



## PROVINCE OF OUR LADY OF SNOW PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

AUXILIUM PROVINCIAL HOUSE, SALESIAN SISTERS,  
MADURAI MAIN ROAD, MANIKANDAM, TIRUCHIRAPALLI – 620 012

CIR. NO. 32

FEBRUARY 2020

With deep affection, I greet you for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes that she may bless each one of us with good health, so that we may serve the Lord with Joy.

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Every year, on 11 February, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Holy Father addresses the sick, the poor, the excluded, all those who “are burdened” as well as carers and health workers. His intention is to give them a message of comfort and hope to help them continue their journey, following the path revealed by our Lord Jesus Christ, through the intercession of Mary. “Jesus does not make demands of those who endure situations of frailty, suffering and weakness, but offers his mercy and his comforting presence. He looks upon a wounded humanity with eyes that gaze into the heart of each person”. In fact, Jesus loves also the weak and the fragile for “He himself became frail, endured human suffering and received comfort from his Father”. And speaking, specifically of those who live the experience of the disease, he adds: “At times human warmth is lacking in our approach to these. What is needed is a personalized approach to the sick, not just of *curing* but also of *caring*, in view of an integral human healing. In experiencing illness, individuals not only feel threatened in their physical integrity, but also in the relational, intellectual, affective and spiritual dimensions of their lives. For this reason, in addition to therapy and support, they expect care and attention. In a word, love. At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and is in need of support and comfort.” Jesus, therefore, urges each one: “*Come to me*”. In him, you will find strength to face all the worries and questions that assail you during this “dark night” of body and soul. Christ did not give us prescriptions, but through his passion, death and resurrection he frees us from the grip of evil”. *FMA constitution article 59* states: “Let the entire community surround the sick or elderly Sister with affectionate consideration and support her in all her needs...Let the Sister who is tried by suffering or illness be comforted by the certainty that she shares more intimately in Christ’s redeeming mystery and in this way contributes to strengthening sisterly communion and expansion of the mission of the Institute.”

**YEAR OF YOUTH - TAMIL NADU:** Pope Francis published his Apostolic Exhortation **Christus Vivit** on 2 April, 2019. He emphasizes that young people who live vibrantly their lives must renew their youthfulness in Christ and acquire the power to change the world today through their talents, audacity and creativity. Focusing on the exhortations of our Holy Father, the Circular of Tamil Nadu Bishops’ Council, has declared 2020 as the year of youth on the theme “**Young People – With Power Towards Change**”.

The icon of the Youth Year imprinted on the flag will be sent to each community to be hoisted to mark the inauguration of the celebration in the month of February, 2020. Based on the Christus Vivit, articles will be sent to the communities on the following themes to prepare the young people for the Youth Fest.

January	Young people in relationship with the elderly (CV:187-191)
February	Growth in Maturity (CV: 152 - 162)
March	Paths of Fraternity (CV: 163 - 167)
April	Social wellbeing and safeguarding the environment
May	Vocational Discernment (CV:283 -286)
June	Creating a world without drugs.
July	Responsible users of digital environment (CV: 86 - 90)
August	Participating in the welfare of the Society by creative expression of the local culture (CV: 224 - 229)
September	Young people participating in politics (CV: 230 - 238)
October	Young people creating sustainable economy
November	Transcending caste and creed to create an egalitarian society
December	Young people in communion with God and humanity

In keeping with the theme and the objective of our General Chapter XXIV, we are encouraged to animate the young people on the above themes involving the Educating Community and the Salesian Family. Details of the celebration of the Youth year will be sent to the communities soon.

**NEXT THREE-YEAR WYD CYCLE:** Pope Francis has chosen the themes for the next three-year WYD cycle, which culminates with the international event scheduled for 2022 in Lisbon:

2020 - "Young man, I say to you, arise! Luke 7:14

2021 - "Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen." Acts 26:16

2022 - "Mary arose and went with haste." Luke 1:39

These themes are connected with the most recent WYD in Panama, the synodal process that led to Christus Vivit. I take this opportunity to greet all the Young People a fruitful year. Through them may the world abound with abundant happiness, fullness of life and everlasting love.

### **WITHIN THE FAMILY:**

**SDB GC XXVIII:** Let us pray for our Rector Major and all our Salesians as they are going to step into a new milestone in the history of the congregation in celebrating GC XXVIII with the theme, 'What kind of Salesians are we for the youth of today?' in Valdocco - Turin from 16 February to 04 April 2020. May all the participants in the Chapter experience the vibrant presence of the Holy Spirit in their discernment process that would bring vital transformation in the life of the young people.

**MASS FOR THE DEAR DEPARTED:** As per the Regulations No.38, we are invited to remember with gratitude all the departed benefactors and the members of the Salesian Family

after the Feast of St. John Bosco. May the remembrance of the dear departed increase our joy in the service of the Lord.

**ANNUAL RETREAT:** The Annual Retreat for the I batch of Sisters will be held from 21- 28 March and for the II batch from 30 March to 6 April, 2020 in Wellington. Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB will be the retreat preacher for both the retreats. The III Retreat for the Novices will be held from 16 - 23 May, 2020 in the Divyadhanam - Tiruchirapalli preached by Rev. Fr. Philip Maria Alphonse Raj, Rector of Don Bosco, Tirupattur.

**PCI TRAINING PROGRAMME:** Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi - National Coordinator for NDF and Sr. Ambrose Little Flower will take part in the PCI Training Programme to be held in Auxilium Provincial House, Dum Dum - Kolkata from 22 - 24 February 2020.

**LAUNCHING THE NEW INSTITUTE'S WEBSITE:** Thanks to the creative effort of Sr. Maria Helena Moreira, General Councilor for Social Communications, Sr. Gabriela Imperatore and team, which has resulted, in the launching of the New Website for the Institute - [www.cgfmanet.org](http://www.cgfmanet.org), on the Feast of St. John Bosco, 2020. The intent of the IFMA Web Site as a new 'InFormative' space is to broaden our gaze on a world in constant change, interacting with the various audiences, so that all may be Interlocutors capable of giving sense and meaning to experience and **Co-creators of Good News**. The heart of the Website is the **Infosphere** environment, a network of information interconnected with each other, which challenges the FMA Institute to be there in the heart of Contemporaneity, enriching the universe of its educational, communication, evangelizing, socio-political, ecological mission, offering 'InFormative' opportunities for sharing life and culture, meaning and opinion, dialogue and participation. Through the IFMA website, FMA, Salesians, Laity, and young people of the Salesian Family can tell the Good News about the life and mission of the Provinces in the different contexts of the FMA Institute.

**INT SNOW. COM:** Our heartfelt gratitude to the creative and dedicated service of Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi in compiling and editing SNOW.COM from the year 2017 - 2019. We are happy that Sr. John Bosco Edal Queen has graciously consented to assume the new responsibility from January 2020. We wish her all the best and implore God's blessings on her new endeavour.

### **WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH GRATITUDE:**

**PROVINCIAL COMMUNITY DAY:** Thanks to Sr. Amirthasamy Maria Pushpam, the Vice Provincial who coordinated the III Provincial Community Day, held at Auxilium Provincial House from 23 - 24 January, 2020 on the theme of the Centenary celebration of the arrival of the Pioneers to our Mother land India (for the year 2019 - 2020): *Give thanks: Let us truly thank the Lord who gives us many graces" (MM.L.37, 10) Living our FMA Identity with Gratitude.* The individual and community reading and sharing of The Diamond Years Volume I Part I (Pages 24 - 94) beckoned us to renew our responsibility while fixing our gaze on our pioneers. Moments of recreation, exchange of messages and adoration has strengthened our bond with one another and the communities in the Province. Sentiments of gratitude well up from my heart to all the communities, novices and the students of Regunathapuram for animating different moments of our Community day. The Eucharistic Celebration was made memorable one with the sharing of Rev. Fr. Agilan Sarprasdam SDB - INT Provincial on recognizing the hand of God who leads us

through the events of each day and the importance of being happy in our vocation and bringing happiness in the lives of others. Thanks to all the sisters who with the strong sense of belonging participated in the Family Feast.

**ONLINE ADMINISTRATION SEMINAR:** Thanks to Fr. Xavier Packiam , administrator of SDB INM Province and Mr. Antony his assistant, who with their expertise animated the Online Administration Seminar for the Animators and Economers on 24 January and exclusively for the Economers on 25 January, 2020. The meeting was very helpful and informative to come to know about the emerging new challenges and the latest development on Compliance Aspects of Non Profit organisations.

**EDUCATING COMMUNITY MEETING - 2020:** Thanks to Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal who with the collaboration of Sr. Antony Nirmala Rani, Sr. John Bosco Edal Queen animated the sessions on Strenna 2020, Peace Massage and Plant Health respectively and Sr. Magnificat Soosai who efficiently chaired the General Assembly. Hundred and fifty members who took part in the meeting benefited from the presentation, evaluated the journey of the past and planned the plan and project for the year 2020 - 2021. Thanks to Sr. Antonyswamy Suganthi and Community who lovingly hosted the meeting and paid attention to every detail.

**JUNIORS RECOLLECTION AND ANIMATION:** The Tri-monthly Recollection and Animation for sixteen Juniors was held in Auxilium Provincial House from 1 - 2 February 2020. Rev. Fr. Michael Raj, from St. Paul Seminary, Animated the day of Recollection on *Discipleship from the Gospel of St. Mark*. On 2 February, 2020 the introductory talk was given on *Our Life in the light of Mary at Cana*. Thanks to Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela, who concluded the animation with her inspiring participative sharing on *Priorities of Life*.

**THE SOUTHERN ZONAL CONFERENCE OF SALESIAN COOPERATORS:** Sixty five Cooperators participated in the Southern Zonal Conference from the Provinces of Delhi, Mumbai, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Bengaluru, Chennai and Tiruchirapalli on the theme – Identity of Salesian Cooperators as Good Christians and Upright Citizens in Don Bosco, Manikandam from 12 and 13 January, 2020. From the SDB, FMA Province of INT five Cooperators, four SDBs and five FMAs , took part in the Conference. Thanks to Fr. Thomas Louis the Salesian family delegate, Fr. Mariadoss the SDB Provincial delegate, Sr. Antonyswamy Rosy - FMA Provincial delegate and the team who organized the Conference with efficiency and to Fr. Eugene Florence and Community of Don Bosco Manikandam for making all the arrangement.

### **FORTH COMING FEASTS - FEBRUARY 2020**

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| 02 | The Presentation of the Lord   |
| 05 | St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr  |
| 06 | St. Paul Miki and Companions – Martyrs                                       |
| 09 | Bl. Eusebia Palomino Yenes, virgin   |
| 11 | Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick                                |
| 22 | The chair of Saint Peter – Apostle   |
| 25 | St. Louis Versiglia, bishop, and Callistus Caravario - Salesian Protomartyrs |
| 26 | Ash Wednesday  |

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS IN THE PROVINCE - FEBRUARY 2020

1	NCP Formation Meeting	Coimbatore
	VIDES General Body Meeting	Keela Eral
1-2	Tri Monthly Recollection and Animation for INT Juniors	Auxilium Provincial House.
3	Workshop on the right usage of gadgets	Local Communities
8	Tri Monthly Recollection for the Seniors	Zone wise
16	Headmistress' Meeting	Broadway
22- 24	Training for PCI National Coordinators	Kolkata
28 - 1 Mar.	Provincial Council	Auxilium Provincial House

## OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS

- † To Fr. Gomes Nirmol Vincent - Provincial and the confreres of INC at the passing away of Fr. Marak Mondol SDB, on 01 January 2020
- † To Fr. Januarius Sangma - Provincial and the Confreres of Guwahati at the demise of Fr. Milon Narjary SDB on 4 January 2020
- † To our dear Rector Major, General Councilors, Confreres in the Salesian Generalate and Salesian Pontifical University Rome, the family members and friends, at the demise of Fr. Francesco Maraccani SDB, former Secretary General and Procurator General of the Congregation on 24 January 2020.
- † Fr. Kuruvachira Jose - Provincial and Confreres of Dimapur at the demise of Fr. Matthew Ponnattil (PK) SDB on 30 January 2020

I conclude by wishing each one of you a fervent Lent which commences on 26 February 2020. Let us implore our blessed Mother to pray for each one of us that our Lenten Celebration will open our hearts and minds to God's call to be reconciled to Him, to fix our gaze on the Paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with Him. So that we will become what Christ asks His disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world.



Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret  
Provincial

**PROVINCIAL ITENERARY  
FEBRUARY 2020**

01- 02	Juniors Recollection and Animation	Auxilium Provincial House
03 - 04	Provincial Office	Manikandam
05 - 07	Provincial Visit	Puliadithammam
08	Recollection for Seniors	Auxilium Provincial House
10 -12	Provincial Visit	Thanjavur
17 - 18	Provincial Visit	Tiruppur
19 - 20	Provincial Visit	Wellington
21- 23	Provincial Visit	Coimbatore
28 - 1 March	Provincial Council	Auxilium Provincial House

*World day of the sick - 2020*

*"Come to me all you who labour and are burdened  
and I will give you rest." Mt 11:28*

