

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/24/08/2017

August 2017

Dearest Sisters,

Loving and prayerful greetings to each one of you !

On 5 August 2017 we celebrated the 145th anniversary of the Foundation of our Institute. We have a thousand and one reasons to thank God for the wonders and miracles that He accomplishes in our Institute through the powerful mediation of our Bl. Mother who willed our Institute to come into existence. With her motherly presence she accompanies every Daughter of Mary Help of Christians and we are privileged to be part of a Congregation that belongs entirely to Mary and to be a living monument of gratitude of Don Bosco to Mary for all times. The first eleven Sisters who professed on 5 August 1872 were chosen by Don Pestarino keeping in mind the criteria given to him by Don Bosco himself: those who are obedient even in the smallest things; those who are not offended by the corrections received and who have the spirit of mortification. Possessing these characteristics, they gave a sure foundation to our Institute imbued with a deep love for Jesus and for the salvation of the young people. Mother Mazzarello with creativity and feminine intuition reproduced in the first community of Mornese the same environment of Valdocco where one breathed the air of holiness.

Every commemoration of the 5 August is a reminder to each one of us to renew our commitment of fidelity to God and to our Institute walking with the young people towards holiness. From our charismatic origins, let us draw inspiration for today and be efficacious missionaries of hope and joy wherever we are and in whatever we do!

Solemnity of the Assumption of our Bl. Mother and Independence Day

On 1 November 1950, Pope Pius XII solemnly defined the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven saying, "...the Immaculate Mother of God, Mary ever Virgin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven". Assumption is the crowning of Mary's lifetime, of her vocation, unique among all mankind, to be the Mother of God. It is the crowning of the faith which she, "full of grace" showed during the Annunciation and which Elizabeth so emphasized and extolled during the visitation. As Mary is assumed into heaven, we shall also be assumed into heaven one day if we constantly wage war against sin. The assumption of our Lady reminds us that death is not part of the original plan of God; death came into the world because of sin. Let us therefore fill our lives with good works because on this depends our destiny. Everything will pass away but there will remain the love of God and the love of our neighbor. May Mary our Heavenly and Immaculate

Mother help us to keep our gaze towards heaven as we continue our pilgrim journey on earth!

On this day as we celebrate our Independence from the foreign rule let us invoke God's blessings on our country and its leaders that they may uphold and safeguard the constitutional rights of every citizen. For us as educators of the young people of our country, the coincidence of the spiritual feast and the cultural festival is an apt reminder of the educative goal left to us by Don Bosco of forming 'Good Christians and Honest Citizens' of ourselves and of our youth so as to build a better India for our young generation.

Feast of Blessed Maria Troncatti

Sr. Maria was an authentic Daughter of Mary Help of Christians, a true witness to God's love for the poor, right up to the hour of her tragic death in a plane accident on 25 August 1969. Maria Troncatti the heroic missionary of the Kivaros faced up to situations which were extremely difficult yet continued to scatter an abundance of those seeds of goodness which attracted and won souls to grace. She was one of Our Lady's gifts to the Institute in whom we find the fulfillment of the evangelical message of the works of mercy. She spread the perfume of radiant goodness, her sweet smile and Salesian cheerfulness wherever she passed by and her wise and much sought after counsels pervaded not only the hospital wards but the corridors and the places she visited. In her missionary endeavours, she placed high value on securing the good of souls, preventing offence against God and safeguarding Christian morals. As we celebrate her feast day on 25 August, let us ask her to intercede for us before the Lord and grant us too a share of her missionary ardour and zeal for souls making ever more fruitful our apostolate among the young people.

Communications

FMA-PCI Meet 2017

PCI meet will be held from 29 - 31 August 2017 at Auxilium Convent, Raiwoods, Lonavla, Pune - Mumbai. The theme of the meeting will be 'Triennial Evaluation 2018'. Let us send ahead prayers for the success of the PCI meeting. The participants from our Province are:

Delegate elected by the Province: Sr. Lily Perumpettikunnel

Delegate nominated by the Council: Sr. Clara Saminathan

Visit from Rome

Sr. Vilma Tallone, the Economer General will visit our Province from 25 Sept. – 12 Oct. 2017. She will arrive in New Delhi on 25th September along with Sr. Alexandra Smerilli.

Further details will be made known to you later. We wish her a warm welcome and a fruitful stay with us.

Seminars & Meetings

- ✦ Sr. Runita Borja, the General Councillor for Youth Ministry Sector is holding a Training Course for Youth Ministry Provincial Coordinators as per the Six-Year Plan 2015-2020 for a more holistic animation and effective coordination for communion. It will be held at Guwahati, Provincial House from 26 - 30 September 2017. The participants of the training programme from every Province are Provincial, Provincial Youth Ministry Coordinator, In-charge of schools (formal education) and In-charge of works for women, children and youth at risk. Together with me, Sr. Esther Rani Abraham, Sr. Clara Saminathan, Sr. Gracy Parekattil and Sr. Rejina Joseph Adampakallel will participate in it.

- ✦ National Coordinator for Formation Sr. Tamizharasi Kanickraj (INM) is organizing a Renewal programme for FMA Silver Jubilarians from 24 -30 September. It will be held at Don Bosco – SPCI House, Dwarka, New Delhi with the theme “Celebrating God’s Gratuitous Call and His Constant Accompaniment”. Sr. Mary Puthuppallil and Sr. Jancy Valliyil will take part in it.

- ✦ A workshop in view of drafting the “FMA India History”, in preparation for the centenary celebration of FMA presence in India was held at Auxilium Dum Dum from 15-16 July 2017. Sr. Philomena D’Souza INB coordinated the workshop. Sr. Lily Perumpettikunnel and Sr. Stella Potteparambil from our Province and sisters from INS and ING took part in it.

- ✦ There will be a come and see programme at Auxilium Convent, Barasat from 26 – 29 September 2017. All the communities are requested to send a minimum number of four vocationable girls from your community or parish. I am sure all of you have received the letter of Sr. Shanti Tirkey, in charge of Vocation Pastoral in the Province.

- ✦ The Provincial community Day, Golden Jubilee celebration and Province Assembly will be held from 18-22 October 2017.
The programme is as follows:
18 Oct. - Provincial Community Day (Arrival)
19 Oct. - Golden Jubilee celebration
Mass: 9:30 am
19-22 Oct. - Province Assembly (begins at 5.00 pm)
(Departure 22 Oct. after 3.30 pm)

Team Meet

The Zonal level Team Meet will be held at Auxilium, Provincial House on Saturday, 12th August 2017 at 10.00 am.

Diocesan Synod 2017

The Diocesan Synod 2017 will be held in the Archdiocese of Kolkata at Morning Star Regional Seminary, Barrackpore from 27th September – 1st October 2017. The entire Archdiocese began the preparation with much enthusiasm and prayer. The theme is: Our Pastoral Plan “entrusted to the Lord; established by Him”. Let us join the archdiocese to pray for its success. Sr. Teresa Adampakallel will participate in the Synod.

Sincere gratitude to:

- ✚ Sr. Maxima Dung Dung and the community of Mirik for the 17th set of Reflectionnaire on GC XXIII for the Recollection day.
- ✚ Sr. Teresa Adampakallel and the community of Provincial House, Dum Dum for hosting a number meetings in the month of July: Economers’ meet from 15 – 18 July; workshop on FMA India History 15 and 16 July; Triennial Evaluation Commission meet 20 - 22 July; EDUMEDYM INC (Education, Media and Youth Ministry sectors) meet on 22 July and Juniors’ meet from 28 - 31 July.
- ✚ To Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil and Community of Auxilium, Aspirantate for organizing the Retreat for the Aspirants

Heartfelt Condolences to:

- ✚ Sr. Mary George U. at the demise of her cousin brother Mr. Joji Abraham on 11th July 2017.
- ✚ Srs. Elizabeth, Gracy and Jancy Valliyil at the passing away of their paternal uncle Mr. Joseph on 12th July 2017.
- ✚ Sr. Jancy Valliyil at the demise of her maternal uncle Mr. Peter on 19th July 2017.
- ✚ Sr. Ritha Dora Thomas and the sisters of Mumbai Province at the passing away of Sr. Edvige Nazareth (91) at Auxilium Convent – Wadala on 28th July 2017.
- ✚ Sr. Teresa Thudianplackal at the demise of her mother Mrs. Mariamma Thudianplackal (102) on 30th July 2017.
- ✚ Srs. Elizabeth and Gracy Valliyil at the passing away of their only brother Mr. Joseph Abraham on 31st July 2017.
- ✚ Rev. Fr. Joyce Thonikuzhiyil and the Salesians of Bangalore Province at the passing away of Fr. George Arimpoor (85) on 1st August 2017.
- ✚ Rev. Fr. V.M. Thomas SDB, Provincial and the Salesians of Guwahati Province at the passing away of Fr. Michael Bhengra on 1st August 2017.

Prayers requested for:

- The Special intention of Rector Major and the Salesian Family
- The ailing parents and relations of our sisters especially for the mother of Sr. Julita Kujur, mother of Sr. Esther Rani Abraham and the father of Sr. Namita Sabhasundar
- The sick and ailing sisters of our Province.

In the month of August we celebrate a number of feasts. On 2nd August the feast of Bl. Augustus Czartoryski; 5th August, feast of Our Lady of Snows and Foundation Day; 15th August, the solemnity of the Assumption of the Bl. Virgin Mary and the 71st Independence Day of our Nation; 16th August, Birthday of our Father and Founder St. John Bosco; 25th August feast of Bl. Maria Troncatti and 26th August feast of Bl. Zephyrinus Namancura.

The commemoration of all the Saints reminds us that we too have the same calling to holiness. Saints weren't always perfect. Yet, despite their sinfulness, they heard God's call and they sought God's grace to overcome their frailties. They were not born holy but they willed to be holy. May their exemplary life inspire and guide us to follow the footsteps they have walked before us. May the celebration of all these feasts help us to keep our gaze fixed on the things of heaven!

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
(Provincial)

Happy Independence Day



**Happy Feast
of Assumption !**