



# COUNCIL CORNER #05

Southern Province of St. Augustine

ISSUE # 5

OCTOBER 2020

## From the Desk of the Provincial

In our meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September the Provincial Council reviewed and discussed a number of items that have consequences for our province, I ask you to pay close attention to them, namely:

- ◆ Finalizing transfers that were pending
- ◆ Important dates for your calendars
- ◆ Home leave and international travel
- ◆ Finances & letter from the Generalate

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### Transfers

*From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020*

Fr. Joseph Sai Tran: Pastor St. Joseph, Maurice & Vietnamese Ministry LA

Fr. Stanly Jawa: Pastor Holy Family Lawtell & St. Ann, Mallet LA

Fr. Arockiam Arockiam: Pastor St. Paul the Apostle, Baton Rouge, LA

Fr. Charles Ndumbi: St. Paul the Apostle, New Orleans, LA

Fr. Mike Sucharski: Pastor St Lawrence, Mowata, Eunice LA

Fr. Aubespain Borgia: In Residence St. Augustine's, Bay St. Louis, MS

Fr. Clifton Labbe: In Residence Rectory-Maurice LA as Liaison Immigration Attorney

## **Retreat & Provincial Assembly**

Please reserve the following dates in your calendar and avoid any travel during these dates:

Provincial RETREAT - **May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021a**

Provincial ASSEMBLY - **January 10<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> 2022**

Since we have not been able to get-together as a Province during 2020, let's make every effort to do so for the dates mentioned above as we hope and pray that the environmental conditions will be favorable.

## **Home Leave and International Travel**

The Council debated international travel and home leave, our major concern is for the health of each of you individually and for the immigration status of non US citizens:

- ◆ International travel in the province is under restriction except for emergencies until further notice. This follows guidelines and recommendations from Rome and CDC.
- ◆ 'Request Form' for travel must be used for home leave including pilgrimages
- ◆ Application must be made at least three months in advance to the Provincial Council
- ◆ Any permissions given for previous dates have been revoked and you must apply again
- ◆ Be aware, the virus is due to get much worse during the winter period, also be aware that if you are not a citizen of the USA you may not be granted entrance upon return due to Covid-19.

## **Finances and letter from the Generalate**

Fr. General has written recently written two letters regarding matters of finance that need urgent attention:

As we all are aware the Covid-19 global pandemic has severely affected our life and mission and has left an extensive impact on our fundraising efforts in the province as worldwide. All our ministries, apostolates, educational institutions, etc. are required to reduce the activities to the minimum or suspend them for the time being.

The main sources of funding for our province and for St. Augustine's at the Bay are at a minimum, including any income from the Retreat Centre or Mission Appeals.

The Generalate will for now only attend emergency projects in their March and September distributions. I quote from Fr. General's letter:

*"It is important that at this time of financial crunch, in a spirit of evangelical poverty, we cut down our expenses and explore ways and means to enhance our income so as to promote simplicity, solidarity and self-reliance (ref: Documents of the 18<sup>th</sup> General Chapter SVD 2018, Nos. 34, 35). Each Province must ensure that each confrere submits all his personal earnings such as salaries, remunerations, honoraria, gifts, donations, etc. to the Province and there is a mechanism by which his legitimate personal sustenance needs are taken care of (ref: Cons. 213.2-4; HfS, E2, 3.2.1-5).*

*At this point, I would like to also remind you that in adherence to our Constitutions, engaging in private/personal business enterprises or employing unjust and improper methods in the acquisition or use of goods (Cons. 209.2 and 212.8f) by any confrere should be sternly dealt with".*

Brothers: Consequently, the Provincial Council invites and encourages each member in parish ministry receiving a stipend as of this month to:

- ◆ voluntary donate at least \$100 monthly to the provincial treasury to help substitute the lack of income due to the emergency!
- ◆ in the words of Fr. General: that we as members of the province refrain from any unjust or improper methods in the acquisition or use of goods or money.

We are in a privileged position and we want for nothing unlike others, we appeal to your spirit of solidarity and brotherhood to be generous, so that our province become more self-reliant, financially stable and a living witness of our vow of poverty and transparency.

We hope to increase a spirit of support of our province and common ministry against any temptation one may have to focus on our personal needs over and above those who are much worse off.

### Meeting with District Superiors and Praeses

On Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2020, the local superiors will meet with the Provincial and some members of the Council at the Bay. Thus begins the process of discernment with a series of sessions in each district that will in turn prepare for the Provincial Assembly in January 2022.

Fr. Mark Weber, svd from the Chicago Province will be our facilitator at the assembly and will also guide the process together with the Provincial in the meantime. The Provincial Council with the Local Superiors will serve as the steering committee.

After our meeting, each local superior will meet with his respective district/community to begin the process locally. There will be approximately 4 sessions dedicated to the objective of coming up with directives for the future of the the Province as we celebrate 100 years since our humble beginnings here in the south.

### A Little Piece of Spirituality

The Feast of the *Most Holy Trinity* is to be the highest feast of our Society, and in it to worship and adore the Eternal Word and the Holy Spirit together with God the Father.

In the rule of 1891 of our Society Fr. Arnold had it that each day of the week be dedicated to the Divine Persons of the Trinity and other special devotions, this also can be found in the German SVD Vademecum of 1899:

- ◆ Sunday – Prayers to the Blessed Trinity
- ◆ Monday – Prayers to the Holy Spirit & to the Angels
- ◆ Tuesday – Prayers to the Name of Jesus & the holy family (*Joachim, Anne & Mary*)
- ◆ Wednesday – Prayers to St. Joseph
- ◆ Thursday – Prayers to the Divine Son in the Blessed Sacrament
- ◆ Friday – Prayers to the Heavenly Father & Prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus & for the poor souls in purgatory
- ◆ Saturday – Prayers to the Holy Mother of God & all the Saints, especially to our patrons.

## Nemi Courses

Please see list for the Nemi courses, applicants must present their intention by the end of this year to secure a place.

### TERTIATE RENEWAL COURSES ( AGE 40 TO AGE 60)

**ENGLISH**      April 13 - July 10, 2021      Deadline: December 12, 2020

**SPANISH/  
PORTUGUESE**      August 17– November 23, 2021      Deadline: April 17, 2021

**ENGLISH**      May 2 - August 18, 2022      Deadline: January 2, 2022

**ENGLISH**      July 21– September 3, 2022      Deadline: March 20, 2022

**( AGE 65 + )**

All applications for the courses should be sent directly to Fr. Kulandaisamy (Samy, SVD @nemi.coursedirector@gmail.com

# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Fr. Tarsisius A. Puling
2	Fr. Michael Long Vu
5	Fr. Clifton Labbe
8	Very Rev. Michael Somers ( Provincial )
8	Fr. Darryl Kelly
10	Fr. Borgia Aubespin
13	Brother James Heeb
14	Fr. Paul Kahan
15	Fr. Joseph Dang
20	Fr. Joseph Dao Vu
21	Fr. Emanuel R. Tanu
22	Fr. Eric Groner





## DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

13	Fr. Frank Charles
16	Fr. Elmer Powell
27	Fr. Donald Murrin



### **Next Provincial Council Meeting:**

October 21st at the Bay