

The Vincentian Community is having an Assembly

Every three years the Vincentians throughout the Province come together to discuss how to grow in the spirit of St Vincent de Paul in the areas of mission, life and prayer. This is the year of one of these gatherings.

To prepare for such an event, each local community meets to discuss issues of life and mission that are looming as areas of growth and development. This year, after the meeting of the local communities, the issues raised were:-

Ageing: we need to evaluate all that we do in light of the fact that we are getting older and that we have more confreres moving from active ministry to a supportive ministry within the Province.

Common Life: the necessity to spend time together, sharing our lives, praying together and evaluating our ministry is a constant theme.

Engagement with the Pacific: acknowledging that our Province contains confreres on many cultures and that a missionary focus is in the Pacific, issues surrounding our life and ministry need to be addressed.

Reconfiguration: this revolves around structures and the way we operate. It was noted that we need to be more flexible in how we go about bringing the Gospel to our region of the world.

Dialogue with the Poor: the importance of our involvement with the poor, especially in working for the alleviation of injustices, was shared. It was thought that here is an area that we can contribute.

Child Protection: will continue to be discussed as it has been a focus of Provincial meetings for several years. We wish to ensure that all protocols drawn up to protect children are followed in the most stringent way and that those who have been abused are assisted in whatever way possible.

These are some of the issues that have been reflected upon and discussed recently. We ask your prayerful support as we seek to renew our life and mission during the Assembly in September.