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

It is with great joy I would like to introduce you to Pope Francis's profound encyclical, “Dilexit Nos”, which translates to “He Loved Us.” In this beautiful document, the Holy Father invites us to reflect deeply on the transformative power of divine love and how it shapes our lives as followers of Christ.

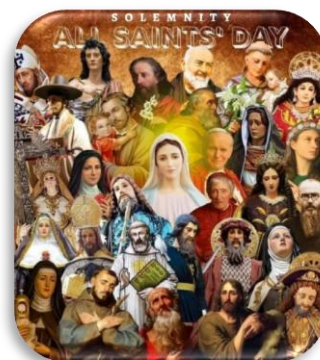
Pope Francis reminds us that God's love is not only a central tenet of our faith but also a call to action in our relationships with one another. As we navigate a world often marked by division and strife, he encourages us to embrace love as a force for healing, compassion, and solidarity, particularly for those who are marginalized and suffering.

This encyclical challenges us to embody the love we receive from God in our daily interactions and to foster genuine connections within our community. As we explore its themes together, let us consider how we can live out this call to love in our mission and in our hearts, drawing inspiration from Christ's self-giving love.

I invite you all to engage with the teachings of “Dilexit Nos”, reflecting on how we can integrate this message into our lives and our work together.

THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

November heralds the observance of All Saints' Day. This feast invites us to contemplate our heavenly companions. We celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, a special occasion dedicated to honoring all men and women who have entered Heaven. This celebration encompasses every soul in Heaven, with particular emphasis on those who led extraordinary holy lives on earth and have been canonized by the Church. These saints have honored God in diverse ways: through deep prayer and mystical experiences, enduring martyrdom or religious persecution, and performing acts of service, such as caring for the needy and teaching the faith. Some were powerful preachers or miracle workers, while others were humble leaders, lived in obscurity, or made significant sacrifices for their beliefs. Each of these saints glorified God throughout their lives.



By commemorating this multitude of saintly witnesses, we also glorify God through their exemplary lives. Honoring the saints means honoring Him who made them holy. This liturgical solemnity serves as a foretaste of the eternal celebration in Heaven, where God's glory is revealed through the lives of all His saints. In Heaven, the virtues, sacrifices, prayers, and selfless acts of the saints will shine like beacons, eternally manifesting God's great mercy and goodness. Each saint's life in Heaven becomes a continuous song of praise and worship, harmonizing with the nine choirs of angels. Alongside the Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones, the saints will proclaim, “Holy, Holy, Holy.” Together with the Dominions, Virtues, and Powers, they will participate in God's providential care of the New Heavens and Earth. This

ongoing celebration reflects all that God is in His essence and all that He has accomplished in the lives of those who responded to His grace.

Honoring the saints also invites us to pursue the holiness they achieved. Their lives serve as a guide, showing us how to attain holiness. Furthermore, the saints serve as powerful intercessors for us on earth. While God could communicate directly without the mediation of angels and saints, He chooses to use these secondary causes, with Himself as the ultimate Source of all grace. Thus, we should rely on their intercession, expressing our faith and belief in God while recognizing the saints and angels as His instruments.

ALL SOULS' DAY

On All Souls' Day, we remember those men and women who have passed away but have not yet been fully purified of their venial sins and their effects. The Catechism of the Catholic Church articulates this concept by stating that “all who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are assured of their eternal salvation; but after death, they undergo purification to achieve the holiness necessary for the joy of Heaven. The Church refers to this final purification of the elect as Purgatory, which is distinctly different from the punishment of the damned” (#1030–31).

The observance of All Souls’ Day invites us to focus on two main aspects. Firstly, it serves as a call to pray for those who are undergoing purification, preparing for their entrance into the Beatific Vision. While God does not require our prayers, it is His divine will that we participate in the sharing of His grace. Consequently, He invites us to pray, making us active instruments of the grace needed by those in Purgatory. By offering our prayers, especially on November 2nd, we can be assured that God provides them with what is necessary for their complete purification.

Secondly, All Souls’ Day prompts us to reflect on our own souls. This commemoration highlights the importance of our continuous journey toward deeper conversion. Each of us is called to become a saint. Ideally, our primary focus should be on achieving holiness in this life rather than waiting for purification in Purgatory. Striving for sanctity requires everything from us: it calls us to identify and eliminate sinful attachments, seek God’s mercy, confess our sins, receive forgiveness, and transform our lives entirely—a significant undertaking!

To understand Purgatory more profoundly, we can explore the teachings of spiritual doctors like Saint Teresa of Ávila and Saint John of the Cross. These Doctors of the Church extensively described the soul's journey toward divine union, often referred to as mystical marriage. Saint Teresa outlines seven interior dwelling places, each demanding a deeper level of purification, culminating in the innermost presence chamber where the soul achieves divine union and is fully purified of all that is not God. Only those who reach this state during their earthly life will avoid Purgatory.

Saint John of the Cross discusses purification through different terminology, identifying two key processes on the path to perfection. The first is the dark night of the senses, which purifies bodily senses and appetites. The second, the dark night of the spirit, refines the intellect, memory, and will through the perfection of infused faith, hope, and charity. Before the first purification, the soul is in the purgative way; between the two purifications, it is in the illuminative way, and after the second, it enters the unitive way, corresponding to Saint Teresa’s final dwelling place.

This overview of their writings emphasizes that the journey toward perfection is long and challenging but essential, whether pursued in this life or the next. Personal sanctity must become a person’s primary mission, as prioritizing holiness aligns every aspect of life, fostering virtues, deepening love for others, fulfilling duties, and glorifying God.

As we participate in the Commemoration of All Souls, let us commit to praying for those who have died and are in need of purification. Purgatory represents God's final act of mercy for those He loves deeply. Your prayers can unlock God's love for those most in need. As you pray for the deceased, also reflect on your own soul and your fervent desire to transform into a living saint. Though the path to divine union may not be quick or easy, it is profoundly rewarding. Make it your exclusive mission in life, and you will never regret it.

ST. ARTEMIDE ZATTI SDB

St.ArtemideZatti was canonized by Pope Francis on October 15, 2022,celebrated for his unwavering compassion and service to the poor. A notable miracle attributed to him involves Renato, a Filipino man who suffered a devastating right cerebellar ischemic stroke in August 2016, leading to severe complications and disorientation. Hospitalized with worsening symptoms and facing the possibility of surgery, Renato's family, struggling with poverty, decided to bring him home to spend his final days surrounded by loved ones.

During this difficult time, his brother Roberto, a Salesian coadjutor, began praying fervently for Renato's healing through the intercession of Blessed ArtemideZatti. On August 24, against all odds, Renato unexpectedly removed his oxygen tube and proclaimed he felt fine, expressing a desire to take a bath and eat. This miraculous recovery stunned everyone, transforming a situation marked by despair into one of joy and hope.

Zatti, known as "the relative of the poor," dedicated his life to caring for those unable to afford medical care at his hospital in Viedma, Argentina. This miracle not only affirmed Zatti's intercessory power but also exemplified his charism of compassion. It highlights how God's grace can heal not just the body but also the heart, renewing faith and relationships. As we remember St.Zatti, let us strive to emulate his commitment to charity and invoke his intercession for all who are sick and suffering, particularly our loved ones.

BL. MAGDALENE MORANO

In the Beatification Mass, St. John Paul II recalled how Morano illustrated the path to holiness: "We climb the high mountain of perfection with constant mortification. Even the tall houses are made of small stones superimposed on each other." Born in Chieri, near Turin, on November 15, 1847, from a young age, Maddalena Morano began her pedagogical formation, to which she dedicated her entire life. Rich in teaching and catechetical experience, around the age of thirty, encouraged by Don Bosco, she crowns a desire for consecration that dates back to her First Communion. In 1879, she becomes a Daughter of Mary Help of Christians and asks the Lord for the grace "to remain alive until I have completed the measure of holiness." Destined for Sicily in 1881, she began fruitful educational work among the young women of the working classes, deploying an intense and fruitful spiritual and educational activity with her marked pedagogical talent and love for God and neighbor. She often said to the Sisters, *"Let us remember that we bear the name of Daughters of Mary Help of Christians; therefore, we must be such in words, with deeds, imitating her virtues, and with our good example. My sisters, we became sisters to make us holy and sanctify the souls that the Lord entrusts to us."* Her real love, though, was for catechism class, since she was convinced that the formation of Christian conscience was the basis of personal maturity and all social improvement. She coordinated catechetical instruction in 18 of Catania's churches and trained lay and religious catechists to bring the Christian message to needy boys and girls. She spent 25 years in Sicily and served her community as local and provincial superior. She was an attentive mother and caring guide for many local vocations, faithfully living the charism of Mother Maria Mazzarello, co-foundress of the

institute. May she continue to inspire and help us in our mission of spreading the good news to all who are around us!

MAMMA MARGARET- SERVANT OF GOD

Venerable Margaret Occhiena is honored on November 25th, the revered mother of Don Bosco. Born on April 1, 1788, in Capriglio, Asti, she was the sixth of ten children in a farming family that valued Christian faith. Declared Venerable by Pope Benedict XVI in 2006, Margaret played a crucial, albeit unrecognized, role as the first cooperator in the educational work of the Salesians, contributing significantly to the Preventive System.

Despite limited formal education, her love for prayer granted her profound wisdom. At 29, she faced the challenges of raising her children during a time of famine. Her deep faith shaped her nurturing approach, allowing her to balance gentleness and firmness in her parenting. She taught her sons the catechism and guided them toward their first communion, recognizing John's potential for priesthood from his dreams and supporting him through his studies.

In 1846, when Don Bosco fell seriously ill, Margaret chose to assist him, later joining his mission for abandoned youth. Her presence transformed the oratory into a family space, making her a pivotal figure in the Salesian movement. Known as "Mamma Margaret," she was beloved by hundreds of children who benefited from her support during the establishment of the first Oratory at Valdocco.

Margaret passed away due to pneumonia in Turin on November 25, 1856, at the age of 68, leaving a lasting legacy. Let us earnestly pray to her, hoping she will soon be recognized on the altars alongside our Father and Founder, Don Bosco.



01st	- ALL SAINTS DAY
02nd	- ALL SOULS DAY
13th	- ST ARTEMIDE ZATTI SDB
14th	- CHILDREN'S DAY
15th	- BL. MADALENE MORANO
19th	- SIXTH WORLD DAY OF THE POOR
21st	- PRESENTATION OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY
22nd	- ARRIVAL OF THE PIONEER MISSIONARIES
25th	- MAMMA MARGARET
26th	- CHRIST THE KING
29th	- BEGINS THE NOVENA TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



COURSES AND MEETINGS

- Sr. Anita Thomas and Sr. Jacintha Lobo are attending a Comprehensive program for Training of trainers on Basic Counselling skills for mental health and wellness from 4th -8th November 2024. It is organised by CRWI (Conference of Religious Women, India) in partnership with Christ University, Bangalore.
- The formation Commission of the Salesians in India is organising a course for Formators in effectively using the manual titled *Formation towards Psychosexual Integration*. Sr. Thresia Augustine and Sr. Hunbih Mary Dkhar will be participating in it from 5th November to 10th November 2024 at Don Bosco Provincial House, Bangalore.
- Sr. Maria Rajeswary, Sr. Florence Leivon, Sr. Elizabeth John and Sr. Padmini Maria Vincent will participate in the National Catholic Media Conference “Illuminaire” organized for Priests, Religious and those in consecrated life at St. John’s Medical College, Bangalore, on 23rd and 24th November .

FORMATORS’ MEETING

- Sr. ShinyKarakkatt will be leaving for Rome on 8th November to participate in the Meeting of Formators (Animators of Communities accompanying Aspirants and Postulants) from 10th to 24th November at our Generalate with the theme “BEING FORMATORS TODAY”. We wish Sr. Shiny a safe journey and a rich experience at the Centre.

FIRST PHASE OF SECOND NOVITIATE

- Our 4 junior sisters will be participating in the first phase of the second Novitiate in the Mumbai Province at the Auxilium Youth Animation Centre in Dahanu from November 18 to December 18, 2024. Sisters from our province, Sr. Dhanya Sahayaraj, Sr. Frinsha Francis, Sr. Jacinta Kopuri, and Sr. Shanta Madugula, will participate in this important step of their vocational journey. Our good wishes and prayers will accompany these young sisters in preparation for their final commitment to the Lord, while we thank the Animators and Communities that will welcome them and accompany them with their Salesian educational presence.

A NEW MESSAGE

- Pope Francis shares a new message for young people. The Pope released a special message for the 39th World Youth Day, which will be celebrated in dioceses round the world on 24th November 2024. It is focused on the Jubilee and the theme is “Hope that does not disappoint”. “Those who hope in the Lord ... and do not grow weary” (Is. 40:31). Hope conquers all anxiety and weariness. Pope Francis

tells the young people to live as pilgrims, not tourists. To fully experience love and hope, one must approach the journey of life as pilgrims not just sightseers. The Pope says that “The Jubilee pilgrimage is meant to be the outward sign of an inward journey that all of us are called to make towards our final destination”.

SINCERE CONDOLENCES & ASSURANCE OF PRAYERS

- ✚ To Sr. Frinsha Francis at the demise of her paternal aunt Mrs. Clara Johny (63) on 15 October 2024.
- ✚ To Sr. Bala Savarimuthu at the sudden loss of her elder brother Mr. Kanikairaj (65) on 23 October 2024.
- ✚ To Sr. Sr. Lizzie Abraham at the passing away of her paternal aunt Mrs. Annakutty (86) on 26 October 2024.
- ✚ To Sr. Sushma Korabandi at the demise of their paternal uncle Mr. Shekar Babu (52) on 27 October 2024.
- ✚ To Sr. Liza Philip at the passing away of her first cousin Mrs. Mercy Lucca (66) on 28 October 2024.
- ✚ To the Provincial and Confreres of INC province at the demise of Br. Thomas Kuttamplakal Sdb (89) on 29 October 2024.
- ✚ To the Provincial and Confreres of INP province at the demise of Fr. Lino Lopes Sdb (60) on 30 October 2024.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR SICK: SISTERS AND DEAR ONES

CONCLUSION

In closing, I encourage each of you to prepare your hearts and minds for the upcoming Novena to Mary Immaculate. This time of prayer offers us a wonderful opportunity to deepen our devotion and seek the intercession of our Blessed Mother as we strive to embody her qualities of Purity, humility, love, and faithfulness.

Let us also renew our missionary ardor as we dedicate ourselves to the vital work of nurturing and guiding our students and young people. We have the privilege and responsibility to instill in them the values that will shape them into honest, responsible citizens of our country. Through our example and teachings, we can inspire them to lead lives marked by integrity and compassion.

May our collective efforts reflect the love of Christ and the grace of Mary Immaculate, empowering us to serve our communities with joy and dedication. Let us move forward together, committed to our mission and united in our love for God and one another.

Good wishes and prayerful greetings to all in the Family.

Affectionately,



Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil
Provincial