



CARMELITES OF MARY IMMACULATE

CMI PRIOR GENERAL'S HOUSE

Chavara Hills, P.B. No. 3105, Kakkanad P.O., Kochi 682 030, Kerala, India.



SI KURIAKOSE ELIAS CHAVARA
1805-1871

Phone: 0091-484-2881816, 2881810, Fax: 0091-484-2881811, Email: general.secretariat@cmi.in, Web: www.cmi.org.in

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10 February 2026

Prior General's Circular

CONVOCAION OF

ORDINARY GENERAL SYNAXIS XXXIX (2026)

Dear Reverend Fathers and Brothers,

Prayerful Greetings from CMI Prior General's House, Chavara Hills, Kakkanad!

Convocation of the Thirty-Ninth Ordinary General Synaxis

As the term of the present General Administration approaches its conclusion, and having consulted the Major Superiors, I, with the consent of the General Council, hereby convoke the Thirty-Ninth Ordinary General Synaxis of our Congregation.

The first session of the Synaxis shall commence on 15 March 2026 at the CMI Prior General's House, Chavara Hills, Kakkanad. All participants are requested to be present at the Prior General's House no later than 05:00 p.m. on 15 March 2026. The first session of the Synaxis is scheduled to conclude at 12.30 p.m. on 21 March 2026.

The celebration of an Ordinary General Synaxis is a significant moment in the life of the Congregation. Its purpose is to safeguard the patrimony of the Congregation, to foster its ongoing progress and renewal in fidelity to its charism and mission and in response to the needs of the times, to deliberate on matters of major importance, to promulgate appropriate decrees, and to elect the Prior General, the General Council, and the General Auditor.

In preparation for this important event, I request all members to reread the relevant sections of the Constitutions and the Directory concerning the conduct of the General Synaxis. I particularly exhort the Synaxis delegates to undertake their participation with seriousness and prayerful responsibility, presenting the observations and proposals which, before the Lord, they discern as necessary for the wellbeing of the Congregation.

I invite all to regard this time as a moment of grace, helping us to look with faith and zeal upon the path God sets before us, and to journey forward in unity with all who share in our mission.

The following members are designated as the delegates of the thirty-nine General Synaxis:

A. Ex-Officio Members

1. Fr Thomas Chathamparampil CMI (Prior General)
2. Fr Josey Thamarassery CMI (Vicar General & General Councillor for Evangelization and Pastoral Ministry)
3. Fr Martin Mallathu CMI (General Councillor for Education and Communication Media)
4. Fr Biju Vadakkal CMI (General Councillor for Social Apostolate and Healthcare)
5. Fr Paulson Paliakkara CMI (General Councillor for Finance and Agriculture)



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6. Fr Babu Mattathil CMI (General Auditor)
7. Fr Antony Elamthottam CMI (Provincial, St Joseph's Province, Thiruvananthapuram)
8. Fr Abraham Vettiyankal CMI (Provincial, St Joseph Province, Kottayam)
9. Fr Mathew Manjakunnel CMI (Provincial, Carmel Province, Muvattupuzha)
10. Fr Benny Nalkara CMI (Provincial, Sacred Heart Province, Kochi)
11. Fr Jose Nandhikkara CMI (Provincial, Devamatha Province, Thrissur)
12. Fr Biju John Vellakada CMI (Provincial, St Thomas Province, Kozhikode)
13. Fr Saju Chackalackal CMI (Provincial, Preshitha Province, Coimbatore)
14. Fr Augustine Paimpallil CMI (Provincial, St Paul Province, Mysuru)
15. Fr Pious Alex Pariyarathukunnel CMI (Provincial, Mary Matha Vice Province, Hyderabad)
16. Fr Paul Valiyaparambil CMI (Provincial, Mar Thoma Province, Chanda)
17. Fr Santhosh Kotheril CMI (Provincial, Nirmal Province, Jagdalpur)
18. Fr Cyril Joseph Kuttiyanikkal CMI (Provincial, St Paul Province, Bhopal)
19. Fr Binoy Elavunkal CMI (Provincial, St Xavier's Province, Rajkot)
20. Fr Davis Varayilan CMI (Provincial, St John's Province, Bijnor)
21. Fr Joseph Kallampallil CMI (Provincial, St Chavara Vice Province, Bhavnagar)

B. Members Elected from the Provinces

1. Thiruvananthapuram

22. Fr Jose Chennattussery CMI
23. Fr Tomy Kattampally CMI
24. Fr Justin Alukkal CMI
25. Fr Antony Edanad CMI
26. Fr Jose D. Poovattil CMI
27. Fr Sebastian Attichira CMI
28. Fr Sebastian Chamathara CMI

2. Kottayam

29. Fr Jose Panthaplamthottiyil CMI
30. Fr George Edayadiyil CMI
31. Fr Jais Vayalikkunnel CMI
32. Fr Sebastian Elanjickal CMI
33. Fr Joy Philip Kakkanattu CMI
34. Fr Augustine Kochuvelikkakath CMI
35. Fr Santhosh Mathenkunnel CMI

3. Muvattupuzha

36. Fr Tomy Nambiaparambil CMI
37. Fr Martin Koottaplackal CMI
38. Fr Pratheesh Pulickal CMI
39. Fr Jeff Shawn Kaippettiyil CMI
40. Fr Sijan Unnukallel CMI

4. Kochi

41. Fr Johnson Vazhappilly CMI
42. Fr Roy Palatty CMI
43. Fr Mejo Gracevilla CMI
44. Fr Jose Kuriedath CMI
45. Fr Sebastian Edathikavil CMI
46. Fr Varghese Panthallokkaran CMI

5. Thrissur

47. Fr Paul Achandy CMI
48. Fr Julius Arakkal CMI
49. Fr Lijo Brahmakulam CMI
50. Fr Walter Thelappilly CMI
51. Fr Francis Kurissery CMI
52. Fr Davis Panadan CMI
53. Fr Joice Elavathingal CMI
54. Fr Davy Kavungal CMI

6. Kozhikode

55. Fr Francis Thonipara CMI
56. Fr Thomas Thekkel CMI
57. Fr Anto Nellamkuzhiyil CMI
58. Fr Thomas Vattakkatt CMI
59. Fr Sebastian Mullooparambil CMI



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7. Coimbatore

- 60. Fr Johnson Valiyakulathil CMI
- 61. Fr Anson Panengaden CMI
- 62. Fr Prathap Thuruthumali CMI
- 63. Fr Wilson Chakkyath CMI

8. Mysuru

- 64. Fr Varghese Kelamparampil CMI
- 65. Fr Joby Kunnath CMI
- 66. Fr Jinto Inchikalayil CMI
- 67. Fr Varghese Koluthara CMI

9. Hyderabad

- 68. Fr Sebastian Puthenparambil CMI
- 69. Fr Joshy Pazhukkathara CMI

10. Chanda

- 70. Fr Benny Mukalel CMI
- 71. Fr Binoy Checkonthayil CMI
- 72. Fr Meljo Parappuram CMI

11. Jagdalpur

- 73. Fr Sebastian Alackapally CMI
- 74. Fr Tom Arackal CMI

75. Fr Jenish Kollithadathil CMI

76. Fr Alexander Maramattam CMI

12. Bhopal

- 77. Fr Kurian Kachappilly CMI
- 78. Fr Anto Kanjirathinkal CMI
- 79. Fr Abish Perumbully CMI
- 80. Fr Jacob Peenickaparambil CMI

13. Rajkot

- 81. Fr Francis Ozhakal CMI
- 82. Fr James Thayil CMI
- 83. Fr Saji Koodakattu CMI

14. Bijnor

- 84. Fr Varghese Vithayathil CMI
- 85. Fr Benny Thettayil CMI
- 86. Fr Joseph Ponmany CMI
- 87. Fr Sebeesh Vettiyadan CMI

15. Bhavnagar

- 88. Fr Jacob Marangattu CMI
- 89. Fr Francis Aykaraparampil CMI

C. Representative of the Brothers (Nominated by the General Council)

- 90. Bro. Joseph Muttanolil CMI

D. Special Invitee without Voting

- 91. Fr Shaji Kochuthara CMI (Procurator General, Rome)

E. Nominated Delegates from the Missions Abroad without Voting (Nominated by the General Council)

- 92. Fr George Vadakinezhath CMI (Delegation Superior, Germany)
- 93. Fr Johny Thachuparambil CMI (Coordinator, African Mission)

Important Points to Remember

1. The General Synaxis is the highest authority in the Congregation (C 170). I request you, once again, to continue the prayers for the successful celebration and conclusion of the Synaxis. In accordance with D 191a, I ask all our houses, especially in our formation houses to **observe Friday, 19 March 2026, as a Day of Prayer for the fruitful celebration of the Synaxis.**
2. All the Synaxis delegates are requested to study the Working Paper (*Instrumentum Laboris*) of the General Synaxis and come prepared with their responses, suggestions and proposals.



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3. Your petitions to the General Synaxis, including the responses to the Working Paper, should reach the CMI Prior General's House, Chavara Hills, Kakkanad, Kochi 682030 Kerala, on or before 06 March 2026.
4. All the delegates of the General Synaxis are requested to reach the CMI Prior General's House, Chavara Hills, at 04.00 pm., Sunday, 15 March 2026. The first session of the Synaxis commences with concelebrated Divine Liturgy.
5. The delegates should, at the beginning of the session, present the patents issued by the Prior General, the president of the General Synaxis.
6. The delegates are expected to wear CMI religious habit during the inaugural session, Divine Liturgy, and the election session of the Prior General.
7. The delegates are requested to go through the Norms and Procedure of the General Synaxis, approved by the General Council, especially the duties of the members.
8. Members of Synaxis shall participate not only in all the business sessions, but also in the community spiritual exercises so that the Synaxis may be experienced as a real celebration of the congregation's fellowship, unity, and charism. The delegates shall not be absent from any of the sessions without the explicit permission of Fr Prior General.

Let us offer our heartfelt thanksgiving to the Almighty for the innumerable graces bestowed upon us during the past six years. I wish to place on record my sincere gratitude to each one of you, the members of our Congregation, and in a special way to the General Councillors, the General Auditor, and all the Provincials with their Councillors, for the generous cooperation and steadfast support you have extended to me and to the General Council.

The fruitfulness of the forthcoming General Synaxis depends above all on the light and guidance of the Holy Spirit. I therefore earnestly request all our confreres to pray that every delegate of the Synaxis may remain open and docile to the inspirations of the Spirit. As we approach the sacred season of Lent, all are encouraged to support the work of the Synaxis by offering their Holy Masses, prayers, sacrifices, and good works for this intention.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Mother of Carmel, of Saint Joseph, Patron of our Congregation, of Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara and our Holy Founders, may Almighty God graciously grant that this Ordinary General Synaxis be abundantly fruitful and effective.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

Fr Thomas Chathamparampil CMI
Prior General



Fr Martin Mallathu CMI
Secretary, General Council