



## The New Superior General of the Society of St Paul

### **Rev. Fr Valdir José de Castro**

Fr Valdir José de Castro was born on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1961, at Santa Barbara d'Oeste (Brazil). He is son of late *Francisco Prereira De Castro* of Portuguese origin and of *Therezinha Zuccolo De Castro* of Italian origin. He has three brothers. He joined the Society of St Paul on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1979, at Sao Paulo and made the First Religious Profession on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1981. He was ordained a priest on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1987.

Having finished his Theological studies and Masters in Philosophy, he did a specialization in *Spirituality* at the Gregorian University, Rome, from 1991 to 1994. In 2000, he pursued the Bachelor's degree in Communication with Journalism as his specialization at the University of Caxias do Sul and his thesis was on *Publicity*. Then, he did his Master's degree at the Faculty of Casper Libero (Sao Paulo) in 2004. From 1988 to 1991, he was In-charge of Students of Philosophy. From 1995 to 2001, he was made Superior of the community of Caxias do Sul; from 1997 to 2000, as Master of Novices; Provincial Councillor from 1996 to 2000 and as Vicar Provincial from 2000 to 2004.

In 1994, at the editorial sector, he was responsible for the section *Youth and Children*, and from 2000 to 2007, he was Director General of the Apostolate. From 2004 to 2007, he was a member of CTIA (International Technical Committee for the Apostolate).

From 2006 to 2010, he was Provincial Superior of Argentina-Cile-Perù Province and then became the President of CIDEP (2008-2011).

In 2011, he re-entered Brazil and became the Vice-Director of FAMCOM (Pauls Faculty of Technology and Communication). On 30<sup>th</sup> July 2012, he was nominated as the Provincial Superior of Brazil and from 2013 he was nominated as the Director of FAMCOM.