



MT/13

15/August/2024

## Dear Confreres

As we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, and also as we mark the 78th Independence Day of India, I am deeply grateful to God for His unceasing and unconditional blessings, which have guided and supported me throughout my first year as Provincial Superior. Dear Confreres, this one-year journey would not have been possible without the steadfast support and understanding of each one of you, and for that, I offer my heartfelt thanks. As we celebrate the Assumption, let us focus on three key points that hold great relevance for our ministry and apostolate:

**Total Surrender to God's Will:** Luke 1:38: "Mary said, 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.' And the angel departed from her." Our Lady's Assumption reminds us of her complete surrender to God's plan. As St. Francis de Sales beautifully teaches, "Let us leave ourselves in the hands of God, like a little child who quietly rests in its mother's arms." In our ministry, let us seek to emulate this total abandonment to Divine Providence, trusting that God will guide us in all our endeavours.

**Humility and Service:** Luke 1:48: "For he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed." The Assumption is a proof to the humility of Mary, who, despite her exalted role, remained a humble servant of the Lord. Following the example of Fr. Peter Mermier, who emphasized humble service and the sanctification of souls, let us renew our commitment to serving others with humility and love, making our ministry a true reflection of Christ's presence.

**Hope in Eternal Life:** 1 Peter 1:3: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Mary's Assumption gives us a glimpse of the hope and glory that await all who faithfully follow Christ. This feast encourages us to keep our eyes fixed on eternal life, inspiring us to lead others towards this same hope through our apostolate. As St. Francis de Sales reminds us, "Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them."

May Our Lady of the Assumption continue to intercede for us and guide us in our mission. Let us walk together in faith, hope, and love, always striving to fulfil the will of God in our lives and ministry. I wish each one of you a very Happy Feast of the Assumption of our Lady and Happy Independence Day.

## News from Mozambique

### The Conception of Our Lady of Compassion Church: A Dream Fulfilled



Igreja Nossa Senhora da Compaixao in Zandamela is a sub-station of St. Antony parish Mavila, belongs to the Diocese of Inhambane, Mozambique. The Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales realized the need for a church in Zandamela to gather all communities under one roof and to facilitate a proper ambiance to worship God. It was a long-cherished dream of all of us that gave birth to this church, and it would eventually connect eight distinct communities within the Zandamela Zone.

## The Inception

The faithful in Zandamela faced a significant challenge. The long distance to St. Antony parish Mavila made it difficult for people to attend regular liturgical celebrations and parish activities. The people in Zandamela have a profound and deep faith; therefore, they were in need of a closer, more accessible place to celebrate Holy Mass, and other liturgical celebrations without any difficulties.

## Embracing Challenges

Building a church in Zandamela required careful planning and collective effort. The project began with the support of many benefactors, both local and international. The main sponsor, Mr. Albinus, and his family played a key role, along with other generous contributors. Under the guidance of Fr. Vineesh, the project coordinator, the construction of the church moved forward in phases. Each brick and beam symbolized the community's faith and determination. Despite numerous challenges, their resolve never wavered. The project took nearly four years to complete.

The church's design features stained glass windows with images of St. Francis de Sales and Father Peter Marie Mermier. Inside the church, the statues of Our Lady of Fatima and St. Joseph stand as spiritual guardians. Outside the church, the statue of Our Lady of Compassion watches over the church, symbolizing Grace and Mercy. The beauty of the Altar invokes the presence of God upon everyone who enters the church. This sacred space, with its intricate design and serene atmosphere, allows all who enter to experience a deep sense of divine presence and peace.

## The Inauguration

The church was inaugurated and blessed on July 13, 2024, by Rt. Rev. Ernesto Maguengue, Bishop of Inhambane Diocese. Emeritus Bishops Rt. Rev. Adriano Langa and Rt. Rev. Germano Grachane also participated in the function. Also a special word of thanks to Fr. Henry Nedumkallel, the Delegation Superior, for his constant support to make this dream into a reality. The event was participated by many confreres, priests, sisters from different Congregations, and local benefactors and well-wishers, celebrating faith, unity, and the realization of a dream.

## A Joyful Event

This joyful occasion was marked with a lot of celebrations. The faithful actively participated in the inauguration ceremony under the guidance of our confreres. The faithful indeed worked hard to make this day indelible. The happiness that was seen on the faces of the people was very overwhelming. The faithful celebrated this joyful day with a grateful heart to the Lord.

## A Musical Celebration

During the inauguration ceremony, a special Christian devotional album titled "Good Shepherd" (Bom Pastor) was released by the Bishop of Inhambane, Rt. Rev. Ernesto Maguengue, created and produced by Fr Vineesh Thomas MSFS. The album contains 10 liturgical hymns and songs, enriching the spiritual experience of the faithful. During the ceremony, one of the hymns from the album was also played.



### The Tower Project

Adjacent to the church, a tower is under construction with three important purposes. Firstly, it will provide water to local villagers, addressing a vital need. Secondly, the tower will have the church bell, symbolizing the call to prayer and gathering. Lastly, it will feature a statue of Jesus the Redeemer at its top, standing as a beacon of faith and hope for all.

### Looking Forward to the Future

The church's journey does not end with its inauguration. Plans include completing the tower, setting up a solar system for electrical needs, and continuing to support the community. The story of Igreja da Nossa Senhora da Compaixao is a story of faith, perseverance, and the unyielding spirit of a community united by a common dream. It stands as a reminder that with faith and perseverance, even the most challenging dreams can be realized.

By Fr. Ruben Gilbert

## PRIESTLY ORDINATION IN MOZAMBIQUE



On Saturday, June 15, 2024, the parish of Nossa Senhora das Graças in Vila Ulonguè, located in the Angónia district of Tete, was graced with the priestly ordination of Deacon Desidério João Deveriasse. The sacred rite was conferred by Rt. Rev. Diamantino Antunes, Bishop of Tete. Fr. Desidério is the third MSFS priest of Mozambican nationality.

The ordination Mass, celebrated in the courtyard of Nossa Senhora das Graças, drew a large congregation, including administrative authorities from the district of Angonia and other parts of the province. The Eucharistic celebration saw the concelebration of 22 priests, among them 9 Fransalians.

In his homily, Bishop Diamantino Antunes delivered a catechesis on the sacrament of Holy Orders, emphasizing the roles of a priest as teacher, priest, and pastor. He called upon the congregation to pray for vocations and to support and accompany their priests, enabling them to fulfill their pastoral duties effectively.



The following day, Sunday, June 16, 2024, at 10:30 am, in the village of Lambwe, Father Desidério presided over his First Mass. The atmosphere was filled with joy and emotion as the newly ordained officiated the sacraments of baptism to 5 adults and the first communion for 35 teenagers. This was a special moment as it was held in the community of Lambwe, where Fr. Desiderio grew up and where his mother lives. It was in this same community that he completed his Christian formation and discerned his vocation to the consecrated and priestly life.

As he begins this new journey as a priest, let us pray that Fr. Desidério may be persevering, faithful and fruitful in his ministry; indeed, a good shepherd after the heart of Jesus.

## Results of Board Exams 2023-24, Nagpur Province

Results of Board Exams 2023-24 Nagpur Province									
Serial No.	Name of School	10th / 12th	Board	Appeared	Passed	Pass Percentage	Above 60%	Above 80%	Highest Percentage
1	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec School, Jhajjar	12th	CBSE	33	32	97%	31	13	89.20%
2	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec. School, Janakpuri, New Delhi	12th	CBSE	155	153	99%	77	72	99.20%
3	Gyan Mata Vidya Vihar, Nanded	10th	CBSE	221	216	98%	94	124	99.40%
4	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec. School, Jhajjar	10th	CBSE	69	68	99%	66	43	97.20%
5	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec School, Neemuch (MP)	10th	CBSE	47	45	96%	21	14	93.70%
6	St. Francis de Sales School, Badnera	10th	CBSE	59	47	80%	24	22	79.66%
7	St. Francis de Sales High School Baradurgapur	10th	State Board	24	24	100%	19	2	81.00%
8	St. John's School, Birbal, Kandore	10th	State Board	25	22	88%	11	1	84.40%
9	St. Mary's English School, Kothari, Kinwat	10th	State Board	45	45	100%	2	43	97.40%
10	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec School, Janakpuri, New Delhi	10th	CBSE	199	195	98%	83	100	96.80%
11	St. Francis De Sales School, Seraikela	10th	ICSE	81	81	100%	78	28	97.00%
12	St. Mary's High School, Jalna	10th	CBSE	193	193	100.00%	176	60	97.00%
13	St. John's High School, Mohan Nagar, Nagpur	10th	State Board	294	294	100.00%	112	98	94.00%
14	St. Francis de Sales Eng. M. School, Nimkheda	10th	CBSE	36	32	88.88%	13	6	92.80%
15	St. John's Public School(CBSE) Nagpur	10th	CBSE	87	87	100%	62	29	96.00%
16	Fransalian School of Excellence, Aurangabad	10th	CBSE	108	108	100.00%	25	79	96.40%

## APPOINTMENT OF THREE CONFRERES IN USA



**Fr. Lajarus Soreng**



**Fr. Paul Varambinakam**



**Fr. Jijo Punchayil**

**Fr. Lajarus Soreng left India For the ministry in USA on 9th July 2024**

**Fr. Paul Varambinakam and Fr. Jijo Punchayil left India for the ministry in USA on 22nd July 2024**

**WE WISH THEM**

**ALL THE VERY BEST**

**FOR THE MINISTRY IN USA**

## Pastoral courses of the Deacons- Pastoral Ministry

- Deacons Lambert Ekka and Clement Leonard are doing their Pastoral Course at St. Albert College, Ranchi.
- Deacons Bimal Tirkey, Anup Pillai and Sainjin Benny are doing their Pastoral Course at JD College, Pune.
- After the Pastoral Course the Deacons will be sent to different places of ministry in our Province.

### APPOINTMENTS OF DEACONS FOR THE PASTORAL MINISTRY

S. No.	NAME OF THE DEACON	PLACE OF MINISTRY
1	Dn. AMRIT LAKRA	PANDERPALLI
2	Dn. CLEMENT LEONARD	RAIDIHI
3	Dn. LEMBERT EKKA	KANDORE
4	Dn. ANUP PILLAI	CIDCO
5	Dn. BIMAL TIRKEY	AMBAPANI
6	Dn. SAINJIN BENNY	LATAPARA



## Pursuing Philosophy in St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur.

Brothers Amar Joshan and Brazil Baa are doing their philosophy and B.A in Philosophy in St. Charles Seminary Nagpur from academic year 2024-25.

### FORTH COMING EVENTS



#### SUPERIORS MEETING

- DATE: 19TH AUGUST 2024
- TIME: 9AM TO 5:30PM
- VENUE: ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL, MOHAN NAGAR.
- ANIMATOR: FR. CYPRIAN OP
- ALL THE SUPERIORS ARE EXPECTED TO COME FOR THE MEETING.



#### LOCAL BURSAR MEETING

- DATE: 26TH AUGUST
- TIME: 9AM TO 5:30PM
- VENUE: ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL, MOHAN NAGAR
- ANIMATOR: C A- MR. AVAYA UPADHYA
- ALL THE LOCAL BURSARS ARE EXPECTED TO COME

**NOTE:** THE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE FATHERS COMING FOR THE MEETING WOULD BE IN ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY, MOHAN NAGAR, MERMIER SADAN COMMUNITY, AND THE PROVINCIALATE.

PLEASE SEE THE LIST AND PROCEED TO THE RESPECTIVE PLACES DIRECTLY.



#### RETREAT GROUP-I

- DATE: 7TH TO 12TH OCTOBER
- VENUE: ANUCAMPA BHAVAN, GOOD SHEPHERDS PROVINCIALATE, MANKAPUR, NAGPUR
- ANIMATOR: Fr. XAVIER CSsR



#### RETREAT GROUP-II

- DATE: 30TH OCTOBER TO 4TH NOVEMBER.
- VENUE: MSFS PROVINCIALATE, SADAR ROAD, NAGPUR
- ANIMATOR: Fr. DAVID CSsR

# ASST. GENERAL'S VISIT

Detailed Itinerary and groups for meeting

## 16th & 17th OCTOBER MSFS PROVINCIALATE

1. MSFS provincialate
2. St. John's,
3. Mermer Sadan
4. Nimkheda
5. Badnera
6. Prakash Bhavan

## 19th & 20th OCTOBER FTI- AURANGABAD

1. FTI
2. CIDCO
3. Jalna
4. Nanded
5. Kinwat
6. Bhusawal
7. Khamgaon

## 22nd & 23rd OCTOBER DIVYA JYOTI ASHRAM

1. Divya Jyoti Ashram
2. Panderpalli
3. Ambapani
4. Raidhi
5. Bamra
6. Sini
7. Seraikella
8. Kandore
9. Baradurgapur
10. Bano
11. Darkona

## 24th & 25th OCTOBER VINAY SADAN, NEW DELHI

1. Vinay Sadan
2. Mahima
3. Jhajjar
4. Dhyana Ashram
5. Neemuch

### NOTE:

- THE ABOVE CLUBBED COMMUNITIES ARE REQUESTED TO BE THERE ON THE GIVEN DATE IN THE RESPECTIVE PLACES FOR THE MEETING. IN CASES WHERE THE WHOLE COMMUNITY CAN NOT BE PRESENT ONE REPRESENTATIVE IS REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.
- "Each community is kindly requested to present a concise report detailing its community life and ministry activities."

## SALESIAN THOUGHT

St. Francis de Sales, a notable figure in Catholic spirituality, emphasized themes of devotion and the deepening of one's relationship with God. Though he didn't write extensively on the Assumption of Our Lady specifically, his general teachings on freedom and spiritual life can be connected to this feast.

St. Francis de Sales spoke profoundly about the spiritual freedom that comes from living in accordance with God's will. He believed that true freedom is found not in doing whatever we please but in choosing to live a life aligned with divine love and purpose. This freedom allows us to transcend the limitations of earthly concerns and to find true peace and fulfillment in God's presence.

In the context of the Assumption of Our Lady, which celebrates Mary's being taken up into heaven, this freedom can be understood as the ultimate realization of God's promise for those who live in faith. Mary's Assumption symbolizes the ultimate union with God, where earthly constraints are left behind, and spiritual freedom is fully realized.

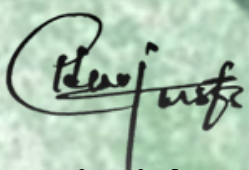
**“Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections.”**

-St. Francis De Sales

**LIVE JESUS!**

**Yours Fraternally in Christ**

**FR. Manoj Tirkey**



**Provincial Superior**