



Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales Nagpur Province

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Circular to all the Members of the Province



***Jesus Christ is Risen
Alleluia!***



FROM THE OFFICE OF

THE PROVINCIAL

Dear Confreres,

The celebration of Easter, reminds us of the triumphant resurrection of Jesus Christ, on the Sunday morning following His crucifixion. It is a time for us to reflect deeply on the significance of this sacred occasion and draw inspiration from the wisdom of our spiritual mentors, St. Francis de Sales and Fr. Peter Mermier.

Easter marks the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, a triumph over death and a promise of new life. St. Francis de Sales reminds us of the profound impact of Christ's resurrection on our lives. He said, "The resurrection of Christ is our hope; the source of all the graces we desire." It is through the resurrection that we find hope, redemption, and the promise of eternal life. Fr. Peter Mermier, our beloved Founder emphasizes the transformative power of Easter in our

spiritual journey. He teaches us that Easter is not merely a historical event but a personal encounter with the Risen Christ. He said, “Let us allow Easter to transform us from within, renewing our faith, revitalizing our spirits, and inspiring us to live as witnesses of Christ’s resurrection.”

As we celebrate Easter, let us remember the profound love of God manifested through the sacrifice and resurrection of His Son. Let us embrace the message of hope, renewal, and reconciliation that Easter brings to us. May we be reminded of our mission as Fransalians to spread the Good News of Christ’s resurrection to all the corners of the world, bringing light to those in darkness and hope to the despairing. On this sacred occasion, let us rejoice in the victory of Christ over sin and death, and may the spirit of Easter fill our hearts with joy, peace, and gratitude.

Wishing you all a Blessed and Joyful Easter!

ONGOING FORMATION PROGRAMME



INTRODUCTION: From 27th February to 2nd March, an Ongoing Formation Program was held at the Guwahati Provincialate. A select group of young priests from Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Nagpur, Southwest India, and Pune Provinces participated in the program. The aim was to provide a platform for continued growth, learning, and renewal for the participants.

Day 1: The program commenced with a formal welcome by Rev. Fr. Sabi

George, the General Secretary for Formation. This was followed by an inaugural address delivered by Most Rev. John Moolachira, the Archbishop of Guwahati. Then Rev. Fr. Sabu Francis, the Provincial of Guwahati Province offered words of exhortation. The day’s four insightful sessions focused on “Ongoing Formation for Affirming Our Identity and Mission in Our Context.”

Day 2: Today’s sessions centred on “Transformative Pastoral Leadership”. It was facilitated by Fr. Kuriakose Poovathumkudy. The participants engaged in serious discussions and learning activities, aimed at enhancing their leadership skills and various approaches towards pastoral care. In the evening a leisure activity was organized. It was a cruise on the river Brahmaputra. It provided the participants with a refreshing and entertaining break from the busy sessions.

Day 3: Today the focus was on the topic “Psychosexual Integration for Effective Priestly Ministry.” It was conducted by Fr. Johnny Nedungatt SDB. This session delved into crucial aspects of psychological and sexual health, emphasizing their significance in fostering effective



ministerial practices among priests. The content of this session was highly relevant and generated meaningful discussions among the participants.

Day 4: 2nd March was set apart for a tour to Shillong. It provided an opportunity for the participants to explore and immerse themselves in the cultural and natural beauty of the region. The excursion served as a bonding experience for the participants, fostering camaraderie and relaxation amidst the busy schedule of the program.

Conclusion: The Ongoing Formation Program concluded with an evaluation session during which the participants shared their feedback and reflections on the overall experience. The program was universally praised for its

effectiveness in providing valuable insights, practical tools, and opportunities for personal and professional growth. Participants expressed their gratitude for the enriching sessions, engaging activities, and the conducive learning environment created throughout the program. Overall, the program was successful, fulfilling its objectives of being helpful, renewing, and empowering for the participants. It served as a testament to the importance and impact of ongoing formation initiatives in the continuous development and support of the clergy members in their sacred vocation.

Fr. Joseph Gollapudi

Blessing and Inauguration of NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

13th February 2024 was indeed a very special day, in fact a milestone in the history of St. Xavier's School, Sini. Guests, well-wishers, parents, staff members and students gathered for the blessing and inauguration of the new school building. At the entrance of the School the dignitaries were given a traditional welcome by the students. Rt. Rev. Telesphore Bilung, the Bishop of Jamshedpur was the Chief Guest and Rev. Fr. Manoj Tirkey MSFS, Provincial Superior of Nagpur Province was the Guest of Honour.



The students then read passages from the Sacred Scriptures of the Hindus, Muslims, Silks and Christians. Bishop Telesphore Bilung unveiled the plaque and blessed the new

school building. Rev. Fr. Manoj Tirkey inaugurated the building by cutting the ribbon. This was followed by a cultural event put up by the students.

The programme began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries. God's blessings were invoked by a prayer dance. The School Head Girl Dolly Mahato then expressed words of welcome. This was followed by a welcome dance by the little children. Then Fr. Anoop K, the Manager of the School and Fr. Peter Kujur, the Principal of the School, felicitated Bishop Telesphore Bilung, Rev. Fr. Manoj Tirkey, the Architect, Engineer and Contractor with shawls and mementoes. The cultural performance continued with students from Nursery to 8th putting up different programmes like dances, skits and mimes, which were beautifully presented and well appreciated by the parents and guests. The School Head Boy Master Parmeshwar then proposed the vote of thanks. The blessing and inauguration ceremony was a moment of pride for everyone and a time to thank God for His blessings. We hope and pray that this beautiful edifice of learning will for many years give the light of truth and knowledge to all who enter its portals and thereby fulfil the real purpose of education.



Fr. Peter Kujur



Silver Jubilee: 25 Years of Fransalian Mission in Mozambique

The Fransalians in Mozambique have reached a significant milestone of their presence, pastoral and missionary endeavours in Mozambique. Time has just flown by and we have completed Twenty-Five years. With hearts full of gratitude to God for all His blessings, and with hearts overflowing

with joy we celebrate the Silver Jubilee of our presence in Mozambique. It was on 4th January 2000, that the group of three MSFS confreres of Nagpur Province, Fr. Melroy Almeida, Fr. A.M. Sebastian, and Fr. K. Mathews landed at Maputo and set foot in Mozambique. The Silver Jubilee year is an occasion of great joy, that despite the ups and downs our confreres had to face, we have remained faithful to the mission entrusted to us and have moved ahead in different directions and different Dioceses, serving as many of the faithful as we can in the different parishes entrusted to our care.

On 14th January 2024, our beloved Superior General, Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil, inaugurated the festivities of the Silver Jubilee Year, which will unfold throughout the year, with the theme

“25 Years of Fransalian Presence in Mozambique: Called to Celebrate, Reflect, Renew, and Share the Christian Faith in the Footsteps of Fr. Mermier.” A Silver Jubilee Logo is placed in prominent places in our communities and parishes. A Silver Jubilee Prayer is said and a Hymn is sung in every MSFS Community and MSFS Parish, thus solemnizing the significance of this milestone.

After the inauguration and initial celebrations, the Delegation members were spiritually rejuvenated during the week-long retreat animated by Fr. Agnelo Fernandes. As part of the year-long Jubilee program many inter-parish competitions are underway - singing, drawing, quiz, skits, etc. The focus of all these is based on the inspiring lives of St. Francis de Sales and Fr. Peter Mermier. Two major projects have been taken up to mark the Silver Jubilee Year. The construction of the SFS Church in Bela-Vista and the SFS Minor Seminary in Ka-Elisa. The foundation stones for these projects were laid on the same day as the inauguration ceremony, symbolizing our commitment to future growth and service.

The closing ceremony of the jubilee year is scheduled for 19th January 2025. Prior to this, a week-long retreat from 6th to 11th January 2025, will provide all of us a valuable opportunity for reflection and spiritual preparation. May this Jubilee Year, honoring 25 years of the Fransalian presence and pastoral work in Mozambique, be a time of profound realization, deep reflection, and abundant blessings, as we celebrate our achievements, embrace the challenges that lay ahead, and renew our dedication to service with vigour and compassion, in the spirit of our Patron, St. Francis de Sales and our Founder, Fr. Peter Mermier.

Fr. Henry Nedumkallel

**“You are a priest forever,
in the order of Melchizedek.”** Heb. 7:17



Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination

Fr. Vincent Chettiar MSFS



Fr. Vincent Chettiar was born on 10th December 1965 at Trichy, to Mr. Jayaraj and Mrs. Mary. He is the youngest of seven children. He was Baptized at Holy Redeemer Church, Trichy, on 25th December 1965. He did his Primary education at Trichy. He did his High school studies at St. John the Baptist High School, Thane. After completing 10th he did ITI at FTI, Aurangabad from 1983-85. After completing 12th from Devgiri College, Aurangabad he joined the Minor Seminary at Bastora, Goa. He did his studies in Philosophy from 1990-92 at St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur. He was Confirmed on 1st April 1992 at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Aurangabad. He did his Novitiate at Belgaum, Karnataka and made his First Profession on 31st May 1993.

He did his Regency in 1994 at Catholic Church, Dharangaon. He did his studies in Theology from 1995-98 at J.D. Pune. He made his Perpetual Profession on 17th January 1988 and was ordained a Deacon on 18 th January 1988 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune. He was ordained a Priest on 30th January 1999.

Appointments:

1999-2002: Instructor cum Vice-Principal of FTI, Aurangabad.

2002-2003: In charge of the Printing Press, at SJTI, Nagpur.

2003-2005: Assistant Parish Priest at Sacred Heart Church, Bhusawal.

2005-2006: Superior, Director and Parish Priest at Badnera.

2006-2007: Parish Priest of SFS Church, Nanded.

2007-2008: In charge of Karanji Farm.

2008-2009: Did his Masters in Psychology in England.

2009-2011: Did his Masters in Spirituality from IIS, Bangalore.

In 2012 after completing the required levels of German language study at Goethe Institute, Pune, he was appointed for Pastoral Ministry in Germany. At present he is doing his pastoral ministry in Germany. On this happy occasion of his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee we express our Heartiest Congratulations to him and we pray for God's blessings for his good health and spiritual fulfillment in the service he renders to the people of Germany.

Congratulations



Msgr. Karnam Dhaman Kumar MSFS
Diocese of Nalgonda



Bishop Malcolm Sequiera
Diocese of Amravati



Bishop Barthol Barretto
Diocese of Nashik



Msgr. Bernard Lancy Pinto
Diocese of Aurangabad

Transfers and Appointments 2024-25

“May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.” – Num. 6:24-26

We all belong to a religious congregation in a particular province, and therefore transfers and appointments are regular phenomena that happen in our province at a certain point in time. As we accept this change of life, moving from one place to another, from one ministry to another, let us remember the words of our patron saint, St. Francis de Sales, who said, “Bloom where you are planted.” I extend my heartfelt wishes to each one of you as you readily and willingly take up the new responsibilities assigned as per the need of the province. May God’s choicest blessings accompany you, and may you feel His constant accompaniment at the place of your ministry. Your cheerful availability and dedication are truly commendable, and I firmly believe that you will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of those you serve.

Sl. No.	Name of the Conferes	Place	Designation	w.e.f.
1	Fr. Anoop Francis	Manglore	MSW studies	01/06/2024
2	Fr. Christuraja	Kinwat	Principal	01/06/2024
3	Fr. Anthony Amaldoss	St. Xavier’s School, Sini	Principal	01/06/2024
4	Fr. Peter Thomas	St. John’s Public School Nagpur	Administrator	01/06/2024
5	Fr. Peter Domnic	Sini	Parish Priest and Superior	01/06/2024
6	Fr. Arun Ekka	Delhi	Administrator, Superior	01/06/2024
7	Fr. Jonom Mathew	Seraikella	Administrator	01/06/2024
8	Fr. Anand Kullu	Nanded	Office administrator/ Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
9	Fr. Paul V.	USA	Pastoral Ministry	01/06/2024
10	Fr. Saiju Vettukalel	Delhi	Principal	01/06/2024
11	Fr. Plathottam Joseph	Jalna	Member	01/06/2024
12	Fr. Philip Maleparambil	Nanded	Parish Priest, Manager	01/06/2024
13	Fr. Peter Paul	Nimkheda	Local Bursar	01/06/2024
14	Fr. Rakesh Kerketta	Nimkheda	Office Administrator/ VP	01/06/2024
15	Fr. Ranjit Lakra	SFS Nimach	Office Administrator/ Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
16	Fr. Mathew Kodamulil	Ambapani	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
17	Fr. Rajat Digal	Kinwat	Administrator	01/06/2024
18	Fr. Lajarus Soreng	USA	Pastoral Ministry	01/06/2024
19	Fr. Jnanamani	Nagpur	B.Ed. Studies	01/06/2024
20	Fr. Ignatius Dcosta	Mahiman Delhi	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
21	Fr. Marianus Kujur	Raidihi	Parish Priest	01/06/2024
22	Fr. Gijo Francis	Pune	German Studies	01/06/2024
23	Fr. Jagadish Tete	Kandore,	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024

24	Fr. Deepak Baa	Jhajjar	Office Administrator	01/06/2024
25	Fr. Roshan Minj	Raidhi	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
26	Fr. Biraj Minj	Baradurgapur	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
27	Fr. Sameer Minj	Bhusawal	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
28	Fr. Nevin Tete	Bano	Asst. Parish Priest	01/06/2024
29	Fr. Santosh Soreng	Latapara	Vice- Rector	01/06/2024
30	Fr. Abin Baby	Prakash Bhavan	On the staff	01/06/2024
31	Fr. Anson	Nanded	Vice Principal	01/06/2024
32	Fr. Kamil Tete	Panderpali	Parish Priest	01/06/2024
33	Fr. George Kurickal	Prakash Bhavan, Kerala	Rector	01/06/2024
34	Fr. Allan Gonsalves	Jhajjar	Principal & Superior	01/06/2024
35	Fr. Peter Kujur	SFS Seraikella	Principal & Superior	01/06/2024
36	Fr. Agnelo Fernandes	Provincial House, Nagpur	Superior	01/06/2024
37	Fr. Santhos Kumar	Chennai	VISCOM, Media Study	01/06/2024
38	Fr. Telesfor Lakra	St. John's, Nagpur	Office in charge	01/06/2024
39	Fr. Muthuswamy	Kinwat	Manager / Superior	01/06/2024
40	Fr. Joseph Gollapudi	MSFS Provincialate	Secretary	01/06/2024
41	Fr. Kalyan Battula	SFS Badnera	Office Administrator	01/06/2024
42	Fr. Amrit Kujur	Kandore	Boarding Director	01/06/2024
		Regents		
1	Bro. Abhijeet Tigga	Divya Jyoti Ashram	Latapara	01/06/2024
2	Bro. Amit Tirkey	SFS Boys Hostel	Kandore	01/06/2024
3	Bro. Bikas Xalxo	SFS Boys Hostel	Panderpalli	01/06/2024
4	Bro. Kulkant Kullu	SFS Parish	Darkona	01/06/2024
5	Bro. Prashant Barla	SFS Boys Hostel	Baradurgapur	01/06/2024
6	Bro. Rakesh Raj Xess	Fransalian Vidya Niketan	Khamgaon	01/06/2024
7	Bro. Rinkal Barla	Prakash Bhavan	Kerala	01/06/2024
8	Bro. Sunil Minz	Fransalian Community	CIDCO	01/06/2024

Please Note:

Due to my incomplete canonical visitation, some transfers and appointments remain pending finalization. I will commence my visitation and consultations shortly after Easter. Subsequently, there will be additional transfers and appointments, which will be announced in the upcoming circular.

Promotion of Scholastics to Next Stage of Formation and Approval for Renewal of Vows

Approved for Novitiate 2024–2025

Abul Baliarsing, Akash Baliarsing, Anand Toppo, Asish Kerketta, Jyotin Digal, Libin Tigga, Manish Sanga, Prabin Xess, Elias Ekka, Rustum Tirkey, Rohit Toppo

Approved for First Profession and First Year Philosophy

Abhyanjit Kerketta, Aman Ekka, Aryan Minz, Asmit Kandulna, Naman Toppo, Pankhasius Soren, Pawan Xess, Reggie Antony Langham, Sailesh Surin, Sameer Tete, Sanjay Xalxo, Satish Raj Tete, Rasal Tete, Mukesh Dahanga, Pramod Xess, Sunil Kujur, Simon Toppo, Raphel Tirkey, Erick Ekka,

Mozambique: Euginio Pedro

Approved for Renewal of Vows and for Second Year Philosophy

Anup Bodra, Benjamin Ekka, Bikram Dungdung, Binit Tirkey, Bishal Tete, Joywin Kalayathinal, Jugnus Lakra, Nabin Soreng, Sujit Bilung, Pramod Kullu, Uday Lakra,

Approved for Renewal of Vows and for Third Year Philosophy

Amar Deep Lakra, Barliyus Tudu, Binay Minz, Libin Augustine, Rajat Kerketta, Sachin Tirkey, Arjun Tribhuvan

Approved for Renewal of Vows and for Regency

Abhijeet Tigga, Amit Kumar Tirkey, Bikas Xalxo, Kulkant Kullu, Prashant Barla, Rakesh Raj Xess, Rinkal Barla, Sunil Minz

Approved for Renewal of Vows and for First Year Theology

Ajay Kerketta, Anand Murmu, Sudeep Barla

Mozambique: Andre Alberto

Approved for Renewal of Vows and for Second Year Theology

Sunandan Senapati, Praful Dungdung, Sourav Topno, Sameer Xess

Approved for the Renewal of Vows and for third year Theology

Abhijit Bhengra, Bimal Topno, Febin Tom

Mozambique: Jao Xavier Fernando, Luiz Andre Manuel, Zito Americo Muirelia

Fourth Year Theology (Deacons)

Amrit Lakra, Anup Pillai, Bimal Tirkey, Sainjin Benny, Lambert Ekka, Clement Rajesh Leonard

Mozambique: Lona Christian, Edigidio Abel ([To be approved for Final Vows and Diaconate](#))

Provincial's Delegates for Handing Over Charge 2024-2025

S. No.	Name of the Delegate	Place	Responsibilities
1	Fr. Domy Thomas	SFS Delhi, Vinay Sadan SFS Jhajjar	Principal/ Administrator/ Superior
2	Fr. Amal Bandanam	Neemuch	Administrator
3	Fr. Emmanuel V.	CIDCO	Local Bursar
4	Fr. Anil George	Nanded	Administrator/Parish Priest
5	Fr. J.B. Muthuswamy	Kinwat	Principal/ Administrator
6	Fr. Sylvester Xalxo	SJPS Nimkheda	Principal/ Superior/ Administrator
7	Allan Gonsalves	Sini - Seraikella	Principal/Superior/ Parish Priest/ Administrator
8	Fr. Sandeep Tirkey	Panderpalli Raidhi	Superior / Parish Priest
9	Fr. K.V. Joseph	Kandore	Hostel Incharge
10	Fr. Scaria	Prakash Bhavan	Rector/Local bursar/ Dean of studies
11	Fr. Nobit	Badnera	Administrator
12	Fr. Shantwan	Bhusawal	Karanji Farm

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR HANDING OVER

Handing Over is a formal and careful handing over of the responsibilities, traditions and customs of a certain place/ mission/ institution. Your Handing Over must ensure that there is continuity with fidelity and growth in a system that you have garnered for the past many years. Ensure that your Handing Over does not put a full-stop to any system and custom. Ensure that your Handing Over of an office brings growth and fertility to the place. There are certain vital elements to be taken care of while Handing Over. **The vital elements are:**

1) Handing over forms appropriate to the office & files:

- a. Land papers & Land Map
- b. Building papers & Building Plan
- c. School Affiliation papers
- d. School Recognition papers
- e. School NOC papers
- f. Vehicle Keys & R.C papers & Insurance papers
- g. Passbooks, Cheque books & Audit reports
- h. Society/Trust Papers
- i. Legal cases
- j. Project/Construction papers
- k. Circulars
- l. One can add to the list as per the requirements.

2) List of daily duties of the new office-bearer.

3) List of cut out dates for important and urgent works or upcoming events.

4) Signature of the confrere handing over, the signature of the confrere taking over and signature of the Provincial Delegate. There should be three copies of the Handing over form. After the Wforms are duely signed, one copy is retained with confrere handing-over, one retained with the confrere taking over.

The Provincial's copy is retained with the Delegate who sends it to the Provincial's Office at his earliest convenience.

The purpose is to strengthen institutional offices for a better future and smoother functioning. The above-mentioned is just a minimum requirement. If there is any scope to go beyond the mentioned areas the person is free to do so.

Preparation before Handing Over:

- 1) Make sure that the day is fixed well in advance with mutual consent and the same is communicated to the Provincial's Delegate handing over in charge.
- 2) Make sure that both, the one handing over and the one taking over go through the duties of their respective offices given in the Province Statutes.
- 3) Give in writing (Handing over form) the files, work, pending work, daily duties, etc.
- 4) Give in writing your general observations or what is lacking in the office, so that the work you have done continues with new vigour and vitality by the new office-bearer.
- 5) While handing over, the office has to be respected formally and not casually.
 - a) The office of an Administrator is respected and should be given the charge.
 - b) The office of a Local Bursar is respected and should be given the charge.
 - c) The office of a Parish Priest is respected and should be given the charge.
 - d) The office of a Principal is respected and should be given the charge.
 - e) Continuity with fidelity to carry forward.

There should not be any mixing of duties that would affect the functioning of the other office-bearers.

INFORMATIONS

Fr. Ruben Gilbert will be attending the Salesian Programme Anancy (SPA 2024-25)

Fr. Roshan Tigga will be attending the Heritage Retreat

Fr. Jijo Punchayil is presently studying Spanish in Pune in preparation for pastoral ministry in USA.

Deacon Sameer Minj will be ordained a priest on 2 May 2024.

Congratulation



With the approval of the General Council and the unanimous agreement of the Provincial India Forum (PIF), our Superior General has designated Rev. Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu (the current Provincial Superior of Dibrugarh Province) as the Major Superior of the MSFS confreres' local community at Morning Star College, Kolkata, with effect from March 12, 2024. On behalf of the Province, I extend congratulations to Fr. Tomson and wish him the very best as he takes on this additional responsibility for the Congregation.

LET US PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

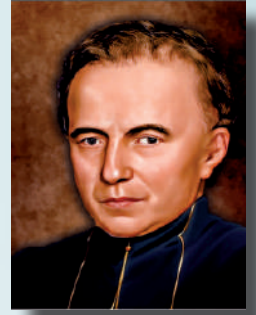
Mr. Marcus Kerketta, 55 years, uncle of Fr. Rakesh Kerketta, passed away on 10th March 2024.

FORUM MEETINGS

April 11-12	Mission Forum
May 04-05	Education Forum
May 07-08	Formation Forum
May 11-12	SAIM Forum

**“We do much in doing little, if we do it for God,
when and as he wants it”.**

Letter of Fr. Mermier to Fr. Delalex (in India)
17 April 1855



Yours Fraternally in Christ

Fr. Manoj Tirkey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Manoj Tirkey".

Provincial Superior



**Happy
Easter
2024**