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M.SS.CC.

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MESSAGE

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Linwood, New Jersey

SUMMER/FALL 2017

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## Fr. Hector Luis Zordan, M.SS.CC. Consecrated as Bishop of Gualeguaychu, Argentina

**W**ith great joy and thanksgiving to God, our Superior General announced that Pope Francis has appointed Father Hector Luis Zordan, M.SS.CC., Bishop of Gualeguaychu, Entre Rio province, Argentina. He was consecrated Bishop on May 28, 2017, in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Gualeguaychu by Archbishop Jorge Educarado Lozano. Bishop Zordan has assumed care of over 310,000 Catholics and 35 parishes in the province of Entre Rio which is located northwest of Buenos Aires.

Bishop Zordan, born in 1956 in Calchaqui, Sante Fe, Argentina, entered the Missionaries in 1976 and was perpetual professed on August 14, 1983. He completed philosophical and theological studies at the Carlo Borromeo Seminary of the Archdiocese of Rosario. Ordained in November, 1984, he has served the Congregation as parochial vicar of San Roque Parish in Capitán Bermúdez; Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Buenos Aires; Dean of the Chacarita Deanery in the Archdiocese of Buenos Aires; Rector of the religious community of Capitán Bermúdez; and as Novice Master and Vocation Director.



In addition, he has held the office of vice-president of Caritas of the Archdiocese of Rosario. Before his appointment as Bishop, he was the Delegate of the Superior General of the Missionaries of the Sacred Hearts for Argentina from 1998 to 2016. We give our fraternal wishes for a most fruitful apostolate and assure him of our prayers for God's blessings on all his endeavors.



## The Missionaries of the Sacred Hearts in India

By Fr. Arokia Raj, M.SS.CC.

**W**ith God's good grace and in witnessing the mission of our Founder, St. Gaetano Errico, the Missionaries of the Sacred Hearts have been serving the people of India for thirty-five years.

For the first ten years, the Delegation invested its time and resources in recruiting young aspirants in a program of human, spiritual and intellectual formation. As a result, the formation communities were set up in Bangalore and Sagar in Karnataka for different stages of formation in religious and priestly life. Once our presence became established through the ordination of local priests, the Congregation moved in the direction of active service through following the mission of service to the most poor and abandoned as instituted by St. Gaetano, giving a solid expression to the Charism of the Congregation.

Soon missions were taken up in neighboring states in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand. Recently, we also expanded pastoral activities in Kerala. The Delegation founded permanent mission centers of its own in these areas to serve the faithful. Several priests also accepted commitments to work in Diocesan parishes on a contract basis for one to five years.

In most of the Mission centers of our Congregation, the Missionaries' main activities are



pastoral and educational. Apart from celebrating the Eucharist daily in the main parishes and its substations, the Missionaries are available for special prayers at home or for the sick around the clock. Constant efforts are made to train the candidates for the worthy reception of the sacraments. On First Friday, spiritual renewal sessions are conducted concluding with the Eucharist and every Friday, community adoration is celebrated. On Sunday catechism to the children and spiritual classes for the youth are conducted in the parishes. Each of the parishes has many substations anywhere from five to twenty kilometers away. Some of them do not have a chapel, but since the establishment of the parish, we have constructed five chapels and two are under construction at present.

As most of our chosen mission centers are economically poor, education of the village children is minimal and out of reach for many. As a result, we are actively engaged in providing quality education ministry in our parishes in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Jharkland. Our Congregation is currently helping over 1500 children in receiving a solid education from primary level to high school. We also assist with guidance of young people towards the right choice of higher education and a career.

The Missionaries also continue to acknowledge and help with the most basic and persistent day to day needs of the villagers, including obtaining medications and health care. Recently, clean

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## Village Chapels Nearing Completion. . .

Gathered together in a small home for Sunday Mass, the people of two villages in our mission Substations of Bhimavarpadu and Kumkaruvalem, India, were imagining how it would be to finally have their own Chapel for worship. The two villages are in a remote area of Andhra Pradesh in southeastern India where our priests have been ministering to the needs of the people. They are gathering for Mass in a private home since it is a 13 mile walk to the nearest church and there is no



public transportation. But they recently learned that this dream would become a reality through the generosity of a United States family Foundation grant, American donor contributions, grants from the Nellore Diocese and the Generalate of the Congregation. They eagerly added their own small contributions to be a part of this blessed project.

Construction began in January and the Chapel at Kumkaruvalem was consecrated in August by the Bishop of the Diocese of Nellore, much to the joy of the villagers and the priests. May God shower His blessings on this new House of God and may it be a place of gathering and welcoming for all.

## The Missionaries of the Sacred Hearts in India

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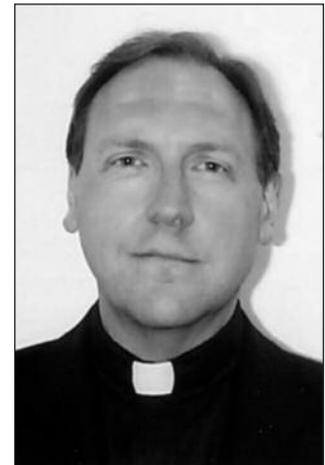
water wells and a purification system were provided in Jharkland and Andhra Pradesh.

The Missionaries have a great opportunity to serve the people and children with their committed mission of guiding them spiritually and educationally. Currently, our Delegation consists of 47 ordained priests, 6 Deacons, nearly 50 in the various stages of Formation and 18 priests working abroad. With the number of priests increasing, the opportunity to initiate further mission centres in India and support our existing missions abroad has risen.



## Message from Fr. John . . .

**W**hen I first joined the Missionaries in 1984, the Community in India was just beginning. There were only a handful of postulants and two priests from our Italian Delegation were working to establish this new mission. Now, as you read in this Newsletter, our Indian Confreres have spread their ministries into many areas of India and grown greatly in number. With God’s grace, obstacles were overcome and the message of His enduring love is reaching many who were alone and often forgotten. This brings to my mind the parable of the mustard seed. From the smallest of beginnings, great things can come forth with trust and faith in God. It is a lesson to remember: even the smallest good works or kind acts can bring about untold blessings.



Father John Perdue,  
M.S.S.C.C.

### Reflection:

**“M**ary is not only called the Mother of Mercy...she is the Mother of Mercy! And she proved that she is by the loving tenderness with which she helps all.”  
— St. Alphonsus Liguori

**Prayer:** Dearest Mother Mary, I will rejoice at the beautiful gift of you, ever present, ever caring, ever guiding me along the way. Accept my “Hail Mary” knowing it comes from a heart filled with love for you.

*Fr. John, M.S.S.C.C.*  
Father John, M.S.S.C.C.



Member since 1987.



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*Missionaries of the Sacred Hearts  
of Jesus and Mary*

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