

# MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



## NAGPUR PROVINCE

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CIRCULAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE

13.08.2016

**Dear Confreres**

**Greetings of Peace and Joy of Christ to you!**

**If the Son makes you free, you will be really free**



By the time this circular is received by you, either we are yet to celebrate our country's Independence or it is over but we will be still in the spirit and mood of the celebration. For Catholics, it also coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Assumption. The kind of freedom that we are reminded and celebrated on August 15<sup>th</sup> is political freedom whereby we are not subjected to any foreign power or we became free for home rule. The Feast of Assumption is an opportunity

to strengthen our faith that the Immaculate Virgin Mary was free from the stain of original sin and was taken up with body and soul to heavenly glory.

During the life time of Jesus, the Jews claimed to have political freedom but they were subjected to Romans. They claimed to have religious freedom but their slavery to the letter of the law was obvious and pointed out by Jesus. Moral freedom was often faulty and exposed by instances of bondage to sin. The freedom that Jesus proclaimed was freedom of our true life with deliverance from sinfulness bringing forth union with God. (Jn 8: 36) The knowledge of the truth is revealed through him highlights the Father who sent him and the eternal home. St Paul is known to be the apostle of freedom. More than words, it is illustrated by his life. He had regarded himself, the bond servant, until he found complete freedom in the service of Christ. We may think that he was not free and in bonds before Agrippa or while prisoner in Rome. In fact, from his writings, it is clear that he was freer than the governor or Caesar or officials who persecuted him. He was truly free than he himself was when he was armed with authority to bind men and women because they were Christians. The chain that bound his body could not bind his spirit in Christ Jesus. The son of God had made him free.

As we celebrate our country's freedom, let us also remind ourselves, the freedom offered to us for life in Jesus. I wish everyone Happy Independence Day and Happy Feast of our Lady of Assumption.

## **The First Ongoing Formation Program**



Our Constitutions underlines that individuals and communities should pursue life-long process of formation. It is to make us more relevant in our times, in our ministry by up-dating ourselves with the changes and developments that are taking place in the Church, in the world, in the field of secular and sacred sciences. It is in this spirit of the constitution that the Ongoing Formation Program was organized for the first batch of confreres from 4<sup>th</sup> August to 6<sup>th</sup> August 2016 in the

MSFS Provincial House, Nagpur. It was a tight program and there were 45 participants. The first day was animated by Rev. Fr. Varghese Alengadan who emphasized that life and ministry of religious people should be more Christo-centric and there is a need to critically introspect the conventional delivery of services to the people. Creativity and innovation is



lacking, and there need to have greater cultural integration to avoid criticism of exclusivism in terms of culture, language and festivals especially in schools. New problems cannot be solved with old solutions. On the same day, New Priests and Jubilarians were felicitated. The next two days were mainly focused on secular laws and problems. There was a panel of judges who presented various new laws such as minimum wage law, juvenile protection, child labour, cybercrime and human trafficking, etc. Sr. Philo of St. Joseph Sisters of Chambery highlighted on the various important provisions of the Indian Constitution and on justice and human rights. On the last day of the meeting, there was a short evaluation of the



program, and members appreciated Fr. Benedict De Souza for organizing it. Some of them also said that there need to have more dwelling on sacred sciences. Book reading culture has to be cultivated to remain up-dated by all members, there is need to take the members

into confidence to know what they exactly want from programs of this nature. Some felt dwelling more on secular laws and government approach to various social problems were very informative which may not be available otherwise.

## **FRANSALIAN SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE (ICSE) comes into existence**

On 28<sup>th</sup> July 2016, the Feast Day of St. Alphonsa, the Fransalians of Aurangabad-Jalna Apostolic Community witnessed ground-breaking ceremony (Bhumi Poojan Ceremony) of the newly proposed FRANSALIAN SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE (ICSE) at FTI premises, Aurangabad. The long-awaited sanction plan of the school approved by Aurangabad Municipal Corporation, finally arrived. The construction of the mega school project is expected to be completed in 18 months' time. As of now only partially, the master plan will be implemented. Most Rev. Ambrose Rebello, Bishop of Aurangabad Diocese officiated the ceremony through a brief prayer service followed by blessing of construction site and the Bishop, in the name of the Holy Trinity, broke the ground with pick-axe. Each person from the three communities (FTI, CIDCO, Jalna) did the same followed by excavation work. The laying of the foundation stone ceremony will be soon scheduled. The work is awarded to a construction company based in Amravati. The architect is Mr. Parag Date of Renaissance Planners and Engineers Pvt. Ltd, Nagpur. It is an ambitious project of Jalna-Nanded Educational Societies to realize another premier Fransalian Educational Institution in Marathawada Region. Let us pray and hope that project finds its completion as expected.

**Fr. William Antony, msfs**

## Canonical Visitation

**Nimkheda Community** is now merited with two experienced confreres in the persons of Frs. Muthusamy and Philip Maleparambil which will enhance the school administration. We have a CBSE-affiliated school which needs much to come up in terms of better academic standard. Comparative study of other schools in the province is undertaken to arrive at standard syllabus, and other evaluation patterns. The school is new and requires lots of animation of the teachers. The collaboration of St. Joseph Sisters of Annecy is a great blessing. They make up for the lack of good teachers. Fr. Muthusamy is trying for greater stability of staff by giving them special conveyance and to attract good staff from nearby townships. He is also encouraging sports, thankful to NFC for the newly built compound wall. Around 90 new admissions were taken. The second batch of 9 CBSE students will write class 10<sup>th</sup> exam this year.

**St John's Community, Nagpur** is special this year with mostly new confreres assigned with new responsibilities. Fr. Peter Dominic is the Principal with Fr. Patras Tirkey as Vice Principal who is also the House Superior. Fr. Telesfor Lakra is entirely new to the posting of Office Administrator with delegated works of the Manager. Fr. Kulandai Raj is the Manager of the school but most importantly the Priest-in-Charge for the proposed St. John's Mass Centre. There are difficulties and problems in the school related to admissions, staff etc. The age old school has expert staff to assist the administrators to handle conflict situations. Fransalian Education Society of St. John's School is engaged in constructing St. John's Public School CBSE with the help of Delhi Fransalian Society. A bank loan is being availed by FES for this construction purpose. Plans are being mooted to secure the campus with more regulations through manned gates.

## Mothers' Day at St. John's Mass Centre



On 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016 St. John's Mass Centre celebrated Mothers' Day with the aim of bringing unity and understanding among the people allotted by the Archdiocese of Nagpur. It was, indeed, a great joy to see as many as 70 mothers from opposite of St. John's High School, St. John's Compound, Hasan Garage Compound, Lala Ka Baghicha, Motibagh, Bishop's Chawl and the surrounding areas

gathered together to celebrate first time ever Mothers' Day. A special homily was preached on the theme 'Love of Mother' that "from day to day, from moment to moment, mother is the sole custodian and dispenser of her children. Mother is the genuine tree that bears that Fruit of Life. To mark this event something memorable we took procession inside the campus holding lighted candles and flowers with the message that 'women have power to change the world and they are the Light of the World'."

**Fr. Kulandai Raj, msfs**

## Fr. Domy writes from Rome

"Heartfelt condolence to you and all our confreres, it was really difficult to accept that Fr. Melchiades Dalgado is no more. I have experienced his love, care, concern and spiritual guidance during my life in Vidya Sadan and later. I was fortunate to visit him and receive his blessing on the previous day of my departure from Nagpur.

In these few lines I write to you to give information about my studies in Rome. I reached Italy on 19<sup>th</sup> July at 02.00 pm local time. Prior to that my connecting flight was from Doha had a one-hour delay. When I

reached the airport in Rome, Fr. Augustine Mangatt was there to receive me. In the coming two months (August and September) I am staying in our house near to St. Peter's Basilica, where Fr. Augustine is the superior. From 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016, I am attending Italian course in the University of Urbanianum. Probably I will be attending the next course too in the same university because that is closer to our house. For my doctoral studies I will be registering in Lateran University. I am given an appointment with the registrar on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016. After which I will be told the prerequisites I will have to complete. From October I will be staying in Pontificio Collegio Nepomuceno which is closer to Lateran University. Our student confreres from almost all the provinces are staying there and Nagpur Province will be added this year. At present, it is summer here. The average temperature is 30 degrees. It is because of the support of all our confreres that everything has gone well so far. Do continue to support me in your prayers.

### **Internal Audit 2016-17**

This is the fourth successive internal audit ever since we evolved the system of such practices. The province administration is happy with most communities. There are communities that are negligent. They may not be doing it deliberately. May I request the Local Superior to study the format thoroughly and guide the concerned departments. Community meetings should deliberate the lapses and observations made in last year's report.

#### **October 2016**

07.10.2016 Mahima  
08.10.2016 Jhajjar  
15.10.2016 Vinay Sadan  
20.10.2016 St. John's, Nagpur  
27.10.2016 Badnera  
31.10.2016 Sahibganj

#### **November 2016**

01.11.2016 Baradurgapur  
03.11.2016 Varanasi  
12.11.2016 Darkona  
14.11.2016 Pandripalli  
15.11.2016 Pabura  
16.11.2016 Ambapani  
17.11.2016 Raidihi  
18.11.2016 Latapara  
20.11.2016 Sini

21.11.2016 Seraikella

29.11.2016 Nimuch

#### **December 2016**

02.12.2016 Khamgaon-Buldana

04.12.2016 Karanji

05.12.2016 Bhusawal

06.12.2016 FTI- Bidkin

08.12.2016 CIDCO

09.12.2016 Jalna

12.12.2016 Nanded

14.12.2016 Kinwat – Himayatnagar

#### **January 2017**

03.01.2017 Mermier Sadan

05.01.2017 Nimkheda

07.01.2017 Provincialate

31.01.2017 Mannarkkad

### **Our sincere appreciations/thanks/congratulations to:**

**Fr. Arun P** who has redone the names on the marble stones of late confreres in the Provincial House Chapel. Number of names were missed out which was studied with the help of Fr. Joseph Plathottam. Now there are 17 new names engraved on the stones which were not there earlier.

**Fr. Bijay Kerketta** who has represented me and met the Bishop of Sambalpur on the needed permission to start something in our land at Bamra. Bishop has reportedly permitted to start a school. He is averse to our suggestion to have a parish. Fr. Bijay Kerketta has made great progress in getting NA for the land which is in the name of NFC in Bamra.

**Fr. Hilarus Tirkey** has got the church land demarcated through the assistance of Revenue Department officials at Pabura. Around 6 acres of land will be purchased in the name of religious brother belonging to another congregation. In Jharkand, land can be purchased only by those who are residents in the same panchayat block. The registry is planned as per the direction given by the Bishop. As and when we have our own Fathers becoming officially residents in the same block, there can be another Registry.

**Fr. Sylbester Xalxo** who has got the entire campus planned and estimated in Baradurgapur Mission. The plan for the hostel is ready in terms of drawing and estimate. With the help of the foundation of **Fr. Cyriac Nellikunnel**, the school construction is over. The school building is being used for Sunday Masses. Hostel children stay in these class rooms at the moment. Fr. Cyriac Nellikunnel has promised to sponsor the hostel and he intends to get the decision sanctioned in the Governing Body Meeting of his Society in September.

**Fr. Oscar Kujur** who has applied for the mutation of the registered presbytery land at Darkona. We have finalized the presbytery plan which will be executed as soon as we get proper possession of the property in terms of ownership. We have another two pieces of land in Ambikapur which is tribal land which cannot be developed for any institutional purpose.

**Fr. Sayu Cheruvil** who managed to get the Minority Status Certificate for SFS School, Badnera. All the needed paper works were done by him and the bye-laws of the society were amended to get the minority status certificate.

**Fr. Shijumon Mangalath** who has taken initiatives to assist Raidihi Mission School as per the school twining programme. Plans are being mooted for visitation of children and teachers from Jalna School as part of the exchange programme.

**Fr. Melroy Almeida** who has given a helping hand to Pabura Mission School to meet the payment of the teachers.

**Fr. Domy Vallomkunnel** who has reached Rome for his Doctorate in Canon Law. He has been working for his sponsorship and managed to get on his own efforts the funds required for two years. For all his travel plans and journey, he took the trouble of planning and doing the needful.

**All Communities** which contributed towards the church construction of Belavista Mozambique. The amount will be sent to Mozambique as and when the money is required or when the construction work begins.

**Apostolic Communities** that sent the report of the specially called meeting to deliberate on the two documents (Retreat Culture and Spiritual Directory).

## **Important Dates**

**22<sup>nd</sup> September to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016:** On-going Formation Group II

**10<sup>th</sup> October to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016:** First Group Retreat at Faridabad

**24<sup>th</sup> October 2016** Innovative Forum, at MSFS Provincialate, Nagpur

**25<sup>th</sup> October 2016** Formation Forum, at MSFS Provincialate, Nagpur

**1<sup>st</sup> December 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016,** Regents Meet at Latapara, Rourkella, Odhisha

**27<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to 01<sup>st</sup> January 2017:** Second Group Retreat at Varanasi

**17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017** Mission Sangamam, at Nagpur (Mandatory for all Parish Priests to attend)

**11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017** Education Forum, at MSFS Provincialate, Nagpur.

## Let us pray for:

**Fr. John Rodrigues** of Brazil Province, aged 87, expired on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

**Fr. Jose Thenganakunnel** of North East Province, aged 66, died on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

**Fr. Alexander Kottam** of Visakhapatnam Province, aged 85 died on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

May I request all those who have not fulfilled the suffrages to do the same at the earliest (Const. No. 118; General Directory No 98).

**Fr. Sayu Cheruvil** who is suffering from acute liver ailments and admitted in the Hospital.

**Fr. Marcus Ruptake's** brother Mr. Vijay who is under treatment for heart attack.

**Fr. Aajo Therully's** father who was operated for blood clot in his head and now he is at home taking rest.

## Provincial's Itinerary:

### August 2016

15.08.2016	Ambikapur	20.09.2016	Bhuswal
18.08.2016	Simdega	21.09.2016	Nagpur
21.08.2016	Kandor	22.09.2016	Ongoing Formation
23.08.2016	Baradurgapur	23.09.2016	Ongoing Formation
26.08.2016	Nagpur	24.09.2016	Ongoing Formation
28.08.2016	FTI	26.09.2016	PCM
30.08.2016	Nagpur	27.06.2016	PCM

### September 2016

13.09.2016	Mermier Sadan	05.10.2016	Vizag
14.09.2016	Mermier Sadan	08.10.2016	Neduthawal
15.09.2016	Badnera	11.10.2016	Mannarkkad
16.09.2016	Badnera	19.10.2016	Goa
17.09.2016	Khamgaon	22.10.2016	Nagpur
18.09.2016	Khamgaon	24.10.2016	Innovative Forum
19.09.2016	Bhusawal	25.10.2016	Formation Forum

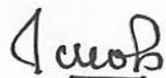
### October 2016

## Salesian Thought

A life is lower level may be gained in a year, but the perfection to which as aspire cannot come till after many years.

**St. Francis de Sales**

Yours Sincerely in Christ



Jacob Karamakuzhyil, MSFS  
Provincial Superior