



**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/19/04/2023**

**APRIL 2023**

My dear Sisters,

Loving and prayerful greetings for a very holy and fervent Holy Week and Easter to each of you!

First of all, thank you sincerely for the prayers you offered for the fruitful spiritual retreat of the animators, held at Kurseong from 24 to 31 March 2023. All of them have just returned to their respective communities enriched, renewed, and refreshed after intense days of deeper encounter with the Lord. They might have already shared with you some of their experiences of the days they spent in close intimacy with Him. I believe that all the communities will certainly be re-energized as they continue to keep alive the flame of God's love they have re-enchanted in their hearts during the days of the retreat. They began the retreat with three objectives and attitudes: to be enlightened, to have an encounter with the Lord and to be empowered by him; to have an expectation, openness to listen and thankfulness to encounter the Lord. The retreatants were invited to take the road of sanctity that is less travelled, to proclaim the message of holiness in season and out of season, to live and witness what they say and proclaim, to lead a life worthy of the call they have received, to be a God and heart centered person, to live a life with an undivided heart by embracing the vows and to live a life modelled after the prayer of Jesus and to take Mary as mother and guide.

### *Holy Week and Easter !*

The month of April begins with Holy Week, the most sacred week of the liturgical year, an intense week of God's graces. On Sunday, 2 April, we embark on the journey of Holy Week. We will set out with palm branches, moving through Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and finally to the glory of the resurrection. This holiest of weeks holds the full depth and breadth of our human experience, our sufferings, triumphs, and countless blessings. Holy Week can be called a place from which transformation emerges. Let us, therefore, prepare our hearts to receive the blessings of Easter, following faithfully and participating with fervour in all the holy events of this week, remaining open to the genuine conversion of heart.



During this time of the Liturgical year, the Church invites us to remember and relive the events that brought about our redemption and salvation. What we commemorate and relive during this week is not just Jesus' dying and rising, but our own dying to sin and selfishness and rising in Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Attentive participation in the Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith, and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus, enabling others to see in us Jesus' universal love, unconditional forgiveness, and sacrificial service. The holy week calls each one of us to greater acceptance and sacrifice, so that we may experience the greater joy of Easter glory.

At the dawn of Easter, we too are called to live each morning as a great new dawn, a great new victory, a great new invitation to encounter the risen Christ. As people who have encountered Jesus, now it's our turn to be witnesses to the Resurrection – witnesses of hope in a world in need of hope. May the Risen Lord inflame our hearts and raise our spirits so that we may journey towards his kingdom with undimmed hope. Let our hearts tell us, yes, alleluia, He is risen, He lives, He reigns, He will ever be with us at our side, calling us to be with Him forever, because we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the living presence of the Risen Lord Who loves us in all the events of our lives and amid the suffering, pain, and tensions of our day-to-day life. **Let us, therefore, always live the lives of the Resurrection people.** May the Risen Lord be a living experience for us, permeating every area of our lives, blessing us, strengthening us, inspiring us, guiding us, and supporting us in every moment of our lives!

## *World Feast of Gratitude 2023*

The World Feast of Gratitude 2023 will be celebrated in Colombia, Bogotá on 26 April 2023. It will be animated by the four Colombian Provinces: *Our Lady of the Rosary* Province of Chiquinquirá (CBC); *Our Lady of the Snow* Province (CBN); *Mary Help of Christians* Province (CMA); *Saint Mary Mazzarello* Province (CMM) with the theme: **"With Mary, we generate a**



**Con María  
generamos  
cultura de Paz**

Fiesta de la Gratitude Mundial 2023  
HIJAS DE MARÍA AUXILIADORA

**culture of peace"**. The theme is motivated as follows: In such a delicate moment for the world in which peace is threatened in many ways, we want our celebration of Gratitude to be a song of peace and a call to the commitment to build it. The theme that is proposed to us, illumined by the Word of Jesus: **"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"** (Mt 5:9).

In order to prepare ourselves for the feast, the Colombian Provinces propose a three-week itinerary:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Week (26 March – 5 April) Peace in the inner home of our hearts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Week (6 – 15 April) Peace in the welcoming home
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Week (16 – 25 April) Peace in the common home

Each stage will be accompanied by the act of '**Entrustment to Mary**' proposed for this occasion and by the conscious prayer of "**Hail Mary for peace in the house.**" Let us join with the whole Institute in the commitment to generate a culture of peace, making ample use of the website [www.festadelgrazie.org](http://www.festadelgrazie.org), which provides suggestions to prepare ourselves and the Educating Communities for the event.

For us, the Feast of Gratitude is a very meaningful moment at the charismatic level that gives continuity and expression to the spirit of family and of gratitude so characteristic at Valdocco and Mornese. It is an opportunity for us to thank God for the priceless gift of Mother Chiara to our Institute, for her animation and guidance, for her loving and generous dedication. Let us, therefore, involve the Educating Communities, lay people, and young people, expressing gratitude to Mother Chiara Cazzuola and living with renewed enthusiasm, the charismatic event of the World Feast of Gratitude. May our spiritual preparation for the World Feast of Gratitude help us to live in a network of peace and gratitude, family spirit, and communion.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Appointments

Mother General and her council have approved the appointment of the Vice-Provincial, Provincial Councilor and the animators of the communities for the term 2023 – 2026 respectively.

Vice-provincial:	Sr. Rose Kureekattu	First term
Provincial Councilor:	Sr. Celina Alexandar Virakodiyanal	Second term

S. No	Name of the community	Name of the Animator	Term of Office
1	'B. Laura Vicuna' Jumaikelela	Sr. BARA Emerenciana	First
2	'B. Eusebia Palomino' Barasat - Aspirantate	Sr. KISPOTTA Shradha	First
3	'Maria Immacolata' Mirik	Sr. MINJ Taramani	First
4	'Maria Ausiliatrice' Thecho - Kathmandu	Sr. PAREKATTIL Antony Gracy	First
5	'Maria Ausiliatrice' Barasat	Sr. PERUMPETTICKUNNEL Lily	First

6	'Maria Ausiliatrice' Gobra	Sr. EKKA Mary	First
7	'Maria Bambina' New Delhi -R.K. Puram	Sr. KANNAMPUZHA Annie	First
8	'Maria Ausiliatrice' Dum Dum	Sr. POTTEPARAMBIL Stella	Second

I express my gratitude to you dear sisters for your readiness and generosity in accepting the responsibility of animation of the communities. Let us support them with our prayers.

I am grateful to Sr. Teresa Adampakallel, the outgoing vice-provincial for rendering her service of animation for the past nine years with generosity, commitment and dedication. May you be blessed a hundredfold by our Lord!

I put on record, the committed and loving service of animation rendered by the outgoing animators Sr. Rose Kureekattu, Sr. Teresa Pulickathadathil, Sr. Aquila Phawa, Sr. Rosalia Tirkey and Sr. Alphonsa Kachappilly in the communities of Auxilium - Barasat, New Delhi - R.K. Puram, Thecho- Kathmandu, Barasat- Aspirantate and Auxilium- Gobra respectively.

I also would like to acknowledge the contribution of Sr. Mary Ekka and Sr. Annie Kannampuzha in the communities of Jumaikela and Mirik and now once again called to render their service of animation in the communities of Gobra and New Delhi – R.K. Puram.

## Meetings

Sr. Emila Vas and Sr. Rosy Veliyan took part in the Co-operators Regional Congress held at NBCLC Bangaluru on 18 and 19 February 2023.

The National Development Forum office organized a training program on Environmental Stewardship on 18 and 19 March and had the 18<sup>th</sup> NDF Annual Meet on 20 and 21 March 2023 at Bangalore Provincial House, Avalahalli. Sr. Alma Bilung, the SDC of our Province and Sr. Sosan Minj participated in the program.

Srs. Anima Minj, Dominica Thapa, Jancy Valliyil, Lemnom Mosang, Phulkeria Lakra, Sandhya Minj and Shanti Tirkey will be partaking in the Up- Skilling training program for Catholic School Principals organized by the All-India Association of Catholic Schools to educate and train on all job-related duties and responsibilities of the principal as well as to administer the institutions with perfection and precision. It will be held at Don Bosco Technical Institute, Okhla, New Delhi from 20 – 23 April 2023.

## *Sincere Gratitude and Appreciation to:*

- Sr. Celsa Magalhaes from the Province of Mumbai was in the community of Auxilium, Kalyani from June 2022 and returned to her Province on 24 February 2023. We are grateful to her for the service that she rendered in the field of education and for reaching out to many students with generosity and enthusiasm. May the Lord bless you abundantly dear Sr. Celsa!
- Sr. Stella Potteparambil and the community of Dum Dum for enabling the sisters to prepare well for the solemnity of St. Joseph with the novena preparation.
- Sr. Stella Pottaparambil for presenting the Acts of GC XXIV to the animators with creativity and passion to take up the post-chapter journey on 22 March 2023 with the theme “With Mary, be a life-giving presence”.
- Sr. Nirmala Tigga and the sisters of Auxilium - Kurseong for their warm and loving hospitality offered to our animators to make their fruitful retreat from 24 - 31 March 2023. Our sincere appreciation to Fr. James Chacko SDB for providing a mountain experience of enlightenment, encounter and empowerment to the sisters to live discipleship abiding in his love.

## *Let us pray for our dear Departed - Condolences to:*

- † Sr. Anima Minj at the passing away of her maternal uncle Mr. Stanislas Tirkey on 12 February 2023 and paternal uncle Mr. Silbanus Minj on 21 March 2023.
- † Sr. Amali John Joseph at the demise of her mother Mrs. Santhammal (85) on 21 February 2023
- † Sr. Celsa Magalhaes at the passing away of her sister Mrs. Lourdes Gonsalves on 22 February 2023.
- † Sr. Mary Puthuppallil at the return of her sister Mrs. Elamma Paulose to her heavenly abode on 03 March 2023.
- † Sr. Alitricce Warjiri at the demise of her father Mr Enshon Angelus Lamare (77) on 06 March 2023.
- † Rev. Fr. Provincial and the Salesians of Bangalore Province at the passing away of Rev. Fr. Thomas Vailatt SDB (93) on 13 March 2023 in Mamma Margaret Home, Aluva.
- † Sr. Rose Ezarath at the return of her eldest sister Mrs. Mariyakutty (94) to her heavenly home on 18 March 2023.
- † Sr. Alma Tirkey at the passing away of her brother Mr. Silvester Tirkey (70) on 26 March 2023.

Dear Sisters,

Very soon we will be celebrating the feast of Easter, it is a feast of hope, joy and courage. At dawn when the women went to the tomb, they received the message from the angels “Do not be afraid. He is not here; for He has risen”. Then they met Jesus, the giver of all hope and courage with the promise once again: “Do not be afraid”. Hence, let us be people of courage and hope for ourselves and for others. Pope Francis in one of his Easter messages tells us: The Lord goes before us; he goes before us always. “Go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee” (Mt 28:10) It is encouraging to know that he walks ahead of us in life and in death; he goes before us to Galilee, that is, to the place which for him and his disciples evoked the idea of daily life, family and work. Jesus wants us to bring hope, to our everyday life. Returning to Galilee means remembering that we have been loved and called by God. Therefore, let us be an Easter people and let alleluia be our song to everyone whom we encounter in our everyday life.

Wish you a blessed Easter filled with hope and joy of the Risen Saviour !

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil FMA  
Provincial

