

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/51/06/2020

June 2020

Dearest Sisters,

Loving and prayerful greetings from Provincial House, Dum Dum!

Feast and the month of the sacred Heart of Jesus

We have just begun the month of June. A month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Heart of Jesus manifests God's infinite love for humankind. Love explains all the mysteries of Jesus; the faith that we ought to have in the fullness of this love the Church sets it before us as the object of worship in the Feast of the Sacred Heart. The contemplation of the benefits which we owe to the love of Jesus, symbolized by His Heart, is the source of the love that we ought to give Him in return. Devotion to the Sacred Heart makes us take, little by little, the attitude that should characterize our relations with God. Christ alone unveils to us the true attitude of the soul in face of God. Devotion to the Heart of Jesus helps us to acquire this attitude. The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI speaking of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus said: "In biblical language, "heart" indicates the centre of the person where his sentiments and intentions dwell. In the Heart of the Redeemer we adore God's



love for humanity, his will for universal salvation, his infinite mercy. As we experience the love of Jesus, let our hearts be transformed by His love and let our response to this unconditional love be a total surrender to His plans and projects in the ordinary and extra ordinary circumstances of life. May we be strengthened by this strong love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to face the unprecedented period of trials and difficulties.

All of us are aware of the crisis the world is facing due to the Pandemic and the natural calamities which devastated the very structure of human existence. We are witnessing daily the distressing plight of thousands of poor people whose economic and social security are severely affected threatening their very survival. This is the time to feel the pain of our brothers and sisters and express our solidarity with them in whatever way we can. It is marvelous and challenging journey that calls for greater openness and availability and compassion. Mother General through her circular letter tells us that it is not an easy journey, but it is a challenge we are invited to face at this time in which the world is in crisis due to all that is happening, the spread of Virus, the migration, social injustices, natural calamities,

violence on natural creation and on the common home. This reality calls for very concrete and constant steps that we need to identify according to the needs of our realities and in synergy with local Church and with our educating communities. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus fill our minds and hearts with renewed optimism and courage to encounter the inevitable challenges and opportunities of the post-covid world, realizing that we are given a new opportunity to create a better world and a more humane society.

Here I like state the proposal given by Mother General to each one of us in her circular 987 "I wish to launch a simple and familiar proposal to you: let us commit ourselves to discover in our life, in our communities, and in the reality in which we express the charism, the signs of new shoots, even if only potential, and sprinkle them with the clear water of prayer, of trust, leaving aside any feelings of skepticism, indifference, doubt. Let us open wide the doors of our heart and of our homes to the 'sun' of hope, to love that never disappoints, to faith that gives us the joy of the encounter! Let us help each other to be attentive to all the signs, even the smallest, because a new future is maturing in them. May the Holy Spirit, whom we await at Pentecost, make us passionate about our time." Dear Sisters let us really take it to heart and live it faith and optimism.

Feast of the Immaculate heart of Mary



The Feast of Immaculate heart of Mary is connected with feast of the Sacred heart of Jesus. The 'YES' of Mary pronounced in faith at the annunciation expresses her heart that is totally submissive to God. The Immaculate Heart of Mary shines as a sign of consolation and firm hope for all, and reflects the inexhaustible tenderness of God. She has brought us the Savior and all the joy of her maternal intercession in bringing us to Him. It is in the immaculate heart of Mary that we can understand deeper the mystery of Christ, of His Sacred Heart, which, ultimately, is the love of God. Pope Francis said of Mary: "Her immaculate heart, a mother's heart, shared the compassion of God to the utmost, especially in the hour of Jesus' passion and death". Let us therefore ask Mary to help us-her spiritual children, so dear to her heart, to stay ever united in friendship with her Son and never separate

ourselves by sin. We shall remember our Mother Province which has the Immaculate Heart of Mary as its Patron and so we wish them a very happy feast and her maternal protection to the Provincial and the sisters of Shillong Province.

Transfers

I would like to thank all the sisters who have accepted the transfers in the light of faith and with a sincere spirit of obedience. May Mary our Blessed Mother accompany you in your new journey of life in the new communities. I remember our former Provincials and Superiors who used to tell us at the time of transfers remember that to which ever community you are sent, you will always find Jesus in Tabernacle, and our Blessed Mother to whom you can run for your spiritual strength and consolation, Superior to guide and

Sisters to love and children to be cared for. The community in turn welcomes every sister with the spirit of faith, openness and sisterly love to form a synodal community. So dear sisters go with this assurance and you will make a beautiful community.

Now I request all those who are transferred to reach to your respective communities by the end of June or the first week of July 2020 subject to the possibility of travel at this time of Pandemic. I wish all of you a very joyful presence and a fruitful apostolate in your community. **In case any one cannot make it please let me know.**

Communications:

'Laudato Si' Week and Anniversary Year


I am sure we have already celebrated the Laudato Si' Week in our communities heeding to the request of our Holy Father to mark the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'* on the care for our common home with the theme "everything is connected" to take up the journey of transformation, as we grow through the crisis of the current moment by praying, reflecting, and preparing together for a better world to come tomorrow.

Now we have already entered into the special **Anniversary Year Laudato Si' from 24 May 2020 – 24 May 2021** to commemorate the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical on the care for our common home with a yearlong chain of initiatives dedicated to the preservation and care for our common home mother Earth. The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development said that amid the current pandemic, "Laudato Si'" can "indeed provide the moral and spiritual compass for the journey to create a more caring, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world." "We have, in fact, a unique opportunity to transform the present groaning and travail into the birth pangs of a new way of living together, bonded together in love, compassion and solidarity and a more harmonious relationship with the natural world, our common home," the dicastery's announcement said.

Therefore, let us join our hands together with our students and the educating community to bring a change in our environment to make our world a better place to live in. We need to cooperate with God to care for the beautiful creation of God which he handed over to us. As Pope reminds us, "all of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents." Let us make use of all the materials that is forwarded to you by the Youth Pastoral Sector, as well as available in the social media to create awareness among our students through various initiatives and by organizing various program.



Congratulations, Prayers and Thanks to:

 Sister Carmen Lucrecia Uribe from Colombia who is appointed as the World Delegate of the Association of Salesian Cooperators (ASSCC) for the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

- 🌸 We thank Sr. Leslye Sándigo for having accomplished the task of the animation as Delegate of the FMA Institute in the Association of Salesian Cooperators during these years.
- 🌸 Rev. Fr. Joseph Pauria SDB who is installed as the 17th Provincial of Kolkata Province in Valdocco by Fr. Guillermo Basañes on 17th May 2020. We assure our prayers and God's blessings for him and his team as they take charge of their new responsibility of leading and guiding the Province.
- 🌸 We offer our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Rev. Fr. Nirmol Gomes SDB, the outgoing provincial of Kolkata for his brotherly concern and collaboration in our mission. We assure him choicest blessings and prayers for his new ministry.



Sincere Gratitude to:

- We thank Sr. Elizabeth Makil and the community of Park Circus for having helped the Province to prepare for the feast of Mary Help of Christians with novena practices.
- We express our thanks Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil and the community of Auxilium-Aspirantate for having prepared the postulants Alice Roseline Tirkey, Elina Minj, Nayna Agatha Kujur, Neha Beck, Neha Lucy Kujur and Ursula Kujur to take new step with a meaningful and fervent retreat and Sr. Stella Potteparambil and the community of Auxilium, Barasat for accommodating them during the retreat days and thereafter taking care of them with a specific programme till they will proceed to the Novitiate.
- We are grateful to the communities of Sacred Heart- Novitiate and Mazzarello Convent, Ranchi for having celebrated the first profession of the Novices Anima Kujur, Martha Minj and Priyanka Toppo on 24 May 2020. They are being accompanied Sr. Lily D' Souza and the community.
- A word of appreciation to the Social Communication Sector of the Province for their initiative in organizing Mother Mary Decoration Contest with theme: "Mary Walks in this House" in honour of the feast of the Province and as we are moving towards the 150th year of the Institute's foundation.
- A note of thanks to Sr. Clara Saminathan, the national coordinator of education for organizing FMA PCI online conference which was conducted by Fr. Sunny Jacob SJ, on 30 May 2020 with the theme 'Education Post Corona'. There were around 72 participants among whom were provincials, Province education coordinators, principals and sisters.
- We are grateful and appreciate Sr. Esther Rani Abraham, the Youth Pastoral coordinator of the Province for having made lot of effort to animate the Province by providing materials for the celebration of "Laudato Si" Week from 16 - 24 May 2020 and Year from 24 May 2020 – 24 May 2021 in our communities.

✝ *Condolences - Let us pray for our dear Departed:*

- ✝ Fr. Byron Anthony D'Silva who passed away on 27 May 2020 from the Salesian Province of Mumbai. He was 77 years old and a Salesian for 56 years.
- ✝ Sr. Kanta Tirkey's mother Ms. Teresa Tirkey who was called to her eternal abode on 02 June 2020.
- ✝ Mr. Joseph, the brother-in-law of Sr. Rosina Thomas who returned to his eternal abode on 04 June 2020.
- ✝ Ms. Luisa Xalxo, the grandmother of Sr. Anima Xalxo who died on 05 June 2020 at the age of 98.

Prayers requested for:

- 🌈 Sr. Shradha Kispotta who underwent a surgery and for Sr. Teresa Karakkal who is still in the woodlands Hospital.

I would like to conclude my letter inviting you once again to be imitators of Jesus "Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29) because he has promised us that he would remove "from your body your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26). Where we find Jesus, we also find Mary hence let us journey with Mary to commit ourselves to live our FMA identity with gratitude, building synodal communities in the Salesian style, to generate new life and hope in the present reality particularly among the young people (vision 2020- 2021).

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
(Provincial)