

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/59/06/2021

June 2021

Dear Sisters,

Heartfelt sentiments of Gratitude and Love!

I will bless you, O Lord, with a heart full of thanksgiving!

We have just celebrated the feast of the two Sacred Hearts that of Jesus and Mary, full of love. Devotion to these two hearts was promoted together as a means of entering more deeply into the mystery of God's love. The proximity of both celebrations reflects the deep connection between the Heart of Jesus and the Heart of His Mother. United in the love of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I come to you dear Sisters with this my last circular. It is with a heart full of love, gratitude and satisfaction that I write this circular as the 6th Provincial of FMA INC dedicated to Mary Help of Christians, our Mother and Teacher. It has certainly been an enriching experience to be closer to every one of you, particularly during these past six years as the Provincial. I want to thank each one of you for having shared your life with me. Every encounter with each of you was an experience of God's presence in our lives which brought us closer and enabled us to build up deeper relationship and better understanding. I appreciate each one of you for the numerous ways you have expressed your love, loyalty and dedication in carrying out the mission entrusted to each one of you. Thank you for this amazing journey, for the opportunities to meet works and share closely.



I express my deep sense of gratitude to God for His abiding presence and bountiful blessings, for His constant support and inspiration. I always felt the deep in dwelling presence of Holy Spirit who led me all through the past six years with His enlightenment and insights.

My heart overflows with thankfulness to our Blessed Mother, to Don Bosco and Mary Mazzarello who accompanied me and guided me in a special way in these past six years of the governance and animation of the province. I always felt their living and active presence all through my journey, accompanying me by the hand in every step that I took, in success and failures, in joys and sorrows, in disappointments and achievements.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to our beloved Mother General, Mother Yvonne Reungoat and her Council who entrusted me with this responsibility and accompanied me with their unwavering support and guidance all these years. I truly experienced the motherly heart of Mother Yvonne

who was always at my side with her wise direction and recommendations, encouraging me to be always optimistic and to go ahead with faith and hope.

I am also indebted to Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil, the general councillor and the contact person for the PCI. Sr. Lucy Rose was always available for any help and guidance, ready to listen and to clarify my queries and doubts, giving me valuable suggestions and directions. She is truly a sister to me and I remain ever grateful to her.

My heart overflows with gratitude as I reflect on the ways in which God led us as a Province to fulfill the mission entrusted to us even when we are challenged by the problems and difficulties posed by the novel pandemic covid 19. A special word of thanks to every member of the provincial council, past and present, who assisted me and stood by during these past years with their valuable support, suggestions. I could depend and rely on you dear sisters in every discernment process and decision making moments. May the good Lord shower His bountiful blessings on each one of you and give you enough joy and enthusiasm, energy and dynamism and a passion for moving on ward to accomplish the mission.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude especially to Sr. Teresa Adampakallel, the vice Provincial whose whole hearted collaboration, support and encouragement I received in the process of animation and mission. May the good Lord bless you dear Sister for your love, loyalty and commitment.

I owe a huge debt of thanks to Sr. Minimol Chettayil the Province Secretary, Sr. Annie Thevarkunnel and Sr. Teresa Karakkal, the past administrators, for their life of sacrifice and hidden works, taking care of the secretarial and administrative offices with much love, diligence, dedication, precision and competency. Together with them my sincere thanks goes also to the general coordinators of these past years, viz Sr. Minimol Chettayil, Sr. Elizabeth Valliyil and Sr. Lily Perumpettikunnel, the sector coordinators and the team members, who collaborated unstintingly in the animation of the province with efficacy and resourcefulness. I sincerely acknowledge their leadership and commitment, their deep sense of belonging to the province.

As I praise and thank God for all the benefits received, I feel the great need to say a '*big thank you*' to all the community Animators, Formators, and the Sisters who have the task of animation and management of various responsibilities and apostolate of the community, for your selfless dedication and commitment to bring the richness of the Salesian charism in all sectors of apostolate. Thanks for being such loving, dynamic, creative and wonderful collaborators in carrying out the mission of the province wherever you were placed.

I thank each one of you dear Sisters of every age, for your openness and simplicity, friendly and sisterly presence in my life. You welcomed me with open heart and together we experienced the beauty of our vocation lived in the family spirit. You came across my life as a unique gift of God and have enriched me with your multifarious talents and charisms which you put in action generously in enhancing the spirit of the *da mihi animas*. Thank you for your prayers, love, encouragement, commitment, and your sense of belonging to the community and province and

to the congregation. I appreciate your great effort to reach out to the young people in all the ways you can especially during this pandemic time using innovative ways and skills, empowering the staff, students to conduct and attend online classes, Google meets and so on. May God bless you for your enthusiasm and apostolic zeal. A special note of thanks to the elderly Sisters because you guard and keep the charism alive with prayer and daily offering and have supported me lovingly in the past six years. Thank you dear Sisters for being the power house of the province.

A word of appreciation and thanks to our Salesian Provincials of Kolkata Fr. Nirmol Gomes and Fr. Joseph Pauria, and those of the Delhi Province Fr. Jose Mathew and Fr. Davis Maniparamben, for their brotherly support, collaboration and timely assistance

Finally, a huge thank you to all those whom I have encountered during these six years and have become part of my life and mission: Salesian Cooperators, Past Pupils, ADMA members, staff, students, parents, support staff and others. Thank you dear friends for enriching my life with your valuable contribution! May God bless you and your families! I

I place here my expression of thanks and acknowledgment to all our benefactors both foreign and local donors, the funding agencies and well wishes. Without their precious collaboration we would have not been able to reach out to many needy persons and many needs of our mission. May God reward your generosity and compassion towards the poor and needy.

I also take this opportunity once again to congratulate our new provincial Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil as she takes up the reins of animation and guidance of our province on the 24th of this month. Her dynamic and charismatic spirit will go a long way in enhancing Salesian holiness in our province. I wish her God's choicest blessings and the constant accompaniment of our Blessed Mother in her noble responsibility of animation and governance. May Mary our Mother and Help, and Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello be her inspiration and driving force in her onward journey!


I want to express once again a huge thank you to each of you dear sisters for all what you have been to me in so many ways. If I have not been able to reach up to your expectations and have been a cause of pain to any one without my wanting it, I humbly apologize and ask pardon. But you can be assured that each one of you will remain a precious gift to me as the days go ahead. May God our Loving Father and His Blessed Mother, the Immaculate Help of Christians, Don Bosco and Mary Mazzarello be our constant companions in our journey of Salesian holiness and mission


Thank You


Communications


Installation: The Installation of the Provincial Elect, Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil, will be held on 24 June 2021 at Auxilium Provincial House, Dum Dum at 07.00 am. The Eucharistic Celebration will be presided over by Fr. Joseph Pauria SDB, the Provincial of Salesians of Kolkata. Due to the Covid protocol, three sisters from the Kolkata communities and the Provincial Council are invited to participate in the installation ceremony. We wish Sr. Leelamma God's copious blessings and infilling of the Holy Spirit as she assumes leadership of the province and our sisterly prayer and collaboration. I am sure all of you received the detailed programme of the events.

Gratitude and Appreciation:

 A word of gratitude to our Archbishop Most Rev. Thomas D' Souza for presiding over the Holy Eucharist and blessing our eight perpetually professed sisters on 24 May 2021 at Auxilium Aspirantate and to Fr. Biji Thomas SDB for preparing our sisters by preaching the retreat. I also express my thanks to Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil and the community of Aspirantate for making all the arrangement possible to make this day memorable one for our sisters.

 I would also like to thank Rt. Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas,SFX, Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi for presiding over the first profession of our eight sisters on 24 May 2021 and acknowledge with gratitude all the arrangement made by Sr. Rosalia Tirkey and Sr. Lily D' Souza and the communities of Ranchi towards the retreat and the first profession of our sisters.

 Thanks to Sr. Elizabeth Valliyil and the community of New Chumta and Sr. Rose Kureekattu and the community of Barasat for helping all the sisters to prepare well for the solemnity of Mary Help of Christians and the Sacred Heart of Jesus respectively.

 A special note of thanks and appreciation to the Social Communication Sector of the Province especially to Sr. Celine Alexander for launching the beautiful videos during the novena of Mary Help of Christians highlighting the miracles performed by St. John Bosco through the intercession of Mary Most Holy.

Retreat: Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil and the Provincial Councilors will be making a three-day retreat at Auxilium, Provincial House, Dum Dum from 26 – 28 June 2021. It will be preached by Fr. Biji Thomas SDB. Let us support them with our prayer.

Seminar: An online seminar will be held for the animators of the Province on 25 June 2021 from 9.00 am - 5.30 pm. It will be animated by Sr. Inigo SSA.

Let us pray for our dear Departed - Condolences to:

- † Sr. Rose Mary Ekka at the demise of her cousin sister Ms. Divya Ekka on 07 May 2021 due to COVID – 19.
- † Sr. Margaret Amalanathan and the sisters of Trichy Province at the passing away of Sr. Cherian Licy (68) in Kaveri Hospital on 12 May 2021.
- † Fr. Jose Koyickal and the Salesians of Bangalore Province at the demise of Fr. Antony Mampra SDB (95) on 16 May 2021 at Don Bosco Sultan Bathery, Kerala.
- † Sr. Siljera Marak at the loss of her maternal grandmother Mrs Nemsy Ch. Marak (75) on 23 May 2021 in Garobadha Civil Hospital.
- † Sr. Deepa Minj at the passing away of her maternal uncle Mr. Blasius Kerketta (49) on 26 May 2021.
- † Sr. Juliana Minj at the demise of her brother in law Mr. Clement Soreng (65) on 28 May 2021
- † Fr. Kuruvachira Jose and the Salesians of Dimapur Province at the demise of Fr. Stanislaus Kerketta SDB on 28 May 2021 and Fr. Emmanuel Xalxo SDB on 11 Jun 2021 at Shija Hospital, Imphal.
- † Fr. Jose Kochamkunnel SDB and the Salesians of Chennai Province at the passing away of Fr. Antony Pottakerry SDB (86) on 02 June 2021 in Kauveri Hospital, Chennai.
- † Sr. Shanti Palamoottil at the loss of her dear mother Ms. Mary Sebastian on 04 June 2021
- † Fr. Agilan Sarprasadam SDB and the Salesians of Trichy Province at the demise of Fr. Sahayaraj Arulkannu SDB (61) on 04 June 2021 at Meenakshi Hospital, Thanjavur and Fr. James Theophilus SDB (68) on 05 June 2021 at Salem due to Covid-19
- † Sr. Restitula Kharpran at the demise of her grand-uncle Mr. Augustine Kharpran on 04 June 2021
- † Fr. Vijaya Bhaskar Thatireddy SDB and the Salesians of Hyderabad Province at the demise of Fr. Maniyangattuthazhe Joseph (59) on June 06, 2021 at Vijay Marie Hospital, Hyderabad

Dear Sisters,

God's great love for humanity is everlasting and steadfast and it is manifested in Jesus. The Lord set his love upon you and chose you" (Dt 7:7). Pope Francis says, "God is bound to us, he chose us, and this bond is forever, not so much because we are faithful, but because the Lord is faithful and endures our faithlessness, our indolence, and our lapses". St Paul reminds us: "If we are faithless, he, Jesus, remains faithful for he cannot deny himself" (2 Tm 2:13). Jesus remains faithful, he never betrays us: even when we were wrong, He always waits for us to forgive us: He is the face of the merciful Father. This is how He defined himself: "learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart" (Mt 11:29). The significance of the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which we are celebrating, is to discover ever more and to let ourselves be enfolded by the humble faithfulness and the gentleness of Christ's love, the revelation of the Father's mercy. God's faithfulness teaches us to accept life as a circumstance of his love and he allows us to witness this love to our brothers and sisters in humble and gentle service especially during this time of pandemic we may reveal the merciful and steadfast love of the Father in our word and deed. May Jesus, render our heart ever more like his, full of love and faithfulness.

Wish you all a very Happy Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate heart of Mary !

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Rose Ezarath FMA
Provincial

