

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/53/08/2020

August 2020

My Dearest Sisters,

Prayerful and Loving greetings from Auxilium Dum Dum!

We have just celebrated with great joy, the 5 August - the Foundation day of our Institute a day that is very dear to the heart of every Daughter of Mary Help of Christians. We went through the memory lanes and discovered the first love with which many of us committed ourselves to Jesus and pronounced our first YES to live the Beatitudes of the Kingdom radically in communion with our sisters becoming signs and expressions of God's love for the young people according to the charismatic project of our founders. It is indeed a day to recall the story of God's love and the pact He made with Mother Mazzarello and with each of us. A day like this reminds us, of our task and responsibility to revive and renew continually the gift of our Salesian vocation and to live in fidelity to the rich heritage we have received from our founders. Fidelity to the charism implies accepting the project of the founders assimilating it, preserving it and bringing it alive, and continuously enriching this charismatic patrimony through our lived personal and community life, making it our very identity. Identity is the central aspect of our auto consciousness (self-knowledge), the interior consistence of the person which permits her to be aware her uniqueness at the same time her diversity in relationship with others and reality. We have been meditating and assimilating it and living it in an attitude of "Gratitude" to God for our Identify as FMA, during the last year in preparation for the 150th anniversary of our Institute.

The first year, illumined by the words of Mother Mazzarello, "We truly thank the Lord who gives us many graces" (L 37.10), underlines Mother in her Message – "*It was a year we wanted to be under the banner of 'thank you' and this tone has continued to follow it despite fears, lockdowns, mourning, because we know we are in the hands of God and that every event, happy or sad, prepares the Easter dawn: for this reason, even in tears , we can keep saying "thank you"*

On 5 August 2020, Mother General, Yvonne Reungoat, with deep joy, being present in Mornese officially opened the second year of preparation for 150th anniversary of the Foundation of our Institute inviting us to accept the mandate: "I entrust them to you." From that first mandate to Mary Domenica God's dream for the Institute took shape and from that moment on the charism continued to develop through the years, to grow and to gain more vigor through its acceptance by many sisters and communities that express creativity and apostolic ardor. Mother says, I entrust them to you is not a slogan, but a living word, a mandate that challenges us and sets us in motion. The aim of this celebration is not only to



recall to mind the pasts but to celebrate the present giving new brightness to a mandate that goes beyond time and space and our will to look to the future with daring of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello. In Circular no. 1000, Mother Yvonne Reungoat invites us to approach the figure of Mother Mazzarello with new depth to penetrate more into that “I entrust them to you” which was the guiding thread of her life and which challenges each one of us. She also

proposes questions to keep in mind throughout the year, as a motive for reflection with the educating community: *“Who is entrusted to us today?”*

Mother Mazzarello knew very well who were those entrusted to her. She immediately set out and entrusted herself to God and to our Blessed Mother and wholeheartedly collaborated with God for the fulfillment of this loving mandate with creativity, enthusiasm, sacrifice, and above all with great spirit of prayer and trust placed all her resources and talents into the loving hand of God and was able to give new life to the poor young girls of Mornese. Let us ask: What can “Mornese” say to the youth of today? Remembering that “Mornese” is in every part of the world where we are present, especially at this time of pandemic when the young find themselves restless and lonely, disappointed and discouraged, looking toward a future which they see as blurry and apparently with no much hope to offer.

Following the footsteps of Mother Mazzarello let us ask ourselves in what ways we use the God-given talents and gifts of grace to be fitting instruments in His hands and to keep alive the Charism in our days to generate new life, to pour new wine into new Jars, - today’s young generation who are desperately looking for joy and happiness, security and hope. Let us as a community be of one heart and soul using all our synergy to find new and creative ways to reach out to the little ones and the young who are entrusted to us. Let us pray for each other that we will know how to preserve with faith the precious gift of our vocation and to be luminous beacons for those who sail the sea of life especially the young people. May Mary our Mother, teacher and guide accompany us as we journey along the path of holiness with the young and for the young.

Communications:

Formators’ Meeting: There will be an online Formators meeting organized by Sr. Tamizh Arasi Kanickaraj, the National Coordinator for Formation (INM) from 24-28 August 2020. The objective of the Zoom meet is to reflect and share the insights proposed during the FMA PCI 2019 at FMA Outreach, Shillong from 20 - 22 August 2019. The participants will be the formators and assistants of all stages of initial and ongoing formation.



Sincere Gratitude to

Sr. Teresa Adampakallel and the community of Auxilium, Dum Dum for organizing and hosting the Diamond, Gold and Silver jubilee celebration of the Religious Profession of our

sisters Sr.Philomena Chirammal and Sr. Rose Mathew, Sr. Juliana Rozario and Sr. Jancy Pulickathottiyil respectively. Silver jubilarian Sr. Pushpa Lakra who could not be present for the celebration due to the pandemic too was remembered during the Holy Eucharist.

● UpcomingFEASTS OF THE MONTH	
15	● Assumption of Mother Mary / Independence Day
16	● Birthday of St. John Bosco
22	● Queenship of Mary
24	● St Bartholomew
25	● Bl Maria Troncati
26	● Bl Zeferino Namuncura
29	● Beheading of St John the Baptist

Condolences - Let us pray for our dear Departed:

- † Fr. Mathew Manianchira SDB (75) who passed away on 17 July 2020 from the Salesian Province of Kolkata (INC).
- † Fr. Jose Aymanathil SDB (73) who returned to his heavenly home on 19 July 2020 from the Salesian Province of Kolkata (INC).
- † Fr. Joseph Kaippallimyalil SDB (56) who returned to his heavenly abode on 27 July 2020 from the Salesian Province of Dimapur (IND).
- † Mr. William Minj (37), the bother of Sr. Taramani Minj who met with bike accident and died on 27 July 2020
- † Mr. John Nayak (67), the father of Sr. Rinki Nayak who passed away on 28 July 2020
- † Fr. Thomas Kanjirathumkal (KA Thomas) SDB (86), who was called to eternal home on 03 August 2020 from Salesian Province of Kolkata (INC).
- † Sr. Victorina Gnanapragasam FMA (45) who went to meet the Lord on 21 July 2020 from Province of Chennai (INM)
- † Let us remember with gratitude and fond memories our dear Sr. Teresa Theruvamkunnel (T.O.) on the occasion of her first death Anniversary on 15 August.

Dear sisters,

At the conclusion of its Constitution on the Church, the Second Vatican Council left us a very beautiful meditation on Mary Most Holy. This is the mystery we celebrate on the feast of Assumption “the immaculate Virgin preserved free from all stain of original sin, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, when her earthly life was over, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things” (no. 59); “the Mother of Jesus in the glory which she possesses in body and soul in heaven is the image and the beginning of the church as it is to be perfected in the world to come. Likewise, she shines forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come” (no. 68).

To this beautiful image of our heavenly Mother, the woman of Hope, let us entrust our brothers and sisters and the entire world, when one is losing the grip of daily living amid COVID -19 and other natural calamities. Hope is the virtue of those who, experiencing conflict – the struggle between life and death, good and evil – believe in the resurrection of Christ, in the victory of love. Pope Francis says: “For us Christians, wherever the Cross is, there is hope, always. If there is no hope, we are not Christian. That is why I like to say: do not allow yourselves to be robbed of hope. May we not be robbed of hope, because this strength is a grace, a gift from God which carries us forward with our eyes fixed on heaven” To Mary, this woman of Hope, who assumed into heaven let us turn our gaze for assistance and help.

Wish you Happy Independence Day and the Feast of Assumption!



Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
(Provincial)