



Circular 2/2017

**VINCENTIAN CONGREGATION  
ST. JOSEPH PROVINCE**

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

Dear Rev. Fathers and Seminarians in Jesus Christ,

*Prayerful Greetings to you all from Provincial House, Kottayam!*

### **1. Introduction**

The 8<sup>th</sup> ordinary Provincial Synaxis of our Province is scheduled to be held from Monday, May 1 to 6th, 2017. The venue of the Synaxis would be Vincentian House, Parithrana, Adichira. Recollection in preparation for the Synaxis starts at 9.30 pm on May 1<sup>st</sup> and ends by 4:00 pm on the following day. And then the first session of the Synaxis would begin by 6.30 pm.

### **2. Synaxis Delegates**

In accordance with the directive of our previous Synaxis, 24 members are to be elected to this Provincial Synaxis. The ballot papers had been sent to all the members who have active voice. Out of 149, we have received back 135 ballots within the prescribed time.

The Provincial Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017, counted all the ballots. These ballots will be preserved until the closing of the Provincial Synaxis. I am extremely happy to declare the names of the 24 elected Delegates and the 5 Ex-Officio Members of the Provincial Synaxis 2017.

### **3. The Elected Delegates**

- 1. Ambattukuzhiyil Thomas**
- 2. Arackal George Jr.**
- 3. Assariparambil George**
- 4. Chiraparamben Varghese**
- 5. Edattu Zacharias**
- 6. Kaipadakunnel Joseph**
- 7. Kakkattupillil Mathew**
- 8. Kalayil Joseph**
- 9. Kanjirakonam Abraham**
- 10. Karikilamattathil Antony**
- 11. Kizhakkethottam Joseph**
- 12. Kodamullil Cyriac**
- 13. Kuruppumtharamukalel Joseph**

- 14. Mangalathu Thomas**
- 15. Moonnupeedikackal Antony**
- 16. Mundackatt Augustine**
- 17. Nellinilkumthadathil Vincent**
- 18. Parackal Varghese**
- 19. Parekkattil Varghese**
- 20. Plampampil Philip**
- 21. Poonattu George**
- 22. Puthentharayil Innocent**
- 23. Thundathikunnel Sebastian**
- 24. Vettiyankal Jose**

#### **4. The Ex-Officio Members**

1. Fr. Arackal George (Sr.) (Provincial Superior)
2. Fr. Chettoor Jose (Provincial Councillor)
3. Fr. Kanathukadu Samuel (Provincial Councillor)
4. Fr. Neerovelil Ebin (Provincial Councillor)
5. Fr. Thachethukudy Antony (Provincial Councillor)

Dear Rev. confreres, I take this opportunity to congratulate all the Synaxis members in the name of the Province and I officially invite and welcome them all to the Provincial Synaxis. Statutes No. 174 reminds that once the delegates are elected they are obliged to attend the Synaxis. If any of these members are not able to participate in the Provincial Synaxis due to some very grave reason, they have to obtain the prior permission of the Provincial Superior. When one is lawfully exempted, the one who has secured the highest number of votes after the delegates shall substitute him.

#### **5. Preparatory Commission**

*Statutes* No. 171 has asserted that each member in person and communities in common should send forth the opinions and suggestions to be discussed in our Provincial Synaxis. The opinions and suggestions received will be sorted out by the Preparatory Commission.

Rev. Frs. Thundathikkunnel Sebastian (Convener), Moonupedikayil Antony and Kuruppentharamugalel Joseph have been appointed as the members of the Preparatory Commission. It is the duty of the Preparatory Commission to collect the suggestions/proposals so far received and send the draft agenda to the members/houses so that the members can again propose further suggestions in the light of these. Soon after receiving the copy of the agenda the House Superiors/person in charge in each House/institution shall convene the Domestic Meeting once again to discuss the given agenda and shall send the proposals or suggestions to the preparatory commission. The individual members also are requested to study the agenda and send in, further proposals and suggestions. Such Proposals are to be sent to The Preparatory Commission under

Provincial House address, so as to reach here in Provincial House, **by 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**. You may please send the suggestions and proposals **by email** in the email address of the province. It would be good to send a copy of the same to the convener of the Preparatory commission.

The Preparatory Commission will again collect and codify the additional proposals thus received and send it to all the members of the Synaxis so that they can study the matter further and thus come well prepared to take part in the Synaxis discussions.

## **6. Family Day celebrations**

We celebrate our Family Day or Province Day on May 1<sup>st</sup> on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. This year since we have the Synaxis it is inconvenient to hold the Family Day on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Besides it is important that the Family Day be celebrated under the auspices of the new Administrative team. Hence it has been decided to conduct the Family Day on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2017. May I most cordially invite all the priest members of the Province to gather together to take part in the Family Day celebrations. We can meet and congratulate our new administrative team members and listen to them. The program will begin by 10.00 am and the Concelebrated Holy Mass will be at 11.30 am. Family Day programs will come to an end by 4.00 pm.

## **7. New House and Retreat Center in Melbourne**

I am happy to share the joyful news that the official blessing and inauguration of the Vincentian Retreat Center in the Archdiocese of Melbourne will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2017. The blessing will be done by the Archbishop of Melbourne. Separate invitation letters will be sent to you. May I request you all to kindly pray for the success of the blessing ceremony and also for the programs of the Center. Rev. Fr. Rojan (Joseph) Poonattu is appointed as the Director of the new Center.

## **8. Conclusion**

My dear confreres, let us continue to pray for the success of our General and Provincial Synaxes. Let us pray for the constant protection and guidance of Bl. Virgin Mary, St. Joseph and St. Thomas. May St. Vincent, our Heavenly Patron and Very Rev. Fr. Varkey Kattarath, our founder intercede for us.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten Season,  
Yours in St. Vincent de Paul,

Kottayam  
15-03-2015



*George Arackal*  
Fr. George Arackal (Sr.), VC  
Provincial Superior