



**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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*Dear Loving Sisters,  
Loving and Prayerful greetings from the Provincial House, Dum Dum !*

Blessings of the Lord to each one of you as we begin the month of February. Some of us had the opportunity to take part in ZOE, Youth Bible Convention, held at Park Circus from 16–18 January and conducted by Rev. Fr. Daniel Poovannathil, and his dedicated team. It was truly a grace-filled gathering where the Word of God came alive and active in the hearts of our young people, awakening faith, renewing commitment, and igniting a deeper love for Christ and His Word. The enthusiasm, prayerfulness, and openness of the youth were a profound reminder that the Church is alive and vibrant, called to be a beacon of hope in today's world. May the seeds sown during these days continue to bear fruit in the lives of our youth, and may we, as consecrated persons, be filled with the Word to continue accompanying them with love, wisdom, and faith.

### ***“Return to Me with All Your Heart” (Joel 2:12)***

This is a clarion call to all of us who are consecrated to the Lord by the unique call that we have received from the Lord, “Come Follow Me” which we have celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

We stand at the threshold of the unique season, the season of Lent which gently ushering us to one of the most sacred beginnings of our Christian journey. Marked with ashes, we stand humbly before God, being reminded of our fragility, our dependence, and yet our immeasurable worth in His loving gaze. The ashes placed upon our foreheads are not signs of despair but symbols of hope and conversion. They speak quietly but powerfully: *we are pilgrims*, not permanent settlers; *we are learners*, always in need of grace; *we are forgiven people*, constantly invited to begin again.



### **Lent: A suitable time for repentance and renewal A Sacred Invitation**

Lent is not merely a season of renunciation but a pathway to renewal. Prayer softens our hearts, fasting clears our vision, and almsgiving widens our compassion. As communities and individuals, this sacred time calls us to examine not only *what we do*, but *who we are becoming*.

Let this Lent help us:

- Move from routine prayer to **deep encounter**
- From convenience to **sacrifice**
- From indifference to **mercy**
- From division to **reconciliation**



As we begin the Holy season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, may our hearts be open to God's gentle reshaping words, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return". May the Cross we carry lead us not to heaviness, but to resurrection joy in order to live by "Repent and believe in the Gospel". I invite each one of you to enter this holy season with Repentance, humility, and prayer.

The Lent invites us into a sacred time of grace, conversion, and renewal. It is a journey of returning to the Lord with sincere hearts, allowing His mercy to reshape our lives. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity, we are called to slow down, listen deeply, and rediscover what truly gives life and meaning. Lent encourages us to examine our attitudes, choices, and relationships in the light of the Gospel. It is a time to let go of whatever weakens our communion with God and one another, and to embrace a spirit of simplicity, humility, and trust. Even the ordinary moments of our daily life become opportunities for growth when they are lived with faith, patience, and love.

As we walk together during this holy season, may we open ourselves more fully to God's Word, allowing it to guide, challenge, and console us. May our personal prayer and community life be renewed, and may our hearts become more sensitive to the needs and sufferings of others, especially the poor and the vulnerable. May these days of journey prepare us not only for the celebration of Easter but also for a deeper commitment to our mission. Strengthened by God's grace, may we continue to support one another with understanding and generosity, growing in hope and fidelity. Let this season lead us to a genuine inner transformation, so that we may witness with joy to the new life that Christ offers to all.



The spirit opens borders in our hearts. He is the gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us. The Holy Spirit comes to challenges us, to make us confront the possibility that our lives are shrivelling up, trapped un the vortex of individualism. Sadly enough, in a world of escalating "social" media, we risk being ever more alone. Constantly connected, yet incapable of "networking". Always immersed in a crowd, yet confused and solitary travellers. The spirit of God allows us to find a new way of approaching and experiencing life. He puts us in touch with our inmost self, beneath all the masks we wear. He leads us to an encounter with the Lord by teaching us to experience the joy that is his gift. Let us be guided by the Spirit of the Lord and make our Lenten journey fruitful by effective prayer, fast and arms giving.

## Communications

- ✚ Sr. Basanti Ekka will be leaving for Rome on 14 March 2026, to take part in social communication seminar which will be held from 16 to 28 March 2026 in Rome-Turin-Mornese.
- ✚ The Salesian Province of Kolkata (INC) will conclude its centenary celebration on 08 February. Hearty congratulations to our Salesian brothers.
- ✚ We are glad to welcome our beloved rector major Rev. Fr. Fabio Attard SDB to Kolkata on 8 February at Don Bosco Park Circus. On this day, we also rejoice as Fr. Sunil Kerketta will be installed as the 18th Provincial of Kolkata. The Rector Major will be visiting Holy Child Auxilium, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi on 11 February. He will address the students as well as encounter the sisters of Delhi Region. From there he will proceed to Ranchi. Together with me the provincial council will be present for the occasion.
- ✚ We extend a hearty welcome to our dear Sr. Violet Ashing FMA. She will be here with us until April 20, 2026. She is painting various artworks for some of our communities. We are grateful for her presence and sharing and displaying her talent of art with us.

### *Gratitude and Appreciation to:*

- 🌸 Sr. Lily Perumpettikunnel the Province General Coordinator for her meticulous planning and conducting the team meeting fruitfully. To Sr. Stella Potteparambil and the entire Auxilium Dum Dum community for graciously hosting the team meeting.
- 🌸 Rev. Fr. Joseph Pauria SDB, the outgoing Provincial of Kolkata, for his constant love, deep concern, and his readiness to collaborate at all times in our mission.

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

- ✚ Fr. Provincial and the Salesians of Bombay province at the sudden passing away of Fr Anthony Goyal SDB on 10 January 2026.
- ✚ Sr. Annie Theyattil at the demise of her cousin sister's husband Mr. Scaria on 10 January 2026.
- ✚ Sr. Anima Xalxo at the demise of her beloved father Mr. Oscar Xalxo on 13 January 2026.
- ✚ Sr. Rose Ezarath at the unexpected death of her nephew Mr. Jaimon Thomas on 28 January 2026.

Let us remember the important liturgical event of this month, which can lead us to the path of holiness:

February 02 - Day of Consecrated Life – A Gift of Love and Hope

February 09 - Blessed Eusebia Palomino —The sanctity of the ordinary, lived faithfully

February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes: A Call to Healing, Humility, and Hope

February 25 - Saints Versiglia and Caravario: Witnesses of Pastoral Charity and Courage

Dear Sisters,

The journey we walk together as a Province is sustained by God's faithful presence and by our daily *yes*, offered quietly in community, and mission. May the season of Lent help us to shed our old ways and be transformed through true humility and repentance. Let us strengthen our sense of communion, renew our interior life, and deepen our availability to the mission entrusted to us. Let us persevere in prayer, entrusting to God the needs of our province and communities and imploring His healing grace for the good health of all our sisters and for the sick members of our families. Entrusting ourselves to the Lord, who have consecrated let us move forward with courage and serenity.

Yours affectionately in Our Lady,

Sr. Leelamma Palliparambil FMA  
Provincial