



MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Deepti Bhavan, Melampara - 686 578, Kottayam Dt. Kerala, India

Circular XI/11/2023-2028

January 17, 2025

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers and brothers,

Warmest Jubilee Year greetings from the MST Generalate!

1. Ruhailaya Institute of Theology

The MST is proud to announce that Ruhailaya College of theology, affiliated to Pontifical Institute of Oriental Studies, Vadavathoor, Kottayam, is raised to the status of an **Institute of Theology** on Oct 1, 2024. It was formally declared by His Beatitude Mar Raphael Thattil, the Major Archbishop and Chancellor of Ruhailaya, on January 16, 2025 at 6.30 pm during the function organized at the Theology Institute, in the presence of Mar Sebastian Vadakel, the bishop of Ujjain, Rev. Fr Pauly Maniyattu, the President of the Pontifical Institute of Oriental Studies, Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikattilputhenpura, the Director General and Moderator of the Institute of Theology, other dignitaries, honourable guests, as well as the staff and students of Ruhailaya. Congratulations and thanks to the Rector, Rev. Fr Manoj Parackal, Fr John Kudiyiruppil, who is appointed the first Director of the Institute of Theology and all the members of the resident and visiting faculty who have greatly contributed to this great achievement and recognition. The Society remembers with gratitude and is very much indebted to all the former Rectors, Deans of Studies, and the members of the staff who served Ruhailaya College of Theology with selfless love and unflinching dedication. Let us hope, that the Director and the members of the staff as well as the students will work hard with one mind and heart to lead the Institute of Theology to new heights of academic excellence.

2. Regional Assignments of New Priests

Congratulations and best wishes to our New Priests and welcome to MST priestly *Koinonia*. As per **Constitutions and Directives**, C70.2 the new priests are assigned to the following Regions.

Name	Ordination	Region
Fr Sebastian (Abin) Kanjirathamkunel	28/12/2024	Ujjain, St Paul
Fr Chacko (Amal) Makkiyil	04/01/2025	Ujjain, St Paul
Fr Michael Vettukallel	02/01/2025	Mandya, St Thomas
Fr Mathew (Gintumon) Velloor	01/01/2025	Sangli, St Alphonsa
Fr Simon (Binil) Paruthickal	01/01/2025	Sangli, St Alphonsa
Fr Joseph (Ajith) Thadathil	27/12/2024	Delhi, Mary Queen of Missions
Fr Joseph Vembenickal	30/12/2024	Delhi, Mary Queen of Missions

3. Current status of priests assigned to the MST Regions

Ujjain-St Paul	Mandya-St Thomas	Sangli-St Alphonsa	Delhi- Mary Queen of Missions	Total
121	115	120	40	396

4. Perpetual Promise of Incorporation

Rev. Kavunnukattil Joseph, Kottavila Blessen Francis, Pengattu George (Amal Chacko), Mannarath Sebastian (Akhil Jose), Pullolil Joseph (Tom Dominic) and Puthenpurackal Thomas (Siby) made the perpetual Promise of Incorporation into the Society prior to receiving the Sacred Order of *M'Samsanusa* (Diaconate) on 19th December, 2024.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr Vinson Joseph (Vincent K)
Director General MST



Fr Lonappan Arangassery
Secretary General MST