Prison Ministry India

Ruby Jubilee 1981 - 2021

Souvenir

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This souvenir is a humble initiative to commemorate the Ruby Jubilee of Prison Ministry India and a modest attempt to showcase how this organization has grown from strength to strength during its glorious though checkered history accompanied by the blessings of Almighty God. This souvenir contains enthusiastic writeups and articles and a pictorial illustration of the long preparations that preceded the Ruby Jubilee event and how the celebrations unfolded from 8 to 10 December 2021. It must be said to the credit of the organizing team of the National Prison Ministry India that despite the covid protocol in force practically most of the state coordinators and special task force coordinators from across our country participated in the mega event in response to the call given by the organizers. Indeed, with the leadership and organizing skills shown by the National Coordinator and cofounder of the organization Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, the PMI National Secretary Sr Amala DC and their team, it was indeed a unique experience participating in the Ruby Jubilee proceedings. The presence of Bishop Alwyn D'Silva, the PMI chairman, Fr Varghese Karippery cofounder and all the former national coordinators of PMI made indeed the Ruby Jubilee an unforgettable one.

Our jails and prisons are flawed, often producing people who are worse off than before incarceration. They perpetuate a cycle of career criminals, providing no tools or support to people that really need help. It is here that the Prison Ministry India volunteers step in and by the aggregate of their shoves and pushes provide whatever solace and support they can provide to these less fortunate brethren of ours.

The 40 years history of the Prison Ministry India today glitters with the Ruby Jubilee projects which are among many to name but a few, 40 houses to rehabilitate released prisoners, 4 new Kolbe homes, 40 special task forces, 400 scholarships to prisoners’ children and releasing of 400 prisoners. My sincere thanks to everyone, individual and organization who have contributed generously by way of advertisements in this souvenir towards the project of constructing the released prisoners’ houses. God bless Prison Ministry India in its journey towards the Golden Jubilee.

Edmund Frank
Ruby Jubilee Souvenir
Editorial Board Members

Edmund Frank
Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS
Fr Benny Pachanal CRSP
Fr George Peter Kachirayil MST
Fr Dion Isaac
Sr Amala DC
Sr Lini Sheeja MSC
Dr Rosily Thomas
Lt Col Jennifer James
Mrs Vinita Britto
HIS HOLINESS
POPE FRANCIS

Invokes the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ
on the happy occasion of the

Ruby Jubilee of the Prison Ministry India
1981 - 2021

He willingly gives the assurance of his prayers
and imparts to Reverend Francis KODIYAN, Clergy, Religious and
the Faithful that are working with the Prisoners
his Apostolic Blessing.

New Delhi, 05 November 2021
Prot. No. 0984/21/IN

Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli
Apostolic Nuncio
Reverend Kodiyan,

This Apostolic Nunciature has received your kind letter of last 13 October 2021, informing that the Prison Ministry India (PMI) will be celebration its Ruby Jubilee Year from 9th December 2020 to 9th December 2021.

In your letter you mentioned that the Prison Ministry India has been rendering valuable services for the reformation of prisoners, establishing rehabilitation centres, working for their release and reintegration under the guidance of the Desk for Prison Ministry India of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India.

It is commendable that since its inception, the PMI has so far reached out to 1350 prisons in India.

I thank God for all the priests, religious and lay faithful that are working with the prisoners. May the Lord bless them abundantly in all their endeavors to bring the Good News to all, specially the most vulnerable. In this way, the Word of the Lord becomes concrete: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners” (Lk 4, 18-19)

May the Almighty God grant His blessings upon the PMI on the joyful occasion of its 40th anniversary.

With kindest regards and prayerful good wishes,

Your Sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli
Apostolic Nuncio
MESSAGE

I am delighted to know that Prison Ministry India is publishing a souvenir to on the occasion of its Ruby Jubilee. The organizational net work of this ministry in India is commendable. It is a matter of joy for me to know that many priests, consecrated men and women, volunteers of youth movements are tirelessly engaged in Prison Ministry. I appreciate in a special way the volunteers of the Prison Ministry India who help prisoners’ reintegration and manage several rehabilitation centers across India.

St Mother Teresa of Kolkata has said “It is a beautiful gift of God to take care of men and women in jail”. In the Gospel of St Mathew we read Jesus saying, “I was in prison, and you visited me” (Mt. 25:37). According to Holy Father Pope Francis ‘visiting the imprisoned is an act of mercy that has implications for all Christians and not just those involved in prison ministry”. Speaking to the participants at an international meeting of national and regional directors of Catholic prison ministries on 8 November 2019, Pope Francis urged greater efforts to reform prison systems, address the root causes of crime and ensure acceptance and reintegration once a person completes his or her sentence.

Showing closeness to the suffering prisoners is a much valuable ministry. There may be prisoners who are misjudged and unjustly put into jail. There are of course, prisoners, who have done wrong. But we always have to bear in mind the words of Jesus who said, “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance” (Lk. 5:32).

I appreciate your attempts to implement projects such as 4 new Kolbe Homes, 40 houses for the released and reformed prisoners, 400 scholarships to prisoners’ children, releasing 400 prisoners etc., as part of the Ruby Jubilee of PMI. I wish the Ruby Jubilee Celebrations and the souvenir every success and God’s blessings!

Cardinal George Alencherry
Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church
The Ruby Jubilee of Prison Ministry India has been a moment of thanksgiving to God for the great service of love carried on by this ministry during the last four decades ever since its inception in 1981 under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

I have always admired the spirit of commitment, dedication and sacrifice manifested by all the volunteers associated with this ministry. May their tribe grow and may their selfless service be abundantly blessed to bring healing you and hope to the countless unfortunate ones behind the bars and to their hapless families outside.

It is my humble prayer that the various projects slated for the PMI Ruby Jubilee may be completed soon for the glory of God and good of humanity.
MESSAGE

I am indeed happy to know that Prison Ministry India is celebrating its Ruby Jubilee this year and on this joyous occasion, projects for your beneficiaries are nearing implementation.

We may recall that the Holy Father Pope Francis, in the Jubilee year of Mercy, in February 2016, on the last day of his Apostolic Visit to Mexico, travelled to the northern city of Ciudad Juárez. The first stop he made was in Juárez where he addressed over 700 prison inmates. He said he did not want to leave the country without greeting them and celebrating with them the Jubilee of Mercy. He then embraced about fifty prisoners.

The Holy Father emphasized that ‘Mercy’ means learning not to be prisoners of the past. It means believing that things can change and does not exclude the possibility of writing a new story and moving forward. The one who has suffered the greatest pain he said “has experienced hell” but can become a prophet in society.

The Scriptures give us a clarion call, “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me” (Mathew 25:34-36).

I am glad Prison Ministry India has through its various projects and programs over the years been revealing God’s abundant Mercy and instilling Hope in Prisoners and their families.

While congratulating all those involved in the Ministry, I wish every success in your Ruby Jubilee celebrations. I cordially impart my blessings upon your donors and partners and especially upon all the prisoners and their family members whom you reach out to.

Date: 20-10-2021

+ Peter Machado
Archbishop of Bangalore
Ruby Jubilee Message

God came down in our sinfulness; he came down when we were lost! He ate with sinners; he healed them. He chose Mathew, the tax gatherer for his redemptive work. God chose the filthiest places, the stinking places for his work of redemption. Behind the walls of maximum-security prisons, hard-core criminals are being transformed into messengers of hope.

“Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners” (Mk 2:17). The purpose of Jesus coming to this earth was to call sinners and to redeem the lost. Jesus who cried out from the Cross, “I thirst” (Jn 19:28) continues to thirst for the souls languishing in dark prison cells. Since its inception, Prison Ministry India (PMI), as one family, has participated in this redeeming mission of Christ by reaching out to the incarcerated. The seed, which was sown in 1981 in the hearts of two passionate seminarians, has grown as a banyan tree solely through the grace of God. The seminarians Br Francis and Br Kariperry passed their passion to the whole country – today PMI has 8000 passionate volunteers to satisfy the thirst of Jesus for those behind bars.

As PMI celebrates its Ruby Jubilee (1981-2021), together with the Psalmist I acclaim, “I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds” (Ps 9:1). In this Ruby Jubilee year, we bow down before the Trinitarian God for calling each of us for his work of redemption. As I thank every volunteer for their tireless service without any expectation whatsoever, I acknowledge Fr Francis Kodiyan’s Ruby Jubilee initiatives of constructing houses, prisoners’ release, education sponsorship, PMI Special Task Forces and intercessory prayers for prisoners worldwide. I thank all the benefactors and collaborators who joined hands with us in the realisation of our dreams for prisoners.

PMI volunteers don’t carry Jesus to prisoners from outside. Our God is already present there, for he says, “I was in prison and you came to me” (Mt 25:36). We accompany our family behind bars to encounter our Crucified God and to gaze at the disfigured face of Christ on the Cross.
MESSAGE

All over the world, the usual response to crime and criminals has always been primarily punitive and sometimes even vengeful, particularly when heinous acts of bestial brutality are committed, without addressing the root causes of such terrible transgressions which are to be found deep in the psyche of the perpetrators who themselves are victims of their woundedness and weakness, inflicted upon them by society, significant others and even close relatives. As Christians, we are challenged by the grace of God that offers good news to all sinners, and by Jesus’ words to forgive, to judge not, and to restore right relationships with other people. We struggle to find the best ways to restore relationships among people. We show concern about the incompetence of fallible governments to provide justice. In recent years, all these issues are growing at an alarming rate because the population of incarcerated people of all ages is growing around the world, and, here in India, there are large number of innocent people imprisoned on trumped up charges and are awaiting trial for years together, a huge percentage of them being from the socio-economically marginalised and exploited classes.

It is in this context that Prison Ministry acquires its importance as one of the most relevant ministries of our times, heeding the call of Christ who said, “I was in prison and you visited me. Therefore, as the Prison Ministry India celebrates its Ruby Jubilee I thank and praise God for the great work of compassion and mercy that has been accomplished during these 40 eventful years and pray that the ministry grow, spread and flourish in the years to come.

02 November 2021

* Francis Serrao SJ
Bishop of Shimoga
Jesus Fraternity is a Catholic voluntary charitable movement started in October 1981 in St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary Vadavathoor at the initiative of the seminarians and the staff. It was the desire of brothers Verghese Karippery and Francis Kodiyan MCBS to begin the movement in the seminary. Fr Joseph Koickakudy, the then rector of the seminary, wholeheartedly supported it, and Fr Mathew Elapanickal, Fr Thomas Velliamthadom and Fr Joseph Mackolil of the teaching staff directed the movement appropriately.

Jesus Fraternity aims to serve the least, the last and the lost, primarily aiming at prisoners’ integral and adequate development. This movement was officially recognized by the KCBC and CBCI in 1989 and 2000, respectively.

The primary endeavours are prayer meetings, fasting and adoration by the members in preparation for visiting the prisons. Brothers also visit different prisons in Kerala, stage cultural programmes for them, instruct moral classes to the children in the Juvenile homes and arrange various programmes for them during the summer vacation. In addition, Jesus Fraternity members, with the priest in charge, occasionally visit the prisons and celebrate the Holy Eucharist once a month. They also organize literary competitions for the prisoners and encourage their talents by publishing them in a small periodical.

This year Jesus Fraternity celebrates its Ruby Jubilee, and I am happy to know about the Ruby Jubilee Memorial Redefined Prison Ministry India National office in Bangalore. Today this movement has spread to various major seminaries and other institutions all over India. The mission of Jesus Fraternity is well known both in the Catholic Church and in society in general. In this Jubilee Year, we wish its member and office-bearers all the best. May the Mission of Jesus fraternity to care for those who are in the peripheries of the society, be more fruitful in the years to come.

Fr. Scaria Kanniyakonil (Rector)
St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary
Vadavathoor, Kottayam-686010
Kerala, India
I believe in God. I believe human beings are created in the image of God (Gen 1:26). I believe in the words of Jesus, “I was in prison and you came to me (Mt 25:36). I believe in the words of Jesus who said to the ‘Right Hand Thief’, “Truly I say to you, today you will be with me In Paradise” (Lk 23:43). These are the basic concepts of PMI. The appeal to Philemon by St Paul is a model for rehabilitation of released prisoners. St Paul writes to Philemon, “I, Paul, an ambassador and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus – I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but he is indeed useful to you and to me. I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart.”

All these words of God inspire PMI volunteers to work for the brethren behind the bars when they ask, ‘we are ready to renew our lives, can you give me a chance?’ This was a poignant appeal to start a rehabilitation centre called ‘Snehashramam’ 30 years back in 1991. 3 days ago, I attended a First Holy Communion Ceremony of a girl who is a daughter of a renewed released prisoner. Two weeks ago, I got a phone call from a person who was there in Snehashramam. Among three sons, one got job and two others are studying for Degree. Another son of Snehashramam called and told that he is running a hotel and leading a peaceful life with wife and two children. Renewal and rehabilitations are going on.

Snehashramam, the renewal and rehabilitation centre for the released prisoners is the materialization of the words of Jesus, ‘one is greater than ninety-nine’. The joy of searching is the happiness of the Master and their disciples. He told this parable to them, “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders rejoicing.” (Lk 15:3-5). This is the joy we experience in Prison Ministry India Program. Ruby jubilee greetings and congratulations to PMI national coordinator, Rev Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, the National team and all the volunteers of Prison Ministry India

Rev Fr Varghese Karipurry
PMI Co-Founder
Dear Fr. Francis Kodiyan,

It is heartening to learn that the Prison Ministry India (PMI) is celebrating its Ruby Jubilee on 8th December 2021.

I join you in thanking God for all that has been achieved in this Biblical Ministry during the last 4 decades. This is a ministry that is very dear to Jesus; He identified Himself with the prisoners as we read both at the start (Lk: 4: 18) as well as at the end (Mt: 25: 40) of the Gospel.

Ruby Jubilee is not an occasion for celebrating an accomplishment. It is not to say, “Look what we have done! This Ministry has lasted 40 years!” On the other hand, it is an event to express gratitude for the opportunity God has given us to serve the least, last and the lost. It is to say, “Thank you, my dear and loving God, for having chosen me for this Ministry.

I am happy to place on record the commitment of the National, Regional and State Coordinators, the volunteers and the support staff besides the generous benefactors without whose generous monetary assistance all that has happened, wouldn’t have been possible.

In a special way, I extend my hearty congratulations to you my dear Fr. Francis and appreciate your dedication, love and passion for this Mission of liberating the people who are languishing behind the bars.

Your deep faith and trust in the Providence of God is commendable; you are in constant communion with God. Your untiring efforts and simple and unassuming way of relating to people helps you to work miracles in the lives of the prisoners.

40 years is a long span. Holy Father Pope Francis is relentlessly requesting us to go to the periphery and listen to the wounded and the marginalized poor. Your vision and love for the poorest of the forgotten poor was the reason for the inception of this Ministry in 1981. It has grown today to a big tree from the mustard seed sown by you, bringing light and life to the inmates of the prisons.

I am sure this Ministry will keep pace with the ceaseless stream of time. On this memorable occasion, I convey my prayerful felicitations to you and your Team. May your plans and dreams continue to bear fruit! I wish that many more inmates can rejoin their families and begin to see the ray of light once more.

I wish you success in all your future pursuits.

Sr. Inigo SSA
Dwarka, New Delhi
18.11.2021
Myself, Fr Joseph Mackolil, the First KCBC director of Jesus Fraternity - Prison Ministry India - as one of the pioneers of this ministry, am very happy to wish my heartfelt Ruby Jubilee congratulations to Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan and Archpriest Very Rev Fr Varghese Karipery the founder fathers of Jesus Fraternity, all the pioneers and volunteers of this ministry together with all the Archbishops, Bishops of CBCI

Hearty congratulations to the National Director very Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS and all the State, National Executive members and benefactors. PMI has enhanced many charitable works in connection with the jubilee celebration. Housing projects for released prisoners - forty houses for forty renewed ex-prisoners - is one of the remarkable charity works. I hope PMI now will begin many remarkable charity projects in connection with the coming golden Jubilee of this ministry.

I pray and wish that the authorities will co-operate with the Holy Spirit for all these. I humbly request Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS to prepare the Golden Jubilee Project and his Holiness Pope Francis shall inaugurate it when his Holiness will visit India. The PMI chairman or the chairman of justice, peace and development commission can hand over the project to the Holy Father.

Fr Joseph Mackolil  
First State K.C.B.C  
Director of Jesus Fraternity
Prison Ministry India: Milestones
Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS

1980-1989


1983 Mar 11  God Experience of Bro Francis Kodiyan at Elijah Ashram, Niravilpuzha and the Invitation to Dedicate his Life for the Conversion of Sinners.

1985 Jul 18  First Visit to Kottayam District Prison.

1985 Oct 21  Dr Kunjumon Chacko and Team from Prison Fellowship India Share their Experiences with Seminarians of St Thomas Apostolic Seminary.


1986 Jan 29  The Name Jesus Fraternity.

1986 Mar 1-31  First All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage.

1987 Aug 15  First All Kerala Art and Literary Competition for Prisoners.

1987 Oct 9  First Magazine Pulari (Dawn) for Prisoners.


1989 Sep 8  KCBC Recognizes Jesus Fraternity under its Justice, Peace and Development Commission and Appointed Fr Joseph Mackolil as its Director.

1990-1999

1990 Jun 01  Jesus Fraternity Office at KCBC Headquarters, POC, Kochi, Kerala.

1990 Jul 01  Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS took charge as the Assistant Director of Jesus Fraternity and Staff Member at Pastoral Orientation Center, Palarivattom, Kerala.

1991 Oct 01  Blessing of the First Rehabilitation Centre for Released Men Prisoners at Vettukad, Thrissur, Kerala.

1991 Nov 01  Launching of The Echo, Jesus Fraternity News Bulletin from Jesus Fraternity Office, POC, Kerala.

1992 Oct 11  Blessing of First Rehabilitation Centre for Released Women Prisoners, Monvila, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

1994 Feb 16  Blessing of Ashadeepam, a Home for Released Women Prisoners by St John the Baptist Sisters, Thrissur, Kerala.
1994 Jul 03  Blessing of Snehadeepam, a Home for Prisoners’ Children by Holy Spirit Sisters, Inchiany, Kanjirapally, Kerala.

1994 Aug 13-15  First National Convention, Bangalore, took the Name Prison Ministry India and elected Fr Varghese Karippery as the First National Coordinator.

1995 Jan 01  Blessing of PMI National Office in a Farmhouse at Huskur, Bangalore.


1995 Jul 26  Registration of PMI under Societies Registration Act No. ER 375.

1995 Aug 6  Blessing of Shanti Nivas, the Second Stage of Rehabilitation for Released Men Prisoners by Claretian Missionaries at Edappally, Kerala.


1995 Oct 07-09  Fr Francis Kodiyan the PMI Cofounder Participated in the International Conference of Catholic Prison Chaplains, Warsaw, Poland.

1996 Feb 22  Shifting of National Office to Koramangala, Bengaluru.

1997 May 03  Blessing of Asha Sadan, a home for Prisoners’ Girl Children by Franciscan Clarist Sisters, Noida, Delhi.

1997 Oct 24-26  The Third National Convention at DBCLC, Trissur, Kerala.

1998 Dec 04-06  The Fourth National Convention at Mumbai and Fr Sebastian Theckanath was Elected as the 2nd National Co-coordinator.

1998 Dec 20  Blessing of Nirmal Bhavan, a Home for Released Juvenile Home Boys by the Malabar Missionary Brothers at Thrissur, Kerala.

1999 Jan 08  Blessing of Karunyashramam, a Home for Released Women Prisoners by Sisters of the Adoration the Blessed Sacrament (SABS), Edappally, Kerala.

1999 Nov 12-14  The Fifth National Convention in Calcutta.

2000-2009

2000 Jun 01  Premodaya Home for Convicts’ Children by St Anne’s Sisters of Chennai, Bengaluru.

2001 Jun 06  Blessing of Arunima, A Home for Prisoners’ Children by Sisters of St Anne at Puteuput, Chennai, Tamilnadu.

2000 Jun 11  Blessing of Snehanivas, a Home for Prisoners’ Children by the Sisters of St Elizabeth at Aluva, Kerala.

2000 Aug 24  PMI was Officially Recognized by the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI) under its Justice, Peace and Development Commission and Most Rev Peter Remigius became the First PMI Chairman.


2002 Feb 12  Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan Took Charge as the Third National Coordinator.
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<td>2002 May 04</td>
<td>Inauguration of Prison Quarters’ Ministry Adjacent to Central Prison Bengaluru.</td>
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<td>2002 Nov 03</td>
<td>PMI Received the Spirit of Assisi National Award by the Franciscan Centre for Peace and Dialogue, Karukutty, Kerala.</td>
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<td>2003 May 13</td>
<td>Inauguration of the Reformatory Research and Documentation Centre (RRDC) in a Rented Building at Thrissur, Kerala and Launching of Reformatory Explorations: A Criminol-Psychological and Socio-Spiritual Journal.</td>
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<td>2003 Jul 18</td>
<td>Inauguration of the North Regional Office and Appointment of Fr Joseph Kavalakkat VC as the First North Regional Coordinator.</td>
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<td>2004 Mar 27-28</td>
<td>All India Coordinators Meet, Delhi.</td>
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<td>2004 Nov 12-15</td>
<td>The Eighth National Convention at Bhopal, M.P.</td>
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<td>2005 Jun 01</td>
<td>Introduced Full Timers’ Ministry.</td>
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<td>2005 Jul 23</td>
<td>Launching the Mission for the Welfare of Indian Nationals in Foreign Prisons, Releasing of PMI Flag and PMI Anthem.</td>
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<td>2007 May 30</td>
<td>Fr Josekutty Kalayil MST Took Charge as the Fourth National Coordinator.</td>
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<td>2007 Nov 8-11</td>
<td>The Nineth National Convention, Mysore</td>
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<td>2008 Jul 25</td>
<td>PMI National Delegates Met Pratibha Patil, the President of India and submitted the Memorandum to Abolish Capital Punishment in India.</td>
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<td>2009 Jan 24-29</td>
<td>Fr Josekutty Kalayil MST, the PMI National Coordinator Participated in the ICCPPC International Plenary Meeting at Budapest, Hungary.</td>
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<td>2009 Sep 03</td>
<td>Blessing of the Newly Purchased PMI National Office at Carmelaram, Bengaluru.</td>
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<td>2011 May 21</td>
<td>Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan was Reappointed as the PMI National Coordinator.</td>
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<td>2011 Aug 30</td>
<td>Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan was elected as the Asian Delegate of the International Commission for Prison Pastoral Care during the International Conference held in Cameroon.</td>
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<td>2011 Nov 15-17</td>
<td>National Gathering of all the PMI Coordinators at Archbishop’s House, Nagpur, Maharashtra.</td>
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<td>2017 April 07</td>
<td>Marie Pushpan’s Girls Home for Prisoners’ Children by Dominican Sisters, Ranchi, Jharkhand.</td>
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2017 Nov 01  Purchasing of Karjat Land, Maharashtra.
2018 Feb 02-09 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva, the Auxiliary Bishop of Mumbai, Took Charge as the Second Chairman of PMI.
2018 Oct 23-26 12th National Convention, Guwahati.
2019 Jun 01  Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS Took Charge as the 5th National Coordinator.
2019 Nov 7-8 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, the PMI National Coordinator presented a Paper on The Initiatives and Contributions of Prison Ministry India in the International Conference on Prison Pastoral Care Convened by the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.
2019 Nov 19 PMI National Level Silver Jubilee Celebration, Bengaluru and Relaunching of Reformatory Explorations, A Quarterly for Prisoners’ Reformation and Rehabilitation.
2019 Nov 20 Blessing of Reformative Research and Documentation Centre (RRDC), Bengaluru.
2019 Dec 22 Fr Francis Kodiyan Launched PMI Special Task Forces
2020-2029
2020 Feb 1-4 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS Participated in the FABC Preparatory Meeting Held in Cambodia.
2020 Feb 12-19 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS Presented PMI Report to the CBCI Plenary Assembly at St John's Medical College.
2020 Jul 15 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva Blessed PMI Volunteers’ Training Centre, Bengaluru
2020 Sep 13 Launched PMI Online Retreat
2020 Oct 02 Fr Varghese Karippery Inaugurated PMI Burning Bush Spiritual Banquet
2020 Oct 09 Launched Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated Worldwide.
2020 Dec 09 Most Rev Peter Machado Consecrated the RRDC Chapel and Blessed the Hall.
2020 Dec 09 Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath Launched Ruby Jubilee Projects such as 4 New Kolbe Homes, 40 Houses for Released Prisoners, 40 PMI Special Task Forces, 400 Scholarships to Prisoners’ Children, 400 Releasing Prisoners
2021 Sep 14 Blessing of St Antony’s Home for Prisoners’ Children at Kankavli, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
2021 Dec 7-10 PMI Ruby Jubilee Concluding Celebrations, Bangalore
When Prison Ministry India celebrates its ruby jubilee an introspection into its publications is worthwhile. Let’s be glad to know that PMI published 42 books and periodicals in the past 40 years. PMI ruby jubilee invites us to know and read the PMI publications and thereby to be enlightened with the spirituality, history, theology, and the methodology of prisoners’ reformation, rehabilitation, and reintegration. Meditative reading of these books would certainly elevate our thoughts to divine providence, to do impossible things with the assistance of God, and would help us understand how God who sent His only begotten son in search of the lost. In the past 40 years God took care of PMI on eagle’s wings. Let’s make and write history of PMI for the next 40 years by writing our prison ministry experiences.

First Decade of PMI 1980-1989

2. First Booklet with songs and prayers for the first All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage, Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kottayam 1986.

Second Decade of PMI 1990-1999


Third Decade of PMI 2000-2009


20. Pulickal, Jose, Jesus the Dynamic Way: Towards the Ministry for the Least, the Last and the Lost, Claretian Publications, Bangalore 2004.


**Fourth Decade of PMI 2010-2019**


42. PMI Karnataka 5th State Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Mysore 2016.


45. Karippery, Varghese, Prabhatha Bhakshanam Vachanathilude (Malayalam), Santi Samaj, Thrissur 2018.
47. PMI 12 National Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2018.

Fifth Decade of PMI 2020-2029

This is my vision. Little from my side, little help, little sacrifice, little adjustment, little hardship, little care, little time for others, little by little; This is my whole life. This is what I was trying to do with my life in prison ministry. Jesus tells us to love your neighbor rather than the whole world. You may not be able to see the entire world. You don’t know the end of everything and the lives of everyone. You may not cloth everyone and feed all the hungry people. You cannot quench the thirst of everyone but you can do something for someone next to you. You make a difference to that one though you may not be able to transform the whole world. If hundreds of the people think in this way, it may not take much time to build a better world. If everybody cleans the path in front of his house, the whole of India would be clean and tidy.

Two Mothers

As I was attending an international conference in Thailand, there were two mothers one was the mother of the victim and the other of the offender of a murder case. Both were in tears as they shared the experience. One lost her son forever. The hope of the family was taken away. The other mother suffered the shame from the family members and society. No one would come to her home, no visitors and they were fully forsaken by the society. They felt to leave the locality. The identity was normally a credit to anyone but here the identity was a burden. She bore the son for ten months but now pregnant with the shame of the son for the remaining life. Both were profusely crying and hugged each other. We were in tears to watch over their expression with fully remorse hearts. It was a terrible reality to be faced by both parties of the crimewith whether you are on the victim’s side or offender’s side. How can I understand all the following expressions of my life such as a silent prayer, a silent expectation, a little whisper from my heart, a little waiting, a little mortification, a sacrifice of taking away a piece of waste paper from veranda to dust bin for a conversion of a soul. All these are not trumpeting of our lives but a silent action which takes no notice but works wonders. St Theresa of Child Jesus had a prayer of this sort for Pranzini, who had taken the lives of three people at a stretch. It bore the fruit at the time of this hard-core criminal’s execution. He embraced the same cross and received the mercy of God from a priest. A silent prayer and little mortification and a wish to be a missionary had made the saint, the patron of missionaries who had not gone on any expedition with the gospel and it was the positive prayer that the saint offered for others. It could travel miles. Life is not often much of activities and programs alone but active in prayer.

Effective Volunteer

You may not be a full-time volunteer but can become an effective volunteer. I prefer to be an effective volunteer and that is the mission of prison ministry. You may be a hidden volunteer but an effective volunteer. Let the big walls of prison be bullet proof but not prayer proof. Your prayer can break the bullet proof thick wall. Your prayer breaks the bullet-proof hardcore lives for whom the society and family lost hope. Prisoners must feel that still they are wanted because someone is coming in search of him. He finds solace telling himself that “there is still someone who asks me about my health and family; even though my own family doesn’t want me;” The society doesn’t expect him again at home. Even his own daughter dims his hope. It was a heartbreaking experience to hear the words of a prisoner, “my daughter does not want my presence even for her marriage though my special parole is sanctioned and made all the last moment preparation to be out for the marriage of my daughter”. He was broken by those words of her daughter. When the attitude of people is like this, it matters a lot in their lives by your visit to the prison. No one does anything without expecting anything in return in the prison but they feel and appreciate the sincere love you give without expecting anything in return.
We must go not only once but many times to see them. We must not forget their names and must keep their aspirations alive. It is very much important to keep their hope and aspiration alive. There is no one in the prison to ask them in their lives, when are you coming out of prison? You may not value the joy of being outside if you have not been in prison at any time. You may not feel the value of friendship, the value of food, and the value of being in your own little space and so on. Here everything is common. They may not belong to anyone amidst thousand of prisoners. They are surrounded by many but no one belongs to them. Their wish has no value in the prison.

You Are not Alone

You are not alone in your journey. Mission is always with another. You are not alone in your suffering. Mother Mary had Elizabeth and Elizabeth had Mary to console each other. Many had stopped the journey of prison ministry because you don’t support them. They felt that they are alone. Jesus sent the disciples two by two to support each other. That is the style of God’s ministry. Prison ministry is not an exception to it. We are not alone in our prayer. Our united prayer shall overcome the heap of shame and agony to a better world of myriads of hope. They remember not because you gave them the money but you stood with them. Once a prison fight arose in Luringancho prison. Many were killed and others got injured. To overcome the situation the bishop of that diocese went and did the needful. Many were taken to the hospital and others were supported to calm the turmoil. Many rounds of discussions took place. Finally, after a week, there was a peace settlement. They wanted to hand over the guns and weapons. They didn’t want to hand it over to anyone else but to the bishop. The prisoners wanted his lordship as he stood with them in the situation of commotion. It is not your money rather yourself who should stand with them in their hopelessness, helplessness and lovelessness. Our presence is very much important for them. The year of Jubilee is the work of many; some are very effective in their ministry yet are silent. My sincere congratulations for being part of this great mission of Jesus.

Prayer for Prisoners

Lord Our Loving Father, we praise and worship you together with Jesus Christ who taught us to visit the incarcerated. We thank and glorify you for sending your only begotten Son Jesus to proclaim liberty to the captives and saving us through His unjust imprisonment and death on the Cross. Merciful Father, give us the grace to see your face in our brethren behind the bars and help us to remember them as though we were in prison with them.

Beloved Father, we entrust into your compassionate hands our imprisoned brethren, sanctify them by your precious blood and anoint them with your Holy Spirit. Illumine their hearts to accept the present traumatic situation, give them the grace of repentance and forgiveness. Inspire their family members and society to accept them in spite of their frailties and failures. Fill us with the fruits, gifts and charisms of the Holy Spirit so that we may be empowered to transmit the unconditional and forgiving love of Jesus to prisoners.

Bless the prison staff that they may be kind, gentle and understanding towards those under their care, sanctify and strengthen the victims that they may reconcile with those who offended them. Mary, Mother of Jesus pray for the reformation and rehabilitation of our brethren behind the bars. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be
Mother Mary, Pray for us
St Maximilian Kolbe, Pray for us
Venerable Francis Xavier Van Thuan, Pray for us
**Can Prison become a Place of Redemption?**

Sr Adele Korah SCCG

During my ministry in the prison, the Lord granted me the opportunity to witness the changes and transformation in the hearts of several criminals. The lost sheep who had turned away from the right path and were caught up in the thorn bush of crimes were touched by their loving God and were able to take a U turn in their life. I was convinced of the fact that no human being can transform a hard-core criminal, but the grace of God and the touch of a living God can give them a new heart and a new spirit. My faith and trust in God was rewarded as I witnessed the change in the hearts of double murderers, thieves, adulterers, hired armed robbers and serial killers who murdered people for a petty sum of money given as quotations. Some of them who were renewed have become catalysts among the brethren to assist other brothers in turning to the right values of God. When these brothers notice that some among them are disappointed, dejected and are in distress, they assist them and also bring them for counselling and prayer. All those who were transformed are those who were touched by the Almighty and All Loving God who is ever merciful and accepts every repented sinner in His arms with forgiving love.

**Reconciliation an Integral Part of the Ministry**

When I meet certain inmates in prison who are very sad and lonely because of the rejection of their own parents and dear ones, we visit their families whenever possible to bring reconciliation between those inside the prison and their families outside along with Fr Sony C.P from Snehiyothi Rehabilitation Center or with other volunteers. Once a prisoner by name Mohith told me that he had not received a single letter from his parents in the past six years that he was in prison. Since no one had visited him from outside the prison, I asked some of my friends to visit him with some toilet articles and snacks. I contacted his parents requesting them to write a letter to him. They ignored my request. Hence I took him to his house on parole with the assistance of Fr Pascal Cutinha C.P. When they entered the house of the prisoner, they did not show any sign to their son of their acceptance. But when we started a prayer of reconciliation, and prayed for the family, Mohith fell at the feet of his parents asking forgiveness for his past life. There were reasons for the indifference shown by the parents towards him. He was a prodigal who had disobeyed his parents and run away from home. He had lived as a drug addict away from his parents, married a girl of his choice, and become an alcoholic. He was also the cause of his wife’s death. He got arrested and had become a convicted prisoner. As the prayer was conducted standing below a crucifix referring to the forgiveness taught by Jesus on the cross, the family experienced the Lord’s touch and were in tears. The prayer was followed by moments of exchange of forgiveness among all the members of the family. All rejoiced in the acceptance of the prodigal in the family. I had many similar experiences of bringing reconciliation between the brethren in prison and their relatives.

**A Full Time Ministry**

I consider myself as a full-time volunteer of Prison Ministry chosen by Christ to assist people in need at any time all through the week, or at any hour of the day. Once at 8pm when I had just finished dinner, I received a call from a released prisoner that he was in trouble as he and his brother are in danger of being arrested and put in prison because his brother, an alcoholic, had quarreled with a person on the street and a group had called the police to arrest him. I contacted Fr Sony C.P for help and he willingly accompanied me to the spot to assist those who had called for help. I met the police who were preparing to take him to the Police Station. I pleaded with the police not to send the man to prison but to permit me to admit him in a Rehabilitation Center for his reformation rather than imprisoning him. The Police replied to me, “If you plead like a mother begging help for her son, how can I refuse you. Please take him and do what you think is best.” I was greatly relieved when Fr Sony accepted to take him to his Rehabilitation center immediately, though it was in the night. The accused was taken to the Rehabilitation Center instead of the Central prison. The greatest joy I felt during my ministry was when a criminal was touched by God’s forgiving love and was transformed, giving up his life of crime.
and choosing to walk in the right path. I felt greater joy on such occasions, than when I received awards from ‘Namma Bengaluru’ or ‘Janaseva Award’ from C.R.I Bangalore, for my services in the prison.

Preparing to Receive Sacraments

During my ministry in prison, I met several inmates, who were baptized Christians in their childhood, but had never read the Bible nor received any other Sacraments. Some of them who had fallen into a life of crime were gradually transformed during their life in prison by the touch of God. They received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation for the first time in the prison. I recall the life of some among them who were murderers, drug addicts and alcoholics before entering the prison. When they experienced God’s love and healing touch, they started responding to the call of God to walk on a new path according to the living WORD of God which was broken to them in the prayer meetings. After their release some of them have returned to the society as torch bearers of the light of God. Such persons are living a renewed life in their family and society. I remember a person, who was a member of a gang of thieves, going about with an iron rod in his hand as he was involved in criminal activities of looting houses, shops and banks, was arrested and brought to the prison. Though he was a Christian, he had never entered the prison chapel for prayer. A Christian volunteer brought him for prayer meeting. Later he was prepared for receiving the Sacraments and was totally transformed by the touch of God during his prison life. Today he is living an exemplary life earning his living from a modest job and supporting his family. What greater joy can one desire in the life of a volunteer of Prison Ministry?

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**PMI Major Seminary Units**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Seminary Units</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1  | St Joseph Pontifical Seminary  
Mangalapuzha, P.B. No.1, Aluva, Kerala, India - 683 102 | Fr Sinto Chittilapally | 8304872267 |
| 2  | Carmelgiri Seminary  
Aluva, Kerala 683 102 | Fr Rajesh | 8592990891 |
| 3  | Jeevalaya Seminary  
Gottigere P.O., Bengalore - 560083 | Fr Thomas Paul | 9846058333 |
| 4  | Morning Star College  
Barrackpore - Barasat Road, Sewli, Telenipara P.O.  
Kolkata - 700121, West Bengal, India | Fr George | 6003728861 |
| 5  | St Thomas  
Kottayam, Vadavathoor, Kottayam, Kerala - 686010 | Fr Rijo Mynattiparambil | 9645659321 |
| 6  | Good Shepherd Major Seminary  
Kunnoth, Kiliyanthara P.O., Kannur - 670706, Kerala | Fr Nellickal | 8547407101 |
| 7  | St Ephrem’s Theological College  
Ephrem Nagar, P. B. No 26, Satna - 485001, Madhya Pradesh | Fr Joji Puliampallil | 6264877577 |
| 8  | Ruhalaya Major Seminary  
P.B. No. 4, Agar Road, Ujjain City P.O.  
Ujjain - 456006, Madhya Pradesh | Fr Jose Valiamangalam | 9158073627 |
| 9  | Oriens Theological College  
Mawlai, Shillong - 793008, Meghalaya, India | Fr Kuriakose | 9466050933 |
| 10 | Marymatha Major Seminary  
P. B. No.7, Mannuthy, Thrissur - 680 651 | Fr Frijo Parackal | 8848021760 |
| 11 | St Mary’s Malankara Major Seminary  
Mar Ivanios Vidyanagar, Nalanchira, Trivandrum, Kerala, India - 695 015 | Fr Malayattil | 9447893732 |
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“Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured” (Heb 13, 1-3).
# PMI State Coordinators

## 1. SOUTH REGION

**Regional Coordinator** | Fr Shaji Stephen O de M | 9995577738
---|---|---
**1.1 Andhra Pradesh**
State Coordinator | Fr Pasala Lahastraya | 9849734425
**1.2 Karnataka**
State Coordinator | Fr Benny Pachanal CRSP | 7411280074
**1.3 Kerala & Lakshadweep**
State Coordinator | Fr Shaji Stephen O de M | 9995577738
**1.4 Puducherry**
State Coordinator | Fr Joseph Arumai Selvam | 9597555211
**1.5 Tamilnadu**
State Coordinator | Msgr Anthony Samy | 944420959
**1.6 Telangana**
State Coordinator | Fr Dion Isaac | 9949158988

## 2. CENTRAL REGION

**Regional Coordinator** | Fr Wilfred Fernandes | 9822066675
---|---|---
**2.1 Bihar**
State Coordinator | Fr Arogyaswamy | 9572098335
**2.2 Chhattisgarh**
State Coordinator | Fr Alexander Ekka SJ | 9685858115
**2.3 Goa, Daman and Diu**
State Coordinator | Mr David Fernandes | 9922701071
**2.4 Gujarat**
State Coordinator | Sr Fulmani LDSFX | 8999889922, 9638454172
**2.5 Jharkhand**
State Coordinator | Sr Nivedita SSH | 9801008342, 9471550081
**2.6 Madhya Pradesh**
State Coordinator | Bro Sunnylal Avarappattu MMB | 9425004097
**2.7 Maharashtra, Dadar and Nagar Haveli**
State Coordinator | Fr Wilfred Fernandes | 9822066675
**2.8 Odisha**
State Coordinator | Fr Timothy Victor Pinto SVD | 8088255840
**2.9 West Bengal, Sikkim & Andaman Nicobar Islands**
State Coordinator | Sr Alexia AC | 9433496078
3. PMI NORTH REGION

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Delhi and Haryana</td>
<td>Fr George Peter Kachirayil</td>
<td>7999855315</td>
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<td>3.2 Himachal Pradesh</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>3.3 Jammu &amp; Kashmir and Ladakh</td>
<td>Fr Antony Peppin</td>
<td>9419143382</td>
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<td>3.4 Punjab</td>
<td>Fr Sijith</td>
<td>7837949331</td>
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<td>3.5 Rajasthan</td>
<td>Fr Norbert SVD</td>
<td>9460333970</td>
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<td>3.6 Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>Jesu Amrtham</td>
<td>9412200908</td>
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<td>3.7 Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Fr Jesu Amrtham</td>
<td>9412200908</td>
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4. NORTH EAST COORDINATORS

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<td>4.1 Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Fr Thomas Erambil</td>
<td>9436256707</td>
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<td>4.2 Assam</td>
<td>Fr Pramod</td>
<td>7086278072, 8473074436</td>
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<td>4.3 Manipur</td>
<td>Sr Rosin Mulayolickal</td>
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<td>4.4 Meghalaya</td>
<td>Fr Bernard</td>
<td>9366195069</td>
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<td>4.4 Mizoram</td>
<td>Fr Praveen Fernandes</td>
<td>9862415254</td>
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<td>4.5 Nagaland</td>
<td>Fr Suresh Innocent</td>
<td>8610567227</td>
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<td>4.6 Tripura</td>
<td>Fr Joy Tharackal</td>
<td>9497068671</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Abducted People’s Releasers (APR)</td>
<td>Mrs Rosily Varghese</td>
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<td>02</td>
<td>Anointed Prisoners’ Consolers (APC)</td>
<td>Sr Jancy Chakiath MPV</td>
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<td>03</td>
<td>Anticorruption and Antibribery Warriors (AAW)</td>
<td>Mr Walter Kample</td>
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<td>04</td>
<td>Anti-Drug Trafficking Warriors (ATW)</td>
<td>Fr Sebastian Vechookarottu</td>
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<td>05</td>
<td>Antifascist Prisoners Reformers (APR)</td>
<td>Miss Anumol</td>
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<td>Antihuman Trafficking Brigadiers (ATB)</td>
<td>Mr Ashok Kumar</td>
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<td>Blackmailing Prisoners Reformers (BPR)</td>
<td>Sr Beena SDP</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dacoits Redeemers (DR)</td>
<td>Mrs Rebecca Pinto</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Death Row Commandos (DRC)</td>
<td>Lt Col Jennifer James</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Espionage Prisoners Reformers (EPR)</td>
<td>Mrs Nancy Misquith</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Foreign Prisoners’ Expatriation (FPE)</td>
<td>Mr Jesu Raja</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Gangsters Reformers (GR)</td>
<td>Sr Gracy SJL</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Genocide Prisoners Redeemers (GPR)</td>
<td>Dr Rosily Thomas</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Hackers Transformers (HT)</td>
<td>Ms Fay McKinley</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Hired-Killers Liberating Squadron (HLS)</td>
<td>Fr Alexander Kureekkattil CMF</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Hooligans Reformers (HR)</td>
<td>Mrs Vinita Britto</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Innocent Prisoners’ Redeemers (IPR)</td>
<td>Sr Lini Sheeja MSC</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Juvenile Delinquents Reformers (JDR)</td>
<td>Br Pradeep Anthony OFM</td>
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<td>Lynchers Reformers (LR)</td>
<td>Sr Udaya CIC</td>
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<td>Mafia Redeemers (MR)</td>
<td>Fr Dion Isaac</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Military Prisoners Reformers (MPR)</td>
<td>Mrs Latha Appachan</td>
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<td>No.</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Murderers Transformers (MT)</td>
<td>Sr Jolly SAB</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Paedophiles Reformers (PR)</td>
<td>Ms Sylvia Vaz</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Pirates Transformers (PT)</td>
<td>Sr Celia UMI</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Political Prisoners Transformers (PPT)</td>
<td>Mr Raymond Osta</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Prisoners’ Children Educators (PCE)</td>
<td>Mrs Veera Pinto</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Prison Police Reformers (PPR)</td>
<td>Sr Anisha SD</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Psychiatric Prisoners Comforters (PPC)</td>
<td>Mr Antony Jacob</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Prisoners’ Releasing Squad (PRS)</td>
<td>Sr Adele Korah SCCG</td>
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<td>Mr Antony Jacob</td>
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<td>Purgatory Souls’ Redeemers (PSR)</td>
<td>Sr Lini Sheeja MSC</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Serial-Killers Reformers (SR)</td>
<td>Sr Fulmani LDFX</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>Sex Offenders Healers (SOH)</td>
<td>Sr Jobina UFS</td>
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<td>Sick Prisoners Healers (SPH)</td>
<td>Sr Shiji SCSC</td>
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<td>Smugglers Transformers (ST)</td>
<td>Sr Dollin Maria FCC</td>
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<td>Terrorists Saving Squad (TSS)</td>
<td>Fr Michael Francis</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>Undertrial Prisoners’ Releasers (UPR)</td>
<td>Mr Edmond Frank</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Victims Redeemers (VR)</td>
<td>Mr Rajendra Dushing</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>War-crime Prisoners Reformers (WPR)</td>
<td>Mr Justine Kottaram</td>
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**Reconciliation Prayer**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
  When there is injury, pardon;
  Where there is doubt, faith;
  Where there is despair, hope;
  Where there is darkness, light;
  And where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that I may not so much seek
  To be consoled as to console;
  To be understood, as to understand,
  To be loved as to love;
  For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*St Francis of Assisi*
PMI Rehabilitation Centers
Homes for Prisoners’ Children

Rehabilitation Centers for Men

1) Snehashramam, Vettukad PO, Thrissur 680 014, Kerala; Director - Fr Sunil, Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (SCJ), Tel. 7558914919; Estd 1 October 1991.
2) Santhinivas, Pathadipalam, Changampuzha PO, Edappally - 682033 Kerala; Director - Fr Jos Kidangayil, Claretian Congregation (CMF) Tel. 9961272928; Estd 6 August 1995.
3) Snehatheeram, Market Road, YMCA, Alappuzha - 688 001, Kerala; Director - Fr Thobias, Tel 9526389005.
4) Kolbe Home, KG Kandigai, Tirutanni 631205, Tamilnadu, Director - Fr Thomas, Society of St Eugene De Mazenod (SDM), Tel 894 080 3689, Estd 2017.

Rehabilitation Centers for Women

1) Snehashramam, Monvila, Kulathoor PO, Thiruvananthapuram 695583, Kerala; Director - Sr Beena, Sisters of the Poor of St Catherine of Sienna (SDP) Tel 8078818239; Estd 11 October 1992.
2) Jeevodaya Ashram for Women, Daddakannalli, Janatha Colony, Carmelaram PO, Bangalore 560035, Karnataka, Director - Sr Clara, Holy Cross Congregation, Tel. 0802 843 9926; Estd 22 January 1995.
3) Karunasadan, Kannur, Kerala, Ursulines Mary Immaculate (UMI), Estd 2004.
4) Vishwa Jyothi, Guntur Andra Pradesh, Sisters of St Anne’s of Guntur (CSSA), Estd 2004.
5) Mercy Home, Karnool - DSS Sisters, Estd 2021

Homes for Prisoners’ Children - Boys

2) Kolbe Home, 52 Thomas Layout, Sarjapur Road, Carmelaram, Bangalore -560035, Karnataka. Director - Sr Basil, Satya Seva Catechist Sisters (SCS) Tel 8296304931, Estd 2016.

Homes for Prisoners’ Children - Girls

2) Karunyashram, Thoppil, Thrikkakkara PO, Kochi 682021, Kerala, Director - Sr Anne Maria from Sisters of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SABS) Tel. 04842 425270; Estd 8 January 1999.
3) Premodaya, St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral, St John’s Church Road, Bangalore 560 005, Karnataka; Director - Sr Raji, Sisters of St Anne’s, Tel. 080 555 4683.
4) Jeevan Jyothy, St Joseph’s Convent, Anavilasam PO, Idukki - 685535, Kerala, Director - Sr Savio, Augustinian Congregation, Tel 9747627889.
5) Bonal Bhavan, Kadumeni PO, Kasargod - 670511, Kerala, Director - Sr Tresa Chucko, Sisters of Charity of St Anne, Tel 8606350100.
6) Marie Pushpan’s Home, Ranchi, Jharkand, Director - Sr Jini, Order of Dominicans (OP), Tel 7254043957, Estd 2017.
7) Ashakiran, Ranji, Jharkhand. Director Sr Julia - 7903243808
When God, the creator, mixes with us humans, great and beautiful and wonderful things begin to happen, sometimes without our knowing it even. This is exactly true of my experience with my involvement in PMI’s mission and ministry. PMI stands for a noble cause of untying the fetters of those behind the bars and liberating them to see the sun shine and the ray of hope in their future days. God has promised us to take us step by step... not all at once, but step by step and... each step will be a miracle... This is what I experienced throughout, especially in the beginning of this ministry in Karnataka. A living faith in the indwelling presence of God in my soul was another aspect of my experience which enabled me to find meaning, purpose and fulfilment in this ministry. I found a new awakening and confidence as I started working for the jail birds. But it was not as easy as we see the ministry today.

**PMI Karnataka**

The source of inspiration to start the mission in Karnataka was Fr Varghese Karippery, a charismatic priest who initiated prison ministry as a ministry of the Church in India. He often said: “Be a love bomb, let it be exploded, not to kill, but to heal the broken hearts”. The first National conference of PMI was conducted in Bangalore from 12 - 14th August 1994, in which Fr Karipypsy was elected as the 1st National Coordinator. The official inauguration of the National office of PMI was done on 22nd January 1995 along with the rehabilitation centre for the released women prisoners, Jeevodaya Ashram, at Huskur, off Hosur road, in a farm house attached to a cow shed which was repaired and cleansed and functioned as the PMI National office. Those days the prison was in the city of Bangalore at Majestic area. After three months we had to shift from Huskur to Sumanahalli where the then Archbishop, Most Rev Dr Alphonse Mathias allowed us to occupy the place where the leprosy rehab work was going on. We remained there for two years till we bought the land and built the house at Doddakannalli, Carmelaram, Bangalore - 35, and inaugurated the new house on 24th June 1997.

**Bangalore Central Prison Visit**

In order to get permission to visit the jail Fr Varghese Karippiry, Sr Clara and myself prepared ourselves with prayer and went to meet the Inspector General of prisons (IGP) who was kind enough to listen to us as we explained about our mission in the prison. After hearing everything he responded saying that the work we would be doing was ok, provided there was no conversion. He was happy and gave us permission to visit the prison once a week. On our way back Fr Karippiry carried a small packet of sand from the jail campus and brought it home. In the evening when we came together for prayer, he opened it and spread it on the floor and all the three of us knelt down on the sand, prayed and it continued for days. Before entering the prison when it was in the city, all the volunteers together would go to St Martha’s hospital chapel and spend one hour in prayer and then proceeded to the jail and coming out of the prison too we stood outside the prison and thanked the Lord before returning to our homes. We used to help the poor prisoners who had no one to help or no means to pay the fine, with free legal aid and financial support to pay their fine. Prisoners were very happy to welcome us and would wait for us and if we missed one day, they used to ask us, “why sisters, you did not come last week, we were waiting for you and we missed you.” When we were with them holding group or individual sessions using passages from the Bible or Bhagavatgeeta or any good quotes, it enabled them to cope up with their life situations, to forgive and to let go of the past hurts and wounds and thus be healed. It was truly an enriching time for them.
Deep Realizations

On another occasion we were restricted to say the name of Jesus inside the prison. When we had the meeting with Mr Sangliana, the then IGP, a Christian from North East, he told us that we should never be afraid of pronouncing the name of Jesus as we are his followers and encouraged us to go on with our mission in the prison. I believe and am convinced that this mission is inspired by the lifestyle and mission of Jesus, well reflected in the Gospel passages. This mission is built on the conviction that there are no born criminals or prostitutes, but are made so by society, and all human beings are loved by God their creator, as it is well expressed in the Gospel passages. “Give me a drink of water” (Jn: 4/7). I realized that when we begin to live for the least, lost and the last, the low caste and the marginalized, we become powerful and effective instruments in the hand of God and become part of His wonderful, redemptive master plan. Yes, I am convinced through the experiences of my involvement in PMI’s mission, that we are all here to give ‘that water, the water of love, the water of forgiveness, the water of compassion and the water of acceptance’ to those lost in the maze of life.

In Jeevodaya Ashram we could give ‘that water’ which could save so many who would have been otherwise lost in the darkness of the world. I am happy to bring to your notice that we could settle in life about seventy-five women in marriage having their own families which would otherwise be impossible if they were not in Jeevodaya. Even though we have no big bank balances, all the marriages were conducted well with the support and collaboration and contribution of many generous hearts. Now people have started asking for girls from Jeevodaya for marriage saying that they would be well formed as they are with the sisters.

Conclusion

I am happy to see the growth of PMI as a Banyan tree which sends its roots to the ground spreading far and wide. PMI has extended its service all throughout our country, training the volunteers and forming units and rehabilitation centres, conducting programmes for the prisoners etc. In this Ruby Jubilee year of PMI, I’m grateful to God for the many chances and opportunities afforded to me to walk with the people who are oppressed, uprooted, homeless, marginalized, abused, imprisoned, undocumented and so on. It is something beautiful, a gift of God to take care of people - the men and women in jail. It is something beautiful for God and a great gift of God” (St Mother Teresa of Calcutta).

PMI Volunteers Prayer: TO Be

Help me, O Lord

To be the wheat fallen
To be the vine pruned
To be the reed holed
To be the wood chiseled

To be the stone rejected
To be the stone rolled
To be the body broken
To be the blood shed

To be the lamb of God
To be the lamp of the world
To be the salt of the earth
To be the ransom for many

Help me O Lord.
“Guilty!” that word echoed across the room,
What power it had it spelt my doom.
“But I’m innocent, your honour”, I cried out that day,
“Case dismissed” said the judge, “Take him away”.
I was in shock, I had nothing to say,
Falsely accused now I will be put away.
A fourteen years sentence was slammed on me,
Incarcerated behind bars no longer free.
In fetters and chains I was a man condemned,
Abandoned and rejected, is this my end?
Branded a criminal, no one to turn to,
Unjustly blamed for something I didn’t do.
I’m not a murderer, I didn’t snuff out that life,
I’m a good man with fine kids and a loving wife.
Help me Lord Jesus I’m frightened, lost and alone,
But You are my refuge, behind these walls of stone.
As an innocent prisoner, our sins You bore,
On Your head a thorny crown You wore.
You were crucified and You died on the cross for me,
Jesus, You embraced death to set me free.
Release me Lord from emotions of revenge and hate,
Against those who have put me into this state.
Jesus You said, “Forgive them Father, they know not what they do,”
Lord, I too want to be forgiving like You.
Extend Your loving hands and lay them on my head,
Grant me the grace of forgiveness instead.
I have nothing to fear now this I know,
For my Lord my God is with me whenever I go.
After the death of her husband, Shwetha (all names in this true story have been changed) and her three children - two boys and a girl - wandered for a period. Finally, they joined nomads living in tents. Due to poverty and overcrowding, their area turned to a criminal-activity prone location with the sale and use of drugs, theft and other anti-social activities. The unfavourable circumstances and peer pressure influenced the boys. They became addicted to drugs and alcohol. Her elder son, Darpan was put behind the bars several times. Later he was diagnosed with liver cirrhosis and passed away at the age of 31. By then, their 40-year-old slum house was in a pathetic condition due to waterlogging and flood. It was heart-breaking for the mother when Darpan’s body could not be brought inside the house due to the flood and they had to place the body in an open space.

Shwetha’s daughter was given in marriage. Her husband had an illegal relationship and sent the daughter away. Shwetha’s younger son too fell ill due to drugs and alcohol. It is at this juncture that the PMI Ruby Jubilee Housing project took up the case of this family. The family could construct a new house in their ¾ cent land. They are safe and secure in the new house; no flood or tide will affect the new house. They are very thankful to the Prison Ministry India family for helping them construct a liveable home. The family thanks Most Rev Allwyn D’Souza, PMI Chairperson, Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, PMI National coordinator, the entire PMI family and benefactors for this noble deed.

Where are Your Brethren?

This true story invites humanity to understand the agony of poverty-stricken families and the strong belief of PMI, no one is born a criminal. Darpan was not born a criminal but their environs led him and his brother to criminal activities. Once a person is thrown behind the bars, the whole family is stigmatized together with him/her. Every prisoner whom PMI volunteers encounter is a God-given gift. The thief on the cross was the Father's gift to Jesus to be redeemed. They are our brethren and we accompany them on their journey to receive God’s mercy and grace. As God asked Cain, where is your brother? In Genesis 4:9, the same God asks each one of us where are our brothers and sisters? For PMI volunteers, our brothers and sisters are behind the bars and we encounter our living God in their brokenness and woundedness. Jesus too was broken on the Cross; salvation came to the world from His brokenness.

Our Hearts are Restless until the Lost Ones are Redeemed!

“Our hearts are restless until it finds its rests in Thee”, said St Augustine. Together with St Augustine, we the PMI volunteers say, our hearts are restless until the souls of our brethren behind the bars are redeemed. St Therese of Child Jesus never gave up on Henri Pranzini, a death row prisoner that she remembered in her prayers every day. As the fruit of her humble prayers offered within the four walls of her convent, Pranzini redeemed before his execution within the four dark walls of the prison. PMI, as part of its Ruby Jubilee, launched 40 Special Task Forces for death row prisoners, terrorists, serial killers, etc. PMI had launched 24 hours Eucharistic adoration known as Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the incarcerated, praying for hard-core criminals, for all our brethren behind the bars, placing our complete trust in “God for whom nothing is impossible” (Luke 1:37).

Chaos, Confusion and Commotion

Most people are afraid of the dark; we never hear of anyone being afraid of the light. Because darkness represents uncertainty, chaos, confusion and despair. It is the feeling that we get when the light goes off in the night and suddenly it turns pitch black. We immediately grope for a phone, a torch or something that can shed some light, because darkness makes us feel so uncomfortable. Prison life is darkness round the clock. The thick
dark prison walls bring on feelings of chaos, confusion and commotion. Can we join our hands together to shed light in their darkness?

One Gentle Touch and a Few Moments

One day, a man was sitting alone thinking deeply. One of our PMI volunteers observed him for some time, went close and sat down next to him. She held his hands and looked at him. During the conversation, the volunteer came to know that it was his first day in prison and he was planning to commit suicide that night. He was an innocent prisoner, rejected by family, condemned by society at the time of his arrest. He was given hope behind the prison walls by PMI volunteers through the guidance of the Spirit. And today he has proven his innocence and lives happily with his family. That one gentle touch, those few moments kept him alive and he has a future today. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are leftover” (Jn 6:12). When Jesus asked His disciples to gather the left-overs, the disciples bend down and gathered the left-overs. The wounded ones behind the bars are left out by society. We enter through the prison gates to gather the ones left out. What joy it gives us when these left-outs are given hope when these scattered ones get back their lost lives!

Our Brethren - God’s Gift

We often hear that prison is not a safe place as it is the living space of criminals. But for me, it is the living space of human beings created in the image and likeness of God. The hearts of some of our brethren are filled with revenge and hatred. They need someone to guide them in their desperate moments. As St Therese of Child Jesus called Pranzini, Mon Premier Enfant, the broken ones behind the bars are our children; God’s precious gift to us. As Moses was entrusted to lead and guide the Israelites, we too are called to guide our brethren and lift their souls to God. We need to reach out to them in their woundedness.

PMI - A Call to be a Bold Servant

We the PMI volunteers are called to be bold. For, our Saviour was bold. He was bold when He stood for truth. He was bold when He cleansed the Church. He was bold when He called the Pharisees and Sadducees white washed tombs. He was bold when He allowed the sinful woman to wash His feet with her tears. He was bold when He ate with sinners and outcasts. He was bold when He touched the lepers and healed them. He was bold when He asked the disciples to gather the lost after feeding 5000. He was bold when He went in search of the one leaving 99. He was bold when He preached publicly courageously. Jesus was bold when He said to the paralysed man, your sins are forgiven. He was bold when he said to the woman caught in adultery, neither do I judge you. Go, sin no more.

He was bold when He forgave sinners. He was bold when He carried the Cross and walked patiently to Calvary. He was bold when He forgave the thief on the Cross. He was bold when He gave up His life on the cross to gather the scattered children of God. And this is the call of every PMI volunteer who are called by the God of boldness. As we stoop through the prison gates to meet our brethren, we gaze upon our God who spoke boldly, walked boldly, acted boldly, lived boldly and died boldly. PMI volunteers goes to prison even in the night as stay in prison quarters, go to police stations at any time, step into courts to be the voice for voiceless.

Can You Join Hands with Us?

Life is a blessing! COVID 19 taught us how precious life is! When patients were struggling for breath in ICUs and ambulances, we became aware of how precious breath is! All the doctors were trying to save the life of each patient placed in their care. Every doctor, nurse and front-line worker worked to save humanity from the deadly virus. Life is precious! Each soul is precious! No soul should experience destruction. Jesus came to save the one that was lost. “I have not lost one of those you gave me” (Jn 18:9). Our Redeemer gave up His life to gather into unity his scattered children. You will find these scattered children behind the prison walls. They are scattered, life is scattered and their future is shattered. The mission of PMI is similar to that of Christ Jesus who came to gather scattered children; who came to gather the left-outs. The mission of PMI is like that of Jesus who came in search of the one that was lost. Can you join hands with us?
8 December 2021- Day of Reparation and Recollection

0300PM  Arrival and Registration
0400PM  Tea
0500PM  Eucharistic Adoration / Confession
0600PM  Recollection by Very Rev Fr Varghese Karippery, PMI Cofounder
0700PM  Holy Mass
0800PM  Supper
0830PM  Cultural Program
1000PM  To Bed

9 December 2021 - Day of Thanksgiving

0700AM  Thanksgiving Morning Prayer
0800AM  Breakfast
0900AM  Thanksgiving Holy Mass
1030AM  Coffee Break
1045AM  Ruby Jubilee Meeting
0100PM  Lunch
0200PM  Visit to Kolbe Home, Van Thuan Home and RRDC
0300PM  Blessing of National Office Annex
0400PM  Tea
0500PM  PMI Synodality
0700PM  Thanksgiving Eucharistic Adoration
0800PM  Supper
0830PM  Cultural Program
1000PM  To Bed

10 December 2021 - Day to Dream on PMI Golden Jubilee

0700AM  Holy Mass
0800AM  Breakfast
0900AM  PMI National Executive Meeting
1030AM  Coffee Break
1100AM  PMI Core Group Meeting
1230AM  Lunch/Departure
PMI Ruby Jubilee Celebration
Reachout, Release, Reform, Rehabilitate, Reintegrate and Redeem
9 December 2021, 1045AM-0100PM

RUBY JUBILEE MEETING
PROGRAM

MC
Mrs Ivy Emmanuel

Introduction
Fr Benny Pachanal CRSP, PMI Assist National Coordinator

Prayer
Sr Jobina UFS, PMI North East Regional Coordinator

Lighting the Lamp
Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, PMI National Coordinator

Welcome
Most Rev Alwyn D'Silva, PMI Chairman

Prizes for Quiz Winners
Sr Lini Sheeja, Sr Syamala, Lt Col Jennifer James

Honorarium
Br Mathew Albin, Founder & Director Shanti Bhavan

Honorarium
Jolly & Nimmy, Founder & Director, Jesus Friends

Honorarium
Sr Adele, Prisoners’ Releasing Warrior

Felicitation
Shri Mallikarjuna Mali, Superintendent, Open Air Prison

Felicitation
Rev Fr Varghese Karippery, PMI Cofounder

Book Release
Fr Francis Kodiyan-Prisoners’ Rehabilitation and Reintegration

Felicitation
Rev Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan, Former National Coordinator

Book Release
Lini Sheeja MSC - Prison Ministry – The Dreamers’ Mission

Felicitation
Rev Fr Sebastian Thekkanath, Former National Coordinator

Book Release
PMI Directory

Felicitation
Rev Fr Josekutty Kalayil, Former National Coordinator

Book Release
PMI Ruby Jubilee Souvenir

Felicitation
Rev Sr Fidelis, Foundress Jeevodaya Ashram

Releasing
Calander 2022

Vote of Thanks
Sr Amala DC, PMI National Secretary

Concluding Prayer
Mrs Veera Pinto

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam
Prison Ministry  
A Ministry Close to the Heart of Jesus  
Fr Sebastian Theckanath

“I was in prison and you visited me”. (Mt 25:40). Ministering prisoners is really a ministry very close to the heart of Jesus. He came to this world to save the mankind. “The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord” Lk 4: 18-19). As one of the pioneer members of Jesus Fraternity (PMI) since its official beginning as a ministry for the brethren behind the bars, I was always feeling that this ministry is a ministry very close to the heart of Jesus.

Jesus Christ himself was in the prison of Pilot and had to undergo all the physical harassments and at last he was awarded with the capital sentence. Jesus Christ was an innocent prisoner. The judge himself tells that “I find this man not guilty” (Lk 23:4). “You brought this man to me and accused him of inciting the people to revolt. I have conducted my investigation in your presence and have not found this man guilty of the charges you have brought against him nor did Herod, for he sent him back to us. No capital crime has been committed by him” (Lk 23: 14-16). Very clearly judge says that Jesus Christ is innocent, not done any crime at all. Pilot repeats the same again a third time. Pilot addressed them a third time, “What evil has this man done? I found him guilty of no capital crime” (Lk 23:22). Even though the judge found Jesus guilty of no capital crime, he handed over him for capital punishment - crucifixion. Jesus Christ had undergone the most unjust trial and he was awarded with capital punishment. Thus he became the ‘innocent prisoner’.

Prison Ministry India is a ministry very close the heart of Jesus because we are going to the inmates of the prison seeing the innocent face of Jesus in them. We try to give them a chance to come back to a normal life. We try to communicate to the prison inmates the compassionate and forgiving love of Jesus Christ. We are going to the prisons not on our own behalf, whereas we are going on behalf of Jesus Christ. We tell the inmates of the prisons that they are all saved by the innocent blood of Jesus on the cross. When we celebrate the Ruby Jubilee of the idea brought out by the founder fathers in 1981, ‘Be a love Bomb, let it be exploded, not to kill, but to heal the broken-hearts’. I feel proud to be part of this noble mission of the church since its official beginning as a ministry in 1986 and being part of it as the State Director and National Director of PMI and Jesus Christ made use of my priestly ministry to bring Prison Ministry India (PMI) under Catholic Bishop’s Conference of India and put a strong formation in the National level. I wish and pray that may the Ruby Jubilee time help all the volunteers of PMI to imbibe the original charism of the ministry: Inconvenience is our convenience; Bank is providence of God and sharing is our lifestyle.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ sanctify me.  
Body of Christ save me.  
Blood of Christ inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ strengthen me.  
O Good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your Wounds hide me.  
Permit me not to be separated from you.  
From the wicked foe, defend me.  

At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you.  
That with your saints I may praise you for ever and ever. Amen.

St Ignatius of Loyola
Recollection Day

The Ruby Jubilee of Prison Ministry India was celebrated with great enthusiasm and exuberance on 8-10 December 2021 at Ivy Rosa Resort adjacent to PMI National office, Bangalore. The light which Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS and Fr Varghese Karippery had lit on 8 December 1981 continues to illuminate millions. PMI Ruby Jubilee Concluding Celebrations began with the Eucharistic adoration at 5PM. This was an opportunity to introspect on the glorious achievements of PMI in the past 40 years. Sr Fidelis devoutly led this adoration in which all participants praised and thanked God for the unfailing mercy and love of the Eucharistic Lord and asked forgiveness for the unfaithfulness in the past 40 years.

Recollection

Fr Varghese Karippery enlightened everybody by his inspiring message on the genesis of Prison Ministry at St Thomas Apostolic Seminary in 1981 and its development and growth into various Indian states. He recalled how the Lord miraculously led PMI on eagle’s wings. The solemn inaugural Holy Eucharist was presided over by Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D’Silva, PMI Chairman. PMI Founder Fathers and other priests concelebrated. Fr Wilfred Fernades, the PMI Central regional coordinator, delivered the homily. Immediately after a sumptuous dinner, the scintillating cultural program emceed by Fr Michael Francis began. This included some of the foot-tapping dances from different rehabilitation centers, Jeevodaya-girls, FSM-Aspirants and Kolbe Home boys. The whole assembly wished Sr Amala DC, PMI National secretary festal greetings. Sr Adele Korah presented the power point highlighting the important events in the last four decades in the history of PMI. Mr & Mrs Jolly and Nimmy, Founder Directors of Jesus Friends shared their life experiences in redeeming the lost on the streets and hired killers. The entire cultural program was anchored by Sr Jobina UFS, PMI North East Regional Coordinator. The program came to an end with vote of thanks proposed by Sr Clara and concluding prayer by Fr Thomas Erambil from Arunachal Pradesh.

Thanksgiving Day

The day of thanksgiving began on 9th December at 7am with the morning prayer led by Lt Col Jenifer James. At 9am thanksgiving Holy Mass was solemnized by Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D’Silva. Founder Fathers, former national coordinators, and other priests concelebrated. PMI national executive members, state coordinators, Special task force coordinators, rehabilitation centres directors and directresses, Seminary unit coordinators and other distinguished delegates from different walks of life from across India participated in the thanksgiving Holy Mass.

Jubilee Gathering

The emcee for the public meeting was Mrs Ivy Immanuel. The chief guests namely, Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D’Silva, Rev Fr Varghese Karippery, Rev Fr Francis Kodiyan, Rev Fr Benny Pachanal, Rev Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan, Rev Fr Sebastian Thekkanath, Rev Fr Josekutty Kalayil, Sr Fidelis HCM, Sr Amala DC, Mrs. Veera Pinto were invited to the dais and all of them were honoured with shawls and Mementos by Fr Francis.
Bishop Allwyn honored Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS. Fr Benny Pachanal, PMI assistant national coordinator gave an apt introduction on the genesis of PMI. Sr Amala DC invoked God’s blessings by singing a hymn to the Holy Spirit. Rev Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS made everyone feel comfortable and infused in them the right spirit of enthusiasm by a loving and spirited welcome address.

In his presidential address, Most Rev Bishop Allwyn said that we have to live with a different reality. We live in a digital world. We will have to think how to communicate, how to reach out, how to have meetings in a digital world. How to really communicate what is worth and how to effectively communicate what we are doing. We will be able to meet often to think on the national level of planning and to think in a different way. In prison ministry, we will have to think of new ways of how to deal with this new reality. Another reality is fake news. A lot of fake news is going from one end to the other end. How do we deal with this as members of the prison ministry? The whole reality is changing. What will be the new normal in the future? We must congratulate Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, for during this pandemic, he and his team have thought of new ways. I would like to congratulate him and the staff for continuing with our prison ministry. Many organizations and many groups have failed. They have been inactive. But he has been taking the Prison Ministry India forward.

Bishop Allwyn distributed prizes to the winners of quiz competition - Sr Lini Sheeja MSC, Sr Siyamala and Lt Col Jennifer James. Honorariums were given to Sr Adele Korah, Mr & Mrs Jolly Nimmy founder directors of Jesus’ Friends, and Br Mathew Albin, founder director of Shanthi Bhavan. Felicitations were delivered by Rev Fr Varghese Karippery PMI Co-founder, Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan, Fr Sebastian Thekkanath, Fr Josekuttty Kalayil MST, the former PMI national coordinators and Sr Fidelis. Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D’Silva released the books - Prisoners’ Rehabilitation and Reintegration edited by Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, Prison Ministry: The Dreamers’ Mission by Sr Lini Sheeja MSC, Ruby Jubilee Souvenir, PMI Directory and PMI Calendar 2022. Sr Amala DC, PMI national secretary proposed vote of thanks. Meeting came to an end with a concluding prayer and Angelus by Mrs Veera Pinto, the PMI Bangalore unit secretary.

**Kolbe Home Visit**

After lunch at 2PM all participants visited Kolbe home, Van Thuan Home, RRDC, chapel for PMI Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated, and PMI Volunteers Training and Documentation Center. Sr Basil and Fr Jaison Puthenpurakkal MST explained the diverse activities of Kolbe home and RRDC through power point presentation.

**National Office Annex Blessing**

At 3PM all participants came to PMI national office at 52 Thomas Layout, Carmelaram, Bangalore to take part in the blessing ceremony of the newly constructed Annex. Most Rev Allwyn D’Silva blessed the annex in the presence of the PMI founders, former national coordinators, regional coordinators, national executive members, state coordinators and so on. Bishop Allwyn D’Silva appreciated Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS the PMI national coordinator and his team for raising fund for the construction and thereby making the jubilee celebrations meaningful and relevant. After the blessing PMI publication books and calendars were distributed to the participants.

**PMI Synodality**

At 5PM the PMY Synodality meeting began with a prayer led by Fr Pasala Lahasthraya. Words of welcome were accorded by Fr Francis, who also opined that as PMI Volunteers, we have to shoulder a responsibility to convey the voice of prisoners to the synod. To hear the groans of prisoners and to set free those who are doomed to die, to hear the voice of those condemned to death. He also shared his experience at Tihar Jail where there are prisoners languishing behinds the bars without trial even after 12 years because of their inability.
to pay heavy fees for lawyers. Bishop Allwyn began his talk on synodality explaining the logo of the synod shown by PowerPoint presentation. There is a large tree with full of wisdom and light which represents the cross of Christ. The Church is full of vitality and it carries the Eucharist which is always in the centre of all celebrations and shines like the sun. The open hand suggests the wings of the Holy Spirit. Synodality means working together and walking together. There is no hierarchy, the bishop and the sisters are in the middle. The journey is led by the children and the youth and a disabled person in the wheelchair. Bishops and nuns are not in front of them but among them. Walking together is listening. He ended by saying that the synod is not a program, it is the process but as church it needs its mission. We need to listen and discern and there shall be communion, participation and mission. Sate coordinators, PMI Special Task Forces coordinators, directresses of homes for prisoners’ children, and seminary unit coordinators shared their views on synodality. Fr Dion Isaac, PMI Telangana State Coordinator gave the concluding remarks. Sr Fidelis proposed vote of thanks and Sr Anisha SD led the concluding prayer.

At 7PM Sr Jolly from Kollar prayerfully led the Eucharistic adoration. This was followed by supper and colourful cultural program. Fr Glasten from Mumbai anchored the program. We had the fabulous performance of dances by Augustinian novices, Charity Sisters’ aspirants, CRII brothers and Sisters and a melodious song by Mr Raymond Osta, Patna. Br Mathew Albin shared his life experiences and how he led Shanti Bhavan for beggars and mental patients in the last 27 years depending on divine providence. Lt Col Jenifer James proposed vote of thanks. The program concluded with PMI National Anthem led by Mr Rajendra from Aurangabad and final blessing was given by Fr Wilfred Fernandes from Pune.

**The Day to Dream on Gloden Jubilee**

On 10th morning, we had the solemn Eucharistic celebration by Bishop Allwyn along with the Founder Fathers - Fr Francis and Fr Varghese and all other fathers. Fr Dion Isaac delivered the homily. After the Mass Sr Lini Sheeja MSC presented the power point on our journey from Ruby to golden jubilee. She explained the golden jubilee projects for the next ten years.

**National Executive Meeting**

After the breakfast at 0930 PMI national executive meeting was held under the chairmanship of Most Rev Allwyn D’Silva. With lunch, the Ruby Jubilee celebrations came to a memorable end. Glory, honour, praise and thanksgiving to Lord Almighty.

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**Prayer of Prisoners’ Rehabilitation Centers**

Lead us, O Lord
From the world of killing to the world of life
From the world of suffering to the world of happiness
From the world of lock to the world of locklessness
From the world of walls to the world of walllessness
From the world of stealing to the world of sharing
From the world of despair to the world of hope
From the world of revenge to the world of forgiveness
From the world of authority to the world of service
From the world of hatred to the world of love
From the world of worry to the world of providence
Lead us, O Lord.

Fr Varghese Karippery
PMI volunteers from the time of its inception have been true love bombs in search of the lost and in pursuit of realizing the dreams of the lost. In 1981 Bro Francis and Bro Karippery received the divine fire and dreamt for the dejected. In 1980s this divine fire was carried into the dark cells, slums and hospitals by the seminarians who dreamt for the vulnerable. In 1990s PMI reached out in rehabilitating prisoners and their families through rehabilitation centres who dreamt of the broken ones. In 2000s PMI reached out to all the States of India, established the Research, Training and Documentation Centres who dreamt of the larger world. In 2010s PMI reached out to Indian dioceses and formed special task forces to redeem the hardcore criminals who dreamt of encountering volunteers and the incarcerated personally. In 2020 amidst the lockdown PMI dreamt of reaching out to the incarcerated maximum and the fruit was 24 hours Eucharistic Adoration by PMI volunteers across the country.

Divine Dreams

The Father God had a dream for creation and He found everything good on completing it. Father God had a dream for fallen humanity that made him send His only Son to redeem it. Jesus had a dream for His chosen ones that He sent His Spirit and empowered His apostles. The apostles had dreams of making disciples that from the locked room they went out and proclaimed Jesus boldly. Mother Mary had dreams of Jesus’ mission that she walked silently accompanying her Son Jesus on the way to Calvary. St Joseph had dreams and he obeyed and moved on with his dreams. And here Prison Ministry India volunteers too have dreams for the incarcerated and their families and move on with their dreams. The PMI family has moved as the Spirit led them and as a result, they fulfilled the dreams of the dejected ones.

Why PMI Dreams?

When people dream they set their sights on something bigger than themselves - even when they seem impossible. When the prison ministry family dreams we create opportunities to make the aspirations of the incarcerated come alive. By our dreams we lay out platforms to make the goals of our brethren behind bars a reality. We write down their dreams, we speak for them, so that the voice of the voiceless can be heard.

Year of Dream Realization: 2020

Nothing can stop PMI Volunteers, not even the Pandemic, for we are called by God for whom everything is possible. We dream, we believe, we Trust, we run and God makes it a reality. In 2020, we dreamt of constructing 40 houses for prisoners; the foundation stone for the 33rd house was laid a few days ago. In 2020 We dreamt of praying before the Blessed Sacrament as one family, and today God made it a reality as we gather in Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated in 24x7 Eucharistic Adoration for the Incarcerated and their families. If there is a dream, there is hope.

The cry of the homeless incarcerated opened our hearts to respond to them in constructing houses for them. The cry of abandoned children of the incarcerated prompted us to open Kolbe Homes for prisoners’ children. The cry of prisoners from poor socio-economic backgrounds moved us to release them from dark cells by paying their fine and compensation. We dreamt of 4 books to be published during the Ruby Jubilee Year and we have published 7 books. We dreamt of 4 new Kolbe Homes for prisoners’ children; two have been blessed.
already and another two are in the process of accomplishment. We dreamt of 40 Special Task Forces for prisoners across the globe and they stand fulfilled. We dreamt of educating 400 prisoners’ children by providing them scholarship and it is a realised dream now. We dreamt of releasing 400 prisoners by providing their fine and compensation and that too is a dream realised. See how much God loves us and takes care of us.

Prisoners’ Dreams

As humans we all of us are in search of happiness. Much more so, our incarcerated brethren thirst for joy as they have lost everything in their lives. They long for a kind word; they look around for compassionate eyes; they look around for a smile and a gentle touch; they walk miles to meet someone who can spend some time listening to them; they look around for someone who will never judge their past; they look around for someone who can understand their aspirations; they look for someone who can fulfill their dreams. We become content when our dreams are realized and they become satisfied when they know there is someone who can realize their dreams.

Run till Your Goal be Won

As we journey from 4th decade to 5th decade, from Ruby to Golden, 2021 to 2031 here are God’s dreams and our dreams for the incarcerated and their families. Let us run till our goal is reached; till our dreams are realized.

- 2022-31: Build 100 Houses
- 2022-31: Educate 1000 children of the Incarcerated
- 2022-31: Release 1000 Prisoners
- 2022-31: Reach out to all the Parishes
- 2022-31: Another 5000 more volunteers
- 2022-31: 10 Kolbe Homes for Prisoners’ Children’
- 2022-31: 10 Rehabilitation Centres for Released Men/Women
- 2022-31: Establish Legal Service Clinics
- 2022-31: Reach out to 1350 Parishes where there are prisons

We the Dreamers!

We kneel before God for the sake of all our brethren facing injustice, violence and persecution and we have witnessed our God standing for these vulnerable and broken ones. Incarcerated ones too have their dignity; they too have likes and dislikes; they too have a desire for the future; they too have dreams. Can we the dreamers join hands together to fulfill the dreams of the incarcerated, rejected, dejected, broken and vulnerable? Bring many more dreamers to join hands with us to realize the dreams of the incarcerated and their children. Joshua 3:5 says “Sanctify yourselves today, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you”. Remove all the bitterness, resentments, hate feelings of the past 40 years and receive surprises from the God of Surprises in this decade. Spend every day, one hour before the Blessed Sacrament and we will see wonders in this decade. Work hard to realize God’s dreams for us and for the incarcerated with their families.
Prison Ministry India has completed glorious forty years of serving the lost and the incarcerated. We celebrated the Ruby Jubilee by offering a thanksgiving Holy Mass and realizing the Ruby Jubilee projects such as 40 houses for the released prisoners, 40 special task forces, 400 scholarships to prisoners’ children, releasing 400 prisoners and so on. As we move on from Ruby to Golden jubilee, I am reminded of the Divine Providential interventions that strengthened us to march ahead through the history of PMI.

**Be a Love Bomb**

It was 8 September 1981. I was a first-year philosophy student at St Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Kottayam, Kerala. Varghese and I were attending the phone calls that came to the seminary. Sitting in the telephone cabin, we discussed about the atomic bomb. Varghese told me that what we needed was an ‘I. bomb’ or the love bomb. In response I told him that it was true the world needed a love bomb but Jesus had already exploded it on Calvary. Varghese added that when the atom bombs exploded in Hiroshima and Nagasaki thousands were killed, and because of its radiation thousands became blind, deaf, and lame. I retorted that on the contrary because of Jesus’ love bomb explosion on Calvary, i.e., his crucifixion, millions were able to rise from the dead and come to new life. While we continued talking, we experienced a deep ideological agreement and a profound inner unity much like that of the early Christians who were with “one mind and one heart” (Acts 4, 32). Then and there we decided to become love bombs not to kill but to heal the broken hearted.

**Conversion of Sinners**

In 1983 I went to the Elijah Ashram, Niravilpuzha in the Wayanad district of Kerala to pray alone for a week. It was a marvellous estate with hills, valleys and brooks filled with coconut, pepper, coffee and cardamom plantations. There, in the chapel, sitting close to the Blessed Sacrament from morning till evening I read the Bible and prayed silently looking at the Eucharistic Jesus. On the evening of Friday 11th March 1983, from a profound communion with the Lord, there emerged a great challenge, an inner call, a great God experience within asking me, “Why can’t you dedicate your life to the conversion of sinners?” The life force and divine energy to dedicate my life for the incarcerated came from this God experience.

**Kottayam Sub Jail**

On 13 June 1985 we visited Abhaya Bhavan of the MC Sisters. On our way back we noticed the Kottayam Sub Jail and felt inclined to visit the prisoners inside. We asked the prison guards about the possibility. The guards told us to submit a written application to the superintendent. But when we submitted the application, it was denied outright. This denial was painful but we were determined to visit it at any cost. While we were returning to the seminary with that decisive plan and reflecting on how to make this prison visit possible, I noticed a board that read Prison Fellowship India, near Kalathippady. I turned to Varghese and said, “It might be something related to prison. Why don’t we go there next Thursday and see what it is”? Next Thursday on 20 June 1985 we went to the office of Prison Fellowship India. Mr John Kurian welcomed us. We shared with him our desire to visit the prison. On the following Thursday we visited the Kottayam prison together with them for the first time. That was a great beginning.

**Divine Providence**

In 1986 we had been working hard to prepare for the All-Kerala Prison Pilgrimage. Annual exams were at hand. One thing was worrying us very much. Money! We did not have sufficient money for the journey, food and accommodation. Once, while I was studying, one of my friends came and told me, “The Postman is searching for you; there is a money order for you”. Wondering who might be sending money to me, I ran to the postman. Unbelievable! The postman gave me two hundred rupees. There was a message on the money order coupon, “For your prison apostolate, a friend from Oman”. Overwhelmed with the joy of Divine Providence, I ran to...
my friends and shared this wonderful divine experience with them. Divine Providence has been a never-ending presence and it continues so even today.

**Alappatt Fashion Jewellery**

It was then 28 April 1991. There were only two more days left for giving the advance amount for acquiring the land for Snehashramam, Thrissur. We were in need of fifty thousand rupees. On that evening I went to Alappatt Fashion Jewellery at Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam. Mr Jose and Mr Manu owned this jewellery shop. Giving them the recommendation letter from Mar Joseph Kundukulam, I told them that we needed urgently fifty thousand rupees. Immediately Mr Jose gave me a packet containing fifty thousand rupees. “Oh God of PMI! what an act of providence!”. This was the genesis of PMI Rehabilitation centres.

**ICCPPC**

I was attending the Ninth World Congress of the International Catholic Commission of Prison Pastoral Care (ICCPPC) held in Warsaw, Poland from 7-12 September 1996 at the Metropolitan Seminary. After my sharing regarding the high-rate success of reformation and reintegration of prisoners in India many expressed unbelief and dismay and asked for proof, statistics and written documents. This awakened in me the need for a research centre and a research magazine. The result was RRDC and *Reformative Explorations* we launched in 2003.

**Van Thuan Home**

On 8 November 2019 the Vatican dicastery for the Integral Human Development invited me to present a paper on the *Initiatives and Contributions of Prison Ministry India* to the participants of an international conference for worldwide prison chaplains. During this conference His Eminence Peter Cardinal Turkson, the president of the dicastery gave me a precious gift - the relic of Venerable Francis Xavier Cardinal Van Thuan who was in solitary confinement for 13 years in Vietnam. While placing this relic in the PMI national office chapel I was inspired to establish Van Thuan Home - a rehabilitation centre for released men prisoners in Bangalore.

**Special Task Forces**

On 12 December 2019, I was waiting at the inner gate of Tihar Prison number 5 to celebrate Christmas with the prisoners. While I was waiting in prayer, a police bus came near to us and many police personnel came out of it carrying special guns together with some prisoners chained on their legs, hands and waist. I felt frightened. But soon I understood that they were some hardcore criminals like terrorists or serial killers and within me there sprout the powerful message “PMI is called to seek and save them too”. I shared this mission with PMI volunteers in Bangalore and decided to launch PMI special task forces. On 22 December 2019, together with Sr Adele Korah, Sr Rose Alexander and Sr Lini Sheeja MSC we went to Aradhanankunju at Carmelaram, Bengaluru, a contemplative community who have perpetual Eucharistic adoration. After spending many hours in Eucharistic contemplation and adoration, we launched the PMI Special Task Forces.

**Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated**

In September 2020 Mrs Rowena Luis former PMI Maharashtra state secretary invited me to give a message to their intercessory prayer group members. In Dongri, Mumbai PMI volunteers pray daily for half an hour interceding for the reformation of prisoners and for the fruitfulness of PMI volunteers’ endeavors. This was the initiative of Mrs Rowena Luis and can be followed by every PMI unit. During my message I was inspired to launch the Incessant Intercessory Online Invocation for the Incarcerated for the reformation of worldwide prisoners. I consulted about this with our Chairman Most Rev Allwyn D’Silva and he was glad to give the green signal. Mr Daryl Gandhi came forward to sponsor the zoom payments and he himself arranged everything for the online intercessory prayer.

**Conclusion**

The past forty years of PMI have been filled with amazing experiences of divine providence and whisperings of the Holy Spirit. Let’s hope and trust that the next four decades of PMI will also be filled with incredible interventions and inspirations of divine providence with its marvellous care and protection.
Let’s Pray for the Repose of PMI Souls

1. Mar Joseph Kundukulam  
2. Most Rev Alan D’Lastic  
3. Fr Joseph Koikakudy  
4. Fr Thomas Vellilamthadom  
5. Fr George Kuttickal MCBS  
6. Fr Joseph Kavalakkatt VC  
7. Fr Paul Akkara CMI  
8. Fr Cyriac Kollamparambil CMF  
9. Fr Antony Raj, Chenna  
10. Fr Sadanand CMI  
11. Fr Gregory Naik  
12. Fr Athiruban  
13. Fr Joseph Pauvath  
14. Fr Zacharias Pathalil SVD  
15. Fr Marini Maraya  
16. Br Theophin MMB  
17. Sr Leena Kattukaran FMM  
18. Sr Noella SJC  
19. Sr Rosakutty Kottaram FMM  
20. Sr Mary Jane SFN  
21. Sr Carmelita SSAM  
22. Sr Marina SJC  
23. Sr Albin FCC  
24. Sr Carmel FCC  
25. Sr Zaveria Alphonso SSA  
26. Sr Agricola FCC  
27. Sr Mary Francoise  
28. Sr Sabina  
29. Sr Lourdes SD  
30. Sr Jemma DHM  
31. Mrs Pushpavalli  
32. Mrs Margaret  
33. Mrs Agnes  
34. Mrs Merlin Merlon  
35. Mrs Gupta  
36. Mrs Anastasia Fernandes  
37. Mrs Nimmy Dennis  
38. Mrs Anna Mary  
39. Mrs Babtista Mary  
40. Mrs Arul Mary  
41. Mrs Loretta Gonsalves  
42. Mrs Angela Lobo  
43. Mrs Marie Lobo  
44. Mr Joseph, Sivagangai  
45. Adv Joseph David  
46. Mr Gabriel John, Delhi  
47. Mr Joaquim Vaz  
48. Mr Sanjeev Siriskar  
49. Mr Civile Rosario  
50. Mr Augustine  
51. Mr Ambrose  
52. Mr Joseph Pereira  
53. Mr Praveen  
54. Mr Sumith Kumar  
55. Mr James Mendoza  
56. Mr Finton Antao  
57. Souls of Prisoners  
58. Souls in Purgatory  
59. Souls of our Families  
60. Souls of our Communities  
61. Souls of PMI  

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace, Amen.
“The numerous brethren who lie desolate beneath the huge, dark and menacing walls of the prison. Those who desire for love even when the slightest ray of hope is vanishing.” In order to bring the hope of Christ to those like these who have failed and deemed as useless in front of the world, and to share the love of Christ to those who are suffering and ignored in the society, a huge tree was implanted in the soil of Vadavathoor known as Jesus Fraternity. Empowered by the slogan, “To the least, last and the lost”, the ideologies and aspirations of Jesus Fraternity found its wings through the works of Fr Varghese Karippery and Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, who by becoming instruments in the hands of God and with an ardent desire of becoming an explosion of love is remembered with utmost pride, gratitude and reverence by this mother house.

Beginning from a small chapel within the seminary, this movement is widespread not only in India but globally as well and thereby enabling many people to promote kindness and charity is a moment of great honor and pride for this mother house. Jesus Fraternity is a way of living. Prayer and fasting are the weapons of Fraternity. Divine Providence is the wealth and possession of this society. The foundation of Fraternity’s works is the profound faith in God who can deem possible all those which may seem impossible at start. Considering as brethren those imprisoned and knowing that all becomes brethren in Christ is the motif behind the name ‘Fraternity’. When prisons turn into temples, the prison inmates turn into God’s children. Meeting the numerous challenges and difficulties with ease is the working style of the Fraternity. The intention of the Fraternity members is to pray, plead and give freedom to the hopeless in the name of Jesus Christ.

The works of the Fraternity within the seminary are taking place tirelessly and enthusiastically. The energy received every month from the First Friday Fasting Prayers, The Marian Prayers on every Saturdays and Batch Prayers held every day aids and strengthens in the Saturdays’ Jail Visits. Alongside the jail visits, the colony visits received every month from the First Friday Fasting Prayers, The Marian Prayers on every Saturdays and Batch Prayers, the works of the Fraternity within the seminary are taking place tirelessly and enthusiastically. The energy received every month from the First Friday Fasting Prayers, The Marian Prayers on every Saturdays and Batch Prayers, the jail visits from the seminary held during festivities such as Onam, Christmas etc. always render fond memories and profound convictions inside each of us. Making rosaries prayerfully, conducting competitions with togetherness and organizing seminars and memorial gatherings helps us in reaching out to our fellow brethren and understanding our areas of services. Offering prayers and rendering best wishes so that Jesus Fraternity found its wings through the works of Fr Varghese Karippery and Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, who are suffering and ignored in the society, a huge tree was implanted in the soil of Vadavathoor known as Jesus Fraternity. Empowered by the slogan, “To the least, last and the lost”, the ideologies and aspirations of Jesus Fraternity found its wings through the works of Fr Varghese Karippery and Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, who by becoming instruments in the hands of God and with an ardent desire of becoming an explosion of love is remembered with utmost pride, gratitude and reverence by this mother house.

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**Prayer for PMI National Conference 25-28 October 2022, Goa**

Lord Our Loving Father, we praise and worship you together with Jesus Christ who taught us to visit the incarcerated. We thank and glorify you for sending your only begotten Son Jesus to proclaim liberty to the captives and saving us through His unjust imprisonment and death on the Cross. Merciful Father, give us the grace to see your face in our brethren behind the bars; help us to remember them as though we were in prison with them (Heb 13:3); bless us to hear the groans of the prisoners and to set free those who are doomed to die (Ps 102,20).

Beloved Father, we entrust into your compassionate hands the 13th national conference of Prison Ministry India to be held in Goa on 25-28 October 2022. Anoint the Goa PMI unit members and the national team with the fruits, gifts and charisms of the Holy Spirit to convene the conference for the greater glory of God and for the reformation and redemption of the incarcerated. Let the conference motivate the participants to recommit themselves to reach-out, release, rehabilitate, reintegrate and redeem our brethren behind the bars. Sanctify the speakers, organizers, convention center, conference hall, places of accommodation, vehicles and journeys with your precious blood and deliver us from all sorts of dangers and terrors of the evil spirits. Let the conference revive the prison ministry, illumine PMI volunteers to find your ways and means to redeem our brethren behind the bars; bless the people of Goa and renew the face of the earth. May the conference deepen our God experience, strengthen our fraternity, reinforce our solidarity with the lost and promote our communion with the Church and its hierarchy.

Compassionate God, make us instruments of your peace and reconciliation; where there is hatred let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Merciful Father, have mercy on our incarcerated brethren, anoint them with repentance and reformation, bless their family members and prison staff that they may be kind, gentle and understanding towards those under their care, sanctify and strengthen the victims that they may reconcile with those who offended them. Bless our benefactors and all those who work hard for the fruitfulness of the conference. Mary, Mother of Jesus, pray for the reintegration and redemption of our brethren behind the bars. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

Mother Mary, pray for us; St Maximillian Kolbe, pray for us; St Francis Xavier, pray for us; Venerable Francis Xavier Van Thuan, pray for us.
### PMI National Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Address</th>
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</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Prison Ministry India National Secretaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995-1996</td>
<td>Sr Fidelis HCM</td>
<td></td>
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<td>9620423463</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>Sr Jemma DHM</td>
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<td>8291622988</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997-1999</td>
<td>Sr Lithishia SH</td>
<td></td>
<td>SH Covent, Kuruanal Puliyanooor Po, Pala 686573</td>
<td>9846052393 04822205821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-1999</td>
<td>Sr Agricola FCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Called to Eternal Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>Sr Jis Rose SS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Sister Name</td>
<td>Religious Order</td>
<td>Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>Sr Teresina CSJB</td>
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<td>Shanthi Dham</td>
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<td>Daughters of Charity</td>
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<td>2016-2018</td>
<td>Sr Diana CTC</td>
<td>KRLCBC Secretariat</td>
<td>Carmelgiri U C College P.O. Aluva 683102</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td>Sr Lini Sheeja MSC</td>
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The mighty services of Prison Ministry all over India are well appreciated.

May God bless and strengthen you to be more and more at the cause of Prisoners welfare.

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The hard work of National Coordinators, State Co-ordinators, and Volunteers who served Prison MInistry for the past 40 years is beyond excellency

May the services of Prison Ministry be recognized by all and be supported, as it aims at crime less society and fear free Nation.

WITH BEST COMPLIMENTS FROM

The Principal, Vice Principal Staff and Students

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Fr. Dian Isaac, Our state Coordinator and volunteers on gloriously reaching
Ruby Jbille. We pray that PMI soon reach the Golden Jubilee with many many colourful
feathers in its cap.

GO STRONG IN SPIRIT AND STRENGTH SPREADING
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