



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR - INK

Province of Sacred Heart of Jesus

XXVI/2

July 2018

My dearest Sisters,

Loving and prayerful greetings from the Provincial house!

As I have completed the initial visit to almost half of the communities I really thank God for each one of you dear sisters for beginning the new academic year with such zest and enthusiasm. I sincerely appreciate all the communities for having worked out in detail the Annual plan, sector wise plans, Annual calendar and time tables. Let us try to be co responsible in the community and network with the local Church and likeminded organizations to establish God's Kingdom. May all our plans and dreams for the future bear abundant fruit.

-----LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS -----

MARIA GORETTI

St. Maria Goretti is the patron saint of chastity. In addition she is considered as the patron of forgiveness, since she was able to forgive the man who murdered her even as she lie on her deathbed. In situations where forgiveness seems impossible, the example of St. Maria Goretti serves as a reminder that with God, this is certainly possible. St. Maria Goretti's story reminds us of the power of a firm resolve true, but her resolve did not come about from a simple one-time decision. She lived out her decision everyday and constantly renewed her love for Jesus in small sacrifices. This Little Saint who wanted to be popular only with the Divine Master and His Blessed Mother, help us and our young people to imitate Him in our day today lives.

BLESSED MARIA ROMERO

On 7th July we celebrate the feast of our Blessed Maria Romero Meneses. Maria was an active contemplative. She enjoyed a deep and intimate prayer life. Based upon her love for God and desire to do His will, she lived out her faith through her actions. Like Blessed Mother Teresa, she saw God's face in the face of the poor and helpless. She desired to quench His thirst and to console and comfort Him by loving her neighbor. She effectively served the poor by building them homes, educating them, feeding and clothing them, providing for their medical needs, and encouraging her students to follow in her

footsteps. She could have lived a much easier life — one of leisure and luxury, but chose to do God's will and in doing so, demonstrated her great love for Him. What more can we do today to show Him how much we love Him? What are we doing to console Him and to quench His thirst? May she inspire and guide us in our journey of accompanying the young.

MARIAN MONTH

May is the Marian month, but we keep it from July 15 – August 15, so that we can celebrate it with the young people in our educational Institutions. There are many ways to celebrate this particular devotion: daily recitation of the rosary with the children and young people, learning more about the different apparitions of Mary, Marian Shrines, Marian pilgrimage centers and the Miracles through her intercession. In certain parts of the world even the crowning of Our Lady's statue is given lot of significance. A statue of Mary is honored with a wreath of blossoms to indicate Mary's virtues that were to be imitated by the faithful. Whatever may be done, the important thing is that Mary be honored in a special way. The practices will be sent by the General Coordinator Sr. Margarat Mathai so that we can celebrate this month in a fitting manner to express our love and devotion to Our Blessed Mother together with the young people and others of our mission thus becoming more Mary like in our day today life.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Mary's soul is a sanctuary reserved for God alone, where no human creature has ever left its trace, where love and zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of mankind reign supreme. Those who want to live their devotion to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel to the full must follow Mary into the depths of her interior life. Carmel is the symbol of the contemplative life, the life wholly dedicated to the quest for God, wholly orientated towards intimacy with God; and the one who has best realized this highest of ideals is Our Lady herself, 'Queen and Splendour of Carmel'. Our Lady of Mount Carmel reminds us to strive for humility. Being down to earth, then, is being humble, and being humble is being like Mary. When I'm like Mary, my garden blooms fragrant with graces and blessings.

STS. JOACHIM & ANN

On July 26 the Church commemorates the parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anne. The couple's faith and perseverance brought them through the sorrow of childlessness, to the joy of conceiving and raising the immaculate and sinless woman who would give birth to Christ. Happy Feast to all the ANNA'S of Our Province on the 26th. This feast is the "feast of Grandparents". It reminds the young that older people's greater perspective, depth of experience and appreciation of life's profound rhythms are all part of wisdom not to be taken lightly or ignored.

ST. ALPHONSA

The feast is celebrated on 28th July. The Saint of India, Alphonsa, reveals that in the Cross the meaninglessness of suffering can give way to a profound experience of the love of God and neighbour in our daily lives. Alphonsa will remain both a reminder and a challenge to the

twenty-first century with its tremendous possibilities of human advancement yet consistent vacuum for Jesus Christ, and His way, the way of the of the Cross and redemptive Love. As for the Christian, so also for the consecrated religious who follow diverse charisms and face the crisis of vocations and vocational growth in faithfulness, an assimilation of the life and message of Alphonsa will reveal the essence of the truth revealed in the way in which she followed Jesus Christ, that being configured to and transformed by Him is possible only through a relational experience of Him in one's heart and in the Sacraments. May this great Saint of our Motherland be an inspiration for all of us to accept our daily cross with great serenity and peace and only for love of God.

IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

July 31st reminds us the feast of the Founder of the Jesuits. The key insight of Ignatius Loyola is that we can find God in all things. His spirituality was expressed in the motto “for the greater glory of God”. Ignatian spirituality asks the question: What more does God want of me? Ignatius had a profound insight into God and his creation, and he developed many prayer methods, rules for discernment, spiritual disciplines, and approaches to apostolic service. But all these elements of Ignatian spirituality are ways to help us answer a single burning question, “What more does God want now?” God calls. We respond. Our response to God occurs now. We are not to be inhibited by our own weakness and failure. We are not to ponder our unworthiness. God is working in our lives now and we are to respond now.

----- COMMUNICATION -----

CONGRATULATIONS

Hearty congratulations and prayerful greetings to Fr. Jose Kuruvachira, the newly appointed Provincial of the Dimapur Province. We implore on him God's choicest blessings and assure our support as he takes up this office of animation and governance of the Province.

We congratulate and assure our prayers for Rev. Fr. Dennis Panipitchai who is appointed as the Auxiliary Bishop of Miao Diocese in Arunachal Pradesh. May the Good Lord accompany him with the richest of blessings.

NEW PRESENCE AT ANGADIKADAVU

At the request of the Salesian Fathers, we have agreed to take care of the College hostel at Angadikadavu. Sr. Teresa Rani Mathew is the hostel warden and Sr. Rosily Theckanath while helping in the hostel is also pursuing her doctoral studies there. We wish them all success in this new collaborative ministry! May they be able to touch the lives of young people whom God has entrusted to them.

WORKSHOP ON WRITING SKILLS

Rev. Fr. Bobby Kannezhath conducted a workshop on Writing Skills, for the selected sisters from each community on 8th & 9th July 2018 at Sacred Heart Convent Bangalore. All the participants appreciated the expertise and the unassuming service of Fr. Bobby.

THREE YEAR PLAN

In order to revitalize the different sectors of the mission, during the Team meeting the team members have made few concrete proposals for the coming three years. I urge all the communities to take it up and do what is expected of us so as to become vibrant missionaries of the young and needy.

THIRD ACSSA SEMINAR OF SOUTH ASIA

Sr. Cecilia Thomas & Sr. Sahaya Sangitha Rani participated in the third ACSSA seminar at Hyderabad SDB's provincial house from 22nd to 24th June. There were 7 SDB's and 9 FMAs present for the meeting. The theme for the seminar was "Incisive and innovative Salesian Personalities of India". I thank Sr. Sangitha for the scientific paper she presented on dear Sr. Nancy Periera.

NDF WORKSHOP

Sr. Rosy Lopez participated in the workshop on Reporting and Documentation by NDF for all the SDC's (*Social Development Coordinators*) from 1 – 3 July 2018 in Wellington.

SOCIAL MINISTRY WORKSHOP

There will be a workshop for the sisters in charge of Social Ministry and VTC on 28 & 29th July 2018 in Sacred Heart Convent, Bangalore. I exhort all the communities to profit from this workshop and to revitalize the social ministry so as to reach out to the poor and marginalized people of our locality.

JUNIORS RECOLLECTION AND ANIMATION

The juniors will have a day of recollection on 11th August followed by animation on 12th August. It is a God given opportunity to grow in one's formation and thus climb the ladder of sanctity.

MEETING OF THE ANIMATORS

There will be two days of animation for the animators of communities on 3rd & 4th August in Sacred Heart Convent, Bangalore.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

We raise our hearts and minds in thanksgiving to God for the 50 loving and dedicated years of dear Sr. Teresa Kayaniyil as we will be celebrating her golden jubilee of profession on 5th August 2018 at Sacred Heart Convent Bangalore.

BENTORNATA!

Hearty welcome to dear Sr. Shiji Kurian who arrived on the 5th July and is assigned to the community of Sacred Heart Home, Karunapuram. We are glad and happy to have you back with us dear Sister.

BUON VOYAGE

Our Sisters Sr. Bincy Thomas Sr. Dunna Jose Mary who are going to Rome for their studies will be leaving for Rome on 13th July 2018. As we wish them *buon voyage* let us pray that they may have an enriching experience at the heart of the Church and the Centre of the Institute.

SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS

Our dear Sr. Mary Manjil expressed her gratitude to each and every one for the prayers offered for her beloved brother Mr. Mathew Manjil who passed away on 6th June .

COURSES

- We wish Sr. Teresita P. Thomas a fruitful and enriching experience at DhyanaSadhana, Mysore from 21st July 2018 to 30th March 2019.
- Srs. Lissymol Rosa & Salomi Jacob will attending a course at Anugraha Dindigal from 20th to 27th July 2018.

INITIATION OF POSTULANTS

Our candidates will make their annual retreat from 21st to 23rd July 2018 at Sacred Heart Home, Karunapuram animated by Sr. Teresa and community and on 24th July four Aspirants will be initiated into Postulancy. Congratulations dear postulants! Let us keep all our candidates in initial formation in our prayer.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

- ✓ For the Father of Sr. Florence Levion who is undergoing treatment.
- ✓ For the elderly and sickly sisters of the province and dear ones.

CONDOLENCE

- ✚ To dear Srs. Mary Chandy, Jissy Chandy and Shiji Abraham at the loss of their cousin sister Sr. Alice Tharappel on 15th June 2018.
- ✚ To dear Sr. Alice Philip at the demise of her uncle on 27th June 2018.
- ✚ To Sr. Chiara Cazzuola, our Vicar General at the loss of her beloved Mother on 10th July

2018.

✚ To Sr. Rosa Challamkathil at the demise of Mr. Mathew, the husband of her niece.

A SHORT REFLECTION ON THE EXCELLANCE OF RELIGIOUS LIFE

The Kingdom of heaven is an inestimable treasure – in Our Lords words it is “the pearl of great price”. It is a treasure so great that a person must be willing to give all he has in order to obtain it. Religious life is built on the preeminence of the future life, a life with God most of all. But whatever religious do in the earthly city they do ultimately for the heavenly city. It is in the context of this twofold mission, and in the subordination of the one to the other, that religious life has its meaning and its glory.

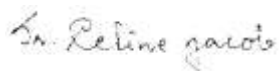
Thus for a religious to be authentic, this simple following of Christ must dominate all other motives and occupations no matter how true necessary, or relevant they may be. The religious state “makes clear in a particular way how the kingdom of God surpasses all earthly things and how high are its requirements” (LG 43 c). Authentic religious life provides a way to God, as well as to the manifold works for God, by means of certain renunciations. We cannot have the self-knowledge and self- mastery which fits us both for a close union with God and for His work, and still have everything that life and the world have to offer. The second Vatican Council tells us in general what a religious intends :- by the profession in the Church of the evangelical councils they aim to free themselves from obstacles which could hinder the fervor of love and pursuit of perfection in divine worship, and they consecrate themselves more closely to the service of God (LG 44a).

Take some time to think about what is religious life according to you.

What is important to me in life? How do I spend my time? Do my actions impact anybody, if so how? What does God wants from me? What is my purpose in life?

Let me conclude with these words from St. Teresa of Avila: “Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses the entire world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. **“Christ has no body now on earth but yours”.**

Yours affectionately,



Sr. Celine Jacob
Provincial