

REPORT OF BANGALORE CRI

2016-2017

- Karnataka is a land with a variety of culture and diversity.
- This southern state of India has Bangalore as its capital city. It is also known as the Garden City of the nation.
- With the IT boom being triggered in this city, Bangalore is known as the Silicon Valley of India.
- Bangalore, with its busy city life and variety of languages, communities, beliefs and financial status, is a home to a large number of religious congregations.
- All these congregations find its common meeting forum in the CRI - the Conference of Religious of India.

- The Bangalore CRI is among the largest in India. The Bangalore CRI covers six districts
- 456 Congregations are present in the Unit. The total member strength is 4171
- Bangalore CRI consists of 19 zones. All the 19 zones have their own elected President, Secretary and Treasurer.

- The office bearers of 2016-17 were:
 - **President** - Fr. Edward Thomas SDB
 - **Vice president** – Sr. Jessy Saldana SCN/ Sr. Sagaya Deepa SSAM
 - **Treasurer** – Sr. Pushpajyothi SMMI
 - **Secretary:** Sr. Saleena DC/Sr. Regina EF
 - **Joint Secretary** – Sr. Regina EF
 - **Councillors:** Sr. Jayasree DW, Fr. William MI, Sr Leoni SSAM, Sr. Mercy Ssps, Fr. Riju MSFS, Fr. Jijo MSFS, Sr Shynie

- The Bangalore CRI moves towards the following objectives:
 - We Dream of a CRI whose members have undergone God experience and personal transformation for a renewed dedication to mission and kick-started a movement to create thousands of liberated individuals within the CRI.
 - We Dream of a CRI whose members, heeding the call of Pope Francis opt to focus on a relevant and transformative leadership and enable others to take up works of mercy.
 - We Dream of a CRI where every person collaborating with us and our mission, upholds and professes the principles and values enshrined in our Constitution and becomes an ambassador for the same.

- 2016-17 was a year when the BANGALORE CRI moved towards these objectives with many programmes & activities....

1. KRCCR & BCRI Executive Meeting held on 19th July 2016 at Loyola Mandir as a Preparatory meeting for the Major Superiors meet. Responsibilities were assigned in this meeting
2. Gathering of Major Superiors & Superiors on 21st August 2016. It was a Symposium on “Mercy in Action: Laity’s Perspective”. Fr. Edward Thomas, P.V. Mathew, Metilda D’Souza, Jacob, Simon Rodrigues were the resource persons. 260 members attended for a time of Prayer & Worship, Symposium, Discussion, Holy Mass. The choice of the topic was well-appreciated and Quality of the Panel Speakers was considered as good.
3. Major Superiors Gathering from 26-28- August at Prerana, Bannarghatta. The theme was Consecrated to be Merciful with Archbishop Bernard Moras & other Bishops being the resource persons. It was organized by the KRCCR and the executive team of Bangalore CRI gave full support for the programme.
4. Gathering of the Senior Religious on 9th October 2016 with the theme “Religious life needs a drastic change”. Fr. Edward Thomas, Fr. Sagaya John - Director NBCLC and Fr. Johny Mathew were the resource persons.

(Photos - Please Pause)

74 of the senior religious participated in Sessions, Debate, Indoor sports competitions, Free sharing. The participants were very happy and enthusiastic and Requested to have such gatherings again.

5. Juniors Meet was held on 8th January, 2017 with the focus on " Called To Be Young And Dynamic Consecrated Professionals in the Church”. Fr. Edward Thomas, Sameera Fernandes, Sibi Chacko, Dr. Reena, Dr. J. Alexander IAS were the resource persons. Around 300 participated with a lot of enthusiasm in the Holy Mass, Panel speakers, Talks, Group Discussion and Debate. A new hope to become professionals, was instilled.
6. Sanyasa Sangama - Day of the Consecrated was held on 5th February, 2017. Theme of the gathering was Consecrated Men and Women in the Present Day Context: Expectations from the State, People and the Church. Several eminent politicians as well as resource persons engaged in discussions and talks.

(Photos - Please Pause)

Around 1007 religious took part in the program with Speeches, Talks, Interaction, Panel Speakers, Holy Mass, Cultural Programmes. Programme was excellent and professionally conducted. It was observed that the political leaders were made aware of their duties towards the Christian community and their agreement to help was placed on record

7. Solidarity Gathering was held on 4th March 2017 to mark one year of the abduction of Fr. Tom Uzhunnalil SDB in Yemen. Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras, the Archbishop of Bangalore and Most Rev. Dr. Antony Kariyil, Bishop of Mandya were among the resource persons.

(Photos - Please Pause)

Around 1500-2000 took part in the Holy Mass and Candle Lit Procession. It was a very good response despite the short preparation time of 3 days.

8. 40 days Lenten Night Vigil was conducted from 1st March -8 April, 2017. It was with the intention of Interceding for the Archdiocese. Around 15-20 attended on a daily average, which was Animated by the BCCRS Team till 10 pm, Continued by the CRI Zonal participants. It was a good experience to have the Religious and Lay People pray together for the Archdiocese and its mission

9. A Seminar on Education was held on 30th April, 2017 on New Education Policy in the Current Scenario". Fr. Sunny Jacob , Paul Parapilly and Shashikumar were the resource persons.

(Photos - Please Pause)

103 participated in the session which had very good inputs and a lot of open sharing and discussion.

- All the programmes are planned & co-ordinated by the Team of the Executive Members of the Bangalore CRI
- The CRI BANGALORE Executive Meetings were held on various occasions, as immediate preparations for the various programmes as well as to evaluate and plan for better coordination and execution.
- The New Year is an opportunity... to grow more ... to love more ... to serve more
- With this in mind, we have prepared the Action Plan for the year 2017-18
- Zonal Animators Meeting was held on 16th July, 2017 to Chalk out the plans of the Year and discuss various matters.
- Juniors Meet for those in Temporary Profession will be on the 27th August, 2017

- The meeting of the Superiors of all communities & formators at all levels of formations will be on 17th September, 2017
- The Young Religious Meet - Religious within 10 Years of Perpetual Profession will be held on 15th October, 2017
- Christmas Gathering for Senior Religious is to be conducted on 10th December, 2017
- Sanyasa Sangama will be on 4th February, 2018 wherein all the religious of the Bangalore CRI come together.
- Lenten Night Vigil will be from 14th February - 31st March, 2018 at Bridgettine Convent
- In addition to these common programmes, each of the 19 Zones, organize (on an average) 3 programmes
- This totals to around 70 programmes being organized in the Bangalore CRI Unit
- These are opportunities to glorify the name of the Lord!
- Yes, the Bangalore CRI is determined.. to move forward!
- With Trust in the Providence of God... By the intercession of Mamma Mary... And the determined zeal of all religious... May we seek to establish the Kingdom of God
- Thank you and May God Bless all of us!