

# SOUTH-EAST INDIA PROVINCE

## Presence of our Fathers in Italy, Austria, Germany and England

### Mission in Italy

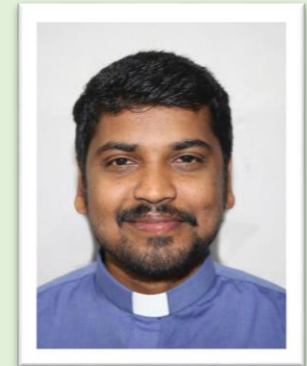
#### **Fr. A. Jeyaseela Rajan**

From July 2019, Fr. Jayaseela Rajan is appointed as the administrator of the parish of St. Michele Archangel at San Michele di Ganzaria. Since then, a lot of effort is taken to bring the children for catechism and to the church. Recently Fr. Jayaseela Rajan has formed a youth-group and a group of families for the evangelization in the entire parish. They are very appreciative and cooperative of our mission endeavors. This parish has a population of 3,500 with four churches in different parts of the parish.



#### **Fr. Packia Sathish Kumar**

Fr Sathish is rendering pastoral service as the Assistant Parish Priest in the Church of the Nativity of Maria, Ramacca, since 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022. The city Ramacca contains more than 10,000 residents, who are brought under two parishes. The city is known for its cultivation of olive, wheat and oranges. The parish is rich with parochial activities. There are several active pious groups like Association of St. Joseph, Association of St. Lucy, Association of Holy Family, Confraternity of Sacred Heart of Jesus, etc.



#### **Fr. A. Jayaraj and Fr. D. Britto**

Both of them were working in Our Lady of Grace Church at Castel di Iudica. People are very happy to receive the young missionaries in their houses for blessings and spiritual nourishments. Castel di Iudica has a population of 3000 with three Churches and various pious associations and group activities. The parish has a newly constructed rectory. The people are happy and cooperative in the development of the parish.



Fr. Jeyaraj, after having completed his licentiate in Moral Theology at St. Paul's School of Theology,



Catania, has now begun his PhD in Social Moral Theology at Pontifical Alphonsian Academy. Fr. D. Britto continues to render his service in Castel di Iudica.

### **Frs. S. Johnson and S. Ashir Johnson at MSFS Community in Turin**



Our Turin mission is the initiative of our Superior General Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil. He himself accompanied the pioneers **Frs. S. Johnson and S. Ashir Johnson**, to the parish of St. Joseph Benedict Cottolengo on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 for a short experience. The Solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Rev. Fr. Ugo Pozzoli, the diocesan Vicar General for consecrated

life. On 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 we were assigned with two parishes namely St. Mauritius the Martyr and Holy Name of Mary. Fr. S. Johnson is the parish priest and Fr. Ashir Johnson is the assistant parish priest. The Church of St Mauritius the Martyr has its origin in 16<sup>th</sup> century. The construction of the monumental bell tower began in 1764 and finished approximately 15 years later. Still



stands with its 58 meters height, and is one of the tallest towers in the Canavese area. The parish has eighty thousand inhabitants. The parish of Holy Name of Mary has twenty thousand inhabitants.



**Fr. S. Arockiam** is serving the pastoral mission at Silandro which is an undertaking of the Generalate. Fr. Arockiam has completed two years of service in MSFS community at Silandro, where Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam is the parish priest and dean.

### **Student Priests**



Name: **Fr. V. Berdinand Sahaya Selvan**

University: Pontifical University of Urbaniana, Rome

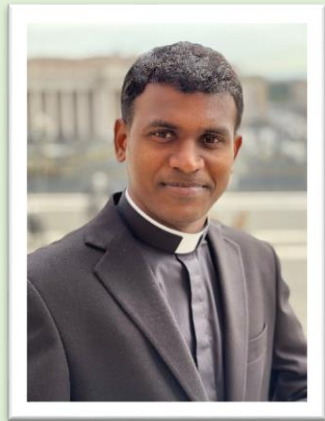
Studies: Doctorate in Canon Law (February 2022- ) & Jurisprudence (October 2023 - June 2024)



Name: **A. William MSFS**

University: Pontifical Lateran University, Rome

Studies: Doctorate in Canon Law

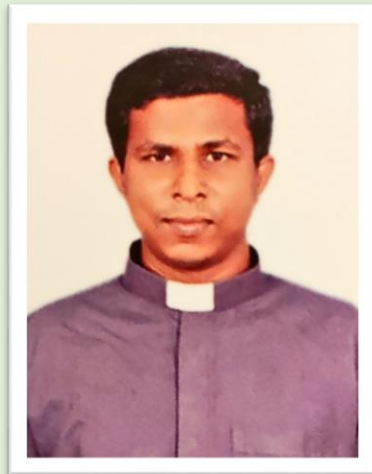


Name: **Fr. S. Arockiadoss**

University: Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome

Studies: Licentiate in Philosophy (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)

My sincere thanks to Rev. Fr. Jose Cheriyanthara for the spiritual and community animation rendered to our Fathers in Rome.



Name: **Fr. M. Joseph Anish Kumar**, Paris, France.

University: Centre Sèvres (a Jesuit Faculty) at Paris

Studies: Masters in Theology (2<sup>nd</sup> year)

Fr. Anish is staying in the community of Lazaristes (CM Fathers) at Paris and is attached to the Proupeine Community of France-Suisse Province.

I sincerely thank Rev. Fr. Jean-Yves LE TUE, the Provincial of France-Suisse Province and his curia for their kind gesture and offering all possible support to Fr. Anish Kumar.

## Mission in Austria

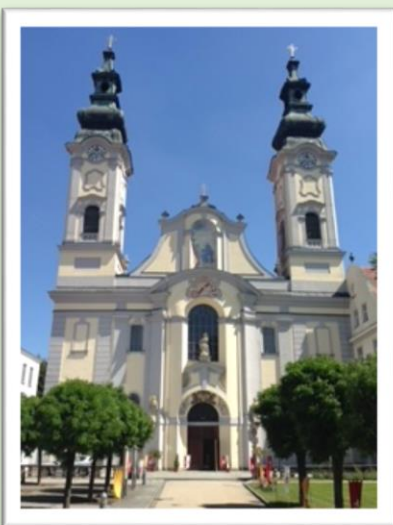
### Fr. Deivasahayam, Fr. Rayappan and Fr. Prem Kumar in MSFS Community at Oberpullendorf



There are three confreres, namely, Fr. Deivasahayam, Fr. Rayappan and Fr. Prem Kumar living in an established local community at Oberpullendorf in the diocese of Eisenstadt, Austria. Oberpullendorf is the district headquarters of the central Burgenland, one of the federal states of Austria. We render our pastoral service to a cluster of parishes at Oberpullendorf. It consists of 4 independent parishes and a substation: Oberpullendorf, Mitterpullendorf, Stoob, Steinberg and Dörfel. In addition to these, we also render spiritual

service in the hospital.

The house where our Fathers are living was a monastery of the Redemptorists (C.S.S.R). We render our services by way of celebrating all the sacraments, visiting the houses, caring for the sick and the elderly people and attending to the emergency calls from the hospital and home for the aged. The bishop and his administration, during the canonical visitation expressed their happiness over our service and appreciated the hard work. The people of the locality have given positive feedback about our presence here in the parish. Decrease in the number of regular participants in the church activities is a major challenge of the Church here. Usage of various dialects and migration are some of the other challenges.



## Mission in Germany

1Fr. A. Joseph Amalraj is working as an Assistant-priest in the Parish of Fürstzell in the diocese of Passau, Germany. The Parish association consists of four Parishes and one Sub-station, namely Fürstzell, Bad Höhenstadt, Jägerwirth, Engertsham and Rehschaln. There are about 6450 Catholics in this parish. Main activities of the priests are: Preparing the First communion Children, Spiritual help to the senior citizens, visiting and communion to the sick and elderly, emergency on-call service, pastoral care of the parishioners etc.

**Fr. S Joseph Sebastian** is the Assistant-priest in Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit) parish at Bad Füssing in the diocese of Passau. Bad Füssing is a historical place in Bayern. It's known for natural Thermal therapy and attracts more Tourists for their Thermal physical treatment in and around Europe. The Heilig Geist Parish is 52 years old. It is considered to be, one of the Most Modern Churches in the region. It has 5 substations with a pilgrimage Church at Aigen am Inn (St. Leonhard). It is more than 900 years old. This Parish has a German priest (PP), two Indian assistant priests, a Deacon and a woman spiritual care-taker. They render pastoral care to around 5600 Catholics in this parish.



**Fr. G. Visuvasam** serves as an assistant parish priest in Wurmansquick in Passau diocese. He and his parish priest, Rev.Fr. Joseph Oliparambil are looking after 5 parishes, 5 sub-stations, 12 Churches and 4,850 Parishioners. Baptism, marriage, confirmation, anointing of sick and confession are administered regularly. The ministry in Wurmansquick is enriching and satisfying. Fr. Joseph and Fr. Visuvasam work together happily and support each other in their pastoral ministry.

**Fr. David Gabriel** is working in the Assumption of Mary Parish in the diocese of Passau. There are five parishes to be taken care of. The pastoral need is vast. Besides these 5 parishes, Fr. David and his Parish Priest are taking care of spiritual needs of two Old-age Homes, one Rehabilitation center and a Day-care center for the elderly people. Both of them meet the pastoral needs of the Faithful and are kept busy in conducting funerals and other Sacraments, and organizing different groups in the Parish.



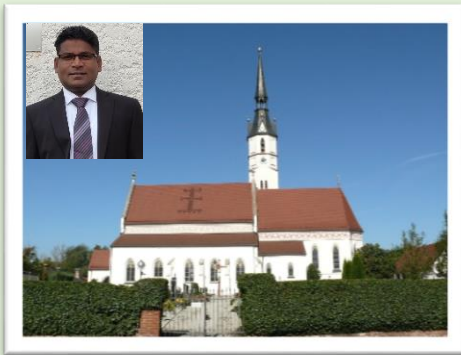
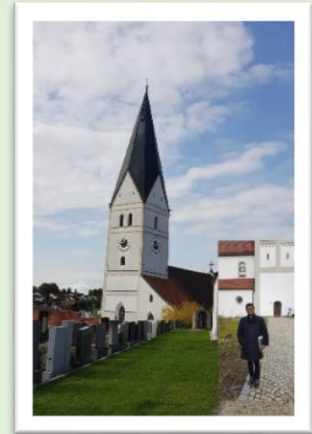
**Fr. Anto Legin Rex** is working in St. George's Parish, Winzer in the diocese of Passau since September 2019. This parish has three more associate parishes namely Nesselbach, Iggenbach and Schoellstein. For the first 15 months, he lived in Winzer and since December 2020 he is living in the parish house in Iggenbach. In the weekend, one mass is offered in every parish. Apart from administering the



sacraments, Fr. Rex is responsible for the Old-Age group and Catholic Women Association in Iggenbach.

**Fr. Martin Anand** is working in the Diocese of Passau, Germany. Since last year, he offers his service in the parish of Grainet. Along with his parish priest, he looks after two other parishes, namely Hinterschmiding and Herzogsreut. Fr. Martin is also rendering his pastoral services partially in other needy parishes in the Vicariate.

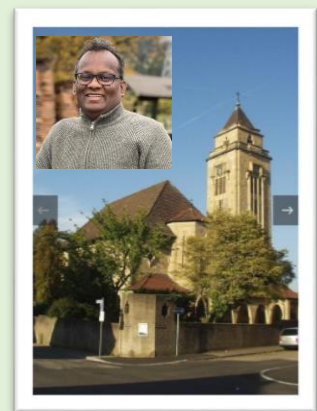
**Fr. Victor** is working in Furth bei Landshut in the diocese of Regensburg. This Parish consists of four Parishes namely Schatzhofen, Obersüßbach, Unterneuhausen und Weihmichl. People come in good numbers to the Church and take part actively. Together with his Parish Priest, Fr. Victor take care of the Pastoral needs of the Parish such as Masses, Funerals, Baptisms and Marriages etc.



**Fr. P.S. Joseph** is appointed as the Parish Priest of Marklkofen-Steinberg-Poxau in the diocese of Regensburg in North Bavaria from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023. These three parishes have also a few more substations. The catholic population is around 3000. All the parishes have their own parish council and finance council, besides several pious associations which are active and helpful to the parish and Parish Priest. Ministry here is also very

challenging. The process of fusion of parishes in the Diocese of Regensburg is very fast, whereby priests have a lot of challenges with regard to time management.

**Fr. S. Antony** is in a parish called “Sacred Heart of Jesus” in Mühlacker since July 2023. The Parish Mühlacker is in the diocese of Rottenburg- Stuttgart. It consists of 2 main parishes and 3 substations. It is also Vicariate Center. There are around 7000 Catholic. There is enough pastoral work for the priests here. The parish has a lot of non-German people, which makes the ministry colourful but challenging.



**Fr. A. Selvamani** stands (in the photo) in front of Dillingen Saar Dom, i.e., the Cathedral in Dillingen, in the Diocese of Trier. It is one of the oldest

churches in Saarland. I am here since October 2023. This is a small town with 5 Churches - 4 in each corner and Saar Dom in the city center. The Catholics are ca. 7000 and other denominations also are present but in small number. There are two other priests serving here: one is Vicar Forane, and the other is an elderly priest.



**Fr. Rajkumar** is at present rendering pastoral service in the parish of St. Vitus in Olfen in the diocese of Münster since February 2016. In comparison to the previous parish Rheine, the present parish is a relatively small parish with about 6000 Catholics with altogether two churches. It is a very lively parish with several groups and associations that function very well and make our parish life very vibrant. Besides administering sacraments and exercising the duties and responsibilities as a priest, he is also working closely with mass servers in the parish, helping them in faith and liturgy.

**Fr. David Vincent** is working in St. Ludger Cathedral, which is a Roman Catholic pilgrimage neo-Gothic Church located in the city of Billerbeck in the diocese of Münster. He serves this parish since April 13, 2019. The parish has a total population of 12,000. In addition to the regular pastoral ministries within the parish, he is also responsible for guiding 121 mass servers in the parish



**Fr. Edward Xavier** is working in the big parish of Amöneburger Land since 2020. It's the place where St. Boniface started his missionary journey in 721 AD. There are 4 priests looking after the pastoral needs of 13 Churches. Fr. Edward Xavier is mainly involved in administering the Sacraments and conducting funerals. Besides it, he is also visiting the sick and wishing the people who celebrate round Birthdays.

**Fr. Simon Raja** is in the parish of Fritzlar in the diocese of Fulda since July, 2023. This parish has a catholic population of around 5,500, spread over 20 villages. Like St. Francis Xavier brought the good news to India, so also St. Boniface brought the Christian faith to Germany in



the beginning of 8<sup>th</sup> century. He carried out evangelisation with the help of St. Wigbert and St. Sturmian exactly in this parish area with more success. The tomb of St. Wigbert is in the Church of Fritzlar. Beside the regular celebrations of Mass in the parish and in four old age homes, he is also responsible for mass servers.

**Fr. B. Francis Xavier**, since August 2018, is appointed as one of the three co-pastors in the parish of St. Maria Magdalena, Hünfelder Land. . As the German Catholic Church is currently undergoing a drastic restructuring process, three neighboring main parishes with their 14 sub-parishes were merged with it. As such, since 2023, the new constellation with 18 sub-parishes is called the parish of St.



Mary Magdalene Hünfelder Land. Factors such as, a huge number of non-believers, recent scandals in the church, and indifferent attitude of people towards religious activities have led to a sharp decline in the number of church goers. In addition to the routine preparations and celebrations of the holy sacraments, Fr. Francis Xavier is responsible for the altar boys and girls, First Holy Communion and Confirmation as well as animating the senior citizens' groups.



**Fr. Aloysius** is serving as Co-Pastor in St. Martin's Parish, Bad Orb in the diocese of Fulda, since January 2018. Bad Orb is a spa town located in the state of Hessen, with a catholic population exceeding 5000. The town's economy is primarily shaped by the health and tourism sectors. In addition to Bad Orb, the parish extends its pastoral care to three other villages. And within Bad Orb itself, there were originally two churches. However, one of them was closed this year due to high maintenance

costs and a decrease in the number of faithful. Both the parish priest and Fr. Aloysius attend to the pastoral needs of individuals in four old age homes and two rehabilitation centers within the parish.



## In the English Province



### **Fr. Maria Selvam**

Fr. Maria Selvam is the parish priest of St. Peter's Church, Cirencester and St. Michael's Church, Tetbury in the diocese in the Diocese of Clifton. The parish consists of a few villages in the beautiful Cotswolds.

### **Fr. Benjamin Sundar**

Fr. Benjamin Sundar offers his pastoral service temporarily in the Holy Ghost Church, Yeovil.

This parish has multilinguistic communities, like English, Asian, African and Polish. Soon, he will be designated to a parish in the diocese of Nottingham.

