric will be planted. 80 Vanraja breed of chickens were also brought and were distributed to 3 families who are part of the project.

The Brothers were pleased with numerous visitors in the last few months. Lynne Moten from Adelaide spend a week with us and was fully immersed with various educational activities with children. Steve and Joe also visited us. Dilip our novice stayed with us for a month after the Chapter. He shared that it was a wonderful experience.



Ajay, Jerry and Vinod renewing their vows on the Founders

Day celebrations in Umtyrkhang



The Environment Awareness day program with the children of the neighbouring villages

PATHARLYNDAN

Our village church is named Divine Mercy Church and on the 24th of April this feast was celebrated by the entire Parish coming to our village in huge numbers. The Brothers prepared the youth choir and the youth rose to the occasion. This is one of the ways the Brothers involve themselves in the local church activity.

In the last week of April, the two cows were transferred to two families in the village. They are both part of the newly registered Dairy Cooperative Society. This has been a small success in this venture.

Sanjoy Lagun, our novice spent a month in Patharlyndan community. The way Sanjoy joined in with all the activities of the community was remarkable. We wish him all the very best as he continues his second year of Novitiate. A young man Wanlambok Mawlong aspiring to join the Brothers also stayed with us for a two month community experience. He has moved to Bhopal. Steve, Joe and Joel stayed us with for a couple of days and many Brothers visited us after the Chapter. Their visit bought great joy and connection.

Many young boys have been showing interest in joining the Brothers. After the Class 10 results were declared in the second week of June, the Brothers visited the families of these boys and interviewed the boys. Four of these boys said they are happy to join the Brothers and are now in the English course program in St. Edmund's. We continue to pray and do our bit to get many young men to join





our congregation.



Meeting with Bah Metbah, the local MLA for upgrading the Primary School



The Computers are installed and ready for the Computer Literacy project

ERPAKON



A good response for our first Vocation Camp in Erpakon



Simon with his student Teachers during a two day program in the Hub

A two-day training program on Safeguarding children took place from the 25th-26th June, in the Hub. Joe Johnson and Ms. Carmelita V. Ashkenazy were the resource persons. The three recently appointed Protection Officers, Ms. Veronica Khyllait (Patharlyndan), Sr. Theresa Shadap (Umtyrkhang) and Sr. Bashisha Massar (Erpakon) also joined the training.

Simon Coelho conducted a Teaching skills program in the Hub on the 30th May and 1st June. Seven brothers from the Cluster participated in the very lively and engaging training. The training was requested by the non B.Ed Brothers and they found the two day sessions, very fruitful and energizing.

The Brothers from the Hub and the Project Coordinator Samuel Nonglait regularly visit the two mission communities. We support the communities according to our





various gifts. Bipin will be teaching in St. John's Secondary School Jyntru from the new term that begins in mid July. Meanwhile Bipin carried out a tree planting campaign around the school for June 5.

After the Chapter, we had a one-day Vocation camp in the Hub. Seven young boys attended the camp. We will be keeping in touch with these young men. Many Brothers visited us around the Chapter time. It is always wonderful to have many visitors.

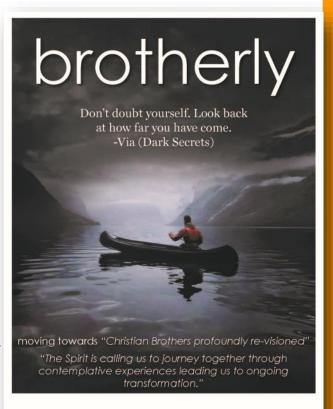
Sunil Britto

PROVINCE CHAPTER 2022 - HANDBOOK

When the Congregation pledged itself to the Four Directions in 1996 in Johannesburg, it little realized the journey it was undertaking or the challenges it would encounter on the way. That journey has opened up the Brothers to new realities and offered them fresh invitations to grow into fuller humanity. It has been a slow journey, not without its struggles, and at times we have to be dragged, kicking and screaming, along the way.

But then, sometimes we stop and see the path along which we have come, and realise that growth has taken place. One such moment was our recent Province Chapter in Siloam in May 2022.

This recent time together provided us with some key moments. One of the highlights was a bold expression of our fears. It seemed the 1996 Chapter invitation of acceptance of our fragility was slowly growing in our Province. Similarly, the sharing on God-experiences, (Where do I touch pure iron?), further invited us to be honest and vulnerable with one another. It opened our eyes to the manifold ways God enters the lives of our Brothers.



A travel-kit for the journey of the next six years – containing a compass, sketch-maps, travel tips, a mirror, a torch, matches, first-aid essentials, etc.

Our 1996 call to Internationality, has brought us to the point where we are now invited to celebrate our differences, to realise the richness that diversity brings to life. Our varied cultural backgrounds challenge us to new ways of relating and that was highlighted as well. A very profound sharing on cultural sensitivity gave us much food for thought while naming behaviours we wanted to practice.

It is hoped that this little booklet, so creatively put together by Br. Michael Burke, will help us once again revisit our Siloam experience.

May we all sense the importance of this milestone on our Province journey, and join in living it fully.



