

**INVITATION**

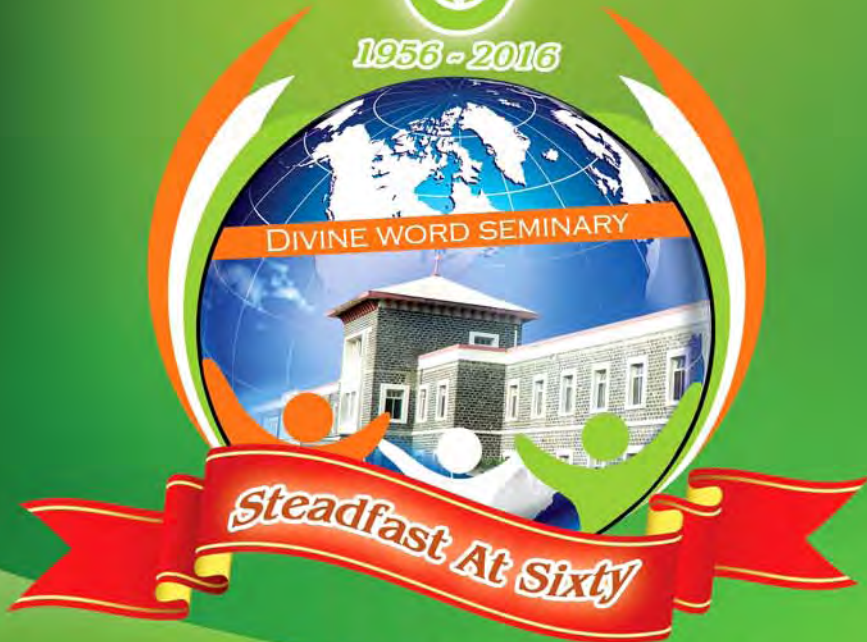
# **Divine Word Seminary**

## **Diamond Jubilee Commemoration**

**28 - 29 October, 2017**



**1956 - 2016**



**Sainikwadi, Off Nagar Road  
Pune - 411 014**

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# **PROGRAMME**

**October 28, Saturday**

- 6.30 am:** *Inaugural Eucharist (DWS Chapel)*  
*Chief Celebrant: Most Rev. John Barwa, SVD*  
*(Archbishop of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar)*  
*Homilist: Fr. Richard Mathias, SVD*  
*(Provincial Superior, India Mumbai Province)*
- 8.45 am:** *Inauguration of the Symposium "FORMATION FOR MISSION" (Zeitler Hall, Ishvani Kendra)*  
*(Prayer service, lighting of the lamp)*
- 9.00 am:** *Key Note Address : "Formation for Intercultural Mission of Prophetic Dialogue"*  
*Dr. Mark Weber, SVD (Generalate Secretary for Formation and Education)*
- 10-10.20 am:** *Coffee Break*
- 11.20 am:** *"Towards an Integral Understanding of Christian Mission Today and the Challenges for Formation It Presents"*  
*Dr. Jacob Kavunkal, SVD*  
*(Head of the Department of Theology, Mission and Ministry, Yarra Theological Union, Melbourne, Australia)*
- 11.20 am:** *Health Break*
- 11.30 am:** *"Psycho-spiritual Frontiers of Religious Missionary Formation"*  
*Dr. Anthony Menezes, SVD*  
*(Director, Ishvani Kendra, Pune)*







**12.30 pm :** *Health Break*

**12.35 pm :** *Response to the Exchanges on the Floor of the Symposium*  
*Most Rev. Thomas Dabre*  
*(Bishop of the Diocese of Poona)*

**1.00 pm :** *Lunch*

**3.30 pm :** *Get-together of DWS Alumni*

**6.00 pm :** *Cultural Evening*  
*(St. Arnold's Central School Auditorium)*

**October 29, Sunday**

**10.30 am :** *Solemn Jubilee Eucharist*  
*(DWS Chapel)*  
*Chief Celebrant: Most Rev. Leo Cornelio, SVD*  
*(Archbishop of Bhopal)*

*Homilist:*  
*Most Rev. Chacko Thottumarickal, SVD*  
*(Bishop of Indore)*

**12 noon :** *Felicitation Function*  
*(DWS Lawn)*

**1.00 pm :** *Fellowship Meal*





## *A Look Back...*

The beginning of Divine Word Seminary as an SVD scholasticate can be traced back to the arrival in Pune of the first three batches of formandi along with their two formators on June 4, 1956. Although the Society had already by then acquired a plot of land within the sprawling campus of De Nobili College/ Papal Seminary, the construction work had not yet been launched. In fact, the foundation stone was blessed on June 18, 1956. In the meantime the scholastics and their formators had to find accommodation in the already existing religious communities of the campus: Papal Seminary and Fransalian Seminary in the first year, with De Nobili College added to that list in the following year. Building work got into full swing under the supervision of Bros. Damasus Pley and Methodius John Paschke and by mid-1957 part of the main block was ready for occupation. The blessing of the completed main block took place on February 2, 1958. The commencement of the formation programme is often referred to as the starting point of the Seminary and therefore the significant milestone of reaching sixty years of its existence was in 2016.

Then again, the Seminary as an institution came into being with the blessing of its physical structure in 1958. When we thought of marking the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee with a modest celebration, we opted for a date in between the two landmark events.

Over 700 missionaries, consisting of both priests and brothers, have had their formation in Divine Word Seminary during the course of its 60 years of existence. Most of them are at present actively involved in evangelizing activities in various parts of the world. Some have gone to their eternal reward. A large number of men who lived under its roof, after going through a process of discernment accompanied by prayerful reflection, have over the years opted for family life and left the religious vocation. In all, this magnificent formation house has been home to over 1, 100 men from the time of its inception until today. Undoubtedly their lives have been graced by the experience of living here.

On this landmark occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of the founding of Divine Word Seminary, we raise our hearts and minds to God, the benevolent provider, for all the innumerable blessings showered on us through the years. We bow in gratitude to the long line of formators and staff members who have enriched its history through their contributions. The many generations of scholastics who have passed through its stately portals are fondly remembered. The contributions of our countless benefactors, who have nourished us spiritually and physically through their many sacrifices, are gratefully acknowledged.