

Provincial Circular

FMA PROVINCE OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOLKATA (INC)

**Provincial Office - The Salesian Sisters
10 P.K. Guha Road, Dum Dum
Kolkata 700 028**



Cir/RE/14/09/2016

14 September 2016

Dear Sisters,

I begin my letter recalling to mind the life of our dear Sr. Rose Simon, whose loving memory still lingers on in our mind. On 15th August at 1.15 p.m surrounded by the sisters of the Provincial House, Auxilium Dum Dum in prayer Sr. Rose Simon breathed her last serenely on the day of the Solemnity of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother whom she loved much.



Her love for the young people was unique, leading them to experience God's plan in their lives. Her ex-pupils still remember her as a loving teacher, affectionate principal and caring superior. She had a great love and respect towards superiors and their wish was really God's will for her. To her sisters she was very kind, loving, generous and caring. Everyone felt at home in her company. She also had great reverence and love for priests and the Salesians in particular. She was always a generous and happy person who loved community life and organized various fun loving activities to make the sisters and children happy and contented.

Sr. Rose was a very positive and optimistic person. Even the terminal illness which surprised her all of a sudden in the later years of her life could not deter her from being positive and hopeful that she would overcome it sooner or later. She drew her strength from her close union with Mary. In fact especially during her illness she was constantly found with the beads rolling between her fingers reciting the Holy Rosary, and the Divine Mercy Prayer. The community of Dum Dum where she spent the last months of her illness testifies to her love for the institute, community and prayer life, her sense of appreciation for every gesture of kindness, her joviality and her interest in the apostolic life of the community.

I would like to quote some of her writing, "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now, for I shall not pass this way again", "Jesus I came to serve you alone. Make me realize everything passes and only eternity remains.", "We do not become great by doing things but by doing humble work for Jesus alone!", "Mature religious live by faith and they are always happy." Thank you dear Sr. Rose Simon for your sisterly love, zealous and edifying consecrated life which has enriched our Province. Let us pray that she may receive the crown for a good and faithful servant from the Lord whom she loved much.

Conference of Major superiors of the Salesian family South Asia

The Major Superiors of the Salesian Family met together at Don Bosco Provincial House, Bangalore on 29 - 30 August 2016. There were 29 participants consisting of Rev. Fr. Maria Arokiam Kanaga SDB, the General Councillor for South Asia, Fr. Noel Maddhichetty Salesian Family Delegate for South Asia, Provincials of SDB, FMA, SMI, MSMHC, Superior Generals of SMA, MSMHC, Fr. Joseph D'souza, the Founder of the Disciples and Sr. Theresa Phawa FMA, the National delegate of the Salesian Family for FMA. Rev. Fr. Maria Arockiam SDB, in his inaugural talk highlighted the scope of the meeting, strengths of Salesian Family in South Asia, areas of problem and areas of collaboration. The main concern of the Conference was the follow up of the Salesian family Congress held at Kolkata on the occasion of the Bicentenary of the birth of Don Bosco last year and aimed at taking forward the common mission statement of the Congress with a special focus on Networking and Collaboration between members of the Salesian family concentrating on Family Ministry and Reaching out to migrants. Every group was asked to make a presentation highlighting New ventures *such as New Institutions, New activities of the Apostolate, Status of collaboration with other groups of the Salesian Family, Best practices, Challenges, Suggestions for future.* On behalf of the FMA PCI Sr. Elizabeth George (ING) presented the views on networking and partnership in the Mission of the Salesian Family. During the Conference Rev. Fr. Maria Arokiam released a book titled '**Don Bosco in Mangalore before the arrival of the Salesians**', written by Sr. Philomena B. D'Souza of INB. It is an admirable and praiseworthy research work done by her. She really deserves our applause for this commendable work.

FMA - PCI 2016

FMA-PCI 2016 was held at Sacred Heart Provincial House, Bangalore from September 1- 4, 2016. The major theme of the PCI was "Importance of Salesian Historical Memory and Types of Sources". The participants of the FMA PCI were Rev. Sr. Piera Cavaglià, Secretary General of the Institute, and the resource person, Rev. Sr. Ozhukayil Lucy Rose, the Presiding General Councilor, Provincials, and Delegates to PCI, National Coordinators and invitees.

Sr. Ozhukayil Lucy Rose, the Presiding General Councilor in her inaugural address invited the participants to return to the origins in order to be well rooted in the origins so as to live the present with joy and gratitude to offer a future rich in vitality. Sr. Piera Cavaglià dwelt the following topics: Importance of Salesian Historical memory and types of Source, St. Francis of Sales: A Master of Spiritual Accompaniment, Maria Domenica Mazzarello: a wise animator of persons and communities, Don Bosco: An educator who accompanies in the style of the 'Preventive System'. With great love and passion for the Institute and its history she said, "History is a great teacher with few pupils. Few people have the wisdom to learn from the past. India

has great charismatic riches which need to be documented. Whoever neglects the history loses the identity.” She appreciated the fact that much is being done in India which unfortunately is not documented. Now it is our duty and responsibility to transmit to the future generations, the history and charism of our Institute.

PCI Level Formators’ Meet

Immediately after the PCI followed a two day Formators’ meet 5-6 September, 2016. Sr. Teresa Adampakallel, Sr. Rosalia Tirkey, Sr. Minimol Mary Chettayil and myself participated in this meet. Rev. Sr. Piera Cavaglià, Secretary General of the Institute, the resource person for the formators meet focused on the following topics: Aspects of the Spiritual Profile of the FMA, Vocation – a gift of grace and a life plan, the task of the Formator as a Gardener. Under the topic Vocation – gift of grace and a life plan Sr. Piera highlighted life as a call and a response to love. Vocation is a unique and unrepeatable call from God. It is a covenant of love that comes from God as a free gift, and it requires a free and responsible answer on the part of the one who is called. Therefore, it is a pure gratuity; it is grace that none of us has earned with our personal qualities and gifts. God’s plan for the human person is entrusted to our collaboration: it does not take place without our personal openness to receiving the gift and appreciating it. God who called us to follow Him more closely has filled us with gifts, and He is glorified when we develop all the gifts, talents and qualities He has given us.

Communications from PCI

❖ New PCI President & National Co-Ordinators

- Sr. Rose Ezarath (INC) has been appointed as the New FMA-PCI President for the next 2 years and Sr. Isabella Suja (INS) as the Vice-President as per the new amendment made in the Statutes of the FMA-PCI.
- Sr. Stella Potteparambil has completed her term as the National Coordinator for Education.
- Sr. Clara Saminathan (INC) is appointed as the National Coordinator for Education for the next three years.
- Sr. Lydia Komuhra, the National General Coordinator, Sr. Molly Elizabeth Kaniyampady, National Coordinator for Youth Pastoral and Sr. Braganza Hilda, National Coordinator for Social communication has been reappointed for a second term of 3 years.

❖ Auxilium Schools Directory Released

During the PCI meeting Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil released the Auxilium Schools’ Directory. It was a commendable work done by Sr. Stella Potteparambil, the outgoing National Coordinator for education.

We thank Sr. Stella for fulfilling her responsibility with dedication and commitment for the past seven years as National Coordinator for Education. She will be still doing the Registration of all our Institutions under the trademark “Auxilium Group of Institutions”. May the Lord reward you with His copious blessings.

❖ Centenary of FMA Presence In India

During the PCI we discussed on the Centenary celebration of FMA Presence in India in 2022. To prepare for it, a centenary committee has been formed with sisters from all the six Provinces to plan out the programme. From our Province Sr. Lily Perumpettikunnel and Sr. Stella Potteprambil will form part of this committee. Let us support them with our prayers.

Sincere gratitude to:

- ➔ Sr. Elizabeth Valliyil who has willingly accepted the responsibility as the New General Coordinator of the Provincial Team. We thank Sr. Minimol Mary Chettayil, for being the General coordinator for the past four years.
- ➔ Sr. Jyoti Baxla and the community of Bareilly for the 6th set of questionnaire on GC XXIII for the Recollection day
- ➔ Sr. Teresa Adampakallel, the formation in charge of the Province for organizing the Formation Meet and for the community of Auxilium Dum Dum for offering warm hospitality for the same.
- ➔ Sr. Stella Potteprambil and the community of Auxilium Barasat for hosting the Team Meet.

Meeting and Courses

- ✚ Sr. Rosalia Tirkey will participate in the Course for Novice Mistresses organized by the Formation Sector from 3 – 16 October, 2016 at Rome.
- ✚ Sr. Annie Thevarkunnel, the Province economer will participate in two meetings in Rome in Casa Generalizia from October 30 – November 17, 2016: training for new Provincial Economers and November 18 – 25, 2016: World Meeting for all the Provincial Economers.

Heartfelt Condolences to:

- ✚ Fr. Felix Fernandes SDB and the Salesians of Panjim Province at the demise of Fr. Romulo Noronha SDB on August 17, 2016

- † Sr. Crescentia D’Almeida and the sisters of Bangalore Province at the demise of Sr. Rose Kallidukkil FMA on August 24, 2016
- † Sr. Ritha Dora Thomas and Sisters of Mumbai Province at the passing away of Sr. Mary Vaz FMA on August 26, 2016.
- † My paternal aunt Mrs. Aleykutty Kavukattu returned to her heavenly home on August 29, 2016 at a ripe old age of 101.
- † Sr. Emilia Vas at the return of her sister Ms.Inacina Alphonso Vas to her eternal abode on August 30, 2016
- † Sr. Basanti Ekka at the passing away of her aunt Mrs. Stanislav on August 31, 2016.
- † Sr.Jenita Mary Savarimuthu at the passing away of her cousin Mr.Joshua Augustin on September 01, 2016.
- † Sr. Annie Theyattil at the demise of her aunt Mrs. Eliyamma on September 06, 2016 and her uncle Mr. Mathew on September 07, 2016.
- † Sr. Theresa Vettuvazhiyil at the demise her dear father Mr. Varghese on September 11, 2016

Prayers requested for:

- The brother of Sr. Lourdu Prema Francis
- Sister in- law and the little niece of Sr. Luciana Rai
- All the sick sisters of the Province

Tomorrow as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Sorrow let us ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for all her children who are persecuted, afflicted and suffering.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
(Provincial)

