

# 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/26/10/2017

October 2017

Dearest Sisters,

*Loving Greetings from Provincial House, Dum Dum*

We have just entered into the month of October, a month dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

Pope Benedict XVI in an address at the Basilica of St. Mary Major where he prayed the Rosary with the faithful said "Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourishes for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said. When reciting the Rosary, the important and meaningful moments of salvation history are relived. The various steps of Christ's mission are traced. With Mary the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the centre of our life, of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of his holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and glory". The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings peace and reconciliation. It has the potential to transform our lives if we are willing. While we are faithful to the praying of the Rosary let us inculcate this devotion in our young people as a powerful weapon to fight against all temptations especially those who struggle in their journey of life toward the fullness of life.

## **Feast of St. Teresa of Avila**

Saint Teresa of Ávila, also called Saint Teresa of Jesus, baptized as Teresa Sánchez de Cepeday Ahumada (28 March 1515 – 4 October 1582), was a prominent Spanish mystic, Carmelite nun, a great saint and doctor of the Church and an author during the Counter Reformation, and theologian of contemplative life through mental prayer.

The gift of God to Teresa in and through which she became holy and left her mark on the Church and the world is threefold: She was a woman; she was a contemplative; she was an active reformer. St. Teresa's great work of reform began with herself. She made a vow always to follow the more perfect course, and resolved to keep the rule as perfectly as she could. Teresa received permission from Rome to establish a reformed convent even though her efforts at reform were oftentimes misunderstood, misjudged and opposed. Yet she struggled on, courageous and faithful; she struggled with her own mediocrity, her illness, her opposition. And in the midst of all this she clung to God in life and in prayer. Toward the end of her life she exclaimed: "Oh, my Lord! How true it is that whoever works for you is paid in troubles! And what a precious price to those who love you if we understand its value" As we honour St. Teresa, patroness of our Institute may we follow her example of tireless work and become conscious as she was that God alone suffices, and that nothing is lacking to one who truly possess Him.

### **FMA PCI Youth Ministry Meet**

PCI Youth Ministry Meet was held from 25-30 September 2017, at Auxilium Provincial House, Guwahati. I, together with four Sisters from the province participated in the meeting. The theme of the meet was "The FMA educational mission, a journey towards fullness of life." The objectives of this meeting were the following:

- To promote and strengthen co-responsibility in pastoral animation
- To strengthen the sense of belonging and a common understanding by sharing the same vision as Provincial Coordinators of Youth Ministry and persons with key role in the pastoral animation of the Province
- To clarify the identity and role of the Provincial Coordinator of Youth Ministry, especially in the coordination of works, presences, institutions and other initiatives of youth ministry

Sr. Runita Borja, helped the participants to arrive at the above objectives through their every day inputs sessions based on the topics "called to realize a project of Christian education according to the Preventive System", "The Oratorian heart, identity of our educational mission", "The Educating Community for a Holistic Education", "The vocational dimension of the educational mission". Last day she dealt on the theme "With young people, missionaries of hope of joy.

We owe our sincere gratitude to the organizers and animators: Sr. Runita G. Borja, the General Councillor for Youth Ministry and her collaborator Sr. Lolia Annie Neli for the animation, Sr. Elizabeth George, the Provincial of Guwahati and her council for planning and executing the programme, Sr. Molly Elizabeth Kannianpady for making all the arrangement so meticulously that every aspects of the meeting worked out well, Sr. Lissy Rose Mathew, the animator of the Provincial House and the sisters of the community for their warm and generous hospitality.

## **Communications**

### **Visit of Sr. Vilma Tallone, the Economer General**

Sr. Vilma Tallone, the Economer General is in the Province from 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 along with Sr. Alexandra Smerilli. She already visited the communities of Vasant Vihar, R.K. Puram, Palam Goan, Najafgarh, Dum Dum, Bandel, Kalyani, Barasat, Aspirantate, New Chumta, Kurseong and Mirik. She will be visiting the community of Thecho - Nepal from 9 - 13 October. She met the provincial Council and had three encounters with the Animators and Economers of the province in New Delhi, Dum Dum and New Chumta. She is appreciative of all the apostolic mission that is carried out in the Province for the young and women.

### **Seminars & Meetings**

- ✦ Novices Salomi Bhuinya and Shashikanta Xalxo are doing their apostolic experience in the communities of Barasat and Bandel respectively from 26 September - 24 October 2017.
- ✦ The Second Novitiate will be held in the Province of Tiruchy at Manikandam from November 15 – December 15, 2017. Srs. Delpina Bag, Rose Mary Ekka, Sabita Nayak and Sumitra Ekka will be participating in it.
- ✦ Sr. Stella Potteparambil, in the capacity as Regional CRI Secretary will participate in the West Bengal Sikkim BRBC, CDP, CRI Annual Meet from 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at Asansol. The Theme of the meet is: “God Experience: as joy to be shared with others in our multi-faith context”
- ✦ The Provincial community Day, Golden Jubilee celebration and Province Assembly will be held from 18-22 October 2017. I am sure all of you received the Provincial Community programme, invitation for the Golden jubilee and the Time Table of the Province Assembly.
- ✦ I will be leaving for Kerala for the Annual Retreat of the FMA Provincials on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2017. It will be held from 12 – 17 November 2017 at Vaduvanchal.
- ✦ The Annual Retreat from 28 December 2017 – 04 January 2018 will be held at Auxilium Bandel. The Preacher will be Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB. There will be no meeting after the retreat.

### **Sincere gratitude to:**

- ✦ Sr. Gracy Parekattil and the community of New Delhi – Palam Gaon for the 19<sup>th</sup> set of Reflectionnaire on GC XXIII for the Recollection day.

- ✚ Sr. Shanti Tirkey, in charge of Vocation Pastoral in the Province and Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil for organizing the 'Come and see' programme from 26 – 29 September 2017. Sr. Stella Potteparambil and the community of Auxilium, Barasat for hoisting the same. 50 young girls participated from our 11 communities.

### **Heartfelt Condolences to:**

- ✚ Sr. Pramila Ekka at the demise of her paternal uncle Mr. Charles Ekka on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and paternal aunt Mrs. Christina Ekka on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017.
- ✚ Sr. Aquila Phawa at the passing away of her cousin brother Mr. Precious Phawa on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
- ✚ Sr. Anand Tirkey at demise of her aunt Mrs. Ursula on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

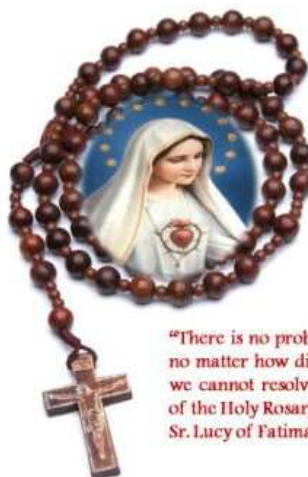
### **Prayers requested for:**

- Sr. Teresa Theruvamkunnel who is admitted in the Woodlands Hospital, Kolkata
- Ailing Parents of our sisters

On 22 October we are celebrating the Mission Sunday. Pope Francis in his message invites us to reflect anew on the "**Mission at the heart of the Christian faith**". Mission inspires a spirituality of constant exodus, pilgrimage, and exile. The Church's mission is enlivened by a spirituality of *constant exodus*. We are challenged "to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the peripheries in need of the light of the Gospel" (*Evangeliu Gaudium*, 20). The Church's mission impels us to undertake a *constant pilgrimage* across the various deserts of life, inspires a sense of *constant exile*, to make us aware, in our thirst for the infinite, that we are exiles journeying towards our final home. May celebration help us to proclaim Jesus more by our way of living than by mere words.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA  
(Provincial



"There is no problem, I tell you,  
no matter how difficult it is, that  
we cannot resolve by the prayer  
of the Holy Rosary"  
Sr. Lucy of Fatima