

Cooperation in his work of Redemption: perhaps the most original contribution that Father Dehon made to the life of the church was his demonstration of the unavoidable bond that exists between the devotion to the Sacred Heart and the ministry of social justice, but, of course, his action on behalf of social justice always remained grounded in personal union with Christ and a heart-felt exchange of love for love.

In short, reparation is not a viewed or described as a theological category whose elements or aspects can be analyzed. Rather, it is a vital movement, a restorative experience. It is completely “experiential” and relating to experience: welcome, response, communion, cooperation.

- The Apostolic thrust of Devotion to the Sacred Heart.

Father Dehon wrote: “It is necessary that the veneration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which began in the mystical life of souls, come down and enter into social life of the world’s people”. For Father Dehon human beings have a personal dignity, not derived from the State or Society, not depend on the accomplishments of Head and Hand. It is a personal freedom and the right to share in the goods of society, right to work and just compensation, freedom to worship and practice their religion. This dignity transcends the claims of any total system and relativizes the absolute priorities of either socialism or capitalism.

The human heart is not just a pump in a machine; it is the privileged place of encounter with God, the place where we are most truly ourselves and the place where God most powerfully reveals his self. Society cannot be changed for the better by impersonal systems. Individuals need to be inspired and transformed by the

love of God, then on that basis society can be structured to provide the domestic and civil means that are necessary if they are to attain in the fullness of their humanity. This is what Father Dehon meant by “The Reign of the Heart of Jesus in Souls and in Societies.”

Jesus Baena



## *I praise you, Lord of my life*

*I thank you, source of my strength  
I love you, you are my God  
I give you, all that I have.*

*You are the Way, the truth and life  
You are my light, you show me the path*

*You are my friend, who died for me  
You are my God, who rose again.*

*When I was a child, you held my hand*

*When I grew up, you taught me to love*

*When I pray, you listen to me  
When I cry, you answer me.*

*You are good shepherd, who searched for me*

*You are my savior, who saved me  
You are the water and, bread from heaven*

*You quench my thirst, and spiritual hunger.*

Br. T.J. Kishore Babu SCJ



# Scj Formation Houses This Year



**Students of Dehon Bhavan  
Kumbalanghy, Ernakulam**



**Students of Dehon Prema Nilayam,  
Gorantla, Guntur**

*Sint Unum*



**Students of Dehon Vidya Sadan,  
Aluva, Ernakulam**

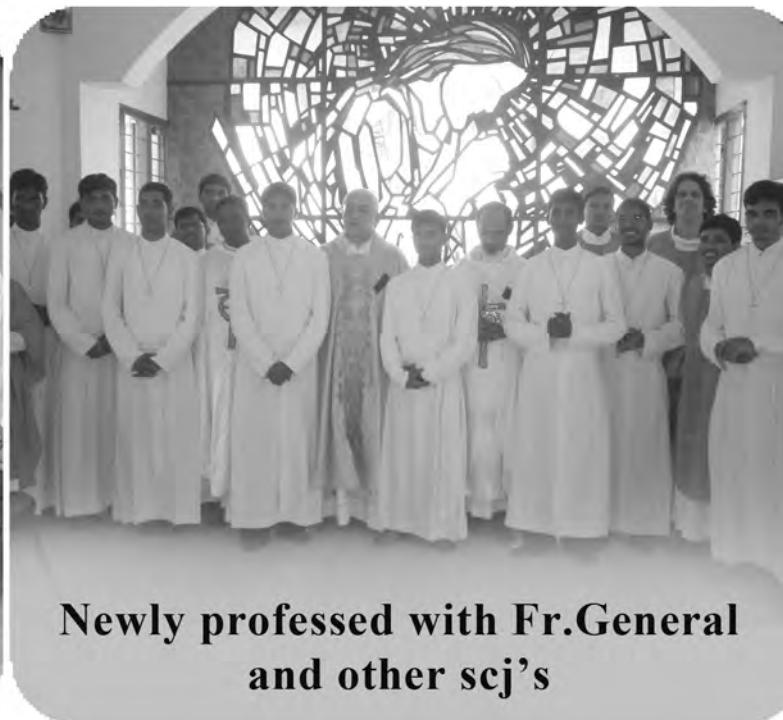
*Ecce Venio*



**Postulants**



**Novices**



**Newly professed with Fr.General  
and other scj's**



**Theology students along with  
other temporary professed brothers**

*Ecce Ancilla*





# INTERVIEW

*WITH FR. SHOWREDDY*

*BY FR. VIMAL*

*Neil Armstrong was the first man to land on the moon that America can be proud of, so does the Indian District has someone to be proud of namely Fr. Showreddy our first Indian Priest from our District to be sent for the international mission to the country called Philippines, when asked about something of his life, service, and mission in the foreign land, he gladly accepted our invitation to share. Here we present you some of the extracts of how our friendly chat unfolded.....*

***1. Fr. Show (as he is fondly called), how long have you been in the Philippines and how does the life sound in a foreign land?***

Well, it has been already four and half years that I have been in the Philippines. It has become my second home apart from India; my life here has been so graceful because of the hospitality of the People. I find myself in one of the Islands belonging to the region of Mindanao. People here are very friendly and simple in nature, though economically a little backward. Fishing and cultivation are the two major occupations of this place. The island above mentioned becomes

a notorious land especially for the abduction of foreigners whenever a communal violence arises.

***2. How did you make up your mind to embark on the international mission to the country called Philippines?***

India gave me the vocation to become a priest; Philippines gave me a vocation to become a missionary. It was like a love at first sight; my maiden visit to the Philippines in 2008 changed and designed my entire life. I was deeply attracted by the lives of the missionaries from different provinces, their dedication for the

mission, sacrifice, courage, and exemplary life, be it in our SCJ parishes or formation houses, I sensed the fragrance of internationality, and I badly wanted to be a part of it. My decision to go to the Philippines largely depended on the generosity of the Filipino region because they welcomed me with open hands to be a missionary.

### **3. Could you tell us something of your field of work, and how do you find it going?**

I am assigned as a parish priest in one of our SCJ Parishes, namely San Isidro Labrador, in Kumalarang. There is also another scj priest Fr. Marlo working along with me. Our parish has 23 substations, and we give so much care for the formation of the people, I feel a parish is nothing but a seminary for the formation of the common people, we reinforce it by our family visits, monthly meetings with the Eucharistic Ministers and with different groups, by administering the sacraments on various occasions, conducting monthly seminar for the youth, and by giving financial help for the sick and the poor.

### **4. How do you see the community life though living in a parish?**

I would like to quote here what our Founder says about the community life, he says that our first mission is the community life. The daily community prayer, the Holy Mass and the Eucharistic Adoration are the pillars of our community life. This I believe is applicable to all the SCJs regardless of where one is assigned whether in a parish or in a formation field. Our community consists of three members, namely two priests and a deacon. Though we carry out different ministries we do not do them as individuals but it is the community which does the ministry. We have also a booklet which serves as a guideline for our community life. Though I am assigned as a parish priest we share the responsibilities equally; I believe it is where one can find the beauty of community life.

### **5. How do you experience the uniqueness of our congregation and what do you appreciate as being an SCJ?**

I left my country and living in another country, but I never felt as if I am living in an island or in a strange land. I experience the fragrance of unity, hospitality of our conferrers, above all the communitarian life under one roof. Every month we travel from our parish to other scj communities for spending the time in meeting, sharing and discussions, it is a fun filled, joyful time but moreover an opportunity to feel over and again what it means to be an SCJ and a dehonian. I must salute in particular all our elderly scj fathers and brothers for the way they receive the younger ones without any prejudice, or hatred, so warm, so friendly and so brotherly is their approach which I think is the uniqueness of our congregation.

### **6. Would you tell us about the origin of our presence in the Philippines and where it has been to this day?**

The arrival of missionaries from Poland, Argentina and Indonesia in 1989 marked our presence in the Filipino soil, from being 8 in number as pioneers, and having given three parishes at their hand, the Filipino regions grew gradually as a district through the course of time. Today it has grown by and large by having 12 local Filipino priests, 4 deacons and a good number of students in all different stages of formation.

### **7. Would you share with us how you celebrated as a region our presence in Philippines for the past 25 years?**

I was really happy indeed to be part of this Mega and Gala event of the Region. The celebrations were not limited to one day but went extensively with series of events like final vows, Feasts of the Parishes, and Diaconate ordination and so on. The presence of Conferrers from different entities like Indonesia, Vietnam, Poland, USA,



England and Italy made the event so graceful, colorful and memorable for everyone.

**8. Could you tell us what are the challenges we face as SCJs in the Philippines?**

Our Filipino region is day by day a growing region. The growing number of our Region makes us to look for more and creative ministries. Secondly, the greatest challenge I would say for us as SCJs is to do the ministries as a Filipino and to live as a dehonian in the community no matter from which country I come from. Thirdly, the challenge is to prepare our members to be part of the international mission of the congregation.

**9. What are your expectations and suggestions to the District of India?**

All I would say to the Indian District is to keep growing and keep going, as Fr. Dehon says that he has left the most precious heart of Christ for us, so also the missionaries who came to India have left us with their great example of service, mission and dedication. I hope the New Indian District Administration too builds up on the same foundation by finding new ways of being present in India and contributing itself for the growth and mission of our Congregation. Finally, I would encourage all the members to be more transparent and communicative and to grow as a District, in order that we may give witness to the love of Christ that impels all of us to be of one community and one family in him. I promise my prayers to each member of the Indian District...





# A TO Z OF HEART

“When questioned; it is just a part  
When plotted; it is very smart  
When decided; it is a thwart  
That is an art, of a heart”.

A Heart of Attention- Jesus was very attentive to the needs of the people and said, “What do you want me to do” [Mk.10:51]

A Heart of Beatitudes- Jesus said and lived the beatitudes [Mt. 5: 1-12]

A Heart of Compassion- Jesus felt compassion “For they were like sheep without shepherd” [Mk.6:34]

A Heart of Devotion- Jesus is a devotee of prayer and work “Jesus went into desert to pray” [Mk.1:35]

A Heart of Enthusiasm- “Jesus rejoiced in spirit and prayed” [Mt. 11: 25]



A Heart of Forgiveness- Jesus said "Forgive not seven times but seventy seven times" [Mt.18:22]

A Heart of Gratitude- Jesus prayed "I thank you Father for revealing such things to infants" [Mt. 11:25]

A Heart of Humility- Jesus, though He was in the form of God; He took the form of a slave" [Phi.2:6-11]

A Heart of Invitation- Jesus said to them "Come and See" [Jn.1:39]

A Heart of Joy- Jesus incarnated and brought Joy into the whole world [Mt.2:1-12]

A Heart of Kindness- Jesus was kind enough towards Zachaeus and said, "I must stay in your house today" [Lk.19:5]

A Heart of Love- Jesus gave a new commandment "Love one another just as I have loved you" [Jn.13:34]

A Heart of Mercy- Jesus said, "Be merciful just as your heavenly Father is merciful" [Lk.6:36]

A Heart of Non- violence- Jesus said, "If someone strikes you on one cheek, show him the other" [Mt.5:39]

A Heart of Obedience- "Jesus went with His parents and was obedient to them" [Lk.2:51]

A Heart of Perfection- Jesus said, "Be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect" [Mt. 5:48]

A Heart of Quietness- "Jesus was questioned by pilot and was quiet" [Jn.18:37-38]

A Heart of Resistance- Jesus resisted the temptations and said, "Away from me Satan" [Mt.4:10]

A Heart of Service- Jesus said, "I came to serve and not to be served" [Mk.10:45]

A Heart of Truthfulness- Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" [Jn.14:6]

A Heart of Unity- Jesus prayed, "That they may be one" [Jn.17:11]

A Heart of Valiance- Jesus called the Pharisees, "you, white washed tombs" [Mt.23:27]

A Heart of Will- Jesus said, "My food is to do the will of my Father" [Jn.4:34]

A Heart of Xtraordinary- Jesus prayed and cried out 'Lazarus, come out" [Jn.11:43]

A Heart of Yes- Jesus said, -"Let your word be 'yes, yes'" [Mt.5:37]

A Heart of Zeal- Jesus said "Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven" [Mt.5:12]

**"May the HEART of JESUS live; Through the HEART of MARY"**

Fr. Emmanuel Nanduri Scj.





# REMEMBERING FR. ADRIAN.....



*Indian scj's fondly remember Fr. Adrian Vander wilk who passed away on April 25, 2014, with love and gratitude, One of pioneers of Indian Mission. Here Fr. Martin Van Ooy, former District superior reminds us of who Fr. Adrian is for Indian mission.*

**Dear** Confreres,

We have many wonderful people in our congregation. In India I like to think of three SCJs with whom we were specially blessed: Fr. Tom Garvey, Br. Aloysius and Fr. Thomas Fix. They are the pillars of our Indian District.

And now I want to give some witness about our recently deceased Fr. Adrian van der Wilk, originally from the Dutch Province. He came to India at the age of 70 and stayed with us until he was 80 years old. Wonderful!

Who would expect of a priest, after a long and active pastoral life in the Dutch Province, could become one of the pillars of our young Indian District? Fr. Adrian was gifted in music but more importantly with a sense of religious life that was found in deed, not only in words.

From the beginning he showed his readiness to stay and help to establish our new presence in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. Even though he was in his 70s he never showed signs of fatigue or

weariness during the burning summer, even when the temperatures reached 45. He was strong, but his real strength was in the spirit of his positive attitude. He never complained and always had a smile for the students.

Fr. Adrian was a very relational person, and he was always ready to assist wherever he was needed. His presence was like a sunbeam. He was a tall man with blue eyes and had an athlete's demeanor. He made friends easily and was our greatest vocation promoter in Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Tamil Nadu. The Lord blessed those with who he was in contact with vocations. Almost all of our SCJs from Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu came to know about our congregation because of Fr. Adrian.

He always visited the bishops when he arrived in an area and became a friend to them as well. Fr. Adrian was gifted with a great wit and a great sense of humor which helped him well as he journeyed by train, overcrowded buses and even by walk.



Fr. Adrian took care of his health and nothing could prevent him from reaching the person he wanted to see, including bishops and parish priests. Seemingly no obstacle could prevent him.

More important than his physical health, Fr. Adrian took care of his spiritual and religious life. He rarely gave long conferences or sermons but was always inspiring with his short talks that opened the hearts of many young men. His personal example through his prayer life and his spirit of reading made him a rich spiritual person.

Fr Adrian liked to play cards and have time for recreation with the community. He didn't do "great" things but all of his small things were done with great love. This made him such a significant presence in the midst of our young students. Everybody loved him and even after he left India he was a guardian angel for our Indian fathers.

Fr Adrian had concern for the poor children. He helped them in many ways, for example, by building a shelter for orphans and finding study resources for the poorest children in the villages. His example as a shepherd can be an example and guide for our Indian confreres.

Dear Fr. Adrian, you were present among us with a golden heart. We thank the Lord for the gift of such a confrere in our young Indian District. Now you are our prayer presence in front of the Lord in Heaven, together with Tom, Thomas and Aloysius.

Thank you Fr. Adrian.

Fr Martin van Ooij scj

Indonesia







# Pastoral Experience

**Dear** readers! It gladdens our hearts to share with you all, about Our Parish, namely; Divine Mercy Church and our mission here. This parish is one of our long-awaited responses that we gladly received from the Diocese of Vasai, which can be rightly named, as the Outset of SCJ's Mission into the dream Zone of Northern part of India. On 1<sup>st</sup> of June-2012, we were entrusted with the keys of the Tabernacle of this parish by His Holiness Archbishop Felix Machado, the present Bishop of Vasai Diocese. We do believe that every action of this mission has to become a proof of being the light and the salt of this world (Mathew: 5:13-16)

## **The Roots of our Parish:**

It is the generous heart of a catholic man, namely, Mr. John Sanctis, who is originally from Mangalore (southern part of India), by seeing the situation of the catholic families here in Kalher, desperately searching for a place for their faith life, opened the door of one of his warehouses on an agreement for 20 years. Thus this warehouse got transformed into Divine Mercy Church, a cradle of 120 families' faith with more than 500 members, wherein we have been staying and doing our mission at present. This parish situates at Kalher, in Bhiwandi, which is one of the Talukas of Thane in Mumbai. We have already celebrated the 10th year of presence here as a parish.

Our parish is enriched with 120 families, who are originally and specifically from different states of India, like Kerala, Mangalore, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand. They have become part and parcel of the soil of Mumbai after a rooted stay here. Many of them are working here for daily labor; some are working in different factories, neighboring schools, selling food items, etc. we have got a mass center at Nayabesti, situates, approximately 13 km away from the parish. It has been blessed with 35 families, among whom, many are hailing from Tamilnadu, and most of them are daily-labors. Our mass center at Nayabesti is a small hall, used by us on rent.



## **Parish activities**

All our liturgical activities are done both in English and Hindi. The active participations of the parishners is clearly seen in different wings of the parish like; parish pastoral council, Parish Animation team, parish Youth, Legion of Mary, Vincent de paul Society, and, Sodality of our Lady. With the help of the parish liturgical team, we make our liturgy very systematic, creative, and colorful. There germinates always a positive attitude of participation of the liturgy, among the parishners, whenever required or asked. We do have the celebration of the Holy Eucharist every day, both in English and Hindi on alternative basis. People do come and join for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist every day, even from very far. Every member of the family makes his or her presence on every celebration of the parish. Every Friday, we do make space for confession for our faithful, during the adoration time. Every day we have the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 7.am, except on Friday (6.pm adoration, followed by 7.pm Holy Eucharist). On Sunday's we have got three mass, begins at 6.00. am, 7.am, and 9.00 am.

### **Sunday Catechism Class**

We are able to organize Sunday catechism class with the help of Fatima sisters, and some of our parishners, who volunteered to take class for the little ones. Parents are really happy and encouraging their children to be present for these classes on Sunday. Various occasions like parent's day, teacher's day, parish festivity, etc, pull the curtain of the stage for everyone, especially children to put-up their talents and skills.

### **BCC (Basic Christian Community) formation**

We can also proudly witness the emerging involvement of our parishners in BCC (Basic Christian Communities). The very year, in which we took charge of the parish, we started to give more emphasis on BCC, and visitation of the families, opened a good pace to the growth of the communities. Subsequently it has branched into nine communities; each community is composed of ten to twenty families. This was one of the ways, through which we could draw the faithful together, in order to work together for the building-up the church within their hearts. The amazing moment of the BCC, is seen from the participation of the little children joining and praying loudly like the elders, even though some of them are too young to understand, what they are really praying. And our leaders are always ready to bring the families together for this gathering. This has become one of the root factors of the unity of our parishners. This has

positively enabled them to organize the liturgy every week by each community.

## **Different formation programs of our parish**

### **Youth formation**

One of the main ministries of ours is to collect, organize and place our youths on the right place in the parish. They are really vivacious and enthusiastic in doing the things in the parish and for the parish. They have become the open book of inspiration to the young ones in the parish. They always make the liturgy lively with their talents of singing and playing the instruments . On every first Sunday of the month, they have an hour of adoration, sharing, and confession. On every third Sunday of the month, they come together, in order to plan-out and put forth suggestions, and organize the events of the months along with us.

### **On-going formation for the adult Baptized**

The touch of God's love impelled many to receive baptism in recent years in our parish. But within a few months, they began to fail to live-up and bring-up in their faith that gradually made them to slip away from their faith. Realizing this hidden web of danger, we decided to have an on-going formation for them, in order to refresh their faith life, with guided seminars, and prayer sessions, by the experts, especially priests. All these have become sources of energy for everyone, to revive their faith life. We too feel that they have begun listening to the voice of their shepherd (John: 10: 3-4)

### **SCJ's Spirituality**

With our presence of being here in this parish of Divine Mercy, we try to bring our faithful closer to the broken, selfless and the loving Heart of Jesus, our saviour , that really gives rise to the waves of faith, love and reconciliation in the lives of everyone.

### **Reminder**

We ask all those who are journeying with us through the lines of this sharing, please do pray for us, especially for the intention of having a permanent place of worship and a cemetery of our own here for our faithful, for which we have been jointly striving with our parishners for years. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus bless you and your family. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven"- (Matthew: 5:16).

Fr. Abraham Lazar SCJ







By

Br.T.J.Kishore Babu.M, SCJ

We are priests of the Sacred Heart  
We gather together: to share  
The love of Jesus  
Poor, chaste and obedient

We belong to the SCJs  
Our home away from home  
Where we learn to love, give and live  
In the word and deed of the Sacred Heart

We raise our hearts in praise  
For he loved us first: and saved  
All humanity  
To love, in turn and sacrifice



## Fr. Leo John Dehon... “Daily Diary”, 27 August 1886 – resolution after the retreat

*“My resolution is to live and to die as a true victim of the Heart of Jesus. To do this I will maintain complete abandonment of my entire self to the Heart of Jesus. I will have a filial confidence in him, giving myself over to his will and his good pleasure in all things. I will do everything by love, in the spirit of reparation. I renounce every disordered or purely natural affection. I will apply myself to directing the Congregation of the Sacred Heart towards its goal and in the spirit which is proper to it.”*

