

# HA-MEBASSER

MESSENGER OF  
GOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER  
General Prefecture  
of YVM CMF

## ENGINES START FOR WYD CLARET WAY SEOUL 2027

REMOTE PREPARATION  
FOR THE II WORLD  
ENCOUNTER OF THE  
CLARETIAN FAMILY  
YOUTH NETWORK  
BEGINS



Picture by Carlos Verga CMF

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Ha-Mebasser 2025/02



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## **CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT**

Prayer to Jesus Missionary of the Father

Jesus, Missionary of the Father and faithful Friend,

Thank you for loving us to the end,  
for giving your life to give us life,  
for calling us friends and entrusting us  
with the dream of the Kingdom.

You did not elect us on merit, but out of love;  
you chose us to live in communion with you  
and to bear fruit that will last,  
fruits of brotherly love, of justice, of peace.

Teach us to cultivate friendship with you every day,  
to listen to your voice and let ourselves be transformed by it,  
to live together as brothers,  
loving us as you have loved us.

Make us witnesses of your love,  
missionaries of the Father in the midst of the world,  
so that wherever we are, let fraternity flourish  
and all recognise you as the Friend who gives life.

Amen.

# ENGINES START FOR WYD CLARET WAY SEOUL 2027

THE REMOTE PREPARATION FOR  
THE II WORLD ENCOUNTER OF  
THE CLARETIAN FAMILY YOUTH  
NETWORK HAS BEGUN.

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Carlos Verga CMF



Picture by Carlos Verga CMF

On behalf of Father General, I had the joy of sharing part of the missionary life with our brothers in South Korea during the months of April and May.

The purpose of my stay in the Delegation was to carry out the general canonical visitation and to preside over the triennial assembly. This was followed by remote preparation for the World Youth Days (WYD) to be held in Seoul in 2027. As is well known, since WYD Madrid 2011, these events are preceded by an encounter of young people and YVM referents of the Claretian Family (CF). From 2023 in Lisbon, these typically Claretian encounters were established as the worldwide encounter of the CF Youth Network, Claret Way Global.

Sebastian Eruvelikkunnel CMF; Fr Luis Enrique Ortiz CMF, coordinator of the World Coordinating Commission of Claret Way Global; Fr Martin Ele CMF, coordinator of the YVM of the CF of East Asia and the writer, Br Carlos Verga CMF, General Prefect of YVM of the Congregation.

On this occasion, we were only CMFF because there is no presence of other CF groups in Korea. Together with Frs. Michael Park and Stephen Cho CMFF, we visited three possible places for the meeting of young people and referents of Claret Way: Geumsan, Nampyeong and Sokcho.





After the visit, we met with the government of the Delegation, analysed the pros and cons of each location, and outlined some criteria that we felt were important to take into account when organising the event. The sites are conducive to encounters with nature, Korean culture and religious diversity, particularly Buddhism. Two of the sites visited have also been the scene of historical events that have shaped the current face of the country and its democratic system. The latter, Sokcho, is relatively close to the border with North Korea. Nearby is the Goseong DMZ Museum, a memorial to the Korean people's fratricidal war and an expression of the desire for peace and unity between the two countries.

Luis Enrique explained how the organisation of the Youth Jubilee 2025 in Rome is being developed. In this way, on the one hand, the participation of all the branches of the CF is guaranteed at local, regional and world level. On the other hand, a specific task is assigned to each level: logistics, content and animation, and communication. After the Youth Jubilee, we will certainly have more concrete news about all this.

Let us pray that the Lord will bless the generosity and boldness of our missionaries who set themselves to this task. We also pray for the people who made this meeting possible.

Finally, we also ask God's blessing on the young people of the World Network as they prepare to participate in the Jubilee of Hope. May it kindle in their hearts the fire of mission and be a light of hope for the world.

Rome (Italy)  
May 2025





# YOUTH GOING FORTH: A MISSION RENEWING HOPE

## CHRONICLE OF THE LAMBARÉ MISSIONARY YOUTH COMMUNITY IN MARISCAL LÓPEZ - CHACHI 1ST LINE

Ovidio J. Ortigoza CMF



From 19 to 22 December 2024, the Missionary Youth Community, together with Fathers Ovidio Ortigoza CMF and Richar Vera CMF of the parish San Juan Bautista de Lambaré, carried out a mission in the chapel San Roque González de Santa Cruz, in Mariscal López - Chachi 1ra Línea, belonging to the parish Virgen del Rosario de Yhú.

During those days, we visited more than 125 homes in the community, announcing the Word of God, sharing the Claretian charism and presenting our youth community, which has been in process of formation for more than a year now. We also made known the Jubilee 2025, which invites us to live as Pilgrims of Hope.

Each visit began with a close dialogue, listening to the family, social and work reality of the people. Based on this trust, we shared the Gospel of Matthew 11:28-30, where Jesus offers rest to those who are burdened. After a brief reflection, we concluded by blessing homes. It was moving to see how many families welcomed us with their altars prepared, chairs ready and hearts open to the Word.

In the evening, we gathered with the families to celebrate Christmas as a family, a community space that included prayer, catechesis, reflection, petitions and blessing. These evenings were deeply enriching for all.



On Saturday, we dedicated the day to the children and young people of the community. Under the motto "Called to be pilgrims of hope", we carried out recreational activities, dynamics, songs and spaces for formation.

The mission concluded on Sunday with the Eucharist in the chapel, followed by a fraternal lunch offered by a host family. In the afternoon, we went to the indigenous community of Takuapii (San Joaquín) to deliver Christmas baskets, food and gifts for the little ones, fruit of the solidarity of the whole community of Lambaré. Since our beginnings we have accompanied this community with medical assistance, clothes and moments of fraternal encounter.

This experience reaffirms us in our missionary vocation: to continue to go forth as Pilgrims of Hope, taking the Gospel to every corner where God calls us to serve.

Cordoba (Argentina)  
January 2015.



Picture by the PJV of San José del Sur





# III MEETING OF YVM+ CF OF THE AMERICAS IN GUATEMALA

Edgar Salgado Tapia CMF

From November 26 to 30, 2024, in the city of San Cristobal, Guatemala, the III Encounter of the Youth and Vocational Ministry of the Claretian Family of America took place. This event gathered the referents of each one of branches

of the Claretian Family together with the young members of the Continental Commission of Claret Way. This third encounter is another milestone in the path that the Claretian Family of America, represented by its seven branches present in the continent, has travelled with perseverance since that memorable encounter in Rome in 2018.

Throughout these years, the Claretian Family has experienced two other continental encounters that have marked the joint work in the pastoral care of youth and vocations: the first, held in Santiago de Chile in September 2019, and the second, in Lima, Peru, in September 2022. These meetings have been true moments of grace, in which, as a family, we have responded with audacity and hope to the challenges of our time. Inspired by the spirit of Father Claret, we remain convinced that the mission of accompanying youth and vocations can only be carried out as a family.

As a result of the encounter in Peru, four pillars were proposed for the youth and vocations ministry in the Claretian family, which are as follows:

- **Claretian Family.** We dream of a YVM in America shaped, coordinated and animated by the young people and the referent members of the different branches of the family, strengthened by love, configured with the charismatic traits of 'shared mission and synodality', which evangelises and celebrates its identity creatively, rooted in the contexts, known and valued by all



Picture by Edgar Salgado Tapia CMF





its members, and in constant evaluation and updating.

- **Accompaniment.** We dream that our YVM throughout America will generate and energise processes of integral accompaniment, in trust, freedom and understanding, with which the beneficiaries will strengthen their true human identity, giving them tools for life.
- **Centrality of faith.** We dream that the YVM+ FC will be the mediation for the youth of America with whom we make the history of life and salvation, in which Jesus is the centre and gives meaning to life, nourishes their lives with the Word, lives and celebrates the Christian faith in community hand in hand with Mary and gives rise to creative evangelical initiatives in the style of Claret.
- **Missionary experiences.** As Claretian Family we dream that the missionary positions are open for young people to know and experience the missionary life, and that they can choose how and where to volunteer.

In Guatemala we reiterated the commitments made by the Claretian family in Lima and committed ourselves to:

- **Systematising content for youth and vocations.** Although materials for youth and vocations ministry exist in various places where we are present, it is necessary to systematise them in order to offer an

integral vision, on the one hand, and, on the other, to support those communities that do not yet have these resources.

- **Strengthen and promote volunteering.** The Claretian Family has identified several places in the continent where young people can live volunteer experiences. This poses a double challenge: on the one hand, to open our communities



to receive young people of the Claretian family in these spaces, and on the other hand, to adequately train those who wish to live this experience. As a family, we commit ourselves to face these challenges in order to give an adequate and generous response.

- **Interculturality.** In an increasingly globalised and

diverse world, interculturality is a challenge and an opportunity for the Claretian family. We commit ourselves to fostering authentic coexistence among the different cultures present in our communities, recognising the richness that each brings. Interculturality is not only a value, but a way of life that we must promote among young people, so that they learn to live in diversity, respecting and enriching differences. This implies the formation of an open and respectful mentality, which favours dialogue, mutual understanding and working together in the mission. The Claretian family commits itself to create spaces of encounter and reflection that favour the integration of the different cultural realities within our shared mission. As a family, we commit ourselves to face these challenges in order to give an adequate and generous response.



Picture by the PJV+FC of América

Each region has assessed its path in the light of these four pillars and, after a process of discernment, has made concrete commitments. Among these, the most urgent ones that have been identified in almost all regions are:

- Strengthen our charismatic roots through regular encounters with the various branches of the Claretian Family in each region, promoting greater communion and a sense of shared identity. For many regions, the first step will be to identify the branches present and begin a joint journey of collaboration and mission.



- To promote shared mission as our characteristic way of evangelising. To this end, we seek to give visibility, dynamism and continuity to the processes of youth and vocations ministry; we also wish to underline the desire of each one to count on the support and active commitment of the animators of each organism, guaranteeing their constant and sustained accompaniment.

None of this would have been possible without the effort and dedication of the YVM+ CF coordinating team, made up of representatives of the different branches of the Claretian Family and a young man chosen by the Continental Commission of Claret Way. In December 2024, this team completed its cycle of service, giving way to the renewal of representatives in each branch to constitute a new team that will animate this mission for the next two years.

In the framework of the encounter in Guatemala, the Claretian Missionaries held a formal meeting to elect their next representative in the team, resulting in the election of Fr. Edgar Alejandro Salgado Tapia CMF, from Mexico, region Corazón Guadalupano, who will assume this responsibility in the new stage. Likewise, it was confirmed that Sister Dora Antonia Jara MIC will continue as representative of the Missionary Sisters of the Claretian Institution. For their part, the Lay Claretians have already taken over, being designated as the new representative Daniel Heros, from Peru. The other branches still have pending the designation of their representatives. For its part, the Claret Way Commission announced that, a few months ago, it elected Eduardo Hernández, from the Romero region, as its representative in this team.



Picture by the PJV+FC of América





Among the main tasks of this new team is the elaboration of a document with clear and practical orientations that facilitate the processes based on the lines that the outgoing team leaves behind with the experience of the journey of these years. These orientations will seek to guarantee fluid and well-structured transitions in the teams, promoting continuity, the strengthening of pastoral projects and the integration of new members in harmony with the mission and charism of the Claretian Family.

With great joy, it was also announced that the next YVM+CF meeting will take place in Brazil in 2026. This will be a new space to dream together, to strengthen our journey and to renew our dedication to the service of the youth of America.

As we look to the future, we remember the spirit that animated Father Claret: to do with others what we cannot do alone. Inspired by his missionary zeal and sustained by the Heart of Mary, we continue to work as one big family, responding with creativity and hope to the challenges of our time. May our steps always be guided by the fire of love, so that, like Mary, we may be witnesses to the joy of the Gospel in the hearts of the youth of America.

Mexico City (Mexico)  
March 2025



# PILGRIMS OF HOPE: GO FORTH AND SERVE

## CLARET WAY MEETING IN NORTHEAST INDIA - 2025

Arnest Kharmawlong CMF



Picture by the archive NEI Province

### CHRONICLE OF THE MEETING

From 3 to 6 January 2025, a deeply spiritual and fraternal encounter was held at St. Claret's Seminary, Umsning, in the district of Ri Bhoi (Meghalaya), which gathered 190 young people from different parishes and missions of Northeast India. It was organised by the Prefecture of Youth and Vocations of the Claretian Province of the Northeast, in collaboration with the Claretian Sisters and the prayer group "United for Christ" (UFC), Shillong.

#### **Day 1 : Welcome, charismatic opening and connection to the global network**

From the morning, the atmosphere was filled with enthusiasm with the arrival of the participants. In the afternoon, the meeting was formally opened with the inauguration, which included the raising of the flag of the Claret Way, the opening Eucharist

presided by Fr Bernard Laloo (Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Shillong), and a protocol session animated by Fr Bibin Lakra.

The lighting of the lamp was one of the most significant symbolic moments, with the participation of church authorities, religious and young people. Afterwards, Fr. Arnest presented the vision and mission of the Claret Way, and the motto song was sung, reinforcing the sense of belonging.

The day continued with an intervention by Sr. Geraldine Sasirekah, RMI, representative of the Claret Way network in Asia, who shared the journey of the network worldwide, inspiring the participants to dream of a young, serving and going forth Church.

In the evening, animators Bridget Warshong, Ruhipaia Lyngdoh, Ventia Warshong





and Fr Raphael Maiong CMF shared experiences of their participation in Claret Way South East Asia, resonating deeply with the young people. The day concluded with singing, dancing and prayer.

## **Day 2 : Listening, dialogue and community expression**

The second day began with morning prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist, creating a serene and spiritually open space. This was followed by two round tables:

- The first addressed the challenges of faith of the youth, with interventions by Ferdinand Basan, a state official, on the impact of cultural diversity on the experience of faith; and by lawyer Eden Marbaniang, on

the tensions faced by young people in the family and social environment.

- The second focused on media and technology, moderated by Fr Melansius Tado CMF. Raphael Maiong spoke about the digital world and its implications for the life of faith. Peter Kharbangar addressed the uses and abuses of media from the experience of the youth. Both sessions were very participative and generated meaningful discussions.

In the afternoon, Mr. Rodrick Kharbithai coordinated a youth leadership session with dynamics and games aimed at teamwork, decision-making and creativity. Later, sports and recreational competitions were organised to strengthen the bond between the missionary groups.

In the evening, a quiz on the life of Claret and the Congregation was held in seven rounds. The Nonghyllam mission won first place. Finally, the evening cultural events gave space for the expression of each group's identity through song, dance and short dramatisations, highlighting local faith and culture.





## Day 3 | Pilgrimage, discernment and sending out

The day began again with a praise and worship session. The central moment was the pilgrimage to the spiritual places of Siloam and Bethel, carefully prepared by the animators. The journey culminated with the Eucharistic celebration at Siloam, presided over by Fr John Madur. It was an intense experience of prayer, silence and inner renewal.

In the afternoon, the young people shared in small groups their personal reflections and learnings, and concrete paths were mapped out to further deepen their faith and service. The new coordinating team of Claret Way CF North East India was elected:

- President: Leviticus Ch. Marak
- Secretary: Eusebia Phawa



Picture by the PJV of Northeast India Province

Coordinators by mission: to be appointed in the near future.

A space for prayer and thanksgiving prepared the heart for the closing ceremony, animated by the coordination team. The moments experienced were highlighted, testimonies were shared and those who made the meeting possible were thanked. Fr. Joy Pulickal CMF, Vice-Provincial, gave a final message encouraging the young people to continue walking with hope.

The closing ceremony ended with the motto song, the lowering of the flag and a deep sense of gratitude and shared mission.



Picture by the PJV de Northeast India Province





## Fruits of the encounter

For three days, the young people lived an intense experience of faith, formation, service, community and Claretian joy. The motto "Pilgrims of Hope: Go forth and Serve!" was not only a theme, but a concrete experience that encouraged them to become agents of transformation in their communities.

This encounter sowed many seeds: youth leadership, missionary commitment, sense of belonging and a network of hearts willing to walk together. It was an authentic celebration of faith, in the style of Claret, and a new impulse was given to the synodal journey of the Claretian youth of Northeast India.

Shillong (India)  
March 2025



Picture by PJV Northeast India Province





# MEETING OF THOSE IN CHARGE OF CHILDREN'S PASTORAL CARE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOCATIONS

PROVINCE OF SANTIAGO  
(SPAIN)

Juan Lozano CMF

## BRIEF CHRONICLE OF THE MEETING

Last January 18 and 19, those responsible for the pastoral care of children, youth and vocations of the Claretian province of Santiago met in the Colegio Mayor Jaime del Amo to deal with four fundamental aspects.

First of all, we reflected on the meaning of the Jubilee Year of Hope, presented by Father José Cristo Rey García Paredes CMF. We analysed the possible applications of this Jubilee both in our personal lives and in the pastoral actions that we will develop during the year 2025.

The afternoon was devoted to two workshops. The first one dealt with human trafficking, a subject that the Spanish Episcopal Conference wants to deal with during this year. The second workshop was led by the parish priest of San Bruno, D. Manuel,

a parish linked to the colleges in the campus ministry, who spoke to us about the involvement of the pastoral care of religious congregations in the dioceses.

Sunday morning was dedicated to the programme of activities at provincial level. First of all, we recalled the programme and the current situation of the Jubilee of Rome with Maripi Amigo (Filiación Cordimariana), organised by Claret Way Global, where we carried out soundings of participation and talked about the possibilities of travel. Secondly, we planned a joint Easter for the fourth year of secondary school and the first year of high school, which we have carried out in recent years in a village in Palencia. This common Easter experience brings together



Photo of PJV of Santiago





these two levels of the Youth Centres with a great participation and satisfaction of the teenagers. Thirdly, we present the Camino de Santiago, which will take place during the second half of July and is aimed at our students and members of our parishes who are finishing their last year of school (second year of baccalaureate).

These three experiences are the common activities that we have carried out in previous years and that we have reprogrammed for the year 2025. Issues such as the shared experience of the different summer activities, such as the camps, were addressed, and the course for monitors held at the Claret School in Segovia was evaluated. Forty-nine young people took part in this intensive three-day training course in order to obtain the appropriate qualifications to be able to work as camp monitors.

Throughout the weekend, different Claretians and lay people participated in our sessions. In addition to the formation received, we had spaces for prayer, celebration of the Eucharist, conviviality... Throughout the encounter we shared common concerns and challenges of our pastoral work such as the formation of our agents and the

need to incorporate the laity in a more participative way. Obviously, the Jubilee Year of Hope is the fundamental framework for this pastoral activity in 2025.

Madrid (Spain)  
January 2025



Picture by the PJV of Santiago



# YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE JUBILEE OF HOPE

## VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE PREFECT GENERAL OF YVM WITH THE NIGERIAN FORMANDI

Joseph Ugwu<sup>1</sup>



The students of the Claretian House of Formation Maryland Nekede participated on March 22, 2025 in a seminar entitled "PILGRIMS OF HOPE: JUBILEE 2025". The seminar was led by the General Perfecto of Youth and Vocation Ministry (YVM), Brother Carlos Verga, CMF. Among the participants in the seminar were students from the Claretian House of Formation, Nekede, Imo State, the novices of the Heart of Mary Novitiate, Utonkon, Benue State, students of the Claretian Theologate, Attakwu, Enugu State and some students from the Independent Delegation of Western Nigeria who joined from Cameroon. Also present at the online seminar were Fr Roland Onuekwusi, CMF (Prefect of Formation, Independent Delegation of Western Nigeria), Fr Josephat Nwana, CMF (Prefect of Students, Theologate Community, Attakwu), Fr Terence Agu, CMF (Novice Master, Heart of Mary Novitiate), Fr Peter Damian, CMF (Assistant Novice Master), and Fr Stan Ekwujuru, CMF (Prefect of Formation, Eastern Nigeria Province).

The seminar began at 16.00 hours with a short opening address by Fr. Stan, who welcomed the participants and introduced the seminar moderator. He then gave the floor to Brother Carlos to continue his presentation. As the presentation was to focus on young people, the moderator entitled it: "YOUNG PEOPLE: PILGRIMS OF HOPE". It was an interesting and interactive encounter as he began by explaining the etymology of the word "jubilee" derived from the Hebrew word "yobel"



<sup>1</sup> Joseph Ugwu is a philosophy student and a Claretian postulant in West Nigeria Delegation..

meaning "horn". This special ram's horn was used to produce a trumpet sound to announce the jubilee year. Furthermore, he discovered the biblical roots of the jubilee celebrations described in Leviticus 25:8-13 and Luke 4:16-21).



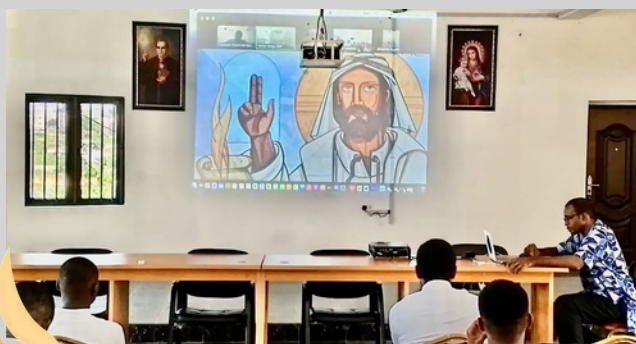
While explaining the implications of the jubilee, the animator drew the attention of the participants to the Autobiography of St. Anthony Mary Claret no. 118. The highlight of the interactive encounter focused on how the celebration of the jubilee can bring about changes in our lives today. The students from the different formation houses made spontaneous contributions to the discussion.

Brother Carlos further stressed that the celebration of the Jubilee has ethical, social and spiritual implications for our Christian life today. Drawing on the papal bull *Spes non confundit*, proclaiming the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025, he outlined the theological, spiritual, social and familial commitments that underlie the celebration. In addition, he spoke of the specific Jubilee practices that Christians are invited to consider, namely,

- Pilgrimage
- Sacramental life
- Prayer for the Pope's intentions
- Retreats and special moments of prayer, among others.

He mentioned that this Jubilee Year is a good time to remember and celebrate in a deeper way 2000 years of Redemption worked by Jesus Christ.

This Jubilee, which marks the 2025th anniversary of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is a special time for spiritual renewal and deepening of



the relationship with Jesus Christ. Therefore, every Christian is involved and can undertake the recommended practices to draw closer to God, to seek forgiveness and reconciliation with God and neighbour, to embrace the call to





conversion, to help others and to grow in love.

The facilitator closed his presentation with some advice on how to accompany young people on their journey through what he called the Jubilee of Grace. Some of the key points raised in this regard are,

- Finding and discovering Jesus as a friend and companion.
- Accompanying young people together as we help them cultivate the virtues of patience and trust in God.
- To present Mary to them as a formidable role model.
- To help them discover their vocational mission.
- Show our concern for the poor through solidarity and care.
- Support young families to grow in the love of Christ.
- Promote inclusive spirituality.
- And to instil in them the need to be alive, active and concretely involved in the jubilee activities of the universal and local churches respectively.

Brother Carlos really took some time to explain these points about accompanying young people in the Jubilee Year and then gave space for contributions and questions. The young missionaries in formation made their contributions, raised some questions and got clarifications from the speaker. The students appreciated both the content and the participatory approach that made the seminar attractive, interesting and practical, as it helped them to see how they can live the Jubilee Year and help other young people also to reap the fruits of the celebration.

At the end, Fr. Roland thanked the facilitator for the wonderful presentation and the students for their active participation in the seminar. Fr. Stan gave the closing remarks as the IPC students concluded with the Angelus at 18:00.

Nekede (Nigeria)  
May 2025



# VOCATION STORIES

## WHAT THE MISSION ON THE PERIPHERIES TAUGHT ME

Ajit Kullu CMF



*"He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness, and in his appearance was found in human likeness" - Phil. 2:7.*

I feel very happy and privileged to be able to express my experiences of mission in the peripheries. I come from a poor family that is totally dependent on agriculture and other crops to manage the family's economic situation. Financially it was difficult to support the family, but thanks to the hard work and constant efforts of my parents I was able to complete my studies successfully. I grew up in a simple, good and hardworking family environment, deeply rooted in Jesus Christ. Moreover, the beauty of my family is unity. We work together, pray together and support each other especially during difficulties. This is what I appreciate and it contributed to my spiritual, physical and social well-being. I encountered different realities and different problems during the time I was attending school until I finished my intermediate studies, but still God's plan is unique and special for each one of us. I thanked God almighty for being with me, with my family and for giving me the beautiful Claretian vocation. The deep faith in Jesus Christ and the spiritual strength of my family motivated me with missionary zeal to work for the poor and marginalized.



At first I wanted to become a priest for I loved their way of doing mission, but due to my average level of studies, I could not enter the seminary, although the visits of different missionary fathers and sisters to my parish and family had a great impact on my life. I was also very inspired by the parish priest's visits to the poor, sick and suffering families. I could see the result of his visit in the families, in the people and in his life. I was inspired by his dedication and commitment. Moved by the same spirit, I began to reflect and plan my entry into the seminary. But lack of guidance and personal inadequacies put me off and confused me in making a concrete decision. The arrival of many congregations in my parish also confused me about my life and vocation. The time came when I had to decide and define my life. I was helpless without proper guidance, but God's plan came true once again through my dear parents. They guided me to join the beautiful Claretian congregation and I started my vocational journey as a Claretian missionary. When I entered the seminary, I felt happy and God's special blessings arose within me. I could study well, pray well and commit myself totally to God. I made good use of my formation time to mould myself as much as possible and to be well equipped for the mission. It was really a blessing for me to regain my hidden strength. I believe that God is always with me and will be with me forever. I pray a simple prayer during my personal prayer time and also in my free time: "God, I am just a little child, what changes can I do without you. Give me the power of the Holy Spirit and guide me, so that I can become a good priest and give witness to Christ". This prayer helped and guided me a lot in my missionary trials.

After my studies and formation, I was sent for the ministry of the Diaconate in a very interior place. It was a bit disappointing for me, but I still accepted it with a positive attitude. It made me a more open and joyful missionary. I learned the local language and culture and adapted to the situation. That is how I started my missionary work in the peripheries. From the diaconate until now, as a priest, I work in very interior places, for the poor and the marginalised. I listen to them, I pray with them, and being with them in their difficulties has given me the inner satisfaction and joy of being a missionary in God's vineyard. Knowing their culture, knowing their languages, visiting them especially in their suffering made me more available, open and committed as a missionary.





I could feel and experience the pain and suffering of the poor people. I never longed for extraordinary changes in their lives, but my humble and simple prayer with Jesus was to be with them in their difficulties and in some of the places where people have experienced the presence of God. I gave my best for mission, never shying away from helping the poor and needy. When I met with the poor and listened to their difficulties and their lives I experienced the presence of God in me. I have never been interested in living in the city and working for a 'selected' people. Personally, I feel and experience the presence of God and that God is known in the peripheries by the needy and the poor. This inner awareness and inner spirit moved me to do mission in the peripheries. During this time, I reflected, prayed well and was able to understand the value of my life and the purpose of the call I have received from God. Many opportunities and blessings God has given me through the Claretian congregation. Wherever I am assigned to mission, I continue to develop and improve my skills and qualities. By God's grace and guidance, I have been able to experience the spiritual power, pastoral skills and physical strength to do mission in the peripheries. My simple life and simple approach made a big change in the peripheries. Mission to the peripheries has made me understand God and his people. Thanks be to almighty God for being with me throughout my life and proclaiming the good news to the whole world.

In conclusion, I would like to say that you should do things without expecting anything in return and then you will receive the reward that only God can give. Give me, my God, a watchful heart that no disturbing thought can turn me away from you. Give me a noble heart that no unworthy desire can degrade. Give me a free heart that can bear witness to Christ the Lord.

Nuaon (India)  
April 2025

