



CIR. NO. 55

JANUARY - 2022

Dearest Sisters,

We are happy to greet each one of you and your dear family members, friends and the members of the entire educating community a very Happy and grace-filled New Year 2022, and the feast of St. John Bosco. Let us make our own, the words of Peggy Toney Horton who said: “Each New Year, we have before us a brand new book containing 365 blank pages. Let us fill them with all the forgotten things from last year – the words we forgot to say, the love we forgot to show, and the charity we forgot to offer.” Let us begin the new year in the company of Mary our Mother celebrating her tender motherhood as

“Mary kept all these things reflecting on them in her heart” Luke 2:19

Mary’s yes to God initiated something new into our broken world. ‘Mother of God’ means that Jesus is God and Mary is His mother. She taught him to pray and how to act as an Israelite. The Incarnation is the fundamental belief that God accepted human nature by choosing to be born into this world including being mothered by Mary. God penetrates the entirety of the human condition, including our experiences of birth, suffering and death. God became a human being in a particular family and culture. He became a human being through the consent of a particular mother living in a particular culture prepared by God. The people of Israel are chosen by God to prepare themselves and us for God’s self-revelation in Christ Jesus. Mary as the Mother of God tells us that Jesus Christ is God and human. Jesus, fully human and fully divine, entered our history through his Mother. We are saved by Christ’s death on the cross as much as we are saved by his Incarnation. God has, in Christ, accepted human nature and lived a real human life.

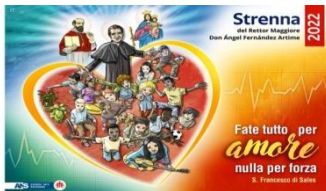
Mary is the Mother of God’s Children. As in the order of nature, a child must have a father and a mother, so likewise in the order of Grace, a true child of the church must have God for her/his Father and Mary for her/his Mother. Mary who bore Jesus in her womb, also molds us into His image. St. Augustine calls “Mary the *living mold of God* and that indeed she is, for it was in her alone that God was made a true man without losing any feature of the Godhead, and it is also in her alone that *man can be truly formed into God*, in so far as that is possible for human nature, by the grace of Jesus Christ. A sculptor has two ways of making a lifelike statue or figure: He may carve the figure out of some hard, shapeless material, using for this purpose his professional skill and knowledge, his strength and the necessary instruments, or he may cast it in a mold. The first manner is long and difficult and subject to many mishaps: a single blow of the hammer or the chisel, awkwardly given, may spoil the whole work. The second is short, easy and smooth: it requires but little work and slight expense, provided the mold be perfect and made to reproduce the figure exactly: provided, moreover, the material used to offer no resistance to the hand of the artist”

Mary is the great mold of God, made by the Holy Spirit to form a true God-man by the hypostatic Union and to form also a man-God by grace. In that mold none of the features of

the Godhead is wanting. Whoever is cast in it, and allows herself/himself to be molded, receives all the features of Jesus Christ, true God. The work is done gently, in a manner proportioned to human weakness without much pain or labour, in a sure manner, free from all illusion, for where Mary is, the devil has never had and never will have access: It is done in a holy and spotless manner, without a shadow of the least stain of sin.

WITHIN THE FAMILY:

STRENNA 2022: The strenna of the Rector Major Fr. Angel Fernandez Arttime highlights the theme - “Do everything through love, nothing through constraint for the 400th anniversary of the



death of Saint Francis de Sales. Augustin de la Torre is the author of the poster. It motivates the Salesian Family to act in the style of Don Bosco and with the typical trait of the loving-kindness of the Saint of Geneva. **Don Bosco** With a loving gaze and with open arms is placed at the point of convergence of the two hemicycles of the heart to depict the virtue of hospitality. Young people

hailing from different cultures, age groups, physical and social conditions are important to Don Bosco and they are invited to put their heart into every activity. **St. Francis di Sales and Mary Help of Christians**, co-patrons of the Salesian Society, are behind Don Bosco, to recall the origins and roots of the Congregation and of the Salesian Family. There are **numerous references to the Salesian tradition** included in the poster: from the roses with thorns of Don Bosco’s famous dream to the chestnuts of one of the most famous miracles of the Saint of Youth; from the ‘grey’ dog to the logos of the Salesians and of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians; from the Salesian cross to the Project of Apostolic Life of the Salesian Cooperators. The work of the Spanish artist wants to remind all members of the Salesian Family to put our hearts into every service rendered to young people.

UNO THEME 2022: The General Assembly of United Nations has declared 2022 as the International Year of Glass, International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development and International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture.

55TH WORLD PEACE DAY: The world day of Peace to be celebrated on 1 January bears the title - “Education, work and dialogue. Pope Francis reinforces that all can work together to build a more peaceful world, starting from the hearts of individuals and relationships in the family, then within society and with the environment, and all the way up to relationships between peoples and nations. There are three paths to building lasting peace. First dialogue between generations as the basis for the realization of shared projects. Second, education as a factor of freedom, responsibility and development. Finally, labour as a means for the full realization of human dignity. These are three indispensable elements for “making possible the creation of a social covenant”, without which every project of peace turns out to be insubstantial. In a world still gripped by the pandemic that has created untold problems, “some people attempt to flee from reality, taking refuge in their own little world: others react to it with destructive violence. Yet between selfish indifference and violent protest, there is always another possible option: that of dialogue. Dialogue between generations.” The opportunity to build paths of peace together cannot ignore education and labour, which are privileged settings and contexts for intergenerational dialogue. Education provides the grammar for dialogue between generations, and in the experience of labour men and women of different generations find themselves able to cooperate and to share expertise, experiences and skills in view of the common good. Pope Francis hopes that investment in education will also be accompanied by greater efforts to promote the culture of care, which, in the face of social divisions and unresponsive institutions, could become a common language working to break down barriers and build bridges.

CONGRATULATION:

- To Fr. Thomas Santiago SDB VI INH Provincial Elect. We assure him of our prayers.
- To the management, staff and students of Auxilium College of Arts and Science for securing 28 ranks in Under Graduation and 14 ranks in Post Graduation courses for the year 2021.

OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION:

- To Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala for coordinating the PCI meeting to plan for the centenary celebration of the first arrival of the pioneers to India, and the agenda for the forthcoming PCI Meeting in Auxilium Provincial House. Thanks to all the PCI National Coordinators who presented the report of the year.
- To Sr. Ambrose Little Flower for animating the online meeting tracing out the salient features in writing the Chronicles of the house to all the compilers and animators of all the communities on 9 December 2021.
- To Fr. Jeyan Joseph SDB for coordinating an online meeting for all the SDB and FMA of INT Province with the help of Fr. Gilbert Choondal on Synodality on 13 December 2021.
- To Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michael and team for organizing an online meeting for all the sisters in the Province on Docibilitas on 14 December 2021.
- To Sr. Medabalimi Josephine and the community for making all the arrangements for the Provincial council held from 17 to 18 December 2021.
- To Sr. Susaimuthu Arul Mary and Community for meticulously making all the arrangements for the first Annual retreat in Auxilium Provincial House from 26 December, 2021 to 2 January 2022 for forty sisters. Thanks also to Fr. Gnanapragasam CSC who animated the retreat on the theme of **Religious Journey of Consecrated Life**.

LET'S CELEBRATE - JANUARY 2022

- 01 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God - Solemnity
- 02 - The Epiphany of the Lord - Solemnity
- 09 - The Baptism of the Lord - Feast
- 15 - Blessed Louis Variara, priest
- 22 - Blessed Laura Vicuna, Youth
- 24 - St. Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church, Titular and Patron of the Society of St. Francis de Sales
- 25 - The conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle – Feast
- 26 - Republic Day
- 30 - Blessed Bronislao markiewiez, priest and Founder of the Congregations of Saint Michael the Archangel

- 31 - St. John Bosco, priest Founder of the Society of St. Francis de Sales, of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians and the Salesian Cooperators.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- 06 Provincial Council and Team online meeting – 06.00 p.m.
07 Online Meeting on Docibilitas for the Animators
17 Online meeting for Province Secretaries (9.30 – 11.30 a.m./ 15.00 – 17.00 p.m.)
22 E.C Meet Madurai – Sirudhur
23 -24 Submission of House accounts – Madurai Sirudhur
31 Jan.- 03 Feb. PCI Meeting - Auxilium Provincial House, Tiruchirapalli.

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCE AND PRAYERS

† To KM Jose the Provincial and the Confreres of INM at the demise of Fr. Xavier Suresh SDB (36) who passed away on 6 December 2021.

† To Sr. Joseph Susai Latha at the passing away of her brother-in-law Mr Siva (41) on 13 December 2021.

† Sr. D'Silva Meenakshi and the Sisters of INB at the loss of Sr. Ruth Miszuitta FMA on 18 December 2021.

† Sr. Viagappan Rasario Jebamani at the demise of her dear elder sister Mrs Annathai (75) on 20 December 2021.

† To Fr. Joseph Pauria and the Confreres of INC at the demise of Fr. Samuel Sudorshan Mondol SDB (49) on 28 December 2021.

As we pray for the repose of the dear departed, let us support and accompany their families with our humble prayers.

The month of January brings to our mind the Unity Octave. The theme of the week of prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 is taken from Mt 2:2 “We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him.” The star that shone in the east, the Middle East, two thousand years ago still calls us to the manger, to where Christ is born. It draws us to where the Spirit of God is alive and active, to the reality of our baptism, and to the transformation of our hearts. This is a call for Churches to work together so that young people can build a future that accords to God’s heart, a future in which all human beings can experience life, peace, justice and love. The new way between the churches is the way of visible unity that we sacrificaiially seek with courage and audacity so that, day after day, “God may be all in all”. (1 Cor 15:28)

As we bid goodbye to 2021, We have a thousand reasons to be happy and thank God and one another for. As the proverb says, “**Let us celebrate endings for they precede new beginnings**” be true in our lives.

Yours affectionately,



Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret
Provincial.