



Istituto Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice
Salesiane di Don Bosco
Our Lady of the Snow Province - INT
Tiruchirappalli - India

Provincial Circular

Auxilium Provincial House, Salesian Sisters,
4/288, Madurai Main Road, Manikandam,
Tiruchirappalli - 620 012



Cir. No. 06

November 2023

My dear Sisters,

Cordial greetings and prayerful wishes from Tiruchirappalli.

I am pleased to share with you the loving and prayerful wishes of our Mother General. I had the joy of meeting her during my annual retreat in Thailand and shared the journey of our Province. The encounter between the Mother and the Provincials was a significant moment and a precious gift for all of us. The availability of our loving Madre, along with the experiences shared by the Provincials and the hospitality of the hosting Province, made us feel extremely happy and immensely grateful to the Lord for the great family Spirit that we share in the Institute.

Dear Sisters, as we begin the month of November, we are called to remember the Saints and the Holy Souls. The Church invites us to pray for all the faithful who have gone before us, in the hope of their eternal reward. It is our bounden duty to pray for the faithful departed, especially for the souls in purgatory, who are most in need of God's divine mercy.

For the formative moment I wish to share with you an important element of our Charism: the Holy Eucharist, the Sacrament of God's loving presence in our midst.

The Eucharist is the Testament of Jesus:

The Institution of the Eucharist cannot be seen as an isolated episode in the life of Jesus. It is in fact a testament that holds great significance. It is the summation of the whole life and the mysteries that Jesus had lived during his short time on earth.

A testament has usually three implications: a) a synthesis of life; a culmination of one's own existence and a realization of a global vision; b) an interpretation of the eminent end giving sense to one's own life and mission, including death; c) a desire to extend the experience of the life lived beyond death, expressed through the gift of a value or word which makes the dying person present among his or her loved ones.

The words and gestures of Jesus at the Last Supper are a recapitulation of His entire life on earth. At the same time, the Last Supper was the interpretation and the anticipation of Jesus' death. Jesus already saw His body offered, His blood poured and contemporarily He declared the sense of His death: "for you." His death was a death for us. And why should He have died for us? It is clear, for love. John, the Evangelist, speaks of Jesus who "loved His own, loved them to the very end." (Jn 13,1). His love for us pushed Him to the point of offering Himself as a sacrificial oblation for our salvation.

Jesus then commanded that this event be perpetuated in history: "Do this in memory of me." By means of this testament, Jesus wanted to live and work in the midst of His people even from beyond the event of His death. In the Old Testament, Abraham left his descendants a divine promise. Isaac, Jacob and the other patriarchs left behind a rich benediction: Moses left his people the promised land already foreseen; David left to Solomon a powerful kingdom; Elijah left to Elisha two-thirds of his spirit. Jesus, in his turn, left us much more – He left us Himself because He wanted to remain with us forever and live for us. He wanted to be *Emmanuel* until the end of time. Our Salesian roots, from the very mind and heart of Don Bosco and of Mother Mazzarello, have left us this precious heredity: the living devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

The Eucharist is indeed the source of our Salesian pastoral charity, our sharing in Christ's heart and spirit, the experience of our union with God, our communion in the Church, the endorsement of the special gift of our predilection for the young, the never dying source of our kindness, friendship, optimism and joy, the fount of our daily commitment to work and temperance, and the defining point of the practical and creative nature of our approach to apostolic work. In simple words, it is the one, absolute motivating force behind the Salesian spirit.

In the life of Don Bosco, the Eucharistic point of view was attractive and stimulating. Here we recall just a few aspects which are well known and serve as a true guide. Christ, who dominated the whole existence of Don Bosco, was by preference, Jesus alive and present in the Eucharist, the master of the house, the bread of life, the gravitational center towards which everything converged. When Don Bosco spoke of God, it was often in terms of Jesus in the Eucharist, true Man and true God, who came down from heaven to save us, who died on the cross for us and who is living still on our altars, in our tabernacles and in our communion of hearts. Nothing could be more easily accessible, and at the same time, more thrilling. To have Jesus in the house in fact, meant that one could go and meet Him whenever one wished, take part in His death and resurrection intimately, have a heart-to-heart conversation with Him, receive Him in Communion and be transformed by His Spirit for the mission.

The life of our Founder, right from his early boyhood, and the history of the first Oratory constituted a hymn of praise to the Eucharistic Lord. The feelings that filled the minds of the better ones among his boys can be deduced from the following profound words of Dominic Savio: "When I pass close to Him (Jesus in the Eucharist), not only would I cast myself in the mud to honour him; I would even throw myself into a furnace so as to share in some way in that infinite fire of love which drove him to institute this great Sacrament".

The wisdom of Mother Mazzarello was nourished by the Eucharist. Everything at Mornese testifies to this: the window of the Valponasca, the parish church, the chapel of the Collegio, the vineyards, the fields – everything had a sense of the Eucharist, as it recalls the memory of a soul that was profoundly Eucharistic. Accepting this essential and distinct aspect of the spirituality of Mother Mazzarello, our Constitutions place the celebration of the Eucharist at "the center of the day". The Eucharist is "the moment in which our community is built up and renewed", the "source and culmination of our prayer" (Constitutions 40).

Mother Mazzarello recommended: "Receive with love that Jesus who loves you so much" (Letter 11); "Act in such a way that Jesus will willingly stay in your midst" (Letter 49). Following the footsteps of Mother Mazzarello, a wise woman, we discover where her wisdom was nourished. That wisdom which is the transparency of the Divine in the fullness of the human has a Eucharistic essence.

The call to us is simple and clear: that we spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Each moment that we spend with Jesus will deepen our union with Him and make our soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in Heaven. It will take us, not only to the eternal peace promised to each one in faith, but will help to bring about everlasting peace here on earth.

❖ ❖❖ **Month's Special!** ❖❖❖ ❖

ALL SAINTS DAY: (November 01) The solemnity of All Saints reminds us that the whole Christian life is about turning from sin and giving ourselves completely to God. This is not an easy process, but God gives us everything we need to succeed. And the reward is, "we shall see [God] as He is." This day we celebrate all the Saints who have gone before us who remind us that we can be part of the communion of saints, known and also unknown, if we allow God to make us pure. Let us go deep into ourselves and see the saintly elements that are present in us and develop them more and more.

ALL SOULS DAY: (November 02) All Souls Day reminds us of the reality that all of us have an appointed time to leave this world. This world is a permanent home to none of us. No doubt, death causes grief and sadness, but without it there cannot be the most desirable and eternal gifts: peace, joy and eternal bliss in God. Therefore, let us pray for our departed family members, our Sisters, especially for those souls who died in unforeseen circumstances such as violence or other calamities, all those who are most in need of our prayers.

SAINT ARTEMIDES ZATTI SDB: (November 13) The Zatti family moved, in the hopes of a better life, from Italy to Argentina, the country Don Bosco had dreamt of. It was there that young Artemide, discovered his Salesian vocation, which he lived in a passionate, competent service and with a great love for the sick. For about fifty years he lived in Viedma, Argentina, as an outstanding religious who devoted his life in helping the sick, specially the poor among them. His life as a follower of Jesus, living his consecration at every moment of his life in perpetual unity with God and in gospel fraternity, touched instantly all whom he met. Artemide, inspite of all his hectic service, never lost the sense of community, for he was always present for daily prayers, moments of fraternal gatherings at table and other occasions for sharing the joy of family. Let his example serve as motivation for us to live more lovingly and enthusiastically our community Communion.

CHILDREN'S DAY: (November 14) We know well that this date that marks the birth anniversary of independent India's first Prime Minister - Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, has been chosen for the celebration of children owing to the love and passion he had for children. While celebrating Children's Day, the children in our Institutions and around us need to be reminded about being grateful for all that they are endowed with in life, while there are others who have barely anything to eat or to clothe themselves, or have access to literacy, or sources of wellbeing in the society. We need to form these children and young people to be grateful for what they have and help them to experience the joy of sharing.

BLESSED MAGDALENE MORANO FMA: (November 15) Magdalene Morano was a person endowed with love, goodness, intelligence, vivacity, and wisdom. She was a "teacher" par excellence. She had a life of profound oneness with God, as a young teacher, visiting the ill, teaching catechism, preparing students for the sacrament, and serving the parish community. Even now, her life serves as a joyous and fervent example of love, encouraging us to educate women and young people about evangelization. May she pray for us, that we might endeavour, as she did, to travel the road of holiness with the young!

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR: (November 19) The Church celebrates the seventh annual World Day of the Poor on 19th November 2023. The message of His Holiness Pope Francis, for the 2023 World Day of the poor is: "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor" (Tob 4:7). These words help us to understand the essence of our witness. The call of every Christian is to become personally involved and particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE PIONEERS: (November 24) We shall celebrate the 101 amazing years of the FMA's presence in India on November 24, 2023. We honour the Six Pioneers who came to Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, for their tireless efforts, diligence, and dedication to till the Indian soil, plant the powerful seed of Salesian charism and spread God's Kingdom. May the Lord continue to bless the Seven Provinces of India in their growth, progress, and prosperity. May He make us holy every day and provide our Provinces many more vocations.

SERVANT OF GOD MARGARET OCCHIENA: (November 25) "Parents are the first educators of children in God's plan," declared Pope Pius XII in 1940. In order to comprehend Don Bosco's journey toward fulfilling his childhood dream of shepherding the abandoned youth, it is important to consider the type of education his own mother had offered him. Her profound spirituality and personal sanctity, her strong faith in God, her brave detachment, and her unwavering love planted in the young John Bosco the idea of priestly commitment, which was soon translated into his passion for Salesian Mission for the Young. The inspiration took Don Bosco well ahead on the path to holiness.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING: (November 26) On the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King. It marks the end of the year, announcing the forthcoming Advent, the opening of another new liturgical year. This feast is a fitting way to end the year and start another, with Advent the season in which we prepare our hearts to more fully understand and accept God's presence among us in the person of Jesus. The feast reminds us that Jesus will come again, will reach out to us at the end of time, to usher in the fullness of God's Reign. On this feast of Christ the King, let us allow Christ to reign in our minds, our wills, our hearts, and our bodies!

✂️...News from the Province! ...✂️

- **TRIMONTHLY RECOLLECTION:**
 - The Trimonthly Recollection for Senior Sisters will be held in the cluster communities on 04 November 2023, on the theme, "Life in the Community (Romans 12: 1-21)".
 - INM and INT Juniors' Trimonthly Recollection and a day of Animation will be held at the Auxilium Provincial House, Tiruchirappalli on November 18 and 19, 2023. The theme will be on the "Spirituality of St. Paul". Sisters are requested to be present by 04.00 p.m. on 17 November 2023.
- **COURSE FOR FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATORS:** Sr. Arulanandu Saradha, Sr. Joseph Susai Latha and Sr. Mariannan Fathima will attend the course for Financial Administrators at Shanti Sadan in Goa from 06 to 11 November 2023.
- **SECOND NOVITIATE - PHASE I:** The First Phase of the Second Novitiate will be held at Holy Child Auxilium Convent, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, from November 15 to December 15, 2023, for the Sisters of the Provinces of INC, INK, INM and INT. From our Province, Sr. Anthony Samy Renuga, Sr. Charles Sandal Princy and Sr. Joseph Kulandai Theresa will be participating in the course. We strengthen them with our prayers in the process of their discernment.
- **INITIAL PROCLAMATION TODAY:** On 22 November 2023, the Mission Ad/Gentes Sector will hold an online meeting about the "Initial Proclamation Today" for the Novices at the PCI level.
- **3rd ICONSPA 2023:** Sr. Antony Rajapushpam, Sr. Diaz Francis Immaculate and Sr. Joseph Pretencia will participate in the **Third International Conference for the Principals and Administrators of Schools (ICONSPA 2023)** at Don Bosco Institute, Joypur, Kharghuli, Guwahati from 21 to 23 November 2023.
- **ANIMATORS' MEET:** The meeting for the Animators of the communities shall be held at St. Francis Xavier's Convent, Broadway, Chennai, on November 25 and 26, 2023. Animators are requested to be at the venue by 04.00 p.m. on 25 November 2023.
- **NDF ANNUAL MEET:** Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi, Sr. Joseph Juli Nirmala and Sr. Xavier Raj Irudhaya Arasi, will be participating in the Social Development Forum Annual Meet in Mumbai, from 28 to 30 November, 2023.

PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS AND THANKS :

- **SEMINAR ON EVANGELIZING MISSION AT THE HEART OF THE SALESIAN CHARISM:** Sr. Robert Santhiya Punitha, the Province Coordinator for Mission Ad/gentes,

attended a seminar organized for the Salesian Family of South Asia Region from 03 to 06 October 2023 at Don Bosco Institute, Guwahati, Assam. Approximately 240 Salesians, FMAs, and members of the Salesian family participated in the seminar, which focused on the theme of “Evangelizing Mission at the Heart of the Salesian Charism”.

- **VIDES GENERAL BODY MEETING:** Sr. Devaraj Jeyarani, the Province VIDES Coordinator, organized the VIDES General Body Meeting on 14 and 15 October 2023, at Puliadithammam. There were 45 participants, animated by Sr. Ayunthukayam Arockia Maralarjothi on theme, “Let justice and Peace flow”.
- **PROMISE DAY AT WELLINGTON:** On October 15, 2023, there were 200 Salesian Cooperators who took part in the Promise Day of the 45 Aspirant Cooperators, from Coimbatore Zone at Don Bosco, Wellington. Among them, 26 Aspirant Cooperators belonged to the FMA Units: 20 from Don Bosco Wellington and 06 from Coimbatore Marialaya, while the others from SDB Units. Special thanks to Sr. Anthonyswamy Rosy, INT Province Councillor for the Salesian Family and Sr. Antony Nirmala Rani, Province Team Coordinator for the Salesian Cooperators, Fr. Ferrington SDB, the Province Councillor for Salesian Family and Fr. John Barnabas, Province Delegate for Salesian Cooperators, who as a team, coordinated and made this event remarkable.
- **YOUTH FEST:** On October 28, 2023 the FMA-INT Province Youth Fest was organized by the Provincial Councillor for Youth Pastoral, Sr. Vedamuthu Savariammal and the Province Youth Pastoral Coordinator, Sr. Jebamani Rosario at Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur. The theme of the Fest was “To create the youthful footprints; to follow the Shepherd’s footsteps!” and it witnessed the participation of over 700 youth from different communities of the province. The event was inaugurated with the hoisting of the Youth Fest flag, and the release of the colourful balloons accompanied by the Fest Anthem. The highlight of the event was the inaugural address by Mother Provincial and the talk by the guest of honour, Mrs. Asha Sherin, who enlightened the youth on how to create lasting imprints in their lifetime by imitating Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The solemn Eucharist was presided over by Rev. Fr. Sahayaraj, the Episcopal Administrator of the Diocese of Thanjavur, concelebrated by 4 other priests. The post-lunch session was filled with cultural programs that included an argument arena, a variety of dances such as retro, western, folk, fusion, and other events such as mime, and so on. It was a great joy to see the youth, exuberantly manifesting their talents, with spending enthusiasm and discrete discipline! The highlight of the day's event was the fashion parade contest of Saintly Styles, and the winner from Ulagampatti was crowned with the title, Ms. Angelic Zoomer 2K23.
- **BIRTH CENTENARY OF REV. FR. PATRICK ISAAC:** On October 30, 2023, We joined the community of Sringeri Nagar, Madurai to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Rev. Fr. Patrick Isaac (Late), the donar of Partrick Home of Hope for Women and Children. It was a joyful and grateful occasion.

❧—◆◆Appreciation and Thanks!◆◆—❧

- To Sr. Rayappan Sampooram and the Community of Arunodaya, Puliadithammam - for hosting the Vides General Body Meeting on October 14 and 15, 2023.

- To Sr. Ignaci Kulandai Theresa and the Community of Don Bosco, Wellington - for having organized and hosted the Salesian Cooperators Promise Day on October 15, 2023.
- To Sr. Poobalrayan Nirmala and the community of Auxilium Convent Puthenthurai - for having facilitated the Provincial Council Meet on October 21 and 22, 2023.
- To Sr. Ambrose Little Flower and the Community of Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur - for their hospitality and meticulous arrangements creating a conducive atmosphere for the animation of the Province Level Youth Fest on October 28, 2023.
- To Sr. Michael Raj Loyola and the community of Partrick's Home of Hope for Women and Children, Madurai Siringeri - for the organization of the celebration of the Birth Centenary of Rev. Fr. Patrick Isaac (Late) on October 30, 2023.

✂️ ... Important days of the month ahead! ... ✂️

- 01 - All Saints Day
- 02 - All Souls Day
- 13 - St. Artemides Zatti
- 14 - Children's Day
- 15 - Blessed Maddelena Morano
- 19 - World Day of the Poor
- 22 - St. Cecilia
- 24 - Commemoration of the arrival of First Missionaries to India
- 25 - Servant of God Margaret Occhiena
- 26 - Christ the King Solemnity
- 30 - St. Andrew, the Apostle
- 03 Dec. - First Week of the Advent

✂️ ... Meetings in the Province ... ✂️

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| 04 | : | Seniors Trimonthly Recollection | Cluster Communiites |
| 11 | : | NCP - Training Trichy | Tiruchirappalli-ASSIST |
| 18-19 | : | INM & INT Juniors Trimonthly Recollection & Animation | Auxilium Provincial House Tiruchirappalli |
| 19 | : | Media - Animation for Marialaya Coimbatore | Coimbatore - Marialaya |
| | : | Visit to the Parish for promoting Vocation | Local Communities |
| 23 | : | Training on Responsible Parenting focusing on the Critical usage of Social Media | Vadakku Paganoor |
| 25 | : | Media Mela in School and College Local Community | Local Communities |
| 25-26 | : | Animators' Meet | FX Broadway |
| 28-29 | : | Province Economer's Formative Meeting | Online - Centre |
| 02- | : | Provincial Council Meet | Aux. Pro. House, Trichy |
| 03Dec. | | | |

✂️ ♦♦♦ Condolences and Prayers ♦♦♦ ✂️

† *To the Provincial and the Conferes of the Province of Dimapur* at the demise of Fr. Pallissery Sebastian on October 15, 2023.

† *To Sr. Antony Rajapushpam and Sr. Antony Regina Mary* who lost their nephew Mr. Churchill (50) on October 23, 2023.

We are on the eve of celebrating the feast of All Saints and the memory of All Souls. Let us grow in our awareness of our call to become evermore holy and blameless, as we remember fondly and pray for the repose of the souls of the Sisters, family members and all our dear ones who have left us in the recent months and years. Let us go deep into ourselves and see the saintly elements that are tpresent in us, paying attention to develop them more and more, becoming holier day by day. May our love for Christ and for the other, impel us to be rooted in the Word and be Committed to His Mission, thus the saints in us be more seen and our lives speak more loud. May the souls of the known and unknown departed, and especially of those loved ones enjoy God's eternal bliss.

Yours affectionately in Christ,



Sr. Fernando Majella

Provincial

PROVINCIAL ITINERARY

NOVEMBER - 2023

31Oct.- 02 Nov.	Provincial Visit	Sirudur - Madurai
04	Trimonthly Recollection	Auxilium Provincial House
06 - 07	Provincial Visit	Ulagampatti - Dindigul
08 - 09	Provincial Visit	Marianathapuram - Dindigul
10	Provincial Office	Auxilium Provincial House
11 - 13	Provincial Visit	Auxilium Provincial House - Tiruchirappalli
18	Silver Jubilee Celebration - Scouts & Guides	Chennai
18 - 19	INM & INT Juniors Recollection & Animation	Auxilium Provincial House - Tiruchirappalli
20 - 22	Provincial Visit	Pulliaditammam
25 - 26	Animators Meet	Broadway - Chennai
29 - 30	Provincial Visit	Tiruvottiyur - Chennai
02-03 Dec.	Provincial Council	Auxilium Provincial House

ECONOMER ITINERARY

NOVEMBER - 2023

14 - 15	-	Sirudur - Madurai
16 - 17	-	Chittampatti - Madurai
18 - 19	-	Sringerinagar - Madurai
20 - 21	-	Marianathapuram - Dindigul
22 - 23	-	Ulagampatti - Dindigul