



Cir. No. 46

APRIL 2021

Dearest Sisters,

Happy Easter to you and all the members of the Educating Community. Easter brings abundance of life, happiness, hope and peace. May our Blessed Mother who treasured all these events in her heart ask the Lord to give us a share in His Resurrection. May He open us to the newness that transforms, to the beautiful surprises of God. May He make us women capable of remembering all that He has done in our own lives and in the history of our world. May we stay blessed throbbing with the freshness of New Life gushing forth from the Risen Jesus through the Paschal Mystery in our lives.

AN ABUNDANT LIFE IN THE RISEN CHRIST

The Paschal Mystery is a core doctrine of the Church, one of the essential beliefs of all Christians. The glossary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church defines Paschal Mystery as Christ's work of redemption accomplished principally by his Passion, Death, Resurrection and glorious Ascension, whereby "dying He destroyed our death, rising He restored our life." The Paschal Mystery is celebrated and made present in the liturgy of the Church, and its saving effects are communicated through the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, which renews the paschal sacrifice of Christ as the sacrifice offered by the Church.

From the beginning of the Tridium until the end of the Easter Season on Pentecost Sunday, we read and reflect on the narrative of Jesus' Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension into heaven. However, the Easter season is not the only time we witness and experience this process of dying to new life. Each of us goes through our own little Paschal Mysteries frequently, constantly, even daily in our own everyday life.

Paschal Mystery in our life is letting go and receiving, dying and living. It is a natural process, one, even the seasons give example of. Summer is a time for trees to be bright green, flowers to be in a beautiful bloom and there is a blanket of vitality covering nature. Then the fall comes, and everything begins to change and slowly starts dying. When the winter comes, the trees and flowers withers and it feels like it may never be warm again. And the spring comes, bringing new life to the trees and plants.

We are immersed in the dying, rising and ascending of Jesus. At every moment of our life, the great Easter mysteries of Christ's Passion, Death And Resurrection are at work. With

Jesus, we are ascending to the Father. This cycle may go on several times each day as both good and bad things happen to us or around us. This pattern is also evident in the longer term. There are challenging and difficult years in our life as well as ones that are more serene and joyful. Indeed, we die, and we rise with Christ. This is the Paschal mystery: this is our life.

We experience trials, difficulties, disappointments, losses, pandemic and even devastation. This is the dying of Christ. This dying, however, leads to new life, and so we rise with Christ. It may take “three days” in the tomb, but if we are faithful, we rise, not just to where we were before, but more alive in Christ Jesus. As the old Adam dies in us, we gradually experience the New Adam, Christ Jesus. The old life that dies is replaced by the fuller life of Christ.

“Unless a grain of wheat falls to earth and dies to itself it remains just a grain of wheat. But if it dies produces abundant fruit.” (Jn 12:24) St. Paul views his suffering as being for the sake of others in the Church. He suffers so that they might have faith and life. Historically the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church and the ink of the creed. The people of God, in the Church have suffered and died so that others might have faith and life. The Paschal Mystery of Christ is a clarion call to each one of us to sacrifice our life for the sake of the flock entrusted to our care and be grateful to all those who through their suffering have nurtured our life in faith.

WITHIN THE FAMILY:

ERECTION OF NEW COMMUNITIES: We are happy to inform you that Our Mother General and her council has confirmed the erection of the following new communities.

- Auxilium Convent, Tuticorin Saveriarpuram in the diocese of Tuticorin under the patronage of St. Francis Xavier will be opened on 31 May 2021.
- Marialaya Shelter Home, Coimbatore, Narasipuram in the diocese of Coimbatore under the patronage of St. Joseph will be opened on 5 June 2021.
- Auxilium Provincial House, Tiruchirapalli, Manikandam under the patronage of Mary Help of Christians will be opened on 12 June 2021.

BEST WISHES AND PRAYERS:

- We rejoice with the church and our congregation as **Sr. Alessandra Smerilli**, from Vasto, Italy is appointed as undersecretary of the Dicastery of Promoting Integral Human Development. Since 2019 she had been a councillor for Vatican city, and since March 2020 coordinator of the Economy Taskforce of the Vatican Commission for Covid 19 established by Pope Francis. May her collaboration with the Church redound to the glory of God.

FMA INDIA HISTORIANS TOWARDS THE CENTENARY: The sixth FMA India Centenary History Team Meeting was held in the Provincial House Auxilium Centre, Bandra, Mumbai from 21 to 26 March 2021. Eight Sisters hailing from seven Provinces took

part in the Meeting. Sr. Philo D'souza INB was the coordinator. Out appreciation and sincere thanks to

Sr. Anthonyswamy Suganthi who is responsible for writing the History of four houses – Thanjavur, Broadway, Tiruvottiyur and Wellington. We extend our gratitude to the Province of Mumbai who hosted the meeting and to Sr. Thomas Rita Dora the Provincial of INB who welcomed and encouraged the Sisters to go ahead in their work with courage and enthusiasm. The participants were very appreciative of this meeting as it enabled them to share the work done, clarify their doubts, visit places of historical importance mentioned in the Chronicles and in the book **The Diamond Years**.

RESOURCE MAPPING: Every grand building was once a map. We rejoice as we have ventured to map the existing and potential resources – human, financial, material, institutional, partnership/network - at the Individual/ Community/ Province level; and formulate a Strategic Plan to align the resources with the upcoming third phase of the Province Apostolic Plan. Resource Mapping was done in the Province with the help of Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi and Miss Thavamani a freelancer. We are grateful to them for the hard work and the effort made to do the Resource Mapping of the Province. We are happy that we have decided upon our immediate, medial and long term plans and became aware of our assets and liabilities and forge ahead with our Educating Communities to face the challenges we encounter in our apostolate with clear and focused vision.

ANIMATORS 2021 – 2024: Our deepest appreciation and prayers to the following Animators as Our dear Mother General Yvonne Reungoat and her Councilors send their letter of approval on 12 March, 2021.

ANIMATORS APPOINTED FOR THE SECOND TERM OF THREE YEARS

Sr. Fernando Majella	Madras, Broadway
Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam	Tiruppur

ANIMATORS TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER COMMUNITY

Sr. Santhana Pushpa Jeya	Tiruchirapalli, Vadakkupaganoor
Sr. Soosaimuthu Arul Mary	Tiruchirapalli, Manikandam
Sr. Antony Swamy Rosy	Tuticorin, Therespuram

NEW ANIMATORS FOR THE FIRST TERM OF THREE YEARS

Sr. Rayappan Selvi Cecily	Coimbatore, Narasipuram
Sr. Micheal Arockia Sujatha Mary	Madras, George Town
Sr. Devaraj Jeya Rani	Tuticorin , M. Saveriarapuram

We pray and invoke God's blessings on all the Animators especially those who are assuming their role as Animators for the course of 2021 – 2024. May our Blessed Mother who is the real superior of the communities lead and guide you in your mission.

POSTULANTS: Eleven of our Postulants will go home on 5 April 2021 for ten days holidays. Let us accompany them as they take this important step in their life to enter the Novitiate, with our prayers.

WORLD GRATITUDE DAY: The Feast of Gratitude 2021 will take place in Rome on Sunday 25 April 2021 at the house of Mother Angela Vespa with the theme NETWORKED FOR A CULTURE OF LIFE, inviting us to reflect on the Word of God “ The net was not torn” Jn 21: 1 - 11. Each community is invited to compose a network of gratitude and hope, posting our messages of gratitude to Mother and commitment to a culture of life on a virtual bulletin board. The gesture of solidarity will be used to support some initiatives aimed at strengthening the ISS – FMA network and for the student Sisters. Let us join with our beloved institute to thank the Lord for the precious gift of our Mother General who weaves bonds of communion with care and wisdom.

MEETINGS:

SUBMISSION OF ACCOUNTS: The submission of accounts by the Economers of each community will take place in Auxilium Provincial House Tiruchirapalli. The date for the meeting will be informed at the earliest.

TOWARDS FULLNESS: There will be a two day webinar on “Towards Fullness” for eighty one Sisters in two batches from 18 -19 April 2021 and 22 - 23 April 2021 in Auxilium Provincial House Tiruchirapalli. All the participants are expected to be in the venue on the previous day before 7.00 p.m. for evening prayer. The participants list will be sent to the Communities.

PROVINCE COMMUNITY DAY: We praise and thank God and our Blessed Mother for their unfailing accompaniment in our Province, in the life of each Sister, Educating Community and our Mission as we prepare ourselves from 29 March to 23 April 2021 for the Province Community Day. This year the Province Community Day will be held in Auxilium Provincial House on 24 April 2021 on the theme **Together in joy, promoting a culture of life.** May the celebration of Province Community Day help us to increase our joy and communion in the service of the Lord amidst young people.

LET'S CELEBRATE APRIL 2021

- 01 Holy Thursday
- 02 Good Friday
- 04 Easter
- 11 The feast of Divine Mercy
- 17 Our Lady of the Valley
- 25 St. Mark the Evangelist
- 26 Our Lady of Good Counsel.

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS:

- To Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala the Provincial and the Sisters of INM who grieve over the death of Sr. Arockianathan Mary Josephine (65) on 9 March 2021.
- To Sr. Rita Dora Thomas the Provincial and the Sisters of INB over the death of Sr. Mary Chacko on 21 March 2021, Zambia.
- To Rev. Fr. K.M Jose the Provincial and confreres of INM over the demise of Fr. Gerard Nellyotukonam SDB on 22 March 2021 in Don Bosco, Wisdom Town, Red Hills.

Let us also continue to pray for the Sisters who lost their dear ones in the month of March. May the Lord grant to the departed souls eternal bliss.

Pope St. John Paul II, at the canonization of St. Faustina on 30 April, 2000 declared the first Sunday after Easter to be celebrated as the Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus revealed to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, “My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.”

As we join with the entire Church and celebrate this significant feast, may the Lord grant us **merciful eyes** to look for what is beautiful in our neighbour’s souls and come to their rescue, **merciful ears** to give heed to our neighbours’ need, **a merciful tongue** with words of comfort and forgiveness for all, **merciful hands** to take upon ourselves the more difficult and toilsome tasks, **merciful feet** to go in haste to assist our neighbour, **a merciful heart** to feel the sufferings of our neighbour. Let us also pray that we be blessed with very good leaders for our state as the elections are going to be held on 6 April 2021.

Yours affectionately,



Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret
Provincial.



HAPPY EASTER

May the presence of

THE RISEN CHRIST

Linger in our hearts for ever.