

MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



Pune Province

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VPP-60

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2016

My dear Confreres,

We have just begun the SEASON of NOVENAS this month, beginning with the preparation for the Birthday of Blessed Virgin Mary. We as MSFS continue to express our devotion to our Patroness and our Founder during this month.

May we grow in fervour trying to imbibe the spirit of Our Mother of Compassion and Fr. Peter Mermier.



I am penning these lines on the day of funeral of our young confrere Bro. Clement George Anthony. How we wish it were a dream and not a reality that he is no more with us. May his soul rest in peace. (Another shocking news is that Fr. Joji Reddy, 33 years, of Vizag province died electrocuted) Death is a reminder that nothing is permanent. Let us take care of those entrusted to us with utmost care, respect and love.

Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless' says Mother Theresa, THE ANGEL OF MERCY who is to be canonized on 4th Sept. in Rome. The world, she has cared through her acts of mercy, kindness, healing and love for all, no matter who or from where or how or what the person is, rejoices as she is raised to the Sainthood. She would further certainly intensify her acts of Mercy through her intercession. May all of us be Missionaries of Mercy to all.

Wishing you all a Very Happy Feast of our Blessed Mary on 8th and 15th Sept. And a Blessed Day on our Founder's Day on 30th Sept. May God bless all.



Happy feast to one and all

Mother Teresa: The Angel of Mercy On the Occasion of Her Canonization

No one in our present day world had a truer understanding of mercy than saint Mother Teresa of Kolkatta. She is the embodiment and epitome of God's mercy, compassion and forgiveness. She served with mercy and love the unwanted, unloved, dying, destitute, abandoned, outcasts and all who have lost hope and faith in their life. Mother Teresa dreamed of a religious life after hearing the work of catholic missionaries. Entered Novitiate of Loreto Sisters in Dublin Ireland choosing the name of Teresa to honour St. Thersa of Child Jesus. Later coming to India, in 1946 a train journey to Darjeeling changed her life bringing abundant hope to the last, the least and the lost in the society. Yes, "A call within a call" changed her completely. Mother Teresa completely believed in her statement:

"Total surrender consists in giving ourselves completely to God. We must give ourselves fully to God because God has given Himself fully to us. If God owes nothing to us and is ready to impart to us no less than Himself, shall we answer with just a fraction of ourselves?"

Her complete surrender to God, and her infinite thirst to save humanity made her to be the angel of mercy. Mother Teresa's firm conviction in strength to the missionaries of world, with the poorest of poor. a saint- I will surely be one of Heaven to light the light of those in she anticipated during her life time Mother Teresa always said that the All humans have one vocation that Teresa in a very special way to completely to God. Mother Teresa of humanity was not illness, hunger or poverty, but loneliness and the sense of being unloved.



prayer and holy Eucharist gave enough charity to live and work in the heart of the Once mother Teresa said," if I ever become 'darkness'. I will continually be absent from darkness on earth. Such was the conviction to be the light to those who are in darkness. meaning of vocation was the call of Jesus. is to belong to God. He has called Mother serve humanity and later to belong believed that the most devastating disease

It is a moment of joy and pride for our country India when our mother Teresa is elevated to the sainthood. If we remember some months before, the RSS leader made a controversial statement saying that Mother Teresa did her work of charity for converting the people. This statement brought uproar among the people condemning the leader for his sickly statement. At this juncture, when the whole world rejoices her celebration of sainthood, we are sure that this will be a slap on the face of this infamous leader. Mercy, compassion and works of charity of Mother Teresa is triumphant than the illogical statements by the fundamentalists and fringe groups who always disturb the religious peace and harmony of our country.

Pope Francis said in his encyclical that Jesus is the face of God's mercy. We know how true it is in the person of Mother Teresa who completely relied upon Jesus. Through Jesus, Mother Teresa becomes the Angel of Mercy. She becomes a ray of hope for the suffering humankind in and through the power and healing touch of Jesus Christ.

Let us always meet each other with smile,
for smile is the beginning of love. - St. Mother Teresa

The First Death Anniversary of Fr. Baptist D'Souza

On 20th August 2016, the Apostolic community of Pune organised the first death anniversary of Fr. Baptist. The superiors of various communities of the province who came for the Superiors Forum meet joined for this event. On 20th morning, the cemetery of Fr. Baptist was blessed and at 6pm Holy Eucharist in the parish. Fr. Vincent was the main celebrant. The SFS parish team of Shaanwadi organised the beautiful liturgy. Fr Baptist's relatives, friends and parishioners were present. May his soul rest in peace.



Sacerdotal Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Fr. Armind Nazareth

On 22nd July 2016, the 60th Ordination Anniversary of Fr. Armind Nazareth, the stalwart and diamond of the province, was celebrated solemnly with the theme **Priesthood: Called to Live Jesus and Give Jesus Joyfully**



The joyous day began with the Eucharistic celebration, officiated by Rev. Bp. Peter Machado, with a meaningful homily on the life experience of Fr. Armind followed by a felicitation Programme where the dignitaries spoke well of Fr. Armind and all his works. There was a short documentary presentation on the life of Fr. Armind and a book containing various articles of Fr. Armind was compiled and released. The day added beauty by the presence of Bishop, province, Confreres, Fr. Noel and many priests and religious of the diocese, relatives and friends. The youth of Uchgaon added magnificence to the liturgy by their melodious singing. The Academic Year 2016-17 of Harmony- A Pastoral Theological Institute was officially declared open by Fr. Vincent, the Provincial of Pune Province and thereafter, fellowship meal was served for all. We thank God for the gift of Fr. Armind.

-Fr. Ramesh

New Priests' Day at Fransalian Seminary

A long awaited days bloomed on 19th and 20th of August wherein the Fransalian Seminary family celebrated the new priests' day. It was a beautiful occasion to have the new priests of both Nagpur and Pune provinces. On 19th we had a short gathering in the evening wherein seven of our new priests shared their mission and pastoral experiences. 20th of August the celebration began with unveiling of theme of the day "*FORMED TO BE THE MESSENGERS OF MERCY.*" The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Mathew, Fr. Jomon preached the homily. He said that we need to be missionaries like our blessed mother who went to serve in haste.



The day was well organized with multi colorful activities with indoor and outdoor games, sharing, and cultural evening. Fransalian community mesmerized the new priests with colourful cultural program. The day ended with a fellowship meal.

Triple Celebration at Bileshwarpura, Gujarat

Independence Day- On August 15th we celebrated 70th independence day.. The holy mass was presided by Fr.Mathew, and he spoke about the importance of the day. After the mass the flag hoisting was done by Fr.Romeo. Fr. Romeo had arranged a friendly cricket match between migrant children from Bileshwarpura and the local children from kalol.

Rakshabandhan- on this auspicious day we shared our sisterly and brotherly love. The Eucharist was celebrated on this day and we had traditional tying of Rakhi.

The Relics of Three Saints - The relics of Dominican family saints that of St. Dominic, St. Vincent, and St. Catherina were brought to our centre on 22nd August. The divine relics were exposed to the people to pray. Many of the faithful and priests and religious came from far to pay their homage to the holy relics.



Mini Marian Congress

On Sunday 28th August 2016 St. Francis de Sales Parish, Shaanvadi hosted '**Mini Marian Congress**' in preparation for the Centenary Celebration of the Apparition of the Blessed Mother at Fatima (1917 to 2017). The evening programme had meditative Rosary, the forgotten messages of Fatima shared, half hour adoration, sharing of testimonies, and the Eucharist celebrated by the bishop of Poona with a dozen of priests.. Saying of Roasry and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and Consecration to the Immaculate of Mary were emphasised. Fr. Santosh Salve msfs, who has been the appointed by the Bishop as Co-coordinator for the Centenary Celebration proposed the vote of thanks. After the holy Eucharist there was the veneration of the Blessed Mother of Fatima.



Information

Funeral

Bro.Clement died on 29th Aug. After the post mortem the body was kept in Morgue. The funeral; mass was celebrated on 30th at SFS church in which Fr.Nazareth preached a meaningful homily. Many confreres from various communities, priests, religious, his companions, few relatives and parishioners and well wishers attended the service. After which, in the evening the body was flown to his native land accompanied by Frs.Francis, Johnpaul and his parents.

On 31st Aug. in the afternoon he was buried in his home cemetery after the mass celebrated by many confreres, priests religious and classmates from suvidya and people of the village. May his soul rest in peace.

Report on Scholastics who do Marathi Program

The Scholastics who finished their regency, have been sent to Kolhapur mission to have exposure program in different mission of MST fathers. They have been able to improve their proficiency in Marathi language. We thank Fr. Jose Cheriampannat the mission superior of Kolhapur mission for organising the exposure program and the fathers and religious in different centres for accompanying and helping our brothers.

Seminar for Formators

Seminar for Formators of various MSFS provinces is to be organised at Harmony, Belgaum on Sept 27th – 29th, 2016.

Symposium

As informed earlier, there will be a symposium conducted in the memory of Fr. Moget on the year of Mercy and Formation on 15th of October, 2016 at Harmony, Belgaum. Fr.Moget had been a Missionary of Mercy and a compassionate Formator. Kindly send representatives from the community and centres. Kindly inform the confreres at Harmony of your participation.

The Visit of Assistant General

As announced earlier Fr. Thumma Mariadass Reddy, the Assistant General of our MSFS congregation will be visiting various apostolic communities from 15th – 25th November. A kind reminder to all the convenors and secretaries of different apostolic communities to see to the preparatory meeting and necessary arrangements.

Diaconate ministry of Deacons

1. Dn. Rawson Fernandes Gogargaon mission, Aurangabad
2. Dn. Jerome Jayaraj Mermier Ashraya, Dahanu
3. Dn. Sagayaraj SFS Church, Shaanwadi
4. Dn. Vicky Mendes St. Anthony's Church, Kalambist
5. Dn. George Fernandes Retreat Centre, Vadoli, Kolhapur

General Council and PIF meeting

On 6th and 8th of October, there will be General Council cum PIF meeting to be held in Vizag.

As I am travelling Europe to visit the confreres, Fr. Albert Fernandes will be the Vicar in my absence.

Thanks and Appreciation

At Hindaun City the Land conversion certificate has been achieved by the community after a long time of hard work and persuasion. Our thanks and congrats to Fr. Alphonse and community.

Koperkhairane: We thank the Koperkhairane communities for attending to the medical needs of Bro. Clement.

Congrats to **Fr. Santhosh Salve** on being appointed by the Bishop of Pune as the Co-coordinator for the centenary celebration of Our Lady of Fatima, in the diocese of Pune and for organizing a meaningful Mini Marian congress.

To all the **parish teams** for organising Novenas in very creative ways. Wishing you a meaningful celebration and Happy Feast to all in the parish.

To **Fr. James Mascarenhas** for successfully completing MSW with First Class.

To **Dahanu community** for organising One Month adoration and to **Fr. Austin** for assisting at retreat centre, at Attapadi, Kerala.

To **Harmony community** for celebrating Fr. Armind's Diamond Jubilee and for planning various programmes for the year.

To **Ajmer** confreres for taking people on pilgrimage to North and South, an exposure for the first time to the people.

To **Snehalya** community for making efforts to put up an extension.

To **Bastora** community for renovating the house and making efforts to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

To **Aldona** community for celebrating the Silver Jubilee year of Higher secondary and renovating the High School.

To Fr. Thomas Fernandes for assuring to support the projects of Aldona and Cotto.

To **Kurla community** for renovating the building.

To **Simon Bhutello** for getting the land secured with survey and a well at Kalambist mission.

To **Zambia community** for obtaining a vehicle for the mission .

To **all the communities** and members who are making efforts to work for the betterment and growth of their respective mission.

To all those in the education ministry as we celebrate the **Teachers Day** on 5th september. Special words of appreciation to all our teachers for their dedication and commitment.

GOD BLESS ALL.

Welcome to Fr. John Paul (Prabhu) who has come on holidays.

Let us pray

1. For the soul of Bro. Clement George 23 years, who died on 29th Aug. due to a rare sickness of Gas Gangrene.
2. For the soul of Fr. Joji Reddy of Vizag province, 33 years, who was electrocuted on 31st Aug..
3. For the soul of Fr. Sayu aged 52 years of Nagpur province who passed away on 31st Aug due to illness.
4. For the Sisters, Fathers and Brothers of Missionaries of Charity, as Mother Teresa will be conferred Sainthood on 4th September 2016.
5. For the people suffering due to terrorism, and for Peace everywhere.
6. For all the devotees of Mother Mary

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

September (Birthdays)

Felix Mendes	1 st September	Jerson D'souza	23 rd September
Cyriac Nellikunnel	6 th September	John Paul S (Prabhu S)	25 th September
Armind Nazareth	7 th September	Xavier M	25 th September
Mathew Rodriques	10 th September	Rajkishore Kindo	28 th September
George Bush M	13 th September	Tony Prem Anand M	28 th September
Maria Joseph M	19 th September		

Ordination Anniversary

Fr. Joseph Mendes 21st September

PROFILE OF BRO.GEORGE CLEMENT ANTHONY MSFS

Name:	Bro. George Anthony Clement	
Date of Birth:	04-05-1993	
Date of Baptism:	06-06-1993	
Date of Confirmation:	30-04-2004	
Father's name:	P. James	
Mother's name:	J. Victoria Mary	
Diocese:	Archdiocese of Pondicherry – Cuddalore	
Parish:	Michaelpuram, Villupuram District	
Education:	St. Michael's High School, Carmel Higher Secondary School	
Minor Seminary:	JyothiDarshan, Salem, Tamilnadu	2010-2012
Novitiate:	SnehaJyothi, MSFS Ashram, Makkiyad, Kerala	2012-2013
Philosophy:	Suvidya College, Bangalore	2013-2016
Regency:	MermierBal Ashram, Navi Mumbai	2016

He was suffering from a fever and was taken to the local doctor on 17th Aug. and had an injection. Next day he was complaining of a swelling and pain at the injected area(buttocks). He revisited the doctor and was told that it was common and normal and it will pass off. But at night he could not bear the pain and was taken to a hospital and was advised to undergo scanning. It was then discovered that he had dengue fever (a common viral disease in the area) and had infection due to the injection. This was diagnosed as GAS GANGERINE, (I wonder if any of us has heard of this disease!!) which as per the information, is a very rare and infectious disease, and attacks the organs very fast. He was then admitted in one of the best hospitals in Vashi, New Mumbai. We were explained the seriousness of the disease but were confident that he would get healed. But the failure of the organs was so fast that neither the teams of doctors nor the medicines could arrest the disaster and he was kept on ventilator. We were by his side when he breathed his last through the machines at about 1.15 pm on 29th August 2016. It was heart breaking and very painful to see a young life being taken away.



EULOGY ON THE DEATH OF BRO.GEORGE CLEMENT ANTHONY MSFS

4.5.1993 – 29.8.2016

If we live we live for the Lord and if we die we die for the Lord. Either in life or death we belong to the Lord.(Rom.14/8)

Whether we die young or old our reward and destiny is one , Eternity.

We read in our Obituary every now and then, the names of young confreres who have died very young in their foreign land, India, on their missionary journey, due to sickness, disease and climate, and many in their battle fields during the world war. I used to feel very proud of these young confreres for their courage and commitment. But today when a young scholastic of just 23 years of age died in front of my eyes at the hospital without uttering a word of farewell, under the sophisticated machines and wires, I just could not but get angry and ask God ' Why Lord!!'. What did you, Lord, gain by taking him away and what has the young boy gained at this young age answering your call??.

Can anyone accept this reality of such a sudden and unfortunate death which has snatched away so young and a dynamic boy??. My dear friends these days God seems to be in love with the young souls. As I wrote this last night I did not know how I was going to console the parents who, to that moment as they were traveling , did not know that their beloved eldest son is no more. What and how do I tell them when they reach here, that was my painful anxiety. I told the Lord that their son was not prepared to face death so early but He needs to prepare the poor parents to accept this terrible reality which has befallen on them.

Many who knew him write and tell us that Bro.Clement was a very promising young man and a religious. But, in God's calculation, just in 3 years of religious life Clement seems to have fulfilled the promise he made to the Lord. 3 days in the ICU has been like three days in the tomb and he has flown away. God has taken him to Himself.

The parents, with much grief and faith, have accepted the death of their son as a perfect offering of Abel in the old testament. God who called him to serve has rewarded him with eternal life and crowned him to be his own in his kingdom. God has given and God has taken away. A great faith indeed.

Bro.Clement was strong and sturdy in physique, pleasant and pleasing in appearance, quiet and wise by nature, tall and talented by gift.... very unassuming and simplistic in life style...

He had the responsibility in the family being the eldest to 3 brothers and one young sister whom he was very fond of. He had left them behind to serve the Lord. The Lord has been so pleased with him and his life that he said to him. 'Come ,you my beloved son, enjoy the service of my kingdom of Heaven.

He has died on Aug.29th, the day when we remember and celebrate the death of the first young prophet John the Baptist, in the New Testament . The Lord has been pleased with the life of the young who have lived well, as he was pleased with the life of His own Son Jesus, at 33.

In all our simple faith we accept that God knows the best and he has done what is best for our brother Clement. My dear people we are persons born for eternity, which is our eternal destiny and our Home, to be with the Lord. Our earthy life which we live for few years is merely a passing one.

Therefore this is a time not to feel angry or disappointed or despaired , though it is our human nature, but rather to feel jealous and happy knowing that God has taken away the son he has loved . Though it is a painful gift to us, it is indeed for us who believe, a rare gift of God, not just death but the eternal life that comes packed along with it.

We thank God for the gift of life our Bro.Clement lived here on earth , some years with his parents, few years with us in our formation houses and few months in this parish , serving the children at Bal Ashram. We thank God for the good life Bro.Clement has lived as a human person and a religious. In this Eucharist we have offered our Brother to the Lord as a fragrant offering which is pleasing to the Lord.

I offer our sincere gratitude to God for the gift of Bro.George Clement, who was also very fondly called as Sudhakar by his parents and family members.

Our heartfelt condolence to the grieving parents , 3 brothers and a sister back home and all the relatives and his companions, who have come here.

Our gratitude to the dear parents who offered their first and the best fruit as an offering to God. They have also offered their another son Manoj who is doing his first year of Philosophy in Bangalore.

We thank very many people who have been assisting at this eventuality from the time of his sickness. Along with the community of Mermier Bal Ashram, we sincerely thank the hospital authorities who have tried their best to treat him and other civil authorities for their help. Our gratitude to many of you my dear people who were willing to help us out and ease the situation. Our special thanks to Mr.Jophy who has been at our side from the very beginning to the end making sure that everything goes on well, without counting time and his health.

Our thanks to many of you dear people for coming to our assistance by being a moral and spiritual support, by visiting him , praying for him and supporting with finance.

My sincere thanks to the community members of Bal Ashram and Parish for all their efforts in doing all that was needed. Our special thanks to Frs.Prabhakar, Ravi, Sushanth who have been by his side all through these painful days and to the members of the apostolic community of Mumbai . Thanks to the parish team for organizing this liturgy.

Our sincere thanks to the Sisters from Panvel for being a consoling support to the parents on their arrival.

Our thanks to all those confreres, especially our Superior General, who have sent in their prayerful wishes and condolence messages and our confreres in Chennai for their support.

We thank one and all. Let us surrender our lives to God's Plan, for it is for Him we live and die.

(He has died, as a scholastic, during the year of Mercy and Formation in our Congregation, an offering God has desired for him and of us)

MAY THE SOUL OF BRO.CLEMENT REST IN ETERNAL PEACE. AND MAY HE INTERCEDE FOR US.



Bro George Clement Anthony

Date of Birth : 04 / 05 / 1993

Died on: 29 / 08 / 2016



WE MISS YOU DEAR BRO. CLEMENT

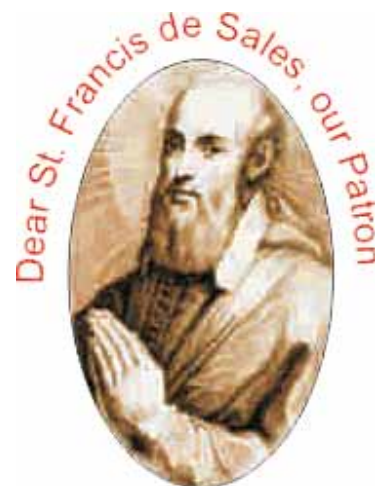
My Programme

- 1st September- 29th September Europe on visitation
- 2-3 october Visitation -Kurla
- 4th-10th October PIF meeting-Vishakapatnam
- 12th-13th October PCM Siolim
- 15th October Belgaum (Symposium on the year of Mercy and Formation on Fr. Moget
- 17th-18th October Visitation-Aldona
- 19th-20th October Visitation -Valpoi
- 21st-22nd October Visitation -CottoFatorpa
- 23rd-24th October Visitation -Bastora
- 25th-26th October Visitation -Siolim
- 29th -3rd November 1st Retreat -Pune
- 6th -11th November 2nd Retreat- Belgaum
- 12th -13th November Regents' meet, Belgaum
- 14th November Platinum Jubilee Celebration, Bastora

Fraternally,



Fr. S. Vincent Lourduwamy msfs
(Provincial Superior)



IN LOVING ONE ANOTHER THROUGH OUR WORKS
WE BRING AN INCREASE OF GRACE AND A GROWTH IN DIVINE LOVE.
-MOTHER TERESA OF KOLKOTA