

# NAVAJEEVAN BETHANY INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY



## A BRIEF REPORT AND ACTION PLAN

CENTENARY  
YEAR  
1919-2019

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# NAVAJEEVAN BETHANY INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

## NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS

**N**avajeevan Bethany Integrated Research and Development Society (Navajeevan BIRDS) is the social service wing of Bethany Navajeevan Province of the Order of the imitation of Christ, which was founded by Rev. Fr. P.T. Geevarghese Panickeruveetil, later Archbishop Geevarghese Mar Ivanios Panickaruveetil OIC in the Jacobite Church on August 15, 1919 at Mundanmala, Ranni, Perunad in Kerala.

Fr. P.T. Geevarghese had a noble vision of doing good to all people irrespective of caste, creed and religion. He wanted to start charitable institutions (Dharma Sthapanangal) for poor and the destitute people. The schools started for the ignored ones in the society is a best example of his social commitment. Bethany and its founder gave great priority to social apostolate from the very inception of the establishment of Ashram at Mundanmala and thus Bethany Ashram became a place of consolation for scores of people soon after its foundation. In 1925 Fr. P.T. Geevarghese was ordained a Bishop with the name Mar Ivanios OIC. The orphanage at Mundanmala and the visits of Bethany Fathers to help the poor in the neighbourhood has attracted many people to follow the simple bethanian lifestyle. In 1930, Mar Ivanios and his followers left Mundanmala. Bethany and its mission continued with the blessings of the founder. Bethany Ashram became the cradle of the historic re-union movement.

Along with the reunion movement Bethanians began to undertake a wide range of apostolic activities with an “All India Missionary Vision”. In 1966 the congregation was raised to pontifical status. On 24th April 2000 two provinces namely Bethany Navajeevan Province and Bethany Navajyothei Province were erected in the Bethany Congregation. At present the Bethany Congregation is having 216 members and 73 students. There are 56 Bethany Ashrams and 70 different apostolates and educational institutions.

NAVAJEEVAN BETHANY SOCIAL SERVICE was founded in the year 2000 with the erection of the Bethany Navajeevan Province of the Order of the imitation of Christ. NAVAJEEVAN BETHANY SOCIAL SERVICE is rechristened as NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS on 2018 and driven with the spirit and dynamism of 100 years of history that narrates the beginning of Bethany from August 15, 1919 at Mundanmala. It has ever

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been inspired with the faith and social teachings of Catholic Church. It has an extensive reach to the poor and marginalized communities and has initiated many grass-root development interventions during its 18 years of existence.

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## VISION

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*Blending of Christian monastic ideals with Indian mystic culture to values, principles and practices*

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## MISSION

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*Enhancing the capacities of individuals and communities towards sustainable development*

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## OBJECTIVES

- To identify individuals and communities on institution base for better capacity development
- To spread the concepts of founder and founder organization to the target groups
- To enhance the capacities of the stakeholders with regard to Bethanian life and spirituality
- To implement concrete projects and programmes for the founders values enriched
- To assess, monitor and evaluate the results as planned

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## CORE AREAS

Navajeevan BIRDS will focus on the following key areas for the better development on outcome-based results during the period especially the centenary year between 2018 and 2019:

- An in depth knowledge of the founder and the founder organization
- Concepts of founder and founder organization on social apostolate and its dimensions
- Development works done by Bethany Bishops in social apostolate
- Human rights interventions of Bethany
- Community mobilization process practiced and already sustained models
- Interventions of education and skill developed for the underprivileged
- Support to the vulnerable families and their sustainability
- Development of resource persons and master trainers
- Development of volunteers on community and health action
- Practices of environmental friendly life style culture
- Development of professional counselling and capacity development of local councillors on career, livelihood, microfinance, child care, family development and other relevant areas
- Establishment of an advanced research, media and digital documentation centre

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## **PROVINCE GOVERNING BOARD**

Fr. Mathew Jacob Thiruvailil OIC (Provincial Superior)

Fr. James Puthuparampil OIC

Fr. Thomas George OIC

Fr. Mathew Manaluvila OIC

Fr. Thomas Reji Padinjattemelethil OIC

Fr. Jacob Dayanad Kanangiriyil OIC

Fr. Geevarghese Thiruvailil OIC

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD OF NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS**

Fr. Mathew Manaluvila OIC (Executive Director)

Fr. Jacob Dayanand OIC (Finance Director)

Fr. Christy John OIC (Member)

Fr. Bony K Alex OIC (Member)

Br. Varghese Pradeep Mullaseril OIC (Member)

Fr. Mathew Reji OIC (Member)

## **PROJECT CONSULTATIVE BOARD**

Mr. T.A. Varghese

Mr. Rajan M Karakkattil

## **PROJECT OFFICER**

Mr. Abhilash V.G.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 29, 10.30 am

- NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS website and one year action plan inauguration
- Venue - Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya Nalanchira

October 02, at 05.30 pm

- Bethany Nature Cure Promotion programme in Educational institutions and video releasing

Venue: Bethany Nature Cure Center, Nalanchira

October 03, 09.30 am

- Bethany Nature Cure awareness programme at Bethany institutions, Vencodu

October 05, 09.30 am

- Bethany Life skill development Programme  
Mount Bethany School, Kumbazha

## NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS CENTENERY PROGRAMMES

### 1. BETHANY AWARENESS CREATION PROGRAMMES - BACP

- a. ESSAY COMPETITIONS
- b. NATIONAL SEMINAR ON
  - i. Indian development context of SDG 2030
  - ii. Founder and Social Apostolate
  - iii. Bethany Bishops and Social Apostolate

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## **2. BETHANIAN OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL DAYS - BOID**

- a. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS**  
1st October-2018 : Karunalaya, Hyderabad. Trppadam, Nedumangad. Navajeevan Home, Kattanam
- b. WORLD CANCER DAY**  
4th February-2019 : Trppadam, Nedumangad, Navajeevan BIRDS office, Nalanchira
- c. WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**  
20th February-2019: Karunalaya, Hyderabad. Trppadam, Nedumangad. Navajeevan Home, Kattanam
- d. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**  
8th March-2019 : Trppadam, Nedumangad.
- e. WORLD TB DAY**  
24th March-2019 : TB Center, Pulayanarkotta
- f. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**  
5th June-2019: All Centers
- g. INTERNATIONAL DAY YOGA**  
21st June-2019: Nature Cure Center, Nalanchira

## **3. BETHANY AND RURAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT - BRSD**

- a. Integrated rural social development programmes in the state of Tripura, West Bengal, Odisha, Punjab, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Tamilnadu

## **4. BETHANY AND EDUCATION FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED – BEU**

- a. Bethany centenary scholarships for education through Charitable foundations
- b. Bethany scholarships for the students from flood affected families
- c. Bethany centenary scholarships for unemployed youth for skill development in Nedumangadu and Kanjiramkulam



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## **5. BETHANY AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT- BSD**

- a. Establishment of advanced centenary memorial skill development institute at Kanjiramkulam, Thiruvananthapuram

## **6. BETHANY AND FAMILY WELFARE - BFW**

- a. Support for vulnerable families for sustainable livelihood promotion in the states of Tripura and Odisha

## **7. BETHANY AND HRD - BHRD**

- a. Development of training curriculum and materials for various thematic areas such as community tools, life skill management and teaching and learning methodology
- b. Conference of supporting staffs of Bethany educational institutions and Ashrams
- c. Life skill Programme at educational institutions

## **8. BETHANY AND HEALTH CARE - BHC**

- a. Conduct yoga and nature cure camps and exhibitions in educational institutions all over India
- b. National Seminar on Nature Cure and Yoga

## **9. BETHANY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - BEP**

- a. Environmentally immersed lifestyle management programme
- b. Tree planting programmes

## **10. BETHANY AND COUNSELLING - BC**

- a. Development of community counsellors on family, adolescent, career and livelihood

## **11. BETHANY AND HOUSING PROGRAMMES – BHP**

- a. Centenary Home for homeless families
- b. Centenary Home for the flood victims

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## **12. BETHANY AND CHARITIBLE ACTIVITIES – BCA**

- a. Financial Support to poor cancer patients
- b. Care and conveyance to Palliative patients

## **13. BETHANY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER - BRDC**

- a. Establishment of an advanced research and documentation centre with digital library at Dayara Ashram, Nalanchira
- b. Updation of *Prayanam* Museum and gallery

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# NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS INTERVENTIONS IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT; A BRIEF OUTLINE

## **1. Bethany Social Apostolate in Kanjiramkulam - 1961**

Kanjiramkulam Bethany mission has seen many creative social interventions by the Bethany fathers even before its starting in the year 1961 June 17. But the mission became a solace for many who got affected with snake bites after the foudation of Ashram. Bethany also provided ayurvedic and herbal medicines for the sick people of the locality.

## **2. Bethany Social Apostolate in Nedumangadu - 1968**

Nedumangadu Mission was taken up by Bethany fathers in the year 1968 in order to strengthen and unify its mission activities. Bethany Ashram over the years has contributed with human resource and financial resource for the upliftment of the different communities. Bethany took great initiatives in the social development of this mission area. Bethany Press, Bethany Tailoring Center, Bethany ITC, Bethany College are the major initiatives in Nedumangad.

## **3. Trppaadam Bethany Old Age Home, Nedumangadu- 1974**

Trppaadam Bethany Old Age Home is a social welfare centre initiated by Rev. Fr. Gabriel Thaikadavil OIC. This centre is engaged in programmes for the spiritual uplift of the people, and in rural development programmes. The center have been running development programmes like cottage industries, Basket wearing, Agarbatti, Bracelet, Candle making, Pickle making, stitching etc. Today the centre accommodates more than 60 senior citizens among them many are differently abled. The inmates are involved in Card making, Agriculture and other household activites

## **4. Bethany Nature Cure Center, Nalanchira – 1976**

Bethany Nature Cure centre was established in the year 1976, the first of tis kind in Kerala, in a building which was located at Bethany Ashram, Nalanchira. On August 1982, a new hospital building was inaugurated at Mekkonam, Bethany Nagar, Na-

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lanchira. Bethany Nature cure centre is one of the best naturopathy hospitals in India. Besides hospital facility it also credits for various research programmes in the field of Naturopathy. Dr. Fr. Philip Neri OIC (ND) has been in charge of this centre. Besides hospital facility, it also credits for various research programmes in the field of Naturopathy. Bethany provides scientific system of healing by stimulating the body's inherent power to regain health with the help of 'panchaboothas' - air, earth, water, fire and ether. It treats physical, mental and spiritual aspects of human being through a holistic approach towards diseases.

**[www.bethanynaturecure.com](http://www.bethanynaturecure.com)**

### **5. TB Rehabilitation Center, Pulayanarkotta- 1980**

TB Rehabilitation center at Pulayanarkotta runs purely on charitable basis and rehabilitates TB patients after or during their treatment in the Government run TB hospital at Pulayanarkotta. The center was started in the year 1980. Fr. John Kuzhinapurath OIC worked as the chaplain of TB Sanatorium at Pulayanarkotta. He cycled several kilometers every day to do missionary and charitable work. When he realised that the families of the patients discharged after treatment have not been receiving them, he felt sympathy towards them and founded this home to rehabilitate them. He started the prayer centre at the T. B. Sanitorium at Pulayanarkotta, Trivandrum. Now the center houses around 15 people who are in need post TB care.

### **6. Bethany Social Apostolate in Tamilnadu; St. Antony's Home, Vencode - 2004**

St. Antony's home was founded in 2004 along with other educational institutions in the campus and to cater to the needs of socially deprived children especially orphans and semi orphans. Now there are around 15 students staying in this center.

### **7. Grace Cancer Care, Nalanchira- 2008**

GRACE (Archbishop Mar Gregorios Cancer Endowment) is a Charitable Endowment for helping the poor cancer patients. It provides financial assistance for medical treatment and the rehabilitation of the patients and their families irrespective of religion, caste, creed, age or sex. It also intends to organize cancer awareness camps, counselling and advisory assistance for the treatment and also to establish palliative care

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centres. The endowment is initiated by Fr. Atmanand OIC, a member of the Bethany Ashram, who has been a cancer patient for 18 years.

[www.gracecancercare.com](http://www.gracecancercare.com)

## **8. Grace Pain and Palliative Care Unit, Bethany Ashram, Trppadam**

The World Health Organization defines palliative care as “the active total care of patients whose disease is not responsive to curative treatment. Control of pain, of other symptoms, and of psychological, social and spiritual problems, is paramount. The goal of palliative care is achievement of the best quality of life for patients and their families”. Taking into account the deprived situation of the many terminally ill people in Nedumangad civil Taluk and around, the auspicious banner of GRACE (Archbishop Mar Gregorios Cancer Endowment), Nalanchira, Bethany Navajeevan province launched a palliative care unit in Bethany Ashram, Shantigiri, Kulapada later shifted to Trppadam.

## **9. Bethany Skill Development Center, Kolkata - 2015**

Kolkata being inspirational in the life of Mar Ivanios, when he was a professor at Serampore College, in the shaping of a religious congregation, Bethany Ashram took special initiative to start an Ashram Kolkata. Ever since its beginning it takes care of the social as well as pastoral needs of the community and socio development activities for the local people. 1993 Bethany Ashram Kolkata started a Homeopathic free Dispensary for the poor people in the locality. In 2015 a skill development institute for tailoring also started. At present around 40 students learn the tailoring skill.

## **10. Bethany Navajeevan Home for elderly care, Kattanam- 2015**

Bethany Navajeevan home for Senior Citizens was started in the year 2015 for giving geriatric care and facilities for assisted living in a warm ambience with minimal charges.

## **11. Bethany Educational support through foundations**

NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS, with the help of many charitable foundations educate number

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of underprivileged children especially in the region of Nedumangadu, Trivandrum. Many students in different fields completed their education and maintain quality life with the help of these foundations.

## **12. Bethany Educational aid through institutions**

Bethany Navajeevan province is clear in its principle of not taking any donation for any admission or teaching vacancy in any institutions. More than that it helps lots of poor students from difficult financial background to get their education finished. Through social service wing, educational institutions give fee concession in lakhs.

## **13. Bethany Housing Projects**

Bethany is helping many homeless families to have a shelter. Through NAVAJEEVAN BIRDS Bethany has reached out to many families in providing a shelter over the years.

## **14. Bethany Flood Relief Project - A Report**

The flood relief and rehabilitation work at Kerala by the Bethany Navajeevan Province, Trivandrum, which is actualised by its social wing is very humble in its approach. The extent of the disaster and the suffering of the poor people brought tears to the eyes of the participating priests and brothers while performing the noble task of rendering relief. During and after the relief, our brothers shared with us various experiences and incidents which throw light on the multifarious aspects of such a vast service activity. This report is a descriptive account of the relief work still going on, along with suitable photographs, to give our donors, devotees and well-wishers a 'behind-the-scene' account of what it means to participate in a relief project of Navajeevan BIRDS !

### **Spontaneous Response to Alleviate Sufferings and Lives Touched:**

- Around 4000 People
- In 20 days
- 3 Districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta.

### **Multiphase Flood Relief Effort:**

- First Phase: - Immediate Relief- Food Distribution
- Second Phase: - Relief Kits, Cleaning
- Third Phase:- Rehabilitation – Adopting Family, Students, Parish

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## **Evaluation of Immediate Need and Immediate Response**

The flood relief committee assessed the immediate need of the affected population in view of the available information through different sources responded immediately to the needs:

### ***Provision of boat service to rescue the victims:***

We could arrange boat service for rescue operation from Poovar Boat Club, Trivandrum. The rescue operation was done in association with Chetana, the social service wing Malankara Catholic Diocese of Mavelikara.

### ***Fund Raising***

For any kind of contribution to the affected population, money is required. It was proposed in the meeting that an immediate fund raising campaign should be initiated on the campus as well as outside the campus. Cherupushpa School, Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya, Nalanchira and Mount Bethany School, Mylapra were taken as fund collection points.

### ***Provision of consumables and other needful items***

We could provide drinking water, clothes, sanitary Items, Health and hygiene items to around three thousand eight hundred and fifty people in 14 camps, households and affected areas.

### ***Collection of relief goods***

Collection of relief goods took place through different schools of Bethany Navajeevan Province. There were ten local collection points and two regional collection points:

#### **a. Regional Collection Points:**

1. Cherupushpa School Chunakkara, Mavelikara
2. Mount Bethany School, Mylapra

#### **b. Local Collection Points:**

1. Navajeevan Bethany Vidyalaya, Nalanchira
2. Mount Bethany School, Mylapra
3. Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Kalayapuram
4. Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Vencodu
5. Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Kanjiramkulam
6. Cherupushpa Bethany School, Chunakkara
7. Mount Bethany School, Mylapra and Kumbazha
8. Bethany ITC, Nedumangadu
9. Bethany Ashram, Shantigiri
10. Bethany College, Nalanchira

**c. Other local as well as global agencies**

- Muthootu Finance
- Provincial House for Bethany Sisters, Nalanchira
- St. Jude School, Mukhathala
- Bethany Convent School, Kalayapuram
- Malankara Catholic Youth Movement, Nedumangad

**d. Details of Relief Goods collected**

SI No.	Materials collected	No of items
<b>Edible Food Items</b>		
1	Rice – Big sacks	70
2	Rice- Small Sacks	60
3	Wheat – Big sacks	5 packets
4	Bread	750 packets
5	Biscuits	120 cases
6	Water	200 cases – 2000 bottles
7	Food packets	1500 packets
8	Instant Chappathi	200 packets
9	Masala Powders	100 packets
<b>Toiletries and stationaries</b>		
10	Baby diapers	75 cases
11	Napkins	70 cases
12	Paste	600 packets
13	Brush - medium	500
14	Brush - small	250
15	Washing Soap	300 pieces
16	Bathing Soap	500 pieces
<b>Clothing and Bedding</b>		
17	Bathing Towel	300 pieces
18	Kids Garments	50 boxes
19	Gents garments (Shirt, T shirts, Pants, Inner wears, Lungis, dhotis )	20 boxes
20	Ladies garments (Churidar, Nighties, Saris, Frock, Inner wears)	25 boxes
21	Blankets	65 packets
22	Bed sheets	150 pieces



Other Items		
23	Candles	10 cases
24	Matchbox	10 cases
25	Salt	100 packets
26	Firewood	300Kg
Medical Items		
27	Medicine	5 cases
Cleaning Items		
28	Cleaning Items (Dettol, Chlorine, Bleaching Powder, gloves, Phenol)	5 cases

**e. Details of Cash Collected till 28.09.2018**

SI No	Name	Amount
1	Rajani Thampan	250
2	Bethany Convent, Mavelikara	2000
3	Justin Varghese	500
4	Sharanya C Nair	4000
5	Aswathy	2000
6	Kunjumon	2500
7	Dona Yohannan	1000
8	Radha Vijayan	500
9	Megha	500
10	Plus two Students	2100
11	Navajeevan Institutions Vencode	50000

**Kits Distribution – 450**

- a. Kits including Foods and Clothes - 200**
- b. Kits including Toiletry items - 100**
- c. Kits including Sanitary items – 150**

**f. Distribution of Relief Goods**

The coordinators and volunteers took the commodities (the food and other relief goods) into the nearby worst affected areas and distribute it in the needy and poor people. We distributed the items to the following relief camps and houses and areas

Sl. No	Relief camps/ Centers	Relief Goods distributed	No of people
1	TMVM HS Vettiyar	Medical Items Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items Firewood	1200
2	Government LP School, Vettiyar	Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	180
3	St. Johns HS School, Mattom	Edible Food Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries	210
4	Devi Vilasom LP School, Vettiyar	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries Clothing and Bedding	250
5	LPS Naalumukku, Mankamkuzhy	Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	100
6	Chunakkara, Govt. LPS	Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	240
7	LMHS Venmony	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries Clothing and Bedding	190
8	Malankara Catholic Church, Chengannor	500 food packets Cleaning Items Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	1200
9	Malankara Catholic Church, Pallipadu	Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items Clothing and Bedding Cleaning Items	30

10	Deaddiction Center, Pallipadu	Cleaning Items Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	70
11	St. Stephens CSI Church, Venmony	Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	35
12	Salvation Army Church, Venmony	Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	35
13	Govt. School, Seethathodu	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries Clothing and Bedding	90
14	Bethany Ashram, Angamoozhy	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries	20
	Total No of People		3850
Areas of Distribution			
Angamoozhy, Mylapra, Pallipadu, Chengannor, Thumpamon, Venmony, Mudiyoorkonam, Alappuzha, Vettiyar			

**g. Cleaning Programme**

- Parish hall of Malankara Catholic Church, Kallishery
- 3 families in the Malankara Catholic Church, Kallishery

**h. Volunteers for cleaning – (On-going)**

- Malankara Catholic Church, Vallikunnam
- Malankara Catholic Church, Edappon

**i. Conveyance for volunteers - Bus/ Car/ Van services – (On-going)**

- Cherupushpa Bethany School, Chunakkara
- Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Kalayapuram
- Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya, Nalanchira
- Other vehicles from Mylapra and Kalayapuram

**j. Food for volunteers and workers**

- 300 people in 7 days



Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya, Nalanchira  
The Relief materials collection Hub



Relief work - Cleaning work at Aluva, Kallishery and Pandanad



Bethany Fathers supervising the Flood Relief Camp at Aluva, Ashokapuram Bethany Novitiate Ashram

Bethany Priests returns after providing Boats



Bethany Fathers supervising the relief camps at Vettiyar



Left: Bethany Fathers With Children At Venmony Relief Camp Site



Fr. Jacob Dayanand OIC is travelling in Boat to provide Food to the flood victims



Fathers at Prayer for Flood victims during Mission Gathering conducted at Bethany Ashram, Bhilai on August 26 and 27



Boat rescue operations led by Bethany Social Service in Association with Chetana Social Service





Heart breaking scenes from the flood site at Pallipad, Venmony





Heart Breaking Scenes from the flood site at Pallipad

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*Thank you all.*



**ORDER OF THE IMITATION OF CHRIST**  
**Bethany Navajeevan Province**

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