



DEHONIANS INDIA

February 2025

Voice of the Superior

Through fellowship even above and beyond conflicts, and through mutual forgiveness, we would like to be a sign that the fraternity for which people thirst is possible in Jesus Christ and we would like to be its servants (Cst 65)

Dear Confreres in the Heart of Jesus!

The highlight of the month of February was the visit of **Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ**, the US Provincial Superior who made 3 weeks visit to the Indian District, to know its complex realities, its rich cultural heritage and above all to know the Dehonian confreres and their mission and to preach the Annual Dehonian Retreat. He has really adopted well to our reality and has put up with all our inconveniences. During the weekends, he visited several of our Dehonian communities (formation as well as pastoral) and gave a series of conferences to all our formation communities on Fr. Dehon and also interacted with the young Dehonian candidates, besides preaching 2 Annual Dehonian Retreats (one in Kerala and one in Andhrapradesh). 65 Confreres participated in these Dehonian Retreats and were deeply nourished by the Dehonian Core Values and the edifying personality of Fr. Dehon, our Founding Father.

We are indeed grateful to Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ for taking time and energy and for coming all the way from US and for spiritually enriching each of us and for enhancing us with the spirit of Dehonianity through Synodality & Fraternity. We are also thankful to the entire US province and their generous & magnanimous benefactors for their constant, consistent and continuous financial support from the very beginning of our Indian Mission in 1994.

During this month, we had the Priestly Ordinations and we have 3 more new Dehonian Priests namely, **Fr. Vinod Koduru SCJ**, **Fr. Dennis SCJ** & **Fr. Ashin SCJ**. We wish and pray that they may be truly be Priests according to the Heart of Christ, our Supreme High Priest. During the month of February, we also had a fruitful meeting with the bishop of Rayagada, **Most. Rev. Apilinar Senapathi DD** who has agreed to canonically erect 10 mission stations under Kundra Bloc as the Sacred Heart Mission Parish. He has also given us the place to start our Minor Seminary to foster the north Indian Vocations. As we are in the Dehonian Jubilee (2024-2028), may we continue to persevere in the Dehonian ideals of readiness, willingness and openness and thus to exhibit dehonianness to bring forth the Reign of the Heart of Jesus in Souls and Societies!

Fraternally Yours in the Heart of Jesus,

**Long live to the Heart of Jesus
Through the Heart of Mary**


Fr. Michael Augustine SCJ





A Memorable Journey: Encountering the Love of Christ through Polish People

Greetings to all from the Dehonians in Albania!

As we started on this sacred Lenten journey with Christ, I am filled with gratitude for a recent experience that has left a deep imprint on my heart. Together with my community members in Albania, Fr. Wojtek SCJ, I had the blessed opportunity to visit Poland after receiving my Schengen visa. What awaited me there was not just a journey across borders but an encounter filled with warmth, faith, and fraternity.

Our visit to Poland was truly a remarkable experience. We had the privilege of visiting several Dehonian communities and parishes, where we were welcomed with open arms and genuine Dehonian hospitality. The kindness and generosity extended to us were beyond words; every interaction reflected the spirit of our shared mission and brotherhood. The Dehonian priests and faithful were eager to hear about our mission in Albania and were particularly interested by my experiences in India, especially regarding the Church's presence and work there. It was encouraging to witness their interest and to engage in meaningful conversations about faith, service, and the beauty of diverse cultures united in Christ.

One of the most spiritually enriching moments of this journey was visiting the Shrine of St. John Paul II and the Shrine of Divine Mercy, where I had the blessing of stepping into the very convent where St. Faustina received her visions of Jesus. Standing in these sacred places, where the grace of divine mercy has been profoundly revealed, was a deeply moving experience. I felt an overwhelming sense of peace, a renewal of faith, and a call to deepen my own mission in the service of God's people.

Exploring the historic city of Kraków was equally fascinating. Walking through its charming streets, I had the opportunity to immerse myself in its rich heritage. A particularly poignant part of my journey was visiting remnants of the Jewish quarter, a haunting reminder of the tragedies inflicted during the Nazi era. It was a sobering yet important experience—one that urged me to reflect on the resilience of faith, the scars of history, and the call to be instruments of peace and reconciliation in our time.

This journey to Poland was not just about visiting new places; it was about encountering the love of Christ through the people I met, the stories I shared, and the sacred sites I had the grace to witness. I return to Albania with a heart full of gratitude, renewed inspiration, and a deeper commitment to my mission. May this Lenten season continue to be a time of grace, reflection, and transformation for each of us.

Fr. Moses Sayala SCJ
Shkodër, Albania.



Fabulous Visit, Fraternal Celebration, Faith-filled Mission

Visit of Fr. Vein, SCJ (USA)

Our parish had the privilege of welcoming Fr. Vein, SCJ, from the United States. He was received with great warmth and enthusiasm by the faithful, who expressed their immense joy at having an SCJ priest in their midst. During his visit, Fr. Vein shared his experiences and reflections, creating a meaningful exchange of faith and fraternity. To honour him, a short felicitation program was organized, featuring a delightful dance performance by the parish children. The entire gathering was a beautiful and heartwarming occasion, strengthening the bond between the SCJ community and our parishioners.

Ordination of Dn. Vinod Kumar, SCJ

A moment of great spiritual joy and celebration filled our parish as Dn. Vinod Kumar, who had been actively serving our community, was ordained a priest. His ordination marks not only a personal milestone in his formative journey of faith but also a blessing for our parish, which witnessed and supported his ministry as a deacon. The faithful rejoiced at this sacred occasion, thanking God for the gift of priesthood and praying for his future mission.

Spiritual Enrichment in the Parish

This month was deeply enriching in terms of spiritual activities. Numerous family prayer gatherings, family rosary recitations, and Friday adorations were conducted, bringing the faithful closer to God. Additionally, special emphasis was given to intensive preaching on the Eucharist and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which helps to have a deeper understanding of Christ's love and presence in our lives. These spiritual engagements not only strengthened the faith of individuals but also deepened the sense of community within the parish.

Educational Support for Parish Children

Recognizing the importance of both faith and education, special attention was given to the study hours of the parish children, particularly as they prepared for their upcoming examinations. Increased care and guidance were provided to ensure they could focus on their studies while remaining spiritually nurtured. The parish community, in collaboration with teachers, extended their support to help the children excel academically while staying rooted in their faith.

Br. Kanchi Gowtham SCJ



Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ's Dehonian Insights in India

A retreat is a break for the heart and the mind. It creates a breathing space for Meeting with God in silence, reading 'The Word' and rekindling the fire of our faith; Reflecting on the meaning of our existence, taking a step back before making important choices in our lives and ministries. The themes of our Annual Retreat commenced with the concept of individualism and culminated in the notion of Sint Unum, representing a collective journey towards this ideal. Each session focused on Dehonian themes and mottos such as Ecce Venio, Ecce Ancilla, Oblation, Reparation, and Adveniat Regnum Tum., etc.

Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ, the US Provincial, who was our preacher, has provided us the profound insights into the life of our Founding Father, Leo John Dehon, establishing connections with both Scripture and our Constitution. The discussions were rooted in scriptural teachings and the experiences of Fr. Dehon, exploring his mission in founding the congregation and his efforts to unite the religious (members) of his era. Despite facing challenges and conflicts within the congregation, Fr. Dehon exemplified the love of Christ throughout his life.

The talks were concise yet impactful, delivering a compelling message and embodying the Dehonian spirit in our respective ministries. Each session was aimed to inspire us to embrace our charism and dedicate ourselves fully to the mission entrusted to us in India. At the conclusion of each session, a space was created by the preacher for interaction, dialogue, and reflective questions, which prompted us to consider our response to the Dehonian call. In summary, the four days of retreat provided us with four significant insights to help us live out our charism and express our Dehonianness.

1. Our **Religious life emphasizes on interdependence rather than self-serving (selfish)** motivations such as individualism, hedonism, and minimalism. These concepts foster the personal development, neglecting the growth of the community as a whole.

2. The reflections on Ecce venio and Ecce Ancilla encourage us to embrace various challenging missions in the spirit of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Fr. Dehon. Engaging in missionary work is undoubtedly demanding; however, during times of fear, distress, and adversity, as **Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ reminded us through Fr. Dehon's experiences, we must turn to the Sacred Heart, which serves as our source of solace and comfort.**

3. In our efforts **to establish the Kingdom of God on earth, reparatory work must be grounded in the principle of love.** Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ reminded us of the collaborative efforts that initiated the Mission in India, emphasizing the importance of many individuals working together. He urged us to utilize our unique gifts for a shared mission in India, thereby enhancing our Dehonian presence.

4. By adopting the **principles of solidarity, we are called to accept one another and to invite all individuals to engage with the Church,** allowing them to experience salvation through our Dehonian approach. Drawing inspiration from **St. John's vision of Sint Unum, Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ presented three aspects/dimensions of Sint Unum—spiritual, communal, and ministerial—to** emphasize the richness of our community life and the necessity of remaining united despite our differences and the realities we face. He aptly quoted Fr. Dehon, stating that it is the Eucharist that binds/unites us together, and our hearts should serve as a ciborium, inclusive of everyone.

Fr. Vien's Approach in his Visit to India

8

Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ has recently arrived in India for the first time, spending approximately three weeks in the Indian District. Since his arrival, he has been actively visiting all our communities, including both Formation and Pastoral, in Chennai, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh, while also exploring notable locations in the vicinity. His enthusiasm for travel is evident as he continues to explore cities, shrines, and institutions where our scholastics are engaged in their studies, as well as visiting our mission stations where Dehonian confreres serve across various states. He has demonstrated a keen interest in understanding the Indian culture and has conveyed his appreciation for the warm and respectful welcome he has received as a Dehonian Confrere.

Fr. Vien Nguyen SCJ, while serving as the Provincial of the United States, exemplifies simplicity, humility, warmth, friendliness, openness, adaptability, and a grounded demeanour. His approach and willingness to engage with the Indian confreres was particularly noteworthy. As Dehonians, we are recognized globally for our hospitality, and as Indians, we aimed to extend the finest Dehonian hospitality. Despite expressing gratitude for our hospitality, he made a concerted effort to partake in the same simple meals that we enjoyed, stating that there was no need to take the trouble of preparing special dishes for him, as he preferred to eat what everyone else would eat. He truly embodied this sentiment, having no complaints regarding his stay, meals, or accommodations, and he successfully managed to enjoy the spicy food.

I was deeply moved by his demonstration of Dehonian fraternity and impressed by his ability to connect with everyone, whether they are students or priests. He exhibits remarkable patience in listening to others and offers valuable advice. He embodies the true spirit of a Dehonian and his 'Dehonianness' is evident in his manner of speaking, preaching, engaging with others, and living his life. He is a dynamic and an effective leader with a compelling vision for the future of the congregation. My understanding of his approach may not fully capture the depth of his actual experiences. Believing that he must have had a wonderful time in India with all our Indian confreres and I express my sentiments of gratitude for everything that Fr. Vien and the U.S. Province have contributed to the Indian District. Looking forward to his second coming here I, remain.

Fr. Mahesh Gotikala SCJ



Community: where hearts connect and spirits are lifted

It is our great joy to share with you all about our Dehon Vidya Sadhan community experience. It is all about "Sharing the journey, celebrating the moments, united in our faith". This month was a beautiful and fruitful month for each one of us. We had many meaningful moments together and many learning experiences. We are very grateful to the Almighty for this wonderful community experience. We have learned through experiences that there is a close connection between the quality of our life in common and the quality of our Christian witness to the world. When we are living community life well, it shows in the integrity of our personal and communal testimony to Jesus. When we are not living community life well, that too is shown in our lives. The community life is a goal to be lived out and experienced in everyday of life. Whatever we experience, we experience together in Christ. We all are weak and fragile but beyond our weaknesses and suffering our community is a place which gives hope and newness in our life and religious vocation journey. Our life and experiences in this community allow us to grow in all the areas of our life.

On 7th February we meaningfully celebrated the First Friday, the day of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. It was a moment of God experience. On 8th the community had the Recollection and confession. Fr.Rinu Jose SCJ gave the recollection talk and points for the personal reflection. Fr.Joseph Sugun Leon, from the Carmelgiri Seminary came for the Sacrament of confession. On 11th February the whole community took part in the Priestly Ordination of Fr.Ashin SCJ. For all our seminarians it was a great experience; the meaningful celebration of Priestly Ordination and an inspiration for their vocation. On 15th We had the visit of Fr.McQueen SCJ and Fr.Loy from Goa. On 16th Fr.Vien SCJ, the US Provincial came along with Fr.Michael Augustine SCJ. Also Fr.Mariano. Fr.Mahesh, Fr.Kishore Chelli, and Fr.Kiran Kumar came to our community. The community was very happy to welcome all of them. And on this day Fr.Sagar Nayak and Fr,Sawan Nayak, the newly ordained priests celebrated their thanksgiving Mass in our community. On 20th after finishing the retreat Fr.Syam and Fr.Chittibabu visited our community. We are very grateful for their visit and sharing. And our brothers had the chance to listen Fr.Vien SCJ, as he shared with them about the US province and the works they do there. On 21st we had the community celebration of the gift of life of Bro.Rohan, Fr.Vineeth, Bro.Alok and Bro.Manuel.

Community is a place where we can experience the sacrament of healing like no other. If we fail, our mistakes can be redeemed. If we are wounded by life, our brothers can be there for us. These are extremely reassuring thoughts in an uncertain world. Trusting the community and holding ourselves personally accountable for the quality of common life draws us all closer together. This is what we experience in our community life here in Dehon Vidya Sadhan. God makes us

understand that each one of us is unique and something special, each one is gifted to the community by God. We try to share our life, our talents, our time, our energy and so we become an inspiration for one another to grow in our dehonain way of life.

Fr.Christy Peter chittapanezhikathuvila SCJ



Grace that unites and Gratitude that unifies us as Dehonians

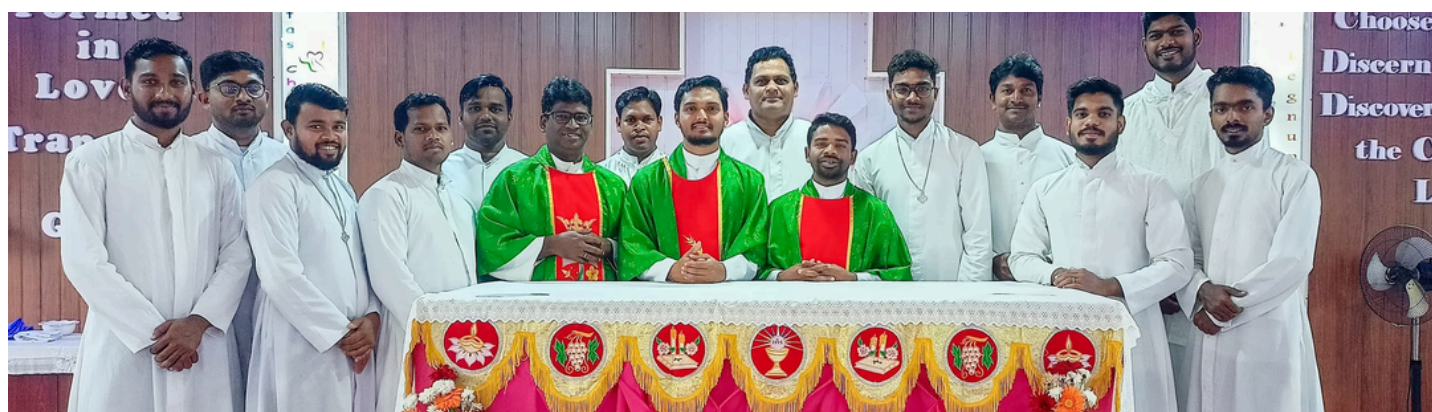
This month was filled with joy, spiritual growth, and meaningful moments that brought our community closer. We had the pleasure of celebrating the birthdays of Fr. Sundar, SCJ and Fr. Mahesh, SCJ sharing happiness and strengthening our bond with each other and our neighboring communities. A special spiritual event was the Holy Eucharist celebrated by our newly ordained priests, Fr. Sagar, SCJ and Fr. Sawon, SCJ bringing us together in prayer and reflection.

We were also blessed to welcome Fr. Vien Nguyen, SCJ, the US Provincial and Fr. Michael Augustine, SCJ, the District Superior to our community, greeting them with warmth and looking forward to their guidance and contributions. Another important moment was Recollection Day, where Fr. Vien, SCJ gave an inspiring talk followed by an interactive session that encouraged and uplifted us.

The community gathered for a meeting, discussing important matters and reinforcing our commitment to working together in unity. A major highlight was hosting the annual retreat for Fathers from the Andhra and other areas, providing them with a peaceful and spiritually refreshing experience.

As we look back on this blessed month, we are grateful for the grace that unites us and the opportunities to grow together in faith and service. We move forward with love, gratitude, and a strong sense of togetherness.

Br. Ashwin Joseph SCJ





Cheerful Celebrations and Vibrant Visits

witnessed a good number of celebrations, and the visitation. The whole community of Dehon Bhavan could make their presence for the Priestly Ordination of Frs. Ashin Scj and Dennis Scj at Arthunkal Basilica. We had the visit of the US Provincial Fr. Vien SCJ accompanied by the Indian District Superior Fr. Michael Augustine Scj. Fr. Vien.Scj could meet the whole community members and shared his experience in USA and listened to our sharing in the community. He spent an hour with the students for a wonderful interaction.

Most of the members could join for the Annual retreat held at the Provincial House of Conventuals at Karukutty. This month we had the celebration of St. Antony's chapel feast for five days from 19-23rd February 2025. It was a graceful celebration to the community as well as to the people in Kumbalanghy. Our students are doing well in all the formative aspects and they are taking a good care of our Vegetable Garden under the leadership of Fr. Sunil Scj.

Fr. Abraham Lazar SCJ



Precious Priestly Ordinations and Vivifying Visits

In this month we have occupied with different activities particularly with the ordinations of our deacons. As a community, we could participate in the Thanks giving masses of Fr. Dennis SCJ and Fr. Ashin SCJ. We have received in our community Fr. Ashin as the temporary member. The ordination anniversary of Fr. Martin was being celebrated in the community. The visit of Fr. Vien SCJ along with Fr. Michael Augustine SCJ was very enriching. The constitution of our community building is smoothly progressing in a Dehonian Way.

Fr. Thomas Raju SCJ



Enhancing Encounters and Empowering Pastoral Experiences

The month of January for the Divine Mercy Parish Community was enriched with the Pastoral activities. On the 2nd of February, we joyfully celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which is also observed as the World Day of Consecrated Life. As we journey together during this Jubilee 2025, this year especially was an opportune moment for all of us to recognize and appreciate the dedicated service of Religious Men and Women in our parish. We also had the graceful visit of our District Superior Rev. Fr. Michael Augustine Moses SCJ and the fruitful meeting with the Bishop of Vasai Rt. Rev. Thomas D'souza and the owner of our Church Building Mrs. Thelma Quadros. We continued in this month also the visiting of our Parish families which we had begun last month as well as catechism classes of our Parish children, those who are preparing themselves to receive the Sacraments of Holy communion and the Confirmation.

Fr. Ajit Baxla scj



Academic Aspirations together with Extra-curricular Activities

The Month of February had blessed me with an opportunity to start with a new beginning in participating and taking up the choir on the eve of 'Solemnity of Presentation of the Lord' in a religious gathering called "Sannyasa Sangam". It was really a surprise for me to see hundreds of religious from Bangalore, participating in CRI conference at Christ University. The following days of the month too had engaged me in various activities and academic programs.

Our community was at the busy schedule due to Home Day celebrations and we all participated and deeply engaged in most of the works and programs with collaboration and cooperation for the success of the special event. The community had invited many guests and fathers to the event. It was really a time of joy in our hearts and smiles on our faces. Though, the month was endowed with limited programs, yet it was meaningful and enriching month. The home day celebration had marked the culmination of all celebrations, for it being the last program. We started our preparation for our final semester examinations and the first exam had commenced on 28th of this month.

However, Month of February has brought many opportunities to glow and to grow in both my Spiritual and Psychological formation. I thank God for His perpetual assistance in my journey.

Br. Nirmal Uppati SCJ



Spiritual Enrichment, Communal Growth, and Academic Diligence aiming at Excellence

We begin with heartfelt gratitude to God for His countless blessings, guidance, and protection throughout the month of February. His grace continues to be our source of strength and inspiration in all that we do.

The month of February was marked by many significant and joyful events that brought our community closer together in faith, service, and celebration. We had three major occasions that we would like to highlight. On the 7th of February, we had a Thanksgiving Mass in honor of Fr. Sawan SCJ and Fr. Sagar SCJ. During the homily, both priests shared their vocation stories, offering valuable insights and reflections on their journeys. Their words were an inspiration to our young brothers, encouraging them to embrace their call and become instruments of God.

The following day, on February 8th, we marked a significant milestone in the development of our community with the laying of the foundation stone for the Sacred Heart Religious Article Shop. This ceremony was blessed with the presence of Fr. Michael Augustine SCJ, who came to offer prayers over the land and to lay the foundation stone. This moment was a symbol of hope and progress as we look forward to the future growth and expansion of our District.

On the 22nd of February, we had the honour of hosting Fr. Vien SCJ, the Provincial of the American Province, along with Fr. Michael Augustine SCJ. They visited our DPN community to offer their valuable time and to witness the Dehonian formation. That evening, we organized a cultural event in their honour. The brothers of our community warmly welcomed Fr. Vien SCJ, and several cultural programs were performed to celebrate the occasion.

Throughout the month, all the brothers were fully engaged in their academic preparations, utilizing their energy and efforts for studying for the upcoming board examinations. The dedication and hard work displayed by the brothers have been great and we continue to support them in their academic and spiritual endeavours.

In conclusion, February was a month of spiritual enrichment, communal growth, and academic diligence. We are grateful for the blessings we have received and look forward to the continued success and development of our community in the coming months.

Br. Ravi Teja Madanu SCJ



Ongoing GOD'S Mission in Odisha: Spiritual, Pastoral, Social, Communal & Integral Mission

God's work in Odisha is ongoing, and through faith, service, and perseverance, the mission continues to bear fruit for His glory.

We read in Mt 28:19-20:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

This Great Commission is a powerful reminder that the growth of the mission is not just about numbers but about transforming lives through faith in Christ. Odisha has seen mission expansion through:

Education: We are sharing our insights and our knowledge with the tribals as a Dehonian Missionaries and creating various possibilities and platforms to continue educating the youth and kids. Through this process, we get an opportunity to share Gospel to all these people.

Social Service & Healthcare: The conditions of the people keep improving as we continue to work hard and help them out to understand the meaning of life by taking them to hospitals and provide medication and save their lives. Due to no medical facilities in the vicinity, the new health care centre is under construction and still awaits for the financial support to complete. We Thank the local benefactors who continue to donate either money or time; while visiting here they become part of various construction work as per their profession. We as Dehonians keep visiting families and study the conditions of their lives and provide them the basic needs as far as possible. Moreover, enable them to be self-sufficient. We have our own confreres who are helping the families through counselling and providing them with Catholic family guidelines. We seek everyone's support and prayers to continue this mission.

Evangelization: We as Dehonians work hard with the catechist and Local believers and spread the Good News in different places.

Permission for the Dehonians to have the Canonical Presence in Odisha:

Rev.Fr. Michael Augustine SCJ (District Superior) had a fruitful meeting with the bishop of Rayagada diocese. While appreciating our Dehonian mission work the local Bishop invited us to establish our permanent presence and allowed us to have Kundra Bloc as Parish with the written agreement for 25 years.

We together with the community made a visit to the local Bishop of Rayagada, Odisha and looked for the temporary community building for starting our new minor seminary. We got the well-structured building that belongs to the diocese of Rayagada given by the Bishop with the written permission for three years.

Challenges & Perseverance

Mission work in Odisha has been a painful and tiresome work because of the prevalent conditions and situations and less resources to support us as we also live with the fear of persecution, resistance, and difficulties, yet faith has continued to grow. A verse that strengthens us in such times is Romans 8:35, 37:

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution...? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

As the mission in Odisha continues to grow, all dehonians are requested to:
Pray for the spread of the Gospel and protection of dehonian missionaries in Odisha.
Support mission efforts through giving and participation.
Join us with open heart and mind as witnesses of Christ in our community.

Fr. Sabon Kumar Nayak SCJ





Innovative Initiatives & Intuitive Insights at the Infant Jesus Church

All things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose". (Romans 8:28).

Dear brothers in Christ! It is a complete privilege for me to share with you my Pastoral ministry experience at Thallacheruvu parish in Infant Jesus Church.

Thallacheruvu is a Diocesan Parish that falls under the Guntur Diocese. It is a beautiful and big Catholic village, located among the mountains, ponds and the green fields. It is said to be the 3rd biggest catholic parish in both the Telugu states. This is an almost Complete Catholic village having about 1500 catholic families. This is one of the traditional parishes and this year we are celebrating the Diamond (75th) Jubilee of our parish.

On the feast day of St. John Maria Vianney, I started my Pastoral ministry and it was the first time for me to meet the Parish priest, Rev. Fr. Dr. Anthony Raju Putti. Gradually I understood that he is one of the nicest priests I met in my life. He has a heart for the people. The way he engages himself with the people I feel that I am working with a religious priest. He is prayerful, hardworking and enthusiastic. He gives me a lot of opportunities to administer the Sacraments and he also encourages me to start weekly masses at our substations like Cherukum Palem, Thaduvay, Kogantivari Palem and Atchampeta (recently started) other than the regular Sunday masses.

I came over here with a lot of prejudices and preoccupations because everyone was new to me but I surrendered everything in the hands of God and I believed that, this is the plan of God I began my ministry. The first day was shocking because I had to celebrate the first Sunday mass at 4 o'clock in the morning. I felt like, I was celebrating midnight mass; I was never used to it but now I got more used to it. I am the first SCJ (Dehonian) priest to work in this parish as an assistant priest.

People are very faithful (regular to the Church and to the reception of the Sacraments); this is one of the rarest parishes that the people give more importance to the Sacraments rather than hearing the long sermons. People are very good, simple, hospitable and caring. People respect priests very much, they value priests. Punctuality is maintained for all the spiritual activities.

I am regular in celebrating the daily masses, visiting and giving communion to the Sick, and I take part in the Legion of Mary group meetings. We also have a beautiful Adoration Chapel where I can spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament, from where I receive the strength to engage myself fully in the ministry.

As part of the Jubilee year celebrations, we are also renovating the parish Church; We are also constructing a new Church in one of the Substations (Thaduvay); at times I also engage myself to look after the construction work. It is also good experience for me to witness and learn about the constructions. Of course the parish also has few challenges but it helps me to learn from the challenges. I learned to handle the situation prudently with the help of the Lord. It is also a great opportunity for me to make people know about our Congregation and Dehonian Charism. I feel that this has been a complete privilege for me to work in this parish. Thanks to the Indian District Administration, Fr. Michael Augustine SCJ (Superior) and his council for trusting me and giving me this opportunity. Continue to remember me in your valuable prayers and be assured of my prayers.

Fr. Syam Kumar SCJ



Reflective Renewal Retreat with Fr. Vien SCJ

Before entering into the season of Grace (Lent), we all could make a Dehonian Spiritual Journey. It was a blessing for me to make a spiritual Dehonian journey with the Lord. Annual Retreat February 2025 guided by a Dehonian Priest namely Rev. Fr. Vien SCJ, the US Provincial Superior. I could see a lot of Dehonian inputs being given during the sessions. Fr. Vien SCJ was talking about Oblation, Reparation, Ecce Venio, Ecce Ancila, Reign of God, Synodality and That they may be One etc. With these core values of our Congregation, we were all journeying during the four days of our Annual Retreat.

I felt that those days of retreat helped me to become more Dehonian and it energized me as well. Fr. Vien's approach was so kind and gentle. He was so down to the earth with his talks and actions. He brought out important themes of our congregation and connected them with Dehonian lives. He communicated well the message in the sessions and gave his time even personally to our confreres to understand Dehonian values. Christu Dehon Nivas (CDN) gave very good ambience for all the confreres to have a fruitful retreat. CDN was so hospitable in arranging well and providing the best for the smooth running of the retreat.

Fr. Asit Lima SCJ



Committed to Community and Contributing to the spread of Spirituality

Being the pastoral community, we engage ourselves in pastoral ministries as well as our community living. Month of February, we had good time to build up our community spirit. We extended our helping hands to some parishes in celebrating Eucharist, administering the sacrament of reconciliation, distribution of communion, anointing of the sick and visiting of the sick and the aged.

In this month, Fr. Mcqueen had extended his Spiritual help through online by celebration of the Holy Mass; Fr. Wency engaged himself in giving recollections, counselling and Fr. Prem was helping in celebrating Holy Eucharist, communion distribution and anointing of the sick. At the end of the month, we also participated in our Annual Retreat in order to nourish and refresh our spiritual life. We as a community extend our gratitude to Fr. District superior and council for arranging such a wonderful Dehonian Retreat animated by Fr. Vien SCJ the US Provincial Superior.

Fr. Prem Kumar SCJ



