



"Fate risplendere la santità di Dio". "Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5,16)

ITEM 19

On-going formation of Pallottine priests in India

It has been a great joy of organizing ongoing formation for our Pallottine priests belonging to all the three provinces in India. Since two years, with the request of the conference of the Major Superiors in India, the Pallottine Animation Centre has taken various steps to organize on-going formation. Recently, we had on-going formation for the batches 2009 and 2010 at Dhyan Ashram Retreat House in West Bengal, from March 1 to 6, 2012. There were 19 participants. His grace Most Rev. Thomas D'souza, the Archbishop of Kolkata graced the occasion by celebrating Holy Eucharist and giving his thought provoking reflections on pastoral ministry and care. His presence edified many of the participants. The input session topics such as Spirituality for life and leadership; Importance of healthy relationships; Psycho-spirituality; Becoming integrated person; Charism and New Evangelization and Stress management were dealt by different resource persons. The participants were also given sufficient time to share their life experiences and ministry with their respective batch mates. The visit to Mother Teresa's tomb and the place of ministries were enriching. The event of sightseeing the city of joy was heart probing.

The on-going formation program for the priests ordained in the year 2011 was held at PAC, Nagpur from March 15 to 21, 2012. His Lordship Most Rev. Abraham Viruthakulangara presided over the inaugural Mass and shared his reflections with zeal and enthusiasm. The topics such as: Inter Personal Relationship; Ministry and life of Priests; Scriptural Foundations of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate; Importance of SCCs in the parish; Expectations of priests from the lay perspective; Priesthood: A Call to Holiness and Current Issues of the Church were dealt efficiently. There were 15 participants out of 17 in the batch. The sincere sharing of life and ministry experiences among the members gave new impetus to go-ahead in the priestly ministry. A day of outing on the last day of the ongoing formation was informative and rejuvenating. The participants went back to their respective parishes and institutions with vigor for the mission of the Church and looking forward to another opportunity to come together. The next program is organized for the batches ordained in the year 2003 and 2004 in Darjeeling, West Bengal from April 20 to 26, 2012.

James Joseph sac – Nagpur – INDIA
23.03.12

ITEM 18

EXTRACT from MEETING REPORT MARIA RANI CENTER, Trivandrum: 9th-13th August 2011

Vocation Promotion and Formation of Brothers

In the discussion on the above-mentioned topic, the participants were gratefully reminiscent of the contribution made by the SAC Brothers in the past, and were aware of the immense possibilities of apostolate open even now, for the Brothers. In this context, the question raised was: what we in India can do to promote Brotherhood.

With regard to the formation of SAC Brothers, we have a well defined program as outlined in the Ratio Institutionis; the only thing to be looked into is how to work out the combination of pastoral-theological formation and professional training of the Brothers. The main point of discussion was vocation promotion to Brotherhood, as well as to the Pallottine way of life as a whole. In this regard, the following suggestions were made:

a) On a Policy Level

- i. We need to invest more money on Vocation Promotion.
- ii. Vocation promotion needs to be given much more importance than what is given thus far by the Major Superiors.
- iii. A more organized way of Vocation Promotion is required; for example, having a Team of Vocation Promoters who go around the Province/Region.
- iv. The Major Superiors need to take keen interest in promoting vocations to Brotherhood.
- v. We need to conscientize the members of the urgency and the necessity of promoting vocations to Brotherhood.

b) Place and Personnel

- i. Recognize that all have a role to play in vocation promotion. Also there was an urgent need to have a Brother as part of the team of vocation promoters.
- ii. Get everyone involved in the vocation promotion: parish priests, those involved in the school apostolate, and UAC members including the Pallottine Sisters.
- iii. Schools, Parishes, Retreat Houses, etc.
 - Retreats are opportune moments for vocation promotion: one can distribute the Pallottine literature at the end of the retreats.
 - Altar Servers can be introduced and invited to see our way of life.

c) Means of Vocation Promotion

- i. Bring out a more attractive brochure and calendar with a clear description of Brotherhood.
- ii. Banners and posters in parishes; interactive power point presentations as part of the vocation promotion material.
- iii. The web-site can be a good platform to make ourselves known; and it is necessary to make ourselves known as a Congregation of **Fathers and Brothers**.
- iv. One should not forget that one of the most effective means of vocation promotion is Praying for Vocations; we can dedicate the 22nd of every month as a day of Prayer for Vocations.

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21.03.12
