



Istituto Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice

Salesiane di Don Bosco

S. Thomas Apostle Province - INM
Madras - India

Salesian Sisters, Mazzarello Convent,

2019 - 2020

04.09.2019

MESSAGE FOR THE TEACHERS DAY 2019

September 5, 1888, is the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the first Vice President and the second President of India and the recipient of the highest civilian award 'Bharat Ratna'. He was an outstanding philosopher, scholar, an exemplary teacher, and politician who dedicated his life towards education and shaping up the youth of the country. His contributions to the field of education are exemplary. After his term as President of India, some of his old students and friends asked him to allow them to celebrate his birthday to which he answered, "Instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my proud privilege if 05 September is observed as Teachers' Day." Since then, that is, from the year 1962, his birthday has been celebrated as Teachers' Day.

Dear teachers, standing on the memory of this great educator, the leader of our nation, I wish you all a very happy teacher's day! The Constitution of India envisages a sovereign socialist secular democratic republic and in order to realize this vision the people of India should be able to enjoy justice, equality, liberty and fraternity. These values enshrined in the preamble are nothing but the values of the Kingdom of God, lived and proclaimed by Jesus.

Education in the context of India should enable the students to contribute to building an India as envisioned in the Indian Constitution. If education has to become an effective tool for social transformation the educators have to focus on the outcome and impact of Education rather than the output in the form of excellence in sports and science.

An efficient teacher is one who grooms the visionary leaders with academic excellence. Mould your students as visionary leaders with the qualities of altruism, originality, creativity, spirituality, sensitivity to the poor and the marginalized in the society and commitment to the core values of Indian Constitution, particularly pluralistic democracy.

In view of transforming education as a means for social change, the students are to be assisted to develop a broad, lasting and inclusive vision by organizing sessions on vision formulation. Give special attention to their value-based integral formation by setting yourself as a living model. Provide your students opportunities for exposure to the life situations of the poor, making them to be more sensitive to their suffering and to undertake daring steps to uplift them. They are to be motivated to pay back to society for the opportunities they have got.

As dedicated teachers, take sufficient time to interact with your students and parents. Constantly ask yourself: what am I doing here? Is this what I should be doing? Is there a better way of doing? This questioning will lead you to reinvent education through innovative means for bringing about transformation in the society.

Thank you, dear teachers, for inspiring hope in the young, igniting their imagination, and instilling in your students a love of learning. We will always be thankful to you for all the hard work and efforts you have put in, for educating the young people towards social transformation.

Enjoy Your Day! God Bless you!



Yours affectionately,

Sr. Nirmala Lazar

**Sr. Nirmala Lazar FMA
Provincial**