



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR - INK

Province of Sacred Heart of Jesus

XXVI/12

May 2019

My dearest Sisters, Greetings of Eastertide, from the Provincial House Bangalore!

CONVOCAION OF THE V PROVINCIAL CHAPTER OF FMA INK- PC 2019

With immense joy I officially convoke the **Provincial Chapter 2019 of FMA BANGALORE**, according to the norms of the **article 157 of our constitutions** in preparation for the General Chapter. As we begin the month of May let us entrust our preparation and journey of the provincial and General Chapter to Mary Help of Christians our mother, guide and teacher.

The celebration of the **Provincial Chapter will begin on 23rd October 2019 and end on 28th October 2019**. It will be held at Provincial House at Bangalore.

The Provincial Chapter is the representative assembly of the sisters of the province. It is a medium of reflection, evaluation and planning within the province community. It is also a means knowing each other better, strengthening unity, and the sense of belonging to the Institute. The objective of the provincial chapter is to study the topics proposed for the general chapter, to elect a delegate to the general chapter and her substitute. It may also take into consideration issues of particular interest for the province. (Cons. Art. 156)

In the V Provincial Chapter we will study the theme proposed in preparation for the General Chapter XXIV:



“Do Whatever He Tells You“ Jn 2: 5

“COMMUNITIES THAT GENERATE LIFE IN THE HEART OF CONTEMPORANEITY”.

Mother General in her circular no. 985 states the objective we propose to reach in GC XXIV: To awaken the original freshness of the vocational fruitfulness of the Institute.

Let us allow ourselves to be guided by Mary for regeneration in the Holy Spirit, to make our educating communities generate new life.

The Provincial Council has nominated **Sr. Margrat Mathai** as **Moderator of PC 2019**. I thank her for having graciously and generously accepted this important responsibility and for all that she will do to plan, organize and facilitate the proceedings of PC 2019. All communications pertaining to PC 2019 will be addressed to her email id: magi_fma@hotmail.com

We have also created a **PC 2019 Preparatory Commission** of 3 members who will help the Moderator in the task at hand. They are Sr. Elizabeth Pothen, Sr. Sangita Rani Maria Soosai, and Sr. Josmy Jose. I thank the commission for their availability for this task.

The Chapter document and the prayer in preparation for the General Chapter is send to you. The prayer is to be used in the place of the daily prayer of entrustment to Mary Help of Christians.

Together with this circular you will receive the **Timeline** that marks the **journey of preparation for Provincial Chapter 2019**. Please consider the contents of the Timeline that will guide you in carrying out the Chapter work from time to time. I invite all of you to give priority to this important work and to participate actively in this event through prayer, study, reflection, sharing and sending in your contributions to the 3 questions according to the indications given in the Timeline.

The **Word of God** chosen to accompany our Chapter study and reflection is the **Wedding at Cana, "Do whatever He tells you"(Jn 2:5)**. This text as well as suitable Biblical texts connected with the Chapter theme could be used for your Lectio Divina.

Please make sure that when you start working concretely on the 3 questions to be answered, listen to the young people, especially those that we do not normally reach, and lay people: collaborators, educators, teachers, parents, members of the Salesian family. This dialogue should be as broad as possible especially regarding the first question with which we begin the study and the dialogue as is required by the Chapter Document.

Let us invoke the light and guidance of the Holy Spirit and entrust ourselves to Mary so that, as at Cana, she will help us to listen to what Jesus tells us, to transform the water of daily life into the vine of new vocational fruitfulness. As we journey towards **PC V** and **GC XXIV**, Let us make it a time of personal conversion and renewal and contribute, in the ever new fruitfulness of the Charism, to the miracle of the transformation of daily life.

-----CELEBRATIONS-----

ST. DOMINIC SAVIO – 6 May

Dominic fulfilled in his short life the extraordinary promise that is present in every young person, the promise of God's life - giving grace at work in them while they are young. For Don Bosco, the young were not just some sort of potential adults, but he found them to be fully

human beings with real capacities and real struggles which he believed were crucial for their own happiness and the happiness of others. His saying, It's not enough for young people to be loved; they must know that they are loved, is an insight that is true for human beings at all stages of their development. 'Young people are that part of human society, so rich in promise and yet so exposed to danger', Don Bosco used to say. He was convinced that in Dominic Savio, he had been privileged to encounter a young person who though he was only 15 years of age when he died, had lived life so fully that he could be seen as a heroic example of what it is to be a young Christian. Being young in Don Bosco's way of thinking was no obstacle to becoming truly holy and genuinely human. Humanly speaking, Dominic showed his highest talent for friendship by leading his friends in his setting up of the Sodality of the Immaculate Conception during his last year at the Oratory as a way of taking their own initiative in supporting the atmosphere of for the good of the younger students in the Oratory. Dominic was then, an outstanding youngster who flourished in the atmosphere of the Oratory of Turin, taking more responsibility as he got older and more familiar with the place. For Dominic the critical moment of growth took place six months after his arrival at the Oratory. He heard Don Bosco preaching about becoming a saint and this struck Dominic as the moment to turn his life in a definite direction: I have a great desire and an urgent need to become a saint. My life would be a total failure if I did not become a saint - especially now that I know that it is easy and that one can be happy and be a saint too. Let us also follow the great example of this little saint.

ST. MARIA DOMENICA MAZZARELLO – 13 May

Many saints have reached the height of sanctity through the path of simplicity. Holiness that emanate from simplicity is associated with childlikeness, plainness, straightforwardness, unfussiness, austerity and cleanness of mind, heart and soul. These synonyms of the word 'simplicity' can be well paralleled to many beatitudes that Jesus proclaimed at the beginning of his ministry. They are poor in spirit, they are meek, and they are humble. As Jesus promised, the whole heaven belongs to them. Mother Mazzarello's sanctity born out of simplicity continued to attract numerous young women to join her in serving others. For her Simplicity, or purity of intention, consisted in keeping before oneself the will of God. It directing one's thoughts, words, and acts, to one and the same end, one and the same object — namely, the pleasing of God, or, more accurately, the doing of His will. Through the living of her religious vocation and exercising her leadership Mary understood that being simple and humble is the best way to serve others, attain God and lead others to God. And she achieved that goal successfully.

Mary Mazzarello died on 14 May 1881 was beatified on November 20, 1938 and canonized on June 24, 1951. A life of utter devotion to the will of God and love for others, Mary Mazzarello continues to serve as an example of dedication and holiness, a true mother in every way. In 1936, Pope Pius XI, proclaiming the heroic nature of Mother Mazzarello's virtues, aptly summarized her remarkable life thusly: "Here is a woman of simplicity, extreme simplicity – a simplicity as pure as that of the simple elements, as simple and unmixed as gold without alloy! Her serenity and joy, ability to build up deep and authentic relationships and the certainty of the presence and closeness of God helped her to transform the inevitable sufferings and hardships of life into precious opportunities for growth and conversion. Let us relive the Spirit of Mornese as we celebrate her birthday and feast day.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS – 24 May

Mother Mary is the help of every individual Christian. When a child is frightened or hurt or in any need it runs to its mother and mother always helps. When a child cries for help mother rushes to its assistance. That is just what Mary, Help of Christians, does for each one of us. When we are attacked by the enemies of our soul or body, she hurries to our help. Here are some enemies of our soul:

A. One of the greatest enemies of our soul **is the world**. By the world we mean the spirit of the world, a spirit that entirely forgets and neglects God. The enemy is called "secularism" which means worldliness. This spirit is not one of faith; it is not one of morals. It is a spirit that condemns or ignores sacred things. It is a spirit that permits and approves immorality, bad example, contraception, abortion, etc., etc. These practices are the enemies of the individual soul and Mary is our protection against them.

B. The second enemy of the soul **is the flesh**. Ever since the fall of Adam and Eve, the spirit has lost control over the flesh. Even St. Paul experienced it: "I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner to the law of sin that is in my members. . . . Unhappy man that I am! Who will deliver me from the body of this death? (Romans 7:24).

C. The third enemy of the soul **is the devil**. He was driven out of heaven, because of his pride. Ever since he and his cohorts are trying to drag souls down to hell. The devil is clever. He uses every means to trap us. He makes evil suggestions. He deceives minds and assaults Christian souls. Here again Mary is our help. Let us invoke her powerful intercession, so that she may be at our side in our battle against the evil one.

FEAST OF THE VISITATION OF MARY – 31 May

The Feast of the Visitation presents Mary, as the first disciple, who in many ways prefigures all the disciples who will follow the Master – those who traveled, throughout the world to spread the gospel and proclaim the good news. Mary was the first missionary, a woman who traveled and carried Christ to her immediate neighbours. The feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary challenges every Christian to develop courage and conviction to reach out those who are in need. As we remember the 26th anniversary of the formation of our Province on this day let us ask Mary our Mother to make our lives a song of praise for the great things the Lord is doing for us in our lives and in our mission.

-----RECALLING EVENTS-----

INTENSE RENEWAL PROGRAMME FOR JUNIORS

Our temporary professed sisters will have their renewal programme from May 10th - 15th May. Let us pray that they may be always faithful to Christ and respond to His call generously in their daily life.

ANNUAL RETREAT

I thank Rev.Fr. C.M. Jose SDB. for animating and guiding the 3rd batch of sisters to seek and find the Lord. The Annual spiritual retreat for the IV batch of sisters will begin on 16th May around 5.30 p.m. and end with the Eucharistic Celebration and Renewal of Vows of our Temporarily Professed Sisters on 23rd May. Let us remember in our prayers Fr. Alex Kalathikattil SDB the preacher and the sisters. Our novices and postulants will be making their retreat on same days. Let us surrender them and the preacher Fr. Jince Kallanickal SDB to the Lord in prayer.

WELCOME BACK

We warmly welcome back to the province Sr. Devamani Gummadi who has returned from Auxilium College Katpadi after successfully completing her Masters Degree in English. While we congratulate her for her achievements, we thank the community at Auxilium College for the love and care showered on her in the past two years.

JUNIORATE AT GUWAHATI

Sr. FRANCIS C. Frinsha and Sr. BULLA Sumathi will be joining ING Province for the Intensive Juniorate. We wish them a very fruitful and enriching formative experience.

-----COMMUNICATIONS -----

COURSES AND SEMINARS

PCI Social communication Meet: A warm welcome to Sr. Maria Helena Moreira and Sr. Gabriella Imperatore from the Social communication Sector, Rome. Sr. Monica Thomas, Sr. Josmy Jose, Sr. Victoria Rani Marsakatla and Sr. Priyanka Pallipam will be taking part in the PCI Social Communication Meet to be held in Wadala, Mumbai from 3 – 8 May 2019 on the theme “The Institutional Communication Plan in the Edu Communication – Mission of the FMA”. May this animation be fruitful in every way so as to enrich our communities and educative mission.

Legal requirements for Churches & NGOs

Sr. Saly Abraham, Sr. Agnes Fernandez and Sr. Kamalabhai Karre will be attending four days Workshop from 27- 30 May 2019 in Bangalore.

CONGRATULATIONS & ASSURANCE OF PRAYERS

- **Congratulations Sr. Alessandra Smerilli F.M.A.**

Pope Francis has appointed Salesian Sister Alessandra Smerilli as State Councillor to Vatican City State. Best wishes and prayers to dear sister.

- **Entry into Novitiate**

To our four Postulants BENNY Saniga, KASPER Litveena, ROJIPUR David Gagana and MENDEM MARIYA Susmitha who will begin the period of Novitiate on 23rd May 2019. We congratulate them and pray that they may respond to God's call with great generosity and immense joy and love. I am grateful to dear Sr. Thresia Augustine and community for accompanying them and preparing them for this great day.

- **First Profession**

We have four Second Year Novices who will make their First Profession on 24th May at the Provincial house Chapel. Sr. LOURDAMMA Mereeta, Sr. MARIA VINCENT Mary Padmini, Sr. NANDRU Anusha and Sr. VELUPULA Swaroopa Rani. I appreciate Sr. Molly Joseph and community for the care they have taken to form them to become worthy spouses of Jesus. We thank God for them and welcome them warmly into our religious family. We congratulate them and wish them a joyful committed religious life and loving fidelity to Christ.

- **Perpetual Profession**

We raise our hearts in thanksgiving to God for the gift of our six sisters who are committing themselves with their final YES. Sr. CRASTA Leena, Sr. DOMINIKKI Venila, Sr. JOHNSON Siljo Mary, Sr. PUSHPARAJ Asha Latha, Sr. SAVARINATHAN Lawra Albena and Sr. YAMMALA Udaya Kumari who will be making their Perpetual Profession at the Provincial House Chapel on 24th May solemnized by His Grace Rt. Rev. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore. While we congratulate them let us offer our fervent prayers for their fruitful service among the young. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the communities of Bannerghatta and Provincial House for accompanying them while they are preparing themselves for their final commitment.

- **Renewals**

Twenty one Temporarily Professed Sisters will be renewing their Vows on 23rd May at Sacred Heart Convent Bangalore. Let us accompany them with our prayerful support.

TRANSFERS

I wish to thank each one of you, dear Sisters, who has accepted your transfer or new appointment with much faith, availability and in a spirit of obedience. It must have been difficult to accept transfer in some cases. May your sacrifice bring joy to you and life to all whom you meet in your mission. All the Sisters who are on transfer this year are expected to be in the new communities by 28th May. Those who are unable to join your new community by 1st June kindly inform me and your animator the reason for your delay and the date of your arrival there.

SINCERE THANKS

I am extremely grateful to Sr. Monica Thomas and the community of Provincial House for hosting the 3rd retreat with 58 sisters, and for creating a prayerful and serene atmosphere where

sisters could make their annual retreat fruitfully.

SINCERE CONDOLENCES & ASSURANCE OF PRAYERS

- To dear Sr. Regina Varghese at the passing away of her elder sister Mrs. Mary Michael (68) on 19th April 2019.
- To dear Sr. Lucy Michael at the loss of her Aunt Mrs. Annakutty (82) who passed away on 28th April 2019.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

- ❖ For the speedy recovery of Sr. Auxilia the sister of Sr. Anna and Alphonsa Joseph
- ❖ For the father of Sr. Leema Rose Joseph
- ❖ For our Mother land India that we may have good, God fearing and poor friendly leaders
- ❖ For Sri Lanka

CONCLUSION

As we have just entered into the Month of May, the Marian month, let us follow the suggestions given from the centre and the practices prepared by Sr. Margrat Mathai in order to prepare ourselves for the feast of Mary Help of Christians our Mother, guide and teacher.

Yours affectionately,

Sr. Celine Jacob

*Sr. Celine Jacob
Provincial*

**A VERY HAPPY FEAST OF ST. MARY
MAZZARELLO & MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS!!!**

