

***An introduction to the
statutes of***

Jesus 
Youth

An International Catholic Lay Movement Approved by the Holy See

The journey of Pontifical Recognition



Meeting at PCL in 2003

A nighttime photograph of the Illinois State Capitol building in Springfield, Illinois. The building is brightly lit, with its large central dome and classical columns clearly visible against a dark blue twilight sky. The street in front of the building is lined with tall, ornate streetlights that cast a warm glow. Several cars are visible on the road, and a few pedestrians can be seen on the sidewalks. The overall scene is a well-lit urban setting at dusk.

not an option but a mandate



- *Presenting Jesus Youth in KCBC on 7th December 2005*
- *Archbishop Cyril Mar Baselios referred us to CBCI*
- *Archbishop Abraham Viruthakulangara of Nagpur gave the first approval for Jesus Youth on 8th April 2007*
- *Archbishop Daniel Acharuparambil approved Jesus Youth on 20th August 2007*



CBCI approval on 26th September 2008

Archbishop Abraham Viruthakulangara
becomes the ecclesiastical advisor



The process of Pontifical Recognition begins in Vatican on 24th August 2009 with the recommendation of 21 Bishops from different parts of the World.



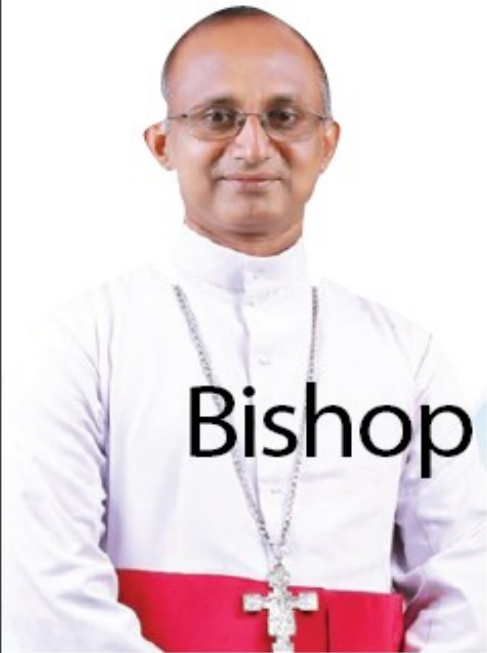
2013 - 2016:
6 submissions



Bishop Alex Vadakumthala



Bishop Mar George Madathikandathil



Pontifical Recognition from the Holy See through the Pontifical Council for the Laity as an **International private association of the faithful with juridical personality** on 15th May 2016









PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM

PRO LAICIS
526/16/S-61/8-136

DECREE

Jesus Youth has its beginnings in Kerala, in the late 1970's, with the formation of youth groups among young people active in Catholic Charismatic Renewal. In 1985, during the International Year of Youth, these groups came together under the name *Jesus Youth*, and over the ensuing years the association spread across India. Following on from the canonical recognition received from Archbishop Abraham Vithakulangara of Nagpur on April 8th 2007 and Archbishop Daniel Acharuparambil of Vengpally on August 20th 2007, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India recognised *Jesus Youth* as a national association of the faithful on October 29th 2008. Today Jesus Youth is active in more than thirty countries and has many members, of all states of life.

Jesus Youth promotes the "joy, vitality and fullness of life discovered in Christ" with a particular attention to the evangelisation of young people and the poor. *Jesus Youth* invites its members to seek holiness and to engage in missionary discipleship in their daily lives and through specific apostolates, rooted in an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that opens members to a personal relationship with Christ and an experience of the Father's love, nourished through personal and community prayer, Holy Scripture, the Sacraments, and fellowship (cf. Statutes, arts. 3, 5, 6 and 12).

The Second Vatican Council gives special attention to the opportuneness of the Christian faithful joining together for the apostolate, in order to better contribute to the life and mission of the Church (VATICAN COUNCIL II, Decree on the apostolate of the laity *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, nos. 18, 19 and 21). Pontifical Magisterium since the Council confirms the role that such associations have in proclaiming the Gospel (SAINT JOHN PAUL II, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Christifideles Laici*, no. 29), and their responsibility in the urgent task of the new evangelisation and in the mission to all nations (BENEDICT XVI, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Verbum Domini*, nos. 94 and 96). Furthermore, recent Magisterium repeats the need for missionary communities of Spirit-filled evangelisers who fearlessly and joyfully announce Christ the Saviour in all times and places, even when it meets with opposition (FRANCIS, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, nos. 259 and 261).



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO LAICIS

Consequently:

Having examined the request presented to the Pontifical Council for the Laity by the then International Coordinator Mr. Mancej Sunny, and furthered by the current International Coordinator Mr. C. C. Joseph;

Taking account of the good reputation of *Jesus Youth* among bishops, and of the fruits of its service to the Church in many countries;

Following a detailed study of the draft statutes, presented to the Dicastery in their final form on April 4th 2016;

In light of article 134 of the Apostolic Constitution *Pastor Bonus* for the Roman Curia and according to canon 322 of the Code of Canon Law;

The Pontifical Council for the Laity decrees:

1. The recognition of *Jesus Youth* as an international private association of the faithful, with juridical personality, in conformity with the canonical norms in force and according to canons 298-311 and 321-329 of the Code of Canon Law.
2. The approval of the *Statutes ad experimentum* for a period of five years, a copy of these statutes having been duly authenticated by this Dicastery and deposited in its archives.

From the Vatican, May 15th 2016, Solemnity of Pentecost.

Dr. Clemens
* Josef Clemens
Secretary



St. Card. Rytko
Stanisław Cardinal Rytko
President

WHAT
DOES IT
MEAN???

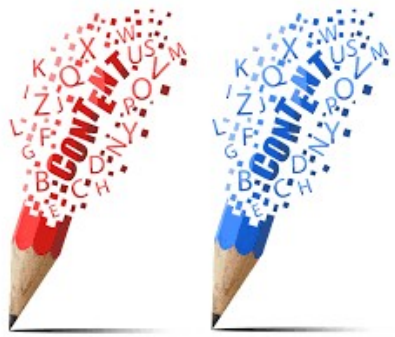
RESPONSIBILITY





What is in it???





Content

I. Nature

II. Purpose

III. Means to achieve the purpose

IV. Spirituality

V. Membership

VI. Clergy and Religious members of the association





Content

- VII. Withdrawal and dismissal of membership**
- VIII. Organizational Structure of the association**
- IX. Governance of the Association**
- X. Administration of property**
- XI. Audit at National and International levels**
- XII. Dissolution of the Association**
- XIII. Amendment of Statutes**



I. Nature





I. Nature

Jesus Youth is an **international private association of the faithful of all states of life** with **juridical personality**, governed by the present statutes in conformity with canons 298-311 and 321-326 of the Code of Canon Law.

The association is governed by its own leaders in accordance with the norms set out in the present statutes, respecting the general law of the Church.

The government, life and apostolate of the association are subject to the supervision of the Holy See through the PCL

Its activities at the diocesan level are subject to the vigilance of the local ordinary

JYS: I. 1-4



II. Purpose of the Movement





The Jesus Youth strives to lead people, **especially the youth to a renewed life in Christ**, assists them in their growth in holiness and prepares them for **the apostolate in communion with the mission of the church.**

JYS: II. 5

II. Purpose of the Movement

The association helps people to have a **personal relationships with Christ** and **experience the love of the Father** and the **fellowship and guidance of the Holy Spirit** in their lives



JYS: II. 6



II. Purpose of the Movement

The association strives to cultivate in its members a **life of missionary discipleship**, urging them to become **joyful witnesses of the Gospel** in the contemporary world

JYS: II. 7

III. Means to achieve the purpose



III. Means to achieve the purpose

Jesus Youth carries out the work of evangelisation by **fostering individual apostolates, facilitating group apostolates and engaging in formal missions and projects**. A Jesus Youth Apostolate begins as the initiative of an individual or a small group. It serves as a platform for individuals to grow together and share Christ using their talents and gifts in a specific context.



III. Means to achieve the purpose

Progress in holiness is ensured through

- a) The observance of the spiritual discipline of the association called the Six Pillars
- b) Participation in fellowship groups like prayer meetings, households and cell groups
- c) Encounter programmes such as contact programmes, retreats, conferences and service oriented outreaches
- d) Formation programmes and accompaniment given by mentors
- e) Evangelising personal encounters and the guidance of priests, religious and mature laity



JYS: III. 9 a-e

III. Means to achieve the purpose

Formation

JYS: III. 10 a-e



IV. Spirituality



IV. Spirituality

The association promotes and practices a spirituality beginning with **a personal and experiential encounter with Jesus Christ through 'Baptism in the Holy Spirit'** which is a personal renewal of Baptism, and the use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in prayer and apostolate

JYS: IV. 11



IV. Spirituality

The members commit themselves to a life of holiness through the practice of the Six Pillars of the association

Prayer, Word of God, Sacraments, Fellowship, Evangelisation and Option for the poor



JYS: IV. 12 a-f

IV. Membership



IV. Membership



There are 3 categories of membership in Jesus Youth:

Regular Member

Associate Member

Honorary Member

JYS: V. 13-17

VIII. Organizational Structure





VIII. Organizational Structure

Jesus Youth in a geographical area come together for fellowship and personal growth in prayer meetings and cell groups. Regular members gather on a regular basis as Jesus Youth Households

- a) Prayer Meetings
- b) Cell Groups
- c) Jesus Youth Households

JYS: VIII. 30-35



VIII. Organizational Structure

Zonal Council
Regional Council
National Council
Chaplain
Animator

JYS: VIII. 30-35

IX. *Governance of the Association*





IX. Governance of the Association

The organs of governance of the association are personal and collegial.

The personal ones are Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator and Finance Coordinator. The collegial ones are the councils and Assemblies.

At each level the association is governed by the council elected by the respective assembly.

All the regular members are the members of the lowest assembly.

IX. Governance of the Association



Assemblies and Councils

International Assembly elects the International Council

National Assembly elects the National Council.

Regional Assembly elects the Regional Council.

Zonal Assembly elects the Zonal Council.

The Council is composed of:

Coordinator

Asst. Coordinator

Other elected members

Chaplain

Animator(s)

Coordinators of FBT, Family and Youth Team

JYS: IX. 36-68

XIII. Amendment of Statutes





IX. Amendment of Statutes

The international Assembly will be the competent authority to make amendments to the Statutes. The International Council will present the amendments of the statutes to International Assembly.

The Statutes shall be amended with two-thirds majority and come into effect on approval by the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

JYS: XIII. 78-79

A person wearing a dark blue or black suit jacket is holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. The sign is centered in the frame and features the word "QUESTIONS?" written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. The person's hands are visible at the bottom corners of the sign, and their fingers are slightly curled. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

QUESTIONS?

