

Minutes of the 30th Annual Meeting of the Tamilnadu Canonists'
Association: TNBCLC, Tindivanam,
19& 20 January 2021

The 30th Annual Meeting of the Tamilnadu canonists' Association began on 19th January 2021, Tuesday at 9.30 am with lighting the lamp by Fr. Pascal, Fr. Angel, Sr. Chinnarani, Fr. Alaguselvam, Fr. C.M. Joseph, Fr. Arputha Xavier and Fr. Lawrence Iruthayaraj. Then there was a song invoking the guidance of Holy Spirit for the fruitful meeting, reading of the scripture and prayer by Sr. Chinnarani. Fr. Pascal, the President of TNCA welcomed all the participants. Then we had a minute of silence in honour of Late Fr. Y. Iruthayaraj of Trichy diocese, Fr. Solomon of Kottar diocese and Fr. Philip Santiago of Kumbakonam diocese. The minutes of the last meeting was read by Fr. Xavier Devasagayam. Then the canonists introduced themselves with one another. Thirty nine canonists attended the annual meeting.

In the first session at 10.00 am, Fr. George Vincent of Kottar diocese presented the paper on: "Sui Iuris Churches". The session was moderated by Fr. Norbert of Thoothukudi diocese. The members had very active participation in the discussion. Then we had coffee break.

The second session began at 11.15 am. Fr. Arumainathan ofm cap presented a paper on: "Civil Registration of Marriages". Fr. Martin of Thoothukudi diocese moderated the session. Then there was very good interaction of the members. Then Fr. James Anthuvan of Sivagangai presented his experience on "Canonization Process". Fr. Charles MMI moderated the session. After the interaction we went for lunch at 1.20 pm.

The afternoon session began at 3.00 pm. Fr. A. Rayappan, St. Peter's college, Bangalore introduced the book on "Pastoral Canon Law" by Fr. C.M. Joseph of Chennai archdiocese. Fr. Yakkobu of Chengalpattu diocese presented paper on "Cooperation among priests C. 275". Then there was a fruitful discussion on the deliberations. The session was moderated by Fr. A. Rayappan junior of Pondichery Archdiocese. The participants left for tea at 4 pm.

Fr. Peter Thumma of Chennai archdiocese presented on "Fratelli Tutti" in the evening session at 6 pm. Then we had the discussion on the presentation. Fr. Charles of Chennai archdiocese moderated the session.

On the second day, 20 January at 6.30 am the canonists had morning prayer and concelebrated Holy Mass. It was presided over by Most Rev. S. Antonysamy,

the Bishop of Palayamkottai. The mass was offered for the repose of soul of late Fr. Y. Iruthayaraj of Trichy diocese, Fr. Solomon of Kottar diocese and Fr. Philip Santiago of Kumbakonam diocese.

The first session of second day began at 9.00 am with key note address by Bishop Antonysamy on “Amoris Laetitia”. Then Fr. Jegadeesh ofm cap presented on “Patris Corde” – the role of catholic parents in the light of PC in Tamilnadu family situation. The session was moderated by Fr. Alex Gnanaraj of Madurai archdiocese. Then Fr. Alagu Selvan presented on “Canonical Updates”. The session was moderated by Fr. Jacob of Selam diocese. After the interaction Fr. Philomindas, the procurator presented the account.

After the coffee break Fr. Michael Anand ofm shared on “Civil updates”. The session was moderated by Fr. George of Trichy diocese. The questions were responded by the panel group comprised of Bishop Antonysamy, Fr. Rayappan, Fr. C.M. Joseph and Fr. Alaguselvan.

In the election session unanimously decided to continue for one more term Fr. Pascal as President and Fr. Angel as Vice president. Fr. Tony J. was elected as new secretary. January 19 & 20, Wednesday and Thursday are the dates chosen for the two-day symposium. The venue will be TNBCLC, Thindivanam and Fr. Philomindas will be the local organizer. The theme will be “Marriage and Family” and the presentation will be in Tamil. The service team will work out the title and person for the presentation of the papers. The session and the two-day symposium came to an end at 1.30 pm with a prayer and thanksgiving.