

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**



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August 2018

Dearest Sisters,

Warm and affectionate greetings to you from the Provincial House, Dum Dum !

**GOD CALLS US ALL TO HOLINESS
AND HE WILL GIVE US THE GRACE...**

We have just celebrated the foundation day of our Institute. It was a celebration of vitality, joy and renewal of the covenant. 5th August 1872, it is a commemoration of the charismatic origins, a day to recall with gratitude the courageous 'yes' of St. Mary Mazzarello and our first sisters and their determination to walk the path of holiness in a climate of serene availability, sisterly friendship, joyful simplicity and sincere confidence, mutual trust and spontaneous joy with Don Bosco's "da mihi animas cetera tolle".

Mornese is the place where our Co- foundress St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello met Don Bosco, gave life to our Institute, it is the place where the charism of our Institute found its original feminine expression. Mornese is, for us, the place where the source of its spirit continues to flow for everyone who wishes to return to its spiritual roots: to walk the path of everyday holiness. Even today Mary Mazzarello speaks to us: "LET US DO AS MUCH GOOD AS WE CAN WHILE WE HAVE TIME! JOY IS THE SIGN OF A HEART THAT LOVES THE LORD".



In 1936, Pope Pius XI, proclaiming the heroic nature of Mother Mazzarello's virtues, aptly summarized her remarkable life: "Here is a woman of simplicity, extreme simplicity - a simplicity as pure as that of the simple elements, as simple and unmixed as gold without alloy! The holiness of Mother Mazzarello was found in her humility, a plain way of life everyday and her work. This used to be a reminder from her: "WHEN THE LORD IS AMONG US, ALL GOES WELL. AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, PRESERVE THE SPIRIT OF UNION WITH GOD". Our journey of life is a spiritual journey and a life of prayer. But it is not an easy journey, it is a journey of struggle. It is a journey with the desire for a deeper union with the one who has created us, the source of life.

Pope Francis recently reminded us in ***Gaudete et exultate*** of our divine vocation to holiness. "REJOICE AND BE GLAD" (Mt 5:12), Jesus tells those persecuted or humiliated for his sake.

The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created. He wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence. The call to holiness is present in various ways from the very first pages of the Bible. We see it expressed in the Lord's words to Abraham: "Walk before me, and be blameless" (Gen 17:1). As such, we must not be afraid of holiness, but rather desire and strive for it, absolutely certain that God will provide us the graces we need in the means He has put within our reach: prayer, sacraments and sacrifice. Let us then have frequent recourse to the sources of His grace -
HOLINESS IN LITTLE THINGS DONE OUT OF LOVE FOR GOD.

The holiness of Don Bosco was characterized by his perfect example of contemplation in action, apostolic interior life, pastoral zeal and loving kindness. The holiness of Don Bosco became crystal clear in his undertaking of works, in his zeal for winning souls for Christ, in his spirit of sacrifice, humility, simplicity, love for purity and poverty, continuous union with God and in his unlimited service to the poor and abandoned youngsters. The holiness of Don Bosco is certain because many of his pupils reached the height of sanctity. We have the best example before us in Saint Dominic Savio. Don Bosco was an ordinary, simple but profound person. He never did anything extraordinary in his life but he did everything with extraordinary zeal. This legacy of Don Bosco's apostolic zeal, fidelity to God, contemplative in action should lead us to imitate Don Bosco as a model of holiness in our everyday life. So much so we can desire and tell the Lord:

'One thing I ask from the Lord...
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord' (Psalm 27:4).

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." John Paul II said that the Assumption truly was an event of love, in which Mary's ardent longing to be with her son was finally fulfilled. This union, which is manifested, from the time of the Savior's conception, Mary's participation in her Son's mission and especially in her association with his redemptive sacrifice, cannot fail to require a continuation after death. Perfectly united with the life and saving work of Jesus, Mary shares his heavenly destiny in body and soul.

Here is an invitation for all of us to imitate Mary in the words of Pope Benedict XVI: "By contemplating Mary in heavenly glory, we understand that the earth is not the definitive homeland for us either, and that if we live with our gaze fixed on eternal goods we will one day share in this same glory and the earth will become more beautiful. Consequently, we must not lose our serenity and peace even amid the thousands of daily difficulties. The luminous sign of Our Lady taken up into Heaven shines out even more brightly when sad shadows of suffering and violence seem to loom on the horizon. We may be sure of it: from on high, Mary follows our footsteps with gentle concern, dispels the gloom in moments of darkness and distress, reassures us with her motherly hand. Supported by awareness of this, let us continue

confidently on our path of Christian commitment wherever Providence may lead us. Let us forge ahead in our lives under Mary (General Audience, August 16, 2006)

Communications

Srs. Rinki Nayak and Binita Bara have began their intensive juniorate at Auxilium, Provincial House, Guwahati on 13 August 2018.

There will be a Provincial Team meet at Auxilium, Provincial House, Dum Dum from 17 – 19 August to discuss the forthcoming events in the Province.

We offer a warm welcome to Rev. Sr. Reboso Maria Nieves - General Councilor for Formation, Sr. Fisichella Maria and Sr. Miranda Anelfreda to our Province. They will be visiting our Province from 7 – 15 September 2018 and will have encounters with Animators, Juniors, Novices, Postulants and Aspirants of the Province. I am sure all of you received the arrival and departure details, the list of participants and the detailed itinerary.

I will be participating in the Conference of the Major Superiors of the Salesian Family which will be held at Siloam, Shillong on September 1 - 2, 2018. Previous to this meeting there will be a meeting of all the FMA Provincials of India at Shillong on 31 August. We will have the joy of the presence of our dear Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil, the visiting Councillor to preside over the Provincial's meet.

Congratulations to:



Our dear Srs. Catherine Das and Cecilia Kollapply who have completed their fifty years of religious commitment on the 5 August. Let us implore God's choicest blessings on these our dear Sisters for their life of fidelity and generous self-giving in the service of the Lord.

Condolences - Let us pray for our dear Departed:

- ✠ Dear mother of Rev. Sr. Chiara Cazzuola, the Vicar General of our Institute who was called to her eternal abode on 10 July 2018.
- ✠ My bother - in -law Mr. Chacko who was called to his eternal home on 17 July 2018
- ✠ Fr. Jude D'Mello SDB from Salesian Province of Mumbai who passed away on Wednesday, 18 July 2018.
- ✠ Sr. Thecla Chit May who passed away on 20 July 2018 in Anisakan from the Province of Cambogia-Myanmar on 20 July 2018
- ✠ Sr. Ilka de Moraes Perillier, General Councillor from 1967 -1990 who went to her heavenly home on 04 August 2018.
- ✠ Sr. Asha Kerketta's brother Mr. Gregory Kerketta who passed away on 09 August 2018.
- ✠ Mr. Randolph Blessington Allen, our benefactor who died on 05 August 2018
- ✠ Mr. Jacob Roche, brother in law of Sr. Philomena Prabalanathan who passed away on 07 August 2018.

Prayers requested for:

- ✚ Sr. Premika Tirkey's father who is suffering from kidney failure
- ✚ Sr. Valsa Kallirikumkalayil's father who is ailing and aging
- ✚ Sr. Philomena Chiramal's sister-in-law who has to undergo a major surgery
- ✚ Sr. Regi Joseph's brother who is suffering from kidney failure and other complications
- ✚ Sr. Mini Chettayil's brother who suffered a stroke

Feasts & Celebrations of the month:

	15 -The Assumption of our Blessed Mother
	15 - Independence Day
	22 - Feast of the Queenship of Mary
	24 - St. Bartholomew, Apostle
	25 - Bl. Maria Troncatti FMA
	26 - Bl. Zefferino Namuncura
	29 - Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Dear Sisters,

Wish you a *Very Happy Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother and the Independence Day of our Nation*. May our Bl. Mother intercede for our nation and for its leaders so that as we usher into a new era we may enjoy true freedom. May truth and justice shall be the light to guide the feet of all our brothers and sisters to establish peace and liberty in our motherland India.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
(Provincial)

