



**Cir. No. 40**

**OCTOBER 2020**

Dearest Sisters,

With great joy, I come to each of you to wish you a fervent month of Our Lady of Rosary and Happy Feast of our patron, St. Theresa of Avila. Enumerating the power of the Holy Rosary, Pope Pius V in his document **Consueverunt Romani Pontifices** states:

***“When you pray the Holy Rosary, you have Our Lady’s hand in your hand.***

***When you pray the Holy Rosary, you have the power of God in your hands”***

One of the fifteen promises of Mary states **“I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.”** So when we pray the Holy Rosary, our Blessed Mother comes instantly to our side with her choirs of angels. She comes with her divine Son Jesus, the Father, and the Holy Spirit to hear our prayer and intercede for the whole world and us.

At the dawn of October, with great joy, we have received the precious gift of our Holy Father in the Encyclical titled **Fratelli Tutti**. Even though we are experiencing a world health emergency, nothing can separate us from the love of Christ (Rom 8:35), and nothing can take away from us the hope and joy that the Gospel and the person of Christ bring. Let us welcome the message of his **new encyclical “Fratelli tutti”**, on Fraternity and Social Friendship. It is once again **inspired** by the words of the Poor Man of Assisi and in perfect continuity with the central message of *Laudato Si’*, in which the Holy Father teaches us the importance of feeling interconnected and in communion with the whole of creation, assuming a vision of integral ecology. This encyclical letter, as the title suggests, will be a prophetic message and an urgent appeal to remember that “God created all human beings equal in rights, duties, and dignity and called them to live together as brothers and sisters among themselves” (FT 5). We welcome this powerful invitation to desire to be part of God’s Dream with great openness and determination. As the Pope himself says, we dream of one humanity, as pilgrims in the same human flesh, as children of this same earth... each with the richness of his faith... each with his voice, all brothers, and sisters (FT 8).

## **FRATELLI TUTTI**

**Fratelli Tutti** is the **third encyclical** of Pope Francis, after *Lumen Fidei* (2013) and *Laudato Si’* (2015). It was **signed on** October 3, 2020, in Assisi, Italy. It is based on the **question about** fraternity and social friendship that have concerned the Pope in recent years. **Themes** put forward in the document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together, which the Pope **signed jointly** with the Grand Imam Ahmad Al. Tayyeb in February 2019. It **proposes** fraternity and social friendship, treats the universal dimension of the doctrine of fraternal love, **aims to** put forth a new vision of fraternity and social friendship, and **encourages us** to dream as a single human family and as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh. In the **background of the Encyclical** is the COVID – 19 pandemic which, pope Francis reveals, “unexpectedly erupted” as “he was writing this letter”. But the

global health emergency has helped demonstrate that “no one can face life in isolation” and that the time has truly come to “dream, then, as a single human family” in which we are “brothers and sisters all.” The encyclical has a general introduction followed by eight chapters. The **title** is an expression of St. Francis of Assisi ( Admonitions,6,1). The saint used the expression to propose a way of life marked by the flavour of the Gospel. Saint Francis invites all men and women to a love that transcends the barriers of geography and distance.

In **Chapter 1- Dark Clouds Over a Closed World**, Pope Francis observes trends in our world that hinder the development of universal fraternity. “**Globalised Society makes us neighbours but it does not make us brothers and sisters.**” The dark clouds over a closed world are observed in the despair and discouragement that are widespread in society, in the polarization that impedes dialogue and living together, persons are easily sacrificed and discarded; there is inequality of rights and new forms of slavery and moral deterioration and the weakening of spiritual values. Today we witness the manipulation of great words, such as Liberty, justice, democracy, and unity. In the face of these challenges, Fratelli Tutti insists that “the road we must travel is that of closeness: it is the culture of encounter. God continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness. Goodness, together with love, justice, and solidarity, has to be realized each day. Hope looks beyond any personal convenience that limits our horizon, and it opens us up to grand ideals.

**II Chapter** titled “**A Stranger on The Road**” is dedicated to the Good Samaritan which emphasizes that in an unhealthy society that turns its back on suffering and that is illiterate in caring for the frail and vulnerable, we are called just like the Good Samaritan to become neighbours to others, overcoming prejudices, personal interests, historic and cultural barriers. We all are co-responsible in creating a society that is able to include, integrate, and lift those who have fallen or are suffering. We are exhorted to recognize Christ in the face of every excluded person.

The principle of the capacity to love according to “a universal dimension” is resumed in the **III Chapter – “Envisaging and Engendering an Open World.”** In this chapter, the pope exhorts us to go outside the self to find a fuller existence in another, makes us tend toward “universal fulfilment”. Promoting the good means promoting values that advance integral Human development by thinking and acting in terms of community, by combating the structural causes of poverty and inequality, by requiring the state to be present and active and to invest in assistance to the vulnerable, by ensuring that no one is excluded, by establishing a real and lasting peace based on a global ethic of solidarity and service.

The **IV chapter “A Heart Open to the Whole World”** enumerates actions that work in favour of Universal Fraternity: welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and all those on the margins, becoming more aware that nowadays either we are all saved together or no one is saved, forging a global juridical, political, and economic order that favours the development of all people in solidarity. “The true worth of the different countries of our world is measured by their ability to think as part of the larger human family. God always gives freely.” We can be open to our neighbours within a family nation by opening our minds and hearts to those who are different. In the universal communion, each human group discovers its beauty. Human beings are limited beings who are nevertheless limitless.

The theme of the **V Chapter** is “**A Better Kind of Politics**”, which represents one of the most valuable forms of charity because it promotes the common good, does not seek merely to gain votes, serves as a channel for personal growth, promotes an economy that favours

productive diversity and business creativity, it is far-sighted and capable of a new, integral, and interdisciplinary dialogue. Fratelli tutti calls for a social and political order whose soul is social charity: Making it possible to advance towards a civilization of love, to which all of us feel called, recognizing all human beings as brothers and sisters, with no one excluded, the charity needs the light of truth, the light of reason and the light of faith. In political activity, every person is sacred and deserves our affection and respect.

From the **VI Chapter, “Dialogue and Friendship in Society”**, further emerges the concept of life as the “art of encounter” with everyone, even with the world’s peripheries and with original peoples, because “each of us can learn something from others.” “No one is useless and no one is expendable.” A pluralist society encourages dialogue: respects the dignity of others in all circumstances, integrates differences, thus guaranteeing a genuine and lasting peace, recognizes other people’s right to be themselves, maintaining an atmosphere of friendliness. The attitudes or actions, which do not help toward dialogue, are any aggression we may manifest, for example on social networks, monologues that do not listen to others, the quick and humiliating discrediting of others.

The value and promotion of peace are reflected in the **VII Chapter, “Paths of Renewed Encounter.”** On the path toward peace, the processes of renewed encounter are very necessary: in true reconciliation, in common projects that do not deny each person’s individuality, in recognizing, protecting, and restoring the dignity of all person, in the option for the poor, the dispossessed and the discarded, in understanding and appreciating the meaning of forgiveness. Jesus never promoted violence or intolerance. The Gospel tells us to forgive “seventy times seven times”. (Mt 18:22) True forgiveness and true reconciliation are achieved in conflict and are resolved through dialogue, abstain from enmities and mutual hatred, facilitate an honest discussion of differences, founded on a desire for justice, do not mean forgetting or impunity, do not fall into the vicious circle of vengeance.

In the **VIII and final chapter**, the Pontiff focuses on “**Religions at the Service of Fraternity in our World**” and emphasizes that only with the awareness that we are all children of God can we live in peace with one another: the different religions contribute significantly to building fraternity, seeking God helps us recognize one another as travelling companions, truly brothers and sisters, the denial of religious freedom and freedom of conscience leaves humanity impoverished. The church is a home with open doors because she is a mother; she builds bridges, she breaks down walls, she sows seeds of reconciliation.

The encyclical reflects, in particular, on the role of the church: she does not “restrict her mission to the private sphere,” it states. While not engaging in politics she does not, however, renounce the political dimension of life itself, attention to the common good, and concern for integral human development, according to evangelical principals.

**WORLD MISSION DAY:** This year World Mission Day is celebrated on 18 October on the theme, “Here am I, send me,” (Isaiah 6:8.) Amid the suffering and challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: ‘Here am I, send me.’ This is the ever-new response to the Lord’s question: ‘Whom shall I send?’” “This invitation from God’s merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis.” “Are we willing to be sent forth at any time or place to witness to our faith in God the merciful Father, to proclaim the Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ, to share the divine life of the Holy Spirit by building up the Church?” “Are we, like Mary, the Mother of Jesus, ready to be completely at the service of God’s will?”

**BEATIFICATION OF CARLO ACUTIS:** Joining with the entire Church, the world of Young people rejoice and celebrate the beatification of the 15-year-old Servant of God Carlo Acutis in Assisi in Italy, on 10 October 2020. Though an Italian, Carlo was born in London in 1991 and moved as a child to Italy. His life plan was always to be close to Jesus. Anna Johnstone, a professional singer and longtime friend of his family says: "**What's struck me most is the exceptional simplicity of his formula for becoming a saint: attending Mass and reciting the rosary daily, confessing weekly and praying before the Blessed Sacrament,**" Before his death from leukaemia in 2006, Acutis was an average teen with an above-average knack for computers. He put that knowledge to use by creating an online database of eucharistic miracles around the world. In his exhortation on young people, "Christus Vivit" ("Christ Lives"), Pope Francis said "Acutis was a role model for young people today who are often tempted by the traps of "self-absorption, isolation and empty pleasure." "Carlo was well-aware that the whole apparatus of communications, advertising and social networking can be used to lull us, to make us addicted to consumerism and buying the latest thing on the market, obsessed with our free time, caught up in negativity, Yet he knew how to use the new communications technology to transmit the Gospel, to communicate values and beauty." The Vatican quoted him as saying: "I am happy to die because I lived my life without wasting even a minute of it on anything displeasing to God." He saw that many young people, wanting to be different, really end up being like everyone else, running after whatever the powerful set before them with the mechanisms of consumerism and distraction. In this way they do not bring forth the gifts the Lord has given them; they do not offer the world those unique personal talents that God has given to each of them. As a result, Carlo said, "everyone is born as an original, but many people end up dying as photocopies". Don't let that happen to you!

#### **WITHIN THE FAMILY:**

**INTENSIVE JUNIORATE:** Joy echoes from the heart of fourteen Juniors who completed their intensive Juniorate in Auxilium Provincial House - Manikandam from 24 July to 24 September 2020. Sentiments of gratitude well up from our hearts to all the resource persons, Sisters and Priests who accompanied them in this their inner journey paving way for their putting on Christ and fruitful mission among the young. As they have once again entered into their communities, may it become fertile soil for their vocational growth and maturity through tender care and accompaniment.

**SEASON OF CREATION 2020:** With the inspiring stimulus from our beloved Holy Father Francis and our centre, we are grateful to God for the Season of Creation 2020 which enabled us to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together with our brothers and sisters in the ecumenical family for the Common Home. The season started on 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ended on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. We appreciate the creative initiatives taken by each community to build the common home.

#### **INTERACTIVE ONLINE MEETINGS:**

##### **ANIMATIONS FROM THE CENTRE:**

**PERSONAL ENCOUNTER:** Thanks to Sr. Nieves Reboso, General Councillor for Formation, Sr. Maria Fisichella and Sr. Anelfreda Miranda her collaborators presented the new Document "Personal Encounter" online on 22 September 2020 to all the Animators and the Provincial Councillors of all the Provinces of India.

**ADMINISTRATION:** All the Administrators and Animators of the nineteen communities participated in the Webinar meet on **Collaborative Platform** animated by Administrative Sector, Rome. Our heartfelt gratitude to Sr. Marie Gannon, the Coordinators of the meeting, from 11 to 12 September 2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 11.a.m.

**MISSION AD/ INTER GENTES:** Our sincere thanks to Sr. Deretti Alaide, the General Councillor for Mission ad/inter gentes and her team in Rome who animated through a video conference to high light our response to the Pandemic COVID 19 and our plans to help the affected people with the assistance of the entire Educating Community on 15 September 2020. Sr. Antony Muthu Lourdhu Mary was happy to participate in the meeting.

**YOUTH PASTORAL MEET:** Sr. Fernando Majella – Councillor for Youth Pastoral and Sr. Diaz Francis Immaculate - the youth Pastoral Coordinator took part in the online meeting on Laudato Si animated by Sr. Borja Runita, the General Councilor for Youth Ministry on 18 September 2020.

**NETWORK AS ISS:** Sr. Amirthasamy Maria Pushpam and Sr. Peter Selvarani Participated in the online meeting on Network as ISS – FMA strengthening our educational mission in pandemic and post-pandemic times was animated by Sr. Ivone Goulart Lopes of Youth Ministry Team, Rome on 28 September 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to form a core group to coordinate the processes of the journey of Institutes of Higher Education in Asia.

**ANIMATIONS BY PCI:** An online Media Co-ordinators Meet was held on the theme “**FMA India making a positive impact among the young through the Media**” from 25 - 26 September 2020. Fifteen of our sisters namely Sr. Joseph Prettencia, Sr. Xavier Jenophia Josephine, Sr. Samson S. Gnana Jennifer, Sr. Antony Rayappan Jothy, Sr. Michael Arokia Sujatha, Sr. Irudayasamy Maria Tamil Selvi, Sr. Soosai Leema Rose, Sr. Antony Muthu Lourdhu Mary, Sr. Arockiam Santhana Mary, Sr. Vedamuthu Santiagu Theresal, Sr. Thomas Sirumani Sathiya, Sr. Amalorpavanathan Premila Ruby, Sr. Sylas Rani Salujah, Sr. Belevendiran Alankara Mary and Sr. Sundaram Bernadette Neha participated in the meeting organized by FMA India Social Communication Sector. Our heartfelt thanks to Sr. Ozhukayil Lucy Rose and Sr. Neves Phyllis - Visiting Councillors from Italy who shared their messages with the participants and to Sr. Braganza Hilda the National Media Coordinator for animating the meeting.

**NDF MEET:** Thanks to Sr. Azarias Arockiamary Selvi, the NDF Coordinator who organized an online orientation programme on E-Commerce on 19 September 2020.

**INTERPROVINCE MEET:** Thanks to Fr. K.M. Jose SDB Provincial of Chennai Province, the chief guest and Mr Devaneyan Director of Thozhamai, the speaker and Fr. Casmir Raj SDB, Director - DBAI, Salem for animating the online meeting on the Impact of the pandemic on young at Risk and the way forward which was arranged by INM and INT YaR Commission on 16 September 2020.

#### **ANIMATIONS WITHIN THE PROVINCE:**

**YOUTH PASTORAL MEET:** Thanks to Mr. Eronimus one of the Educationist from Tiruchirapalli who animated the zoom Meeting on “**How to Enhance the Capacity for Concentration among the Students**” on 11 September 2020. Sixty-five Headmistresses,

Sisters teaching in Schools and lay teaching Staff from all the Schools of the Province benefited through the meeting.

### **MEETINGS - OCTOBER 2020**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Meeting</b>          | <b>Place /online</b> |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 16          | Finance Core Group Meet | Madurai – Sirudur    |
| 24-25       | Provincial Council      | Madurai – Sirudur    |
| 27          | FMA PCI Meet            | Online Meeting       |

### **LET'S CELEBRATE – OCTOBER 2020**

- 01 St. Theresa of Lisieux
- 02 Guardian Angels
- 04 St. Francis of Assisi
- 05 Bl. Albert Marvelli
- 07 Our Lady of the Rosary
- 15 St. Teresa of Avila
- 18 St. Luke the Evangelist
- 22 St. John Paul II
- 24 Bl. Luigi Gunella SDA
- 28 Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles
- 29 Bl. Michael Rua SDB

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

† To Sr. Antony Rayappan Jothy and her family over the sudden death of younger Sister, Mrs. Clemencia Lenin (35) who passed away on 2 September 2020.

† To Sr. Arulandhu Savari Stella and family over the passing away of her dear Sister in law Mrs. Jenni (29) on 8 September 2020.

† To Srs. Antony Rajapushpam and Antony Regina Mary at the demise of their dear nephew Mr. Ravibalan (55) on 14 September 2020.

† To Fr. Joseph Pauria and the Confreres of the Province of Kolkata at the demise of Fr. Mathew Veahambecherry (75) on 30 September 2020.

† To Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela and family over the death of her sister, Mrs. Gnana Selvam on 1 October 2020.

May our prayers for the departed enable them to enjoy the bliss of paradise and the members of the bereaved family be comforted by the Risen Lord.

I greet you with affection for the feast of our Holy Patron St. Teresa of Avila speaking about the community she says: “Make your community holy and God will help it.” When it comes to the work of sanctification in our families and communities, it is possible to place too much importance on the many gifts God gives us. We can even become preoccupied with whether or not we have the financial, physical, or psychological resources we need to do good things for God. St. Teresa of Avila invites us to renounce it. Our concern must be first and foremost the work of our mutual sanctification. Everything else needs to be ordered towards this end or we are likely to be deceived into inaction. May the fragrance of sanctity pervade in every corner of our house and may it become happy abode of an encounter between God and one another.



Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret

Provincial.

**PROVINCIAL ITENERARY  
OCTOBER 2020**

|         |                                            |                    |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 05      | Keela Eral                                 | P.V.               |
| 06 – 07 | Therespuram                                | P.V.               |
| 8-9     | Puthenthurai                               | P.V.               |
| 13      | Dindigul - Marianathapuram                 | P.V.               |
| 14      | Dindigul – Ulagampatti                     | P.V.               |
| 16      | Puthenthurai                               | Official Work      |
| 18 – 19 | Madurai – Sringerinagar                    | P.V.               |
| 20 – 21 | Madurai – Sirudur                          | P.V.               |
| 22      | Online Meet with ASSIST<br>and Communities | Online Meet        |
| 24 - 25 | Madurai – Sirudur                          | Provincial Council |
| 27      | FMA PCI Meet                               | Online Meet        |

