

# SPIRIT AGLOW

June 2025 Volume 24 Issue 1

"With the light and the strength of the HOLY SPIRIT, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a MISSIONARY CHURCH that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made "restless" by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity."

Pope Leo XIV

#### **Exhortation from the Coordinator**



Praise the Lord, my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all". Every time I remember the day I met the Lord and experienced His unconditional love for me, my heart leaps with boundless joy. Through many trials, temptations and challenges, it's His love that has protected and sustained me. I exhort you to remember the very moment you also felt His love and gave yourself to Him. For His love is the source of our strength and also binds us together as one family. I firmly believe that the Charismatic Renewal Chennai will experience a Great Revival and we will be united as Spirit filled people who will serve the Lord with great zeal and joy. Together let us re-energise our prayer groups, revitalise and initiate new prayer groups. I wish to join hands with each of you to be co-workers in bringing faith and hope to all who are seeking the Lord. Trusting in the abundant Grace of our Heavenly Father and leaning upon your support and cooperation, I look forward to a jubilant and glorious era of the Charismatic Renewal in Chennai.

#### Nelson C. Anto

Coordinator, (2025 - 2028)
Madras Service of Communion

A Newsletter of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Chennai (For Private Circulation Only)

#### MSC Reconstitution at Risen Christ Parish, Peravallur on 23 February 2025



Fr. Arul Raj, Fr. K.P. Paul SDB, Mahimairaj, Romeo Lobo, Tabitha and the newly elected MSC members.

The Reconstitution of the Madras Service of Communion of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Madras Mylapore Archdiocese was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2025. Prayer groups and parishes nominated their representatives and 14 people were identified to undergo discernment for being elected into the service team.

Bro Joy Anthony and Bro. Mahimairaj representing the National Service of Communion attended and gave the participants inspiring talks. Spiritual Directors Rev Fr. Arulraj and Rev. Fr. K.P. Paul, SDB along with the NSC member Bro. Mahimairaj and out-going MSC coordinator Mr. Romeo Lobo were part of the discernment panel. After a prayerful discernment process, 9 members were selected. Mr. Nelson C. Anto was elected as Coordinator and Mrs. Candice Anne Dominic as Secretary by a vote among the elected members. The other MSC members being Mr. Leslie Martin, Mr. Praveen Joe, Ms. Anita Soans, Mr. Xavier Anton Vinod, Mr. Richard Marcel, Mr. Joy Naresh Paul and Mr. Jude Asokan who together are the MSC Core Group for the period June 2025 to May 2028.



# **CCR Family in TN Congratulates Bro. Victorjoans**

- At the CNSC meeting of NCRS held from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Mumbai, Bro. Victorjoans was elected as a CNSC member to represent Tamil Nadu for the term 2025-2028.
- Subsequently, he was elected as the National Coordinator at CNSC meetings held at Ennore from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

# MSC Meeting with Episcopal Advisor, Chevalier Cyril John & the CNSC team



## Highlights of the meeting

- Most Rev. Archbishop Francis Kalist, Episcopal Advisor congratulated Bro. Victorjoans and the Chennai/TN team on his election as the National Coordinator. He stated that the MSC now has the mandate to reach out to the whole Tamil Nadu Region.
- He also told the CNSC team that MSC played a vital role in the success of Kairos 2024 at Pondicherry. Hence, they have the potential to host the National Convention.
- Chevalier Cyril John informed the team that the National Convention and the Golden Jubilee Celebration of Tamil Nadu/Chennai will be clubbed together and celebrated from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> January 2027 in Chennai/TN. The event will be hosted by MSC with some support from CNSC.

# **SPIRIT AGLOW**



# Youth United for Christ Activity from Oct 2024 to June 2025

By Tabith Abraham- YU4C Coordinator

# KAIROS 2024- National Youth Convention Stepping up with Jesus

Kairos 2024 the National Youth Convention, took place from October 31 to November 3, 2024, at Old Port, Pondicherry, with over 5,000 youth in attendance.

YU4C Chennai along with the MSC members and volunteers from CCR Chennai played a pivotal role in the success of the Convention. More than 180 youth had registered from Chennai. The team assisted with coordinating and providing transportation for all participants arriving at Chennai from various parts of the country, and ensured that they safely reached Pondicherry. Members of YU4C contributed creatively through a skit on the opening day and Tabitha Abraham, the YU4C Coordinator served as the MC on the second day. The conference was a beautiful blend of faith, fun and fellowship with praise and worship, anointed talks, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Infilling of the Holy Spirit coupled with enthusiastic and funfilled musical evenings. The Convention left the youth who participated spiritually refreshed and deeply touched by the experience. The event was also telecast live on Lourdes TV enabling those who missed attending to participate virtually.





#### YU4C CORE TEAM PLANNING MEET

The YU4C Core Team came together on the 3rd and 4th of May for their annual planning meet, held under the guidance of the YU4C Spiritual Director, mentors, and the MSC Coordinator. The gathering was marked by prayerful reflection, open sharing, and a shared desire to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

The team reviewed the events of the past year and identified areas that needed strengthening. With those insights, a broad plan was drawn up for the upcoming year with a strong focus on reaching out to more young people, encouraging their return to the Church and forming new youth prayer groups in parishes. Discussions around strengthening key ministries such as Teaching, Media, and Music that serve as vital channels for evangelisation and formation.

The meeting was a hopeful and unifying moment, setting the tone for a year of renewed mission and deeper commitment.





#### ABIDE IN ME Retreat at Ennore -28th to 30th March'25

Around 40 youth gathered at Don Bosco Youth Animation Centre, Ennore, for the 'Abide in Me' retreat. It was an enriching experience and a time spent in deep prayer, fellowship, and renewal of spirit. The retreat was held during Lent and was marked by powerful sessions of praise and worship, anointed teachings, and deeply moving moments during the Inner Healing session, Adoration and the Infilling of the Holy Spirit. Many youths experienced personal transformation and were inspired to stay connected with God and the Church.

As a beautiful fruit of the retreat, youth prayer meetings were initiated in three parishes, and several participants became actively involved in their local parish prayer groups. The Holy Spirit moved mightily and the retreat left a lasting impact.



## YU4C Induction at Risen Christ Church, Peravallur

On 1st June 2025, Youth United For Christ - Chennai had their **Induction Program** of the new Core members. This special gathering welcomed nominees desiring to serve the Youth Ministry for a term of one year.

The day featured enriching talks on **Servant** Leadership and Commitment equipping the participants with a deeper understanding of their role in building Christ-centered communities. After a prayerful discernment and reflection, five members; Antony Thomson, Elizabeth Joseph, Jeffrey Gabriel, Pearlin Febina and Tasha Barnett were chosen to join the existing core team comprising of Tabitha, Ajay Andrew, Anita Maria, Anthony Joshua and Samuel Jeromiah.

We praise God for their 'yes' and look forward to the fruits of their service in the year ahead!







Fr. K.P. Paul SDB, Fr. Arul Raj, MSC and MIN coordinators and the elected members.

#### MSC Planning Meeting at Ennore 28th to 30th March'25



The newly elected MSC members together with Ex-officio Romeo Lobo, TN Coordinator Victorioans and YU4C Coordinator, Tabitha met at Ennore for a prayer-filled time of discernment and planning for the year ahead as well as to discern the roles and responsibilities of each member.

#### Key Responsibility of the new MSC Members

- Nelson C. Anto Coordinator
- Candice Anne Dominic Secretary
- Xavier A. Vinod Treasurer and Prayer Groups in charge
- Leslie Martin CU4C (Couples Ministry) Jude Asokan YU4C (Youth Ministry)
- Praveen Joe Music Ministry
- Anita Soans Media Ministry
- Joy Paul Outreach Ministry
- Richard Marcel Pastoral Ministry

Ex-officio members: Victorioans, TN Coordinator, Romeo Lobo, Previous MSC Coordinator, Regina Nathan, MIN Coordinator and Tabitha Abraham, YU4C Coordinator.

#### **Madras Intercessory Network** A report by MIN Co0rdinator, Mrs. Regina Nathan

Ephesians 6:18 - "Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.'

The Madras Intercessory Network core team came together to pray, discern and plan out the necessary activities to be undertaken to strengthen the Intercession Ministry: The following was decided:

- Strengthen the Eight Watch Group and encourage more Prayer Warriors to participate.
- Physical Intercession meetings to be held once a month.
- Encourage good participation in programs conducted by the National Intercession Network.
- Support the work of the Madras Service of Communion through prayer, fasting and intercession.
- Conduct Jericho March and Night Vigils in Parishes.
- Facilitate a Prayer Helpline, where prayer requests would be reached through phone calls or WhatsApp messages.
- Conduct Workshops which will help and reinforce gifts and charisms in Intercessors.

We look forward to your most valuable participation and support to build this ministry. Together, let us all experience the loving mercies of our Heavenly Father, the grace of our Lord Jesus and the fellowship of our beloved Holy Spirit.

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Three months after my husband lost his job despite delays and disappointments, we continued to trust in Jesus and sought the intercession of St. Joseph and Mother Mary. Just as hope was fading, he received a job offer with a significant salary hike! Interviews were cleared in a single day, even while he was unwell. Meghna, Sholinganallur

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#### MSC Members with Archbishop Dr. George Antonysamy



The MSC team together with present and former TN Coordinators Victorjoans and Wilson Irudayaraj, Fr. Arulraj and Fr. K. P. Paul SDB met with most Rev. Archbishop Dr. George Anthonysamy and invited him for the Pentecost Conference 2025.

#### MIN Reconstitution at Church Park on 1st May 2025

Led by former MIN Coordinator Praveen Joe, the reconstitution was a spirit-filled day with a good turnout of members who attended to help elect the MIN core team. The number of members who showed interest in being a part of the core team and the intercessory ministry was unprecedented and heartwarming. The day was blessed with Praise and Worship and Adoration led by YU4C members, Eucharistic celebration by Fr. Satish Paul SDB, inspiring talks by Aunty Margie and Bro. Praveen Joe coupled with an enriching fellowship lunch. Out of the 20 members, 9 were discerned to be a part of the core team and the others were chosen to be part of the sentinels for the North and South zones respectively.

#### MIN Core Group members - May 2025 to April 2028

- Regina Nathan
- Jonas J. A.
- Jessica D'Silva
- Christy Bosco Jude Arokiaraj
- Ambuja Victorjoans Anthony King Thomson
- Clare D'Cruz
- Nirmala Jeyarani





#### **TESTIMONIALS**

By God's grace, I cleared my exams, got a scholarship, and was admitted to my dream U.S. university. During my visa interview when many faced rejections, I prayed in tongues, and the officer approved it without checking any documents. It started raining as I stepped out, a sign of God's blessings. I thank the Eight Watch Intercessory Team who prayed for me. God made the impossible, possible! Samuel - YU4C member

On 23rd March' 2025. I suffered a brain aneurysm and haemorrhage. I cried out to God. I underwent a 6-hour brain surgery, and against all odds, it was successful. Even the doctors were amazed, and I was discharged in just 10 days. I stand today as a living testimony to God's healing, mercy, and power! - Rachael Verma (regular at 3 p.m. prayer watch)

A major mishap occurred today at Mumbra station—many were injured, some lost their lives. I usually take the 8:56 train, but today, Jesus led me early to Thane and I boarded the 8:37 local instead. Had I taken my usual train, I might've been caught in the tragedy. - Nita - regular at 3 a.m. prayer watch

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# **SPIRIT AGLOW**

#### **Upcoming National Events**

- National Charisms Retreat
   Kozhikode, Kerala 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July
- India's 4<sup>th</sup> National March for Life, Bangalore - 9<sup>th</sup> August

#### **Active Eight Watch Timings:**

12 mid night	3 a.m.		9 a.m.
	3 p.m.	6 p.m.	9 p.m.

Please send prayer qequest by WhatsApp @ 9840233890 To be a part of our Eight Watch Intercession, please contact Thomson @ 9941858617

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Pentecost Celebration at St. Andrew's, Choolai - Report by Joseph Pradeep







The Choolai Prayer Group actively participated in the daily Pentecost Novena, culminating in a vibrant celebration. On the final two days, members gathered at church to reflect on *Sin and Salvation* and *Inner Healing*, with the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday. Pentecost Sunday, June 8, began with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament by Fr. Arulraj, who shared a reflection on the Holy Spirit being *with us, in us, and upon us*. Joseph Nirmal led the congregation in uplifting hymns to the Holy Spirit.

A Eucharistic procession followed, during which Fr. Arulraj carried the Blessed Sacrament through the congregation. Sr. Margie, Br. Nelson, and Br. Leslie Martin prayed and ministered to attendees. After Benediction, the Eucharistic Celebration brought the community together in worship. Dr. Praveen Joe gave a talk on 'Fruits and Charisms of the Holy Spirit'. It was a powerful experience of unity, healing, and spiritual renewal.

#### Pentecost Novena 2025 - Online from 30th May to 7th June 2025

Each day of the Novena more than 40 participants from across Chennai gatherered online from 7:30–8:00 PM and prayed. With soulful hymns, Bible readings and talks, each day being animated by different prayer groups including Santhome, Little Mount, Peravallur, Kodambakkam, Anna Nagar, Velachery, Choolai, the MIN, and YU4C. each preparing and delivering their part well fostering unity in prayer. This year we adopted a hybrid format: Don Bosco Shrine, Ayanavaram, hosted all nine days in person, while St. Andrew's, Choolai, hosted three days in-person. The Holy Spirit Novena, one of the Church's oldest, remains a powerful time of renewal and intercession for the CCR in Chennai.

#### St. Teresa's Church 1st Saturday Inaugural Prayer Meeting - 7th June 2025



A prayer meeting open to all 1st Saturdays 5:00 to 6:30 PM

Praise and Worship was led by Bro. Gangai Victor, Irene and the Spread Worship ministry. Around 25 participants from neighbouring parishes joined the evening of praise and reflection. Paul Francis Srinivas, a full-time Catholic missionary from Bangalore, shared an inspiring message on Living the Pentecost, emphasizing the Holy Spirit's presence with us, in us, and through us. These gatherings will continue every First Saturday. All are welcome, especially those without access to prayer groups in their own parishes.

# One-Day Lenten Retreat at St. Thomas Parish, Manathidal, Kumbakonam

We were truly blessed as a family to be part of a one-day Lenten Retreat in Manathidal, a small village in the Kumbakonam diocese. Alongside Sr. Rosy from the diocese and my wife Ambuja, I had the joy of serving as part of the resource team. The day began with vibrant praise and worship, creating an atmosphere of joy and expectation. The sessions included reflections on God's will for our lives, a testimony on personal relationship with Christ, talks on sin and repentance, and the power of God's Word. The retreat concluded with a powerful Jericho March, lifting up the needs of the parish community. God's presence was felt throughout the day, filling hearts with renewed love and zeal for Him. A special grace was given to connect personally with the parish youth, sharing life testimonies and encouraging them to surrender their lives fully to the Lord. All glory and praise to God!



Report by Victorioans