

**NORBERTINE FATHERS**  
**CANONRY OF MANANTHAVADY**

**CANONRY CHAPTER REPORT**  
**27 to 29 January 2026**



**Alphonsian Pastoral Institute**

Arunapuram P.O., Pala  
Kottayam District, Kerala, India  
Pin Code: 686574

**Norbertine Fathers, Canonry of Mananthavady**  
**Canonry Chapter Report**  
**27-29 January, 2026 at Alphonsian Pastoral Institute, Pala**

## **Preliminaries and Opening**

### **Arrival (26-01-2026)**

The atmosphere at the Alphonsian Pastoral Institute at Pala was one of fraternal joy as the Chapter Fathers arrived from their communities for the Canonry Chapter. This gathering served as a vital moment of unity, as the confreres shared mission under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### **Introduction**

The Canonry Chapter of the Canonry of Mananthavady was convened from the 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 at the Alphonsian Pastoral Institute, Pala. The Chapter was assembled to prayerfully review the spiritual, pastoral, administrative, financial, missionary, and institutional life of the Canonry in the light of its Ten-Year Plan. The sessions were marked by fraternal openness, collective discernment, transparency in governance, and a deep sense of responsibility toward the future stability and growth of the Canonry. The deliberations reflected fidelity to the Norbertine charism and a sincere commitment to harmonizing spiritual vitality with prudent administration.

### **FIRST DAY – 27 January 2026**

#### **Liturgical Commencement**

The day's proceedings commenced with the celebration of Morning Prayer, and the Holy Mass presided over by the Rev. Fr. Jose Murickan, Prelate. The liturgy served as a foundational moment of grace for the confreres. In his homily, Fr. Prelate invited the Chapter Fathers to focus their deliberations on the spirit of communion, grounding the upcoming work of the Chapter in prayer and profound communion.

#### **Session One – Official Opening and Inaugural Proceedings**

- Opening Prayer, Welcome and Roll Call
- Report of the Previous Chapter, Discussion on Matters Arising

○ Review and Approval of the Previous Chapter Report

The Chapter began with a prayer led by Rev. Fr. Thomas Arackal, invoking divine guidance upon the deliberations. Rev. Fr. Santhosh Theckayil, Sub Prior, delivered the welcome address, highlighting the importance of unity, shared responsibility, and vision-oriented planning.

Rev. Fr. Jose Tharappel, the director of the Alphonsian Pastoral Institute, delivered a brief address and extended his full support for the successful completion of the chapter.

**List of confreres present for the Canonry Chapter 2026**

The roll call was conducted by the Prelate, Rev. Fr. Jose Murickan, who officially declared the Chapter in session.

No.	Name	No.	Name
1	Fr. Jose Murickan	29	Fr. Jose Chempottickal
2	Fr. John Nelluvelil	30	Fr. Sebastian Anachalil
3	Fr. Santhosh Theckayil	31	Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil
4	Fr. Francis Allumpurath	32	Fr. Sajji Parekattil
5	Fr. Norbert Maliekal	33	Fr. Renil Chandrankunnel
6	Fr. George Pavamkott	34	Fr. Cleatus Therakathinkal
7	Fr. Benedikt Maprayil	35	Fr. Sibi Thadathil
8	Fr. Stephan Kuttiamkonath	36	Fr. Manoj Thottumkara
9	Fr. Michael Darlyvilla	37	Fr. Babu Poochalikalathil
10	Fr. Shajee Puthenpurayil	38	Fr. Libin Palackathadathil
11	Fr. Varghese Kunnath	39	Fr. Jovial Vadakkal
12	Fr. Joe Parasseril	40	Fr. Bibin Vallavasseril
13	Fr. Vineeth Karukapparambil	41	Fr. Rajesh Pallatykoonathan
14	Fr. Benny Asharikunnel	42	Fr. Anish Karimaloor
15	Fr. Jose Cheruplavil	43	Fr. Vineesh Kallarackal
16	Fr. Benny Paraniyil	44	Fr. Steffin Thyramcheril
17	Fr. Salu Mooleparambil	45	Fr. Jaison Thekkekara
18	Fr. Joshy Palakunnel	46	Fr. Nimeesh Puthanpurakkal
19	Fr. Anoop Muprapallil	47	Fr. Jobish Aerath
20	Fr. Binu Pazhayaveettil	48	Fr. Binu Naragathinkudiyil

No.	Name	No.	Name
21	Fr. Subash Challamkattil	49	Fr. Binu Puthushery
22	Fr. Thomas Arackal	50	Fr. Mathew Vazhaparambil
23	Fr. Benny Peekunnel	51	Fr. Adarsh Naduvathettu
24	Fr. Jollychan Kizhakkeparambil	52	Fr. Amal Karintholil
25	Fr. Royinson Panachickal	53	Fr. Shino Illickal
26	Fr. Xaviour Aylookkaran	54	Fr. Jobin Kannattu
27	Fr. Manoj Geerakassery	55	Fr. Sirin Poochalikalathil
28	Fr. Vigil Kizhakkarakattu		

### **List of Individuals Requesting Exemption from the Canonry Chapter 2026**

Below mentioned are the confreres who officially requested and were granted exemptions from the Canonry Chapter 2026. They have been formally authorized with the explicit permission of the Prelate.

No. Name

- 1 Fr. Jose Anthanattu
- 2 Fr. Augustine Ambasserry
- 3 Fr. Abhinav Nadamkandam
- 4 Fr. Justin Thayyil
- 5 Fr. Priyesh Mylaparambil
- 6 Fr. Jaison Kochupura
- 7 Fr. Paul Vallattu
- 8 Fr. Vipin Vayalil
- 9 Fr. Jibin Poovanattu
- 10 Fr. Antony Koottungal
- 11 Fr. Joby Kidangeth
- 12 Fr. Sunil Kadumbanthanam

The Chapter then elected Fr. Vigil Kizhakkarakattu and Fr. Bibin Vallavasseril as secretaries. Fr. Jobin Kannattu and Fr. Sirin Poochalikalathil were elected as tellers.

The previous Canonry Chapter Report was presented by Rev. Fr. Thomas Arackal. The Prelate expressed appreciation to Rev. Fr. Benny Peekunnel and Rev. Fr. Thomas Arackal for preparing a well-structured report.

During the review, Rev. Fr. John Nelluvelil suggested replacing the word weaknesses with challenges to reflect a constructive tone. It was observed that the summary of the class on the first day of the previous Chapter was missing in the report and should be included. Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil requested clarification regarding the terms Procurator and Provisor. Fr. Francis Allumpurath clarified that Procurator is not primarily a finance related designation. The Prelate explained that Procurator is essentially a Curia related term. Fr. George Pavumkott noted that some abbeys use the term Treasurer. Fr. Joshy Palakunnel stated that Procurator relates more to legal responsibility while Provisor relates to finance. Fr. Shaji Puthenpura supported these clarifications with references. Fr. John Nelluvelil and Fr. Francis Allumpurath emphasized that names should generally be avoided in a Chapter report since it differs from detailed minutes. The Prelate reminded the assembly that a Chapter report should capture the spirit and direction rather than function as verbatim minutes. The session concluded at 10.30 in the morning. Fr. Francis Allumpurath proposed the report to be approved and Fr. Shaji Puthenpura seconded it. Thus, the Canonry chapter report-2025 was accepted and approved unanimously with reported changes.

### **Session Two- Status of the Canonry**

The second session was dedicated to a formal presentation by the Prelate, Rev. Fr. Jose Murickan, on the status of the Canonry. He presented a comprehensive report and provided the Chapter Fathers with a clear understanding of the current spiritual, communal, and temporal state of the Canonry, ensuring that all subsequent deliberations are grounded in the lived reality of the community. The State of the Canonry 2026 address, delivered by Prelate, provided an overview of the Canonry's progress and challenges, midway through his tenure. As on December 2025, the Canonry has expanded to 17 communities across India and South Africa, with the recent opening of four new houses including a growing mission in Northeast India. Significant achievements include a 100% board exam result at Sacred Hearts Higher Secondary School, the growth of Norberts Academy as a German language Institute, and the establishment of the Prem Jyothi Trust in Tikrikilla for the proposed college in Meghalaya.

Despite these successes, the report highlights critical concerns regarding the "changing phase" of the Canonry, specifically decreasing vocations and a decline in the culture of common living. Fr. Prelate notes that while aspirancy numbers are stable, many candidates leave during later stages of formation. He

emphasizes a need for greater financial discipline and adherence to constitutional provisions, such as common prayer and recreation. The address concluded with a call to prioritize Norbertine identity and "communio," urging members to view the community itself as their primary mission rather than just a support system for outside work.

### **Session Three– Presentation of Safe Environment Policy**

The Safe Environment Policy was presented by Fr. Francis Allumpurath and the session was moderated by Rev. Fr. George Pavamkot. During the discussion Fr. Benny Peekunnel emphasized that both Church verdicts and civil verdicts must be clearly incorporated in safeguarding documentation. Fr. Benny Asharikunnel raised concerns regarding the implications of the POCSO Act and the need for strict compliance with civil law. Fr. Salu Mooleparambil clarified the distinctions between Church entities and civil societies and explained the canonical and civil responsibilities of the Canonry. Fr. Steffin Thyramcheril stressed the importance of sex education awareness and safeguarding training. Fr. Michael Darlivilla and Fr. Norbert Maliekal referred to the strict safeguarding norms followed in Germany. During the floor discussions, Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil raised pertinent inquiries regarding the operational framework of the SEO. Specifically, he sought clarification on the designated authority and the formal procedure for addressing complaints directed against the SEO. Since the SEO is appointed by the Prelate, he will have the authority to take decisions in such circumstances, explained Fr. Prelate. Adding to this, the Prelate also reiterated the principles of confidentiality, transparency, and zero tolerance in abuse cases.

The session concluded with renewed commitment to strict safeguarding practices and the policy was voted for its approval. Chapter Fathers unanimously voted in favour of the proposal (55 votes). Thus, the Chapter decided to promulgate the safe environment policy in the Canonry.

### **Session Four – Canonry Governance, Spiritual Revival, Human Resource Development and Management**

Rev. Fr. Thomas Arackal moderated this session and the report was presented by Fr. Santhosh Theckayil. The presentation included a detailed review of the previous year's achievements in alignment with the ten-year plan, a candid assessment of unmet targets, and a strategic outline for the upcoming year. He

reported that twelve confreres are pursuing higher studies. During the discussion it was noted that the name of Fr. Rajesh Palattikoonathan who pursued his M.Ed. studies was missing in reports for two consecutive years. Fr. Jose Cheruplavil suggested sending priests for studies at younger ages to maximize long term benefit. Fr. Shaji Puthenpura enquired about transfer duration, and the Prelate advised continuity in assignments when beneficial.

**Proposal on Farewell Gift Policy:** A proposal was made in the chapter to fix an amount as farewell gifts to confreres during their transfers from communities. It is proposed that confreres be given farewell gifts worth one month pocket money, when they are transferred. Following a discussion, the confreres voted in favour of the proposal to give one month's pocket money as a farewell gift. This will become part of the policies and has to be added to the book of customs.

### **Session Five – Formation and Vocation Promotion**

The report was presented by Fr. Subash Challamkattil and the session was moderated by Fr. Manoj Geerakassery. An evaluation of the past year's progress against the decadal plan was presented, highlighting completed milestones, identifying pending objectives, and proposing the action plan for the next period. While in the discussion Fr. Stephan insisted that the Novitiate remain in Bengaluru. Fr. Nimesh Puthenpura suggested considering the directives of the Syro- Malabar Synod in structuring formation. Fr. Libin Palackathadathil emphasized the need for a formation house, particularly in the Pala region to facilitate vocation from this region. Fr. Thomas Arackal insisted that pastoral ministry especially Sunday ministry should be mandatory for junior brothers to ensure pastoral exposure. Furthermore, he proposed a comprehensive review and update of the syllabus for the various stages of formation. In response, the Fr. Prelate clarified that the revision process would commence once proper guidelines are published by the Synod. This will ensure that the formation program remains strictly aligned with the Church's pedagogical, pastoral and spiritual directives. Session concluded with a thanking note by the Prelate.

### **Session Six – Social and Health Ministries**

A report based on 10-year plan was presented by Fr. Babu Poochalikalathil and the session was moderated by Fr. John Nelluvellil. The report contrasted the year's successful outcomes with projected ten-year targets, addressing specific

gaps in achievement while establishing clear priorities for the forthcoming annual cycle.

**Proposals: The first proposal presented during the session was to establish a semi pain and palliative care centre at Dwarka**

During the discussion on the pain and palliative care centre, Fr. Jose Chempukettickal suggested the requirement of a minimum of twenty beds in order to comply with government approval norms and regulations. Fr. Salu Mooleparambil noted the absence of a detailed study report on the Palliative care. Fr. Steffin Thyramcheril highlighted concerns regarding land opportunity in Dwarka which is near to the proposed project area. Fr. Benny Asharikunnel stressed the need for active counselling ministry. The proposal was approved with fifty votes in favour with, two against and one abstention and two absentees out of fifty-five present for the Canonry Chapter.

**Proposals: The second proposal was about developing an Integrated Community Centre at Muringoor**

Fr. Jovial Vadakkal explained the property details which is consisting of sixty-seven cents and five buildings. Fr. Jobish Aerath inquired the practicality of the proposal since the concerned building exists in an interior place and attitude of the people in the neighbourhood. Fr. Shaji Puthenpura suggested to have a realistic planning than of larger ideas. Fr. Michael Darlivilla shared positive concerns about local support with experience of his stay in the community during his holidays. Fr. John Nelluvelil recommended narrowing the focus than taking up too many activities at a time. The proposal was approved with forty-seven votes in favour, three against and five abstentions for the further study and implementation. The session was concluded with a note by Fr. Prelate.

**Session Seven – Education**

The session report was presented by Fr. Binu Pazhayaveetil and moderated by Fr. Anoop Muprappallil. Fr. Binu outlined the achievements of the previous year in accordance with the ten-year plan, the targets that were not achieved, and the plan for the upcoming year. He also spoke in detail about the land issues at St. Norbert School, Bengaluru, particularly the absence of a forty-foot road, and shared related concerns. It was informed that it would take approximately five years for this issue to be resolved.

During the discussion, Fr. Jose Chempukettickal inquired about the special school in N.R. Pura and its future. His main concern was how to financially support it and ensure its financial independence in the future. It was noted that the Koppa School has been financially supporting the special school in accordance with the directives of the Prelate and the Council. Fr. Jose Chempukettickal appreciated the support extended to the N.R. Pura Special School.

The Prelate clarified that several agencies had been approached; however, CSR funding is not possible due to the absence of 80G certification. Fr. Jovial Vadakkal suggested starting a German academy in Bengaluru and seeking government grants for the special school, while Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil pointed out certain compliance limitations.

### **Proposals from Bangalore School.**

**a) Construction of an Additional Floor:** It was proposed to construct an additional floor at the Bangalore school in order to address the growing shortage of classrooms. With the steady increase in student enrolment, the existing infrastructure has become insufficient to accommodate academic needs effectively, thereby necessitating immediate expansion.

**b) Development of a Play Arena:** A second proposal was presented for the development of a dedicated play arena for students. The objective of this initiative is to promote the physical well-being, recreation, and holistic development of students by providing a safe and well-equipped space for sports and outdoor activities.

Both proposals were presented separately, in accordance with the suggestion of Rev. Fr. John Nelluvelil, and were put to vote. Each proposal received overwhelming support, with fifty-four out of fifty-five members voting in favour, and one member abstaining. Thus, both proposals were approved.

### **Session Eight – Accountant Presentation of Farm**

This session was moderated by Fr. Benny Asharikunnel. The farm accounts were presented by the respective directors of Farms. The N. R. Pura Farm by Fr. Siby Thadathil; the Perla Farm by Fr. Adarsh Naduvathettu; the Priory and Gonikoppa farm by Fr. Binu Puthushery; the Koppa Farm by Fr. Babu

Poochalikalathil; the Dwaraka Farm by Fr. Varghese Kunnath; T. Narasipura Farm by Fr. Renil Chandrankunnel; and the Amballur Farm by Fr. Manoj Thottumkara. The reports reflected the management and functioning of the farms under their care. The Prelate expressed appreciation for the responsible management carried out by all those in charge.

## **SECOND DAY – 28 January 2026**

It was a blessing that the Chapter fathers could celebrate the Holy Eucharist; Prelate, Fr. Jose Murickan as the main celebrant, at the Tomb of St. Alphonsa in Bharanaganam on the second day of the Chapter. Prayer at the beginning of sessions was led by Fr. Libin Palackathadathil.

### **Session Nine – Pastoral Ministry and Mission**

Presented by Fr. Cleatus Therakam and moderated by Fr. Siby Thadathil, this session focused on missionary outreach and related organizational strategies. Building upon the achievements of the past year and addressing the targets yet to be realized within the ten-year framework, a comprehensive roadmap for the upcoming year was submitted for review. During the discussion, Fr. Francis Allumpurath emphasized the need for fuller pastoral reporting, noting that the report presented appeared too brief. Fr. Michael Darlivilla highlighted opportunities for mission engagement in German abbeys, while Fr. Shaji Puthenpura suggested that seminarians should be given more opportunities for active involvement in mission activities. Fr. Salu Mooleparambil expressed his support for the expansion of missions in the North East of India.

### **Proposal for extending the mission to Manipur**

A proposal for extending the mission to Manipur was presented by Fr. Babu Poochalikalathil. The Prelate informed the assembly about an invitation from the Imphal archdiocese, and the opportunities that the archbishop is willing to offer us.

With regard to the proposal to expand the mission to Manipur, Fr. John Nelluvelil expressed his support, and Fr. Jovial Vadakkel shared his positive experiences in mission work. It was agreed that, if the situation remains favorable, the Chapter will accept the formal invitation from the archbishop, recognizing that this would be a gradual process. During the deliberations, Fr.

George Pavumkottu raised concerns regarding the impact of the caste system and local conditions on the seminarians.

Further analysis of the mission field by Fr. Thomas Arackal highlighted the arrival of new congregations and the establishment of new parishes in Manipur. Although the current presence is limited to specific districts, there is a clear demand for more priests to address critical needs such as evangelization, drug de-addiction initiatives, and the development of retreat centres. It was recommended that personnel be stationed within these parishes to directly study the local environment. Supporting this, Fr. Salu Mooleparambil emphasized the need for consistent support for the mission and noted the absence of animosity toward outside priests. Fr. Shaji Puthenpura suggested adopting a strategy of focusing efforts within one community to ensure effective implementation of the mission. Fr. Jollychan Kizhakkeparambil expressed full support for the proposal.

The Prelate also shared updates on the Assam mission. Following the voting, several key discussion points were raised. Fr. Jobish Aerath pointed out potential challenges as the mission expands into a new state and locations, including concerns about possible tensions and threats in certain areas. The Prelate informed the Chapter that the ministry in Chechpani, Assam is continuing, with the parish permanently assigned to the Canonry by the Archdiocese of Guwahati. At Tikrikila, 24 acres of land have been made available, with the possibility of starting a college, along with plans for hostels, teacher quarters, and a presbytery for priests. It was also emphasized that missionary work in such areas is demanding and challenging, and that efforts should continue with commitment.

In the subsequent remarks, Fr. Benny Asharikunnel inquired about the experiences of the Novitiate community including the observations of the Novice Master, of having novices from North East. Fr. Subash Challamkattil reported that the northeast novices are progressing well and that they are very receptive. In response to a query from Fr. Joshy Palakkunnel regarding feedback from the Abbey of Jamtara, the Prelate confirmed that it has been very positive. He also noted that Prelate Jaison has already visited the missions and that the Abbot of Jamtara is expected to visit soon. Concerns were raised by Fr. Jose Cheruplavil regarding the need for careful scrutiny of vocations, cautioning

that it could become an issue in the future, to which Fr. Salu Mooleparambil responded that it would not pose a problem.

The proposal for mission extension to Manipur was put for voting. While forty-eight people voted in favour, two voted against and five abstained. Thus, the Proposal was approved.

### **Session Ten – Finance, Land, Fixed Assets, Media and Communication**

Presented by Rev. Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil and moderated by Fr. Vigil Kizhakarattu, this session addressed matters related to media and finance. The annual briefing covered three key areas: a retrospection on ten-year plan achievements, an analysis of goals requiring further attention, and the developmental strategy for the year ahead.

During the discussion, Fr. Benny Asharikunnel suggested modifying the concept of the Media College. In response, the Prelate declared that the Media College proposal would be dropped for the time being. Fr. Anish Karimaloor remarked that artificial intelligence functions through platforms, while Rev. Fr. Shaji Puthenpura emphasized the importance of proper leadership for the media ministry. Fr. Shino Illickal recommended that media training should begin at the theology level. Fr. Prelate informed the assembly that the Canonry's website has been updated. Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil at the end of the presentations put forward four proposals to the Canonry chapter for its approval.

#### **Proposal 1: Proposal for the Purchase of Land and Establishment of a House in the Diocese of Pala**

In view of the growing pastoral needs of the Church and the long-term vision of expanding the mission of the Canonry, it was proposed to purchase a suitable land in the Diocese of Pala with the intention of establishing a house and community. At present, the Canonry does not have an institutional or pastoral presence in the southern region of Kerala. This absence limits both our missionary outreach and our engagement with the faithful in that part of the state. Establishing a house in the Diocese of Pala would strategically extend our pastoral presence to South Kerala, thereby fostering a more balanced geographical distribution of our ministries.

Furthermore, South Kerala has traditionally been a region rich in faith and ecclesial participation, with strong family and parish structures that are conducive to nurturing priestly and religious vocations.

It is also worth mentioning that during informal interactions, ecclesiastical authorities, including bishops, have expressed openness and even extended invitations to the Canonry to begin a ministry in the Diocese of Pala.

During the discussions, Fr. John Nelluvelil suggested focusing on Southern dioceses instead of Pala diocese alone. Fr. Michael Darlivilla recommended developing the property at Chalakudy, while Fr. Joshy Palakunnel highlighted the importance of proximity to an airport. Fr. Jollychan Kizhakkeparambil emphasized the need for a Norbertine presence in South Kerala. The proposal was approved with forty votes in favour, five against, and ten abstentions.

**Proposal 2: To make a feasible study for income generating programmes under Santhi Charitable Society and Norbert House Society**

In view of the increasing financial demands of the ministries and the need for sustainable development, a proposal was presented to undertake a comprehensive feasibility study aimed at identifying and establishing viable income-generating programmes under the auspices of Santhi Charitable Society and Norbert House Society. The proposal was supported by examples from other religious and charitable institutions that have successfully implemented such initiatives, particularly in the fields of education and agriculture, thereby ensuring both apostolic effectiveness and financial stability.

The current situation of many communities solely depending on Priory for financial support, especially through NRE and FCRA funds was also pointed out. This cannot be considered a reliable long-term solution. Particular concern was expressed regarding Jeevavihar and other ministries that rely entirely on funding from priory, placing a continuous financial burden on the Priory. In this context, the importance of developing local income-generating projects was strongly emphasized to ensure sustainability and financial autonomy.

This proposal was put for vote and was unanimously approved by the total number of participants. The Prelate and Council were entrusted to study the matter and present a report at the next Canonry Chapter.

### **Proposal 3: Purchase of land in T. Narasipura (5 acre 5 Gunta) close to the school property for investment purpose**

This proposal is presented to the Canonry Chapter to purchase approximately 5 acres and 5 guntas of land in T. Narasipura, situated in close proximity to the existing school property. The proposed acquisition is envisioned as a strategic investment for the future development of our educational and apostolic mission under the Norbertine Fathers (Bangalore) Society.

The Canonry has consistently sought to strengthen its apostolate through educational institutions, recognizing education as a vital means of evangelization, social transformation, and service to society. In this regard, the existing school property in T. Narasipura has already laid a solid foundation for our engagement in the field of education.

The availability of adjacent land measuring approximately 5 acres and 5 guntas presents a timely and providential opportunity. Acquiring land near to our current property ensures not only ease of access and administrative convenience but also offers long-term flexibility for expansion and integrated development.

In consideration of the report presented and the proposal set forth regarding the purchase of 5 acres and 5 guntas of land at T. Narasipura, the Canonry Chapter deliberated on the matter and proceeded to a vote. The proposal received strong support from the members of the Chapter and was duly approved with fifty-three votes in favor, with two members abstaining from the voting.

### **Proposal 4: Sale the estate in Balele, Gonikoppa & purchase new land**

Fr. Jijo presented the rationale behind the proposal for the sale of estate in Balale, Gonikoppa. The estate is presently productive, with good crop yield and profitability. However, several serious concerns affecting its sustainability, administration, and safety have been identified.

The estate is located at a considerable distance from the Priory, requiring approximately one and a half hours of travel each way. As the farm director does not reside on the estate, he is required to travel weekly, often accompanied by another confrere. This results in regular long-distance travel for two members, making supervision both time-consuming and inefficient.

Due to the absence of a resident confrere, the day-to-day functioning of the estate depends almost entirely on the farm supervisor. This includes supervision of labour, wage calculations, harvesting, storage, and other operational matters. Such dependence poses administrative risks, especially in the absence of direct oversight.

While establishing a community near the estate could offer a practical solution, enquiries have revealed that land prices in and around Gonikoppa are prohibitively high. Additionally, there appears to be no viable scope for initiating a ministry in the area, as confirmed through discussions with local religious personnel.

Safety is another major concern. There have been reported sightings of a panther on the estate on more than one occasion in the past two years, including a recent sighting witnessed by accompanying staff. As several workers and their families reside on the estate, this poses a serious risk, particularly to children who spend time outdoors.

The present estate supervisor, Mr. Saji, has been facing significant health issues and may not be able to continue his duties in the near future. Given our heavy reliance on him and the difficulty in appointing a suitable replacement without a resident confrere, this adds further uncertainty to the management of the estate.

A further concern is the 11 acres of undocumented land attached to the estate. Efforts to regularize or register this land have not yielded positive results, and available information suggests minimal chances of successful documentation. This exposes the property to potential disputes or loss, despite it being one of the most productive sections of the estate.

The estate also lacks adequate storage facilities for harvested produce, necessitating either immediate sale or transport to the Priory, both of which are not ideal.

At the same time, the estate holds strong market value. There is evident demand for such properties, supported by recent enquiries and prevailing high prices of coffee and pepper. Current market indicators suggest a substantial appreciation in land value, making this a potentially favourable time for sale.

In light of the above concerns, the proposal put forward is to sell the existing estate and acquire another estate within Karnataka, preferably in a location where there is scope for establishing a community and undertaking a suitable ministry.

During the discussion, some members expressed the view that another estate within Karnataka may be purchased, while others suggested considering alternative options such as acquiring land for commercial or investment purposes.

Following deliberations, the Chapter proceeded to vote on the matter, and the proposal was approved with forty-nine votes in favour, one vote against, and five abstentions. This decision reflects the considered judgment of the Chapter in addressing the practical challenges associated with the estate and in planning for more sustainable future investments. The Prelate and Council have been entrusted with the responsibility of proceeding with the sale and taking appropriate decisions regarding reinvestment. It was also said that the farm could be sold if we receive 10 crore or above.

### **Session Eleven –Account Presentation: Schools**

Moderated by Rev. Fr. Xaviour Aylookaran, the accounts of different schools were presented by the finance officers of schools. The presentation included; Rev. Frs. Renin Chandarankunnel, Mathew Vazhapparambil, Babu Poochalikalathil, and Nimesh Puthenpurackal. As an ending note for the session, Fr. Prelate emphasized the importance of using proper head of accounts for clarity of accounts in schools.

### **Session Twelve – Account Presentation: Social Ministry Accounts**

Moderated by Rev. Fr. Joshy Palakunnel, the session on social ministry accounts were presented by Rev. Frs. Cleatus Therakam, Jose Chempukettickal, Anish Karimaloor, Sajji Parekattil, Xaviour Ayilookaran, Binu Narakathumkudiyil, Siby Thadathil, Manoj Geerakassery, Jose Chempukettickal on behalf of Joby Kidangeth, and Jobish Aerath on behalf of Justine Thayyil.

Concerns were raised regarding ECHO Bangalore owning land in Goa. New project of ECHO at Goa has officially transitioned into its operational phase, with ministry activities currently active in a rented facility following the formal approval from the Prelate and council for one year experiment. Fr. Manoj

Thottumkara raised concerns asking whether ECHO Goa has followed all the norms and proceedings of the Canonry, especially regarding the land acquisition.

Fr. Prelate clarified the issue saying; the Prelate and council have given permission for the project *ad experimentum*, for one year. Meanwhile, in December 2025, the social ministry committee conducted formal visit and submitted the report supporting the ministry in Goa. The land is a donation, but could not complete the process of hearing the opinion of the Land Purchase Committee. He was not aware of the transfer of money for the registration of the land, explained Fr. Prelate.

One confrere was interested to know whether the finance committee had verified the accounts of ECHO, as it is being done in all other communities and institutions during its visits, before they are presented in the Canonry Chapter. Replying to this, Fr. Jijo Ellathukudiyil acknowledged that the Finance Committee has not verified the accounts of ECHO as ECHO was not ready for such a visit by the finance committee. However, annual accounts of ECHO Bangalore were presented during the Canonry Chapters for the past two years.

There is an on-going effort to ensure ECHO and its activities to align with the Canonry's customs and policies. Moving forward, it is important that Fr. Antony Koottungal welcomes the finance committee for the formal annual visits, concluded Fr. Prelate.

### **Session Thirteen – Report Presentation on Canonry Committees and Election of the Councillors**

Moderated by Rev. Fr. Salu Mooleparambil, this session reviewed committee reports.

**The Construction Committee:** The Construction Committee report was presented by Fr. Mathew Vazhaparambil. Fr. George Pavumkott emphasized the need for a Master Plan and cautioned against excessive renovations and constructions. Fr. Norbert highlighted the importance of maintaining existing buildings. While discussing about the new administrative block for the Canonry, Fr. Joshy Palakunnel stressed the importance of sufficient parking spaces. He also suggested to have multiple architectural reviews. Fr. Francis Allumpurath explained that architectural plans were reviewed in the Canonry chapter 2024 and the location adjacent to the Priory Church was approved. Fr. Jose Cheruplavil insisted that various suggestions regarding administrative block

must be considered. Fr. Stephen Kuttiamkonath emphasized preserving the basic purpose of all the buildings of Canonry.

**The formation Committee:** The formation Committee report was presented by Fr. John Nelluvelil. In the Formation Committee discussion, Fr. Sajji Parekattil asked about the possibility of sending seminarians to Kerala for theology studies. Fr. Jose Chempukettickal enquired about the current health status of Bro. Akhil, a theology student. Fr. John Nelluvelil, Rector of the Study House, explained that Bro. Akhil had undergone dialysis a few times and it is not been done now. However, a situation may arise for kidney transplantation as the option in future. Fr. Jollychan Kizhakkeparambil insisted that the present Novitiate and Study House must remain dedicated to formation purposes only.

**The Temporal Goods Committee:** This report was presented by Fr. Jose Chempukettickal. Fr. Steffin Thyramcheril enquired about a land at Dwaraka which was in contention to be purchased. The Prelate clarified that all committees studied the matter before deciding to purchase the land. Fr. Jose Cheruplavil raised concerns regarding Kozhikode land issues involving Mr. Francis. The Prelate assured that steps were taken to settle without losing land. Rev. Fr. Anoop Muprappallil emphasized the importance of road access to the particular property.

**The Finance Committee:** The Finance Committee report was presented by Rev. Fr. Sebastian Anachalil. Rev. Fr. Saji Parekattil urged careful review before rejecting proposals from communities.

**The Social and Health Committee:** The Social and Health Committee report was presented by Fr. Manoj Gerrakassery, and no major discussions followed.

**The Liturgy Committee:** The Liturgy Committee report was presented by Fr. Vigil Kizhakkarakattu. Fr. George Pavumkott suggested reminding dates of commemoration of Saints of Order via WhatsApp. Fr. Manoj Thottumkara recommended publishing dates for community prayers assigned by the Canonry. Fr. Steffin Thyramcheril suggested publishing a directory with feast and birthday details. Fr. Jollychan Kizhakkeparambil emphasized remembering St. Augustine in celebrations.

## **Election of the Councillors**

This session of the Canonry Chapter was presided over by the Prelate. He formally presented the process to elect three council members in place of the council members who have completed their three-year term in office.

The below mentioned confreres were elected as council members. Fr. Benny Peekkunnel with fifty votes, Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil with forty-eight votes, and Fr. Francis Allumpurath with forty-five votes.

These individuals were chosen to provide essential guidance and administrative support, ensuring the spiritual and communal vitality of the Canonry during their upcoming term along with the Prelate. Their election marks a significant step in the governance of the community as they take on their roles in strategic planning and discernment.

## **THIRD DAY – 29 January 2026**

### **Session Fourteen-Account Presentation: Germany, Kommetjie, and Project Coordinator and Construction Accounts**

Session fourteen of the Canonry Chapter was dedicated to the presentation of various accounts. The accounts from Germany were presented by Fr. Michael Darlivilla, while the Kommetjie accounts were presented by Fr. George Pavamkott. The Project account was presented by the Project Coordinator, Fr. Mathew Vazhaparambil. During this session various construction accounts were also presented. The Perla and Chevar Special School construction accounts were presented by Fr. Jose Chempukettikkal. The construction report of the T. Narasipura community building was presented by Fr. Renin Chandrankunnel.

During the session, all the Chapter Fathers actively enquired and sought various clarifications regarding the accounts presented. Fr. Michael raised a question concerning fundraising for the South African mission, asking whether funds could be raised for the community in South Africa with the assistance of abbeys abroad. In response, Prelate explained that he had already taken steps toward this purpose, but the community had not responded properly. Fr. John raised his concern regarding the financial stability of the South African community. To this, Fr. George Pavamkott, drawing from his few years of experience there informed the Chapter that at present they are just able to manage the day today expenses of the Priory.

Several questions and clarifications were raised regarding the Perla and Chevar Special Schools. Fr. Jose Chempukettikkal, the present Manager who manages the construction informed the Chapter that there are a huge number of students in the surroundings of both schools. One clarification sought was whether admission was limited particularly to endosulphan victims or whether other differently abled students were also admitted. Fr. Jose Chempukettikkal clarified that all differently abled students are admitted in our schools.

Further explanations and concerns were raised regarding the newly built T. Narasipura community building. Fr. Jose Chempukettikkal asked for clarification regarding the architect's fee. Fathers Anish Karimaloor, Shaji Puthenpura, Jose Cheruplavil, Salu Mooleparambil, and Jobish Aerath raised their concerns regarding the expenses incurred for the house built. Fr. Saji Parekkattil spoke about the maintenance of the houses, emphasizing that all must take initiative to maintain the houses for long-term use. It was also asked if this project had gone through the various committees of the Canonry. In response to this, Fr. Mathew Vazhaparambil informed the Chapter that the plan for this building had been approved even before some of the committees were formed. Fr. Anoop Muprapallil stated that since the houses are being built for long-term use, it is better to construct them properly and in a better way, and he added that the T. Narasipura house is a beautifully built one and its quality must be maintained.

### **Session Fifteen: Discussion on the Reports from Communities**

This session focused on the discussion of the report published in the *Nobilet* concerning the communities, and the session was moderated by Fr. Libin Palackathadathil. Fr. George Pavamkott expressed his concern before the Chapter that many confreres serving in Germany are joining the Dioceses there. He questioned whether it would be possible to formulate an agreement to call them back or to establish certain conditions if they wished to leave the Order, suggesting that such an agreement might be considered. In response, the Prelate stated that this is part of the prevailing system and, at times, such realities must be accepted. Fr. Joshy Palakunnel added that the confreres working in Germany are carrying out their ministry in an excellent manner; therefore, when they request to join the Diocese, the authorities there do not refuse them, and consequently, drafting an agreement either to prevent them or to compel their return would not be effective. Fr. Stephen Kuttiamkonath also shared his opinion in this regard. Fr. Francis Allumpurath remarked that we can only

adhere to overseas policies and that fostering understanding, integration, and acceptance remains the most practical resolution, even though it is a painful situation. Fr. Sebastian Anachalil proposed that allowances for confreres serving in India could be increased. Fr. John Nelluvelil emphasized that while expressing views, members must do so with prior reflection, maintaining that the Chapter should remain a forum for constructive deliberation and not a place where others are hurt; he urged all to preserve respect and the sanctity of the assembly. Fr. Michael Darlyvilla encouraged a positive outlook regarding confreres joining the German Dioceses, noting that they cannot be forced to remain and adding that, even without abbey status, confreres around the world now recognize the Mananthavady as a promising Canonry.

Fr. Jose Chempukettikkal congratulated Fr. Siby Thadathil and the community members of St. Norbert Nilaya, N.R. Pura for successfully and beautifully completing the renovation work of the house.

Fr. Steffin Thyramcheril suggested that reminder or notification emails be sent to confreres—especially those employed in schools—whenever any amount is withdrawn from their salary accounts, since these accounts are fully administered by the Canonry Procurator. Fr. Benny Asharikunnel further observed that any future construction projects should ensure high standards of quality to minimize unforeseen repairs and maintenance expenses.

### **Session Sixteen: Canonry Account**

Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil presented the accounts of the Canonry and several important financial directives for the Canonry and the moderator for the session was Fr. Michael Darlyvilla.

**Joint Venture with Sobha Developers:** The matter concerning the unsold villas of Shobha Developers was presented to the Chapter, during which Rev. Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil proposed two possible options: either to proceed with a one-time financial settlement or to accept three villas for the Canonry while allowing the remaining villas to be retained by the developers.

In the deliberations Fr. John Nelluvelil proposed that, if an attractive offer is made for the Canonry's share it may be prudent to opt for a cash settlement. Fr. Benny Asharikunnel raised a query concerning the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the developers and whether it could be renewed. Several Fathers suggested that a settlement would be a preferable solution to

avoid income tax complications and difficulties related to sale transactions, provided a reasonable amount is offered.

During the discussion, Rev. Fr. Manoj Geerakassery emphasized the importance of arriving at an early settlement, particularly in view of potential income tax scrutiny. Rev. Fr. Sebastian Anachalil suggested negotiating to reduce the financial liability from the Canonry's side. The option of a one-time settlement was further supported by Rev. Fr. Salu and Rev. Fr. Jollychan, reinforcing the Chapter's inclination toward a prompt and definitive resolution.

After due deliberation, the Chapter expressed its preference for a one-time settlement to be made in cash. It was also decided that a formal meeting with Shobha Developers should be arranged to discuss and finalize the matter. The Chapter resolved and entrusted the Prelate and his Council to take a final decision in consultation with the Finance Committee.

**Recommendations and Directives:** Following are the two financial directives presented by Fr. Jijo Ellathumkudiyil.

Firstly, that confreres must treat internal auditing with seriousness, ensuring proper maintenance of vouchers and bills, particularly those related to fixed assets, as such documents may be required by the Income Tax Department even years later for renewal of accounts and certificates. A new annual auditing procedure was outlined which makes it mandatory that those in-charge of accounts come to the specified houses with bills and vouchers for auditing at the scheduled date towards the end of April. Accordingly, it is decided that communities in Kerala will come to St. Norbert Priory and all the houses in Bangalore and T. Narasipura will do it in St. Norbert Bhavan. The auditing for N. R. Pura and Koppa communities and institutions will be held at St. Norbert Nilaya, N.R.Pura.

Secondly, that all financial statements intended for the Canonry Chapter must be submitted to the Canonry Provisor before January 10 after its approval by the respective house chapters. This submission on or before the said due date is mandatory for it to be presented in the Canonry Chapter.

**Session Seventeen: Election to the Canonry Committees: Land Purchase and Construction Committees**

During this session, the Chapter conducted two separate elections to elect members to committees. Accordingly, Fr. Renil Chandrankunnel and Fr. Subash Challamkattill were elected to the Land Purchase Committee. And, Fr. Benny Asharikunnel and Fr. Binu Puthushery were elected to serve on the Construction Committee.

### **Concluding Session**

It was decided that the next Chapter will be held from 25 to 28 January 2027. Fr. John Nelluvelil invited all confreres to the Jubilee celebration of St. Augustine Study House, Bangalore.

Fr. Prelate addressed the Chapter at this final session. He welcomed and invited the newly elected councillors on to the stage and felicitated them. Fr. Prelate also declared that Fr. Santhosh Theckayil will be continuing in his office as superior. Fr. Rajesh Palattikoonathan conveyed felicitations to all confreres elected and appointed as councillors and to those appointed to various committees.

Gratitude was expressed to Fr. Jose Tharappel, the Director of Alphonsian Pastoral Institute for the warm hospitality and beautiful arrangements for the smooth conduct of the Chapter.

In his concluding address, the Prelate expressed gratitude to all confreres for their cooperation, to the committees for their meticulous preparations, and to the moderators for their timely interventions. He reminded the members to take seriously the reports concerning the Canonry and to maintain confidentiality about it. He urged everyone to adhere to schedules and deadlines. Fr. Prelate also cautioned the confreres against hurting one another through careless words or loose talks and further added that such wounds in individual confreres can weaken the Canonry. Furthermore, he encouraged everyone to work for the community's growth preserving the authentic spirit of *communio*, which is fundamentally spiritual. It was noted that times are changing and the love for the Order and our Canonry should guide us forward.

Fr. Prelate also updated about the visit of a delegation from FH Joanneum University in Austria in mid-March to Norberts Academy. He also read out an email from St. Norbert College, De Pere, U.S.A sharing their interest in collaborating with us in higher education. Further discussions are expected to take place when Fr. Prelate visits the States in October 2026.

Fr. Benny Peekunnel delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of the Prelate. With lunch, the Canonry Chapter of 2025–2026 formally came to a close.

Fr. Vijil Kizhakkarakattu

Fr. Bibin Vallavasseril

Secretaries, Canonry Chapter 2026

## Appendix I

### NORBERTINE FATHERS Canonry of Mananthavady

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Canonry Chapter: 27 - 29 January, 2026 at Alphonsian Pastoral Institute,  
Pala

#### STATE OF THE CANONRY ADDRESS

##### 1. Introduction

I, Fr. Jose Murickan, was elected Prelate of the Canonry on 22 October, 2022 and I have completed 3 years—half of my tenure. I am grateful to each one of you for your fraternal care, sacrifices, support and above all prayers that helped me in my ministry of animating the Canonry. During these years, I have conducted three Canonical visitations and have had the opportunity to visit all our communities many times, except the one in South Africa. In 2023, we introduced the 10-year plan for the Canonry to focus on our call as Norbertines and to give a road map to our mission and ministry.

##### 1. Mananthavady Canonry: An Introductory Overview

As on date, the Canonry has 88 Solemn professed priests, 12 simple professed, 9 novices and 48 minor seminarians. I am thankful to the Lord and to the Canonry that, during the last three years, we have opened four new communities: in Chechapani, Tikrikilla, Pariyaram and Muringoor. Thus, the number of our communities in India have gone up to 16, and in total the Canonry has 17 communities.

Communities as on 31 December 2025				
Kerala	Karnataka	North East	South Africa	Total
08	06	02	01	17

We blessed “Norbert mane” the new house for T. Narasipura community on 20 May, 2025. Congratulations to Frs. Benny, Renin and Vineeth for their hard work and commitment. The construction of the administrative block in Mananthavady is not begun. It is delayed as we have not received the approval from the municipality. The efforts are going on and hope to get it soon. The first draft of the book about the history of the Canonry is completed. I appreciate the efforts of Fr. John Nelluvelil and Francis Allumpurath.

## **2. Community Living and Spiritual Revival**

As part of our common living, we have provisions like Canonry chapters, house chapters, common liturgy, community recreations, regional chapters, common events of the Canonry and so on. A good majority of our confreres and most of the communities adhere to these constitutional provisions. However, some individual confreres do not consider these as their priority. From the Canonical visitations and from occasional visit to communities, I realize that most of our communities follow regular timetable for prayers and common meal. However, most of the communities are losing a culture of common recreation. And, in some communities, common liturgy is celebrated at convenience. Furthermore, I feel that some of our communities can become little more fraternal.

In our attempts to revive our community and spiritual lives, the Canonry organizes every year annual retreats and renewal workshops for the confreres. A book on the saints of the Order and the necrology of the Canonry is published. I sincerely appreciate Fr. Vigil Kizhakkarakattu who compiled and edited this work.

## **3. Education Ministry**

13 confreres are engaged in the education ministry of the Canonry. In the current academic year, a total of 6098 children is enrolled our schools.

### No of Students in our Schools as on 31 December 2025

BLR	Koppa	N R Pura	T.N Pura	Dwaraka	Puthiyidom
1458	1198	82	1500	1695	165

From the year 2023, Edu Meet is annually organized by the education committee where the confreres as well as teacher representatives from all our schools participate. The Canonry inter school competitions are also worth mentioning here. Congratulations to Fr. Binu Pazhayaveetil, the council member in-charge for education. Sacred Hearts Higher Secondary School, Dwaraka created history when it secured 100% result in the 10<sup>th</sup> board exams in 2025. The school also received the best school award in the State science fest. We appreciate Fr. Santhosh, Fr. Benny Peekunnel, Fr Benny Paraniyil and Fr Stefin for their outstanding contributions in achieving this historic mile stone.

**Norberts Academy:** It started functioning as a German Language institute as well as exam centre for TestDaF and TestAs from 2025. During the last one year 40 students have written various exams at our centre and a total of 55 students have attended German language classes at our institute. I am also happy to share that Norberts academy has signed a contract with FH Joanneum University in Austria for student mobility and partnership. They are visiting us in March. I thank and appreciate Fr. Santhosh, the director, for his hard work and commitment for the growth of the Academy.

#### 4. Social & Health Ministry

The social and health ministry committee is headed by Fr. Babu Poochalikalathil. From 2025 the committee has started visiting the units, to evaluate, encourage and guide the people concerned with regard to the day to day running of our institutions.

**Home Trust, Pariyaram:** I am happy to inform the chapter that Mr K J Joseph and Mrs Rita Joseph, the founding trustees have resigned from the Home Trust, Pariyaram and Fr. Prelate, as Charman, has replaced them. We have registered an amendment to the Trust deed in this regard. Now, all the members of the Trust are the confreres from the Canonry.

In 2025, an additional block was built for Navajeevana Special school, Perla and the construction of the new special school in collaboration with Chittilappilly foundation in Chevar is progressing well. Congratulations to Fr. Jose Chempottickal for his dedication and hard work.

**New Initiatives for 2026:** Two important initiatives that the Canonry need to focus in 2026 as part of social ministry are the following. First, we have been residing in Karunanilayam, Muringoor for the past one year, and Fr. Jovial has presented a study report with the approval of the house chapter for starting a ministry there. We shall discuss it later during this chapter. Second, We need to begin the proposed Pain and Palliative Care Centre at Dwaraka. It's already two years since we received the land from Sr Claris and from Mr. Vinod for this purpose. A pilot study is conducted by the social ministry committee under the leadership of Fr. Manoj Geerakasserry and the proposal will be made during this chapter.

I thank and appreciate Fr. Babu, Fr. Manoj and Fr. Mathew, the committee members, and the project Co-ordinator for their whole hearted support and guidance for the smooth running of our social ministries.

## **5. Formation & Vocation Promotion**

As on date the Canonry has five formation houses and 7 confreres are fully engaged in formation and vocation promotion ministry. The details of the candidates are as follows.

Details of those in Formation as on 31 December 2025								
Candidates				Novices	Juniors			
Aspirants	+1	+2	Total		Reg	Phil	Theo	Total
P- 12	P-11	D-	<b>48</b>	6 -1 <sup>st</sup> }	Nil	5	7	<b>12</b>
NE-15	NE-3	7		3- 2 <sup>nd</sup> } <b>9</b>				

In 2025, the Canonry didn't have first profession, Solemn profession and priestly Ordination. The total number of simple professed or the major seminarians are only 12 and there are already gaps between the existing batches. What is important to observe is that we are getting candidates to aspirancy and, as they advance in different stages of formation, we are losing them. Therefore, I request the support of every confrere to identify good and motivated candidates to the Canonry. I thank and appreciate the efforts of Fr. Shino and others involved in vocation promotion and, all the formators for their committed efforts in vocation promotion and formation.

In 2025 we shifted our minor seminary in Northeast from Chechapani, Assam to Tikrikilla in the diocese of Tura in Meghalaya. On 22 May, we blessed the renovated house. It's indeed a blessing that God has blessed us with good vocations. I appreciate the efforts of Frs. Augustine and Cleatus for their initiatives and commitment.

On April 15, 2026 we are celebrating the Silver Jubilee of St. Augustine Study house, Bangalore. Let's remember with gratitude abbot Ulrik and the abbey of Averbode for their generous support in establishing a house for juniors in Bangalore.

## **On going Formation Program**

As part of the ongoing formation programs, the Canonry has organized various upskilling and reskilling programs and workshops for all the confreres. Special programs were also conducted for finance officers, those engaged in social ministry and for those in education.

## **6. Finance and the Finance Committee**

As all of you are aware financial discipline is the backbone of any institution. I can proudly say that the Canonry provisor and finance committee are doing a wonderful work in this regard with meticulous financial planning and regular monitoring. However, it is at times disappointing to learn that some confreres do not understand the importance of timely account submission and reporting when asked by the Canonry provisor. Some confreres tend to ignore the corrections given by the internal auditors as well as the finance committee. Dear confreres, please understand that without your cooperation and support, it is very difficult to complete the works on time.

It is my humble request to all the confreres to adhere to the FCRA and IT regulations while handling the finance of the Canonry. We have to renew the FCRA and 12 A registrations every five years. Any violation can lead to cancellation of FCRA and 12 A registrations. Please understand the seriousness of it and do accounting regularly in the software provided. Also, kindly pay attention in maintaining documents systematically. I sincerely appreciate the hard work and commitment of Fr. Jijo, the Canonry Provisor and the finance committee members Frs. Sebastian Anachalil and Benny Asharikunnel.

## **7. Mission and Evangelization**

**Permanent Contract made for Koppa Parish:** We have been working in N R Pura from 1993 and when Bhadravathi became a diocese, we handed over most of the parishes to the diocese. However, the Canonry had requested the bishop

to give Koppa parish permanently for pastoral care to the Canonry. I am happy to share the good news that Bhadravathi diocese has agreed for the same and we have signed a contract in this regard in December, 2025.

**Northeast Mission:** I am grateful to the Lord for guiding our Canonry in identifying mission areas for evangelization in the Northeast of India. As all of us are aware we blessed our first community in Chechapani, in the archdiocese of Guwahati on 18 May, 2024. I consider it a blessing from God that we could bless and inaugurate our second house in North East in the diocese of Tura, in Meghalaya on the 22 May, 2025. It is heartening to see what we began in a small way is already flourishing.

**Invitation from Imphal diocese, Manipur:** It is promising that opportunities are still open in north east, and it is right time that we enter into other dioceses. The archbishop of Imphal, in Manipur has invited us to open a mission there. Let's pray and surrender ourselves to the invitations and opportunities we get in proclaiming the word of God.

**An update on our college project.** In 2025, the Canonry signed an agreement with the diocese of Tura to establish a college at Paham. We have registered a Trust for this purpose called "Prem Jyothi Trust" and have applied for PAN card. Once we get the PAN card, we will open a bank account and then we shall register the land in the name of the society. Meanwhile, I have visited *MISSIO* and *Church in Need* seeking financial support to establish the college and they are positive about it.

I appreciate the pioneering missionary efforts of Fr. Augustine Ambasserry and the dedication of our confreres, Frs. Cleatus, Salu, Abhinav and Jaison T, who serve in these mission areas with zeal and courage.

## 8. Canonry Committees

The Canonry has 9 committees and I am extremely happy that these committees are functioning well and are doing their responsibilities with utmost sincerity and commitment. The role of the committees has also proved effective in promoting participation, decentralizing administrative roles and decision-making process.

## 9. Council Meetings

During the year 2025, the Prelate and Council had 10 meetings. As we are having elections for three council members during this chapter, I sincerely thank all the council members for their commitment and for sharing the responsibility as coordinators for different ministries. I truly enjoyed working with you all and I think together we have set a model for team work in the canonry. Thank you, dear Fr. Santhosh, the sub prior; Fr. Jijo, the Provisor; Fr. Subash, for animating formation ministry; Fr. Binu P, for education ministry; Fr. Cleatus for mission and evangelization and Fr. Babu for social and health ministry.

## 10. Higher Studies

Currently, the following confreres are pursuing higher studies.

Sl. No	Name of the Confrere	Course	Remark
01	Fr. Vineesh Kombikunnath	M.Ed	At Nedumkandom
02	Fr. Jaison Kochupura	LLB	Correspondence, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year
03	Fr. Vipin Vayalil	MA HRM	2 <sup>nd</sup> year, at Loyola College, Trivandrum
04	Fr. Jaison Thekkekara	B.Ed	Dimapur, Nagaland, Final semester

In 2026, one confrere will be going to Rome to pursue studies in theology with specialization in Norbertine Spirituality.

### **11. Welfare Fund and Formation Sponsorship Fund**

During the last years the Canonry organized separate funds for priests' welfare and for supporting the formation program of the Canonry. While priests' welfare fund is to support our confreres for emergency financial needs in their families, the formation sponsorship fund supports the formation of our seminarians by identifying potential families and individuals who would sponsor a seminarian during their formation period. As on 31 December, 2025, we have Rs. 10,98,314/- in the welfare fund, and Rs. 32, 43,341/- in the formation sponsorship fund. 24 individuals are supporting our formation sponsorship program. Thanks to Fr. Sebastian Anachalil for identifying few sponsors from St. Norbert Parish, Kasavanahalli.

### **12. Welcome to Fr. George Pavamkott**

We welcome Fr. George Pavamkott as he has returned from South Africa. We thank him for his dedicated ministry there and wish him a fruitful ministry in India.

### **13. Matters for Further Reflection**

**a) Norbertine identity lived in Communitio:** As our personal lives are focused on ministries, very often our communities experience a struggle to practice common living. Let's not forget that it is our duty first and foremost to ensure our identity and common living as Norbertines. It must take precedence over other identities and personal interests. I appreciate that many confreres have started using the habit of our Order on daily basis and most of them use it for all common occasions. But still there are a few who conveniently ignore it. This needs to be corrected.

**b) Changing Phase of the Canonry:** We are at a very critical stage in the history of the Canonry. We have started missions in the northeast India, and our Canonry is nearing the golden jubilee of our foundation in Mananthavady. At the same time, we should become aware of some ground realities like, ageing and retirement of senior confreres, decreasing vocations, sickness among the younger generation, indifference or a lukewarm attitude to community matters et.

It is observed that many confreres are not concerned about what is happening in the Canonry, they don't read the circulars, they always seek excuses from common programs, and surprisingly some are happy with the minimum that they do. Somehow, community doesn't become a priority. This tendency needs to be corrected, and we should be cautious and all efforts must be taken to face the changing phase of the Canonry.

### **13. Conclusion**

As our constitution says, the primary purpose for which we are called is to live together as brothers in a community. However, the fundamental truth is that we forget that community itself is mission. We often treat community as a support system for ministry outside. But the gospel tells us otherwise. Community is not a resting place for mission; it is the first place where mission is lived. From our experience we even know that a divided or indifferent community weakens even the best apostolate. Therefore, it is my humble request and prayer that we wake up to focus on our lives as Norbertines, cherishing the beauty of common life by adhering to the three tables: Eucharistic table, dining table and recreation table.

Thank you