

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/25/09/2017

September 2017

Dearest Sisters,

Loving greetings from Provincial House, Dum Dum

First of all, I wish to thank you for accompanying us with your fervent prayers during our annual **FMA-PCI** meeting which took place at St. Joseph's Training Centre, Lonavla – Pune from 29-31 August 2017. There were 29 participants from the seven FMA Provinces of India including Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil, the Presiding General Councilor and her Secretary. The theme of the meeting was: "Triennial Evaluation 2018". The three-day meeting was preceded by the meeting of the Provincials and the National Coordinators simultaneously. Sr. Lucy Rose in her keynote address spoke of the Triennial evaluation as a significant opportunity to see again the authenticity of our existence as Daughters of Mary Help of Christians in the Church and in the Society and as "living stones in the monument of gratitude to Mary" in the Salesian Family. To help us in the process of evaluation, she presented the two symbols that would take us to Mary Mazzarello and to the origins of the Institute, the WELL and the WINDOW. She wished that the celebration of the Triennial Evaluation should not remain limited to events but to the renewal and revival of the quality of our life and educative presence.

Besides preparing a tentative programme for the forthcoming Triennial Evaluation at PCI level, we also had a day of input sessions on some practical steps for meeting the challenges in the changing socio-political context in India given by Fr. Varghese Alengaden. He invited us to a Christo-centric life and mission and to ask ourselves often, "What would Jesus do if He were there"? The reports presented by the national coordinators of the various sectors were an occasion for us to thank God for the vitality of the charism that has taken root in the FMA provinces of India. We also discussed about the Centenary celebrations of the FMA Presence in India and formed a few commissions with the members from each of the Provinces. The information sheet will be sent to you later.

The meeting was enriched with well prepared prayer and liturgical moments, sharing, reflection, planning and projecting towards the future. You will be receiving a copy of the Minutes of the PCI meeting which will give you detailed information about all that took place. Our sincere gratitude to Sr. Lucy Rose for guiding us efficiently to enter into the immediate preparation for the Triennial Evaluation and to Sr. Rita Dora Thomas and the Mumbai Province for the lovely days that we spent in Lonavla. May God bless us all

and may FMA India grow from strength to strength guided by Mary our Most Holy Mother!

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The liturgy of 8 September commemorates the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast leads us to admire in Mary the Child, the purest dawn of the Redemption. We are contemplating a little girl, yet at the same time the only one who was "blessed among women" (Lk 1: 42), destined to become the Mother of the Messiah. On this feast day our gaze broadens to take in all innocent children in every corner of the earth who are victims of the violence of adults. Children forced to use weapons and taught to hate and kill; children induced to beg in the streets, exploited for easy earnings; children ill-treated and humiliated by arrogant, abusive grown-ups; children left to themselves, deprived of the warmth of a family and prospects of a future; children who die of hunger, children killed in the many wars in various regions of the world. It is a loud cry of pain from children whose dignity is offended. It cannot leave anyone of us indifferent. Dear Sisters, before the cradle of the Infant Mary, let us respond with renewed awareness our duty to protect and defend all our children and to build them a future of peace as we continue the post-Chapter journey that calls us to denounce the structures of injustice and exploitation. As we glorify the Immaculate Mother of the Son of God, and as India celebrates the Girl Child day on this day, let us pray that every child may be welcomed with respect and love and the conditions for a serene and safe life may be created for them everywhere.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated every year on September 14, recalls three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, this feast celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden. Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life. May the image of the cross and the wearing of the same on our persons be a constant reminder of Christ's ultimate triumph, His victory over sin and death, through his suffering and death on the cross! May this feast grant to all of us the grace to embrace the little crosses of our daily life with love and merit the eternal reward that is awaiting us in heaven!

Communications

Visit from Rome

We extend a warm welcome to Sr. Vilma Tallone, the Economer General who will be with us from 25 September - 13 October 2017 along with Sr. Alexandra Smerilli. We wish them a pleasant stay and wonderful experience with us. I am sure all of you received a detailed programme of the same.

Seminars & Meetings

Sr. Stella Potteparambil attended the CRI Regional secretaries meet which was held at National CRI Centre Masihgarh, New Delhi from 12-13 August spearheaded by Fr. Joe Mannath SDB the National CRI Secretary.

Srs. Alma Bilung and Anand K. Tirkey took part in the NLP programme organized by NDF at Chennai-Provincial House from 7 – 9 September 2017.

Sr. Rosalia Tirkey will participate in the Course for Novice Mistresses organized by the Formation Sector from 1 - 20 October 2017 at Casa Generalizia, Rome.

Srs. Asha Kerketta and Canta Tirkey will participate in the National Meeting of Mission ad Gentes at Maria Nivas, Nandigama in Vijayawada (A.P.) from 18 – 20 November 2017. It is organized by Sr. Bala Savarimuthu, National Coordinator for Mission. The resource for the same will be Rev. Fr. T.C. George SDB.

Sr. Teresa Admpakallel, the Vice Provincial has sent out the letter and the programme for the Provincial community Day and the Golden Jubilee celebration of Sr. Anna Ma Ma which will be held on 18 – 19 October 2017. It will be followed Province Assembly from 19-22 October 2017.

The Diocesan Synod 2017 will be held in the Archdiocese of Kolkata at Morning Star Regional Seminary, Barrackpore from 26 - 30 September 2017. Sr. Teresa Adampakallel, The Vice Provincial and Sr. Stella Potteparambil in the capacity of CRI Regional secretary will participate in the Synod. Let us pray for its success.

Sincere gratitude to:

✚ Sr. Maria Pettayil and the community of New Delhi – Vasant Vihar for the 18th set of Reflectionnaire on GC XXIII for the Recollection day.

Heartfelt Condolences to:

- † Rector Major and the Salesians at the sudden demise of Don Adriano Bregolin SDB, the former Vicar General of the Salesians on 23rd August 2017.
- † Sr. Jenita Savarimuthu at the demise of her bother in - law Mr. Kailash Nathan on 25 August 2017.
- † Sr. Isabella Suja and the Sisters of Shillong Province at the passing away of Sr. Erina Susngi FMA on 7th September 2017.
- † Sr. Sabita Nayak at the loss of her paternal aunt Mrs. Luna Beero on 7th September 2017.

Dear Sisters, as we are journeying towards the Triennial Evaluation let us take it upon ourselves this preparation as ‘ A call and a personal responsibility’ as our Mother General says in her Cir. 967, so that this encounter may be an Experience that transforms us from within and helps us to penetrate reality with new eyes.

Let us walk with the disciples of Emmaus to encounter Christ, to be transformed by Him and to be commissioned to bring Jesus to others. For this we must recognize Jesus, conform ourselves with the life of Christ to spread the Good News. Only while breaking the bread together, they saw Jesus and recognized Him. Let us allow ourselves to be broken from all that is obstructing us to see Jesus in our everyday life. May our preparations for the Triennial Evaluation bear much fruit within ourselves, in all our communities and in the Province.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
(Provincial)