



# Provincial Circular - INK

*Province of the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Bangalore*



XXV/3

August 2017

*“And they talked to each other about everything that had happened”*

Lk.24:14

My Dear sisters,

Loving greetings from the Provincial house!

I am happy to bring to each one of you loving and prayerful greetings from our beloved Mother General and all the General Councillors. My stay at the Centre of the Institute was an experience of breathing fresh the Charism and experiencing the spirit of the family. There was also a rich experience of interculturality as 16 of us hailed from different nations. All possible efforts were made by all the sectors to enhance our capacity for animation and governance. Thank you for your prayerful support and expressions of love. Needless to say that I prayed for you and all your intentions in all the Churches I visited.

## CELEBRATIONS -----

### SILVER JUBILEE PREPARATION

It is a beautiful occasion to look back and raise our hearts in thanksgiving to God for the past 25 years of God's marvellous work in our province. It is also a time for personal and community renewal and deepening our identity as FMA. How can we make this celebration a meaningful one? For our Jubilee year I would like to propose for our consideration three themes: **Communion, Commitment and Compassion.** , which will also find a prominent place in the LOGO of the Silver Jubilee. In order to achieve the desired renewal of our province, every community will gather around the Eucharistic Lord for half an hour every day . Convenient time could be fixed by each community.

**Gift of Communion in Love:”** Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity. -- Psalms 133:1. Dear Sisters, these reflections are by way of

sharing with you, my desire to love more deeply the Lord who unites us all. It is my earnest wish that our communities become more fraternal through the grace of the Lord who is in our midst. The province is you, the province is me, it's all of us, and we all share responsibility for it."

### **WHAT EACH PERSON IS HAS AN IMPACT ON THE OTHERS**

Who we are and what we do can be to the benefit or to the detriment of others. St. Paul attests to this assertion when he says, "We were baptized into one body in a single Spirit: Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as free men, and we were all given the same spirit to drink... As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' and nor can the head say to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ... If one part is hurt, all the parts share its pain. And if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy." (1 Co 12:13, 20-21, 26)

St. Paul's teaching is very clear: first, as baptized persons we form one single body with Christ at its head; then, as members of this body we are bonded to one another, and we need one another. Finally the state or condition of one member affects all the others; if the former is in good health, all benefit; while if one member is ailing, all the others suffer.

From this Pauline teaching we can infer that our own infidelity toward God is prejudicial to the well-being of the other members of my community, whereas, my faithfulness to the Lord is beneficial to them. The French writer George Bernanos put it this way: "Our secret sins pollute the air that others breathe."

### **WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE**

President John F. Kennedy challenged the citizens of his country with his now-famous imperative, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but rather what you can do for your country," we might do well to adopt as our own mantra something like, "Ask not what your community can do for you, but rather what you can do for your community." We are responsible for one another. A religious community may be said to be much like a mosaic, made up of a variety of precious little pieces with a range of hues. Each member, by his particular gifts, contributes to the group. Some offer joy, others simplicity, still others a spirit of service, availability, goodness, a great capacity for work and organization, leadership skills, a deep interior life, etc.

### **HOLINESS, THE GREATEST GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY**

Remember Jesus' words in the Gospel: 'Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well.' This Kingdom is to be found within the community of those who live Jesus' values, that is to say, among those who love God and their fellow human beings."

The human and spiritual patrimony of a community is to be found in the personal wealth of its members. Assured of the help of God, we must all strive personally to increase this patrimony through faithfulness to our vocation to holiness.

Only the love of Christ, and through Him the love of the Father, through the Spirit, can help us to make our way successfully along the path of gratuitous self-giving (cf. *Fraternal Life in Community*, §§ 22 & 23).

It is most important for us to live joyfully "One of the best gifts that we can give to the community is our joy. And what is more, joy is one of the greatest signs of our faith and our hope." Dear Sisters St. Paul gives us excellent advice when he tells us to live in joy: "Rejoice in the Lord; again I tell you, rejoice." (Ph 4:4) The joy of living together, even in the midst of trials

and difficulties, is a sign of the Kingdom. Our Holy Founders Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello were saints who sanctified joy and cheerfulness in their daily life.

May Mary, Our mother, draw us ever nearer to the Heart of her Son, so that, united with Him, we may form an increasingly more fraternal family and be a sign of that ultimate communion of the sons and daughters of God in the Kingdom of the Father.

### **OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS- BIRTHDAY OF THE INSTITUTE**

5<sup>th</sup> August marks the dedication of the Basilica of Mary Major in Rome, which is dedicated to Our Lady of the Snows. It is a memorable day for the whole Institute as it was on this beautiful day years back Mother Mazzarello and her companions, made their first Profession in the presence of Don Bosco in the little Chapel of Colleggio in Mornese. Every year as we celebrate this day we experience special sentiments of serene joy and a feeling of gratitude. On this wonderful day every FMA celebrates the birthday of the Congregation with sincere joy, contentment and thankfulness to God, and our Holy Founders. Let us prayerfully remember all those who have consecrated themselves to God on this day and who will be making their First and Final profession on this day.

### **THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER**

The Assumption completes God's work in Mary since it was not fitting that the flesh that had given life to God himself should ever undergo corruption. The Assumption is God's crowning of His work as Mary ends her earthly life and enters eternity. The feast turns our eyes in that direction, where we will follow when our earthly life is over. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

I am sure the celebration of the Marian Month has helped us and the Educating Community to venerate our Blessed Mother and to make her dispositions our own. Celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother, Queen of India, is a fitting conclusion of this Marian Month. Like Mary let us fix our gaze on to heaven.

### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

On 15th August 1947, we won political freedom. The birth of modern India was a moment of historic exhilaration; but it was also tinged with the blood of unimaginable suffering along the length and breadth of our country. The ideals and convictions, that had held through the travails of an epic struggle against British rule, were under strain. A great generation of supreme heroes faced this formidable challenge. The sagacity and maturity of that generation saved our ideals from deviation or degeneration under the pressure of emotion, including rage. India's pride, self-esteem and self-respect, born from a civilizational wisdom which inspired the renaissance that won us freedom, was distilled into the principles of our constitution by these extraordinary men and women. We have been blessed by a constitution that launched India's march towards greatness. Today the very core of the constitutional values are threatened and challenged.

Let us pray that our Country may be freed from all chains that bind her: war, violence, illiteracy, poverty, inequality, exploitation, racism, human trafficking, bonded labour, child labour, child marriage, etc. as Our Nation celebrates its 71<sup>st</sup> Independence Day to commemorate the birth of a free and democratic nation. Let us recall the words of Rabindranath Tagore and pray as we celebrate this great day: *"Into that heaven of freedom, my father, let my country awake."*

Let us shape, honest and responsible citizens in our classrooms, according to the mind of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello.

## **BIRTHDAY OF DON BOSCO**

16<sup>th</sup> August a memorable day for our Salesian family: it is said, God sends the world saints when they are most needed-not men and women of "general holiness," but specialized experts who fit into the pattern of the times and are capable of giving God's tone to their century. As we celebrate the 202<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Father and Founder let us re-dedicate ourselves to the most needy young people following the example of Don Bosco , deeply human deeply holy.

## **BL. MARIA TRONCATI**

August 25 we keep the liturgical memorial of Blessed Maria Troncati. This great missionary in Ecuador's Amazonian forests had become 'doctor' for both bodies and souls. Maria Troncati was born in Cortegno Golgi (Brescia) on February 16, 1883. She left for Ecuador in 1922 and was sent to work among the Shuar people where, together with two other Sisters, she began the difficult work of evangelisation. They faced dangers of every kind, including those caused by the beasts of the forest and by fast flowing rivers that had to be waded through or crossed on fragile "bridges" made from creepers or on the shoulders of the Indians. She was nurse, surgeon, orthopaedist, dentist, anaesthetist... But, above all, she was catechist and evangeliser, rich in the wonderful resources of her faith, patience and fraternal love. Sr. Maria died in a tragic air crash at Sucúa on August 25, 1969. Her remains lie at Macas, in the Province of Morona (Ecuador). Proclaimed Blessed on the 24 November 2012.

May she be a model and guide in our mission of catechesis and evangelization.

## **BL.ZEPHYRINUS NAMANCURA**

He was born in Chimpay, Argentina, on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1886, the eighth of 12 children to Manuel Namuncurá and Rosario Burgos. In 1897 Colonel Namuncurá exercised his right as part of the Argentine army to have his now 11-year-old son enrolled in military school at El Tigre. His father hoped that learning Western military tactics would later serve the future leadership position to which Zepherin was slowly being groomed. Entering into the Salesian Mission School took a turn of events in his young life. He became another Dominic Savio and was exemplary in his daily life. Although he desired to be a Salesian, he had to discontinue due to ill health. He died on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1905. He was beatified on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2007 At Chimpay, his birth place.

## **ST.EUFRASIA**

30<sup>th</sup> August we celebrate the feast of Saint Euphrasia a humble CMC nun who has personalized the prayer heritage of Carmel and lived according to the divine inspirations and rose to the heights of sanctity. For all of us who are called to be the beloved of God that is to be saints, the spirit-filled life of St. Euphrasia is an example and to take a peep into her holy life would be proper and useful. Rosa was born as the daughter of Elavuthinkal Antony and Kunjethi on 17 October, 1877 in Kattur. Even in the midst of all wealth and pomp in the family, little Rosa's heart desired only God. A good evidence of this is her offering of her virginity to God at the tender age of 9. After overcoming many obstacles she was able to become a member of the Kerala Carmelite Congregation founded by Bl. Kuriakose Elias Chavara in 1866 at Koonammavu. She grew in humility, poverty and holiness as she completely obeyed the will of God every moment. The whole life of this virgin was full of continuous prayer, penance and reparation. All those who approached her she helped with motherly love, prayer and good

advice. This holy virgin who desired to become an unknown saint is raised today to the glory of the altar by the Almighty and the sweet fragrance of her sanctity is spread worldwide.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### PRAYERFUL SUPPORT

We express our solidarity and prayerful support to Rector Major and the Salesian Congregation at the litigation concerning Gerini case, which also involves the Generalate – Pisana. As there is one last possible miracle of saving the case by 13<sup>th</sup> September, let us storm heaven for this special intention.

### PCI 2017

The FMA PCI will take place from 29<sup>th</sup> – 30 August 2017 at Auxilium Convent , Raiwoods, Lonavla, Pune. On 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting of National coordinators as well as provincials. The proposed theme of the meeting is ‘Triennial Evaluation 2018 ‘. Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil will be the presiding General Councillor. Let us implore the Holy Spirit to assist and guide the participants with the gift of wisdom and discernment.

Sr. Mathai Margrat elected by the province and Sr. Puthenpuraikal Maria Goretti elected by the Council will be participating in the meeting together with Sr. Savarimuthu Bala National Coordinator for Mission Ad Gentes.

### PROJECT MORNESE

Sr. Lobo Jacintha, Sr. Thomas Monica, Sr. Mathew Geetha, Sr. Alice Sebastian, Sr. Mathew Mary will be participating in Project Mornese. They will leave for Rome on 30<sup>th</sup> August and will be back 3<sup>rd</sup> October. We wish them an exciting, fruitful and enriching experience as they touch the Holy grounds where the Christian Faith and Salesian Charism were born. Happy and fervent pilgrimage!

### BUON VOYAGE

Sr. Crescentia will be going to Mornese for few months. We wish her a refreshing and fruitful experience at the Mother House. She will be leaving on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017. We wish her a safe journey and a pleasant stay.

### MISSIONARY ANIMATION AND FORMATION MEET

Sr. Savarimuthu Bala will take part in the Mission Ad Gentes meeting in “Ban Than Pharphon” (San Phran) Thailand from 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

### TRAINING COURSE FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

The Youth Pastoral Sector Rome has organized at the PCI level a seminar for the coordinators of Youth Pastoral, Education, and Social Ministry from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September in Guwahati. Sr. Thoppil Anna, Sr. Bridget Jacob, Sr. Mathew Ancy, Sr. Sleeva Showrilu and myself will be participating in it.



## **COURSES FOR THE NEW ANIMATORS**

Sr. Jacob Sheela, Sr. Jose Lisy, Sr. Jessi Padmalatha and Sr. Maryjyanthi attended updating course from 21<sup>st</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August in NBCLC.

## **RENEWAL FOR SILVER JUBILERIANS**

A renewal programme is organized for the silver Jubilarian at the PCI level from 24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Don Bosco – SPCI House, New Delhi with the theme” celebrating God’s gratuitous Call and His Constant Accompaniment’. Sr. Karuvelil Mary and Sr. Mathew Theresa will be participating from our province.

## **ANIMATION PROGRAMME FOR NOVICES**

Novices will be taking part in two days seminar at Ashirvad Bangalore, based on *Psycho Spiritual Growth* on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of August. This programme is conducted for all the novices of Karnataka.

## **APOSTOLIC EXPERIENCE**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> year novices will go for their apostolic experience from 1<sup>st</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 in the communities of Nandigama, Chandur and Puthiyathura. We wish them a deeper experience of community and mission.

## **MISSIONARY FORMATION COURSE**

This course will be held in Mathias Institute, Provincial house, Shillong from September 01 to October 04, 2017 (including the holy land trip) Sr. Augustine Rosa and Sr. Esson Lisy will be participating in it from our province.

## **ANIMATION FOR SISTERS (1991-2000)**

There will be a renewal programme conducted for the sisters professed between 1991-2000 in Sacred Heart Convent Bangalore, September 07-10.

## **REQUEST FOR PRAYERS**

For the Brother -in-law of Sr. Sleeva Showrilu and Uncle of Sr. Korabandi Sushma who are very sick.

## **CONDOLENCES**

We extend our heartfelt condolences to all our sisters and their family members who lost their dear ones and assure them of our prayers for the dear departed:

- ✚ Mr. Joy Abraham aged 68, the brother of Sr. Mercy Abraham on 12<sup>th</sup> July
- ✚ The brother Sr. Rose Thomas Mr. Joseph 84 on 19<sup>th</sup> July
- ✚ The Aunt of Sr. Celine Antony Mrs. Kunjeli aged 90 on 24<sup>th</sup> July.
- ✚ The brother-in-law of Sr. Rosy Lopez Mr. Peter Fernandez on 5<sup>th</sup> August.
- ✚ To Sr. Ritha Dora Thomas and the sisters of Mumbai Province at the passing away of Sr. Edvige Nazareth aged 91 on 28<sup>th</sup> July
- ✚ To Fr. Provincial and the Confreres of Bangalore Province at the demise of Fr. George Arimpoor on 1<sup>st</sup> August.
- ✚ To Fr. Provincial and the Confreres of Guwahati Province at the demise of Fr Michael Bhengra on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

The Synod that Pope Francis called on the youth in 2018 with the theme, Youth, Faith, and Vocational discernment is centred on how the Catholic Church can help in accompanying young people in discerning God's call in their lives. Dear Sisters, let us commit ourselves to give our best to the young people in every possible way thus accompanying them in their life journey.

Yours affectionately,

*Sr. Celine Jacob*

Sr. Celine Jacob  
Provincial.

**WISH YOU ALL HAPPY FEAST OF ASSUMPTION & HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!!**

