



# PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR - INK

*Province of Sacred Heart of Jesus*

XXVI/9

February 2019

*My dearest Sisters,*

*Affectionate greetings from the Provincial House Bangalore!*

We have just finished the solemn feast of Our Father and founder Don Bosco. I am sure He has showered many blessings up on us and our mission. Here I would like to quote the words of the Holy Father during the World Youth Day in Panama. *When referring to the saints, he presented the figure of one of the Holy Patrons of the World Youth Day.*

"I think for example of Don Bosco who did not go to look for young people far away. Let's see here those who love Don Bosco: put your hands together! Don Bosco did not go to look for young people in far places or special locations; he simply learned to see everything that happened in the city with the eyes of God and, thus, his heart was stricken by hundreds of children, of abandoned young people without chance for study, without work and without the helping hand of a community. Many people lived in the same city, many criticized these young people, but they were unable to look at them with the eyes of God. Young people must be looked at with the eyes of God."

*Referring to the Saint of the young people, he presented him as a saint who took a step for in favour of abandoned young people: "He did it; Don Bosco was courageous, and he dared to take that first step: to embrace life just as it comes and, from there, he was not afraid to take the second step: to create with them a community, a family, where, with work and study, they felt loved. To give them roots from which to hold themselves up, so that they can reach heaven, so that they can be someone in society; to give them roots so that they can stand steady and not be thrown down by the next wind. That is what Don Bosco did, that's what the saints do, and that's what is done by communities that know how to look at young people with the eyes of God. "*

Dear sisters, let us pay heed to the words of our Holy Father and learn to look at young people with the eyes of God, not only in our Institutions but more specially at the unorganized youth around us so as to help them to find true meaning in their life.



## -----LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS -----

### **PRESENTATION OF THE LORD – 2<sup>nd</sup>**

The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles is included in today's liturgy. Simeon blessed Mary and Joseph and he prophesied to Mary about the destiny of her child and the suffering she would undergo for his sake. There is a certain paradox for those blessed by the Lord. Mary was given the blessedness of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which would pierce her heart as her Son will be nailed to the Cross.

She received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. But her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fueled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises. Jesus promised his disciples that “no one will take your joy from you” (John 16:22). The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away.

### **BL.EUSEBIA PALOMINO – 9<sup>th</sup>**

Sr. Eusebia was born in Cantalpino (Salamanca, Spain) on December 15, 1899. Her childhood was poor but happy, illuminated by the great faith of that very poor home, in which father, mother and sisters alternated work and prayer in an atmosphere of mutual love and charity towards everyone. In her early life she had to go into service with families in her area. From her father she inherited a lively interest in the basic ideas of the Catechism. Her deep desire was to "make prayer resound in every home" so that every person might honour the Lord's Passion. Through her numerous letters, she became an untiring promoter of devotion to the Wounds of Jesus, in order to obtain mercy for all sinners. In 1931, on the eve of the revolution, Sr. Eusebia offered herself to God as a victim for the salvation of her brothers and sisters in Spain and throughout the world. For three years she bore indescribable sufferings in a joyful crescendo of longing for Heaven, which opened its doors to her on February 10, 1935. Her remains lie in Valverde (Huelva, Spain). She was beatified by Pope John Paul II on April 25, 2004 in Rome. Eusebia's short life was full of challenges, which she bore with grace and piety. Let us be inspired by her life facing everything with optimism.

### **OUR LADY OF LOURDES – 11<sup>th</sup>**

In both the Old and New Testaments we see God choosing the most unlikely people to accomplish his work. On 11<sup>th</sup> February we celebrate the appearing of Our Lady in the grotto at Lourdes, in France to Bernadette Soubirous, a young girl of economically and socially poor background. Mary appeared to a young, uneducated peasant girl at Lourdes; she appeared to an Indian peasant, Juan Diego in Mexico; she appeared to three farm children in Fatima. This is great comfort to all the poor and to all who suffer. Her message is always one of hope, comfort and inspiration. It is always the message of a mother.

Mary is a great gift to the Church. She has always been honoured in the Church. Catholics have always been devoted to her. Mary is someone we can relate to: she was virgin and mother; she was wife; she was a pregnant teenager; she lived as a refugee; she suffered hardships; she was a widow; she lived to see her son killed. Whatever we may be going through, Mary goes through it with us. And Mary is closest to Jesus. A great way to get to Jesus is to go through Mary.

### **SAINTS VERSIGLIA & CARAVARIO – 25<sup>th</sup>**

We celebrate the feast of the Martyrs: Versiglia & Caravario on 25<sup>th</sup> of this month. St. (Bishop) Louis Versiglia was a true pastor, completely dedicated to his flock. He gave the Vicariate a solid structure with its own seminary, house of formation, and planned residences and hospitals for the elderly and those in need. He looked after the formation of catechists with much care. In his notes he wrote: “The missionary who is not united to God is a canal detached from its source”. “The missionary who prays a lot achieves a lot”. Like Don Bosco he was an example of work and temperance. On February 13, 1930, together with Fr. Caravario, the bishop was at Shiuchow for the pastoral visit to the Linchow mission. Some young boys and girls who had been studying in Shiuchow had also joined them for the pastoral visit. On February 25, a group of Bolshevik pirates stopped the bishop’s boat, wanting to take the girls. The bishop and Fr. Caravario obstructed them with all the force they could muster. They were forcibly taken and eventually shot. Before they were killed they heard one another’s confession. Their last breath was spent for their beloved China.

## **----- RECALLING EVENTS -----**

### **FIRST ANNUAL RETREAT**

I sincerely thank Rev. Fr. Anil Dev IMS from Matridham Ashram Varanasi, for the heart transforming experience he offered to our sisters through the animation of the retreat from 10-16<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### **SECOND ANNUAL RETREAT**

The Second Annual Retreat for the sisters will begin at 5.30 p.m. on 05th February and conclude with the Mass at 7.00 a.m. on 12th February 2019. Rev. Fr. James Mathew SDB from Kolkata province will be the preacher.

### **TEAM EVALUATION & PLANNING**

On 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> February there will be the annual evaluation & planning of the different sectors by the Team members and animators at Sacred Heart Convent Bangalore. On 14<sup>th</sup> we will have the twin celebrations of provincial community day and Golden and Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

## **NINEISMINE CAMPAIGN**

Sr. Mary Joseph and Ms. Dona Mariya Shaji from Kattappana Neighbourhood Children's Parliament will be participating in the Inclusive National Children's Parliament a NINEISMINE campaign in Delhi from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 1st February.

## **EXAMINATIONS**

Month of February concludes the different celebrations and slowly enter into the mood of examinations. Let us help our students, by our patient understanding, little acts of kindness and above all generous prayers. Best wishes and assurance of prayers to all the students and teachers.

## **SINCERE THANKS**

My sincere gratitude to Sr. Monica Thomas and Provincial House community, for your spirit of hospitality and care shown to the Sisters who made their first retreat and the HMS & Economers during their meeting from 8 - 17 January, 2019.

## **WARM WELCOME & FRUITFUL ENCOUNTER**

I extend a warm and hearty welcome to dear Sr. Maria Nieves Reboso, Sr. Maria Fisichella and Sr. Anelfreda Miranda for the formation meeting and presentation of 'Guidelines for the period of Temporary Profession'. May this encounter with the formation team bring about a lasting change in the formative journey of our Province. The programme is here below.

Sr. Maria Nieves Reboso and her team will visit our province from 08 -15 March 2019. They will present the Guidelines for the period of temporary profession.

- 07 March : Arrival
- 08- 11 March : Meeting with the Animators & Formators Provincial House, Bangalore.
- 12 – 13 March : Meeting with the Juniors- Provincial House, Bangalore.
- 14 March : Meeting with the Novices Sacred Heart Training Center, Bangalore.
- 15 March : Meeting with the Aspirants & Postulants - Provincial House, Bangalore.
- 16 March : Departure to Mumbai

## **CANONICAL VISIT OF SR. LUCY ROSE OZHUKAYIL – 24 FEBRUARY 2019**

We are happy that Sr. Lucy Rose is once again in our Motherland, this time visiting the Province of Mary Help of Christians Kolkata. We assure her and the province of Kolkata our prayerful greetings.



## OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERFUL SUPPORT:

- To Fr. Joyce and the confreres of the Province of Bangalore at the passing away of Fr. Joseph Thekedathu SDB on 15 January 2019.
- To Srs. Catherine and Mary Aayila at the passing away of their dear Brother Mathew Aayila SDB on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019.
- To Sr. Saly Abraham who lost her maternal aunt on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

## CONCLUSION

Holiness means following Jesus Christ, imitating Him in thoughts, feelings, words and deeds. It means loving God and neighbour, with a love that gives rise to other virtues, such as humility, justice, integrity, and solidarity. Holiness is attained only with God's assistance and our constant striving. The teaching that everyone is called to holiness was at the heart of the Second Vatican Council, which was enormously influential in shaping the Catholic Church's understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ in the modern world. Through the latest Apostolic Exhortation Pope Francis takes us back to the source of holiness, Jesus Christ, and encourages us to look to the Beatitudes as guides for holiness. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. May the Holy Spirit help us to walk the path of daily holiness. I invite each one of you dear sisters as you study the apostolic Exhortation 'Gaudete et exultate' in preparation for the provincial community day draw practical applications to live this vital aspect of our consecrated life.

*Yours affectionately*

*Sr. Celine Jacob*

*Sr. Celine Jacob*  
*Provincial*

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“Being poor of heart that is holiness- that is holiness”  
“Reacting with meekness and humility that is holiness” - that is holiness”  
“Knowing how to mourn with the others - that is holiness”  
“Seeing and acting with mercy - that is holiness”  
“Keeping a heart that is free of all that tarnishes love - that is holiness”.  
“Making our community gossip free, where love and peace can flow continually - that is holiness”.

**HAPPY PROVINCIAL COMMUNITY DAY!** 14 February 2019