



## Financial Commission Meeting in Indonesia

**SINTANG, Indonesia** – The SMM Province of Indonesia held another meeting in the context of the celebration of the Asia-Oceania Continental Mission Year. This meeting was held on July 23, 2022 in Sintang, West Kalimantan. To be precise, this was a meeting of this entity's Financial Commission. The meeting was attended by a number of bursars from SMM communities in Indonesia with the presence of Fr. Balaswamy KATA, SMM, General Bursar and Fr. Arnold SUHARDI, SMM, Assistant General.

The meeting was opened by Fr. Antonius TENSI, SMM, the Provincial superior. After thanking the bursars for their presence, he conveyed several hopes such as the need for an evaluation of the performance of the financial commission, "creative economy" plans and the performance of the bursars themselves (various obstacles faced, inaccuracies in financial reports, etc.). What is meant by the "creative economy" in the context of SMM Indonesia is this: how to utilize human resources, land and houses owned in such a way as to generate income in order to increase the financial independence of each community and reduce or even eliminate subsidies from the Province. This idea was born in the provincial chapter of this entity in early 2018.

The meeting continued with sharing from Bro. Bayu, CSA, showing how he and his confreres in the Congregation of Saint Aloysius (CSA) struggle for economic self-sufficiency. Among other things, he talked about how to create business opportunities and what are the keys to success. What he strongly underlined was the importance of doing discernment together before deciding on the type of business to be realized. After the presentation, the participants were given the opportunity to ask questions and then they were divided into discussion groups.

In the afternoon, the participants were invited to see the financial situation of SMM internationally by Fr. Bala. He mainly talked about the current situation of the International Montfortian Aid (IMA) in assisting our initial formation and some income generating projects that several entities are currently undertaking.

The last session was filled with two things: sharing about the implementation of the “creative economy” in all communities and the existence of a special fund to finance the initial formation in this province (the fund is nourished by donors). These two things were animated by Father Jeje, the vicar of bursar for the Province of Indonesia.

In August, this year, the Commission will hold another meeting to produce recommendations and decisions.

*Communications Team – Indonesia*