

COUNTRY REPORT - INDIA

NATIONAL CHAPLIN: REV. FR ARUL RAJ GALI
Secretary CCBI Commission for Families

NATIONAL PRESIDENT COUPLE: CARMEN & CYRIL D'SOUZA

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT COUPLE: PREMA & DESMOND REBELLO

Total Number of Active Membership

(a) Number of Groups	21
(b) Children's Groups	2
(c) Total number of Members	310
Families	143
Widows	12
Single Spouse Men	11
Singles	1

Methodology employed in the evangelization of its Members:

Lenten recollection programs backed with suitable media such as the movie "Fireproof " etc after which discussions are held on the present day challenges faced by families drawing on the action packed, heart warming and inspirational characteristics of the Movie which all contributes to the resource needs to strengthen and affirm marriages;

The way of the Cross prayer up a hillock at St Lourdes Church in Whitefield, a week before Palm Sunday suitably brought in greater understanding repentance

backed with a firmer purpose of amendment and Prayer in preparation for the Holy Week services.

Additional Quarterly meetings held with the assistance of a Resource Person to speak on and monitor discussions on improving and motivating family life

Foster Parenting programs in association with Parish Family Service centers to improve family bonding

Attempts to spread the good word --start CFM in new neighboring areas such as Pompurpa and Moira in Goa and Mysore and Mangalore in Karnataka. It is a difficult task still being pursued, where cultures are different and distance adds on further problems compounded with clergy transfers et al. But our commitment is there to see the CFM movement started in these places.

Services rendered by the CFM

Visits to Clergy Homes, Senior Citizen Homes, physically challenged children, HIV affected peoples homes, and even Prisons to motivate and rejuvenate the afflicted inmates and those in need. Such out reach programs mingle music and fellowship and bring to light an awakening to better principles and discipline in life for which we are all accountable on our day of reckoning.

Talks to Parents of Children preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Visiting Flood affected areas and rendering financial assistance

Programs on Abortion for older youth and parents

Enquiry papers were prepared, discussed and action initiated in line with the current scenario at the time of global economic slow down, financial insecurity and anxiety which helped members to face situations with greater fortitude and faith.

Achievements

Greater involvement of the Youth. The youth choir is in attendance for the AGM and Family Day celebrations. The youth group will have their own representation on the Executive Committee to express themselves and grow with the movement as they are the future CFM Family members in time to come

Additions of new groups in the regions to foster growth and evangelization.

The challenge to host the International event of the ICCFM. The excitement and activity experienced over the last three years has strengthened CFM values, bonded families not only within the Goa region but also across the regions to foster team spirit and cooperation.

Expectations

More interaction between the CFM families within a region and with those of other regions

Compilation of Enquiry Papers for a central data bank to be hosted on the web site of CFM India for discussion uniformly among all groups for the month suitably calendarised with comments, discussions in brief and action areas initiated and achieved by each group.

Leadership development and commitment programs in the three regions

Youth Groups to be started in all regions.

Special outreach efforts/programs for the benefit of the Aged, Sick and Needy

Difficulties

Distance between parishes and groups

Language barrier

Cultural and social differences

Attendance at monthly meetings during certain events such as School exams, festivals and tourism times.