



# Provincial Circular

## Province of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Auxilium Provincial Office Nongthymmai, Shillong - Meghalaya - 793014

CIR/EG/INS/62/2023

10.08.2023

My dear Sisters,

Loving greetings from Auxilium Provincial House, Nongthymmai!

**W**e have just celebrated with great solemnity the Foundation Day with various events that witnessed the joy of recounting God’s blessings and fidelity. The entry of our 12 Postulants into the Novitiate, the renewal of our 78 sisters in the Province and outside the Province, the first profession of our 16 Novices and the covenant made by our 15 Sisters who pledged their fidelity to God forever through their perpetual profession all speak of the wonders and predilection of God. The celebration of the missionary send-off of our Sisters on 8<sup>th</sup> of August - Sr. Embok Suchiang, Sr. Ibansara Kharkongor and Sr. Idearland Lyngkhoi who are leaving the Province for the mission ad gentes along with Sr. Igina Kharjana who will be rendering service to the Institute in Italy reveals the tangible sign of God’s faithful love and benevolent grace. Alongside these beautiful celebrations in the Province, the renewed commitment of each and every member adds meaning and significance to the beauty of our Call. Every event was an occasion to give thanks to God for his uncountable blessings upon our Province. The big number of vocations speaks of God’s generosity and fidelity while at the same time calls for our greater response of faithfulness and responsibility towards living the gift of our call more genuinely. While recalling the first ‘YES’ that each of us made to God, let us rekindle the fire of love and passion to stay on in God’s fidelity and be a witness of his unending mercy.



Living these moments of joy and celebration in the Province and Institute, takes us back to the joy and happiness which began at Mornese. If it were not for the creative fidelity and collaboration with God's grace of Mother Mazzarello and our first Sisters, the fruits will definitely not be as abundant as we witness in our own times today. This, therefore brings to our conviction of how important is the contribution of each and every one to build up the edifice built up by our holy founders Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello and our first sisters. Recalling the great fidelity of our founders invites us to a greater response of deeper love, of greater dedication and of stronger convictions in our commitment.

Mother Mazzarello and the sisters in the first community of Mornese lived their fidelity to God and to the commitment they took in simple yet stupendous ways that could term the community as "*The house of the love of God.*" Community is indeed a privileged place that offers every opportunity and possibility to live out concretely the daily invitations of our religious call; a privileged place where hearts are formed and where communion is fostered. This month of August is a time of renewal of our life whereby we are given fresh opportunities to grow and flourish with new members in the communities. As we journey together in this new year of the Institute with new set of community members, let us renew our commitment to sustain the fidelity of one another by our prayers, our genuine rapport and communion with one another, our spirit of fraternal love to reach together the common goal of enhancing the spirit and charism of our founders.

It is significant to take note that at this point of time we are earnestly preparing to host the conclusion of the Centenary celebrations of the arrival of the 6 pioneers in North East India which also marks the conclusion of the centenary celebrations at PCI level. We are exactly a month away from the dawn of this mega event. I sincerely thank everyone who is involved in one way or another in the preparation of this event and more especially for the prayers and sacrifices sent ahead in order to ensure its successful outcome. Let us continue to put our efforts together to make this historic celebration a memorable one that enthuses spiritual and charismatic renewal in the life of each one.

On this happy occasion, in the name of the Province we are happy to welcome our dear and beloved Mother General, the General Councillors - Sr. Nilza Fátima Moraes, Sr. Runita Borja and Sr. Celine Jacob. Their presence will bring much joy, blessing and meaning to our celebration. Let us pray that their journey may be smooth. We also extend our warm and affectionate welcome to all the Provincials of FMA PCI, the former Provincials, representatives of the different Provinces, members of the Salesian Family and all the young people. May this mega event create sense of family to rekindle the passion and the fire lit by our pioneers.

*[The final programme of the celebration is attached here along]*



## *Family News and Communications*

**Bon Voyage:** We extend our affectionate greetings of safe journey to our dear Sisters who are leaving the Province for a mission that the Lord has set apart for them in the mission land- Sr. Embok Suchiang, Sr. Ibansara Kharkongor and Sr. Idearland Lyngkhoi who are leaving the Province today 10 August 2023 for the mission ad gentes and Sr. Igina Kharjana who will be rendering her services in Italy. She will leave the Province on 16 August 2023. May the Lord bless them and accompany them in their journey and especially in the mission that awaits them. We thank them for the valuable service rendered for the growth of the Province in various capacities. May their footprints they left be an example to many especially to be inspired by their generosity to listen to the missionary call of the Lord

**Welcome back:** I would like to inform you that Sr. Celine D’Cunha will return to the Province on 31 August 2023. We welcome her back and wish her all the best in her mission.

**Congratulations and God’s blessings:** We rejoice with the whole Salesian Family to thank God for the gift our Rector Major Fr. Ángel Fernández Artime who was appointed Cardinal by his Holiness Pope Francis on 9 July 2023 during the Angelus when he announced the convocation of the Consistory for 30 September 2023 for the appointment of 21 new Cardinals. This appointment is indeed an honour for the Salesian Family as the Rector Major is the first successor of Don Bosco to receive this title of a Cardinal in the Church. We congratulate our beloved Rector Major while assuring him of our continual prayerful support in his mission in the Church.



**University Results:** Our heartiest Congratulations to all our Sisters who have passed well in the University Examinations. May the Lord bless their efforts with a fruitful mission that awaits them. We extend our greetings in particular to Sr. Jemiritha Sangama who secured the 8<sup>th</sup> rank in the University for the BA in Music. Congratulations dear Sisters and keep up your good effort.

**Jubilarians:** Our warmest and affectionate ‘*Congratulations*’ and ‘*God’s Blessings*’ to all our Sisters who are celebrating this year the various jubilee of their Religious Profession. God has been faithful in their life and they have responded to that with their life of love and fidelity in these past 25, 50 and 60 years of bountiful blessings.

**Diamond Jubilarians:** Sr. Celine Michael  
Sr. Icydora Pasi

**Golden Jubilarians:** Sr. Rosina Lare  
Sr. Elizabeth Thannimootil  
Sr. Elizabeth Vazhakalayil

**Silver Jubilarians:** Sr. Joycy Mary Dhar  
 Sr. Hunbih Mary Dkhar  
 Sr. Luigina Shylla  
 Sr. Mildred Kharsyiemlieh  
 Sr. Rihun Paulina Sten  
 Sr. Rona Kharkongor  
 Sr. Tarsiana Thyрниang  
 Sr. Wismary Kharbihkhiew



We thank them for the loving and dedicated services rendered towards the growth of the mission in the Province in these past years. May the Lord continue to enfold them with many more years of blessings and fidelity.

**New mission at Deku:** We are grateful to the Lord for His continuous blessings upon us and our mission. In this centenary year of the arrival of our pioneers to North East India, I am happy to inform you that the Province is extending the mission in Garo Hills with the inauguration of the mission at Deku which will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023. On this historic year of our mission, it is significant that the Province is launching out to more frontiers of the mission that the spirit and charism of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello may take deeper roots in our land. We implore God’s blessings upon our Sisters who will be the pioneers of the Deku mission. We appreciate their spirit of generosity and courage to begin this mission with love and zeal. The centre will initially be part of the community of Auxilium, Tura. I am thankful to Sr. Marcellina Sangma and community for the support that they will render at the initial stages of the mission. I am grateful to Bishop Andrew Marak DD and Bishop Jose Chirackal DD, for extending the invitation to collaborate with the Diocese in this mission. Our sincere gratitude also to Mother General and her Council for granting us the necessary permission to begin our apostolate at Deku. We pray that our mission may bear desirable fruit for the salvation of many people especially the poor and abandoned ones.

**Installation of Animators:** I request your prayers for our Animators who will assume the responsibility of animation in this month. Let us pray that they may be enthused with the spirit of the Good Shepherd to lead and guide the communities and the noble mission entrusted to their care. Let us support and accompany them with our prayers. The days of installation will be as follows:

ANIMATOR	COMMUNITY	DATE	
Sr. Rihunlang Muthoh	Auxilium, Saiden	11 August 2023 – Saiden	<i>Sr. Elizabeth George</i>
Sr. Marilyn Bahun Wahlang	St. Peter’s, Nongstoiñ	11 August 2023- Nongstoiñ	<i>Sr. Rosina Susngi</i>
Sr. Cecilia Ksoo	Mazzarello, Garobadha	12 August 2023- Garobadha	<i>Sr. Maristella Ryngkhlem</i>
Sr. Lydia Mary Pala	Auxilium, Lamyrsiang	12 August 2023- Lamyrsiang	<i>Sr. Helen Puwein</i>



Sr. Celina Maslai	Auxilium, Kawnpui	13 August 2023- Umswai	<i>Sr. Elizabeth George</i>
Sr. Albina Phangchopi	Auxilium, Umswai		
Sr. Celestina Thyrniang	Auxilium, ITI Aizawl	16 August 2023- Mawkyrdep	<i>Sr. Elizabeth George</i>
Sr. Wismary Kharbihkhiew	Mazzarello, Mawkyrdep		

**A note of Thank you:** I express my sincere gratitude to Sr. Tera Kamsuan, Sr. Elizabeth Thannimoothil, Sr. Happyline Shadap and the respective communities of Mawlai, Bellefonte and FMA Outreach for having hosted the various celebrations of the professions and renewals. May the Lord bless your generosity and bless your communities with Divine Providence.

**Discernment Process:** Another important event will take place in the province immediately after the Centenary celebrations. This event is also a time of grace and an extraordinary moment of discerning God's will. Article 35 of our constitutions speaks about the need as a community to strive to discern God's will and the duty of everyone to participate actively in this key moment of co-responsibility, giving our contribution in order to reach the best decisions, accepting with serenity the possible sacrifice of our personal opinions and initiatives. As a province, we are about to enter into the important moment of discernment, in order to give our enlightened opinion on the choice of the next provincial. I have already reminded you about this and asked to send prayers ahead imploring the gift of the Spirit on each member of the province, so that we can truly discern the path and plan of God. We are grateful to Rev. Mother General, Sr. Chiara Cazzuola for appointing Sr. Celine Jacob, Visiting General Councilor to facilitate the process of discernment for the choice of the new Provincial from **13-16 September 2023**. I thank Sr. Celine Jacob for accepting this delicate task on behalf of Mother General. I am attaching herewith the letter of Sr. Celine Jacob, as well as the material she sent for reflection as a community to enable us to prepare for this significant event in the province. The Holy Spirit plays a major role in this process. Let us prepare ourselves with prayer, docility to God's will and sense of responsibility for this very important discernment in the province. I request the animators of communities to find time as a community to read and understand the contents of the letter of Sr. Celine Jacob and to reflect personally and as community the material she has sent.

**Consecrated for a Mission:** We congratulate our 16 Novices who made their first profession on 5 August 2023 and wish them God's blessings for their new mission in the following communities:

COMMUNITIES	SISTERS
Auxilium, Bishramganj	Sr. Kharumnuid Fatima
	Sr. Taropi Ibasika
Auxilium, Lamyrsiang	Sr. Pyngrope Almashisha
	Sr. Thongni Wanda Mary
Auxilium, Mawpat	Sr. Marwein Inosencia
Auxilium, Mawroh	Sr. Dhar Ajanta
	Sr. Lalhruaitluangi Maria Goretti
Auxilium, Nandan Nagar	Sr. Sangma A. Fatima

Auxilium, Saphai	Sr. Pariong Ribandalin
	Sr. Phawa Jessica
Auxilium, Umdang	Sr. Khardewsaw Kyntiewhun Mary
Auxilium, Umwai	Sr. Kharkongor Aihunlin
	Sr. Pyngrope Ridasuk
Mazzarello, Mawkyrdep	Sr. Papang Mercy
St. Francis, Mawkyndeng	Sr. Marak M. Sophia
St. Mary's, Rangblang	Sr. Lapasam Sumarlang-i

### *Prayers for the sick and the departed*

We extend our prayerful support to all the sick ones, through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, especially our sick sisters, relatives of our Sisters and members of the Salesian Family. We remember in our prayers particularly:

- The father of Sr. Brigitha Marak
- All our sisters who are sick in the communities, and
- All the sick relatives of our Sisters.

We also offer our heartfelt condolences and prayers to all our Sisters who have lost their dear ones in the past month and all the members of the Salesian Family. We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayerful support particularly to:

- Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil and the sisters of INK Province at the demise of Sr. Lizy K.V Kunnumpurathu on 07 July 2023
- Fr. Provincial and Confreres of Guwahati province (ING) at the demise of Fr. Thomas Chinginiyaden SDB on 30 July 2023
- Fr. Provincial and Confreres of Shillong Province (INS) at the untimely passing away of the Aspirant Geoffrey Khonglah on 6 August 2023.

May the departed ones enjoy the loving embrace of God forever in His Kingdom and may all those who mourn their passing away be consoled by the strength and grace of God.

#### Feasts of the month

- 02 August– Blessed Augustus Czarotorski
- 05 August– Foundation Day
- 06 August– Transfiguration of our Lord
- 15 August– Assumption of our Blessed Mother & Independence Day
- 25 August– Blessed Maria Troncati
- 26 August– Blessed Zeferino Namancura

Every year on 15 August we celebrate the twin feasts of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Independence Day of our country. These twin celebrations though are of contrasting nature - one secular in character and the other religious - need not be seen as two unrelated events. The Independence Day reminds us of the political freedom our country obtained

from foreign domination in 1947 precisely on this day and it arouses lot of patriotic feelings and admiration for the sacrifices made by the freedom fighters. The solemnity of the Assumption is the celebration of a unique privilege given to one who cooperated with God’s initiative to liberate not just one nation but the entire human race from the slavery of sin. Thus, the twin feasts celebrated on this day is not a mere coincidence but rather part of the mighty plan of God, accomplished through the intercession of Mary. We can presume that Mary who was free from any form of slavery from the moment of her conception, would have willed that this great nation attains freedom not only from political slavery but from every other form of slavery including, spiritual, social and economic which oppress and suppress millions of people in our country. As we salute every patriotic Indian who paid the price of our political freedom, we earnestly pray for and stand by every Indian who is yet to enjoy the freedom and dignity of a truly liberated people. The beautiful patriotic poem by Tagore and the type of freedom he prayed for is yet to become a reality.

Mary was present in the most difficult moments of human history and particularly of the Church. The feast of the Assumption is truly a feast of the exaltation of the Humble and the recognition of her cooperation in the plan of God. In the words of Pope Francis: “She (Mary), small and humble, has been raised up and – we celebrate this today – brought to the glory of Heaven, while the powerful of the world are destined to remain empty-handed. Our Lady, in other words, announces a radical change, an overturning of values.”

May Mary intercede for the millions in the world and in our country who languish in fear, poverty, ignorance, exploitation and other forms of slavery. Ave Maria! And may Our country rise and raise her millions to the path of peace, progress and prosperity.

With assurance of prayers and loving accompaniment,  
Affectionately,



**Sr. Elizabeth George FMA**  
**Provincial**



**HAPPY FEAST!**