



Istituto Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice
Salesiane di Don Bosco
Mary Help of Christians Province - INC
Kolkata - India



Provincial Circular

Salesian Sisters, Auxilium Convent
10 P.K. Guha Road, Dum Dum, Kolkata - 700028

Cir/LP/01/07/2021

July 2021

Dearest Sisters,

Affectionate greetings from Auxilium Provincial House, Dum Dum!

I thank my God, each time I think of you.

And when I pray for you, I pray with joy.

My dearest and loving sisters, I raise my heart and mind to thank our Blessed Mother, the Help of Christians for having chosen me, an unworthy servant to be her instrument in leading the Province, by living and sharing our life together. I express my sentiments of love and thanks to each one of you my dear Animators and Sisters for having placed your trust and confidence in me above all accepting me as I am. I thank you for your loving greetings and prayerful support.

As I begin the 7th chapter of our Province, I am reminded of the words of Mother Ersilia Canta, the 5th successor of Mother Mazzarello: "Today we live in a world of specialization; let us all become a specialist in prayer". It means profoundly rooted in the Word, which moves one strongly to live the 'da mihi animas cetera tolle'. To be specialist in prayer means to give one's life totally for the wellbeing of others. It takes us to St. John's Gospel, 10:10 "I have come that you may have life, having it in abundance". Yes, dear Sisters we shall all work together to bring forth the abundance of life for our sisters, our young people and to everyone. Let us continue to be heralds of His good news.

Month of July gives us the key word "My God and my Lord" the profession of faith by the Apostle of India St. Thomas. His character is outlined in the Gospel of St. John. His devotion to Jesus is clearly expressed in the following passages: when Jesus planned to return to Judaea, the disciples warned him of the animosity, to which Thomas soon replied, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." (John 11:5-16). He was a person ready to die for his Master and who understood His worth. This is the fruit of letting oneself to be touched by the Master. At the Last Supper Thomas could not comprehend what Jesus meant when he said, "I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going. Thomas said to him, Lord we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way? Jesus replied: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". To know Jesus Christ is to know both the goal and the way. In the fullest sense He is our way, guide and strength and beside Him there is no other. Christ is the door and it is marked plainly, "Whoever believes in

me shall not perish, but have everlasting life." Jesus alone is the way for us to the Father. "No one comes to the Father, but through me" (John 14:1-7)

Jesus is the epitome and personification of Truth. Only Jesus could say, "I am the Truth." He is the full realization of the self-revelation of God. When we look into the face of Jesus we look into the face of God. To see Jesus is to see God. He is the complete, perfect revelation of the Father. Life everlasting is in Christ alone. Every believer can say from the depth of his heart, I never knew what life was until I saw it in His eyes. Jesus gives us His life.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

On January 31, 2021, Pope Francis announced a new celebration in honour of all grandparents and the elderly, who are so important to our communities, families and the Church. This new World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated every year on the fourth Sunday in July, close to the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. This year it will be celebrated on Sunday, July 25, 2021.



The Holy Father has instituted the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly because grandparents are often forgotten, and we forget this wealth of preserving roots and passing on what the elderly have received. Pope says, "the elderly remind us that old age is a gift and that grandparents are the link between the different generations, to pass on to the young the experience of life." The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this occasion is "I am with you always" (Mt 28:20). It expresses the closeness of the Lord and the Church to every older person, especially in these challenging times of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is also a promise of closeness and hope that young and old can mutually share also older person have a mission of evangelization, proclamation and prayer, and of encouraging young people in their faith.

Dear sisters, we too have these treasures in our communities, let the presence of our elderly sisters in our communities be an enrichment and a presence of wisdom for us because we have a lot to learn from their strength, information, and guidance especially from their vast life experiences. (Attach: *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly* (25 July 2021))

Communications

Junior's Meet: Junior's Meeting will be held at Auxilium, Aspirantate, Bamunmura from 8 -12, July 2021.

Retreat and Initiation of Postulants: Our candidates will be making their annual retreat at Auxilium Aspirantate from 21-23 July 2021. On 24 July six aspirants; Liza Uthansingh, Manimala Sabhapati, Mariyana Oliva Lakra, Nirmala Tirkey, Preety Kullu and Sudhanjali Pradhan will receive the Postulant's medal. Let us support them with our prayer.

Intensive Juniorate: Sr. Anima Kujur, Sr. Martha Minj, Sr. Priyanka Pradhan, Sr. Priyanka Toppo, Sr. Shanti Lakda will leave for Guwahati on 5th August for their Intensive Juniorate which will commence officially on 13 August 2021 at Auxilium, Provincial House, Guwahati. We wish them God's blessings and enriching experience.

Seminar: On 03 July, the Salesian Family Sector, Rome organized an online meeting under the leadership of Sr. Maria Luisa Miranda, the General Councilor for Salesian Family with her two collaborators Sr. Gabriela Patiño Osorio, FMA World Delegate of the Past Pupils and Sr. Lucrecia Uribe, FMA World Delegate of the Salesian Cooperators (ASSCC) and of ADMA. The participants were those responsible for Formation in the Province and the communities involved in the initial formation, the Provincial Delegates of the Associations of Past Pupils, SSCC and ADMA. The participant from our Province were Sr. Teresa Adampakallel, Sr. Lily D' Souza, Sr. Rosalia Tirkey, Sr. Stella Potteparambil, Sr. Emilia Vas, Sr. Elizabeth Joseph and Sr. Rejina Joseph. General Councilor for formation Sr. Maria Nieves Rebosso in her introductory talk explicated how to network as Salesian family to enhance the legacy received from the founders. The presentation delineated a methodological guide for the formators named DFC design for change with five phases such as feel, imagine, do, evaluate and share so as to work together in initial formation to increase knowledge of and sense of belonging to the Salesian Family.

Congratulations: The Rector Major, Fr. Angel Fernandez Artime, has appointed Fr. Angelo Sylvester Miranda as the 4th Provincial Superior of the Salesian Vice-Province of Sri Lanka (LKC). We congratulate him and offer our prayers for his new mission.

Let us pray for our dear Departed - Condolences to:

- ✠ Srs. Shanti and Lucy Tirkey at the loss of their uncle Mr. Lapra Tirkey on 17 June 2021
- ✠ Archbishop Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza and to the Diocesan Clergy of Kolkata at the passing away of Rev. Fr. John Mohandas on 21 June at Christ the King Church Presbytery, Kolkata.

† Fr. Jose Kochamkunnel SDB and the Salesians of Chennai Province at the demise of Rev. Fr. Antonysamy Soosairathnam SDB (62) on 23 June 2021.

Dear Sisters,

As I conclude this letter, I invite all of you to encounter the broken humanity in our prayer, open our eyes in faith to bring healing into someone's life. Let us be imitators of Good Samaritan who had a heart to make a difference to him.

- Be a Good Samaritan who stops, bends over to her wounded sister
- Be a Good Samaritan who is not interested in knowing the details of her sister but goes out in love and compassion
- Be a Good Samaritan who without hesitation put aside her plans, desires and interests and goes out of her way
- Be a Good Samaritan who sees the abandoned, hears the voiceless and reach out bringing joy and hope



Therefore, dear sisters, in our daily choices, in the small or big situations that weave our days, let us not turn away and hurry up without stopping, but let us be women inhabited by the Gospel, aware that no one must remain on the 'margins of life' because we are all brothers and sisters (Cir.1010). Let the principle of individualism be replaced with the strength of tenderness and solidarity, like beneficial water, which overflows from the mercy of God, and is capable of transforming suffering into hope.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil FMA
Provincial