

Provincial Circular Province of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Auxilium Provincial Office Nongthymmai, Shillong - Meghalaya - 793014

CIR/EG/INS/11/2019 02.07.2019

Dearest Sisters.

Loving greetings from Auxilium Provincial House, Nongthymmai!

HOLINESS...a Journey Together in Love

The official round of visits to the communities which I began at the beginning of this year with the theme: "Holiness... a journey together in love" has come to a successful completion on 29th of June, the feast of the Province; thanks to the cooperation of every one of you. I could see in all the communities the longing to be holy notwithstanding the human frailties that each one carry. Efforts were seen in all our communities to assimilate the theme and to live the demands of the universal call to holiness with much love and Thank you dear Sisters, for your spirit of faith and receptivity to God's blessings. Having made this journey together, we

have become more aware of the power of holiness lived together as a community. Let us continue to pursue the path of holiness with great passion for Christ and love for humanity, especially the suffering and needy portion of humanity. The GC XXIV theme too invites us to identify the challenges that we face in our own context and respond to them meaningfully.

Obedience - an art of Holiness

Obedience has long been considered the fascinating sign of surrendering to God and of conforming to His ways. In other words, Obedience can be considered an art of Holiness. It is in obeying God's Will manifested in very many situations of life that our life takes on a contour of conforming to God's image of Holiness. God is constantly calling us to reach this goal in order to show us how much we are loved by him. Jesus Himself has shown us the perfect example of obedience in His total surrender to His Father's will even unto death on a Cross. So well He accepted God's will that He even learnt to obey through suffering. On our part too as religious, obedience to God makes us sharers and contributors to building up the body of Christ.

Article 32 of our Constitutions specifically spells out that Don Bosco considered Obedience the "Axis" upon which our life turns. The call of obedience always entails our response. When we say

'Yes' to God, a miracle of transformation takes place in our lives. For instance in the narration of Peter and his companions in the Holy Scripture, when he let down the net obeying the Lord's command, the miracle was that they gathered such a lot of fish that the nets almost broke. (Cf. Luke 5, 5). Obedience will always bring along plentiful blessings. As we prepare ourselves to celebrate the anniversary of our generous 'YES' to the Lord, let us ask ourselves:

- **♣** In which way is God calling me to be obedient?
- ♣ Am I ready to say 'YES 'to Him at all times and in every situation of life?
- ♣ Am I ready to walk the pathway to Holiness through Obedience?

The best way to show that we love God is through constant endeavor to become holy by conforming our will to His.

St. Thomas the Apostle - July 3

The feast of St. Thomas the Apostle reminds us of a soul that is all for God. His famous expression "My Lord and my God!" is not a notion or a generic profession of faith, but the confession of a personal relationship that from doubt becomes a promise of friendship and loyalty. The Holy



Scripture narrates to us various instances in which Thomas expresses His deep faith, love and loyalty for Christ even to the point of giving his life for his sake. Though he is famously known for his incredulity, yet his expression signifies the deep courage that emerges from a sincere heart that truly loves God.

However, to recognize the risen Christ, Thomas had to put his finger in the wounds and the hand in the side of Christ. This gesture of Thomas in recognizing the Risen One in his wounds gives us the thought to reflect on ourselves on how can we travel the way of Thomas,

how can we recognize the sign of life in a wounded and suffering face. After his proclamation "My Lord and my God!", Thomas moved out with courage to proclaim the message of the Risen Lord. Today in our own times we are invited to see the face of Christ in the wounded, the weary, the suffering, the discouraged and the marginalized. As Pope Francis affirms: "We must go out of ourselves and go on the roads of man to discover the wounds of Jesus that are still visible today on the body of all those brothers and sisters who are hungry, thirsty, naked, humiliated, slaves, who are found in prison and in the hospital. And by touching these wounds, caressing them, it is possible to worship the living God in our midst »

We pray in particular for the Church in India that the Christians may grow strong in faith, in witness and in the passion to stand against the trials of times and to courageously proclaim Christ after the example of St. Thomas.

Blessed María Romero Meneses-July 7

In this month, we are reminded again of our vocation to Holiness with the

giant personality of Blessed Maria Romero, an exemplary figure of contemplative in action. Maria Romero was born to earth on 13

January 1902 at Granada, Nicaragua. At the age of twelve she spent a year extremely sick from rheumatic fever; she was paralyzed for six months and her heart was permanently damaged. She was cured by the intercession and apparition of Our Lady, Help of Christians, during which vision she understood her vocation to be a Salesian sister. Though her family dreamed of her wealth and prosperity, Maria felt the call of Jesus in her heart; she chose the path of religious life. It seemed to her that Don Bosco's charism of working with the young and the poor was created to fit her aspirations. After her

religious profession, though assigned with the responsibility of teaching the well off girls yet her heart was always moved towards the less privileged and poor people. She worked untiringly for the upliftment of the poor in the society and her gigantic mission was highly appreciated even by the government of Costa Rica.

Maria Romero sanctified every moment of her existence in simple ordinary circumstances of daily life in the festive oratories and among the poor people in the society. Her devotion to our Blessed Mother, the Help of Christians was outstanding, in fact she was her faithful intercessor whom she would lovingly called 'My Queen'. Her passion for teaching Catechism to the young and old is a clear sign of her great union with God and her desire to make His love know to all. The door of Heaven was opened to her on July 7, 1977. She was beatified on 14 April 2002 by Pope John Paul II. This faithful and passionate Daughter of Mary Help of Christians is an example for us today to live our call to Holiness in the simple execution of daily duties solely for the love of God and the salvation of souls.

Communications

Community Animators: We thank Mother General and her Council for confirming the appointment of the following community animators.

- **♣** Sr. Ksoo Cecilia as the animator of Auxilium, Mawroh for the second term.
- **♣** Sr. Vazhakalayil Elizabeth as animator of Margareth Bosco, Tura for the first term.
- ♣ Sr. Marwein Provina as animator of Auxilium, Mawtnum for the first term.

We congratulate our sisters for their spirit of faith in accepting this delicate mandate of leading and accompanying the communities. Let us support them with our prayers and sisterly collaboration in the mission of our Province and Institute.

I sincerely thank Sr. Mary Lamare and Sr. Lucy Marak for their availability, generosity and hard work in animating the communities of Mawtnum and Margreth Bosco, Tura respectively for the past 6 years. God bless you dear Sr. Mary and Sr. Lucy. May He continue to walk with you in your educative mission.

Provincials' Meeting: I will be leaving for Rome on 6 July 2019 for the meeting of the Provincials and will return to the Province on 25 July 2019. I entrust myself to your prayers that I may have an enriching experience for the good of our mission in the Province. I will convey your greetings to Mother General and the sisters of the General Council. During my absence, please refer to Sr. Rosa Pyngrope, the Vice Provincial for any need.

Bon Voyage: Sr. Rihunlang Muthoh, Sr. Philina Kholar and Maria Roibok Suchiang will be leaving for Rome together with me on the 6^{th} of July to take up their studies there. We wish them safe journey and a fruitful experience of their stay in Rome.

Happy home coming: We warmly welcome back home Sr. Plenish Marak who will return to the Province after her 5 years of formation in Rome. We congratulate her for having completed successfully her studies and wish her fruitful mission in the Province. She will be travelling from Rome on 19 July and will be arriving in the Province on 20 July.

Retreat: The 21 Postulants will be making their Annual Spiritual Retreat at FMA- Outreach from 21-28 July and the Novices from 26 July - 2 August at Bellefonte Novitiate which will be preached by Fr. Stephen Saji SDB and Fr. Denis Lalfela SDB respectively. Let us accompany them with our prayers that they may have an enriching experience and fruitful encounter with the Lord.

PCI Delegate: I am happy to announce that Sr. Celine D'Cunha is elected as the Delegate to the PCI 2019 by the Province and Sr. Marcellina Sangma as the Delegate elected by the Provincial Council. We wish them all the best and thank them for their availability to represent the Province for this important meeting of FMA- India.

Canonical Visit: Our Province will be blessed with the visit of Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil, the General Visiting Councilor from Rome from 17 August- 24 November 2019. Let us prepare ourselves for this important and grace-filled moment in our Province with *a month* of prayers and spiritual preparation beginning from the 15th of July 2019. Let us remember this special intention in the invocation to the Holy Spirit which we are already praying everyday in preparation for General Chapter XXIV as was proposed by our Mother General. May I remind the communities to update all the required documents for the visit. Let us send ahead our prayers for Sr. Lucy Rose and for the fruitfulness of her visit that it may bear the fruits of spiritual and charismatic renewal in our Province.

Temporary Professed Sisters' Renewal Course: The annual renewal course of the temporary professed sisters will be held at FMA- Outreach, Shillong from 29 July- 2 August 2019. All the junior sisters are expected to reach the scheduled venue latest by lunch on 29 July. On 2 August they will have full day recollection which will conclude with the renewal of the vows.

Training of Trainers: Sr. Helen Puwein and Sr. Joplin Suchiang will be participating in a meeting – Training of trainers on the 'Educational Mission of the FMA today: **TOGETHER, WE CAN!**' at Auxilium, Katpadi, India from 18-21 July 2019. The meeting will be animated by Sr. Runita Borja, General Councillor for Youth Pastoral with the members of the Youth Pastoral Sector, Rome. We wish them all the best for a fruitful outcome of the same. We warmly welcome Sr. Runita and her team to India.

Provincial Chapter Animation: I thank Sr. Celine D'Cunha, the Chapter Moderator and members of the Chapter Commission for the zonal level animation of the Province. I appreciate the efforts made by the communities to profit by this animation which is certainly a help to deepen further the Chapter theme.

Totus Tuus: We thank the Lord for His fidelity which is manifested in the generous 'YES' of our Sisters, Novices and candidates to offer themselves to the Lord's service in our Institute. Let us be prayerfully close to:

- ♣ The 9 Sisters who will make their perpetual profession on 3 August 2019 at St. Dominic Savio's Church, Mawlai- Shillong.
 - Sr. DHAR Embhahlang
 - ~ Sr. DKHAR Bhalang
 - ~ Sr. HINGE Marinella
 - Sr. KHARSNAR Beltiful
 - ~ Sr. MARNGAR Christilin

- Sr. MUKHIM Deihok
- ~ Sr. WAHLANG Graceland
- ~ Sr. NONGKSEH Joplangline
- ~ Sr. THONGNI Angeline
- ♣ The 17 Novices who will make their First Profession on 5 August 2019 at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Pynthroumkhrah- Shillong.
 - ~ Sr. BIAM Wankyrkhu
 - Sr. KLEIN Matilda
 - ~ Sr. LAWAI Daphira
 - Sr. MASHLI Medalin
 - ~ Sr. IANGJUH Mary Pariah
 - Sr. PASI Kmenlang Mery
 - ~ Sr. PASI Marbel
 - ~ Sr. PYNGROPE Wanplisha
 - ~ Sr. RANEE Martha

- ~ Sr. RONGPEIT Nanmerry
- ~ Sr. SOHSHANG Eudashisha
- Sr. SUJA Evangelica
- ~ Sr. SUJA Kmenlang
- ~ Sr. SUJA Pdianghun
- ~ Sr. SYIEM Marvellous
- ~ Sr. SYIEMLIEH Meldaris
- Sr.ZORAMMAWII Ralte Lucy
- ♣ The 21 Postulants who will enter the Novitiate at Bellefonte- Shillong on 2 August 2019.
 - ~ KHARDEWSAW Joyslin
 - ~ KHARMUTI Daplin

 LYNGDOH MARSHILONG Ailin Mary

- LYNGDOH Yonaris
- MAJAW Esha Mery
- MAIONG Lusimai
- MARWEIN Jobita
- ~ M. MARAK Tengmitchi
- ~ NONGLANG Ebarisha
- ~ NONGSHLI Dashailin
- ~ NONGSIEJ Fulljoy
- ~ PYNGROPE Tngenlang Mary

- ~ SAIO Lidianadurka
- SATEIN Charanam
- SUJA Celina
- SUTNGA Dafflin
- SUTNGA Ibameri
- ~ SYNGKON Melinda
- ~ THYRNIANG Theresa
- ~ WAHLANG Rosilin
- ~ WAHLANG Wandakashisha
- ♣ The 45 temporary professed sisters who will renew their vows on 2 August 2019 at FMA-Outreach, Shillong.

We congratulate our sisters for their generosity to respond to God's invitation of Love and let us sustain them with our prayerful remembrance that they may remain faithful forever in God's loving service.

Intensive Juniorate: The following sisters will pursue their one year of intensive Juniorate. Let us accompany them with our prayerful support and encouragement in their journey of formation.

4 At Nongthymmai, Shillong

- Sr. Aiful Mary Thongni
- Sr. Crecencia Sangma A.
- Sr. Juborlin Lyngkhoi
- Sr. Krisphin Syiem
- Sr. Lily Mary Sangriang

- Sr. Pencilla Marak Ch.
- Sr. Risalin Lyngdoh Marshillong
- Sr. Rakhelna Thongni
- Sr. Tengme Sangma D.

The above sisters are requested to reach Auxilium, Nongthymmai by the 6th of August 2019.

4 At Provincial House Christian Basti, Guwahati

- Sr. Ribajanai Kharpor
- Sr. Ribhalang War

4 At Mawlai for ITLR

- Sr. Camelia Wahlang
- Sr. Joysy Mary Nongbsap

Transfers: I thank all the sisters who have accepted well the mandate of new responsibilities in the different communities and mission of the Province. Your deep spirit of religiosity, faith and obedience is a blessing for the fruitfulness of the mission of our Province and the Institute. May the Lord accompany you in your daily endeavors in the mission.

N.B All the sisters who are on transfer are requested to reach their respective communities latest by 10 August 2019.

Congratulations

- We extend our congratulations and warm greetings to Rev. Fr. Savio Silveira SDB the newly elected Provincial of the Salesian Province of Mumbai (INB). We assure him of our prayers for the fruitfulness of his mission of animation in the Province.
- ♣ Our warmest greetings to Sr. Garnet Sutnga for having completed successfully her degree in L.LB. We congratulate our dear sister and wish her God's blessings in all her endeavors and mission henceforth.
- ♣ Our heartiest congratulations and good wishes to Sr. Mary Kadicheeny and Sr. Catherine Phawa who will complete 50 and 25 years of religious life on 5 August 2019. We thank the Lord for their fidelity and express our gratitude to our Sisters for their dedicated service in the Province and Institute.

Prayers and Condolences

For the Departed: We unite with Mother General Sr. Yvonne Reungoat and our whole Institute to mourn the passing away of our dear and beloved Mother Antonia Colombo whom the Lord has called to himself on the evening of the first day of the month of July. Like a candle, she was gradually consumed and presented herself to the Lord worthy to embrace His beatific vision. We thank the Lord for the gift of our dear Mother Antonia who with motherly love, faithful dedication and intellectual wisdom, guided our Institute in the past years. May the Lord reward her with the eternal Peace and Joy of His Saints in Heaven. May she intercede from the throne of God the necessary graces for Mother General and our Institute especially in our journey towards GC XXIV. May I remind the communities to offer the necessary suffrages of offering 2 Masses for the repose of her soul (cf. Regulations 35). Rest in Peace beloved Mother Antonia and bless us all from Heaven!

Our sincere condolences and deepest sympathies:

- ♣ To Fr. Januarius Sangma SDB and the Salesian Province of Guwahati at the sudden demise of Fr. Jose Thiruthanathy. (T.O.) SDB on 7 June 2019
- ♣ To Fr. Nirmol Vincent Gomes and the Salesian Province of Kolkata at the loss of Fr. Stroscio Rosario SDB on 9 June 2019
- ♣ To Fr. Godfrey D'Souza SDB and the Province of Mumbai at the passing away of Fr Reginald Gracias SDB on 10 June 2019.
- ♣ To Fr. Felix Fernandez SDB and the Province of Panjim at the departure of Fr. Olivio Miranda SDB on 19 June 2019.
- ♣ To Fr. Jose Kochamkunnel and the Province of Chennai at the demise of Fr. Anthony Manayil on 20 June 2019.

May the dear departed ones rest safe in the arms of Jesus and enjoy forever the beatific vision and may they intercede for the needs of their Provinces and loved ones.

For the Sick: We offer our prayers for all the sick members of our communities and families through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. We pray in a special way for:

- ♣ Sr. Andriana Pyngrope who underwent surgery at Bethany Hospital, Shillong.
- ♣ The Mother of Sr. Rishalin Warbah
- ♣ The brother of Sr. Bertina Kurbah

As I conclude, I wish you a happy and holy month of July, a month dedicated to the precious Blood of Jesus. By shedding His precious blood for us, Christ has redeemed us from sin enabling us to enter into a new relationship with Him. Not only are we forgiven from sin, but we are also sanctified through the Blood of Christ. May the precious Blood of Christ purify and cleanse us from all that is not God gradually transforming us in His own image.

Assuring you of my sisterly support and accompaniment!

Affectionately,

Sr. Elizabeth George FMA

Provincial