



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

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November 2022

My dearest and loving Sisters,

Month of November is very dear to all of us Catholics, all the more for us FMA, when we the pilgrim Church comes together to celebrate the triumphant Church who illustrates us the technique of reaching our eternal goal. As we celebrate the solemnity of all Saints, who are glorifying the Lord eternally and are our intercessors, especially our saintly Sisters whom as Institute we have remembered and honoured on 30 October (FMA 150 Holyween), let us re-commit ourselves to strive towards holiness in the ordinary circumstances of our daily, humdrum life.

We have on the 2nd the commemoration of all the departed souls and we the pilgrim church link with them to prepare our destiny to join them one day in heaven. As we all know, one way or the other, we are all indebted to those who have gone ahead of us. As an expression of our love and gratitude, let us remember them in our daily prayers and offer some sacrifices that they may reach their heavenly abode at the earliest and intercede for us.

November 24th is the real day of the arrival of our first six pioneers to Tanjore, their destination and dreamland of mission, India. In this context, I invite all of you to focus your attention to the recent circular of our beloved Mother General, which brings forth an ample opportunity to think and rethink of our **Educational Charism**. We are called to be educators according to the heart and mind of our holy founders, and the spirit and zeal of the '**da mihi animas cetera tolle**'. To implement and spread it with dynamic vivacity and creativity in our society, and to bear fruits of life and hope to everyone, we need to start from our own communities, schools, oratories and non-formal centres by keeping alive the monthly commemorations of all our Salesian saints and other similar formative activities. Let us therefore introspect ourselves personally and as a community to see the role of an educator according to the spirit of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello.

Today the entire educational scenario has changed, a great challenge and opportunity is presented before us. Here we need to look and compare, the rich experience lived by our pioneers, who with the educational projects of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello transformed and gave life and vitality to our mission. Now each one of us is personally as well as communities, we hold the responsibility of reaching out to them with the hands, heads and hearts of our holy founders to know and understand them with the prophetic dynamism and educational charity that is diligent in grasping the new needs of young people in and around us. Our Founders set up the mission starting from the educational relationship lived according to the charismatic parameters of **presence**, a presence oriented by the intention to take care of the life

and integral maturation of young people. Preventive System makes us reflect on the dynamic potential of the charism embodied in the routine of our missionaries' lives. They permeated and animated the Salesian joy that led them to face the inevitable difficulties. They transmitted to us the experience of a living charism which they made it relevant according to their time and situation. Now it is our turn. Let us therefore pledge ourselves fully into the life of our young people in the context of today's reality. Our first Sisters were poor, with very little means, but they were inflamed by the *da mihi animas cetera tolle*. Like them each of us can grow in our own life making the charism develop and transmit to all those who are directly or indirectly in contact with us. Let us be inflamed with the same zeal and enthusiasm to work tirelessly for the good of our young people and women. May this become our characteristics and resources.

Let us not forget that during the time of crisis, difficulties and hardships the transforming and transformative vitality of our educational charism was manifested in the various epochs of history. The same situation is faced also by our young people of today. Let us remember that everything will pass but the spirit and charism lived in its fullness having continuous relationship with the young people will always bear lasting fruits and effects. This can be done by taking care of them, knowing them, understanding them, remaining among them, above all, by supporting them in building a new model of integral development, to prepare them for great choices of life for their future. We are called to educate young people and we are fortunate to have hundreds and thousands of them in our hands, and so let us take care of each other responsibly to be formed, and to make them form in the values of justice, peace, and universal brotherhood in order to overcome inequalities and injustice.

Let us remember that we are called to be like Mary, women of hope in Salesian style, especially among the poor and marginalized, through listening, being actively present and having a passionate love for the young. Therefore, fidelity to our educational vocation requires wisdom, discernment, courage, openness to new cultural paradigms challenging us to take care of the quality of auto-formation in order to become competent in preparing the new generations to live up to the demands of today's world. Therefore let us update ourselves with all that is provided in our libraries as well as all that is around us, for an integral education of the young people, families and society.

Communications

Compliments and Congratulations!

Congratulations and sincere appreciation to all of you dear animators of the communities, principals and sisters for organizing retreats, camps and seminars during the puja holidays. It is also delightful to know the way Mission month and month of the Holy Rosary was animated in all our communities with various initiatives.

Congratulations to all our 13 sisters namely, Sr. Agness Pradhan, Sr. Bontila Makdoh, Sr. Clara Rai, Sr. Jenita Mary, Sr. Mini Putharickal, Sr. Shanti Tirkey, Sr. Usha Kiran Tirkey, Sr. Bridgit Chettri, Sr. Kanti Tirkey, Sr. Manjula Lakra, Sr. Pramila Ekka, Sr. Salomi Minj and Sr. Siljera

Marak who have successfully completed the one year online Catechetical Diploma Course from October 2021- October 2022 from Shanti Sadan, CCBI Secretariat Extension, Benaulim, Goa.

Sr. Pranati Sabasundar and Sr. Rosalia Tirkey are participating in the Charism retreat at Don Bosco Institute for Development and Leadership, Dimapur - Nagaland (DBIDL). It is held from 31 October - 9 November 2022 and participated by 78 priests and religious. It is organized by the Salesians of Dimapur Province and preached by Sr. Elsis Mathew MSMI, Sr. Nirmal Jyoti MSMI and Sr. Dhanya MSMI.

Sr. Stella Potteparambil, Sr. Rosalia Tirkey and Sr. Rosy Veliyan will be participating in the symposium planning committee meeting on 12-13 November 2022 at Auxilium Provincial House, Guwahati in view of the arrival of the pioneers to North East India.

Dear Sisters,

Today as we celebrate the solemnity of all the Saints, the Church invites us to reflect on the great hope that is based on Christ's Resurrection: Christ is Risen and we will also be with him. The Saints and Blessed are the most authoritative witnesses of Christian hope, because they lived it fully in their lives, amidst joys and sufferings, putting into practice the Beatitudes that Jesus preached and which we read in the Liturgy of the day (cf. Mt 5:1-12). Heeding the invitation of Pope Francis let us ask ourselves what side we are on: that of heaven or that of the earth? Do we live for the Lord or for ourselves, for eternal happiness or for some fulfillment now? Let us live for heaven and not for the world.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil FMA
Provincial



**ALL
SAINTS'
DAY**
November 1

