

MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



NAGPUR PROVINCE

MSFS PROVINCIALATE

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JK - 10

CIRCULAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE

19 .08.2012

My Dear Confreres

I greet you with peace and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ



The month of August is of great national importance as it celebrates nations Independence Day on 15th, and also marked the feast of our Lady of Assumption. And now we look forward for month of September which is very special to Fransalians all over the world. The feast of Our Lady of Sorrows and the Founder's Day make this month very special to us. Mother Mary and Father Mermier are two persons very close to our hearts. 15th September gives us an occasion to reflect upon the sufferings of Mother Mary and Jesus. Mother Mary was united with Jesus in his sufferings right from the beginning of his life as prophesied 'a sword will pierce your heart.' Mary, being mother, is the one who shows us how to live the fullness of Christian life. This fullness of Christian life implied to her being united with Jesus in his sufferings and offering

them to God. In spite of having known that her son will rise again, she could not stand the agony of her son which was not out of any selfish desire but a motherly compassion and her love for Jesus. The lives of Saints teach us how a profound love for Jesus needs to be manifested in enduring sufferings, in courageously facing adverse circumstances, in showing readiness to venture into apostolic mission for realizing his kingdom. If we want to share in the glory of Jesus then we need to follow Jesus and to walk with him as Mary did by enduring sufferings of life to fulfil God's plan. Let this spirit of sufferings of Mary be instilled in us which make us true and genuine people of God. I wish every one of you the feast of our Lady of Sorrows much in advance.

150th Death Anniversary of our beloved Founder Fr Peter Marie Mermier



30th September 2012 is the 150th Death Anniversary of our most revered founder, Fr Peter Marie Mermier. Therefore, this year our Founder's Day be made a special one with greater introspection of our Apostolate and Ministry. It should be made an occasion to strengthen our resolve to be true to our missionary Vocation as a tribute to our founder in a time when the missionary character of religious orders face challenges and priestly vocation is on the decline. Our founder with great passion ventured to nurture the faith of people as a service to God and his people. This apostolic zeal and love for the faithful culminated in the foundation of our Congregation to which we owe our identity. His ardent love for God and his people made him the kind of person he was.

On this occasion of 150th Death Anniversary of our founder let us thank God for the manifold blessings we received through him and the apostolic mission we share with him. Let his spirit of preaching parish mission, bearing witness to the gospel values and infusing vitality in the life of the Church be filled in us to proclaim ourselves proudly as the Sons of Fr Peter Mermier. A special Circular of the Superior General to mark the 150th death anniversary is also sent with JK.10.

Minor Orders conferred at Fransalian Seminary, Pune

On 31st July Brothers of the 1st year and 2nd year theology received Minor Orders of **Reader and Acolyte** respectively from Fr. Vincent Lourdusamy MSFS, the Provincial of Pune Province, in the presence of Fr. Daiy Sebastian MSFS, the Rector, and many other priests.

Fr William D'Silva visits Sini Mission

We were greatly privileged to have the visit of Rev. Fr. Willie D'Silva on 26th June 2012. He went to each class, met the students and teachers and interacted with them with great enthusiasm. Fr. Vinsent introduced him to the staff. He blessed and inaugurated the Computer Lab in the school and encouraged us to go forward with greater zeal and enthusiasm. We are grateful to him for his generosity and love for the mission.

- Fr. Vinsent Minj MSFS

Bro. Rana Pratap Minj MSFS Remembered

Fransalian Seminary, Pune



"Drop a pebble in the river: just a splash, and it is gone; but there is half a hundred ripples circling on and on, spreading, from the centre, flowing on to the sea, and there is no way of telling where the end is going to be!" says James W Foley in one of his poems. Precisely that is what still happening in the hearts of all Fransalians even today, when we think of the sudden demise of our beloved companion Bro. Rana Pratap Minz. An year has passed by, yet the memoirs of Rana is still fresh and intense in all of us. On 30th July we organized a special prayer service on the occasion of the 1st death anniversary of our loving departed confrere Rana. The day was kept aside for a special Holy Mass and meaningful prayer service followed by a

fellowship meal, the maximum participation of MSFS confreres from in and around Pune reminded us of the love and respect all of them still hold for our departed brother. 'MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE. **Bro Anson Kaliath MSFS**

Badnera

On 30th July the Fransalians at Badnera remembered our Bro. Rana who had left a mark in the heart of Badnerians during his one year stay here. We prayed for him in the specially offered Eucharist at St. John the Evangelist Church, Badnera, which was presided by Fr. Barnabas and concelebrated by Frs. Cyriac and Sayu. The anniversary mass was attended by the Sisters of the Cross and the parishioners.

Amravati remembers Bishop Joe Rosario



The 1st death anniversary mass was celebrated at the St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Amravati gathered people of various strata of society offering flowers, candles and prayers with tears. The Eucharist was attended by large number of priests and nuns from various places of Maharashtra. Bishop of Nasik Lourdes Daniel was the main celebrant. Bishop-elect of Amravati, Msgr. Elias Gonsalves and Fr. Mickey Dalgado MSFS along with other priests concelebrated at the Eucharist. The quality of austerity, simplicity and love for the poor was high-lighted by Bishop Lourdes Daniel in his homily. Fr. Cyriac, the Chancellor of the Diocese thanked all for their presence. **Fr. Sayu Cheruvil**

Little Children of Panderpalli

Panderpalli would have merited greater appreciation had this boarding of 73 children and 43 in its sub centre Mundagaon in the age group of 5 to 10 had better publicity. We have heard of most boardings that start with class five and ends with class 10. And here is a boarding that start with class 1 and ends with class 5. It was begun on the initiatives of Fr Philip D'Souza that caring for these children of such tender age. They leave our boarding at the age of 10 because we have no further school to educate them. They come from far away villages by-passing government schools in their own villages in search of schools and boarding of Fathers and Sisters. It shows how much they value the mission schools in terms of quality and caring. Their parents frequently visit the boarding to enquire their well being, to give them special parcels of homemade sweets to be preserved and eaten for a week or more. 'Maintenance of them in terms of food is always a matter of great struggle' said Fr Bijay Kerketta ever since the CRS help was withdrawn. What happens to these children after class 5 was a question unanswered. Where do they go from here? Nobody knows. They may join Government Ashram Schools or other mission schools run by Religious Congregations where admissions are becoming difficult for those having residence not in the neighbourhood of such schools. For elementary education if they have come from as many as 40 to 50 kilometres away, how many more kilometers they may have to go for secondary and senior secondary school? These were some of the questions we discussed in the group community meeting held at Divya Jyoti Ashram, Latapara, on 1st August during

my canonical visitation. The ground reality demands greater educational service to the people entrusted to our care in the service of the diocese and the local church.

Mothers' Day Celebration in the Diocese of Rourkela.

The Diocese of Rourkela honour Mothers on the feast day of St Anne and St. Joaquim. It is more than one day celebration, spiritual and material. For the priest and religious, it is a week of hectic activities moving from churches to churches to hear confessions and to give input sessions. The culmination of this celebration is on a Sunday with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration after which the men flocks put up a cultural program and honour the mothers of the Parish. On the previous day, mothers entertain the



whole parish by putting up entertainment program, village-wise and a competition for prizes. Those from far away villages stay in the Church for the night. With the high mass on Sunday it is not over. As mothers return to the villages, they are ceremoniously welcomed and taken home by men folk and children. In the same manner Fathers' Day is celebrated on 1st May on the feast day of St Joseph. It was, indeed, a great privilege for me to preside over this great celebration

which promotes reverence and love for our mothers and other family values.

Fransalian Yuva Samelan at Orissa

Fransalian Yuva Samaelan was held at Latapara Minor Seminary from 25th April to 29th April 2012. The youth of all the three MSFS parishes in Rourkela Diocese took part numbering above 200 participants. The purpose of FYS was to nurture leadership quality, conscientise the youth on their rights and duties, to make them preserve their rich tribal cultural heritage, to motivate them to work for their social, economical and political advancement and save them from the dangers of addictions, alcoholism etc. Number of input sessions were conducted for the same. Many activities were conducted to bring out their hidden talents. There were many games conducted and prizes given for winners. Volleyball, throw ball, hockey, solo & group singing, skit, cultural dance, bible quiz, tribal cultural dance, both individual as well as group, were some of the competitions conducted. There were sessions that highlighted on topics like government schemes for tribals, panchayati raj, sex education, bible and youth, right to information act, adolescent problems and relationships. The programme was published in the Oriya Dhrithri Newspaper. The organisation of this youth Samelan would not have been possible without the support of the Fransalian Fathers, parishioners and parents of our three MSFS parishes and the encouragement of our Provincial and benefactors who sponsored it. God bless them all. **Fr.Lajarus Soreng MSFS**

Neemuch News

In the only school and the house in the state of Madhya Pradesh, admissions are yet to pick up as expected. As of now we have just 165 students only from classes Nursery to Class 3. Fr Oscar Kujur was given a warm farewell on 1st July from the school and 2nd July from the Parish. The new Parish Priest and the Manager, Fr Emil Tirkey, visited Bishop's House and had meeting with the diocesan administrators. In our first community meeting we have decided that on 4 days in a week Masses will be celebrated for Manasa Sisters besides daily Mass to Adorations Sisters and CTC Sisters. Singoli centre is to be visited more frequently for Eucharistic celebrations. Fr Emil proposed to revive the BCC and the Finance Committee of the Parish. The community also decided to have better planning, accounting and bifurcation of the financial resources as per the directives from the Provincial. **Fr Issac John**

Khamgaon: farewell to 2nd batch of Motor Mechanics

A job oriented project supported by Manos Unidas for training 100 poor unemployed youth in Motor Mechanic and Driving is going on in Fransalian Vidya Niketan Khamgaon . The second batch of students completed their 5 months crash course in the first week of July 2012. On 8th July 2012, in the presence of our parishioners, neighbours, well wishers and friends all the **Motor Mechanics and Drivers** were given their certificates and they were honoured. Mr. Vijay Pawar, a senior advocate was the chief guest, some other dignitaries too were present to grace the occasion. The send-Off programme began with a prayer song sung by the outgoing batch of students. Mr. Pawar in his speech emphasized on the need "to study and learn" and "to go forward by doing right things in a proper way." His speech was somewhat similar to the teaching of our patron St. Francis De Sales "BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED." Mr.Santhesh, service Manager of Sathish Tata Motors, Akola too stressed on the same point, while assuring all the successful candidates **job** in Tata Motors Akola. Mr. Pawar gave away the certificates. Two outgoing youths (1 Driver+1 Mechanic) spoke on behalf of the newly trained mechanics and drivers. They said that they improved their personality and became more religious and responsible persons after coming to Fransalian Vidya Niketan.

The 3rd batch has just started their 5 months crash course. If any of our confreres have any drop-out students, unemployed youth in their parish or neighbourhood (need not to be Christians) who have at least done 8th standard, can recommend them. (Please send them for the 4th batch, that is in December)

- **Bro Melky MSFS**

Appointments of Deacons for Diaconate Ministry

Name	Place	Name	Place
Ashok Antony	Raidihi	Arackaparambil Georgekutty	Nanded
Tirkey Hilarus	Bhusawal	Kombanathottathil Nobit	Mahima
Varambinakam Paul	Ambapani	Kerketta Rakesh	Neemuch
P. Baby Arun John	CIDCO	Kujur Sudhir	Badnera
Machery Rijo	Panderpalli.		

Deacons are expected to intimate the local superiors regarding their schedule of arrival retreat etc.

Hearty Congratulations to

Fr Marianus Ketketta for securing distinction in three German Language Courses.

Fr Bijay Kerketta for getting three projects sanctioned for Panderpalli parish and two for Ambapani Parish and one Raidihi Parish.

Deacon Rijo Mechariyil for preparing our Province DVD.

Shijumon Mangalath and Sini Seraikela Community for getting the NOC for SFS School Seraikela from the Education Department of the state of Jharkand

Conclusion

My visitation to Orissa, Delhi and Neemuch culminated with number of meetings with Confreres collectively and individually. I was happy to observe tangible changes in our apostolate and community living. I thank the communities and Local Superiors for updating, or stating afresh all the mandatory books of records. I have seen lot of good will and the readiness to infuse greater spirit in our missionary endeavours. We need to do much more to assist the local church as we are mandated to do so by our missionary vocation. We are duty bound to preach the gospel, a sacred mission entrusted to each one of us, to the local community, to the local church, and association of people who believe in the only true God and Jesus Christ whom he sent to give life to the world and give it abundantly. Be mindful of this obligation. Our forefathers did not wait or attempted to gather for themselves the benefit of their missionary works but handed over to the local church and moved on. The day we professed our faith in Jesus, this duty of proclamation is put upon us to work among the weary and those carrying heavy burden. He taught us that “I am the light of the world whoever follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life” By this teaching Jesus underlined our Mission, and we are directed to create opportunity for everyone to savour in that light. My Dear Confreres our Mission in Orissa, Jharkand needs to be infused with more missionary spirit to build local church in all dimensions of Christian life in fulfilment of our missionary commitment. Our quality institutions should have the touch of values in relationship with the spirit of the lord. I express my gratitude to each one of you for making me feel comfortable to animate and guide the communities, for your receptivity to my suggestions and directives. God bless the efforts of each one of you.

Provincial's Itinerary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
22.08 & 23.08	Nanded	29.09	Jamshedpur Diocese Jubilee
29.08 & 30.08	Badnera	30.09 to 02.10	Sini-Seraikella
02.09 to 04.09	Visakhapatnam	03.10	Nagpur
07.09 & 08.09	Allapuzha	11.10	Superior's Meeting
12.09 & 13.09	Mannarkad	12.10 & 13.10	Province Evaluatory Meeting
14.09 & 15.09	Suvidya College		with Fr. Superior General
16.09	Nagpur	13.10 to 15.10	Provincial Council Meeting
20.09 & 21.09	St. John's Nagpur	20.10	Fransalian Seminary, Pune
23.09	Stewardship Forum	23.10 to 25.10	Provincials of India

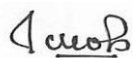
25.09 to 27.09
28.09

Shillong
Ranchi

Forum Meeting, Pune

Salesian Thought: Be patient with everyone, but above all with yourself. Do not be disheartened by your imperfections, but always rise up with fresh courage. **- S.F.S.**

Yours Devotedly in Christ,



Fr Jacob Karamakuzhyil MSFS
Provincial Superior