



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR - INK

Province of Sacred Heart of Jesus

XXVIII/1

June 2019

My dearest Sisters, Loving and Prayerful Greetings from the Provincial House Bangalore!

Let us step into the new academic year with the Heart of Jesus so that our focus will be on love and self-giving. As Mother Mazzarello said, let the New Year bring new life to us. The new apostolic plan 2019- 2023 which has been chalked out for us may become a powerful tool to live our community life and mission during this year with greater commitment and audacity. The journey of PC V and GC XXIV is a powerful time to look back and look forward and to take right direction in the path of holiness as exhorted by our Rector Major in the Strenna, 'Holiness For You Too'. Dear sisters, as we begin this New Year, let us focus on our interior life, sincere communion in communities, and a passionate love for the mission entrusted. Let each one of us become a blessing to everyone whom we meet. I wish you God's blessings!

-----CELEBRATIONS-----

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 2ND

The solemnity of the Ascension reminds us that Christ accepts our lack of self-confidence. The feast of ascension teaches us a profound lesson about possessing and being possessed. Through his Ascension, Jesus shows that clinging to him in time and history serves no purpose. Today as the church, we too are called by Christ and sent out just as these first Christians were. We are asked to proclaim the Kingdom of God, and like them, we too are strengthened by the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul tells us in Romans 5.5, 'God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.' We are Christ's witnesses today in our homes with our families and with our neighbours in our parish community. We are called and challenged by Christ not only to hear the good news of the gospel, but to do whatever we can to share it with others whom meet and relate. We do this through the quality of our daily lives in how we speak to each other and treat each other. As St. Francis of Assisi reminds us, '*we must use every means possible to proclaim the gospel and if we have to, we will use words.*' Let us believe that the ascended Jesus is still

with us because of His promise, "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." He is with us at all times and in all places, releasing a new energy upon the earth, the energy of the Holy Spirit.

PENTECOST 9th

We are in the Novena for the Solemnity of Pentecost. Of all the gifts given to mankind by God, there is none greater than the presence of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that the Father will give us the Holy Spirit if we ask of Him. By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, Christ's Paschal Mystery was brought to its completion. The Holy Spirit prepares us with his grace in order to draw us to Christ. He manifests the risen Lord to us, opening our minds. He makes present the mystery of Christ. And he reconciles us, bringing us into communion with God. Saint Thomas Aquinas says that the Holy Spirit interiorly perfects our spirit, communicating to it a new dynamism so that it refrains from evil for love. With the Holy Spirit within us, "it is quite natural for people who had been absorbed by the things of this world to become entirely otherworldly in outlook, and for cowards to become people of great courage" says St. Cyril of Alexandria. As we prepare ourselves for the solemnity of Pentecost, let us inwardly desire for the indwelling of the Spirit and ask Him to come and fill within us. Let us pray **"Come Holy Spirit, Help me bear fruits, fruits that will last"**.

HOLY TRINITY 16TH

On the first Sunday after Pentecost, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. Saint Josemaria speaks about how each soul in grace is a temple of the Trinity. The feast of the Blessed Trinity was introduced in the ninth century and was only inserted in the general calendar of the Church in the fourteenth century by Pope John XXII. The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity. Christians are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

There is a fascinating pattern in how the three persons of the Holy Trinity love. Each of the three persons refers constantly to the other. The Father refers to the Son and the Spirit, the Son refers to the Father and to the Spirit, and the Spirit refers to Father and to the Son. The Holy Trinity teaches us to refer always to the other. In a religious Community too every member should feel loved and cared by the community, and the interest of the community should be uppermost in the heart of every member. The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity. Let us pray that may we ever be "on the alert" to the presence of the Trinity in our souls! At Baptism we became the adopted "sons of the Father," "co-heirs with Christ," "temples of the Holy Spirit!" In our offering of Holy Mass, we will give glory to the Trinity and God will show "mercy to us".

CORPUS CHRISTI 23RD

The feast of Corpus Christi reminds us of the decision of God who became incarnate in Jesus to make himself food for us, permanent sustenance, and energy of life. In the face of such an incomprehensible choice, what can we do but admire in silence, be grateful and become his table-companions. We need to ask ourselves, is this not the reason why, despite having celebrated Eucharist so many times, and received so often the body of Christ, we do not feel satisfied either with ourselves or with God. Anyone who neglects his neighbour and does not care about his neighbour's needs, will not feel God's loving care in his own life. Coming closer

to Christ means coming closer to our neighbour. This is the only way to adore the mystery we celebrate, because it is the only way to begin to make real what we believe. Let the Eucharistic Lord teach us that it is by becoming humble and little that we become truly great and holy.

NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST 24TH

Why the Church does celebrates the birthday of John the Baptist? Because “John surpasses all the prophets, of whom he is the last” He “goes ‘before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah’ Lk 1:17; 3:16). John the Baptist “is the Lord’s immediate precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare his way,” who “inaugurates the Gospel. Jesus could have introduced Himself and just stated, ‘I am the Messiah’. But John, the Baptist came into the picture. Was there a real need for John the Baptist to be a guide? God involved John, the Baptist as guide because of man’s hazy vision of the truth... at times even its blindness to the truth. Often we are so wrapped up within our very own self, our ideas, beliefs and perceptions that we fail to see the truth of our salvation. We fail to see and acknowledge sin in our lives that we care not to be forgiven. As we celebrate the birth of John the Baptizer, God wants us to realize that we too have a role to play in His Salvation plan. He said in Isaiah 49:3: “You are my servant through whom I show my glory.” If John spoke with strength, conviction and without fear out of his passion that everyone receives God’s message, what should be our action plan in bringing the Good News to the ends of the earth?

SACRED HEART OF JESUS 28TH

There are two things that must always be found together in the devotion to the Sacred Heart: Christ's Heart of flesh and Christ's love for us. True devotion to the Sacred Heart means devotion to the Divine Heart of Christ insofar as His Heart represents and recalls His love for us.

In honouring the Heart of Christ, our homage lingers on the Person of Jesus in the fullness of His love. This love of Christ for us was the moving force of all that he did and suffered for us -- in Nazareth, on the Cross, in giving Himself in the Blessed Sacrament, in His teaching and healing, in His praying and working. Even for us, love for Jesus should be the motivating force of all that we are and all that we do. Let us grow in our devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Patron of our Province and carry on spreading this devotion through the First Friday practices in our communities. It is a wonderful occasion to offer to our catholic students and staff opportunity to approach the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. I am grateful to Sr. Margrat Mathai for the efforts put in to prepare the novena practices. Let the practices enable us to prepare ourselves for this solemnity.

SOLEMNITY OF Sts. PETER AND PAUL 29TH

We find two “Faith types” here: the *Peter Type* and the *Paul Type*: those who try to do the right things – but who make mistakes; those who mean well – but often don’t follow through; those who try to understand but who don’t always get it and when they do get it, they sometimes don’t always get it right; those who fail, who repent, who get discouraged when they fail yet again, and who keep coming back, through God’s mercy, to try again. The witness of the Apostle Peter reminds us that our true refuge is trust in God. Trust in God banishes all fear and sets us free

from every form of slavery and all worldly temptation. Peter and Paul set the standard: they sometimes get relationship wrong, as in the denials and persecution of Christ. Both reject Jesus at first but the Lord has the final say. Both show their willingness to be open to grace which we find striking and inviting.

The dual feast gives us a clear example of how to live in a profound complementarity with Christians so that our witness can deeply nourish the spiritual life of the Church and generate the hundredfold Christ promised us. This feast tells us two things, First, we have two incredible men who are part of the “great cloud of witnesses,” and we can ask their intercession, as well as follow their examples of faith. The other thing we learn from celebrating this feast is that God uses everyone. Christ chose a fisherman who couldn’t always be brave and a Jew who hated Christians to lead his Church. If these two men can find the strength to follow Christ, then so can we not?

-----COMMUNICATIONS-----

THE FOLLOWING SUPERIORS WERE INSTALLED

Kunnamangalam	- Sr. MICHAEL Lucy	: 27 th May Sr. Celine Jacob
Thiruthiparambu	- Sr. PUTHEMPURAIKKEL Maria Goretti	: 28 th May Sr. Celine Jacob
Puthuppally	- Sr. MALAYATTY Rosy	: 29 th May Sr. Celine Jacob
Warangal	- Sr. MARNENI SwarnaLatha	: 28 th May Sr. Elizabeth Pothen
Chandur	- Sr. SAVARIMUTHU Bala	: 29 th May Sr. Elizabeth Pothen
Hassan	- Sr. JACOB Bridget	: 31 st May Sr. Elizabeth Pothen

ANIMATION FOR THE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER PREPARATORY COMMISSION

The Provincial Council planned to have one day animation on Chapter Document for the Preparatory commission and Provincial Councillors on 10 June 2019 by Fr. Jose Mathew SDB in Sacred Heart Convent, Bangalore.

ANIMATION FOR THE TRIMONTHLY RECOLLECTION TEAM

There will be two days of animation programme on *Acts of the Apostles* for the Trimonthly Recollection Team by Fr. Jince Kallanickal SDB on 27th & 28th June 2019 in Sacred Heart Convent, Bangalore. Kindly make sure that concerned members are present for the same.

MEETING OF THE ANIMATORS

There will be two days of animation on Chapter theme for the animators of communities on 29th & 30th June 2019 in the Sacred Heart Convent, Bangalore.

LOCAL ECONOMERS MEET

On 1st & 2nd July 2019 the Local Animators and Economers will have an animation programme on Financial Administration and Policy by Fr. Xavier Pakkia SDB. This will be followed by the new economers' course till 5th July 2019.

INTENSE JUNIORATE

Eight of our junior sisters and two from INM Province will be doing the intensive Juniorate in Sacred Heart Convent, Bangalore. The first three months they will be attending the theology classes in Visvadeep. They will be initiated to this important stage of their formation on 4th June 2019. Let us accompany them with our prayerful support.

THANK YOU

- ✚ My sincere thanks to Sr. Monica Thomas and the Provincial House Community for making the necessary arrangements for the Renewal of Vows of the junior sisters, First Profession and Final Profession. The liturgy of the Rites of First & Final Profession as well as that of the Renewal of vows of the various groups and the lunch that followed were all well planned and executed to the satisfaction of all. Thank you dear sisters.
- ✚ A special word of gratitude and appreciation to the Provincial - Sr. Alphonsa Kurisinkal and to Sr. Lydia Komuhra and her community at Auxilium Guwahati, for accompanying two of our Junior Sisters with much love and solicitude for the past one year, during the time of their intensive Juniorate. Thank you Sr. Alphonsa for receiving the vows of our Sr. Wari Rwisumwi on 23rd May 2019.
- ✚ My sisterly thanks to all the outgoing team members for their hard work and sisterly collaboration, and Sr. Margrat Mathai and the team for the preparation of Apostolic Plan 2019 - 2023 as I gently solicit the generous teamwork of the new members.

EXAM RESULTS

The recent Public Exam results of our schools show that most of our students have fared well and have brought credit to themselves and to the institutions and family. My HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS to all of them. I would like to THANK sincerely all our Sisters and the staff, who have put in hours of dedicated hard work and sacrifice. I also take this opportunity to wish all our schools a very fruitful new scholastic year.

ARRIVAL OF CONTACT PERIOD CANDIDATES

Candidates who have expressed their desire to see and experience our way of life during the vocation camps held in different parts of the province and those girls who were in touch with our Sisters will come to Auxilium Welfare Centre latest by 10th of June. Sr. Sherly Joseph will take charge of them. We wish them an enriching experience in our family.

SINCERE CONDOLENCES & ASSURANCE OF PRAYERS

- To dear Sr. Lucia Rani at the passing away of her niece Jeromina (25) on 08th May 2019.
- To Sr. Nirmala Lazar and Sisters of INM Province at the demise of Sr. Perez Mary Maddalene (95) on 19 May 2019.

CONCLUSION

Let this New Scholastic Year bring new life to our communities and the Mission! Wishing you a very **HAPPY FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART JESUS** and assuring you of my special prayers to each and everyone.

Yours affectionately,

Sr. Celine Jacob

Sr. Celine Jacob
Provincial

