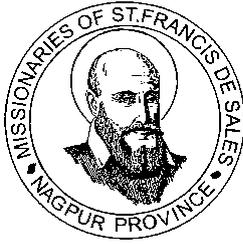


# MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



NAGPUR PROVINCE

MSFS PROVINCIALATE

23,24 Residency Road, Sadar

Nagpur 440001 INDIA

Ph: 91-712-2527805. Mobile: 09823567585

Fax: 91-712-2555284

(off)provincialnagpurmsfs@gmail.com;(personal)jacobkmsfs@gmail.com

(off)provinciambursarnagpur@gmail.com;wilsonmsfs@gmail.com

JK - 23

CIRCULAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE

27.11.2013

## My Dear Confreres

### Solemnity of Jesus Christ the Universal King

We worship Jesus our Lord and King because we believe he was victorious over sin and death. In Churches and Cathedrals, people gather on this day and conduct public processions carrying the consecrated body of Christ and manifest their faith. In his resurrection which we celebrate and participate in each Eucharist, Our Lord established his rule over us. Although he was raised from the dead, he is present in many ways to the Church. He said: "where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." He is present very specially in the eucharistic species. This is what we proclaim on this day of solemnity. That Our Lord Jesus Christ has given his body and blood to us in love and sacrifice so that we may have the same love for others that he had first given to us by his self-sacrifice. He said that his kingdom is not of this world but when Pilate said, "so you are a king," Jesus answered: "you say that I am a king. For this I was born and for this I have come into this world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of truth hears my voice." This feast is nothing but the opportunity for testifying the truth that Jesus is the Lord and King. It provides a situation to give witness to the truth. It is important that all of us participate in the liturgical expression of Christ's Kingship through benediction and the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the recitation of the litany of the Sacred Heart. My dear confreres, although this circular may reach you much after the feast day, let me reiterate the importance of this feast and the need to be part of the local Church and participate in all devotional practices and processions to proclaim our faith that Jesus Christ is the King and Lord to rule and reign in our hearts.



### Golden Jubilee Conference of Religious India in Guwahati

Golden Jubilee Conference of Religious India was held in Guwahati from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> November 2013. The conference was attended by large number of religious Major Superiors from different parts of India. On 7<sup>th</sup> morning at 07.00 a.m the Inaugural Mass was presided over by Rev John Moolachira, Archbishop of Guwahati. Giving the key note address on the theme: **The quest for God: the core religious life** Bro Philip Pinto CFC said that Religions die when their teachings no longer illuminate life as it is actually lived by their adherents. Speaking on **Becoming Mystics and Prophets in our times** Emeritus Archbishop Thomas Menampampil said to let us bring a great stock of simplicity of our entire endeavour of getting close to God. The greatest mystics would urge



us, “Turn to him in all, simplicity, so love silence, keep close to the poor and return to the ordinary while exploring new paths of deepening our spirituality. There is no greater height than when you are with the ordinary: ordinary people, work, forms of prayers and ordinary manner of manifesting affection and love. Remain warm hearted.” Sr Mary Sujita SND speaking on the topic, **Called and Missioned to be Gospel Leaders** said that the face of the church today is substantially woman. Christianity is fed on the humble faith of women and on their spirit of sacrifice and their spirituality in action yet they are kept away from the table of male disciples for serious ecclesiastical decisions or church governance. The inclusion of woman in the affairs of church is still a far cry from reality. If women religious come together they can be a force to voice against violence and exploitation of women and girls. She said that they need to explore the power and influence as a group from Christian perspective to impact systems and structures that continue

oppression and marginalisation.

Speaking on the topic **Religious life today: Call, Formation, Mission, Leadership** Fr Stanislaus Swamikannu SDB referred to practical atheism, theoretically accepting the existence of God and denying it in day-to-day living or a person having faith in God but lives his life as if God does not exist. There is a practical atheism of consecrated life characterised by context sensitivity with regard to living the consecrated life. It is putting on multiple identities depending on the apostolate and place they visit. For instance, one is not found in a theatre or pub in priestly or religious attire. A lack of deference to lawful authority which refers to consecrated persons who do not openly defy authority but show feeble response, confused loyalty and reluctant adherence to guidelines. All too human in responding to personal conflict is another characteristics which is justifying conflict and crisis and taking recourse to statement like “After all they are human beings,” to err is human, etc. Feelings and emotions are focused more than faith and reason when religious make a mistake. Lack of transparency is another characteristic whereby one tends to conceal money transactions, relationships and intentions in accepting a mission.

Speaking on **the Smell of the Sheep: The Fragrance of Religious India** Fr Hector D’souza SJ invoked the powerful image of what happened in the Upper Room. The spirit just shook the disciples out of their lethargy and set them ablaze. 334 Congregations and 822 Major Superiors spells power. The ongoing task for a province is to build together the spirit of the Congregation and to nurture the members so that they could smell the sheep and spread the fragrance of love and service to humanity.

Speaking on the topic, **Religious leadership in the 21 Century**, Fr VM Thomas SDB said that the servant model leadership is the most popular one which encourages collaboration, trust, foresight, listening and the ethical use of power and empowerment. Such leaders become the medium and the message. At heart they are a servant first.

45 years ago, the one who quit as Professor of Business Management and Law at St Xavier’s College, Kolkata, and embraced a life of service to become a true swami in vedic tradition, Swami Agnivesh spoke on **Taking a stand, making a difference**. He said that Christians have reduced the

revolution of Jesus to a toothless charity in romanticizing poverty as though it is a blessing in itself. God is portrayed as partial to the poor, not to perpetuate and spiritualize poverty but, in his sense of justice, he activates a sense of solidarity with the victims of man-made systems. The affluent Church doles out charity which perpetuates poverty. The continuation of poverty is essential for the exercise of charity. He asked, can anyone love the poor without becoming poor? Can there be love without identification of the object of love? He quoted the scriptures, “the foxes have their holes and the birds have their nests but the son of man nowhere to rest his head.” Jesus was sincere in his love for the poor. He said the Church has succumbed to worldliness and mammon worship and has lost the spiritual vision and commitment to love the poor in spirit and truth. Charity is the opium that the exploiter doles out to the exploited. It is the crumbs that fall from the table of the exploiters. In doing so the exploiter is serving himself.

**Religious Life in India today, an Empirical Investigations** was presented by Fr Paul Parathazham. The data on the life and ministry of the religious collected through questionnaire survey conducted among religious of India was presented. The paper presented data on community life, quality of life, education ministry, social ministry, formation, governance and self-assessment of the religious. The findings of the study reveal certain challenges that we face today. Religious life has lost its credibility among the religious themselves - growing individualism, regionalism, comfort culture, hankering for power and position, diminishing prophetic zeal, etc. Besides these input sessions, there was a panel discussion on Religious in India: a perspective with lay participation.

One day was dedicated for sectional assemblies and sectional meetings of Sisters, Brothers and Priests. The specially convoked Golden Jubilee CRI Conference concluded with Concelebrated Eucharist presided by His Excellency, Msgr Salvatore Pennachio, Nuncio to India, followed by cultural program with Shri Tarun Gogoi, Honourable Chief Minister of Assam being the Chief Guest and who hosted the dinner for all Major Superiors.

## **Province Retreat II: Be Ambassadors for Christ**

The retreat at Faridabad began on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013. There were thirty-one participants. Retreat commenced with felicitation of the new priests namely Frs. P Arun, Rakesh Kerketta and Rijo Mechery. Fr. Melroy, the provincial delegate, congratulated and welcomed the new priests to the Fransalian community and reminded them of the need to be the light to the world. Immediately after the felicitation we were aptly introduced to the spiritual journey by Fr. Joby, Director of Divine Ashram, and his team. They reminded us that we are the ambassadors for Christ. Therefore, we need to work on behalf of Christ’s Kingdom. Eucharistic Adoration and Deliverance Adoration gave us wonderful experiences of prayer and communion with the Lord. The last session on Anointing of the Holy Spirit equipped us with power of the spirit to preach the Word of God wherever we are. Many of us had personal God-experience and gave testimony of our experience. Few of us gave testimony of physical healing which took place during the retreat. Indeed, this retreat filled us with a new spirit. We thank Fr. Joby Kachapally and his team for leading us in our spiritual journey and for providing us with the ambience of God’s presence. We also very specially thanked the team who was praying round the clock for us. Filled with the spirit of God we concluded the retreat on 8<sup>th</sup> November with lunch.

- Fr. Saiju Vetukallel MSFS

## **Live in Christ to Live Christ: Four Deacons to the Province**

**26<sup>th</sup> Oct 2013 - Diaconate Celebration at Pune:** We, the Fransalian Community at Pune celebrated the Final Profession and Diaconate of our Brothers as one of the major events of the house. As a first hand preparation this year nine of our scholastics, five of Pune Province and four of Nagpur Province were promoted to receive the Order of Diaconate had five days of retreat animatied by Rev Dr. Thomas Reddy SJ at Vinayalaya, Andheri, Mumbai - the Jesuit Retreat



Center and the Provincial House of Mumbai Province. In view of the closing ceremony of the 175 years of our Congregation, the Diaconate celebration was organized in SFS Parish Church at Shaanwadi. It was a matter of joy and happiness to celebrate and pray with nine of our Brothers who made their Final Commitment on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and were

ordained as deacons on 26<sup>th</sup> Oct 2013 by Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Dabre, Bishop of Pune. The theme for the diaconate was **“Live in Christ to Live Christ.”** Fr. Oscar Kujur MSFS of CIDCO Aurangabad, the Nagpur Provincial delegate along with Fr. P M Joseph and few more of Nagpur Province graced the occasion. We whole- heartedly thank and acknowledge the valuable presence and support of Rev Fr Vincent Lourduswamy, Provincial of Pune for praying for us especially on the day of our diaconate. The celebration was well-arranged by Fr. Rector and Fr Minister and by our brothers. Parents and relatives of the deacons were delighted at the celebration and our hospitality. We request your valuable prayer for our newly ordained deacons that they may joyfully serve the Lord by serving his people.

- **Dn. Peter Thomas MSFS**

## **Canonical Visitation a Brief Report**

**Mahima Church, Delhi** Fr T P Joseph, Superior and Parish Priest is the animator of the Catholic community whose number keep diminishing due to various reasons like the division of the faithful on account of the rites and shifting of people to different residential areas. Bro Ambrose Minj assist him in the upkeep of the house. He works in the School as the Supervisor of the Service Staff and as Maintenance Supervisor of the School. I visited the community on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Nov. The spiritual animation of the faithful is given utmost priority with the help of confreres from Vinay Sadan Community.

**Vinay Sadan Community, Delhi** I visited the community on 15<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November. Fr Anil Ozhakanakuzhyil is the Principal of the School and Fr Amaldos Anthony is the Vice-Principal. They were busy with Parents’ Day preparations. Fr Saiju Vettukallel attends to all material and maintenance needs of the School, assisted and supported by Bro Ambrose Minj. Fr Emmanuel Vattamattam is the Superior of the Community and the Director of the School and he gives assistance required by way of his presence and supervision in the school. Now, the house has a full time member for spiritual animation and to take care of the guests in the person of Fr Emmanuel. The school maintains its usual academic standards through its talented staff. The ever innovative academic faculty comes out with many programs to take the school to greater heights. The Province is grateful to this community for the various help extended to Confreres, Houses and Province Projects.



**SFS, Jhajjar, withstands the test of time** Our only school in Haryana has almost 700 students in three years’ time. It faced and withstood difficulties on account of stiff competition from new schools and staff stability. Now, the school stand out as the best in the District of Jhajjar. I was overcome with great nostalgic feeling while meeting many of the teachers and students who remained back with great loyalty and faith in school management for future prospects. In the meeting with the community, it was decided to implement 6<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission salaries for teachers for better stability and to attract talented staff. It is a great challenge for

the Administration to get effective academic faculty to take the school to greater height in terms of learning and teaching outcome. Periodical evaluation of classroom instruction and academic activities will have undertaken to make the school strikingly different in terms of learning and teaching impact. It has to show what it means to be Christian education to people who were hostile to other religions. It is required to dedicate time and plan for staff selection in a professional manner. Franciscan Sisters of Christ the King are collaborators in Jhajjar. We are grateful to the Sisters for their service. Fr Manoj is the Principal, Fr Ignati Kshirsagar, Vice Principal and Office Administrator and Bro Aneesh Praveen assist them in the Community.

**SFS, Neemuch, stands out to be counted** My gratitude goes to the founding Principal, Fr Issac Mankulathil and the Manager, Fr Oscar Kujur. They made the school what it is today poised to take off in a well-planned manner. Delhi Fransalian Society is the saviour for them. The School Administrative block has been given a good face-lift. The school has committees for various purposes like academic and curricular activities. House-wise competitions are conducted like any other big school in a planned manner. The staff appointed from vernacular language are given special training for conversing in the language of class room instruction. The Principal is capable of conducting such training program for the staff. I had the privilege of participating in the Annual Sports' and Children's Day Program. Fr Philip Maleparambil is the present Manager and Superior of the Community. The Adoration Sisters of Ujjain Province are collaborators and their service is much appreciated and adds to the good reputation of the school.

### Visitation of Provincial to Shillong



It is always a joy when we meet our parents or when they meet us. It was the same feeling for us in Shillong when Fr. Jacob Karamakuzhyil paid his canonical visit on 10<sup>th</sup> November. The whole community welcomed him warmly with a song and thereafter Brothers belonging to Nagpur Province met him personally. Fr Jacob insisted on the need of growing intellectually and spiritually and as matured persons and to have a positive

and an optimistic approach towards life. He insisted on more participation in community activities and being helpful to members, and wherever we live, to be creative and different and in our everyday life to nurture our vocation to the priesthood. We also had meeting with him collectively and shared each one's views on different matters and made number of suggestions. Fr. Jacob along with Fr. Jose, the Provincial of South West Province celebrated mass for the community.

- **Bro. Jnanamani MSFS**

### Our Three Philosophers do the impossible



We, the Fransalian from Matola, are indeed happy to make known that our 3 philosophers who reached Mozambique soon after their Novitiate did the impossible task which many of us do not dare to think. After arriving at Maputo, they learnt the official language Protuguese, a very difficult task, and all the more, study philosophy in that language. The hard work and determination of our Brothers bore fruits - Bro Rajendra successfully completed the final year of

his philosophical study and is getting ready for Regency. The other two - Bros. Linus and Poomagan - are preparing for their 3<sup>rd</sup> year philosophical study. They are doing well and even better than some of the native students. We thank God for the gift of these Brothers and their courage to do this most difficult task at the cost of losing years in comparison to their friends in India. Let their effort and success inspire others to do the same. Our hearty congratulations to Bro Rajendra Toppo.  
**- Fr. Ranjit MSFS**

### **Friends in need are Friends indeed**



Matola Minor Seminary is indebted to the Maristan Brothers who run their Novitiate at a walking distance from us. They are really great in their life of dedication and commitment to their spirituality. Their life shows all virtues recommended by St Francis de Sales. We treat them as our own. Both of us are examples of give and take culture in service which make each dependent on the other. At their Novitiate our Fathers give spiritual and pastoral support and in return Marist Bro. Simeon comes to our house to give English classes for our minor seminarians besides giving us a plot of land for vegetable cultivation. Their compound is at our disposal for manual work and games. Therefore, we owe our gratitude to them for assisting us to sustain ourselves. We wish God's blessings upon each of the Brothers at Maristan Home. May their sense of generosity and love for others inspire all of us. **sBro. Poomagan Sensuslass MSFS**

### **Quartoseptcentennial Jubilee Celebration at Annecy**

We had just been to Annecy for the 175<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebration of the Missionaries of Saint Francis de Sales. Those were grace-filled days for all of us. It was a pilgrimage in the footsteps of our beloved Founder Fr. Peter Mermier, and pilgrimage to the life and ministry place of our heavenly Patron, Saint Francis de Sales. These were days of joy and pride to meet so many of our Fransalians. We prayed, we travelled and had a wonderful time with great feeling for the Congregation in the presence of the spirit of Fr. Mermier and the grace of Saint Francis de Sales. On Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, we had a Mass and gathering of the "Totengräber" the person with the responsibility of the funeral services like, dressing the dead, opening the graves and the last services as the grave is closed. They came from Germany and also from Austria. It was a grand, solemn Eucharist followed by Lunch and Tea and Kaffee. I left this place in Germany by car for Annecy with Rajesh Lugun, Marianus Kujur and Thomas Muttam - a travel of about 9 hours. It was indeed a wonderful experience evoking great feelings for the Congregation.  
**- Fr Benedict D'souza MSFS**

### **Provincial's Itinerary**

#### **November**

26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	Kinwat
28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	Nanded

#### **December 2013**

1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jalna
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	FTI
5 <sup>th</sup>	Cidco
7 <sup>th</sup>	Bhusawal
8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	Khamgaon
10 <sup>th</sup>	Nagpur

16 <sup>th</sup>	175 years celebration in Nagpur
18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	PCM, Nagpur
21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Badnera
24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	Latapara
26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	Ambapani
28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	Panderpalli

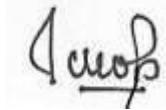
### **January 2014**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bangalore (PIF Suvidya Governing Body Meeting)
13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup>	Nimkheda
15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	St John's
17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	Mermier Sadan
19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>	Provincialate
26 <sup>th</sup>	Raidihi
27 <sup>th</sup>	Ordination of Daniel Bara & Hilarius Tirky
28 <sup>th</sup>	Ordination of Arun Ekka
30 <sup>th</sup>	Ordination of Telesphor Lakra

### **Salesian Thought**

A sinner can perform actions which are naturally good, which win a natural reward, he can do things which are socially good, for which he is paid in human coin temporal advantage,

Yours Fraternally



Fr Jacob Karamakuzhyil MSFS  
Provincial Superior