



**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/36/11/2024

01 November 2024

*Dear Loving Sisters,*

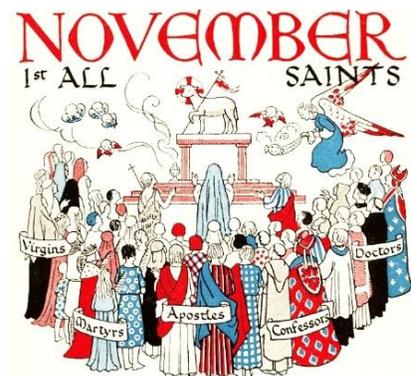
*Loving and prayerful greetings from the communities of New Delhi!*

I continue to cherish and thank God for the grace-filled moments we shared in October. The celebration of Provincial Community Day, Provincial Assembly, and the Jubilee of our beloved sisters have enriched our lives and strengthened our bonds of sisterly love and affection. These celebrations have not only brought us together to rejoice but also to reaffirm our shared mission and commitment to live our charism in today's world. The story of faith and the dedication of our sisters have inspired and reminded us of the profound impact we can have when we are united in our mission and love.

As we step into the month of November dedicated to the holy Souls, let us carry forward the spirit of joy and gratitude that defined our October celebrations. This new month invites us to deepen our reflection on our calling to holiness, honour those who have gone before us, and embrace the future with hope and courage. May this circular serve as a guide for our continued journey of faith and service fostering our growth as a community.

### *Solemnity of All Saints*

The celebration of all Saints is honouring all men and women who have entered Heaven. These individuals have honoured and glorified God in a variety of ways: through deep prayer and mystical union, through enduring martyrdom or other forms of religious persecution, and through acts of service, such as caring for the needy or teaching the faith. Some saints were powerful preachers or miracle workers. Others were leaders, some lived in obscurity, and still others experienced exile or made significant personal sacrifices for their faith.



As we honour all the saints in Heaven, we are invited to consider the fact that we too are called to be in their company. The extent to which we become holy while on earth is the extent to which our life will be an eternal glorification of God. Let us seek a profound depth of holiness. Not only just trying to remain in a state of grace but seeking an abundance of grace and striving to grow in virtue. For this, we need to purge all sins, even small sins, from our life. Let us be united with the

Lord in our work, read and reflect the Word of God and read about the saints. Act with generosity and charity, forgive everyone and do everything we can to become the saints.

## *Solemnity of All Souls*

On 2 November we remember this reality and have hope for our loved ones who have passed away in faith. We also are reminded that heaven is the goal of all our lives. We are called to live a righteous life through trusting and obeying God. If we remain in friendship with God, we can abide with Him forever in heaven. Too often in this life, we lose focus on eternity. We easily become overly concerned about the here and now and fail to turn our eyes to Heaven, seeking to prepare ourselves fully for the day we die and come before God for our particular judgment. As we commemorate All Souls Day, we turn our eyes to those brothers and sisters who have gone before us in death but died before being fully purified of every venial sin and all of sin's effects. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains it this way: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned." During this month let us commit ourselves to pray for those who have died and need final purification. Purgatory is God's act of final mercy for those whom He loves with a burning and purifying love. Our prayers can open the floodgates of God's love on those who need it the most. As we pray for those who have died, pray also for our soul and ponder how fervently we seek to become transformed into a living saint. Though the journey to divine union is not a quick and easy one, it is a journey well worth it. Let us make it our exclusive mission in life, and know that if we do, we will never regret it. May the holy souls in purgatory rest in peace.



## *Let the Little children come to me*



World Children's Day was first established in 1954 as Universal Children's Day and is celebrated on 20 November each year to promote international togetherness, and awareness among children worldwide, and to improve children's welfare. It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In India Children's Day is celebrated on November 14 to honour the birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister. The day is also known as Bal Diwas. It is significant for many reasons, including:

*Promoting child rights:* Children's Day is a day to raise awareness about children's rights, including the right to education, healthcare, nutrition, and a safe environment.

*Celebrating childhood:* Children's Day is a day to encourage adults to embrace their inner child and remember the importance of play, creativity, and wonder.

*Honouring Nehru:* Nehru was a strong advocate for children's education and rights. He believed that children are the future of the nation and the foundation of society.

*Teaching life lessons:* Children's Day is an opportunity to teach children valuable life lessons, such as kindness, empathy, respect, gratitude, confidence, responsibility, healthy habits, resilience, creativity, problem-solving, and communication.

*Protecting children:* It is a day to remind to protect children from social evils like child trafficking, assault, and child labour.

Let us uphold and pray for all the children of this world especially those who are in our boardings and schools.



### ***BLESSED MADDALENA CATERINA MORANO (1847-1908)***

On 15 November we celebrate the feast of Blessed Maddalena Caterina Morano. She grew up with a large family in Chieri, Italy. Her father and older sister passed away when she was 8 years old. She began working and received an education. In 1866, she received her diploma as an elementary school teacher. Maddalena studied Christian doctrine and wanted to be a saint. She postponed entering religious life to provide for her family. She worked as a rural school teacher in Montaldo and taught catechism in the local parish for 12 years.

In 1878, after securing her mother's retirement, Maddalena entered the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. Maddalena was a model religious and took first vows after a brief but intense novitiate. In 1881, with Don Bosco's blessing, she was sent to Trecastagni (Diocese of Catania), Sicily, and put in charge of an existing institute for women, to which she gave a new orientation inspired by Salesian principles.

Sicily became Mother Maddalena's second home, where she carried out a varied and fruitful apostolate. She opened new houses, set up after-school activities and sewing classes, trained teachers, and conducted apostolic activities. Her real love, though, was for catechism class, since she was convinced that the formation of Christian conscience was the basis of personal maturity and all social improvement. She coordinated catechetical instruction in eighteen of Catania's churches and trained lay and religious catechists.

Mother Maddalena spent 25 years in Sicily and served her community as local and provincial superior. She was an attentive mother and cared for many local vocations, faithfully living the charism of Mother Maria Mazzarello. She passed away in Catania at the age of 61, on March 26, 1908. She was beatified on November 5, 1994, at Catania, by Pope John Paul II. As we pay our homage to her let us implore the Lord for true missionary vocation.

## Communications

### *Meetings and Seminars*

- ❖ Sr. Emilia Vas took part in the XIII Northern Zonal Conference of the Salesian Cooperators at FMA Ouwc Lumshyiap, Shillong from 11 – 13 October 2024. The theme of the conference was “ Our dream, our Promise ... the Future”
- ❖ Sr. Clara Saminathan, Sr. Maria Goretti Ekka and Sr. Rejina Joseph attended the All India Association of Catholic Schools (AINACS) meeting at Visakhapatnam from 22 - 25 October 2024.
- ❖ Sr. Stella Potteparambil will participate in the Regional CRI Meet which will be held at Seva Kendra, Kolkata from 04 – 07 November 2024.
- ❖ The Juniors meeting will be held at Auxilium, provincial House, Dum Dum from 14 – 17 November 2024.
- ❖ Sr. Basanti Ekka, Sr. Lemnom Mosang, Sr. Restitula Kharpran, Sr. Shanti Tirkey and Sr. Suzan Maria Louis will take part in the National Catholic Media Conference at St. John’s Medical College, Bangalore from 23 - 24 November 2024. The theme of the conference is “Inspire, Impact, Illuminate”

### *Gratitude and Appreciation*

-  To Sr. Rose Kureekattu, the Vice - Provincial for planning meticulously the Provincial Community Day and Jubilee Celebration at the province level.
-  Sr. Lily Perumpettikkunel the province coordinator for all the arrangements for the successful Provincial Assembly.
-  Sr. Stella Potteparambil and the Sisters of Provincial House, Dum Dum for hosting all three events with an open heart availability and warm generosity.
-  To all the communities and the sisters for your material and spiritual contribution toward the above events of the province.

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

- † Sr. Abhai Kishori Minj at the demise of her cousin’s brother Mr. Prem on 12 October 2024 due to a snake bite.
- † Sr. Sherly Kalapurayil at the passing away of her paternal uncle, Mr.K.T Joy on 18 October 2024.
- † Sr. Ninet D’costa at the demise of her beloved mother Mrs Procle D’costa (95) on 27 October 2024.
- † To Fr. Provincial and the Salesians of Kolkata at the demise of Br. Thomas Kuttamplackal SDB (89) on 29 October 2024

Let us continue to intercede before God for the needs of the Province, the communities and the good health of all our Sisters and the ailing members of our families.

Dear Sisters,

As we come to the close of this month, we find ourselves reflecting on the rich tapestry of our faith, woven together through the Feast of All Saints, All Souls Day, the Feast of Maddalena Morano, and our celebration of Children's Day. Each of these observances invites us into a deeper understanding of community, remembrance, and hope.

The Feast of All Saints reminds us of the holy men and women who have gone before us, inspiring us with their lives of virtue and dedication. They stand as beacons of faith, guiding us on our journey. On All Souls Day, we take a moment to honour those who have departed from this world, cherishing their memories and interceding for their souls. Together, these days call us to reflect on our own lives and the legacy we wish to leave behind.

In the Feast of Maddalena Morano, we are reminded of the power of service and love in action. Her life exemplifies how a steadfast commitment to education and care for the marginalized can transform lives. Let us draw inspiration from her example, striving to embody her spirit in our communities.

Children's Day is a joyful celebration of the gift of youth and innocence. It reminds us of our responsibility to nurture and protect the next generation, ensuring they grow in faith, love, and understanding. Let us continue to create environments where every child feels valued and supported, as they are our hope for the future.

As we move forward, I encourage each of you to hold these themes close to your hearts. Let us be saints in our daily lives, remembering those who have shaped us, serving those in need, and cherishing the children entrusted to our care. May our reflections inspire us to deepen our commitment to our faith and one another. Together, let us continue to build a community that reflects the love of Christ in all that we do.



Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil FMA  
Provincial