



Dear Conferers

It is a time of Jubilation! The period of 2014 – 2015 is very important for us Salvatorians as we commemorate few significant events which are very dear to us. They are:

- a) 170th birthday of Fr. Otto Hopfenmuller (1844)
- b) 25 years since the return of Salvatorians to India (1989)
- c) 125th anniversary of Catholic Mission in North East India initiated by Salvatorians (1890)
- d) 125th death anniversary of Fr. Otto Hopfenmuller (1890)
- e) The departure of first Salvatorian missionaries from North East India (1915).

In the backdrop of these historical and nostalgic memories of the past we opened the silver jubilee of our SDS presence in India on the 16 of June 2014. Fr. Milton Zonta, the Superior General was present to mark this historic moment. On the same day the Superior General has announced the Mission year for the entire Society with the Moto “*The Mission of the Saviour is our Passion*”. In his reflection he reiterated that it is a time to recall with gratitude the first

Salvatorians who understood the missionary charism of our Venerable Founder. For all of them, the Salvatorian charism was the guiding star and the great current in which they lived their lives. From these beginnings the Salvatorian mission spread through all the continents of the world.



At this time of history, it is important for us Salvatorians to imbibe the spirit of Vatican Council II document *Perfectae Caritatis* which gives us five guiding principles for the renewal which can be summarized in three operative criteria “*the following of Christ as seen in the Gospel or Scriptures, recapturing the spirit and intention of the founder, and adaptation to the signs of the times*”.

We are called to make God known in all the spheres of the world. By proclaiming His Word in the last 25 years the Society of the Divine Saviour made its visible presence and growth in the Indian subcontinent and beyond.

In order to mark the importance of the Jubilee celebration, and to keep reminding all members the Societies Mission, we had hoisted the Jubilee Flag. Though it is self explanatory from the emblem of the flag, it is appropriate to present the symbols of the flag.



The *human figure* is symbolized as the Divine Savior who is sowing the seed which is the Word of God (Mk 4: 14). *SDS tree* symbolizes the members of the Society representing the Divine Saviour in the world. The World is indicated by the *five lines*. As He sent His disciples, the Savior also sends each one of us to announce the Good News of salvation to all people by all ways and means the love of Christ inspires.

To continue the celebrations in our communities I would like to propose the following:

1. Hosting the Jubilee Flag and starting the Jubilee prayer: In all our communities the jubilee flag could be hosted or placed at a place of prominence. The jubilee prayer could be introduced during community prayer regularly. It may be appropriate to invite the neighboring religious communities and people around for a thanksgiving Holy Eucharist before August 2015.
2. A day of recollection on the virtues of our founder could be introduced.
3. All communities could organize a special community meeting to discuss ways and means to make our apostolate more Gospel oriented. When all our members assemble in October 8-9, 2014 we could further discuss this topic to deepen the religious living of our Charism and the expansion of our ministries in India and abroad, especially in Asia.

In *Vita Consecrata* we read, “In every age there have been men and women who, obedient to the Father’s call and to the prompting of the Spirit, have chosen this special way of following Christ, in order to devote themselves to him with an ‘undivided heart’. Like the apostles, they too have left everything behind in order to be with Christ and to put themselves, as he did, at the service of God and their brothers and sisters.” Following the example of apostles this Jubilee year is a time for us to go back to the original spirit of our founder. I feel this jubilee year is a grace filled moment for us members of SDS to evaluate the living of our Charism in the communities, in the ministries we do and how to go about towards the future....

Fr. Sunil Thomas SDS
Vicariate Superior

Other Events

On this auspicious occasion our joy was doubled because 16 students entered the Spiritual Orientation program, five candidates entered in the Novitiate, four Novices made their First Profession and four temporary professed members renewed their vows.



Spiritual Orientation

Gervasis Daimary, John Paul Shadap,
R. Movin Rickson, Sindus Kumar Nayak,
V. Sunil

Abinash Toppo, Arun Kumar, Amit Tirkey,
Cornelius Murmu, Elmiki Lynshiang, Gabriel
Breen Nongrum, Vemavarapu Hrudaya Raju,
Jeberius Paul Tirkey, Meshelmon Suja,
Manuel Tigga, Pynhunlang Wanjee, Jasman
Tirky , Rosario Felix, Renaldo Iawren,
Sudeep Tirkey, Vijay Kiren



Novices

Anil Kumar Perekela, Donbosco
Kharmawlong, Ksankupar Khongwar,
Starlight Khongsit



First Profession

Kitboklang M. Umlong, Ambrose
Damian Pynshai Lamin. N, Jitender
Tirkey, Susairaj Anthony Swamy



Renewal of Vows