



INSTITUT VOLUNTAS DEI

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Seminarians
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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Easter to you!

I was unable to write to you for the last three months due to several health, social, and spiritual barriers. Please accept my apologies. I hope that you all have received my acknowledgement letters for all your generous donations for the year 2020. Although we could not fulfill the objective, with all your contributions we were able to help our missions during the pandemic. I thank you sincerely on behalf of all the members of Voluntas Dei Institute and we pray that the Risen Lord Jesus bless you all as we approach our Easter celebrations.



At Easter vigil Saint Paul questions us, *"Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life."* (Rom. 6: 3ff). It is in this context, Jesus mandated his disciples to *"go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit."* (Mt. 28:19) This mission is being realized through the dedication of several committed persons from the beginning of the church until today who discerned and responded the Lord's call by the virtue of baptism. Church oversees all and forms them in such a way that they become another Christ in proclaiming the good news as prophets, priests and kings through the ministry of God's word, Eucharist, Sacraments and humble service of leadership.

The mission of Jesus is implemented in the church according to the charisms of different dioceses, religious congregations, secular institutes, societies of apostolic lives, etc. Due to the development of science, technology and distractions of the society today, the vocations to such mission are slowly dying in the western society. In the developing countries, there are still some individuals answering to the call of God.

Project: Seminararians

I would like to present here in this letter one of such seminararians who is a transitory deacon waiting for the ordination to the priesthood:

“Praise be to Jesus Christ and Greetings of Holy Easter!

I am Ginu Justin I.V.Dei belonging to Kerala-India Region of Voluntas Dei Institute. I am so happy to inform you that I am going to be ordained as a priest on 22 of April 2021. Kindly remember me in your prayers and bless me. I want to be a priest, especially a priest of Voluntas Dei Institute, because: “I have heard a still, small voice in the silence of my heart. And I believe it to be His voice” I want to be a Catholic Priest because, I desire to give my whole heart to God with complete freedom of soul, such that He becomes my only inheritance, my only possession; I desire friendship with Jesus, through the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. I want to be a Priest of Voluntas Dei Institute because, it is the will of God, which inspired me to save souls, and to give to each individual the taste of Jesus Christ through Spiritual guidance to obtain salvation that leads to everlasting life. God made me for a unique purpose. Even before I was born, He knew my vocation and my mission in life. During my formation to priesthood, I realised that my mission is to bring people to Jesus and Jesus to people. As a Voluntas Dei priest, my personal mission is to be a spiritual father to thousands of Catholics, to preach the Gospel and offer the sacrifice of the Mass, giving sacrament of reconciliation and other sacraments, be a man of God with strong character who stand out in our secular culture and a living witness of Christ in this world”.

This is the month for the seminararians who are answering their call to fulfill the mission of Jesus Christ in the universal Church. We thank the Lord for the blessings that Voluntas Dei has with 98 major seminararians throughout the world and moreover, we are also blessed with three priestly ordinations: Justin GINU and Moncy CARLOSE from Kerala-India who will be ordained priests on April 22, 2021 and Efraín HIDALGO ABREU from the Dominican Republic who will be ordained priest on April 24, 2021.

We are grateful for your contributions to the education and formation of our seminararians. May God bless you and may the Risen Lord accompany you in this time of pandemic.

James Dunstan, I.V.Dei
Director General