



SVD LAY PARTNERS

NEWSLETTER OF SVD LAY PARTNERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD
FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

APRIL 2018
ISSUE 6

Editorial

**Theme of the SVD 18th General Chapter - "The Love of Christ Impels Us"
(2 Cor 5:14): Rooted in the Word, Committed to His Mission"**

Welcome to the new beginnings!

Love is a gift that multiplies by division. It grows bigger when you give it away! Love brings about love. God's boundless love moved, animated and impelled Saint Paul to fulfil the task of an apostle with generosity and resolute commitment. Like Saint Paul, Arnold Janssen and the Founding Generation of the Society of the Divine Word were also impelled by the love of Christ for mission.

As Lay Partners of the Society, we are invited to anchor more deeply in the Word in order to be renewed and transformed by Christ's love for us so that we may move forward in His mission. Four SVD Lay Partners, Susan Noronha (INM Province), Sophie Wego (GER Province), Patrice Kibitok Rono (KEN Province) and Leonard J. Uhal (USC province) are invited to participate in the 18th General Chapter, from 17 June to 14 July 2018, in Nemi (Rome). While we thank the SVD for this important collaboration, we pray for God's abundant graces and blessings on the proceedings of the 18th General Chapter.

We are in the season of Easter and Spring, a glorious time of expression of life. In all cultural traditions, the world over, it is a time of re-birth and new beginnings. It is a season of hope from darkness to light, from cold to warmth, from grey to multitude of colours. As the plants emerge from the earth and burst into beautiful flowers, the joy of spring resonates all over the earth. May you feel the hope of new beginnings, love and happiness during this joyful Easter Season!

Official logo for SVD 18th General Chapter is designed by SVD Lay Partner, Arturo Meneses, Misioneros Auxiliares del Verbo Divino (MAVD), Mexico.
Congrats Arturo Meneses!

Vivat Cor Jesu in cordibus hominum! May the Heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all people! Amen.

Susan & Rosa, Editors

For unforeseen reasons, there has been a delay in the release of the current issue of the Newsletter. Spanish Issue will be published soon. Sincere Apologies!

For future correspondence please use the New Contact email:

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News from SVD Lay Partners Across the World

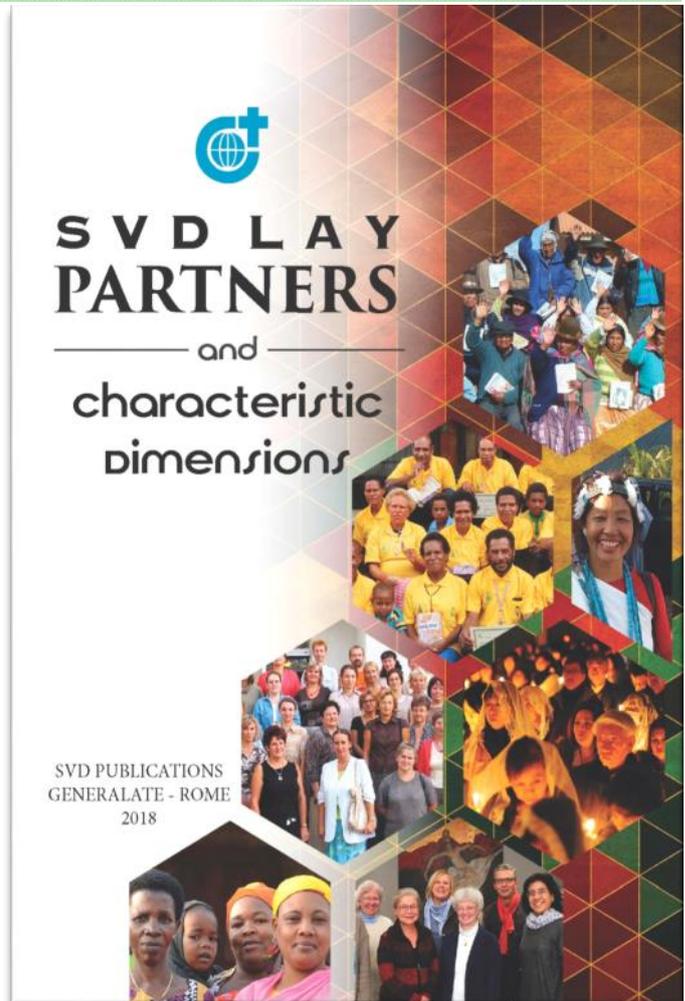
Editorial	1	India: INH, Telangana & INM, Goa	9
SVD Lay Partners booklet	2	India: INM, Mumbai	10
Republic of South Africa (RSA)	2	Mexico	11
Ghana	3	Democratic Repub. of Congo (DRC)	12
Philippine Northern Prov. (PHN)	4	Spain	13
Philippine Central Prov. (PHC)	5	Paraguay	14
Germany	6 - 7	USA—USW	15
Panama	8		

Dear friends,

Recently, the SVD Generalate published a book titled "SVD Lay Partners and Characteristic Dimensions" both in English and Spanish. Hard copies are sent to all the province, region and mission superiors. By this time, all of them might have received these copies by post. The person in-charge of the lay partners in the local province, region and mission would distribute these copies among confreres and lay partners. Certainly all will not receive these copies because only limited copies were printed and sent. All the same, the soft copies of these booklets can be downloaded from the website – svdcuria.org. These booklets are very practical to animate the lay partners in four characteristic dimensions—Biblical Apostolate, Mission Animation, Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation and Communication.

A leader can animate the group with the steps that are given and go step by step. Each Dimension may need three or more sessions. You may repeat this later too to go deeper into the understanding of the concepts and take practical steps to involve in mission with these four Characteristic Dimensions.

- Fr. Stanislaus Lazar, SVD



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA): SVD Lay Association

Submitted by Edwina Mbite



The Role & Mission of the Laity in the Church

April 14, 2018, on the invitation of our SVD Spiritual Director, we renewed our commitment to Christ's call to spread the Word in the world.

The Recollection talk was at the Mater Dei Pastoral Centre, Mokopane. We were about 30 people from different places who met together to learn and understand "The role & Mission of the Laity in the Church".

We spoke on how the life of the Apostles changed after the Resurrection of Jesus. In the Risen Jesus, God comes into our lives. He cares for us, loves us, heals us, and strengthens us. May we know and cherish that passion, peace and love of Jesus in our lives.

We also discussed on the role of the laity in the Society of Divine Word and their importance in the mission of Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit we will work towards reviving the Church and God's mission to reach out with love.

GHANA: The Friends of SVD

Submitted by Matilda Anim-Fofie



Report on the First International Lay Partners Workshop in Rome

The Friends of SVD had Ms. Matilda Anim-Fofie as their representative for the first International SVD Lay Partners workshop held in Nemi, Rome in October, 2017. On her return to Ghana, Matilda together with the Mission Secretary of the Ghana-Liberia Province, Fr. Stephen Dogodzi, SVD have laid out a plan to disseminate the content of the workshop to all the SVD Lay partner groups in the Province and held interactive sessions on implementing lessons taught at the workshop.

Walk For Jesus in the Light of the New Evangelization

The Friends of SVD of SS Peter & Paul Parish organized “Walk for Jesus in the light of the New Evangelization” on 9 December, 2017. The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC), Accra District used the opportunity to partner with the Friends to embark on a sanitation campaign. Participants walked for two hours through the communities around their church carrying placards with biblical and sanitation messages.

SVD Lay Partners Participate in the Provincial Chapter of the Ghana-Liberia Province

Three SVD Lay Partners, Martin Kumedzro, Helen Dzikunu and Theresa Ansah Kumedzro represented the Provincial Chapter of the Ghana-Liberia held in February 2018. The Provincial Superior, Fr. George Clement Angmor, SVD warmly welcomed them and Fr. Quaye-Foli, SVD, Chairman of the session, expressed his profound appreciation to the Lay Partners for their remarkable work in spite of challenges and looking forward to a healthy working relationship with the Society. There was also a discussion on how to improve the relationship between the Lay Partners and the SVDs.



Lay Partners Health Screening Exercise

The Friends of SVD of SS Peter & Paul Parish, embarked on a free health screening exercise at their parish. About hundred people were screened for high blood pressure and blood sugar level. Lay Partners who are medical professionals and other volunteers offered medical advice and other assistance.

Lenten Retreat/Recollection

Courage Nordor, a SVD seminarian, conducted the recollection under the theme **“Turn to the direction of the voice which calls you, for dry bones can live again”** (John 20: 16, Ezekiel 37:1-14). It was concluded with a Eucharistic celebration by the Mission Secretary, Fr Stephen Dogodzi, SVD. In his homily, he entreated all to forgive one another as Christ did for us.

PHILIPPINE NORTHERN PROVINCE (PHN) - SVD Friends

Submitted by Mary Geraldine "GeeO" Paderon



A Historic SVD Provincial Chapter 2018

January 15 – 17, 2018 was no ordinary Provincial Chapter for the Philippine Northern Province but a historic one. For the first time, the SVD Lay Partners participated in the 2018 PHN Provincial Chapter under the leadership of Provincial Fr. Romeo Fajardo, SVD. They shared their thoughts during the discussions. It was truly inspiring and empowering that the Lay Partners - Suzie Dayag from SVD Friends Abra and Pocholo Morillo from the XVD were allotted time to report and share their experiences in the different SVD lay groups and contexts they were representing. While a couple, Mike and GeeO Paderon reported to the Chapter about the first SVD Lay Partners Workshop in Nemi, Rome on October 14 – 28, 2017 where they were participants.

Towards the end, the Chapter strengthened this Lay Partnership with a resolution unanimously approved, "We affirm the formal promotion and formation of SVD Lay Partners in PHN. Indeed what impels us to mission is love, not just duty. The love of Christ impels us - *Caritas Christi Urget Nos!*"



SVD Friends, Abra

Submitted by Oscar Alunday SVD

On January 29, 2018, the SVD Friends Abra Chapter had a celebration in the District House, SVD Ubbog, Bangued, Abra where Fr. Provincial celebrated the Mass along with SVD confreres. This feast was celebrated immediately after the National Bible Week celebration of the Country (Jan. 22-28) and Nation Bible Sunday (Jan 28). This Year's theme for the Bible Week was, "The Bible is the Foundation for righteous leadership and living". The celebration included, Family Bible Encounter, making Biblical Posters, Biblical slogans, Biblical essays, Biblical spoken poetry, distribution of Bibles, visiting the elderly and the sick and many more. May our Saints continue to inspire us to move on in the Light of the Word.

PHILIPPINE CENTRAL PROVINCE (PHC) - SVD Friends

Submitted by Scotty Estrera

SVD Friends “Pabasa” 2018

The SVD Friends – Manila and Christ the King Seminary Clusters are actively pursuing their mission to spread the Good News of the Lord. Most recent is the exercise of the Pilipino Traditional “Pabasa”, where the life of our Lord Jesus Christ is chanted in Pilipino. The Pilipinos adapted the religious chanting of the Spanish Missionaries during the 16th to the 18th century, singing epics during fiestas and celebrations. This became a Catholic devotion in the Philippines during Holy Week, narrating the life, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Two groups chanted the “Pabasa” in acapella, taking turns in singing the stanzas from the book, “*Pasyon Maha*”. The devotion was held at the SVD Friends Secretariat at Catholic Trade Compound, Manila to highlight the Paschal Mystery. The “Pabasa” started on Holy Monday (March 26) at 1pm and finished the book of 110 pages on Holy Tuesday at 7am. The SVD Friends took turns in chanting the “Pabasa” for 18 hours.



On March 17, 2018, the SVD Friends attended a recollection organized by Fr. Mike Padua SVD and conducted by Fr. Martin Petrik O’Carm. Fr. Martin centered his talk on Psalm 1 & 2 and the Mission of the SVD Friends as lay partners of the Society of the Divine Word. The Recollection was attended by 18 participants, had two conferences, an open forum and a Eucharistic Celebration with Fr. Martin.

In November 2017, the SVD Friends brought joy to the elderly residents of Ospicio de San Jose, a haven run by the Daughters of Charity. They also visited the Lourdes Home for Handicapped Children and the “Lualhati ng Maynila” (Joy of Manila), a home for the aged and disabled of the Sisters of Charity (St. Teresa of Kolkata). Currently, two groups of SVD Friends are taking a weekly Liturgical Bible Study and the Cenacle group meets twice a month. On January 20, 2018, the SVD Friends celebrated the Anniversary of St. Arnold Janssen with a Eucharistic Celebration and a fellowship meal with Fr. Mike Padua at the Villa Cristo Rey, Christ the King Compound, Quezon City.



St. Arnold Janssen Kalinga Truck Mission.. Submitted by Fabian Pagaduan

A Collaboration among SVD Philippine Central Province JPIC - St Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center of Fr. Flavie Villanueva SVD, Manila Fire District of Superintendent Colonel Jonas Silvano and officer Hector Agadulid, Sisters Missionaries of Charity of Home of Joy Tayuman, and Lay Society of St. Arnold Janssen Tayuman Chapter headed by Tina Bagsic.

We served 50 homeless brothers and sisters. The truck has shower rooms and carries chairs, tables, utensils and meals, which volunteers set up and serve beneficiaries. Thanks be to God and for the intercessions of St. Arnold Janssen and St. Teresa of Kolkata, subsequent missions are in the works to farther areas and reaching out to more deserving people.



GERMANY: SVD-Partner

Submitted by Michael Pöner



Participation in the Provincial Chapter of the German Province in Steyl

The Provincial Chapter of the German Province took place in Steyl from January 22 to January 24, 2018. In addition to the 32 delegates, two SVD-Lay-Partner representatives were also invited to participate in the Chapter. The Provincial in his presentation shared about the present status and the activities of the Province. The delegates discussed the priorities and perspectives of the

congregation and received the reports of the various institutions. At the end of the discussion, the Chapter elected two delegates to the upcoming 18th General Chapter. The Chapter was concluded with Mass presided by the Provincial.



Novena for People in War and Misery (Novene für Menschen in Krieg und Not)

Submitted by Maria Wego

From 21 November 1944 onwards many people lived in the cellars of the mission house St. Michael and the mission sisters' house in Steyl. They all were waiting for peace and suffered because of the Germans still ruling in Steyl and the allies shooting from the other bank of the river Maas. Many of the dutch people wrote diaries which have been published in the book '100 days in the cellars of the monasteries in Steyl' (available in Dutch and German.) The parish priests asked the people to pray a novena between 28 January 1945 and 5 February 1945.

Inspired by this novena SVD-Partner published a „Novene für Menschen in Krieg und Not“ (Novena for people in war and misery) and invited everybody to pray whenever it is felt necessary. The novena includes quotes from the diaries, prayers and readings from the Gospel and how to deal with the corporal works of mercy. Download: <https://www.svd-partner.eu/gebete/gebete/> - (only in German)



Save the date!

Gebetsbrücke - Prayer Bridge - Puente de la Oración

Welttag der Armen - World Day of the Poor - Jornada Mundial de los Pobres

On Sunday 18th November 2018 the church celebrates the World Day of the Poor. Again SVD-Partner Germany invite everybody - single person, family, group, parish, monastery - to come together in prayer and build a Prayer Bridge around the world.

If you want to be a part of it send an e-mail to kontakt@svd-partner.eu.

Please do not forget your name, organisation/parish, place, country.

GERMANY: Steyl Family

Submitted by Rüdiger Brunner SVD and Michaela Leifgen, SSpS

Learning by doing...

Much could be written or said in conferences or sermons about the fact that there are four groups in the "Steyl Family" which traces its origin to Steyl and St. Arnold Janssen:

- The Missionary Sisters of Steyl (SSpS)
- The Adoration Sisters of Steyl (SSpSAP)
- The Missionary Priests and Brothers of Steyl (SVD)
- The Friends and Partners of Steyl (SFP)

This becomes a real and convincing experience only by doing things together. That is the best way to learn and understand that all of us have the same missionary calling. To experience this, 48 participants gathered once again at the SSpS Convent for the Steyl Family Gathering. From March 23 - 25 they heard of the changes within the Steyl Family in Steyl and in the world. Above all, they were encouraged in the common vocation of baptism and mission, since everyone brought along very concrete experiences of the various missionary challenges. Enthusiasm arose when Xavier Alangaram SVD spoke of his life in India and Germany. Among the participants, there were four children who joyfully helped in serving at liturgical celebrations.



The climax on Saturday was the "procession in remembrance of the passion". Close to 150 people, including some guests, moved through Steyl, called the "convent village", praying, singing or in silence. The point of departure was the side chapel of the Sacred Heart Convent (SSpS). After a brief reflection from Sr. Mechtilde Berger SSpS, the procession moved towards the Holy Spirit Convent where the Adoration Sisters were already waiting in the chapel. In common prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, the Adoration Sisters together with the pilgrims recalled the Last Supper. In spite of the grill of the cloister, the common unity could be sensed. With the sun shining



and a light wind blowing, the procession continued on its way through the Steyl convent gardens. The procession paused briefly at Calvary scene before reaching its goal in the lower Church of St. Michael's. Subsequently, at the sarcophagus of St. Arnold, where the four candles were burning, all present received blessings for their Christian life and mission.



On Palm Sunday the Steyl Family moved together even more closely and celebrated the liturgy which contributed further moments of experience to the overall theme of "procession in remembrance of the passion." Part of this were the cordial and personal greetings addressed to the gathered Steyl Family by Fr. Martin Ueffing, SVD, Provincial Superior. An evaluation brought to light new ideas for the next gathering of the Steyl Family during Palm Sunday 2019. By doing we learn best what a beautiful mission is entrusted to members of the Steyl Family.

PANAMA: Socios Laicos SVD

Submitted by Rogelio Rodriguez

Proclaiming the Word of God - at home and away from home!!

We, my wife (Rubiela Ramirez) and I, are chosen as delegates to proclaim the Word of God here in Panama. It could be sharing the Good News with the less fortunate kids down the street or spreading the Word in a town couple of hours away from home!



During the Holy Week we visited a small mission town with only 500 simple and humble inhabitants. To my surprise the whole community was waiting for our arrival. We felt the presence of God in the families that welcomed us, in our visits to many homes, in the Way of the Cross and Holy Rosary processions. I had the opportunity to give the inhabitants a reflection on Good Friday and Saturday of Glory (Holy Saturday).



When we prayed the Way of the Cross, we witnessed an image of the Cross in the clouds, confirming God's presence!! It reminded us the biblical text, Numbers 9:15-16, 'God accompanying His people through the cloud and fire'.
Live Jesus, in our hearts!



We are proclaiming the story of God's saving grace in our lives. We take communion to the sick and the dying. We have already formed 5 prayer groups. As family catechetical trainers, our future plans are to travel to Nicaragua and Mexico, to exchange ideas with our Missionary brothers and to work with new zeal to spread the mission of Christ!

Four Characteristic Dimensions of the Society of the Divine Word—SVD

1. Biblical Apostolate
2. Mission Animation
3. Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)
4. Communication



INDIA: Arnold Association— INH, Telangana

Submitted by N. Anand, SVD

Visit to SVD Missions—Lay Apostolate in Telangana, India



Eleven enthusiastic members of the Arnold Association (Lay collaborators of Telugu states) along with their spiritual animator, Fr. Nagothu Ananda Raju, visited Our Lady of Good Health Parish Mission, Madhapuram on April 08, 2018, the Divine Mercy Sunday. The group participated in the feast day Mass and encouraged the baptized

Catholics to be strong in their faith. Arnold Association extended their support to the mission by contributing 75 chairs for the parish activities. Fr. Antonysamy SVD thanked the members for their visit and support towards the mission. After the mission visit to Madhapuram, the members also visited SVD missions at Kadavendi, Raigir and Bhongir.

We appreciate Fr. Nagothu Ananda Raju for his guidance and encouragement to Arnold Association Members .

INDIA: The SVD Friends Association (SFA) - INM, Goa

Submitted by Joaquim Fernandes, SVD



Parish Leadership Training Programme for the Youth

Young people are the focus of SVD Friends Association. In April SFA has undertaken Parish Leadership Training besides its other activities for the youth. The programme aims to develop young leaders in our parishes and communities who will be committed to making a difference to their own lives and to the lives of others. This would include impartation of necessary skills, confidence and motivation for young people to engage directly in the wider improvement of the parish and society at large and, in particular, one's self.

The five modules are: (1) Understanding self and working with others, (2) Shaping the Careers and future, (3) Building a community and collaboration, (4) Managing an organisation, programme or project and (5) Securing accountability, impact of your actions and taking responsibility .

The expected outcome of the programme will show that Parishes that participate in the programmes will have: young people who are motivated, ready and enthusiastic to initiate leadership work in Parish and achieve success in their own lives with regards to their careers. They would emerge as leaders. SVD Fathers and SFA members would be the main resource persons.

INDIA: The Disciples of the Divine Word (DDW) - INM, Mumbai

Submitted by Susan Noronha



Participation in the Sixth INM Provincial Assemblies and Chapter

The Sixth INM Provincial Chapter was held on 10th February, 2018 at Atma Darshan, Mumbai with the theme "Transforming Missionary Disciples". Prior to the Chapter in order to facilitate the participation of all the members, two Assemblies were held in Mulki and Mumbai. For the first time, SVD Lay Partners—Disciples of the Divine Word (DDW), Leena Xavier, Lorna D'Souza and Peter Pinto were part of the Assemblies and they shared their personal testimonies of being missionary disciples and the President of DDW, Susan Noronha participated in the second Assembly as well as in the entire Chapter proceedings.



SVD, SSpS, Lay Partners (DDW) combined Lenten Recollection

It was a moment of blessings and grace. For the first time, the SVD Lay Partners participated in the SVD-SSpS combined Recollection at Atma-Darshan on 24th March, 2018. The inspiring Recollection talk was by Fr. Joseph M.T., SVD. His reflection was based on Pope Francis' Ash Wednesday homily – 'Pause, See and Return', an invitation to "Pause" in order to look and contemplate, to "See" the real face of Jesus and to "Return" without fear, to experience the healing and reconciling tenderness of God. This was followed by Stations of the Cross, Confessions and fellowship meal.

Mission visit to INE Province

A team of four members, Leena Xavier, Lydia Fernandes, Jacinta Crasto and Joyce Coelho began their Lenten journey to India Eastern Province (INE) on February 14, 2018, Ash Wednesday. They visited the sick and the elderly priests at Shanti Bhavan, interacted with the seminarians at Vidya Jyoti, and spent a day with the children of Nabhajyoti School, Pallahara. They also stopped over at the Leper colonies, Divya Jyoti SVD Seminary and spent few days with the physically challenged children at Vikas Deepti, Bargarh, for few days. In their words, *"the mission visit was an enriching experience. In spite of their limited movements, the children at Vikas Deepti are with full of energy and self-confidence. We organized games, singing, dancing and gave our motherly care especially during their physiotherapy sessions. Our SVD priests in the missions have a herculean task before them to take care of the poor and disabled people, especially children"*. INE Province is very close to the heart of DDW and members are very actively involved in reaching out to the various missions in INE with their time, talents and finances.



MEXICO: Misioneros Auxiliares del Verbo Divino(MAVD)

Submitted by Gianini Sahagún Becerra



Easter Mission 2018

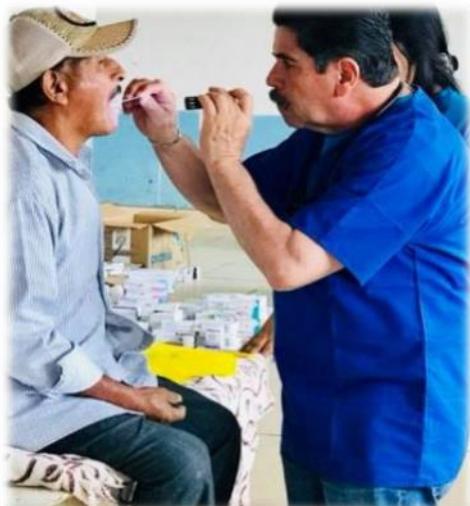
On February 21 2018, the MAVD celebrated 36 years of 'The life of the missionary movement' thanking the Triune God and preparing to live the Mission Holy Week 2018.

Throughout the year, all the missionaries in their base groups were working on the biblical quotation: **Matthew 28, 16-20** "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ".



With **Lectio Divina** as our model, we work with different dynamics with children, youth and adults, helping them to capture the message of the Good News.

The Holy Week mission is a very important activity for us as it gives us a great opportunity to enrich our spirituality and share our experience together with SVD priests, SSpS sisters and the seminarians as one SVD family.



All the groups try to carry out training for the celebrations of the Holy Week. Special training is focused for the coordinators of the mission teams. A team of professional missionaries of the health, doctors, dentists, dental technicians, nurses carry the health service totally free to the most needy.

This year, we had the opportunity to expand our mission fields. For the first time, communities of the Parish of Palenque were visited in the State of Chiapas, in the Tubutama Parish in Sonora and the communities in Manzanillo in the State of Colima.



We are very happy to have lived this mission serving the poor and the needy. We concluded the Holy Week with a closing Mass, reminding the missionaries of their missionary commitment, in order to return to the base groups to celebrate the Passover, and to share our experiences of faith lived in this Wonderful Mission 2018.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO(DRC): AMIVEDIC

Submitted by Jean Paul Nico Luketo

Participation in the Provincial Chapter of SVD RD Congo



On February 26, 2018, began the Provincial Chapter of the SVD RD Congo. As a member of the Amis de la SVD (AMIVEDIC), I was invited to take part as a Lay Partner of SVD. My participation was a very rich and encouraging experience. On Wednesday, 28th February, my reflection was based on the new missionary partnership between us and the SVD. It was a great joy to meet Fr. Joseph Kallanchira SVD, AFRAM Zonal Coordinator at the Chapter. Yes, let's be sure that we made the right choice to be SVD Lay Partners.



Recollection with the Lay Partners



From 20 to 22 April 2018, the Friends of SVD in DRC had a beautiful General Assembly under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of Saint Arnold and Joseph at the Liloba Centre in Kinshasa. During the meeting, we renewed our commitment to the mission and elected our national coordination team. I was re-elected for a second mandate of three years with three others from my team and two new members. I thank you most sincerely for your prayers and support. God bless!

The Divine Word Missionaries carry out God's mission to spread the word of God, which is reflected in the prayer by Saint Arnold Janssen:

"May the darkness of sin and night of unbelief vanish before the light of the word and the spirit of grace, and may the heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all"

SPAIN: Laicos Verbo Divino (LVD)

Submitted by Laura Díez Bilbao and Gonzalo Revert

Our Lady of Altagracia Parish, Madrid—An Encounter with SVD family!



On January 27 & 28, 2018, the animators of Laicos Verbo Divino (LVD) met along with chaplains, parish priests and various groups that are coordinated by the SVD. We also had the presence of Fr. Macario, Provincial Superior and Bro. Oscar González, Mission Secretary of the Province with Sr. Geraci Lopes, SSpS. This meeting was organized to know the work of each of our groups - our formation, activities, our present concerns and to understand the role of the laity in the Church. After a brief presentation, we were explained the four basic pillars of our missionary family

formed on the foundation of St. Arnold Janssen.

On Sunday we had the opportunity to participate in the Mass along with families of the parish of Altagracia and we were asked to give a small testimony during the Mass. We shared with the whole parish community the joy of our faith and our mission. We are called by our loving God to be the Incarnate Word, Jesus, in the world today.



Meeting with the Sub-10 of the Province SVD-Espania



On April 12, 2018, we participated in the training workshop with the Sub-10 group of the Province SVD-Espania at the house of spirituality of Dueñas along with the Divine Word Missionaries who are under 10 years of vows in the Congregation .

In their sharing, Gonzalo Revert and Laura Bilbao summarized the message of our Superior General Heinz Kulüke at the 2017 Nemi Lay Partners Workshop, stating the importance of collaborative work between the Laity and the Religious at each PRM (Province, Region and / or Mission). They also spoke on the activities planned for this year and discussed



on how we can count or facilitate the presence of lay groups in the parishes. The collaborative workshop between LVD and SVD Sub-10 ended with a fraternal meal shared also by the Dueñas Community.

PARAGUAY: Laicos Verbitas

Submitted by Joaquin Lee SVD and Irma Ferreira

Charity Campaign to help the SVD and Diocesan Seminarians



During Lent, the Lay Missionaries of the Parish of San Roque SVD, Encarnación, Paraguay, organized a charity campaign to help the SVD/Diocesan Missionaries and Seminarians of the Parish. On Saturday, March 17th, we went on a trip to Asunción to deliver the donations, live and share a wonderful day with the seminarians. They were happy and grateful to receive the support from the parish community. Thank you for your collaboration. We continue to support and accompany vocations with prayers and material needs. Blessings!!!

Activities Carried out by the Group



Some of our Group Activities

- ◆ Spiritual Growth and Formation— Monthly meeting in the parish of San Juan Bautista.
- ◆ Meeting with the Collaborators in the parish work.
- ◆ Lectors for Liturgical Services
- ◆ Eucharistic Ministers bringing communion to the sick and the elderly.

Rooted in the Word of God, we carry out the mission from our diverse spiritual activities and integrate the missionary spirit of the SVD in all our activities.



USA: MISIONEROS LAICOS DEL VERBO DIVINO (MLVD) - USW

Submitted by Sandra Garcia

Bible Sharing with the Children of St. Kateri Tekakwitha



Every Sunday we share the Gospel with small children. At the end of the sharing, we give the children a bag containing a rosary with a candle and ask them to pray for vocations.



Children are encouraged to have a desire to learn from the life of Jesus. Their participation is admired for that is how they make the Gospel live the moment. We are trying to help them understand the Bible when they are young.



"The existence of the Bible, as a book for the people, is the greatest benefit the human race has ever experienced. Every attempt to belittle it is a crime against humanity."

— Immanuel Kant

To submit information and pictures for future publication, please send directly to the editors,

Rosa M. Gouveia (USW) and Susan Noronha (INM)

Please note the NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:

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Submission deadline for next edition: July 31, 2018