

Cir. No. 41

NOVEMBER 2020

Dearest Sisters,

A COMMITTED COMMUNITY OF BROTHERS AND SISTERS

In his message for the fourth World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis writes that ‘keeping our gaze fixed on the poor is difficult’, but that it is ‘more necessary than ever if we are to give proper direction to our personal life and the life of society.’ He draws on the Book of Sirach as a guide for reflection and action following the pandemic. ‘Now is a good time to recover the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world’. ‘Until we revive our sense of responsibility for our neighbour and every person, grave economic, financial and political crises will continue.’

In this context, we live among many young people and laity who expect from us a light of hope, support in faith, encouragement to believe in the future, an offering of prayer and of sharing the meaning of life. In the early months of 2020, Pope Francis frequently reflected on the Coronavirus pandemic as it took hold of the human family. Based on this, there are eight texts, which could be read together as a single development of his thought and as a rich message to humanity. This collection has **two objectives**. The first is to suggest **direction, keys and guidelines** for rebuilding a better world that might be born from this crisis of humanity. The second objective is, in the midst of so much suffering and bewilderment, **to sow hope**.

Saint Faustina, after meeting Jesus, wrote: “In a soul that is suffering we should see Jesus on the cross, not a parasite and a burden. Lord you give us the chance to practice deeds of mercy, and we practice making judgements” (*Diary*, 6 September 1937). Yet she complained one day to Jesus that, in being merciful, one is thought to be naive. She said, “Lord, they often abuse my goodness.” And Jesus replied: “Never mind, don’t let it bother you, just be merciful to everyone always.” (*Diary*, 24 December 1937). To every - one: let us not think only of our interests, our vested interests. Let us welcome this time of trial as an opportunity to prepare for our collective future, a future for all without discarding anyone. Because **without an all-embracing vision, there will be no future for anyone** says our Holy Father Pope Francis.

If we have learned anything in all this time, it is that no one saves himself. Borders fall, the walls collapse and all fundamentalist discourse dissolve before an almost imperceptible presence that manifests the fragility of which we are made. It is the breath of the Spirit that opens horizons, awakens creativity and renews us in fraternity to say **I am present** (or *Here I am*) before the enormous and imperative task that awaits us. **It is a matter of urgency to discern and find the pulse of the Spirit to give impetus, together with others, to dynamics that can witness and channel the new life that the Lord wants to generate at this concrete moment in history**. This is the favourable time of the Lord, who is asking us not to conform or content ourselves, let alone justify ourselves with substitutive or palliative logic, which prevents us from sustaining the impact and serious consequences of what we are living. This

is the right time to find the courage for a new imagination of the possible, with the realism that only the Gospel can offer us. The Spirit, who does not allow himself to be locked up or manipulated by fleeting or fixed schemes, modalities and structures, invites us **to unite to his movement, which can “make all things new”** (Rev 21:5). In this time we realized that it is important to bring the whole human family together to seek sustainable and integral development.

Every individual action is not an isolated action, for better or for worse. It has consequences for others because everything is interconnected in our common house; and if it is the health authorities who order confinement in the house, it is the people who make it possible, aware of their co-responsibility to curb the pandemic. An emergency like that of Covid-19 is overcome with, above all, the **antibodies of solidarity**. A lesson that will break all the fatalism in which we may have immersed ourselves and this will allow us to feel once again as creators and protagonists of a common history and, thus, to respond together to so many evils that afflict millions of people around the world. We cannot afford to write present and future history by turning our backs on the suffering of so many. It is the Lord who will ask us again: Where is your brother? (Gen 4:9), and in the way we respond, may the soul of our peoples be revealed to us. This is the reservoir of hope, faith and charity in which we have been born, and which, for so long, we have anaesthetized and silenced.

If we act as one people, even in the face of other epidemics that threaten us, **we can make a real impact**. Will we be able to act responsibly in the face of the hunger that so many suffer, knowing that there is food for all? Will we continue to look the other way with a complicit silence in the face of those wars fuelled by desires for domination and power? Will we be willing to change those lifestyles that cause so many to suffer poverty, and promote and find the courage to lead a more austere and human life for a fair sharing of resources? Will we, as a community, take the necessary measures to curb the devastation of the environment or will we continue to ignore the evidence? The globalization of indifference will continue to threaten and tempt us in our journey. May we find within us the necessary antibodies of justice, charity and solidarity. We must not be afraid to live the alternative – the civilization of love. This is a civilization of hope: against anguish and fear, sadness and discouragement, passivity and tiredness. ***The civilization of love is built daily***, uninterruptedly. It requires a committed effort by all. For this reason, ***it requires a committed community of brothers and sisters***.

WITHIN THE FAMILY:

PCI IN PREPARATION FOR GC XXIV: The GC XXIV preparatory meeting was held on 27 October 2020 virtually for twenty - one Sisters comprising of provincials, Delegates and Substitutes of the General Chapter from 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. The highlights of discussion were based on the communications from Sr. Cazzuola Chiara the GC Moderator, shared responsibility for the liturgy and other moments of animations, the modality of study of the Documents: Fratelli Tutti, Weekly Catechesis of Pope Francis on “Heal the World”, The reality of India in the light of COVID 19 and FCRA. There was a sharing on PCI - ISS FMA Asia Networking, PCI Finance Committee Meeting, communication from Mumbai Province, Centenary Celebration in India, Celebrating Memories 2020, PCI seminar on Salesian Pedagogy, PCI preparation for the centenary celebration, INS & ING preparation for the FMA centenary celebration.

In response to the documents to be studied for the General Chapter, the Province will animate two webinar Meetings on Weekly Catechesis of Pope Francis on “**Heal the World**” by Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani on **16 - 18 November 2020** and on **Tutti Fratelli** by Fr. Rufus S.J on **23 to 24 November 2020** from **06.30 to 07.45 p.m.** May these meetings help us to respond to the current situations in a charismatic way.

PCI WEBINAR ON SALESIAN PEDAGOGY: Thanks to INC and INK who animated four days webinar on Salesian Pedagogy from 4 - 7 November 2020 in view of the FMA INDIA Centenary Celebration 2019-2022. Twelve communities from seven Provinces took part in the meeting. Our sincere appreciation to Sr. Celine Jacob – Provincial of INK, Sr. Rose Ezarath Provincial of INC for the introductory talks. Our thankfulness extends to Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil – the Visiting Councillor, Sr. Elizabeth George – Provincial of INS, Sr. Dora Thomas - PCI Vice president, Sr. Runita Borja-General Councillor YP for sharing their words of wisdom. Our sincere thanks to Sr. Mummadi Nirmala - INK Bangalore, Sr. Sahaya Sangitha Rani - INK, Perumpettikunnel Lily – INC and Sr. Potteparambil Stella - INC who shared with PCI their insights on Preventive System practised by St. John Bosco, St. Mary Mazzarello, Bl. Michel Rua and Mother Ersilia Canta. May these Seminars enable us to sow hope in the hearts of young people as we practice Salesian Pedagogy in Don Bosco and MM way.

SECOND-YEAR PREPARATION FOR THE CENTENARY OF FMA PRESENCE IN INDIA:

With a grateful heart, we have started a three-year preparation for the Centenary of FMA's presence in India to mark the arrival of the six Pioneer Missionaries on 22 November 1922 in Tanjore. *The principal theme of the centenary is 'With Mary through the Course of the Century (1922-2022) and Beyond'.* On 22 November we enter into the II year preparation with the theme - *Accept the mandate: "I entrust them to you."* Reviving the Family Spirit and strengthening Community Communion.

The first Community of Sisters who came to India as the pioneers weaved a beautiful fabric of a loving family centred around Christ, reflecting His values which in turn evangelized and educated one another and the surrounding. Today we are called to review the past with joy, live the present with love and vision the future for the young with hope. There are many pearls of virtues which we could pick from our pioneers to build our personal, community and mission life.

Sr. Teresa Balestra was the cheering presence of God, who had a great devotion for Our Blessed Lady. She had a constant attitude of humility and bore a delicate charity towards everyone, especially the orphans. Her goodness was such that she never hurt anyone. She worked for Catechist-Teachers and practised a lot of patience in all trying circumstances.

Sr. Catherine Marnetto was a source of joy in the community. She was a qualified accountant, very intelligent and quick at learning languages. As a missionary, she was noted for her spirit of adventure and she could strongly assert, "This is my land and I love it ". She could harmoniously fuse the qualities of tenderness and firmness in her relationship with others. In her relationship, she was able to value and respect the opinions of others, sought the co-operation of others and collaborated with others to realize the common vision.

Sr. Maria Angeleri, who was physically fragile, was miraculously healed by our Blessed Mother. She brought healing to the ailing with the help of herbal medication. She was a very active missionary with a great spirit of sacrifice, poverty, and disinterestedness. Nothing was too costing to her generous nature. She was fervent and was noted for her melodious voice.

Sr. Luigiana Appiano embodied the 'Spirit of Mornese and as such became the angel of the Institute, guarding its traditions and rules. She had a very compassionate heart for the sick and suffering. She was very humble and sought forgiveness from others when she erred. She aimed to give the best to God and

the Institute. She was noted for her spirit of mortification, patience, obedience, submission, fidelity to duty and rules.

Sr. Cosiglia Tarricone was always calm and serene. She cherished her moments of prayer in the company of the Eucharistic Lord. She loved to do everything perfectly paying attention to the least details. She corrected her novices and pupils with gentleness and reasoning. She was very optimistic, cheerful, and agile in her movement and work. She contemplated the creator in the beauty of nature.

Mother Teresa Merlo was a woman of faith, a soul of prayer, a devotee of Mary Help of Christians, deeply interested in the growth of the Institute. She worked with great zeal and ardour for the good of souls. She was an ardent missionary. She was able to blend work and prayer harmoniously. She was ardent in taking care of the sick. She expressed her sincere love for Salesians and traditions. She was very grateful and enthusiastic about everything, a good organizer capable of capturing every detail meticulously.

As we scan through the lives of our pioneers, they have left behind trails of sanctity for us to follow. We who share the same dream and vision of our saintly founders, what have we to offer to our posterity today?

ANIMATORS AND ECONOMERS MEET: Thirty-six sisters sharing the responsibility of being the Animators, Economers, Finance Advisory Commission and Provincial Councilors participated in the Animators and Economers Meet held on 12 November 2020 in Auxilium Provincial House, Manikandam. The main aim of the meeting was to discuss the Administrative and Finance Management Guidelines set by the Finance Advisory Commission.

NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: For the Novena of the Immaculate Conception 2020, in view of GCXXIV, the three nuclei of the Working Document encourages us to study and thus contribute to reawakening the Original Freshness of the Vocational of the fruitfulness of the Institute. The practices for the triduum are based on **Vocational Communities** from 29 November to 1 December; **Synodal Communities** from 02 – 04 December: **Missionary and Prophetic Communities** from 5-7 December.

INTERACTIVE ONLINE MEETINGS:

- Thanks to Sr. Rayan M. Auxilia Sophia, Province Past Pupil coordinator who arranged for the Past Pupils Google Meet on 17 October 2020 for the Local Co-ordinators on the theme - “Response of our Founders to the epidemic then and now”.
- Thanks to Sr. Diaz Francis Immaculate, the Youth Pastoral Coordinator of the Province who animated Google Meet on 16 October 2020 for the Local Youth Pastoral Co-ordinators on the theme - **contact with the young people during COVID.**

MEETINGS - NOVEMBER 2020

Date	Meeting	
16 – 18	Heal the World	06.30 – 07. 45 p.m.
	Fratelli Tutti	06.30 - 07.45 p.m.
21	Meeting - ASSIST	ASSIST
22 Nov. & 8 Dec.	Celebrating memories	PCI

LET'S CELEBRATE – NOVEMBER 2020

- 01 All Saints Day
- 02 All Souls Day
- 9 Dedication of the Churches of Peter and Paul
- 13 Blessed Artemedis Zatti
- 15 Blessed Magdalene Morano
- 18 Dedication of the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
- 21 Presentation of our Blessed Virgin Mary
- 22 St. Cecilia / Arrival of our First Missionaries to India
Feast of Christ the King
- 25 Blessed Mamma Margaret
- 29 First Sunday of Advent
- 30 St. Andrew the Apostle

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS

† To Sr. Rose Ezarath and Sisters of the Province of INC over the death of Sr. Matilda Xaxa on 10 October 2020 in St. Anne's Hospital and Research Centre, Ranchi.

† To Sr. Remegius Angel Veda and her family at the loss of her dear mother Mrs. Deva Manohari (82) on 20 October 2020.

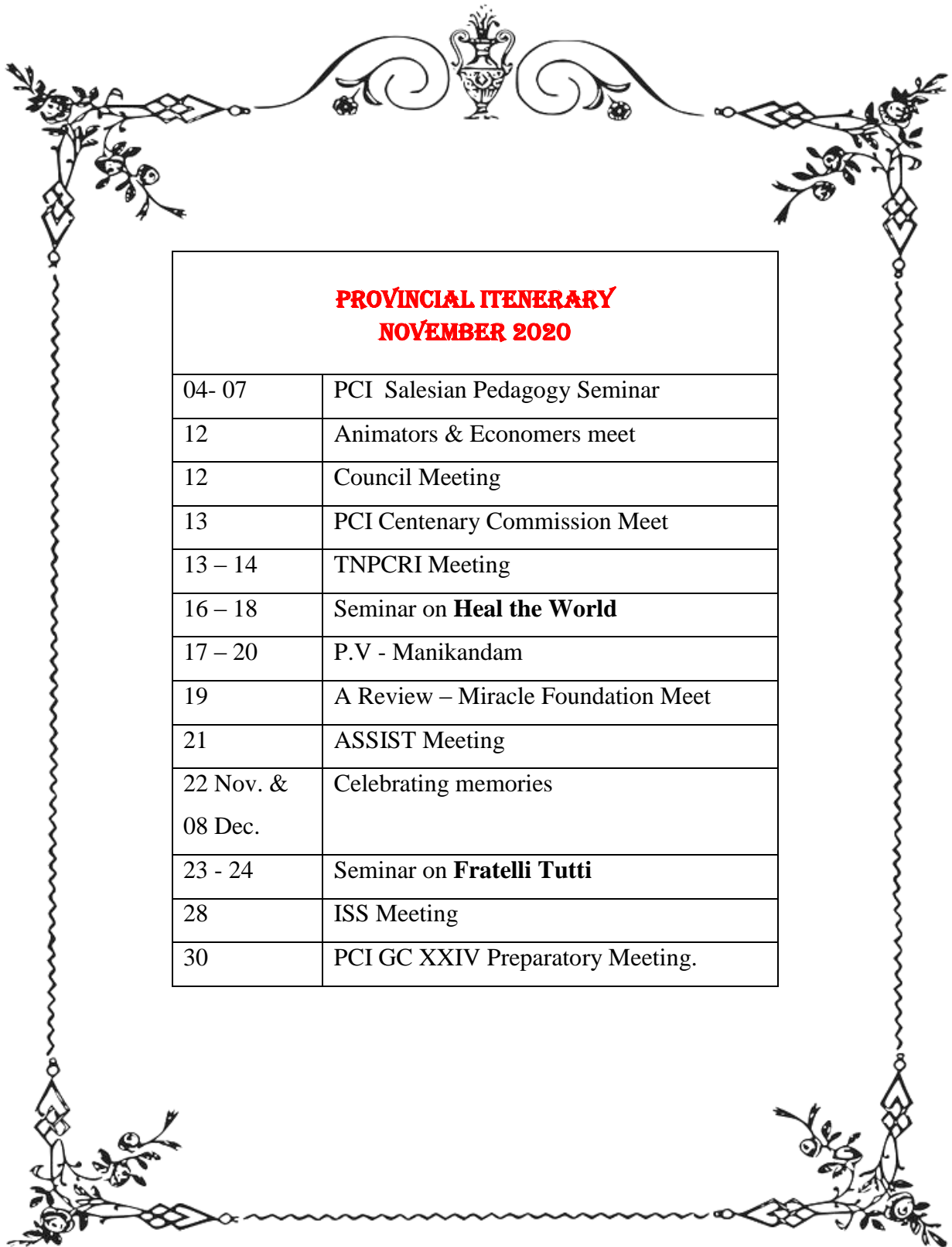
† To Fr. Sarprasadam Agilan and the Province of INT at the demise of Fr. Louis Kulangara SDB (76) on 4 November 2020.

Let us pray for our dear Sr. Viano Nicolina who died on 11 November 2020 in Turin. She was an ardent missionary in the then undivided INM Province. As we pray for the dear departed in this month, let us also gratefully remember our dear Sisters – Abramo Teresa, Fernando Juliet, Muthusamy Rosary, Gonsalves Dorothy, Asirvatham Amalorpavam and Barbon Arokia Jebamani. As we journey towards our Father's Home, it is apt to recall Brendon Burchard who says: "At the end of our lives we will all ask, Did I live? Did I love it? Did I matter?"

Let us remain united in prayer as we pray ardently for all the departed souls.



Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret
Provincial.



PROVINCIAL ITENERARY NOVEMBER 2020	
04- 07	PCI Salesian Pedagogy Seminar
12	Animators & Economers meet
12	Council Meeting
13	PCI Centenary Commission Meet
13 – 14	TNPCRI Meeting
16 – 18	Seminar on Heal the World
17 – 20	P.V - Manikandam
19	A Review – Miracle Foundation Meet
21	ASSIST Meeting
22 Nov. & 08 Dec.	Celebrating memories
23 - 24	Seminar on Fratelli Tutti
28	ISS Meeting
30	PCI GC XXIV Preparatory Meeting.