

# 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/34/06/2018**

**June 2018**

Dearest Sisters,

*Loving and prayerful greetings for a very fervent month of the Sacred Heart!*

June is traditionally the **month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**. The Friday that follows the Second Sunday after Pentecost is the Feast of the Sacred Heart which brings to our mind all the attributes of His Divine Heart. All of us certainly know that St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690), a Visitation nun, had a personal revelation involving a series of visions of Christ as she prayed before the Blessed Sacrament. She wrote, "He disclosed to me the marvels of his Love and the inexplicable secrets of his Sacred Heart." Christ emphasized to her His love and His woundedness caused by man's indifference to this love.

He promised her that, in response to those who consecrate themselves and make reparations to His Sacred Heart, "He will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life; He will establish peace in their homes; He will comfort them in all their afflictions; He will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death; He will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings; Sinners will find in His Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy; Lukewarm souls shall become fervent; Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection; He will bless every place in which an image of His Heart is exposed and honored; He will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts; Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in His Heart; In the excessive mercy of His Heart that His all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Fridays in nine consecutive months, the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in His disgrace, nor without receiving their sacraments. His divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment".

For all these graces and even more that He bestows on all those who Love His Most Sacred Heart, let us spend this month thanking Our Lord for His immense love for us not only with mere words but with concrete deeds of love and affection. And since love seeks union with the beloved, let us seek union with Jesus, dedicating sometime daily to be in conversation with Him, telling Him that we want to repay love with love; avoiding whatever thought, word or action which might offend the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let us also offer sacrifices in reparation not only for our sins but also for the sins of all humankind.

Let us ask Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello, who instilled in us the devotion to the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus as the most beautiful, essential and sanctifying, to obtain also for us their

seraphic ardor, and apostolic zeal for the Sacred Heart, so that we too may enjoy His Divine predilection in life and in death!

### **Spiritual Retreat**

29 Sisters made their Spiritual Retreat in Kurseong from 26 May-02 June 2018. It was preached by Fr. Jose Kuttianimattathil sdb from Kristu Jyoti College, Bangalore. The Sisters who took part in the retreat might have already shared in the communities their personal experiences. At the outset of the Retreat itself, Fr. Jose made it very clear to them that the main responsibility for the retreat rests with them and the Holy Spirit is the principal director of the retreat. Therefore the retreatants were to spend much time in Personal Prayer and Reflection. He empowered them with two wings to Paradise, the Word of God and the Holy Eucharist. He encouraged them to memorize some scripture quotations daily, as the Word of God gives spiritual and physical strength to fight against temptations and to keep oneself free from sin. Some of his main topics were: God's call that is ever new, Word of God as the source of life, Gratefulness, Forgiveness, Eucharist and me, Jesus and Sin. The various moments of prayer, meditations, adorations and reflections were all made so meaningful with life situations by the preacher himself. The Sisters who participated in the retreat could very well say that they were truly days of personal encounter with Jesus in His Word. I thank Fr. Jose for having made known to them the Power of the Word of God which is hope and joy; light and life; peace and strength, cleansing and healing body and soul. Thank you dear Fr. Jose!

### **Feasts of Sts Peter and Paul**

On 29 June the Church celebrates the feast day of Sts. Peter and Paul. Veneration of the two great Apostles, Peter and Paul, has its roots in the very foundations of the Church. They are the solid rock on which the Church is built. They are at the origin of her faith and will forever remain her protectors and her guides. To them Rome owes her true greatness, for it was under God's providential guidance that they were led to make the capital of the Empire, sanctified by their martyrdom, the center of the Christian world whence should radiate the preaching of the Gospel.

In a sermon in the year 395, St. Augustine of Hippo said of Sts. Peter and Paul: "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labors, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith."

On this day, we also keep the **Pope's Day**. In our Salesian tradition, love, honour and obedience to the Pope, is one of the three devotions handed down to us by Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello. Our daily prayer for the Holy Father is a concrete reminder of this devotion. This love is also concretely expressed in our fidelity to his *Magisterium*: the Papal documents. The Lord has blessed the Church with a holy and simple Supreme Pastor in the person of Pope Francis. As faithful daughters of our holy founders, may we continue to love, honour and follow the directives of our Holy Father and support him with our prayer and loyalty. Let us keep ourselves updated with his Apostolic Exhortations and Letters. Recently he has blessed us with a new document titled, "Gaudete et Exsultate" proposing the call to holiness in a practical way. Let us make our own the exhortations of the Holy Father contained in this document and make

of our life, a life of holiness because “anyone can be a Saint, everyone can be a Saint” (GE no.11,13,24).

### **Together with the Young**

The summer holidays are getting over and soon we will have the joy of being with the young people in all our educational settings. As we resume our life with the young, let us remind ourselves that “we share the dream of being open and welcoming communities – Gospel places in which Jesus is at the centre, where young people can live with the Family Spirit typical of Valdocco and Mornese, respecting each person and living in co-responsibility, places which prepare youth for an active involvement in society” (Acts of GC XXIII, n.58). May all our children and young people discover a way of living and dreaming of their lives in which values such as gratuity and donation, openness to others and openness to God mature in each of them. Let us also keep in mind the invitation of our Rector Major to cultivate the art of listening and of personal accompaniment of the young people so that their need for a personal encounter and for being listened to may be a reality also in all our educational environments and walk together with them on the path of holiness.

### **Communications**

#### **Higher studies**

Sr. Bridgit Chettri	- Salesian Spirituality	- Casa Madre Ersilia Canta, Rome
Sr. Prema Francis	- B. Ed	- St. Xavier's college, Kolkata
Sr. Sumitra Ekka	- B. Ed	- St. Xavier's college, Kolkata
Sr. Suzan M.Louis	- B.com	- Salesian College, Sonada
Sr. Ranjita Nayak	- B. A	- Salesian College, Sonada
Sr. Phlukeria Lakra	- B. Ed	- RBMI Group of Institutions, Bareilly
Sr. Kishori Minj	- Fashion Designing	- Bannerghatta, Bangalore
Sr. Rinki Nayak	- Juniorate	- Provincial House, Guwahati
Sr. Binita Bara	- Juniorate	- Provincial House, Guwahati

We wish them all the best and God's blessings for their studies.

#### **Welcome Back**

We extend a hearty welcome back to Srs. Suzan Maria Louis and Philomina Kuotsu who returned to the Province on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018 after having completed their intensive Juniorate at Provincial House, Guwahati. We are grateful to Provincial Sr. Elizabeth George and the Provincial community for accompanying our young sisters during their Intensive Juniorate.

#### **Workshop and Meeting**

Auxilium Convent School, Bandel is having Teacher's workshop on 18-19 June 2018 and assessment programme for the students of C. VII from 20-22 June 2018. It is being animated by Dr. Paige & Gayle Bartilow from Thinking Schools Academy USA.,

Sr. Lily Perumpettikunnel will be participating in the ACSSA (South Asia Association of Promoters of Salesian History) meeting which will be held at Don Bosco Provincial House,

Hyderabad from 22 – 24 June 2018. The theme for the meeting is '*Incisive and Innovative Salesian Personalities of India*'.

**Sincere gratitude to:**

- ✿ The community of Sacred Heart Novitiate, Ranchi for hosting various programs: Second Novitiate, Annual Retreat for 24 sisters from 16 -23 May 2018 and First Profession of our 2 sisters.
- ✿ The community of Auxilium Kalyani for hosting the Perpetual profession of our four sisters
- ✿ The community of Auxilium Kurseong for hosting the Annual Retreat for 29 sisters from 26 May – 02 June 2018 followed by a seminar on JJ Act organized by the YaR sector of the Province.

**Let us pray for our dear Departed:**

- ✠ Fr. Lloyd Rodrigues SDB (56) of Mumbai Province who passed away on 15 May 2018.
- ✠ Sr. Teresa Adampakallel's elder sister Mrs. Annakutty who returned to her heavenly abode on 22 May 2018
- ✠ Fr. Manu Kuzhiveliparambil SDB (35) of Bangalore Province who unexpectedly passed away on 22 May 2018.
- ✠ Sr. Rose Kureekattu's cousin sister who was called to eternity on 09 June 2018
- ✠ Sr. Valsa Kallirikumkalayil's cousin brother Sybi (42) who died on 10 June due to bike accident.

Dear Sisters,

I would like to conclude my letter quoting the word of Pope Pius XII about the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: "Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, of its very nature, is a worship of the love with which God, through Jesus, loved us, and at the same time, an exercise of our own love by which we are related to God and to other people." Loving the Sacred Heart of Jesus means bringing its love to others and bearing our crosses lovingly and patiently. I encourage all of you to cultivate this beautiful devotion, and to grow in your love for the burning heart of Jesus.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA  
(Provincial)