



E-BULLETIN #47

"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5,16)

item 92



Spiritual Pilgrimage *with the* ***Bible of St Vincent Pallotti***

to all members of the UNION OF CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE in India

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Pallottine Family in India,

Greetings from the Generalate of the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers in Rome. In this Jubilee Year of the 50th anniversary of the Canonisation of our holy Founder, St Vincent Pallotti, I greet each one of you in the Lord, most fraternally and cordially.

During the recent visit to the Prabhu Prakash Province from 10th to 30th November 2012, I got the opportunity to meet with not only the confreres of my Province but also with a number of groups of the Union of Catholic Apostolate at different places. I am really happy to discover that there is a steady growth of the Union in our country. Thanks to all those who are working with great dedication and enthusiasm to spread the prophetic message of St Vincent Pallotti especially in this Year dedicated to New Evangelisation for the transmission of Christian faith.

One of the suggestions that I received from a number of members of the Union was to bring a relic of St Vincent Pallotti to India for public veneration, in view of a spiritual renewal among the members. As soon as I returned to Rome, I got an inspiration, which I think came from our Founder himself: the Bible of St. Vincent Pallotti. There is no better gift than the Bible itself in this Year of Faith.

As part of the Jubilee Year celebrations, the Pallottines in Poland and Brazil are making the spiritual pilgrimage with the relics of Pallotti with great solemnity. In every Pallottine community and parish in these countries, the relic was kept for public veneration for two or three days. Depending upon the creativity of each member/community/group, various spiritual animation programmes were also organised. The spiritual presence of St Vincent through the relics is leading to spiritual and apostolic renewal in so many people in these countries.

This is my wish for the Indian Pallottines as well. We need to be aware that the Pallottine presence in India is very significant today. This is the fastest growing part of the Pallottine Family in the world. It is time for us to take our legitimate place in the history of the Pallottine Family and, at the same time, to make substantial contributions for the growth of our charism in response to the challenges of the Church and the world today. In the multi-religious and cultural contexts of India, the charism of Pallotti should become an instrument of unity, of communion and of inter-religious harmony. Are our educational institutions not the cradles to foster such values? As apostles of Jesus, can we not reach out to the millions of needy persons in our country, as channels of the infinite love of God? Opportunities to realise our own Christian vocation and mission are plenty; the harvest is indeed plentiful in this vast country.

As far as I can see, what seems to be lacking to some extent among the Indian Pallottines, is an effective coordinating body to initiate and carry forward the many good initiatives of the Pallottine Family. There are already a number of Pallottines in India with creative ideas and the passion for our Founder and his charism. Many more are yet to respond to this challenge. As such, it is the National Coordination Council of the Union in India that should take the lead in all such matters. I am pleased to know that on 5th February



2013, there is going to be the NCCI meeting in Goa. It is worth recalling that in the Indian sub-continent, there are already 3 Provinces of the Society (no other country has this distinction), 1 Province of the Pallottine Missionary Sisters, a Delegation of the Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate, the Community of the Khristsevikas, the new Community of the Cenacle Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and numerous lay members of the Union. Our apostolic presence in the entire country is very significant. In the short 61 years of the history of the Indian Pallottines, we even are blessed with the first non-European Rector General of the Society. The Indian Pallottines are reaching out to numerous countries around the world for collaboration in apostolic tasks and to open new missions in Zambia, Taiwan and the Philippines. We have been creative and efficient in building up our communities and in our apostolic endeavours. We must not be found lacking, however, in our love for our Founder and his charism! Indeed, St Vincent Pallotti is a great saint, a profound mystic and an outstanding apostle! The Pallottine charism is indeed the most fitting response to the challenge of New Evangelisation, the spiritual project of renewal and evangelisation, proposed by our Holy Father, Benedict XVI. It is in this context that I sent out a letter with an appeal, as Ecclesiastical Assistant of the Union, to all the members of the Union to reflect and pray over our response to this new challenge of New Evangelisation, through the realisation of our own charism in service of the Universal Church.

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters of the Pallottine Family in India, I bring along the Bible of St Vincent Pallotti to India on 2nd January 2013. Fr Augustine Varickakal, Provincial Rector of the Prabhu Prakash Province, has agreed to prepare the beautiful relic with the Bible of Pallotti. I recommend that the spiritual pilgrimage with this Bible of Pallotti be initiated on 6th January 2013 from Mariarani Centre in Trivandrum, during the Provincial Assembly of the Prabhu Prakash Province. On this day we celebrate also the great Pallottine feast of the Epiphany of the Lord – the feast day of the Prabhu Prakash Province as well. I too will be personally present on this occasion. It could be followed by the pilgrimage in the State of Kerala. The rest of the itinerary can be finalised during the NCCI meeting in Goa. Please take care of the relic during its journey and return it to me after a year. As you can imagine, we do not give out these relics of Pallotti so easily for the sake of preserving them securely. We are also grateful to Fr Jan Kupka, the Director of Pallotti Institute, for making it available for the Indian Pallottines in this Jubilee Year.

May the Word of God, as lived by our holy Founder, be the source of inspiration and renewal of the Pallottines in India, especially in this Year of Faith. The Gospel, the life of Jesus, as insisted by St Vincent,

should be the only rule of our life. This should be also the most important spiritual programme of the members of his Foundation. In the words of Pallotti himself:

“The fundamental rule of our minimal Congregation is the life of Our Lord Jesus Christ in order to imitate him with humility and trust with all the possible perfection in all the Works of the hidden Life, and of the public evangelical Ministry for the greater glory of God the heavenly Father, and for the greater sanctification of our soul, and of our neighbours...” (OCCC III, p. 40).

Wishing you every blessing of the Child Jesus, especially for the New Year 2013,

Fraternally yours in St Vincent Pallotti,

Jacob Nampudakam sac [NA] – Rome – ITALY
Rector General SAC and Ecclesiastical Assistant of the Union
13.12.12
jnampudakam@gmail.com

item 93

“to Think beyond....to Serve beyond”



On 29 November 2012 a new Pallottine youth group was officially launched at Nagpur, India in the presence very many UAC members and the General Administration of the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers. Ten young people, most of them students hailing from UAC families in Nagpur, have come together inspired by the teaching of St Vincent Pallotti to promote charity and to lead a life of faith. This youth group is christened as **Pallottine Youth Nagpur City (PYNC)**. The new group received blessings from very Rev Fr Jacob Nampudakam, the Ecclesiastical Assistant to the Union of Catholic Apostolate who prayed and wished that they become apostles of love and faith.

PYNC is formed as an integral part of the Pallottine Youth Forum (PYF) world wide. PYF is an association of young people committed to the vision and philosophy of St Vincent Pallotti who envisioned a world where men and women of goodwill work together for the good of mankind after the model of Jesus Christ by proclaiming and living His values of love and service. It is open to young people of all faiths and creeds, who have the motivation and inclination to offer selfless service to the welfare of society and their fellow human beings.

Vision Statement of PYNC: “To Think Beyond... To Serve Beyond”

Aims and Objectives

- to bring together young people who are motivated by their love of God to work for positive changes in society for the welfare of mankind.
- to induce spiritual renewal of self and other young people around them.
- to conduct/organize spiritual and leadership enrichment programs for youth/children at parish, diocesan, regional and national level.
- to empower its members for leadership by imparting training in various skills.
- to promote unity in diversity by periodic interaction nationally and internationally.
- to share cultural and religious (liturgical) heritages, aiming to enhance knowledge and understanding of diverse cultures and traditions.
- to conscientize the young to the challenges facing the church and the world, and to help form strategies and methods to overcome them.
- to become actively involved in service of the sick, poor and marginalized of society, promoting programs of social action and community building.
- to help educate the drop outs and less privileged children / youth of society.
- to act as a volunteer force in emergencies / disaster management.
- to assist civil society to build up an eco-friendly world.
- to help realize God’s kingdom on earth. “That they may be one”.

Action Plan:

- the PYNC members to meet once a month to pray, to discuss and to plan out various activities as per its aims and objectives.
- to help youth and teenagers in faith crises.
- to engage in charitable activities and works of mercy.
- to take leadership to spread God’s goodness in the areas of study and work .
- membership drive.
- to play host to the upcoming Pallottine Youth Meet to be held in Nagpur in the last week of Dec.

Joseph Koovely sac [NA] – Nagpur – INDIA

20.12.12

koovelyj@yahoo.com
