



JNM FMA / Pro. Cir. 02

August 2017

My Dearest Sisters,

Affectionate greetings to you from Mazzarello Convent, Kodambakkam!

I have just returned from Rome bringing with me the freshness of the Salesian Family spirit of our Institute. Thank you for accompanying me with your precious prayers and for all your expressions of love and affection during my stay over there. I certainly prayed for you and the entire Educating Community in all the Churches I visited. I bring you the affectionate wishes from our beloved Mother General, all the General Councillors, the new Provincials of the institute and the Sisters of our Province in Rome.

CELEBRATING THE FOUNDATION DAY OF OUR INSTITUTE - 5thAUGUST

The celebration of the foundation day of our Institute which was begun on 5th August, 1872 is the commemoration of the charismatic origins which is deeply manifested by the constant inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the vital intervention of Mother Mary in the life of our Founders. It is the celebration of the Institute's first experience and the intrinsic prophetic dynamism of the charism that directs our life choices today. On this day we are invited to recall with profound gratitude, the extraordinary confidence of our Founders in God and in Mary Help of Christians; their unfathomable faith filled life in recognizing and fulfilling God's designs; their ardent educative passion enshrined in their heart and made visible in their daring prophetic options in order to respond adequately to the deep expectations of the young people and helping them to '**know and love the Lord.**'

From the time of the origins there reigned in Mornese a climate of serene familiarity and sisterly friendship, joyful simplicity and sincere confidence, mutual trust and spontaneous joy... In short it was the "house of the love of God" where everyone felt loved and cared for. Mother Mazzarello cultivated in herself and in the first FMA a good ability for establishing deep union with God, authentic relationship with one another and an ardent apostolic charity amidst the young. On this memorable day we are invited to return to the origin of our Institute and revive the charismatic identity in us and in the Educating Communities with Don Bosco's '*da mihi animas cetera tolle*' and Mary Domenica Mazzarello's response to '**I entrust them to you.**' As we listen to the ever new requests of God in history, with deep gratitude, let us contemplate the plan God began at Mornese in 1872, and revitalize the charism of our Founders which needs to be incarnated and developed in our Indian context.

CELEBRATING OUR FOUNDER DON BOSCO'S BIRTHDAY - 16thAUGUST

The celebration of the birthday of Don Bosco is the celebration of his pastoral and pedagogical life which is the combination of God's gifts of nature and of grace, the synthesis of his contemplative and pastoral action that cares for the integral well being of every young person especially the poor and needy in the intellectual, moral, social and spiritual sphere. The birthday of our Father and Founder invites us to make his specific way of living and relating, of being and doing, of learning and teaching, of praying and celebrating with the young people in a family-like atmosphere, with the sole aim of making them Good Christians and Honest Citizens.

FEAST OF BL.MARIA TRONCATTI - 25thAUGUST

Blessed Maria Troncatti was born in Brescia - Italy on 16thFebruary 1883. She worked as a nurse during World War I and became part of the missions in Ecuador from 1922 until her death in 1969 on August 25th in a plane crash. She was a zealous missionary who collaborated with the Shuar tribe in the Amazon forest; the natives there fondly called her as "*Mamacita*". She also served in Ecuador as a catechist and nurse. Sr.Troncatti was beatified in Ecuador on 24thNovember 2012 and the cause for her canonization is already in process. Let us pray through the intercession of this ardent missionary that our mission may be fruitful among the young people, women and children.

COMMUNICATIONS

HEARTFELT THANKS

First and foremost, I owe my gratitude to Sr.Stanislaus Mary Dora, the Vice Provincial, who animated and guided the Province in my absence.

I am glad to express my thanks to:

- Sr. Lourdusamy Ugini Fatima and the Community of St. Joseph's Convent - Arni for hosting the VIDES Meet, Media Education for Teachers and the Rajyapuraskar test camp for Guides and Scouts.
- Sr. Stanislaus Mary Dora and the Community of Kodambakkam for hosting the Youth Pastoral /Media/and Mission Ad/Inter Gentes Co-ordinator's meet, Media Education for students, New Economers' Meet, Non - Formal, Youth at risk and Women Coordinators Meet.
- Sr. Mariadoss Amala Mary and the Sisters of Auxilium Home who hosted the Human Rights education for teachers and the Past Pupils meet.
- Sr.Antony Raj Christina and the Community of St. Mary's Convent - Vellore for hosting the Faith formation and Media education for students.
- Sr. Chinnappan Mano Ranjitham and the Community of Mornese - Yercaud for their availability to host the FMA India Social Policy meet.

Thank you sisters for your welcoming attitude and sacrificing spirit to make the day meaningful and fruitful for the participants of the various meetings. Congratulations to all the team members for your creative initiatives and zeal to animate and enlighten the participants.

CONGRATS AND PRAYERS

We rejoice with the Church of Tamil Nadu for we are gifted with another pastor Most Rev. Nazarene Soosai (54) - the New Bishop of Kottar, whose Episcopal ordination took place on the 29th June 2017 at Nagercoil. We congratulate the new Bishop, on behalf of the Province and offer our prayers to him that Christ, our Good Shepherd may guide him with his presence and blessings.

FMA PCI MEET 2017

The FMA PCI 2017 which has the theme of Triennial Evaluation 2018, will be held in Auxilium Convent, Lonavla - Mumbai from 29 - 31st August 2017. I am happy to announce that Sr. Alexandar Amali, the delegate elected by the Province and Sr. Devadoss Margaret, the delegate nominated by the Provincial Council will be participating in the FMA PCI along with me and the two national coordinators Sr. Alphonse Mary J. Isabella, the NDF Coordinator and Sr. Kanickaraj Mary Tamizharasi, the Co-ordinator for Formation. I request your prayers for us so that this event may become a significant moment of encounter with Him for us and for all our Indian Provinces.

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS

Our heartiest congratulations to our 8 aspirants Ayesha, Gracy Marthal, Infanta, Josephine Keerthana, Mary Teresa, Reshma, Sudha Violet and Sorna Rani who have received the Postulants medal on 24th July 2017. They have taken a bold step in their life to deepen their understanding of God's call and to make a decisive choice for Christ in the Salesian way of life. We wish them fruitful experience in their formative journey and assure them our prayers.

JUBILATIONS AND FELICITATIONS

We are overwhelmed with joy to celebrate the goodness and mercy of our Lord in the life of our beloved Diamond Jubilarians Sr. Devasahayam Victoria and Sr. Michael Augustine, and our golden Jubilarians Sr. Gomes Dorothy, Sr. Joseph Rosella, Sr. Panakezhathan Annie, Sr. Pichai Mary Saroja along with Sr. Fernando Juliet INT. The Province level jubilee celebrations will be held on 19th August at Auxilium College - Katpadi. As we come together to felicitate our dear sisters who have committed their life for the service of the Lord and His people, let us pray that their joyful fidelity and personal witness may inspire many young girls to follow Him and savour the beauty of living for Him. *Ad Multos annos!*

MOTHER GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATION

I earnestly urge you dear sisters to take up the recommendations of our Mother General regarding Blessed Sr. Maria Romero, who has been chosen as one of the seven Patrons of the 34th World Youth Day, which will take place at Panama from 22-27 January 2019. She writes in her circular, "Sisters, I ask you to intensify the prayer to the Lord and to Mary Help of Christians through the intercession of Sr. Maria Romero. I believe we must commit ourselves more to this, and not only to ask for favours, but also to thank, to commit ourselves to report the marvels which God works in the life of those who trust in Him". Let us take initiatives to know and make known our dear Blessed also to the people, to the families and to all who approach us in our mission in and outside our ambient.

LAUNCH OF BOSCOREE XIII

The SDB Province of Mumbai has announced that the XIII BOSCOREE will be held from 30th December 2018 to 3rd January 2019 in Nasik. Drawing inspiration from the commandment to love, the theme of the XIII Boscoree is “~~Health-Harmony-Holiness~~”. The SDB Province of Mumbai has provided from 3rd July 2017 all the details and information in the official website <<http://boscoree2018.in>>. Online registrations can be done. I request the Headmistresses to encourage our scouts and guides to prepare well and to participate in this great national event.

BUON VIAGGIO

I am glad to inform you that Sr. Varghese Mary will be leaving for Rome by first week of August, for one year formation course. We wish her an enriching formative experience in the centre.

MISSIONARY ANIMATION AND FORMATION

I wish to communicate to you that Sr. Stanislaus Mary Dora will be attending the Missionary Animation and Formation Meet on the theme “Initial Proclamation and Salesian Mission” from 13 - 20th August 2017 at Ban Than Phraphon -Thailand. It is organized by the Mission ad / inter gentes sector of SDB and FMA Institutes. We wish her a joyful experience of mutual sharing and enrichment of Mission ad / inter gentes.

PROJECT MORNESE

Project Mornese is presented in our Plan of Formation as an opportunity for “nurturing the vocational gift through contact with the sources and a guided encounter with Don Bosco and Maria Mazzarello in the places of their origins” (Rooted in the covenant, p. 70).

I am happy to inform you that Sr. Lourdusamy Ugini Fatima, Sr. Gaspar Celine and Sr. Fernando Metilda are chosen from our Province to participate in the Project Mornese in English from 01st - 29th September 2017 offered by our Institute. We wish them a profound experience of the Salesian spirit at the sources of our Charism.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - AUGUST 2017

05	-	Headmistress' Meet, St. Mary's - Vellore
05 - 06	-	Juniors Recollection and Animation, Kodambakkam
13	-	Provincial Team Meet, Kodambakkam
14	-	Formators' Meet, Manikandam - Tiruchy
16 - 17	-	New Animators' Meet, Kodambakkam
19	-	Diamond and Golden Jubilee, Auxilium College - Katpadi
20	-	Animators' Meet, Sacred Heart Home - Katpadi
25 - 26	-	Media Education for Sisters, Auxilium College - Katpadi
28	-	National Co-ordinators' Meet, Lonavla - Mumbai
29	-	Awareness on Gender Equity - Women Groups, Anmarudai
29 - 31	-	FMA PCI Meet, Lonavla - Mumbai
Sep. 01 - 03	-	Counselling Course for Teachers, Yercaud

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

On behalf of the province we express our heartfelt condolences to:

- ❖ The FMA Provincial of INT at the death of Rev. Sr. Abramo Teresa (88) (fondly known as Sr. Theresina), on 27th June 2017.
- ❖ To the Provincial Rev. Sr. Rose Ezarath and sisters of Kolkata Province at the sudden death of Sr. Teresa Ruben (59) on 4th July 2017.
- ❖ Sr. Rosintha Anandan at the loss of her beloved sister Mrs. Philomena Josephine Mary (66) on 4th July.
- ❖ Sr. Annie Panakezhathan at the loss of her eldest sister-in-law Mrs. Santhamma (75) on 9th July.

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION AND INDEPENDENCE DAY - 15thAUGUST

The dogma of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary defined by Pope Pius XII on 1 November 1950, in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* by exercising papal infallibility says "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory". This doctrine pointed to the Book of Genesis (3:15) as scriptural support for the dogma in terms of Mary's victory over sin and death as also reflected in *1 Corinthians 15:54*: "...then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory". On this special day it is a blessed coincidence that we celebrate the independence day of our country. We proudly commemorate the nation's independence from the British Empire following an Independence Movement noted for non-violent resistance and civil disobedience led by the Indian National Congress. We need to feel proud of being an Indian, loyal and patriotic in order to free our motherland from the current chains of religious fanaticism, violent terrorism, oppressive caste system, and discriminating male chauvinism etc. Let us pray through the intercession of our Blessed Mother assumed into heaven that every citizen of India may be free from the clutches of sin, social and moral evils. Happy Feast to everyone!

Happy Feast!



Yours affectionately,

Sr. Nirmala Lazar

**Sr. Nirmala Lazar, FMA
Provincial**