



**PROVINCE OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**  
**Auxilium, Nongthymmai – Shillong – 793014, Meghalaya**

08.02.2012

Dearest Sisters,

It is already a week since we returned from Bangalore after the Triennial Evaluation. I bring you the loving and affectionate wishes of our beloved Mother General and the four Councilors. La Madre and the General Councilors presence were lively and enthusiastic to rekindle the fire in our hearts to live our charismatic identity. Mother General's interventions at various moments were apt and inspiring that propel us to live our Salesian consecrated life authentically. The participants of the Triennial Evaluation thank you for the efficacious prayers you offered as all the members felt the wonderful effect of your prayerful support and everything went on smoothly. A heartfelt 'Thank you' from all the participants.

### **New Scholastic Year**

The new scholastic year is about to begin and our communities are getting organized to welcome back our boarders and our students. I wish you all the best dear Sisters and a fruitful apostolate among the young people of our Province. As we are about to enter into this important period of the year I would like to remind the following:

- Fulfill our daily ordinary work in an extra ordinary way by putting a touch of love in all that we do.
- A systematic organization of the time for our apostolic activities and religious commitment.
- A genuine effort to come out of our comfort zones so that our Salesian presence among the young may be more effective and productive.
- A sincere appreciation and love for the young who are the Father's gift to us. I implore God's blessing upon you all.

Here is our wish for all the school Sisters and boarding assistants:

***May your eyes see the new and renewed faces of every recipient.***

***May your ears hear only the good things about them.***

***May your hands give only positive strokes to every one of them.***

***May every fiber of your heart beat for them alone.***

***May your feet take you to those that await a good word, an understanding look, a kind gesture from you.***

### **Sr. Eusebia Palomino**

On 9<sup>th</sup> February we commemorate Blessed Eusebia Palomino. She is known for her deep desire to "make prayer resound in every home" so that every person might honour the Lord's Passion. Through her numerous letters, she became an untiring promoter of devotion to the Wounds of Jesus, in order to obtain mercy for all sinners. In 1931, on the eve of the revolution, Sr. Eusebia

offered herself to God as a victim for the salvation of her brothers and sisters in Spain and throughout the world.

Her offering was accepted and in August 1932 a mysterious illness struck her. Doctors were unable to diagnose this disease which was causing the limbs of her body to wind up, turning her into a "ball of yarn". Her asthma, which had always been "mild", had now worsened and added to her suffering.

During this time, bloody visions brought sorrow to Sr. Eusebia even more than the inexplicable physical illness. On the 4<sup>th</sup> October 1934, while the other Sisters were praying with her in her bedroom of sacrifice, she had visions of blood also for her Sr. Superior, Sr. Carmen Moreno Benítez, who would be shot with Sr. Amparo Carbinel on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1936.

For three years she bore indescribable sufferings in a joyful crescendo of longing for heaven, which opened its doors to her on February 10, 1935. Let us entrust ourselves to this simple yet great Daughter of Mary Help of Christians to have a great thirst of holiness.

## **Lenten Season**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> is Ash Wednesday and with it we begin the Holy Season of Lent. We are well aware of the importance of this season for our spiritual renewal and growth. During this holy season the Church invites us to a moment of deep communion and contemplation of the Paschal Mystery of Christ. It is precisely this contemplation of the suffering of Jesus that we are inspired to a life of radical conversion, to a life of commitment and a Gospel way of life.

Let us remember the good tradition of the community penance during this season as suggested by Article 46 and Regulations 32 of our Constitutions.

## **New Mother General of MSMHC Sisters**

We rejoice with the MSMHC for the gift of Sr. Philomina Mathew as the new Mother General. We congratulate her and her new team and assure them of our prayerful support. We take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Superior General Mother Mary Thadavanal for her contribution to the Church and society during her term of office.

## **Examinations**

During these coming days many of our Sisters and students will be writing their exams. We wish them all well and pray that their efforts may be amply rewarded with excellent results. Reading of Psalm 121 will give more confidence as they enter the examination hall. *"I look up to the mountains; does my strength come from mountains? No, my strength comes from God, who made heaven, and earth, and mountains...."*

## **Retreat 2012**

The first three retreats will be as scheduled and the 4<sup>th</sup> one will be from May 17-23. All the retreats will be either preceded or concluded with the animation programme on "Preventive System" by Rev. Fr. Roy Anthony sdb. He has already done with the first group of January. All of us would have loved to have the animation programme before the retreat but as for group III, it is not possible to realize that.

Group II:	12 – 14 March, 2012	-	Course
	15 – 22 March	-	Retreat
	Preacher	-	Fr. Regi K. Mani msfs
Group III:	12 – 19 April, 2012	-	Retreat
	19 – 21 April	-	Course
	Participants:	-	Animators & Pro. Councilors
	Preacher	-	Fr. Regi K. Mani msfs
Group VI:	17 – 23 May, 2012	-	Retreat
	24 - 25 May	-	Course
	Preacher	-	Fr. Jacob Champanil sdb

## Second Novitiate

The second Novitiate was concluded with the prayer experience at Umroi, Renewal Centre. The evaluation revealed that the Sisters have profited much and had an enriching experience. I thank all the resource persons, Sr. Christina Kharkongor the animator of Nongthymmai, all the Sisters and aspirants for creating an atmosphere of prayer and recollection and helped the Sisters to make the first phase of their second Novitiate a fruitful experience. I thank Sr. Lilly Kurian in a very special manner for coordinating the whole programme. Let us continue to pray for our second Novitiate Sisters as they will continue their preparation for their total commitment to the Lord.

## Hearty Welcome

We warmly welcome Sr. Maria Americo Rolim, Councillor for formation and Sr. Maria Fisichella to Chennai. They will animate, direct and guide the formation team of the Indian Provinces to finalise the FMA – Indian Formation Programme. We wish them a fruitful and happy stay in Chennai. The Programme begins on February 12 – 16, 2012.

The participants from our Province are:

- Sr. Isabella Suja
- Sr. Christina Kharkongor
- Sr. Wismary Kharbihkhiew and myself.

Sr. Maristella Rynghlem is also in the list but due to a fall she had two weeks ago her left hand is on medication; therefore she is not in a condition to travel.

## Mission ad Gentes

Art. 75 of our Constitutions speak about *“the Missionary dimension – an essential element of the identity of the Institute and the expression of its universality.”* Sr. Alaide Deretti, General Councillor for Missions has written to us on behalf of Mother General requesting missionaries from India. If anyone feels called to be a missionary do feel free to express after praying and discerning God’s will for you as inspired by Art. 75 and Reg. 70 of our Constitutions.

## **They will continue to live among us**

Our zealous and courageous missionary Sr. Magdalena Caspani passed away on 26. 01. 2012 in the community of St. Joseph, Melzo, Milan. She had toiled most of her active life in our land for us and our people. Let us pray for the repose of her soul.

Our dear Sr. Agnes Kurkalang left us serenely and peacefully in the presence of the sisters at Bellefonte on 29. 01. 2012. Both of them have given their best to the Lord and His Kingdom. May the exemplary life they have left behind live on to inspire us. Many of us have lived and worked closely with them and have known their great contribution to the Province and to the Church. I therefore request you to write about them so that we can compile their life history at the earliest. Regarding Sr. Magdalena Caspani, Mother General herself has requested us to write what we know about her. I would like to remind you too about the life of Sr. Prisca Thangkhiew.

## **Communications**

- The sharing of the Triennial Evaluation for the Animators and Team Members will be on 25 & 26 February in Nongthymmai. All are expected to be in Nongthymmai on the 24<sup>th</sup> by lunch and at 02.00 pm we shall have half day recollection followed by confession. The sharing of the Triennial Evaluation will begin on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 09.00 am. The second batch of retreatants will have the sharing before the retreat. The rest of the sisters will have it in Region wise. The dates I will inform you later on.
- By now you might have received the news about the bifurcation of the Salesian province of Guwahati and the new Province with its headquarters in Silchar (INS). The new province has the territory of 5 dioceses: Archdiocese of Shillong, dioceses of Nongstoin, Jowai, Agartala and Aizawl while Guwahati province comprises of the Archdiocese of Guwahati and the dioceses of Tura, Bongaigaon, Tezpur and Diphu. We congratulate our brothers and assure them of our prayers as they make the discernment for the nomination of the new provincial.
- The Visitation Sisters of Don Bosco (VSDB) is recognized officially by the Rector Major and his council as members of the Salesian Family on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2012, feast of St. Francis de Sales. As we all know, they are founded by late Archbishop Hubert D’Rosario SDB, on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1983 and now they are spread in the dioceses of Shillong, Nongstoin, Diphu, Guwahati, Jowai and Aizawl. Let us welcome them into our Family and assure them of our prayers.

## **Prayers requested for:**

- Sr. Tarsiana Thyrniang who is hospitalized.
- Father of Sr. Sylvestra Khonglah
- Grand mother of Sr. Maria Quinta Wankhar
- Father of Sr. Elisha Sangma

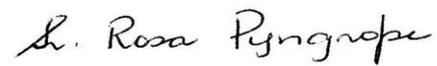
## **Condolence to:**

- The Province of Holy Family, Lombarda at the demise of Sr. Magdalena Caspani FMA on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2012
- Sr. Patricia Nongkhlaw and all the near and dear ones of Sr. Agnes Kurkalang
- Sr. Maristella & Sr. Rina Kharthangmaw who lost their father on January 21, 2012
- Sr. Rongilla Sangma who lost her father on January 23, 2012

➤ Sr. Rihunlang Muthoh who lost her maternal uncle in an accident on January 24, 2012  
Sharing their sorrow and grief, we assure them of our prayers on behalf of the dear departed  
souls and their other relatives.

As I conclude my circular, I wish all of you a very holy and fruitful Lenten season. May our  
Lady of Lourdes whose feast we celebrate this month intercede for the sick and the suffering  
and help us to experience inner healing and enjoy good health.

With much love and prayers,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sr. Rosa Pyngrope".

*Sr. Rosa Pyngrope fma*  
Provincial