VIBRATIONS - FMA - CHENNAI

XVII PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

October 2026 | Special Issue



"BLESSED ARE YOU ..."

WITH THE PROPHETIC POWER OF THE CHARISM, MISSIONARIES OF COMMUNION TOGETHER WITH YOUNG PEOPLE



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Together
in Faith, Mission and Hope

ARRIVAL OF THE CHAPTER MEMBERS

The Chapter members arrived enthusiastically and were warmly welcomed and were directed to the registration desk from 3.00 pm followed by refreshing tea and snacks. Sr. Wilson Anitha Arockiam animated the Prayer Service before the session, invoking the Holy Spirit, the principal guide of our Chapter journey. The president of the chapter, Sr. Devadoss Margaret, placed the Holy Bible in front of our Mother Provincial With the lit candles, the council members placed the GC XXV Preparatory Document, FMA Constitutions and Regulations, General Council Working documents, and representative members of the Chapter placed the lighted lamps, signifying Christ's light in a world wounded by indifference, injustice and division and hopelessness.

Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Provincial welcomed the seventy-four-chapter members, thanked the commission members for their hard work and contribution towards the journey and documentation preceding the GC XXV. She exhorted the members to "be the change that you wish to see in the world" quoting Mahatma Gandhi.

Sr. Anthony Raj Christina, PC Moderator presented the Procedures and Regulations of PC 2026 and General Instructions followed by the Rosary in a procession with lit candles around the campus.





Rev.Fr. Thomas Elango, Parish Priest of Fatima Church, Kodambakkam was the main Celebrant of the Eucharistic Celebration. He invited us to be the contributors towards the revival and renewal of the mission of our congregation.

The Superior and Sisters of Sacred Heart Community, Polur animated the Liturgy. The Coordinator Sr. Samala Rayappan Elisa proposed the vote of thanks to the celebrant. The Provincial donned Fr. Thomas Elango, celebrant with a shawl and Sr. Anthony Raj Christina, Moderator offered a gift as a token of gratitude. He greeted Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Mother Provincial and Sr. Anthony Raj Christina, for the fruitful Chapter and donned a shawl and also offered a gift.

During supper, the community of Kodambakkam Welcomed with welcome song and invited the Provincial and the moderator to cut the cake as a symbolic gesture of the beginning of the Provincial Chapter.

During the good night, the Provincial Sr. Devadoss Margaret exhorted the chapter members to move to other centredness and not to have an individualistic outlook. She also added that our breath and life are God's gift, so we need to rely more on God, who is our wealth - "let our hearts be focused, contented and to be generous in our commitment".

Sr Regina Rathinasamy

















"The Beatitudes are Christ's self-portrait- let your daily life be the canvas."

RECOLLECTION AND SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

The journey of the Provincial Chapter of the Salesian Sisters of the Province of St.Thomas the Apostle, Chennai, was begun with a day dedicated to prayer, reflection and discernment on 19 October 2026. The participants of the Chapter had an opportunity to pause, listen to the voice of God, examine their personal and community lives, and reflect on the Province's future direction in light of the Gospel and the Institute's charism.

The day invited the sisters, before moving to discussions and decision-making, to rediscover the deeper purpose of religious life, to journey deeper into oneself, community, the reality of the Province and to respond to the call of GC XXV, to become prophetic witnesses of God's love, especially among the young, the poor and the most vulnerable.

The PC 2026 participants gathered in the Conference hall of the INM Provincial House at 06.30 am for Morning Prayer, animated by Sr. Stanislaus Mary Dora and Sr. Madalaimuthu Lidwin Mary. At 07 am, the Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Stanislaus Swamikannu SDB, with the liturgy animated by Sr. Lourdusamy Ugini Fatima. In his homily, Fr. Stanislaus highlighted the festive chapter atmosphere, calling upon the assembly to shed selfishness and become “rich in the sight of God” rather than hoarding material possessions like the rich fool.

He invited the participants to discern God's dream for each individual and the Province, urging them to root themselves in prayer, build communion and mutual trust, listen to the promptings of the Spirit and to one another, and cast aside anxieties about the future by trusting completely in Divine Providence.



Following the Eucharistic celebration, breakfast was served at 08:00 am. The morning spiritual inputs continued at 09.30 am with Talk I, delivered on the theme “Prophetic Religious Life Today: Six Challenges for Discernment, Renewal and Fidelity”. The talk emphasized that the true measure of the Provincial Chapter lies not in cosmetic structural adjustments or numbers, but in deep discernment and genuine interior transformation. The six core challenges were to look at reality from below through the eyes of the little ones and the vulnerable; rediscovering the unique Salesian charism of Don Bosco, Mother Mazzarello, and St. Maria Troncatti while avoiding genericism and uncritical imitation of other congregations; courageously challenging the world by resisting consumerism, individualism, and power; nurturing families and fostering an authentic vocation culture rooted in joyful witness; discerning subtle secularization in community life and overcoming practical atheism by recognising God as the absolute center of every decision, relationship, and apostolate. After an invigorating session, the participants dispersed for a coffee break at 10:30 am.

At 11.00 am, the assembly entered into quiet contemplation with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, spending personal time in prayer before the Eucharistic Lord until 12.30 pm, when lunch was served.

“Holiness is not an extraordinary feat, but the extraordinary love we put into ordinary days.”

RECOLLECTION AND SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

The afternoon programme resumed at 03.00 pm with Talk II, entitled “Challenges and Prospects in Religious Life: Charismatic Identity”. The conference explored five transitions essential for prophetic renewal: moving from being a mere institutional "social reality" back to a vibrant "charismatic reality" filled with original zeal, availability, and detachment; shifting from divisive societal tendencies such as regionalism, language, power games, and cliques toward genuine intercultural communion and unity in diversity; progressing from ritualistic piety and legalism to authentic spiritual depth rooted in constant discernment; transitioning from mere administrative maintenance of structures to empowering animation and accompaniment of young people; and moving from secrecy and personal autonomy toward total evangelical transparency in matters of time, relationships, and finance.



At the conclusion of the session, Sr. Rajendran Thimena Celine extended heartfelt gratitude to the celebrant and speaker. The community then paused for a tea break at 04.00 pm.

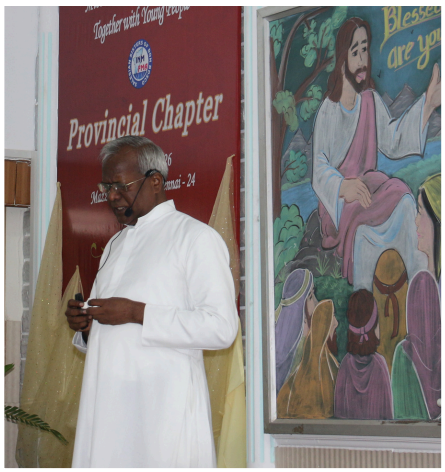


The evening spiritual journey resumed at 04.30 pm with a Penitential Service, which prepared the participants for interior reconciliation. At 05.00 pm, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for solemn Adoration and the Sacrament of Confession. Guided by the retreat reflections inviting members to gaze upon Jesus, welcome everyone without exclusion, examine their hearts for resentment, and yield fruit thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold—the sisters spent time in deep personal examination and conversion. At 07.15 pm, Sr. Sebastian Elizabeth led the community in Evening Prayer, followed by supper at 07.45 pm. The day of prayer concluded at 08.30 pm with an inspiring Good Night thought shared by the Provincial, Sr. Devadoss Margaret, and Night Prayer led by Sr. Peddineeni Mary Philomena, after which the sisters recited their personal Rosary.

Sr. Jayamani & Sr. Martina

“Holiness is not an extraordinary feat, but the extraordinary love we put into ordinary days.”

















"Holiness is not an extraordinary feat, but the extraordinary love we put into ordinary days."

INAUGURATION OF THE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER 2026

Introduction: The XVII Provincial Chapter of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA), Province of St. Thomas the Apostle, was inaugurated with solemnity, joy and gratitude on 20 October 2026 at Mazzarello Convent, Kodambakkam, Chennai. The Inauguration of the 17th Provincial Chapter was a significant moment of grace, reflection, communion and renewal in the life and mission of the Province.

Morning Prayer: Rev. Sr. Annie Pankezhem, Superior of Mannivakkam, Chennai, and Sr. Periyanayagam Auxilia Mary, Superior of Anmarudai, led the morning prayer, accompanied by an entrance procession with the Chapter banner, lights and other symbols. This prayerful beginning is meant to bring down God's abundant blessings on the Chapter and its members.

Solemn Inaugural Eucharistic Celebration: The inaugural celebration was graced by Most Rev. Dr. George Anthonysamy, Archbishop of Madras–Mylapore; Rev. Fr. Lourdhusamy Don Bosco, SDB, Provincial of the INM Province; Rev. Sr. Devadoss , Provincial and President of the Chapter; Rev. Sr. Antony Raj Christina, Vice Provincial and Moderator of the Chapter; former Provincials Rev. Sr. Nirmala Lazer and Sr. Mary Ann; and other distinguished guests and Salesian Family representatives. Sr. Kanikairaj Tamizharasi, Superior of St. Joseph's Convent, Arni, animated the Holy Eucharistic celebration. The solemn introduction highlighted the Beatitudes, brought to life through an enactment by school students, encouraging the members to participate actively in the Chapter. The Prayer of the Faithful included various intentions. After the Bishop's solemn blessing, the participants gathered for a group photo in front of the convent.

A Solemn and Joyful Beginning: The inaugural programme began with a vibrant musical welcome by the band of Fatima Matriculation School, adding colour and enthusiasm to the occasion.

The school Guides presented a dignified Guard of Honour to the distinguished guests. A prayer dance by the students of St. Mary's Girls Higher Secondary School, Vellore, deepened the atmosphere of prayer and recollection. Their graceful presentation helped the assembly turn its hearts towards God and seek the Holy Spirit's guidance for the Chapter's deliberations.

Welcome Address and Felicitation: Rev. Dr. Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Provincial and President of the XVII Provincial Chapter, delivered the Welcome Address. She warmly welcomed the distinguished guests, participants and Salesian Family members, highlighting the fraternity, communion and collaboration that unite the Province in its mission. The distinguished guests and former Provincials were felicitated in appreciation of their leadership, guidance and dedicated service to the Church and the Salesian mission.

Declaration of the Chapter Open: Rev. Dr. Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Provincial, formally declared the XVII Provincial Chapter open. This marked the beginning of a journey of reflection, dialogue, discernment and renewal, inviting participants to listen attentively to the Spirit and discern the Province's path forward together.

Theme Song: The students of Auxilium Academy, Kodambakkam, Chennai, melodiously and colourfully presented the theme song of the XVII Provincial Chapter 2026.

Presentation of the Chapter Theme: The students and teachers of Fatima Matriculation School, Kodambakkam, Chennai, presented the theme of the XVII Provincial Chapter, highlighting the Beatitudes and translating the Chapter theme into concrete choices and actions in community life and mission.

INAUGURATION OF THE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER 2026

Inaugural Address and Messages: Most Rev. Dr. George Anthonysamy, Archbishop of Madras–Mylapore, delivered the Inaugural Address. His message inspired the participants to deepen their commitment to the Church and serve God's people with faith, courage and renewed missionary enthusiasm. Rev. Fr. Lourdhusamy Don Bosco SDB, Provincial of the INM Province, reaffirmed the richness of the Salesian heritage and the importance of collaboration between the Salesian Sisters and Fathers in continuing the mission of St. John Bosco and St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello, particularly among the young. Sr. Gnanam, SMI, Economer General, also enriched the gathering with her message and insights.

Release of Books: The inaugural programme included the release of publications by the Sisters, reflecting the missionary heritage of the Province, spirituality and commitment to ecological responsibility.

Life History of Maria Troncatti in Tamil written by Sr. Joseph Rosella was realeased by Mother Provincial Sr. Devadoss Margaret and the first copy was received by Sr. Stanislaus Dora.

Sr. Weaving Hope with Youth: 16 Years Journey – This book documents the history of the mission and the Sisters' presence in Sri Lanka. It was released by Most Rev. Dr. George Anthonysamy, Archbishop of Madras–Mylapore, and the first copy was received by Sr. Mary Ann, Mother Provincial Sr. Devadoss Margaret honoured Sr. Jacintha Irudayasamy , the author of the book.

Release of Students' Books: The Sisters released the books written by the students, as follows:

1. The Fearless Adventurers by Ms. Amrutha was released by Mother Provincial, and the first copy was received by Mr. Vimalan, Salesian Cooperator.

2. Echoes of Ataraxia by Ms. Azeera Naseer was released by Sr. Mary Ann Fernando, former Provincial, and the first copy was received by Ms. Luvisha, a youth representative from Sri Lanka.

3. Our Integral Ecology, written by students of our schools, was released by Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala, former Mother Provincial.

4. A book compiled by Sr. Isabella was released, and the first copy was received by the staff of ARUWYE.

Mother Provincial Sr. Devadoss Margaret honoured all the young authors for their creativity in compiling the books.

Messages from Distinguished Guests: Sr. Antony Raj Christina and Sr. Josephine Rani shared messages from distinguished Church and Congregational leaders, including Mother General, Sr. Celine Jacob, the Regional Councillor, Rev. Fr. Biju Michael, and the Bishops of Jaffna, Anuradhapura and other dioceses. These messages enriched the Chapter with the wisdom, encouragement and pastoral perspectives of the Church and the wider Salesian Congregation, strengthening the participants' commitment to the mission.

Messages from the Salesian Family and Collaborators: Representatives of the Salesian Family and collaborators shared brief messages about their experiences, hopes and commitment to the common mission. They included Salesian Cooperators, VIDES, past pupils, ADMA, teachers, the Social Ministry, students, youth from Sri Lanka and members of the EC. Their contributions highlighted shared responsibility, active participation and collaboration in advancing the Salesian mission. They reaffirmed the valuable role of young people, educators, past pupils and lay collaborators in building a more inclusive, hope-filled future.

INAUGURATION OF THE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER 2026

Vote of Thanks: Mother Provincial proposed the Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to the distinguished guests, organisers, participants, students, teachers and all who contributed to the Inaugural Ceremony.

Provincial Chapter Anthem: The students of Auxilium Academy, Kodambakkam, Chennai, solemnly sang the Provincial Chapter Anthem, bringing the inaugural ceremony to a fitting close and inspiring participants to continue their discernment with faith, unity and renewed commitment.

1. Presentation of the Report of the Province: Rev. Dr. Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Provincial of the INM Province, presented the Report of the Province, highlighting its journey, achievements, apostolic commitments and areas for growth. The report enabled participants to review the Province's life and mission and recognise God's grace at work in its communities and ministries.

Lunch Break: The Chapter members were asked to return to the hall by 2.00 p.m. after lunch.

2. Presentation of the Financial Report of the Province: Sr. Anna Kunnathu, Provincial Bursar, presented the Financial Report, highlighting transparency, accountability and responsible stewardship in managing the Province's resources. She also underscored the need to use available resources wisely in support of the Congregation's mission and the holistic development of the young

3. Presentation on the Process of Renewal in Our Communities: Sr. Johnson Towle Irine, General Coordinator, presented the Process of Renewal in Our Communities. She invited the Sisters to reflect on personal and community transformation, deepen relationships, strengthen communion and embrace the changes needed to live the Salesian charism with greater fidelity and joy. The presentation encouraged communities to remain open to the Holy Spirit's guidance and renew their commitment to authentic, fraternal and mission-oriented religious life.

Conclusion: The inauguration of the XVII Provincial Chapter was a meaningful moment of prayer, communion, gratitude and renewed missionary commitment for the Province of St. Thomas, the Apostle.

The presence and messages of Church leaders, Salesian Superiors, former Provincials, collaborators and young people enriched the celebration and reaffirmed the Salesian Family's shared responsibility in carrying forward its mission.

As the participants began their journey of reflection and discernment in preparation for the XXV General Chapter, participants were encouraged to listen to the Spirit, strengthen communion and respond courageously to the needs of the young and the challenges of the present time. May this Provincial Chapter bring abundant grace, renewed hope and fruitful commitment, enabling the Province to remain faithful to its charism and passionately dedicated to the education and evangelisation of the young.

Recreation and Good Night Thought: Sr. Gabriel Maria and Sr. Chinanayagam Sheela animated the lively recreation where sisters participated happily in the dance and the games. They were presented with small tokens of appreciation. All of us gathered for the good night thought. Mother Provincial shared her sentiments of gratitude to everyone for their wholehearted cooperation towards the Inauguration of the chapter. She inspired all of us with the thought through a short story of the lighthouse keeper. She reminded us that we are called to do our daily duties quietly and steadily. All of us prayed the night prayer and dispersed.

Sr Switha & Sr Selvarani

















"Let us be of ONE HEART and ONE WILL."

















"Let us be of ONE HEART and ONE WILL."




















Let us be of ONE HEART and ONE WILL."

THE PROPHETIC POWER OF THE CHARISM

The day began in a deeply prayerful atmosphere, as all the sisters of the Chapter gathered to seek God's blessings and guidance for the day's proceedings. Setting the spiritual tone for the day, Sr. Arulanandu Arokia Mary offered a beautiful prayer on how the Founders, St. John Bosco and St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello, embodied the Beatitudes in their way of life and experienced the prophetic power of the Charism.

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Raj Maria Soosai SDB. The liturgy, thoughtfully prepared by Sr. Alexander Amali, highlighted the FMA journey of faith, fidelity, communion, hope, discernment and mission. In his homily, Fr. Raj Maria Soosai SDB, reminded the sisters that being a prophet is both a privilege and a great challenge.

Reflecting on the Beatitudes, he presented eight defining characteristics of an FMA who lives the prophetic power of the Charism: one who lives with conviction in the Charism, possesses inner freedom, embraces a courageous lifestyle, does not seek applause, refrains from manipulating others, does not hunger for recognition, does not become inflated by power, and does not remain attached to a glorified past.





Morning Session: Rediscovering the Prophetic Power of the Charism

The day's programme was beautifully coordinated by Sr. Mariadoss Amala Mary and Sr. Lourdusamy Solomon Kalai. The morning session commenced with a prayer led by Sr. Bathalapalli Irudaya Mary, invoking the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the deliberations ahead.

This was followed by a video presentation of the highlights of the previous day's proceedings. Skilfully prepared by Sr. Dominic Switha and Sr. Rajendran Selvarani.

The keynote address was delivered byMother Provincial, Sr. Devadoss Margaret, on the theme "The Prophetic Power of the Charism – A Beacon That Warns and Guides."

Her enlightening presentation explored four significant dimensions of the prophetic power of the Charism:

·Manifestations of the prophetic Charism in contemporary society.

·Historical examples of the prophetic power of the Charism in the Catholic Church.

·The prophetic power of the Charism in the Indian Catholic Church.

·The prophetic power of the FMA Charism in the world today.

Group Work: Listening, Sharing and Discernment in the Spirit

Following the keynote address, Sr. Anthony Raj Christina, the Moderator of the Chapter, oriented the members for the group work.





The sisters then assembled in their designated groups to reflect on Nucleus 1, focusing on the action plan and proposals for the Province.The methodology of Conversation in the Spirit provided the framework for their reflection, encouraging attentive listening, mutual sharing and collective discernment.

After the coffee break at 11:30 a.m., the secretaries of the respective groups presented their action plans and proposals concerning Question No. 1 to the General Assembly. The Chairpersons, Sr. Yettukuri Alphonsa Maria and Sr. Sebastian Elizabeth, facilitated the sharing, ensuring that every member had an opportunity to express her views and that the responses of all the Chapter members were thoughtfully considered.



Afternoon Session: Reflecting on the Realities of Formation

The afternoon session commenced at 2:30 p.m. with presentations on the current realities of formation in the Province. Sr. Susai Josephine Rani presented the report on Ongoing Formation, while Sr. Chinnappan Gracy Fatima presented the realities of Initial Formation.

These presentations offered the Chapter members an opportunity to examine the strengths, challenges and emerging needs in both areas of formation. Following the tea break, the sisters continued their group study, reflecting on the concerns raised and formulating suggestions to strengthen Initial and Ongoing Formation in the Province. The group discussions encouraged a deeper awareness of the need for continuous renewal, accompaniment and formation that responds effectively to the changing realities of the mission.

The group work was followed by the recitation of the Holy Rosary, led by Sr. Lucy Puliyani, placing the day's deliberations and the future of the Province under the loving protection of Our Blessed Mother.

General Assembly

Sr. Alphonse Mary J. Isabella presented the final report on Nucleus 1. Subsequently, the group secretaries shared their respective points with the General Assembly, opening the floor for further reflection and discussion.

The Chairpersons, Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala and Sr. Gasper Mary Celine, guided and coordinated the entire session, facilitating the exchange of ideas and ensuring a constructive and participatory dialogue.



Evening Prayer and Recreation

As the day drew to a close, the sisters gathered for a meaningful evening prayer service conducted by Sr. Arokiasamy Rackel Mary. The prayer offered an opportunity to reflect on the day's experiences, express gratitude for the entire day's insights received. This was followed by supper.





The recreation programme after supper, conducted by Sr. Gloria Navaneetham and Sr. Issac Angela Mary, brought a refreshing change after a long and enriching day. The lively moments of relaxation and fellowship helped the sisters unwind, rejuvenate and strengthen the bonds of fraternity and joy.

During the Good Night gathering, Sr. Lourdusamy Solomon Kalai presented a brief overview of the ICSE Auxilium Academy. This was followed by Sr. Ambrose Arokia Jayaceli's presentation on Higher Education, which further enriched the sisters' understanding of the Province's educational initiatives. Before concluding the day, the Provincial, Sr. Devadoss Margaret, shared an inspiring thought drawn from the Gospel of the following day. The night prayer was guided by Sr. Emmanuel Carmalin Rialini.

Sr Silviya & Sr Thimena Celine

The day commenced with a fervent prayer animated by Sr Mahimainadhan Sathiyavani followed by The Holy Eucharist Celebrated by Rev. Fr Sahay Vijayan SJ. He gave a meaningful sermon on the first reading and the gospel connected with the theme of the day Missionaries of Communion. He exhorted us to be rooted in love. He also added that Jesus wanted to rekindle the fire, that is the fire of purification. He reflected on the five dimensions on the theme Missionaries of communion and wanted us to be true followers of St.Mary Mazzarello, a woman of simplicity. The liturgy was well prepared and coordinated by Sr Mariadoss Amala Mary. Following the service, Sr Rathinasamy Regina Mary thanked the celebrant.

The chapter members gathered at 09:00 am for the key note address.

Sr.Regina welcomed the gathering, the lay participants, the members of the educating community and Sr.Margaret Devadoss, President of the PC2026.

Sr Maria led the prayer before the session which was truly prayerful and lively as the sisters and the lay participants stood in a circle and invoked the holy spirit in symbolic gestures.

Sr Devadoss Margaret, Provincial, delivered an insightful Keynote Address on Missionaries of Communion: A call to be Artisans of Peace.

Sr Anthony Raj Christina, the PC Moderator, provided clear guidelines and instructions for the day's upcoming group work.

The lay participants were oriented towards a group discussion by Sr.Ambrose Jayaceli and Sr.Jayamani.

Sr Salas Silviya and Sr Rajendran Thimena Celine presented a synthesised overview of the Provincial Chapter 2026 Retrospective.

The morning sessions focused entirely on processing Nucleus - 2 Question Nos. 2.

The groups engaged in an intense study of the presentations using the methodology of Spiritual Conversation to discern responses, plans, and proposals.

General Assembly I was coordinated by the Chairpersons Sr Fernando Mary Ann and Sr K. Mary Tamizharasi, the floor was opened to deliberate on the groups' findings regarding Nucleus-2, Q.no 2. There were fruitful interventions by sisters.

As the lay participants had completed their discussions they were invited to share. Mr. Santhanam, Dr.Scholastica and Mrs.Jyothi presented the discussion reports. A few representatives also gave their suggestions.

The assembly resumed after lunch to review Nucleus - 2 Question 3. Sr.Victoria, Sr.Selvarani and Sr.Sagayamary presented the Academic coordination, Youth Ministry and Administration survey respectively.

After a refreshing tea the chapter members gathered for the Rosary led by Sr Nirmal Rose.

The General Assembly II was Chaired by Sr Lourdusamy Ugini Fatima and Sr De Rose Amala. The sisters enthusiastically participated in the discussion regarding the Youth Pastoral and Administrative realities. Sr Xavier Wency thanked the chairpersons.

The Evening Prayer was animated by Sr Periyanayagam John Martina.After supper, a lively recreation was animated by Sr Mathew Alice and Peddineeni Mary Philomena.

Sr Lazar Maria Nirmala made a brief presentation on the Sri Lankan Mission.Sr.Salvadore Nirmala and Sr.Sheela presented the consolidated report of Q,NO 2 and 3 of nucleus II respectively.

Sr Devadoss Margaret, Provincial gave the good night on the following day’s gospel, the parable of the fig tree exhorting the sisters to trust in God’s mercy. The day was concluded with Night Prayer by Sr Irene Novila.

Sr. Mariammal & Sr. DeRose Amala



MISSIONARIES OF COMMUNION















"Mission is not 'mine' or 'theirs'– it is OURS."

















"Mission is not 'mine' or 'theirs'– it is OURS."

On the sixth day of the Provincial Chapter 2026 we were blessed to celebrate a theme close to our hearts, **"Together with young people."**

The Morning Prayer was animated by Sr.Alexander Lilly Rose, Superior of Columbuthurai, Sri Lanka.
The Holy mass was celebrated by Fr.Theophil Gregory SDB, Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur. The liturgy was animated by Sr.Anandaraj Jaya Santhi, Superior of MIC, Tirupattur. The entrance procession and the prayer of the faithful were centered on being rooted in Christ, faithful to our Salesian Charism, open to the needs of the youth especially the most vulnerable.
During the homily Fr.Theophil Gregory SDB, guided us to renew our missionary passion through Evangelisation and education. He listed the four challenges faced by the youth that are, being away from God's presence, self-induced anesthesia, absence of fear, inability to recognize the presence of Jesus and exhorted us to help them to be attentive to the presence of God, being a furnace of sanctity, focusing on inclusivity and social responsibility.
He exhorted us to follow a new strategy by listening, spending quality time, creating safe space and a platform for social awareness and to be equipped and updated to guide the young. Sr. Anthony Raj Josephine Rani, the superior of Auxilium College, Vellore proposed the vote of thanks. The provincial donned a shawl and the moderator presented a memento to Fr. Theophil Gregory SDB.

It was with great joy that we warmly welcomed the 24 young people who represented the youth of our institutions in the province. The coordinators of the day Sr. Anthony Raj Mary Josephine and Sr. Salas Silviya served as the coordinators of the day. The prayer before the session was animated by Sr. Mahimainathan Sathyavani through a video on Don Bosco with the youth of his times.

The keynote address on the theme, Together with Young People' by Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Provincial, highlighted the FMA networking with the young and the challenges faced in accompanying young people. She advised the youth, to focus on their personal growth and become the next generation of the church and societal elders and leaders.
The PC Moderator Sr. Antony Raj Christina oriented the PC members for the group work regarding responses to Nucleus 3, Question No.4 proposals for the province, and directed the groups to follow the methodology of spiritual conversation followed by the workshop in which the action plan and proposals for the province were discussed.
The Provincial chapter 2026 highlights were presented by Sr. Amala De Rose and Sr.Gabriel Mariammal.
The chair persons Sr.Susai Josephine Rani and Sr.Chinnanayagam Gracy Fatima chaired the General Assembly on Nucleus 3 - Question No.4 on the theme "Together with young people." The sisters participated actively with apt interventions. The sisters voiced out their opinions with passion for the mission among the youth and the General Assembly was concluded by summing up the proposals by the chair persons.
We were joined by the youth after their group discussion guided by Sr. Kanikairaj Tamizharasi. The secretaries of the groups shared the reports of the group discussions. The young people thanked the sisters for the accompaniment and sacrifices for the cause of education and also shared their experiences, their struggles and concerns, hopes and dreams. Sr.Devadoss Margaret, Provincial appreciated the youth and the sisters who shared their advice, concerns and encouragement to the youth.
The FMA contribution to the animation and accompaniment of the Salesian Family and the reality of the province was presented by Sr.Francis Jeyamani. The SDB's perspective of the collaboration, mission with the FMA was presented by Sr. Mariadoss Amala Mary.

The FMA Salesian past pupils' responses was presented by the president of the province past pupils, Ms. Shruthi with detailed survey analysis under ten main headings regarding area needing attention and the positive areas of commendation. The presentation was concluded with the suggestions and recommendations.

Mr.Rithik, Salesian co-operator from the Kodambakkam unit presented the province reality, analysis and interpretation of the responses of the Salesian Cooperators. Major strengths and area requiring further attention was also presented along with suggestions and recommendations. The data analysis and interpretation report 2020-2026 of the ADMA groups from Srilanka was presented by Sr.Alice Mathew. The overall quantitative findings of major spiritual strengths, areas requiring attention, recommendations and the action plan enriched the assembly with the detailed information.

The analysis of the Province reality of the social ministry was presented by Sr.Alphonse Mary Joseph Isabella. The Analysis were grouped under four major areas: Children, youth, women and General social ministry with regard to the services implemented, strengths identified, areas requiring further attention and the recommendations and suggestions.

An analysis and interpretation of the social ministry and safe guarding practices questionnaire responded by 200 teachers and the response of 200 children was presented.

The overall quantitative findings on women with 160 respondents and young at Risk survey by 215 respondents was presented by Sr.Mahimainathan Sathiyavani.

The sisters enjoyed a variety of refreshments laid out for the PC members by the garden. All the chapter members gathered in the groups for the workshop II at 5.30 pm on the reality of the province. The action plan and proposals for the Province was drawn out following the methodology of spiritual conversation.

A candle light rosary in a procession around the campus was animated by Sr.Rayappan Leema Rose. The General Assembly II on the reality of the province on the Salesian family and social ministry was chaired by Sr.Alexander Amali and Sr.Stanislaus Mary Dora. The deliberations were open to the assembly for discussion and for final agreement.

The evening prayer was animated by Sr.Anandan Anna Mary Rosintha.

After supper a lively recreation was conducted by Sr. Pazhayatil Annie and Sr.Sebastian Princy.

A brief presentation was given by Sr.Stanislaus Mary Dora about Avvai nagar, Marialaya Salem and Sr.Alphonse Mary Joseph Isabella presented about ARUWYE.

Sr. Francis Irudhayamary animated the night prayer thanking God for his continuous presence on this day that came to a fruitful end.



Sr Amudha & Sr Mary Sheila

TOGETHER WITH YOUNG PEOPLE















"We save the young people TOGETHER."

TOGETHER WITH YOUNG PEOPLE



















"We save the young people TOGETHER."

MARY, THE WOMAN OF DISCERNMENT

The Chapter Day on 24 October 2026 was celebrated on the inspiring theme "Mary, the Woman of Discernment." The day began with the prayer animated by Sr. Susai Raj Mary Sheila, entrusting the day into the loving hands of the Lord through the maternal hands of Mother Mary, whose commemoration is kept up today. It was followed by the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Doss Kennedy SDB, INT Provincial.

The liturgy was animated by Sr. Anthony Raj Mary Josephine. There was an introduction to the Holy mass inviting the chapter members to become like Mary, to ponder over the word of God, listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and discern the will of God in every walk of life, especially on this day, when a delegate for the General Chapter was to be elected.

During the homily father exhorted every sister to possess an oratorian character as a Daughter of Mary Help of Christians. According to Don Bosco, every oratory should be "a home that welcomes, a church that evangelizes, a school that prepares, educates, and a playground where friends can meet and have fun together". Father insisted that everyone become an oratory themselves instead of confining themselves to a place.

Every sister should be welcoming, carrying God in themselves - becoming moving tabernacles, from whom the young people can learn and with whom they can cherish friendship and fun. Towards the end of the Holy Mass, Sr. Irudayanathan Helen expressed her appreciation and gratitude to the celebrant on behalf of the sisters for his fraternal presence and inspiring homily.

The sisters were gifted with a Mother Mary statue, a Holy Spirit button and the thought "carry Mary home," resolving to live like her, in listening to the Holy Spirit and discerning the will of God.

After breakfast, the Sisters gathered for the Eucharistic Adoration, animated by Sr. Savariappan Irene Novila Rani and Sr. W. Anitha Arockiam, entrusting the Chapter proceedings to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

At 9.15 a.m., Sr. Anthony Raj Christina, PC Moderator, explained the procedure for the election of the delegate to General Chapter XXV and the substitute. The Provincial, President of the Provincial Chapter read out Constitution Articles 139 G, 119 A, B, C and E, Regulation 122 to the chapter members. After which the eligible candidates list (Participants of PC 2026, number 75) was read out to the assembly, followed by the election of the delegate and a substitute. Sr. Anthony Raj Christina was elected as the delegate and Sr. Kanikaraj Tamizharasi as substitute.

Following the coffee break, the Sisters engaged in the review of the proposals and deliberations for the Province, the session was chaired by Sr. Devadoss Margaret, Provincial. The discussions continued after lunch with a review of the proposals for General Chapter XXV. These sessions provided an opportunity to examine the proposals, share insights and reflect on the future direction of the Province in fidelity to the charism and mission of the Institute. At 3.30 p.m., Sr. Anthony Raj Christina, PC Moderator, presented the deliberations of PC 2026.

The presentation offered clarity regarding the decisions and directions emerging from the Provincial Chapter and encouraged the Sisters to embrace them with responsibility, unity and a renewed missionary spirit.

In the evening, a Thanksgiving Prayer Service was animated by Sr. Adaikalam Rekha and Sr. Rajendran Selvarani. The Sisters gathered in a spirit of gratitude, acknowledging God's guidance and blessings throughout the Chapter proceedings.

MARY, THE WOMAN OF DISCERNMENT

The Provincial, Sr. Devadoss Margaret, offered the Good Night message, and the day concluded with the night prayer animated by Sr. Arockiasamy Felix. The Chapter Day was a meaningful experience of communion, shared responsibility and collective discernment. Inspired by Mary, the Woman of Discernment, the Sisters were invited to listen attentively to God's voice, remain open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and move forward with renewed commitment to the mission of the Institute. The day strengthened the sense of belonging, unity and readiness to respond generously to the challenges and hopes of the Province and the wider Institute.

Sr. Irine Towle & Sr Sagayamary















"Love builds bridges where barriers used to stand."

MARY, THE WOMANOFDISCERNMENT







Congratulations!











"Love builds bridges where barriers used to stand."

MARY, THE WOMAN OF DISCERNMENT





















"Love builds bridges where barriers used to stand."

A Thanksgiving Celebration and Renewed Mission

The final day of the Provincial Chapter 2026 was marked by gratitude, prayer, fellowship, and renewed missionary commitment. At 6.15 a.m., the Morning Thanksgiving Prayer was animated by Sr Catherine Viji and Sr Salvadore Nirmala. Based on the Beatitudes, they thanked the Almighty for the innumerable graces received during the Chapter and expressed gratitude to the Provincial, Sr Margaret Devadoss, President of the Chapter; Sr Anthony Raj Christina, the Moderator; the Provincial Councillors, team members, Superiors, and delegates. Emphasising the journey beyond the Chapter, the prayer concluded with a beautiful song on the Beatitudes.

This was followed by the Thanksgiving Eucharist presided over by the Most Rev. Dr Ambrose Pitchaimuthu, Bishop of Vellore, with Fr Sagayaraj Devadoss, SDB, Rector of St. Bede's Community of Schools, Chennai, as concelebrant. The liturgy, animated by the Sisters of Fatima Convent, Kodambakkam, featured symbolic offerings of lamps, the Bible and Constitution, soil and seeds, and the deliberations of PC 2026, presented by the Provincial, Moderator, Superiors, and delegates. The Kumbha Aarathi welcomed the celebrants, while the Prayer of the Faithful expressed gratitude for all who contributed to the Chapter through their dedication and hidden sacrifices. The Maha Aarathi during the Doxology added solemnity to the celebration.

In his homily, Bishop Ambrose Pitchaimuthu reflected on three dimensions of religious vocation: love that protects, love that transforms, and love that welcomes, connecting them with the Chapter theme and the Gospel reading. Drawing inspiration from Don Bosco, who accompanied the young, toiled for them, and gave his life for them, and Mother Mazzarello, who cared for young women with maternal love, he invited the FMA to embrace the missionary openness of the Macedonian model in the Acts of the Apostles.

He emphasised that young people are not merely recipients of our service but active participants, collaborators, and protagonists in the mission. He encouraged the Sisters to listen to God's voice in today's realities and to guide, discern, and strengthen communion through humility, spiritual vitality, and missionary passion.

At the conclusion of the Eucharist, Mother Provincial thanked the celebrants, especially the Bishop of Vellore, and honoured him with a shawl and gifts. Group photographs followed, capturing the unity and fellowship among the Provincial, Moderator, Councillors, Superiors, delegates, laypeople, and Sisters serving in Sri Lanka and the Diocese of Vellore.

A sumptuous breakfast was followed by expressions of gratitude from the organising team, who presented mementos and gifts to the Provincial, Moderator, and Chapter members. Special appreciation was extended to the Sisters of the community and the postulants for their tireless service in the refectory and their assistance especially during meals and other responsibilities throughout the Chapter days. Their generous and often hidden sacrifices were recognised with special gifts as tokens of gratitude.

The Chapter members departed for their respective communities, expressing heartfelt thanks to the Provincial Sr. Margaret Devadoss and Sr Christina, the Superior, and carrying with them a renewed resolve to translate the Chapter's deliberations into concrete action.

Though the Chapter concluded, its mission continues- in lives shaped by the Beatitudes, love that protects and transforms, communion that strengthens, and a missionary passion that makes God's presence visible in the world.

Sr Xavier Wency

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD





















"One Flame, Many Lights. One Mission, Many Hands."

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

















"One Flame, Many Lights. One Mission, Many Hands."

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD







