



**CIR. NO. 59**

**MAY - 2022**

Dearest Sisters,

Viva Gesù!

Greetings of joy to each of us as we recall with gratitude the gratuitous gift of God's call to each one of us on 24 May 2022. God says, "I will betroth you to me forever: I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice in steadfast love and in mercy." (Hosea 2:19)

Don Bosco wanted us to be "a living monument of gratitude to Mary" and Mother Mazzarello, cornerstone of this monument affirms that we are "**true images of Mary.**" We are a living monument of gratitude to Mary insofar as we **reproduce in ourselves her image.** Reflecting on the life of Mary, it is easy for us to realize that Mary may also be defined as a living monument of gratitude, a perennial "thank you" raised to God. We, therefore, must be a living monument of gratitude to her who is a living monument of gratitude to God

**We are not a penitential monument, but one of gratitude.** Even in this, we have a perfect model in Mary, who with her song of the *Magnificat*, has raised a monument of perennial gratitude to God, associating to herself all of redeemed humanity, especially the humble and the poor. As women who remember, let us humbly **enter into our history to discover the great things which the Lord has done for us.** Marvels are not missing from our lives: sometimes we simply forget to marvel at them. Gratitude is the timid and humble wealth of the person who knows she has nothing. Gratitude then blossoms into the joyous announcement of a Gospel experience as such, the good news. **Only thus can we announce the Gospel with our lives and announce it singing, sowing hope.**

The monument of gratitude that Mary raised to God was not made of stone but **life and works.** She who remembers the marvels and who gives thanks naturally seeks to strive diligently to see that they are **prolonged.** The woman of memory, the Virgin of the *Magnificat* is also a helper. To be a living **monument of gratitude consists precisely in involving others above all the young,** to share with us a common memory in singing the song of the *Magnificat* in such a way that the Word of God, His salvific will, is realized in all. It is in this way that we become 'helpers' capable of responding to the deep expectations of the young, like Mary and with Mary.

The **foundation of the monument is sanctity.** Our lady is calling us to sanctity. She wants us to live up to the charity of the **'one body and one soul' in our prayers, community life and the collaboration of our daily work** which is a powerful means of our sanctification. The **monument of gratitude** that we have to build, **will foster** among us in the first place, a **family atmosphere, individual and collective serenity and confidence and trust.** It will

make each of our houses “*the house of God’s love*” as we earnestly desire. **Gratitude is in word, action and amiability.** It *expresses the love of God and neighbour*, generous dedication which is self-sacrificing, and cheerfulness in hope and expectation. It is love according to God, like Our Lady’s and so it is an active love, a source of happiness, of interior and exterior joy and peace.

### **WITHIN THE FAMILY:**

**R.I.P.:** On 23 April 2022, Sr. Arokiasami Philomena, winged her flight to Heaven to join the choirs of angels to sing the unending song of gratitude to God her creator and divine spouse. Sr. Philo’s flight to heaven was indeed a home going that was so silent and least expected. Except for the past three days, she participated in the online Mass and received Holy Communion and spent some time in the chapel. On 22 April as her food intake was on the decrease, her health began deteriorating. So, Fr. Francis Sagaya Pinto SDB from Mary Help of Christians Shrine – Broadway was called. He blessed and gave her communion. On 23 April 2022, Sisters observed that her pulse was going down and she was breathing hard. Immediately, Dr. Arumugam from Twenty Four Hour Hospital, Broadway was called to assist her. She serenely went to heaven at 11.15 a.m. on 23 April 2022 to receive the reward of a good and faithful servant in the presence of Sr. Fernando Majella the Animator, Sr. Gomez Dorothy one of her past animators of Broadway, and sisters of the community.

Sr. Philomena, born in Pakala on 24 March 1933 was a long, rich and fruitful eighty-nine years of life and sixty - one years as a religious. She grew up in her family with five brothers and four sisters. In this cradle of love and solid values, she grew up to groom herself to be an energetic and passionate young lady able to give herself for the education of others as a teacher for three years – one year in St. Ann’s Convent - Chennai and two years in Tirupattur - Mary Immaculate Convent before she joined our congregation.

She desired to become a nun as an expression of her ardent love for Jesus and zeal for the salvation of souls. She was compassionate towards the poor and the sick. She was fascinated by the beauty of nature and loved to dress with vanity and modernity. She was pious, fond of participating in the Mass, listening to sermons and taking part in processions. In the family, she loved to take part in the pilgrimages, marriages, birthday parties and family get-togethers. She enjoyed her school days, jumped, played, went for excursions etc. When she became a teacher, she exhibited her passion for teaching with artistic skill, and the ability to write beautifully and capture the attention of the students using the demonstrative method.

She joined the Aspirantate on 15 April 1958 and made her first profession on **5 August 1961**. When she was in the Aspirantate, she was frightened to see some aspirants being sent back home. But nothing stopped her from being herself. Sr. Philo always tried to be a coherent person. She was cheerful and happy always. She recalls that she had some struggles in the formation house. In the Novitiate, her Mother’s Mistress tried to mould her in various ways. She always showed herself to be pliable to corrections. The observations given by the formators did not deter her from relating with them. She affirms that Sr. Consiglia Tarricone and Sr. Rita Thomas guided her in following religious life in the Salesian way.

In her tenure of sixty-one years of religious life, Sr. Philomena has rendered her dedicated service in the Province and the then undivided Province of Chennai mostly as a teacher, a headmistress, an assistant of the boarders, an economer, ardent collaborator in parish ministry teaching of catechism, guiding the couples to rectify their marriage, preparation of adults for baptism and other sacraments, a zealous sister visiting the families, refugees, teaching the children in the Evening Study Centres, exponent of culinary art in the kitchen, maintenance

of garden etc. in the communities of Auxilium - Katpadi, Tirupattur - Mary Immaculate, Vellore - St. Mary's, Chennai - Tiruvottiyur, Vyasarpadi, Kingsford, Broadway, Arni, Pallikonda, Guntur - Auxilium, Tiruchirapalli - VadakkuPaganoor, Madurai - Sirudur, Coimbatore and Polur. From 2003 – 2005 she was helping in the kitchen, as an assistant, responsible for visiting the families at Asirvathapuram in Chennai, Broadway. From 2005 onwards till the last day, she continued to be in Chennai - Broadway engaged in prayer ministry.

She was tender-hearted towards the poorest of the poor, attentive to the needs of the sick and the ageing. She cherished with joy her good works done for the refugees of Srilanka camped in Arni. The refugees fondly called her “queen of refugees”. When she was transferred, many refugees wept and beckoned her to come back to work among them. In obedience, she bowed her head to God's will and offered her services with joy and dedication in the spirit of *Da mihi animas*.

Dearest sisters, it is so significant that we pay our last homage to our dear Sr. Philomena on the feast of Divine Mercy. Once Jesus said to St. Faustina: “My child, life on earth is a struggle indeed: a great struggle for my kingdom. But fear not, because you are not alone.” Intercede for us to dearest Sr. Philo, get many young girls to follow Jesus more closely and build His kingdom on earth with passion. Rest in peace in the merciful heart of Jesus.

***NEW SAINTS TO THE CHURCH, AND TAMIL NADU:*** *Devasahayamm Pillai* from Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu, the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by the Vatican on **May 15, 2022**. He took the name ‘Lazarus’ in 1745, was first approved for sainthood in February 2020, is known for "enduring increasing hardships" after embracing Christianity and was killed in 1752. The Tamil Nadu Bishop's Conference - TNBC will organize a National level **Thanksgiving Day** on 5 June 2022, to praise and thank the Lord for the great gift to the Church and to Tamil Nadu. May his holiness spur all of us to increase sanctity in the church.

**Blessed Artémides Zatti**, an Italian, a noted pharmacist, emigrated to Argentina in 1897, became a professed Salesian in 1911, is known for his ardent faith and commitment to the sick. Artémides first worked in a hotel and in a brick factory. After meeting Fr Carlos Cavalli, he decided to join the Salesians of Don Bosco. He recovered from TB after turning to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On 5 March 1903 he became a manager of the pharmacy in the hospital of San José. His routine included morning Mass and meditation as well as a bike ride to the sick. He would visit patients and entertain them with games. After work he read spiritual texts and studied, eventually gaining a nursing diploma. A much-loved person, Artémides became ill and eventually died of cancer on 15 March 1951 in Videma. The miraculour healing of a man with ischemic stroke from Philipines paved way for his canonization. The date of the canonization will be decided by the supreme Pontiff in the course of an ordinary consistory. May the life of Blessed Artémides Zatti increase holiness in Salesian Family.

***SAFEGUARDING MOTHER EARTH:*** On 12 March 2022, responding to one of the priority choices of the XXIV General Chapter, the eleven Institutions of Higher Studies of Asia and Africa participated in an online International Seminar on “The Role of Young People in Safeguarding Mother Earth”, organized by the Auxilium College of Education of Regunathapuram, of the FMA of Blessed Eusebia Palomino Community. A total of 500 people were enrolled in the Seminar, of whom 192 were students, as well as professors and FMA connected through a multimedia platform, and others through YouTube. Sr. Ivone Goulart Lopes, Collaborator of the FMA Institute Youth Ministry Sector

and Referent for the ISS-FMA, and Sr. Regina Mary, member of the ISS-FMA Asia coordination group were present for the meeting. Fr. John Kennedy SJ , Director of JCERT held the conference, inviting young people to be authentic guardians of the Planet Earth. Fr. John gave about twenty young people the space to share their innovative ideas and an action plan to protect the common home, encouraging other students to take care of the Earth. The meeting concluded with gratitude for what had been learned, the commitment to gestures of concrete action, and the certainty that it is important to network with the Salesian Family, Institutions, and other educational bodies to move from words to deeds. Only together can we prepare the future and give hope to the younger generations by taking care of integral and, in particular, socio-political formation, according to the Social Doctrine of the Church. Thanks to Sr. Ayudukayam Arockia Malarjothi and others who organised the event.

**ANNUAL RETREAT III:** Thirty-eight sisters participated in the Third Annual Retreat from 24 April to 01 May 2022 in Wellington preached by Rev. Fr. Albert Johnson SDB, Rector in Kuthenkuly on the theme **Concentrated Salesian! Consecrated life and Mission.** The retreat concluded with Holy Mass in thanksgiving for the gift of our dear Sr. Lourduswamy Philomena who celebrated her Golden Jubilee on 1 May 2022. Dear Sr. Philo, your life of hard work and dedication is a source of inspiration to us. May the Lord be praised for all the good that you have done to the young people in our institute. Joining you we express our gratitude to the Sisters and children of Wellington who redoubled our joy on this day of jubilation through their greetings, songs and dance.

**JUNIORS' RENEWAL PROGRAMME 2022:** Junior Sisters will take part in the Juniors' Renewal Programme at Auxilium Provincial House, Tiruchirappalli, from 13 -21 May 2022. The participants are expected to arrive by twelfth evening. Sessions on Letters of St. Paul, Philosophical Anthropology, Neuro-Linguistic Programme, Salesian Spirituality will be held during these days of enrichment. The recollection and Renewal of vows will take place on 22 and 23 May 2022 respectively.

**EXPRESSIVE ART THERAPY:** Sr. Arulandu Saradha, and Sr. Amalorpavanathan Pramila Ruby took part in the Expressive Art Therapy held at Anugraha from 18 to 21 April 2022. It was an enriching experience for our Sisters for their vocational growth.

**TRANSFERS AND INSTALLATION OF NEW ANIMATORS:** Thank you sisters for accepting the transfers in a spirit of faith and joy. May I request all those who are transferred to handover their responsibilities with a sense of belonging during May. Sisters will move to their new communities between 07 to 09 June 2022. The installation of the animators will take place on **12 June 2022** at Puliadithammam and **13 June 2022** in the remaining communities stated below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>To be installed by</b>
Sr. Rayappan Sampooranam,	Puliadithammam	Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret
Sr. Michael Raj Loyola,	Madurai - Sringerinagar	Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret
Sr. Jeganathan Assumphtha,	Madurai Sirudur	Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret
Sr. Poobalarayen Nirmala	Puthenthurai	Sr. Cruz Antoni Michaela
Sr. Peter Selvarani	Madras – Tiruvottiyur	Sr. Fernando Majella

**HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS:** “You did not choose me, but I chose you and I appointed you to go and bear fruit and that your fruit will last” (John 15:16). Let us magnify the Lord for the gift of vocations to our congregation, the Church and the Society. We

congratulate the following postulants, Novices and Juniors who are going to take an important step in their commitment to the Lord. Congratulations to Arockiasamy Augusta, John Kennady Christin Derina and Sesuraj Jenifer our dear Postulants who will come to Novitiate on 13 May 2022 and will be initiated into religious life on 23 May 2022 in Sacred Heart Novitiate, Manikandam. We acknowledge with gratitude, the formative accompaniment of Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala, Sr. Devadoss Margaret the Animator and the Community in the life of each Postulant and Aspirant in Sacred Heart Home - Vellore, Katpadi. We pray that the formees may assume the identity of the Daughter of Mary Help of Christians and strengthen their sense of belonging to the Institute in the joy of self-giving to God for the Salvation of young people.

**IV ANNUAL RETREAT:** Seven sisters, Postulants, the first and second year novices will be making their annual retreat in Manikandam from 16 to 23 May 2022, preached by Rev. Fr. Joseph Franklin Alphonse from Kavarapettai Don Bosco Anbu Illam .

**RENEWAL OF VOWS:** Let us accompany the following Sisters with our prayers and loving support as they renew their commitment to the Lord on 23 May 2022: Sr. Raja Clarenca Mary, Sr. Pichai Muthu Masilin Mariya, Sr. Anthony Samy Renuga, Sr. Charles Sandal Princy, Sr. Joseph Kulanthai Theresa, Sr. Devadoss S. Soniya, Sr. ParalagarajJeya, Sr. Paralagaraj Sutha, Sr. Antony Samy Reshma, Sr. Saghayaraj Infanta, Sr. Alexander Roselin Preethi, Sr. Amal Raj Rabecca, Sr. Gnanamani M. Mary. We thank all the Animators and communities for accompanying the young Sisters in offering the possibility of valid experiences in living Salesian life.

**FIRST PROFESSION:** Sr. Anthony Dass Arockia Mariyal, Sr. Anthonysamy Dayana Roselin, Sr. Arockiaraj Sawmiya Vinclate, Sr. Immanuel Celcia, Sr. Joseph Santhanaraj Christina Jenifer and Sr. Standly Andrew Mary Margaret of *INM* and Sr. Arockia Dassraja Nirmala, Sr. Arokkiya Raj Ebseeba Lourdemary, Sr. Beniston Susmitha, Sr. Jesu Raja Sheeba, Sr. Tamil Selvan Tensiya and Sr. Victor Maria Kilodiya of *INT* will be making their First Profession on 24 May 2022. His Excellency Savarimuthu Arokiaraj - Bishop of Tiruchirappalli has graciously consented to preside over the First Profession of our sisters at Sacred Heart Novitiate, Tiruchirappalli. We thank Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela the Novice Formator and the community for accompanying our Sisters to decide freely and sincerely to give themselves completely to the Lord and for His Mission.

**FINAL COMMITMENT:** Our hearts magnify the Lord as we join with our dear sisters Raja Clarenca Mary, Pichai Muthu Masilin Mariya as they make their final commitment to the Lord at Adaikala Matha Church, Thanjavur on 25 May 2022 at 5.30 p.m. Most Rev. Anthony Samy Bishop of Kumbakonam will solemnise the Holy Mass.

#### **APPRECIATION AND THANKS:**

- Our heartfelt thanks to Sr. Ignaci Kulandai Theresa and the community for accommodating and paying attention to all the needs of the Sisters during the II annual retreat held from 4 - 11 April 2022, the Provincial council on 11 April and the III Annual Retreat from 24 April to 01 May 2022. Our special thanks also to the community for making all the modifications necessary in M.M.Hall and preparing it for further meetings.
- We are grateful for the PCI Webinar organized by Centenary Renewal Committee in which Sr. Maria Soosai Sahaya Sangita INK, presented Salesian Charism sown and

grown on Indian soil by portraying the life of Sr. Periera Nancy for the Sisters of INM,INK,INT and INB on 30 April 2022, from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.

- A special thanks to our dear Sr. Diaz Francis Immaculate and team for the much appreciated initiative of presenting a brief profile of the nine Superiors General of our Institute. May it help us to live our vocation with greater Radicality for a more generative life of Christ with Mary in this 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Institute and 100 years of FMA presence in India.

### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS - May 2022**

- 01 - Golden Jubilee
- 03 - Province Coordinators of Mission ad/inter gentes online Meet  
(Africa, Asia and Australia)  
Webex meet for the Province Secretaries
- 09 - World online Meet for Novices
- 19 - Province coordinators of Social Communication online meet  
(PCI, CIO AND SPR)
- 22 - Recollection for the Junior Sisters
- 16 - 23 - Annual Retreat IV
- 23 - Renewal of Vows  
Initiation of the Novices
- 24 - First Profession
- 25 - Final Commitment

### **LET'S CELEBRATE - May 2022**

- 03 - Ss. Philip and James, Apostles - Feast
- 06 - S. Dominic Savio
- 08 - Prayer for Vocations/ Good Shepherd Sunday
- 09 - Birthday of St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello
- 13 - Our Lady of Fatima  
S.Maria Domenica Mazzarello
- 14 - S. Matthias, Apostle – Feast
- 24 - Mary Help of Christians
- 29 - The Ascension of the Lord - Solemnity
- 31 - The visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Feast

### **OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS**

† To Sr. Kurinngal Alphonsa and sisters of ING at the passing away of **Sr. Luisa Pinto** (87) on 13 April 2022 at St. Mary's Maligaon, Guwahati.

† To the Provincial and confreres of INH at the demise of **Fr. Thattil Chacko** (80) who passed away on 19 April 2022 who passed away in Vijay Marie Hospital, Hyderabad.

† To the Provincial and confreres of INB, at the passing away of **Bro. Anthony D'Souza** (61) on 27 April 2022 in the province infirmary of Andheri Mumbai.

As we pray for repose of the departed souls, we offer our hearty condolences and assurance of prayers for all those who suffer the loss of their dear ones.

**As per Regulations art 38, after the feast of St. Maria Mazzarello, we are invited to offer one Mass for all the Sisters' parents and relatives.**

Being aware of the Mary's powerful presence in our houses of which St. John Bosco affirmed " I want to tell you that our Lady is really here, among you. Our Lady walks in this house and covers it with Her mantle" Let us listen to her soft whisperings in our heart – "Do whatever He tells you". Let us entrust the entire human race through the hands of Mary to Jesus, interceding her to cover her children under her mantle and bless the world with peace and harmony. Wish you a very fervent month of Mary.

Yours affectionately

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sr. Margaret A".

Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret  
Provincial.

## PROVINCIAL ITINERARY - MAY 2022

01.05.2022	Golden Jubilee of Sr. Lourduswamy Philomena	Wellington
02.05.2022	Journey	-
04.05.2022	Provincial Visit	Divyadhanam Auxilium P. House
05.05.2022	Journey	
06.05.2022	Provincial Visit	TVT
7-8.05.2022	Provincial Visit	F.X. Broadway
09.05.2022	Cluster Community Meet	F.X. Broadway
10.05.2022	Provincial Visit	G.T.Marialaya
11-12.05.'22	Provincial Visit	Pothur
13.05.2022	Journey	-
13-21.5.'22	Renewal Programme	Manikandam
22.05.2022	Recollection for Juniors	Manikandam
16-23.5.'22	Annual Retreat IV	Manikandam
23.05.2022	Renewal of Vows	Manikandam
24.05.'22	First Profession	Manikandam
25.05.'22	Final Commitment	Thanjavur



*“Your Institute  
is to be  
a living monument  
Of gratitude to Mary  
Help of Christians.”*

*- Don Bosco*