

SALVATORIAN MISSION REPORT 2024





Dear confreres, friends & collaborators,

Thank you for being part of the Salvatorian mission!

In his World Mission Sunday Message, the theme the pope chose for the 2023 celebration is “Hearts on fire, feet on the move,” which he said was inspired by the story of Jesus and the disciples on the road to Emmaus after the resurrection. His message for World Mission Sunday reflects on the theme: “You shall be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). He reminds us that, “every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ.

The Church, according to Vatican Council II, is “missionary” in her very nature because her founder, Jesus Christ, was the first missionary. God the Father sent God the Son into the world incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth, His Christ, with a message. This message, called the Gospel or the Good News, is explicitly stated in Jn 3:16: “For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not die, but have eternal life.” John further clarifies Jesus’ message in his epistle: “God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.” (I Jn 4:9). Thus, the evangelizing mission of the Church is essentially the announcement of God’s love, mercy, forgiveness, and salvation, as these are revealed to mankind through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Gospels show us how Jesus demonstrated this all-embracing and unconditional love of God by his life, suffering, death, and Resurrection.

Hence, let us often reflect on our story of faith and thus become aware of how God is at work in our lives, helping us navigate the many difficulties in life. Our constant awareness of how God is at work in our lives will enable us to share our story of Faith with others. Pope Francis reminds us that we are each “Baptized and Sent”; we are all the “Church of Christ on Mission in the World.”

*General Mission Secretary
Rome*

Vietnamese Mission, 2023



On October 11, 2023, on the feast of Mater Salvatoris, on behalf of Fr. Milton Zonta, Superior General, Fr. Joseph Nguyen Chi Cong, the Coordinator of the Vietnamese Mission, blessed the foundation stone of the new building of the Formation House in Hoc Mon District, Ho Chi Minh City. The proposed house will be the formation house for the philosophy students of Vietnamese Mission.



Purchase of a house to establish a SDS community in Vinh (North of Vietnam)



In the northern part of the country, where our confreres are living and working in the shrine of the Diocese of Vinh, a property with a three-story house was purchased in 2023 with the goal to have our own space for the Salvatorian community, in which also possible candidates can be hosted. The fact that there are nearby universities and other facilities, will surely be attractive for young men who want to share with the confreres, to know more about community life and Salvatorian spirituality. 3 confreres currently live in this community and offers pastoral helps to the neighbouring parishes



The Salvatorian community house in Vinh established in 2023

The community Chapel in Ben Cat



The Salvatorian Community in Ben Cat is constructing a community chapel with the support of local benefactors.

Land use planning in Ben Cat



The Salvatorian Community in Ben Cat has designed the use of its land in Ben cat which foresee a ‘Community Development center’ in the near future

Initial Formation



The Vietnamese mission was established on October 11, 2021, and now has 18 finally professed members, 7 temporarily professed members, 5 novices, 7 philosophy students, 3 candidates and it received 7 aspirants in 2023.



Annual Retreat



The annual retreat for the professed members of Vietnamese mission took place on 7-12 August, 2023

Pastoral ministry



Pastoral ministry is one of the main apostolates of the members of Vietnamese mission



Diaconate ordination of Cl Joseph Nguyen Khanh Tam SDS

Two confreres professed their first vows



The Salvatorian community in Ben Cat

Priestly Ordinations

Dn. Dominic Ngo Duy Trung Hieu and Dn. Francis Xavier Le Thien Huong were ordained to priesthood at Long Cau Chapel, Ben Cat Parish on 25 November 2023 by Rt. Rev. Joseph Nguyen Tan Tuoc, the bishop of of Phu Cuong Diocese.



China Mission, 2023



The Superior General together with the local Bishop blessed the Salvatorian House in China on 21 July 2023,





A place dedicated to Bl. Francis Jordan, the founder of Salvatorian as per Chinese tradition at the newly blessed Salvatorian Community house . It is a tradition in China that the ancestors are respected, and their images are placed in household with reverence and respect.



A View of the corridor of the newly blessed Salvatorian Community house



The Salvatorian seminarians from China with two other Salvatorian priests

Indian Mission Vicariate, 2023

Silver Jubilee Celebration of Christ Jyoti School , Dhing



On the completion of 25 years of meritorious service of Christ Jyoti School Dhing to the cause of education, the school celebrated its Silver Jubilee with great pomp and circumstance. The Silver Jubilee was celebrated from 9th November to 11th November 2023. The Jubilee celebrations were marked by various cultural events, including a grand alumni reunion, cultural rally, musical concert and showcasing student talents.

Opening of a New Mission at Belsiri in Tezpur Diocese



On 20th April 2023, Most Rev. Michael Akasius Toppo, the Bishop of Tezpur Diocese graced the occasion to bless the new Salvatorian mission at Belsiri in Tezpur Diocese in the Indian State of Assam. A small school is established with two classrooms made of bamboo assam type house which enrolled 40 children in Kindergarten in 2023. The new mission aims to develop and engage in school and parish ministry at Belsiri.

Blessing and inauguration of New School Extension, Nongbah



The newly constructed extension of St. John Vianney School located in Nongbah Parish which is managed by the Salvatorians was blessed by Superior General Rev. Fr. Milton Zonta SDS on August 18, 2023 during his general visitation to India. The inauguration of the new extension school building is a significant milestone in the journey of education and community development in the parish as a whole.

Blessing and Inauguration of New School Building, Myrjai Village



A new school building was blessed and inaugurated on February 15, 2023 by Fr. Lessmon Nongtdu SDS, the vicariate secretary. It has been the fulfilment of a long-awaited dream for the village to be blessed with a new school building wherein they can admit their children for good education.

Jordan Bhavan Convent and Hostel for Girls at Christ Jyoti School Campus, Dhing



The newly constructed Jordan Bhavan Convent and Hostel for Girls at Christ Jyoti School Campus, Dhing, was blessed by Fr. Alex, the vicariate superior on April 15, 2023. It is managed by Presentation Sisters who collaborate with the Salvatorians at Dhing School.

Perpetual Vows and Diaconate Ordination



On 16 June 2023, three members; Cl. Jeberius Paul Tirkey, Cl. Karnelius Murmu and Cl. Meshelmon Suja professed their perpetual vows in the Society in Shillong. A week after their final profession, they were ordained deacons on the 24th June 2023 by His Excellency Most Rev. George Palliparambil, the Bishop of Miao Diocese at Oriens Theological Institute, Shillong. Their ordination took place along with 32 deacons belonging to the different dioceses and congregations in the Northeast India.

Priestly Ordination



Fr. Karnelius Murmu SDS was ordained a priest on 30th December 2023 by His Grace Most Rev. John Moolachira, the Archbishop of Guwahati Archdiocese. Fr. Meshelmon Suja SDS was ordained a priest on 31st December 2023 by His Lordship Most Rev. Ferdinand Dkhar, Bishop of Jowai Diocese.

First Profession



Kebius Nongkynrih, Rahul Surin, and Yadla Thambi professed their first vows in the Society on 21st July 2023 at Carmelaram, Bangalore on the feast day of the Society.

Fr. Otto Hopfenmuller's Feast



On 21, August 2023 in Shillong community marked the 133rd Death Anniversary of Fr. Otto Hopfenmuller SDS, the Founding Father of the Catholic faith in Northeast India. The Holy Mass was presided over by his Grace Most Rev. Victor Lyngdoh, the Archbishop of Shillong Archdiocese.

Annual Retreat



The annual retreat of the vicariate in 2023 was held in two places: Meghalaya and Kerala. The venue for the retreat in Meghalaya was at Jesuits Retreat Centre, Umbir and it was participated by 13 members while the another group for the annual retreat in Kerala took place from which had a participation of 19 number.

Ongoing Formation



The Ongoing Formation Program for those ordained for more than ten years was conducted at Eco-Spirituality center, Avila Dhyanaashram, run by OCD Fathers at Sengulam, Kerala from 03 - 05 December 2023. The participants for the program were 12 in number

Sri Lankan Mission, 2023

Blessing the Foundation Stone of Philosophy Study House, Kandy



Fr. Milton Zonta SDS, Superior General blessed the foundation stone for the proposed construction of the Philosophy Study House in Kandy in July 2023. The students will peruse their philosophical studies at the National Seminary in Kandy

General Visitation to Sri Lankan Mission



The first general visitation by Fr. Milton and Fr. Sunil to the Sri Lankan mission took place in July 2023 after it was made a community under the generalate on the Feast of Mater Salvatoris, 11 October 2021. The mission currently has 5 perpetually professed members working in Sri Lanka and one temporarily perpetually professed, studying Theology in the international formation house in Madrid, 3 novices in the Bonaventure Lüthen international novitiate in the Philippines, 2 candidates; who are studying Philosophy in the Sri Lanka, and 9 aspirants in Sri Lanka.

Preparation of lay Salvatorians



Preparation of lay Salvatorian for their commitments is a join task undertaken by both the Salvatorian Sisters and Fathers in Sri Lanka. The three branches of the Society gathered at the Chilaw community in 2023.



Pastoral ministry



Salvatorian confreres with the bishop of Chilaw at the St. Bernadette Church, Chilaw. It is a church for the Tamil speaking catholic of the diocese which is given to the care of the Salvatorians. The pastoral activities are coordinated by Salvatorian since 16th of June 2010. Masses are conducted in this church every Sunday, Wednesday, Friday and first Saturday of each month. They visit the sick and administer the needed sacraments at home and even at the hospitals. Furthermore, they started the community of Lay Salvatorian in the parish.

Formation



Formation remains an important apostolate in the Sri Lankan mission. Both the communities in Sri Lanka are formation communities. It had 9 aspirants and 2 candidates who are studying Philosophy in the Sri Lanka in 2023. Novitiate and theology studies are continued in the international formation houses in the Philippines.



Social Apostolate



Salvatorian confreres of Sri Lankan mission engages in social apostolates such as prison ministry and other social activities for the upliftment of the poor and the abandoned.

East Asian Mission Vicariate, Philippines- 2023

Bonaventure Lüthen international novitiate in the Philippines



13 candidates were received into novitiate on 21 July 2023 at Bonaventure Lüthen international novitiate in Talon. They come from Vietnam (5), Madagascar (2), Philippines (1), India (2), Sri Lanka (3). Novice Master: Fr. Vinoy Joseph Thottakkara



The scholastics of international study house in Manila

A New Salvatorian Parish



It was a long-standing wish of the East Asian Mission Vicariate to directly engage in Pastoral apostolate in the Philippines. A parish was entrusted to the care of Salvatorians in 2023. It is in Kanutuhan, General Trias, Cavite. First Mass in our new parish in Kanutuhan, was celebrated on Salvatorian feast day, 21 July 2023 presided over by Fr. Hubert Kranz, SDS. The parish is named “Mary, Mother of the Savior, Pastoral Center”. The Holy Mass took place in a covered basketball court and can be considered as the foundation mass of our first parish in the Philippines.



From left: Fr. Josef Wilfing SDS, Fr. Agustin M. Baas, episcopal vicar, Fr. Hubert Kranz SDS, Bishop Reynaldo Evangelista, Diocese of Imus.

Priestly ordinations



Ordination of 5 priests and 1 deacon at St. Francis of Asissi Parish, General Trias, Cavite, Philippines by Bishop Reynaldo Evangelista, Diocese of Imus.

New priests: Fr. Michael Dela Cerna from the Philippines. Fr. Joseph Phung, Anthony Huyen and Peter Trung from Vietnam. Fr. Cyrilus Eko is the first Salvatorian priest from Indonesia. Rev. Joseph Tam from Vietnam was ordained deacon

First Vows in Talon



8 novices professed their first vows in 2023: Joseph, Marc and Dominic from China, Nicolas and Francis from Vietnam, Patrisius and Engelbertus from Indonesia, Venancio from East Timor.

Madagascar Mission, 2023



From 25 until 31 May the Superior General paid together with the Secretary General a visit to the formation community in Antananarivo, the capital of Africa's biggest island, Madagascar to bless the new formation house at Alasora, a suburb of Antananarivo. The community has 28 candidates. For that occasion, also the Superior of the Tanzania Mission Pro-Province, and the Superior of the Congo Mission Pro-Province were present.



Blessing of the foundation stone of SDS School



Fr. Milton Zonta, Superior General blessed the foundation stone of a future Salvatorian School in Alasora in Madagascar on 28 May 2023. The first grant for the school project in Madagascar has arrived in late 2023.



General Visitation to Madagascar Mission



*Fr. Milton Zonta, Superior General
and Fr. Agustin Vanbaelen, the Secretary General with the young candidates of Madagascar mission*



A courtesy visit with Monsignor Odon Marie Arsène Razanakolona, the Archbishop of Antananarivo,

Initial Formation



Initial formation is one of the important task of Madagascar mission



Cl. Stefann from the Belgium province has been doing his practical year in Madagascar mission

Mexican Mission, 2023



The Salvatorian community in Mexico comprise of five members : two from Poland, two from India and one Mexican



Fr. Milton Zonta, Superior General with the community in Mexico

Inauguration of the Center "Talents with passion"



The parish community in Xoxocotla completed the construction of the multipurpose hall which was blessed by Fr. Milton Zonta, the Superior General



The completed rooms and exhibition conducted for children



The confreres with a newly purchased car for the community

General Visitation



Fr. Milton Zonta, Supeiro General made the canonical visitation of the Salvatorian community in Mexico, which at the moment consists of five confreres: four priests, one religious brother and two young candidates. They are located in the city of Cuernavaca, where the Mater Salvatoris International Formation House is located. In this house live Fr. Piotr Szyrszen, originally from Poland and Fr. Niju Josey from India, accompanied by the young Mexican candidates: José Fernando and Fabian Arroyo. Fr. Jakub Trzópek from Poland, Fr. Robert Marwein from India and Br. Salvador Peñaloza Hernández from Mexico live in the municipality of Xoxocotla. They are responsible for the apostolate in the parish of San José Obrero and San Felipe Apostol, which is made up of families who live in a context of strong popular religiosity and the particular poverty of the urban periphery.



Youth Ministry



The Salvatorian parish in Xoxocotla was represented in the world youth day in 2023



The youth group of the parish

Out reach ministry

The Salvatorian confreres engaged in pastoral out reach for sacramental and spiritual help



Celebrations



The parish community gathered for palm Sunday celebrations



The parish church is adorned with flower decoration on its feast day

Kenyan Mission, 2023

In 2015, Salvatorians established its first mission in Kenya at Mary Queen peace Parish Eldoret to extend spiritual and social care to the people in the rural regions of the country. An existing private primary school in the neighbourhood of the parish was acquired in 2017 to uplift the people from poverty through education. A newly built secondary school was blessed in 2021. To ensure stability and continuity to our presence, the construction of the first Salvatorian formation community house was established in 2022.



Ten new aspirants (three from Kenya and seven from Uganda) for the Kenyan mission are accepted in early 2024



Three novices professed their first vows for the Kenyan mission in 2023

Salvatorian School Apostolate, Kenya

The total number of learners in both primary and secondary school is 440 in 2023. While the primary school has a total enrolment of 328 pupils, the secondary school is gradually growing. The Salvatorian school wants to offer the poor children an equal opportunity to excel in life by offering good and quality education which is affordable



The children dancing during the school day celebrations



The children engaged in public cleaning



The children at the school vegetable garden



The children with newly received learning materials



Holy Eucharist offered at the school

A new laboratory for secondary school

The secondary school completed construction and equipment of a new laboratory building through the help of donors in 2023. The laboratory will further improve the quality of education



Newly built laboratory building



Inside the laboratory room



Peru Mission, 2023



Retreat and training of teachers from the Catholic schools of the Apostolic Vicariate



Meeting and accompaniment of the youth ministry of the parish and the apostolic vicariate.



Pastoral visit of Monsignor Alfredo Vizcarra - Bishop of the Apostolic Vicariate



Attention to the various communities of the parish with celebrations of sacraments.



Parish Assembly 2023 with the leaders of the communities. The Assembly coordinates the year's activities for the parish.



Training of altar servers



Welcoming Fr. Mario Pulido SDS who arrived to work in Peru in 2023



*Patronal Feast of the Immaculate Conception -
Patroness of the parish*



*Refurbishment and construction of chapels damaged by
recurrent earthquakes*

Indonesian Mission, 2023



Fr. Wilson, Fr. Cyrillus and Fr. Paul who are the first Salvatorians in Indonesia to establish a new foundation. Fr. Paul from USA province and Fr. Wilson from the Philippines are engaged in learning the Bahasa Indonesian at the University Of Sananta Dharma. Fr. Cyrillus is the first Indonesian Salvatorian who was ordained in 2023



Fr. Paul concelebrating an Indonesian wedding at a church. They wore traditional Javanese clothing



The SVD community in Yogyakarta who had been hosting the three Salvatorian confreres for a year

The ordination of the first Indonesian Salvatorian



The ordination of Fr. Cyrilus, the first Salvatorian from Indonesia took place in 2023



The first mass of Fr. Cyrilus, which took place in Kupang, Indonesia was attended by confreres from the Philippines

Vocation promotion



Fr. Cyrilus engages in vocation promotion for the Society in the Florence Island

Updates from the Bahasa Language school



The students and teachers of Sanata Dharma University where Fr. Paul and Fr. Wilson have enrolled for one year of Bahasa language course



SSPS sisters and Fathers at the University eating Bukso and iced tea in the Cantine.



Fr. Paul with the Charles Baro Sisters from Dili on Temor Leste. They were studying Bahasa Indonesian at the University Of Sananta Dharma.



Salvatorian Temporary community

After living for about one year with the SVD community in Yogyakarta, the three Salvatorians moved to a rented house to establish a temporary Salvatorian community which will also accomodate vocations from Indonesia



Handing over of the Key of the rented house



Fr. Wilson and Fr. Cyrilus in front of our new rented house in Yogyakarta with the new motorcicle



The rented house



Fr. Wilson in the Kitchen



Foundaiton day



Fr. Wilson carrying drinking water



Fr. Cyrilus with the newly purchased motor bike

Ugandan Mission, 2023



Fr. Agustin Van Baelen, General Secretary accompanied by Fr. Justine Tesha, the coordinator of the Salvatorian Mission in Kenya, Br. Joby Philip, the general mission secretary and Fr. Paul Okello, Vicar General of the Diocese of Jinja visiting a land in Jinja to purchase for the Society.



The Society purchased 10 acres of land in Jinja in 2023 overlooking lake Victoria for the proposed international African Noviciate House

Blessing of the new land in Jinja, Uganda



Fr. Justin Tesha SDS, the mission superior of the Otto Hopfenmuller mission, which includes Salvatorian missions in Kenya and Uganda, blessed the land on the feast of Mater Salvatoris on October 11, 2023 which marked the arrival of Salvatorians in Uganda.



Salvatorians with the Missionary Benedictine sisters in Jinja

Tanzanian Missionary Pro-province, 2023



14 young men who were received into postulancy on the 24 June 2023 at St. Joseph Formation Community, Namiungo



Diaconate ordinations Cl. Jeminus, Cl. George, and Cl. Francis which took place 09 October 2023



Priestly Ordination of Dn .Colman D. Mtenga, SDS, which took place on the 22 August 2023 at Migongo Mission, Masasi.



First profession on the 08 December 2023 at St.Joseph Formation Community, Namiungo. There were 22 newly professed confreres.



Ten confreres perpetually professed at Mater Salvatoris Scholasticate, Morogoro on 01.January.2024 : five of them from the Tanzanian Mission Pro-province and the other five from the Missionary Pro-province of Congo.

Congolese Missionary Pro-vince, 2023



A new formation house of candidates is under construction in Lubumbashi.



The WOKOVU school



The Salvatorian Community in Congo with the visitors from the Generalate



5 Confreres from Congo were ordained to the priesthood on 15 July 2023 in Lubumbashi



Cl Maturin Calwe was ordained a deacon on 7 January, 2023



5 confreres professed final vows on 1 January, 2024



**SALVATORIAN
GLOBAL NETWORK
OF SCHOOLS**

The 'Salvatorian Global Network of School' was established with the motto "teach all nations" on February 14, 2023, by the Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta SDS during the annual assembly of the mission procurators. It is an umbrella initiative (program) created by the generalate under the mission secretariat in partnership with SOFIA, mission procuras, and other donors to generate a shared and conscious drive to encourage the construction of new Salvatorian educational institutions in the missions, primarily as an apostate to serve the people while also serving as a source of income to sustain our local missions. It could establish 5 new school in its first year of operations.

1. Bl Jordan Secondary School, Masasi-Tanzanai

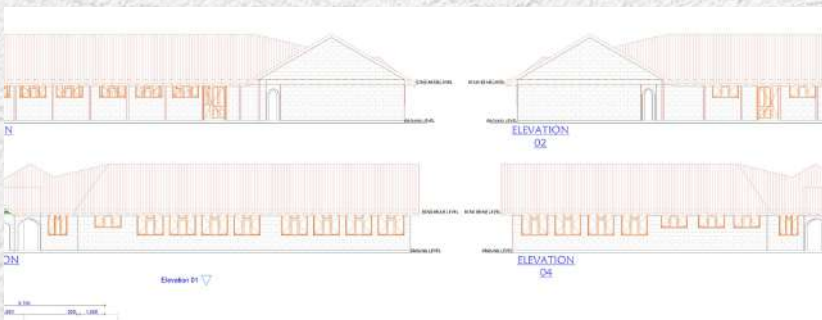


The proposed Secondary school plan



The construction is underway

2. Salvatorian School, Kolwezi - DR Congo



The proposed Secondary school plan



The construction is underway

3. Salvatorian Primary School, KNdikinimeki, Cameroon



The proposed Secondary school plan



The construction started in late 2023

4. New Primary School building, Eldoret, Kenya



The proposed Secondary school building plan. The project was approved in late 2023 and the construction will begin in 2024

5. Primary School , Antananarivo- Madagascar



The proposed Secondary school building plan. A portion of the grant arrived in 2023 and we are waiting to begin the construction in 2024

Salvatorian mission project for 2024

Salvatorian Philosophy Study House- Ho Chi Min City- Vietnam



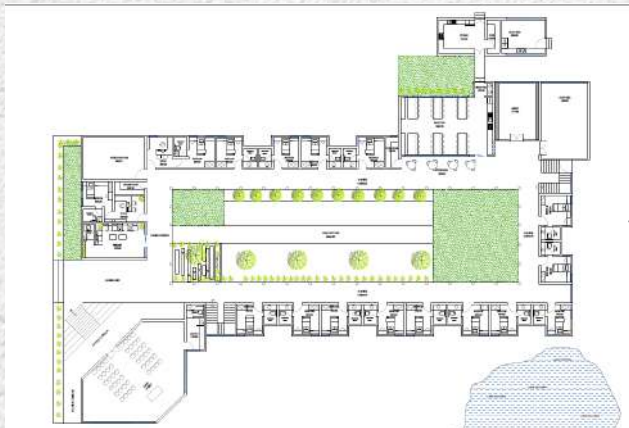
Complete the construction of the new Salvatorian philosophy study house in Ho chi min city . The proposed formation house will help to stabilise the formation program in the Vietnamese mission.

Salvatorian Philosophy Study House- Kandy, Sri Lanka



The construction of the new Salvadorian philosophy study house in Kandy, Sri Lanka .

International Novitiate House for Africa- Jinja, Uganda



A new Salvatorian international novitiate house for Africa is planned to be realised in Jinja Uganda in a piece of land is acquired in 2023. This will help to strengthen the salvatorian formation strcuture in African continent

Salvatorian Mission Report 2024

