

First year Pre-Novitiate

### DIFFERENT STAGES OF FORMATION



Second year Pre-Novitiate



Period of Novitiate



Juniorate period



The Stage of Perpetually Professed (Ongoing Formation)

### BETHANY TODAY



The Bethany Sisters' Congregation established in 1925 and was raised to the Pontifical status in 1956 has now completed 95 years. As a part of the growth of the Congregation, five provinces at Thiruvananthapuram, Thiruvalla, Bathery, Pathanamthitta and Moovattupuzha are established. Now Bethany has about 1000 members including trainees. As in four continents the sisters stay in 156 places, serving and giving leadership to missionary activities. By prayer life and missionary activities, the sisters work and try for the glory of God and prosperity of mankind and thereby fulfil the aim of God's special call for them.

#### Prayer For Vocation

God, I am Yours. I dedicate myself to fulfil your will. Loving Father, I desire to love you with my whole heart, whole mind and all my strength. I offer all my talents and abilities for your glory and sanctity of souls. I desire to work for you and thereby win so many souls. Lord, call me also to your vineyard. Bless me to live and glorify You Lord with the life you have graciously granted me in your bountiful love. **'Union with God is more sublime than service of God' (Mar Ivanios)**

Welcome to girls who have the good will to join the Bethany Sisters Congregation and serve. Girls who have passed Std. Ten and those with higher qualifications may apply.

#### Vocation Promoter, Bethany Sisters' Provincialate

Nalanchira, Trivandrum 695 015  
Tel. 0471 2533243, 8547681239, 8289817845. Email. bethanytm25@gmail.com



### CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF THE IMITATION OF CHRIST

The Congregation of the sisters of the Imitation of Christ is the first religious congregation for women bearing the true stamp of Indian culture and Eastern religious tradition.

"I have called you by name, you are mine". (Is.43.1)



## BETHANY IN THE HOLY BIBLE

Bethany in the Holy Bible is a village where the house of Lazarus, Mary and Martha was situated. Mary is the symbol of prayer life; Martha is that of service and Lazarus who was the dear friend of Jesus is the fervent testimony of resurrection. Bethany Convent is the house of religious sisters who inspired by the deep love for God lead a life of prayer, hard work and witness of the Gospel and thereby possess God.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF BETHANY

When the great saintly sage His Grace Mar Ivanios was in the Jacobite Church, he established the Congregation of the Sisters of the Imitation of Christ for the spiritual renewal of his church. With this intention in 1915 he selected some girls and sent them for training to the Oxford Missionary Sisters of Epiphany (OMSE) at Barisal and some others to Calcutta where the Epiphany Sisters were running Colleges and schools.

From 1920 the training continued at Thirumoolapuram under the guidance of the Epiphany Sisters, Mother Edith and Sister Helen. On 21<sup>st</sup> September 1925, the feast day of our Blessed Mother Mary's Birthday (Julian Calendar) three among the first members of Bethany took vows and dedicated themselves to God. Now we observe September 8 (Gregorian Calendar) as the day of the foundation of the Congregation.



## THE CHARISM OF BETHANY

The charism of Bethany is the imitation of Jesus Christ, realised through participating in the redemptive mission of the Triune God and to strive for the spiritual renewal of the Malankara Church for the evangelisation of India and for the empowerment of women. The members try to imitate Jesus closely in his life of prayer and exemplary active public life. This charism is realised by leading a life of total renunciation, simplicity and humility the characteristics of Indian religious life.

## THE LIFE-SYLE OF BETHANY SISTERS

Imitating our Lord Jesus Christ and the saints of Bethany \*Prayer life filled with the love of God \*Energetic life of service \*Joyful sharing of the Biblical life experience \*Peaceful community life based on God's love. \*A life style of hard work, self-discipline and self-control \* A life filled with simplicity, humility and happiness \*A life dedicating oneself perfectly through the vows of Obedience, Chastity and Poverty, the evangelical counsels.



## APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES OF BETHANY

- Spiritual renovation of the Malankara church.
- Catechetical training
- Re-union of the non-Catholics
- Proclamation of faith among non-Christians
- Women's welfare
- Education
- Caring the sick
- Charitable activities
- Family Apostolate
- Social welfare activities
- Evangelic activities through media

