



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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Dearest and loving Sisters,

Loving greetings to all of you from the Provincial House, Dum Dum !

Month of the Holy Rosary

We are in the month of October and in the Catholic world, this month is known as the month of the Holy Rosary. The Holy Rosary is one of the devotions that honor Mary more profoundly than most other devotions. Pope Benedict XVI, giving his reflection on the Rosary, invited the faithful to experience personally the beauty and depth of this prayer which is simple and accessible to everyone. When we pray the Rosary we contemplate the face of Christ, and we pray the Word of God, thus when we pray the Rosary we remain ever anchored to Scripture and to the mysteries presented in it. The Holy Rosary is considered a perfect prayer because it consists of the story of our salvation. The centre of this prayer is not Mary, but Jesus. It is so simple but so effective as to receive whatever we ask Jesus through Mary. In every apparition -, the heavenly Mother has asked us to pray the Rosary as a powerful weapon against evil, to bring us true peace and joy. *“The greatest method of praying is to pray the Rosary.”* (Saint Francis de Sales). Let us use this method as much as possible and encourage and teach others to do the same.



Feast of the Guardian Angels

On 02 October we celebrate the feast of the Guardian Angels in the church. An Angel is a pure spirit created by God who glorifies God without ceasing and watches over us during our lives. Guardian angels are first and foremost doing God's will. Our guardian angel is in constant communication with God and intercedes for us on our behalf to the heavenly Father. Their mission is to do whatever they can to protect our souls, help us avoid sin and spiritual dangers and gain entrance to heaven. Pope Francis said, “The angel is the daily door toward transcendence, to the encounter with the Father. The angel helps me walk along the path because he looks at the Father who knows the way”. Therefore, let us pray to our guardian angels, and seek their help and intercession in all our needs.





MISSIONARY MONTH - OCTOBER 2023
World Mission Sunday: October 22, 2023

Hearts on Fire
FEET ON THE MOVE

World Mission Sunday

Pope Francis, for this year's World Mission Sunday, has chosen a theme inspired by the story of the disciples on the way to Emmaus, in the Gospel of Luke (cf. 24:13-35): "Hearts on fire, feet on the move". Holy Father says: "Those two disciples were confused and dismayed, but their encounter with Christ in the word and in the breaking of the bread sparked in them the enthusiastic desire to set out again towards Jerusalem and proclaim that the Lord had truly risen. In the Gospel account, we perceive this change in the disciples through a few revealing images: their hearts burned within them as they heard the Scriptures explained by Jesus, their eyes were opened as they recognized him and, ultimately, their feet set out on the way."

By reading and meditating on these three images, we can and let us renew our zeal for evangelization wherever we are called to in our apostolic ministry. I would like to highlight a few points from the message of our Holy Father.

"Our hearts burned within us when he explained the Scriptures to us". In missionary activity, the word of God illumines and transforms hearts. So let us always be willing to let ourselves be accompanied by the Risen Lord as he explains to us the meaning of the Scriptures. May he make our hearts burn within us; may he enlighten and transform us, so that we can proclaim his mystery of salvation to the world with the power and wisdom that come from his Spirit.

Our eyes were "opened and recognized him" in the breaking of the bread. Jesus in the Eucharist is the source and summit of the mission. This union is achieved through daily prayer, particularly in Eucharistic adoration, as we remain in silence in the presence of the Lord, who remains with us in the Blessed Sacrament. By lovingly cultivating this communion with Christ, the missionary disciple can become a mystic in action. May our hearts always yearn for the company of Jesus, echoing the ardent plea of the two disciples of Emmaus, especially in the evening hours: "Stay with us, Lord!" (cf. Lk 24:29).

After their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus "in the breaking of the bread", the disciples "set out without delay and returned to Jerusalem" (cf. Lk 24:33). So let us set out once more, illumined by our encounter with the risen Lord and prompted by his Spirit. Let us set out again with burning hearts, with our eyes open and our feet in motion. Let us set out to make other hearts burn with the word of God, to open the eyes of others to Jesus in the Eucharist, and to invite everyone to walk together on the path of peace and salvation that God, in Christ, has bestowed upon all humanity.

Dear sisters, let us invite and allow Jesus to journey with us, accompany us and open our eyes so that our hearts may burn for Him and for His mission that is entrusted to us. But before we set out let us sit before the Lord motionless to be a mystic in action.

COMMUNICATIONS

Visit of Mother Chiara Cazzuola to the Province: We were fortunate and blessed to have the presence of our dear Mother General, Sr. Chiara Cazzuola, Superior General of our Institute, Sr. Nilza Fatima Moraes the General Councillor for the formation, and Sr. Runita Borja, the General Councillor for Youth Pastoral in our province from 05 – 08 September 2023. It was an added joy for all of us as FMA India concluded the centenary celebrations of the arrival of the 2nd batch of missionaries to the northern part of India. The much-awaited moment was unfolded and made history and memorable for us in the province and the recipients of our mission when our dear Mother General Sr. Chiara Cazzuola and two of her councillors Sr. Nilza Fatima Moraes and Sr. Runita Galve Borja visited the communities of Vasant Vihar, R.K. Puram, Palam Gaon in New Delhi and Dum Dum, Barasat, and Barasat -Aspirantate in Kolkata. Nine schools of our province from Bandel, Barasat, Dum Dum, Kalyani, Geyzing, Jumaikela, Ranchi, Jaigaon, and Kathmandu-Nepal were able to felicitate La Madre with exhilarating welcome, felicitations and cultural presentations.

She was able to encounter a number of imminent personalities, the Apostolic Nuncio His Excellency Most Rev. Leopoldo Girelli, Provincial of the Salesians of New Delhi, Fr. Davis Maniparamben SDB and a big number of Salesians of Delhi Province, Most Rev. Anil J.T. Couto, the Archbishop of Delhi, Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza the Archbishop of Calcutta, Provincial of Salesians of Kolkata, Rev. Fr. Joseph Pauria SDB, Parish priests, priest and Salesian Family members who are part of the juridical area of our province. We are grateful to all of them for their availability and willingness to offer their precious time.

A sincere thankfulness and appreciation to all of you dear sisters who were part of this unforgettable event through prayer, participation in the various programs and preparing the young people from far and near to partake in the celebration and to encounter our dear La Madre. I also would like to place on record with gratitude and indebtedness to the communities of Vasant Vihar, Dum Dum, Barasat, and Auxilium-Aspirantate and the sisters who played a major role in organizing the entire program with much love, dedication and commitment so wonderfully. May God bless you, dear sisters!

Closing of the Centenary Celebration: We raise a hymn of praise and thanks to God for the wonderful concluding celebration of the Centennial FMA Presence in Northern India and the arrival of the six Pioneers (1923-2023). Hats off to Sr Elizabeth George, the Provincial and the sisters of the Province of Shillong for the wonderful way the program was planned and implemented. The National Youth Meet held on 09 September 2023 and the Centenary Grand Finale on 10 September 2023 were breathtaking. All the participants from our province were extremely honoured and blessed to be part of this historical celebration.

Congratulations: We greatly acknowledge and commend the History writing team for their tireless and commendable work. We rejoice with them as the History books: one volume of Southern India “FMA INDIA History of her Growth” (1922 -1982) and three volumes of Northern India “History of the FMA in Northern India” (1923-1983) were released by our beloved Mother General in the presence of the three General Councillors, the dignitaries, FMA India and the multitude of young people during the centenary grand finale on 10 September 2023. In a very special I would like to congratulate Sr Lily Perumpettikunnel and her team for this magnanimous task of finishing the writing of the entire History of Northern India in three volumes, which all of you will be receiving very soon.

Provincial 's Retreat: I will be leaving on 01 October for Bangkok for our Spiritual retreat in Thailand and will return on 14 October 2023. The retreat will be held from 3 - 10 October 2023, animated by Mother Chiara Cazzuola and participated by 17 Provincials of CIAO, PCI and SPR. Please do support us with your prayers.

Synod: The first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will be held in the Vatican from 04 to 29 October 2023 and you are aware Sr Yvonne Reungoat, Mother General emeritus is on the list of participants among the experts and facilitators. Let us pray for the success of the Synod on synodality as its theme "For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission".

The Provincial Community Day and the Jubilee celebrations: The Provincial Community Day and the Jubilee celebrations will be held on 23 October and 24 October 2023 respectively. All of us have received the details of the celebrations sent by Vice-Provincial Sr. Rose Kureekattu and I am sure all of you have earnestly begun the journey with the theme for the Provincial Community Day:

***“Inspired by Mary at Cana, be a transforming presence
as yeast in the community and mission”.***

Let us pray for one another, all our communities of the province, and our apostolic mission.

Meetings and Seminars

- ✦ Sr. Lily D' Souza, Sr. Shradha Kispotta and Sr. Bridgit Chettri will participate in the PCI formators' meeting organized by Sr Sangitha Rani, the National Coordinator for formation from 14 – 16 October 2023 at Sacred Heart Convent, Provincial House, Bangalore. The resource person for the same will be Fr. Bosco Ponthokkan SDB
- ✦ The 12th Northern Zonal Conference of Salesian Co-operators will be held at Don Bosco Provincial House, Okhla, New Delhi from 20 - 22 October 2023 with the theme: “A Dream A Promise & The Future: Route to The Roots” Sr. Emilia Vas and Rosy Veliyan, the province

delegates of the Salesian cooperators of Kolkata and Delhi respectively will take part in this conference.

- ✚ A meeting of Provincial Delegates for the Salesian Family will be held at Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Dimapur from 1- 4 November 2023. The participants are SDB Provincial Delegates from South Asia: India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, FMA Provincial Delegates from the PCI conference, a representative and the other groups in the Region: ASC, ADMA, PP-DB, PP – FMA, VDB, CDB, MSMHC, SMI, DISC, SMA, VSDB. Six world delegates of SDBs and FMAs are also arriving from the Salesian Family Department in Rome for this meeting. Sr. Stella Potteparambil, the Salesian Family coordinator of our province will be participating in the meeting. Let us pray that this gathering may bear much fruit in the Salesian Family.
- ✚ The first phase of the Second Novitiate will be held at H.C. Auxilium, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi from 15 November – 15 Dec. 2023 for the sisters of INK, INM, INT, INC. Sr. Binita Bara, Sr. Salomi Bhuinya, and Sr. Shashikata Xalxo from our province will form part of this group.
- ✚ The Young Sister's second meeting will be held at Auxilium, Dum Dum from 15 -19 November 2023. The arrival will be on 15 November for lunch and departure on 19 Nov. after lunch.
- ✚ The 66th ASISC Conference 2023 will be held at Anvaya Convention Centre, Hyderabad from 29 Nov. – 01 Dec. 2023 with the theme: "Education for people, Planet, Progress and Peace." Srs. Margaret Fernandes, Clara Saminathan, Esther Rani Abraham, Aruna Kispotta and Prema Francis will participate in the conference.

Let us pray for our dear departed - Condolences to:

- ✚ Sr Dorothy Torcato at the demise of her maternal uncle, Mr Edgar Gracias (84) on 17 August 2023
- ✚ Sr Kanchan Karuna Bara at the passing away of her cousin brother Mr. Philip Tirkey (35) on 18 August 2023 due to advanced jaundice.
- ✚ Sr. Susanna Korah at the demise of her cousin brother Mr Joseph Abraham (78) on 21 August 2023
- ✚ Sr. Anna Ma Ma at the return of her nephew Mr. Sebastian to his eternal abode on 12 September 2023
- ✚ Sr. Usha Kiran Tirkey at the earthly departure of her paternal aunt Mrs. Philomena Tirkey (100+) on 15 September 2023

I sincerely thank you dear sisters for the prayers offered for my mother's eternal bliss as well as for the condolence message to me and to my family which has strengthened and sustained our faith during this moment of sorrow.

Dear Sisters,

I would like to conclude this letter with the words of Pope Pius XI *“The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin...If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors.”* Let the month of October take us closer to Mary and through Mary to Jesus. Let our Blessed Mother take us by the hand, to contemplate the face of Christ, a joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious face of Christ. Wish you all a fervent month in the company of our Blessed Mother, the queen of the Holy Rosary. May the Rosary, be a strong weapon, our shield and protection always.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady

Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil FMA
Provincial

