

# News of the Director General

Volume 11 ♦ Number 12

June 2021

## *Why Peter?*

Most of the time we do not understand the mystery of God. Why? is a permanent question always. During this time of pandemic this question is asked in several contexts of life, in the economy, in social life, in spirituality, etc. I have a random thought with these questions of why? Like many mysteries of life, today's vocation to consecrated life is also hard to discern and be lived. Why am I called? Why I? These questions put me to reflect Why Peter?

Simon Peter was introduced to Jesus by his own brother and Jesus at his first sight itself named him Cephas (Rock-Peter) John, 1:42. Peter was a simple soul led a life with full of authenticity and truthfulness. He was a profound person with deep faith admitting all failures. It is obvious in all the passages of the scripture starting from the gospels and acts of the apostles to his own letters. I am not going to make a biblical study with exegesis. However, I invite all of you to take time to read the bible to know deeper who is Peter if you have some leisure. In order to cause some enthusiasm and to pray with discernment of mystery of why Peter? Even though there are several, I would share one of my food of thought in this letter.

Simon Peter denied Jesus. Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus. Why Jesus showed mercy to Peter and not to Judas? I am sure that you have your own reflections. Here we go with mine based on John 13.

At the last supper primarily, Peter refused Jesus to wash his feet and the conversation between Jesus and Peter was realistic, very personal and profound. However, when Jesus told later that one of the apostles was to betray him, Peter felt with emotions and did not have the boldness like other times to ask who the person would be. He motioned John to ask. It was remarkably simple matter but spoke a lot. The attitude of Peter was brought out clearly little further when Jesus spoke of love and departure. Peter could not be silent at that moment. He spoke out by saying that he would follow him till the end and would lay down his life for him, with his conviction as he expressed earlier, "to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Jesus in return pointed out to Peter, 'no my dear friend you are going to disown me three times before the rooster crows, be aware of your weaknesses'. After the very denial, realizing the mistake, Peter looked at Jesus and they exchanged very act of mercy on the spot (Luke 22:61). However, Judas did not encounter Jesus as Peter did, because he did not take enough time and space to clarify his thoughts and actions and to reflect on what he had done. He ran away from Jesus instead of meeting him to receive his grace and mercy.

Why I? Why not I? How can I be Peter? As Andrew brought Peter to Jesus, we are also brought to Jesus, to the Voluntas Dei as I am in my own status of life.

## *Thought of Father Parent*

“God does not demand perfection from us. He takes us as we are at the very moment where we call upon him.” (*Louis-Marie Parent, o.m.i.*)

## *News from the DG*

Our last meeting of the Central Council took place via videoconference on May 31, 2021. We thank you for your prayers for the success of this meeting.

We have granted Stability to the following members from different districts and regions:

ANDREW FRANKLIN, Pathmalingam, EMMANUEL LOGU, Peduru & LUCIA, Emmanuel Logu; JOSEPH, Anathil & SIRONMANY, Joseph; SEBASTIAN CROOS, Marian & JEAN, Sebastian Croos; KENEDY DIAS, Christhogu & PAMILA, Kenedy Dias and STEPHEN CROOS, Christhuthasan & MARIYARANI, Stephen Croos from Sri Lanka District in formation; CRONIN, Michael; GALT, Ronald and SOLE-BROWN, Frances from United States District and LIVINGSTON, Sahaya Jobin from Tamil Nadu Region (India). We congratulate them and wish them all the success in their consecrated life with the deeper commitment to the Church through their dedicated services as they are.

On Saturday, June 12, 2021, Sebastian Springob, a member of the USA District, will receive through the laying on of hands and prayer from Auxiliary Bishop Matthias König, the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The liturgy begins at 10:00 am in the parish church of St. Johannes Baptist at Attendorn in Germany. He works as a teacher and councillor at a school in his hometown in Germany and he is the first German member incardinated into our Institute. Let us join with him and pray that he will be a light amidst of darkness of the world today.

## *Birthdays*

6 June, Father *René Désilets*, former Director General.

8 June, Father *Andrew Mayer*, translator at the service of the Central Administration.

25 June, Father *Gildardo Noreña*, Director of the Region of Colombia.

27 June, Father *Marc-André Lafrenière*, Director of the Canadian District.

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

S. James Dunstan I.V.Dei  
Director General