



PROVINCE APOSTOLIC PLANNING

2023 – 2029

Sri Lanka Province of The Society of Jesus

MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

It is with great joy that I present to you the Province Apostolic Planning (PAP) for the years 2023-2029, and I envisage that the province take shape in alignment with the Universal Apostolic Planning (UAP).

Shaping the province is undoubtedly a challenging task. It calls for courage, determination, and the strategic placement of individuals, as well as necessary adjustments in personnel and resources wherever needed.

What lies before me today is the 6 Year Action Plan for the Province. However, the success of the PAP relies on how deeply we Jesuits internalize it, making it an integral part of our own life missions. It is vital that we collaborate with our fellow Jesuits and apostolates, faithfully adhering to, promoting, and continually improving the plan.

Therefore, I must emphasize the intention of Fr. General in promoting the UAPs within our Life-Missions: they are not standalone apostolates, but rather integral components of every Jesuit's involvement in each and every apostolate.

Together, let us embrace this journey of implementing the PAP, infusing our actions with the spirit of the UAPs. By doing so, we can effectively contribute to the mission of the Society and witness the transformative impact it brings

Rev. Fr. Angelo Sujeewa Pathirana SJ

Provincial

Sri Lanka Province

INTRODUCTION

In his letter, addressed to the whole Society on 19th of February, 2019, Fr. Arturo Sosa, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus, promulgated the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) of the Society, the preferences which were accepted by the Holy Father Pope Francis through His letter to Fr. General dated 6th of February 2019.

These UAPs of the Society came into being while the Sri Lanka Province of the Society of Jesus was attending to the REGAE process like many of the other Provinces in the South Asian Assistency (JCSA). With the UAPs coming into the picture, each province was expected to come up with its unique Province Apostolic Planning (PAP) which would ideally be in line with the introduced UAPs of the Society.

During the Province Days 2019, held at Manresa, Batticaloa from 13th to 14th December, the congregation re-elected a new Team for the Province Apostolic Planning (PAP): Frs. Benedict Savarimuthu SJ, Rashmi Fernando SJ, Thushara Sampath SJ, and later, at the request of the PAP Team, Fr. Provincial added Fr. Noel Ajanthan SJ as the representative of the Pakistan Mission for the PAP.

As a preliminary measure of orienting the entire Province towards understanding the length, breadth and depth of the UAPs, all superiors and directors of works gathered at Fatima Retreat House (FRH), Lewella, Kandy on 8th and 9th March, 2020 for a two-day workshop on 'Spiritual Conversation and UAPs' under the guidance and expertise of Fr. George Pattery, SJ, the former Provincial of South Asia (POSA).

The PAP Team, having met several times since then and studied several relevant past documents of the province, such as Province Discernment Document (2009), the Province Visioning Committee Report (2012), and the Province Planning (2014), and having received SWOT analysis of various Commissions and Apostolic Teams of the Province, the PAP Document with a clear time-frame was produced as the road map to PAP keeping in mind the deadlines to meet sooner or later in 2021. In his recent letter dated 16th September 2020, Fr. General himself had emphasized the need to hasten the Sri Lanka Province Apostolic Planning in the light of the UAPs. The PAP submitted to the General Curia in the year 2022 was found to be general, hence, was asked to re-work the PAPs in line with an action-oriented mission.

In reply to Fr. General's request, action-oriented plan was presented to the communities for discussions and feedback on the 20th of February 2023 and subsequently to the various commissions of the province. The following is the province apostolic planning in detail for the years 2023-2030.

VISION

A renewed and reconciled province with a strong spiritual identity where Jesuits are able to live and work as a body, in collaboration with others according to our way of proceeding.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide compassionate pastoral and spiritual care, facilitate quality education, empower youth with value-based employability skills, and extend our support to marginalized and underprivileged communities through peaceful and reconciliatory interventions.

UNIVERSAL APOSTOLIC PREFERENCE

"The Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAP)... have been above all the Society's response to the needs of the Church.... Thus, apostolic preferences create for us the tension of seeking the most universal good as the ultimate goal of the numerous apostolic activities the Society carries out... The UAPs are points of reference for the whole Society, that inspire its discernment in common and its apostolic planning at all levels of our life-mission" (Letter of Fr. General Arturo Sosa, February 19, 2019).

- A. Showing the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and their practice of discernment.
- B. Walking with the poor, the outcasts of the world, and those whose dignity has been violated, in the mission of reconciliation and justice.
- C. Walking together with young people, to build a hope-filled future.
- D. Working together to care for the earth, our common home.

PROVINCE APOSTOLIC PLANNING

Community Life	
Goal	“The Jesuit community is a concrete space in which we live as friends [Companions] in the Lord. This life together is always at the service of mission, but because these fraternal bonds proclaim the Gospel, it is itself a mission” (GC36, D.1, No.9).
MEASURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Create a sense of community by strengthening community based local governance. b) Create a welcoming environment that encourages openness, acceptance, and belonging. c) Fostering spiritual growth and dialogue, engaging in service to others in companionship, and pursuing intellectual excellence.
Performance indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Create a sense of community by strengthening community based local governance. B. Create a welcoming environment that encourages openness, acceptance, and belonging. C. Fostering spiritual growth and dialogue, engaging in service to others in companionship, and pursuing intellectual excellence.

Action Plan	How? [Methods / Procedure People’s Involvement]	Who? Responsible Person/Groups	Resources / Ministries /Institutions	When? / Time Frame
Community Based Governance	<p>Restructuring the Province District System into Community System: Adampan, Batticaloa, Colombo, CYTC, Galle, Kandy, Kurunagala, Negombo, Trincomalee - Respective superiors would be appointed.</p> <p>Deepen our spiritual life: Make time for daily prayer, attend Mass regularly, monthly /quarterly recollection and participate in spiritual retreats or other</p>	Frs. Angelo Sujeewa Pathirana SJ, Christian Perera SJ, Thurairasa Sahayanathan SJ, Sivarajah Ahilarajah SJ and Emil Lucien SJ	<p>Existing Policies and Jesuit Sources.</p> <p>Invited Resource Persons.</p> <p>Province Consultant: Fr. Edward Mudavassery SJ</p>	<p>First Year 2024</p> <p>Forming Communities.</p> <p>Developing Community Apostolic Planning.</p> <p>Publishing the apostolic plan/Policies of Commission/Our way of Proceeding</p> <p>Seminar and Workshop for Directors and Superiors</p> <p>Seminar and Workshop for Finance commissions and appointment of Land Committee</p> <p>Regular Common Retreat Twice a Year.</p>

	<p>forms of spiritual formation. Giving more attention to one's personal prayer life, giving more preference to our way of life in the Society over our own way of doing things.</p> <p>Build strong relationships: Connect with others who share our values and interests, especially those who can support and challenge us in our spiritual and intellectual growth.</p> <p>Live a simple and responsible life: Embrace a lifestyle of simplicity and humility, hospitality, avoiding excess and extravagance. Make sure to safeguard the dignity and respect for all. Take care of the environment and practice responsible stewardship of resources.</p> <p>Serve others with compassion: Look for opportunities to serve others in our community, especially the poor, the marginalized, and the vulnerable.</p>			<p>Identify Spiritual Directors to accompany our young</p> <p>Second and Third Year 2025-2026:</p> <p>Training for the Directors of works and the Superiors.</p> <p>Ignatian Theme based Seminars and Workshops.</p> <p>Forming a core team for the evaluation and reporting (Maximum of Three members from outside of the SJ) Evaluation will be conducted in the 1st, 3rd and 5th year.</p> <p>Regular Common Retreat Twice a Year/Day of Reflections</p> <p>Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Year 2027-2029:</p> <p>Evaluation and New Action Goal Setting</p>
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Maintain a spirit of discernment: Regularly examine our life and choices, seeking to discern God's will for us. Seek guidance from spiritual directors or mentors who can help us discern and discern well.

Training for the Directors of works and the Superiors and Regular Superiors' Forum.

Pursue intellectual excellence: Study and read widely, especially in the areas of philosophy, theology, and the humanities. Pursue academic or professional training that can help you serve others better.

Develop Community Apostolic Planning (CAP) Publishing the apostolic plan/Policies of Commission and on our way of Proceeding.

The Community accounts must be displayed on the board or discussed in the community meetings/Regular community/villa organized.

SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL	
Goal	"To show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and Discernment" and through Pastoral Engagement (Letter of Fr. General Arturo Sosa, February 19, 2019).
Measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continued engagement with Ignatian Spirituality, Society and Culture; through our spiritual and pastoral apostolate. B. Building networks among Jesuits and laypeople for mutual support and collaboration. C. Regular training programs in Ignatian Spirituality and Pastoral leadership.
Performance indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Province Spiritual/Pastoral Team re-visioned as to provide a way forward as a unified whole so that the hallmark characteristics of our Jesuit life-mission could be like-manneredly felt by all peoples in our parishes irrespective of the language they speak or the culture they represent. 2. Our retreat centers (FRH & Manresa) are reorganized, redesigned so that many people from different walks and stages of life could be benefitted. 3. Two retreat centres become collaborative ventures with different religious and lay groups, but with the ensured Jesuit charism and spirituality. 4. Regular training programs in Ignatian Spirituality and Pastoral leadership are offered both for religious and lay groups.

What? / Activities [What has to be done?]	How? [Methods / Procedure People's Involvement]	Who? Responsible Person/Groups	Resources / Ministries /Institutions	When? / Time Frame
Promoting Ignatian Spirituality:	Retreat Preached in all three languages Directed Retreats Discernment Retreats 19th Annotation	Frs. Ahilarajah Sivarajah, Jeyaraj Rasiah, Kamal Andradi, Thangarasa Jeevaraj.	Places: Manresa, FRH. JYC-A50, Sunset B-Trinco, JR-Galle, Finance: Local, Fee Collection and Subsidy from the Province	First Year 2024 Evaluation of the Existing Retreat Ministries Forming a core team for the evaluation and reporting (Maximum of Three members from outside of the SJ) Evaluation needs to conducted in the 1st, 3rd and 5th year.

	<p>Apostleship of Prayer (PWPN)</p> <p>Training of the Trainers</p> <p>Seminars and Workshops</p> <p>Youth Camps Renewal Programmes for religious and others</p> <p>Training of Jesuits on Ignatian Spirituality (3 in Number)/ Newly ordained priests have to be encouraged to preach at least one retreat per year and get a taste of the retreat ministry.</p> <p>Regular training programs in Ignatian Spirituality and Pastoral leadership need to be offered both for religious and lay groups.</p> <p>The Jesuit communication and media apostolate can facilitate the faith-based sharing on</p>			<p>Newly ordained priests have to be encouraged to preach at least one retreat per year and get a taste of the retreat ministry.</p> <p>Second and Third Year 2025-2026: Preached in all three languages (3 Every Year)</p> <p>Directed Retreat (7 Every Year)</p> <p>Discernment Retreats</p> <p>19th Annotation (100 persons)</p> <p>Training of the lay and religious trainers to give retreats based on Ignatian SP (20 persons).</p> <p>Seminars and Workshops (50)</p> <p>Youth Camps (30)</p> <p>Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Year 2027-2029:</p> <p>Evaluation and New Action Goal Setting</p> <p>Training of the Two Jesuits on Ignatian Spirituality/PWPN</p> <p>The Jesuit communication and media apostolate can facilitate the faith-based sharing on YouTube, Facebook, and what's app.</p>
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	YouTube, Facebook, and what's app.			
Vibrant Pastoral Engagement:	<p>Organizing psycho-social and counseling programmes for peace and Reconciliation</p> <p>Updated information on the Jesuits parishes with their sacramental, socio-political, religious, cultural and economic background and the current activities and involvements.</p> <p>Inter-Parish Programmes: Peace making and reconciliation Leadership and Career guidance Inter-ethnic exposure to families and youth Creating spaces for Socializing around Sunday Liturgy.</p> <p>Forming Catechetical Teachers</p> <p>Strengthening Basic Ecclesial Communities /CLCs</p>	Frs. Gabriel Alfreds, Thevarasa Sebastian, Aniston Morais, Lawrence Loganathan, Chryso Pieris.	St. Anne's parish, Maliboda, St. Ignatius parish, Batticaoa, St. Sebastian's parish, Batticaloa, Our Lady of Velankanni parish, Andankulam, St. Mary's parish, Wellaway, St. Lawrence's parish, Padinawala..	<p>First Year 2024</p> <p>Evaluation of the Existing Retreat Ministries Forming a core team for the evaluation and reporting (Maximum of Three members from outside of the SJ) Evaluation needs to be conducted in the 1st, 3rd and 5th year</p> <p>Updated information on the Jesuits parishes with their sacramental, socio-political, religious, cultural and economic background and the current activities and involvements Responsibility.</p> <p>Second and Third Year 2025-2026:</p> <p>Organizing psycho-social and counseling programmes for peace and Reconciliation (All Parishes 500 Families)</p> <p>Inter-Parish Programmes:</p> <p>Peace making and reconciliation (2 programmes in every parish for first two years) Leadership and Career guidance (7)</p> <p>Inter-ethnic exposure to families/youth (7)</p> <p>Creating spaces for Socializing around Sunday Liturgy (in all parishes and once a year pastoral activities).</p> <p>Forming Catechetical Teachers</p>

				<p>Exposure to pastoral oriented training under our own Jesuit parish structures.</p> <p>Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Year 2027-2029: Evaluation and New Action Goal Setting</p>
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SOCIAL JUSTICE & ECOLOGY	
Goal	"Walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice" (UAP NO.3, Letter of Fr. General Arturo Sosa, February 19, 2019).
Measures	<p>a) Justice and Ecology: The Jesuit Social Apostolate is being strengthened to include justice and ecology.</p> <p>b) Advocacy and Research: Policy proposals developed, the number of advocacy campaigns run, the number of government officials and organizations engaged. Research metrics include quality and impact on policy and practice.</p> <p>c) Service and Sustainability: Number of environmental protection programs implemented, the number of communities involved, the number of resources conserved, and the success of these programs in promoting long-term environmental sustainability.</p>
Performance indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Social Centres are restructured by prioritizing the demands and the needs of the time. 2. Identified Jesuits are trained both academically and experientially during formative years. 3. Loyola Centre for Ecology and Justice (LCEJ) as the centralized authority for introducing, directing, monitoring and evaluating the social and ecology-based ventures of the Province.

What? / Activities [What has to be done?]	How? [Methods / Procedure People's Involvement]	Who? Responsible Person/Groups	Resources Ministries /Institutions	When? / Time Frame
Justice and Research: Strengthening the Jesuit Social Apostolate to include Justice	To establish one of the social centres of the province, preferably LCEJ, as the coordinating centre for all the Jesuit social centres of the province. Centre for Social Concern (Hatton) is established with permanent structure and	Fr. Savarimuthu Benedict, Fr. Alexis Premkumar, Fr. Chryso Pieris, Fr. Ranjan Jayamanne	Loyola Centre of Ecology and Justice (LCEJ), Satyodaya, CSC, Shanthi, JSCG, JRSS, St. Peter	First Year 2024 Establishing a coordinating centre for Social Justice and Ecology Centre Centre for Social Concern (Hatton) is established with permanent structure.

<p>and Ecology dimension.</p>	<p>place to work on awareness generation and suitable programs to make it sustainable.</p> <p>The resources of the Satyodaya utilized for to become a primary centre for research, advocacy and networking to serve the needs of the plantation community.</p> <p>Identified Jesuits are trained both academically and experientially during formative years.</p> <p>Existing Pre-Schools, Special needs educational centres, Complementary education programmes are strengthened in terms of resources [Rainbow kids' campus, Shanthi (SCAM), JRSS, St. Peter Claver and Jesuit Social Centre – Wellawaya].</p>	<p>and Fr. Anton Robert.</p>	<p>Clever and Rainbow kid's campus.</p>	<p>Satyodaya utilized for to become a primary centre for research, advocacy and networking.</p> <p>Special needs educational centres, Complementary education programmes are strengthened in terms of resources Implementation of the MAGIS Programme: Integral Social Action Project Second and Third Year 2025-2026:</p> <p>Empowering women Programmes (30).</p> <p>Legal Aid and Justice Programmes (30) aim to provide redress and healing to victims of conflict-related violence.</p> <p>Biodiversity conservation: Sri Lanka is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, some of which are endangered or threatened. They engage in research, monitoring and education programs aimed at protecting biodiversity.</p> <p>Sustainable agriculture: Agriculture is a significant sector in Sri Lanka, and promoting sustainable practices can have a positive impact on the environment and rural communities.</p> <p>Empower widows and single mothers in Sri Lanka. They provide education, vocational training, and employment opportunities to</p>
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				<p>help these women become financially independent.</p> <p>Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Year 2027-2029:</p> <p>The Social Centres are strengthened to become social justice and ecology centres which includes greater dimension of life.</p> <p>Advocacy and Research: Policy proposals developed, the number (30) of advocacy campaigns run, the number of government officials and organizations engaged (1000 Persons). Research metrics include quality and impact on policy and practice.</p>
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Education and Youth	
Goal	To form young people who are intellectually competent, open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice in the world. Jesuit education seeks to develop the whole person by engaging the mind, body, and spirit in the pursuit of knowledge and understanding.
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Academic Excellence: Measuring student achievement through grades, test scores, and college placement. b) Character Formation: Assessing the development of students' moral and ethical values, compassion, and commitment to social justice. c) Social and Emotional Skills: Assessing the development of students' communication, collaboration, leadership, and problem-solving skills.
Performance indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qualified Staff in all our Primary/Secondary, Tertiary and higher educational institutions. 2. Accreditations/new courses and affiliation and collaboration with other educational institutions both home and abroad 3. Board of Directors established in all our educational institutions.

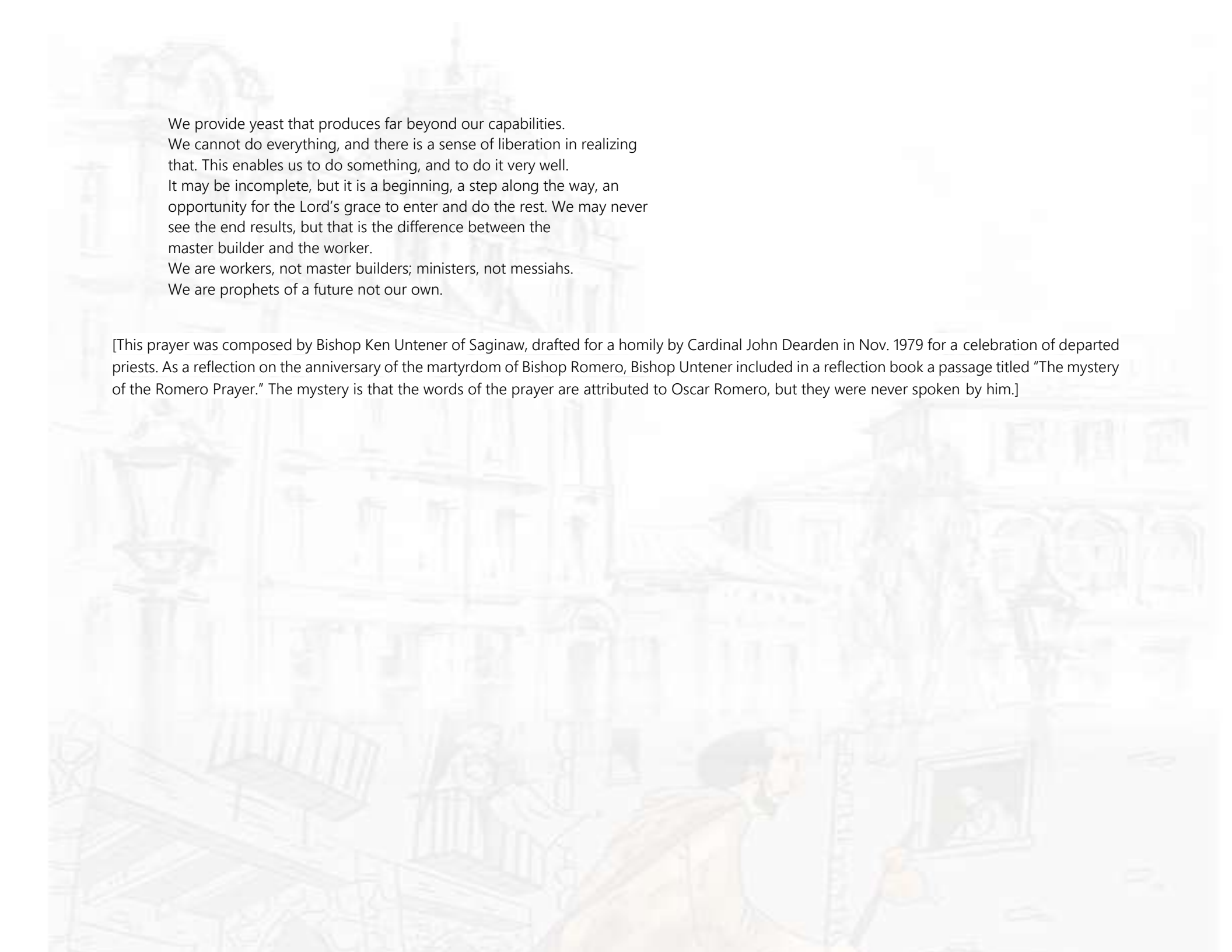
Action Plan	How? [Methods / Procedure People's Involvement]	Who? Responsible Person/Groups	Resources / Ministries /Institutions	When? / Time Frame
Regular Staff Improvement Programs	Teacher Training course /regular workshops and seminars and updates on teaching methodology and pedagogy/ networking with other Jesuit institutions both home and abroad.	Directors of the institutions/ School Principals	Subject experts invited from within the country and from the Jesuit resources abroad. MCHS/Arrupe/CYTC/ETI/JA-Galle/Trincomalee/Batticaloa/LC	April 2023 – April 2029
To explore the possibility of starting a school in Vavuniya as proposed by the 14 th Province Congregation	Search and identification of land, writing of the concept proposal, identification of donors and establishment.	Adampan Community	Jesuit Resources/Funding Organizations	April 2023 – April 2029
Strengthen the programmes of the Jesuit Academies and institutes in the Island	Introducing new programmes/courses/skilled based training, seminars and workshops.	Higher Education Commission	Jesuit Academy-Trincomalee, Jesuit Academy-Galle, CYTC-Nawalapitiya, ETI-Batticaloa, JYC-Negombo, LC, Jesuit resources from other provinces and subject experts and network with other educational institutes.	April 2023 – April 2029
Regularize 'Board of Directors' for all schools in a manner unified to the whole Province and attend to the pending legal requirements regarding registrations, land deeds, tax payments, system of maintaining the accounts, etc. of our schools and educational institutes/centers.	Establishment of boards with experts for all our primary /higher education centers.	Education Commission/ Directors of Work	Jesuits of the Province and subject experts from the education fields.	April 2023 – May 2024

'Tulana' and 'Satyodaya', two centres of the province engaged in research, to be reorganized and strengthened with competent Jesuits	A think tank is formed after due consultation with the directors to study the two research and to form a proposal to revitalize the centres/identification of people/clear research action plan	Higher Education commission	Resources of 'Tulana' and 'Satyodaya' /collaborators/experts	April 2023 – May 2026
Youth Development Programmes conducted	Residential Programmes (Post G.C.E O/L and A/L) organized.	Director of the JYC	JYC	April 2023 - 2029

Conclusion

The Society of Jesus being an apostolic order, the mission lies at the core of it. From its earliest days, discernment has guided the development of governance to better serve and support the Society's mission, the *Missio Dei*. It's a process – it's ongoing. Discernment and planning never stop. As we enter into the process of implementation of PAP for Sri Lanka Province, we need the grace of courage and prophetic audacity and at the same time we need to venture into this process as workers and ministers and not as master-builders and messiahs.

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
 The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.
 We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.
 No statement says all that could be said.
 No prayer fully expresses our faith.
 No confession brings perfection.
 No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
 No program accomplishes the Church's mission.
 No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
 This is what we are about.
 We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
 We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
 We lay foundations that will need further development.



We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.

[This prayer was composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw, drafted for a homily by Cardinal John Dearden in Nov. 1979 for a celebration of departed priests. As a reflection on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Romero, Bishop Untener included in a reflection book a passage titled "The mystery of the Romero Prayer." The mystery is that the words of the prayer are attributed to Oscar Romero, but they were never spoken by him.]