

# News of the Director General

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## Gratitude

I am sure that you recall the preface prayer during mass where we say: "For, although you have no need of our praise, yet our thanksgiving is itself your gift, since our praises add nothing to your greatness but profit us for salvation through Christ our Lord." I begin my last letter of 2020 with this prayer because God had pity on us, cleansed us from virus and saved us up to this moment. Therefore, *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"* 1 Thes, 5:16-18.

It is important to recall good things in spite of the challenging negative moments of life. Voluntas Dei Constitutions invite all the members to develop in a special way a spirit of recollection, humility, and fraternal charity through acquiring the 5 spiritual attitudes: Presence of God, Absence of destructive criticism, Absence of useless complaint, Being of service (availability), and Peacemaking. These attitudes create positive atmosphere in and around our milieu. The famous English poet G. K. Chesterton, challenges everyone by saying: "You say grace before meals. All right. But I say grace before the concert and the opera, and grace before the play and pantomime, and grace before I open a book, and grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing, boxing, walking, playing, dancing and grace before I dip the pen in the ink." If an ordinary man can say like this, what about us: the consecrated persons? Paul writes: *"brothers, let your minds be filled with everything that is true, everything that is honourable, everything that is upright and pure, everything that we love and admire - with whatever is good and praiseworthy"* Phil, 4:8. Gratefulness eliminates negative thoughts, gives satisfaction, creates an awareness of the presence of God in creation, in the persons around us and generates hope.

Peacemaking is the last spiritual attitude expected from the members. As per the constitutions, it is "applying oneself in maintaining peace of heart, implicating oneself in the cause of establishing an evangelical climate of justice and fraternity, and being an instrument of reconciliation in one's milieu". With true joy, giving praise to God for the year 2020, let us march towards welcoming Jesus Christ, our Saviour on Christmas with the company of Angels and Saints singing: *"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours."* Luke, 2:14

*Merry Christmas!!!*



### *Thought of Father Parent*

“The peacemaker focuses mostly on the positive aspects of others while patiently trying to detect their qualities and gifts...” (*Louis-Marie Parent o.m.i.*)

### *News from the DG*

Benjamin *CHINNAPPAN*, priest from United States District has received his Stability. We congratulate him and wish him all the success in his priestly ministries.

Violaine *COUTURE*, the administrative secretary of the Central House for more than four years, is retired now. She was so helpful in many ways as a big sister (OMMI). We thank her for her valuable services and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. May God bless her with good health, peace, and happiness.

### *Birthdays*

December 12, *Roger CORNEAU*, of Canada, volunteer at the Central House, celebrates his birthday.

### *Anniversaries of Incorporation*

December 17, *Denis FORTIER and Michelle FERRON* from Canada will celebrate their 25th. year of incorporation in the Institute.

I invite you to pray for these persons as well as for all other members who celebrate their anniversaries in December. May God continue to bless them and accompany them on their life journey.

S. James Dunstan I.V.Dei  
Director General