

# PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

*St. Joseph Province of Hyderabad - INH*



**RB /INH /CIR 03 /2015**

**March, 2015**

**Dear Confreres,**

Greetings of peace and joy from Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad! To say “Don Bosco” is to say “Young People”. It is almost inconceivable to recall the Saint’s story without the company of young people. Fr. Angel Fernandez has announced the theme of his first Strenna, for the bicentennial year of the founder’s birth, which goes straight to the heart of the mission: **“Like Don Bosco, with the young, for the young”**.

The Strenna 2015 is once again is offered by the Rector Major as Don Bosco’s successor and therefore as the father of the whole Salesian Family. He did not offer this Strenna as a pastoral proposal to inspire our strategic plan. Rather, he offered it as a means to build up the unity and communion of the entire Salesian Family around a single objective. He was very clearly calling on all branches of the Salesian Family to explore ways to give this Strenna theme practical expression in their lives as followers of Don Bosco.

The communion of the Salesian Family is not an end in itself, nor should it be only for internal purposes but must be a gift to the Church: the Salesian charism is a gift for the whole Church, just like all the other charisms of the Holy Spirit offered for the evangelizing mission, as cited by Pope Francis in *Evangelii Gaudium*.

Fr. Angel Fernandez begins his 2015 Strenna with GC 27’s core teaching that personal and communal intimacy with God in Jesus has to be the foundation of consecrated life, pastoral outreach and living in community. Without that deep relationship with God on the personal and communal levels, consecrated life and Christian life are not possible. As “Union with God” was an apt description of Don Bosco’s spirituality and life, so “Union with God” has to be the foundation of our

response to God in our consecrated and Christian life within the Salesian Family.

He reminds us of the source of the apostolic dynamism that sustained Don Bosco and must also sustain each member of the Salesian Family: the pastoral charity whose fundamental model is the heart of Jesus. This icon is the center of the Salesian educational action that calls us to be caught up in the plan of God. He speaks of Don Bosco's effectiveness in mission as being rooted in the conviction that "he was part of the plan of God". With God holding the primary place in his life, Don Bosco had great confidence in the effectiveness of his pastoral charity with young people who were the poorest.

This life spent in union with God freed Don Bosco to approach the changing situations in his time with great confidence. On one level, Don Bosco has always been described as being blessed with the ability to read the signs of the times. He points out that this ability demonstrated far more than mere strategic acumen. Rather, it was based on Don Bosco's conviction that he could recognize God in the everyday situations of Life. He confesses that expressions such as *The primacy of God, Mystics in the Spirit, God's Design, God's Closeness, Union with God, Seekers of God...* are phrases which set his heart beating.

The *raison d'être* of our religious life – since we should not forget that our life is not only Salesian life, but religious life as consecrated people – is not to be found in what we do, nor even in the ways we organize ourselves, nor in the effectiveness of our programmes and planning. Either our religious life as consecrated persons makes us become signs or we run the risk of becoming more concerned about our strength than about the message of God.

The inherent danger in every religious life is that of losing its charismatic freshness. It is possible that we become so involved in works, activities, and roles... that we can lose the symbolic value of our life. The way ahead is a return to a meeting with HIM who gives meaning to every moment of our life. The intimacy that we share with God and his people calls us to incarnate the Salesian charism in our very being. With the young, we take up the posture of "an apprentice" who knows the young and their culture and who enters into a dialogue with them to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit together.

The community life is one of the ways of having an experience of God. Living "mystical fraternity" is an essential element of our apostolic consecration. Certainly, community life has, as one author has written, "all the charm of what is difficult and what is possible, of grace and of weakness. Only with the grace of God does one remain in community and deepen this experience... and it is a penance that purifies and

provides an exercise in collaboration, in participation and in communion. The great challenge to every confrere in each of the communities in the Salesian world is this: To make our community a real place of a life of communion. This certainly presupposes personal and even community conversion: it requires an affective and effective commitment to achieve this; it is a question of a process that requires us to accept that every stage of our lives is an opportunity for growth, to open ourselves to the new experience of a more authentic strength that God gives to make His presence among us more visible.

### **With the Young, for the Young! ..... especially the poorest ones**

Don Bosco often said: “Youth are our Masters”, and in their regard he always maintained the attitude of a real servant. WITH THE YOUNG, because the starting point of our giving flesh to the Salesian Charism is our being with the young, being with them and among them, meeting with them in our daily lives, knowing their world and loving it, encouraging them to take a leading role in their own lives, re-awakening in them a sense of God, inspiring them to set their sights high, to live their lives as the Lord Jesus lived his.

FOR THE YOUNG, because if what is filling our hearts as we respond to the vocational call of the Lord Jesus is a special pastoral love for boys and girls, for the young, this will show itself in us as it did in Don Bosco as a very real “passion” in discovering what is best for them, devoting all our strength, all our efforts to this.

The Rector Major insists on giving attention and priority to young people, especially the poorest, and invites us to make our own, with a specific commitment, Pope Francis’s call to have at heart the periphery, which “is the most characteristic feature of our Salesian DNA”. In this perspective, with the educational charism of Don Bosco shared in common, the Salesian family members are witnesses of God’s love and want to be a gift to the young; but they must also be equally convinced that, as Fr. Juan Vecchi said, poor youth are themselves a gift that encourages us in our journey to overcome the risks of mediocrity, to go beyond our own safe areas, to remain open to the Holy Spirit.

Following Don Bosco, we must always keep close to his charism of service to the poorest of society. Don Bosco’s mission has to be the “pole star” that gives direction to our lives and mission. Just as sailors find their way by referring to a compass pointing to the North Pole, so our lives and ministerial outreach have to be oriented in the direction of the young people who are on the margin of society. For the young we are real fathers and brothers as Don Bosco was and as in his day John Paul II reminded us by saying:

Our attention must always be centered on the young, the hope of the church and the world, towards which everyone looks with faith and trepidation. In the richer countries, as in the poorer ones, you must be always at their service, with special attention to those who are weaker and on the fringe of society. Take to each of them the hope of the Gospel, so as to help them to face life courageously, resisting temptations to selfishness and discouragement. To them you must be the fathers and brothers Don Bosco taught us to be.

Here are the Spiritual Portraits of the Blessed members of the Salesian Family whom we commemorate during this month.

### **Bl. Artemide Zatti (15<sup>th</sup> March)**

Blessed Artemide Zatti was born on 12 October 1880 in Italy, and died on 15 March 1951 at Viedma, Argentina. As a Salesian religious brother, he became a saint by running a hospital and pharmacy for the poor for 40 years in Viedma, Argentina. In 1897, when Artemide was 17 years old, his family emigrated from Reggio Emilia to join Artemide's uncle who had a good job in Bahía Blanca, Argentina. There they found steady work and a livelihood. In his "new life" in Argentina, Artemide worked in a hotel and then in a brick factory. On Sundays the Zatti family faithfully assisted at Mass and other activities in the parish of the Salesian Fathers who in 1890 set up a community in Bahía Blanca. With true apostolic spirit, Artemide used his free time to help the Salesian parish priest in his parish activities especially, in visiting the sick.

He was inspired by the life of Don Bosco and by the Salesian priests and felt called to imitate him. In 1900 when he was 19, the Salesians accepted him as a student for the priesthood. But he had great difficulty with the studies since he had left elementary school long before. Also, during the novitiate, Artemide contracted a severe case of TB from taking care of a young priest who was a TB victim. In 1902 Artemide was forced to leave the house of studies to seek a cure in the pure air of Viedma, a city located high in the Andes. Little did he realize that Viedma was going to be his city for the rest of his life. The climate was very healthy. There was a hospital and pharmacy attached to the Salesian College run by Fr Evaristo Garrone, a priest and physician who was known for his empirical approach to medicine. Fr Evaristo was also known for his trust in God's Providence; he never turned away the poor who could not pay. Under the guidance of Fr Garrone, Artemide made a promise to Our Lady, Help of Christians, that if she would obtain a cure for him, he would serve the sick poor for the rest of his life. When he was cured, he continued his training as a Salesian religious brother. In 1908 he was a

professed Salesian and began his mission alongside Fr Garrone. When Fr Garrone died in 1911, Artemide was put in charge of the pharmacy and the hospital. He was a trained pharmacist, nurse, operating-room assistant as well as juggler of finances and head of personnel.

Despite the demands of the sick and the needs of the hospital, Artemide was known for his "Salesian joy", a sign of his holiness for those around him. He was "not only the provider of medicine, but was himself a medicine for others by his presence, his songs, his voice ...". In July 1950, after falling off a ladder that he was climbing to get on the roof to fix a leaky water tank, Artemide was forced to take a period of rest and recovery. After a few months the doctors diagnosed his livid skin colour as a serious cancer of the liver. He was sick from January to March. He died on 15 March 1951. His mortal remains repose in the chapel of the Salesians at Viedma. Bl. Artemide lived what St John Bosco said to the first Salesians leaving for America: "Take special care of the sick, the children, the elderly, the poor and you will receive God's blessing and the respect of those around you".

### **Congratulations to our Deacons**

This year six students of theology studying in different Theology Centers will be Ordained as Deacons.

On 18 March, 2015 two of our Clerics, Gandala Simharayulu and Talari Sanjay, will be receiving their diaconate at Becchi Don Bosco, Kavaraipettai.

On 19 March, 2015 two of our Clerics, Boddu Charan Kumar and Kalakoti Ramesh, will be receiving their diaconate at Kristu Jyoti College, Bangalore. Two more will be ordained as deacons in the month of July at Shillong.

We congratulate them and assure them of our fervent prayers as they enter this most important phase of their journey towards priesthood. After their diaconate ordination, our deacons will be placed in the following communities for their diaconate ministry.

Cl. Boddu Charan Kumar	-	DB Mariapuram
Cl. Kalakoti Ramesh	-	Pezzonipet
Cl. Gandala Simharayulu	-	Bosco Ashram Ponnur
Cl. Talari Sanjay	-	Peddaboddepalli

### **Applications for Renewal and Perpetual Profession**

The Rectors and Clerics in temporary Profession are once again reminded about submitting the application forms for Renewal and Perpetual Profession after due reflection, consultation and prayers. Kindly send two admission forms along with the

application for those making the Perpetual Profession. I remind the leaders of the communities to accompany our young Salesians to make a proper discernment. The last date for the application forms, along with the opinion of the local community, to reach the Provincial office before 23 March, 2015.

### **Assessment Forms**

Kindly note that the third assessment forms of the temporary professed Salesians need to reach the Provincial office by March 15, 2015. This is also an urgent reminder for those who are still to send the second assessment. The rectors of the respective houses are exhorted to take the necessary steps in ensuring that these forms are diligently filled in by the community. We consider that this process is one of the valuable means of accompanying our young Salesians as they grow in their Salesian Vocation.

### **Summer Apostolate**

The academic year is fast coming to an end and I am sure each community is planning for its summer ministry. Prior to the arrival of the Brothers, the community is exhorted to draw up a plan of action and finalize it with the Brothers once they arrive. On their arrival ensure that they are properly instructed about their roles and responsibilities and are diligently helped to undertake the same. After the summer ministry send a report about their performance to the Rector of the studentate and to the Provincial office. As for the placement of students of Theology, philosophy and student brothers for this summer, the list is enclosed with this Circular.

### **Lenten Contribution**

All the leaders of the communities are requested to send the Lenten Contribution to the Provincial Economist on or before 6 April 2015. This will be collected together and sent to the Rector Major.

### **Animation and Renewals at Don Bosco Provincial House**

This year, we will not be having the summer formation programme for the brothers in practical training and college studies. There will be a day of animation for the clerics and brothers on 21<sup>st</sup> May followed by a day of recollection on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. They will renew their vows on 23<sup>rd</sup> Morning, and after breakfast they will travel back to their respective communities.

Fr. Vice Provincial will communicate the List of brothers and the details of the Programme.

### **Vocation Camps**

In the month of April and May there will be vocation camps organized in the four regions of the province. Vocations to religious life are the crown of our youth apostolate.

Communities hosting the camps too are requested to assist Fr. Yeruva Joji, the Vocation Promoter and his team in every way possible. Kindly encourage 10<sup>th</sup> students and above, Catholic boys to participate in any one of the camps. All the camps begin on the first day at 6.00 p.m and conclude at 12.30 p.m on the last day. The dates and locations are as follows:

April 18 – 21 - Don Bosco Academy, SLB Colony, Nalgonda

May 1 - 4 - Don Bosco ITC, Station Road, Kadapa

May 8 – 10 - Don Bosco Mission, Ravulapalem, EG. Dt

May 15 – 18 - Don Bosco Nilayam, Gunadala, Vijayawada

### **Meeting of the Commissions of the Province**

On 21 March 2015, I request the heads of the various commissions and sectors of the Province to convene meetings in respective commissions to evaluate the functioning of the commission and to plan (prepare a SEPP) for the next year. Kindly send the evaluation and the SEPP to the Vice Provincial by 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2015.

### **SPCSA Assembly and Council**

The SPCSA Assembly and Council meeting was held from 23 - 28 February 2015 in Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad. These meetings were animated by the Regional Councillor Fr. Maria Arokiam and the General Councillor, Fr. Francesco Cereda, Br. Jean Paul Muller and Fr. Ivo Coelho and his team.

#### **Highlights of the SPCSA Assembly**

The re-drafted statutes of most of the National level network were taken up for discussions and amendments. Some of the statutes were approved in the assembly.

Fr. Maria Arokiam, the Regional, proposed starting a branch of ACSSA, the association for promotion of Salesian history.

Bro. Jean Paul Muller and Fr. Santhanaraj, the coordinator for economists network presented the summary of the Vatican guidelines for the administration of the assets in institutes of Consecrated life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The sector councilors chaired sessions relating to their departments explaining various aspects of our life and mission that we need to pay attention to as a Congregation, as Provinces and as Salesian Communities.

### **Feast of St. Joseph, the Patron of our Province**

We are in the month of March, a month in which we remember dear St. Joseph, the Patron of our Province. May we all once again make a fervent effort to know the spirit of this dear saint, who inspires us much with his gentle and humble presence as the head of the Holy Family. He is the model of workers, ornament of domestic life,

safeguard of families, guardian of virgins, consolation of the poor, hope of the sick, patron of the dying and protector of the holy church. So from the early church he has been rightly venerated as the greatest saint after Mary his spouse. He is therefore high in the hierarchy of heaven.

Though we are in the season of Lent let us not forget the Novena in preparation for the solemnity of St. Joseph on 19<sup>th</sup> March. During these days we shall specially entrust all our institutions and each confrere to the protection of this great and most just, chaste, prudent, valiant, obedient, faithful, patient saint. Let us celebrate his feast in a fitting manner and implore him to continue to protect us and to intercede for the various intentions we have for the good of our Province and of every community.

**Yours Affectionately in Don Bosco,**

*Fr. R. Balaraju*



**Fr Ramedini Balaraju sdb**

**Provincial**



**DON BOSCO**

**BICENTENARIO DELLA NASCITA**

**TRAVELOGUE OF THE PROVINCIAL - March & April - 2015**

<b>March</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>Community</b>
01	Regional level celebration of consecrated life at Hyderabad	02 - 05	Muniguda APV/Easter
02	Meeting of the volunteers-DBPH	08 - 09	Navajeevan, Vijayawada APV
03-04	Navajeevan, Visakhapatnam APV	10 -11	DB Mangalagiri APV
05-06	DB Peddaboddepalli APV	12	Inauguration of the chapel in PT Parru
07 - 08	St. Johns Regional Seminary, Kondadaba APV	13 - 14	Bosco Ashram, Ponnur APV
11 - 12	BIRDY, Hyderabad APV	15 - 16	DB Guntur APV
13 - 14	DB Provincial House APV	17	DB Ongole APV
16 - 17	DB Kadapa APV	<b>22</b>	<b>Provincial Council</b>
18 -19	KJC Bangalore		
20 - 21	DB Raptadu APV		
<b>25-26</b>	<b>Provincial Council</b>		
28 - 29	St. Theresa's Church, Sanathnagar APV		

**VICE - PROVINCIAL**

<b>March</b>	<b>Community</b>
01	Regional level celebration of consecrated life at Hyderabad
02 - 03	Meeting of the Volunteers-DBPH
05	Strenna Presentation - Karunapuram
06	Mariapuram
07	House Council
10	Tri-monthly recollection - Rappthadu
11	Kristu Jyothi College, Bangalore
13 - 14	APV - Provincial House
18	Becchi - Kavarapettai
19	Yercaud
24	Commission for Social Communications Meet - Hyd
<b>25-26</b>	<b>Provincial Council</b>
29 - 30	Muniguda

**DON BOSCO**

BICENTENARIO DELLA NASCITA

**ECONOMER**

Mar	Community	April	Community
01	Regional level Celebration of consecrated life at Hyderabad	06	Don Bosco Navajeevan, Vijayawada
02	Don Bosco School, Bandlaguda	07	Don Bosco P. T. Parru
03	Meeting of the Volunteers – DBPH	08	Bosco Ashram, Ponnur
05	BIRDY, Hyderabad	09	St. Michael's Home, Guntur
06	Don Bosco, Wyra	13	Don Bosco, Ravulapalem
07	Don Bosco Premnivas	14	Don Bosco, Peddaboddepalli
08	St. Michael's Home, Guntur	<b>22</b>	<b>Provincial Council</b>
09	Don Bosco Gunadala	25	Don Bosco, Mariapuram
10	Don Bosco P.T Parru	27	Don Bosco Academy, Nalgonda
11	Don Bosco, Ponnur	27	Don Bosco, Chandur
12	Don Bosco Provincial House		
15	Don Bosco, Kadapa		
17	Don Bosco, Ananthapur		
19	DB Tech, Bangalore		
22	Don Bosco, Ongole		
24	St. Theresa's Church, Sanathnagar / Don Bosco School, Sanathnagar		
<b>25-26</b>	<b>Provincial Council</b>		
27	Sacred Heart Novitiate, Manoharabad		
29	Don Bosco, Muniguda		



**DON BOSCO**  
BICENTENARIO DELLA NASCITA

## Province of St. Joseph, Hyderabad

## Summer Ministry 2015

<b>Confreere</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Community</b>
Cl. Gandla Simharayalu	20 Mar - 2 June	Bosco Ashram Ponnur
Cl. Aduri Chinnababu	20 Mar - 2 June	Kollapur
Cl. Kakarla Chandra Mohan	5 Mar – 4 June	Kollapur
Cl. Talari Sanjay	20 Mar – 2 June	Peddaboddepalli
Cl. Palla Velangini Joseph	21 April – 20 May	Peddaboddepalli
Cl. Salibindla Sandeep	20 Mar – 2 June	Vocation Camps – Gunadala
Cl. Boddu Charan	20 Mar – 2 June	DB – Mariapuram
Cl. Nayak Jameson	21 April – 1 June	DB - Mariapuram
Cl. Jinugu Vidya Sagar	20 Mar – 2 June	Kadapa
Cl. Lima Sushant	8 Mar – 4 June	Kadapa
Cl. Kalakoti Ramesh	20 Mar – 2 June	Pezzonipet
Cl. Mallavarapu Anil	20 Mar – 2 June	Muniguda
Br. Pani Nanok	7 April – 4 June	Muniguda
Cl. Doddi Ravi Kishore	21 April - 20 May	DB Academy – Nalgonda
Cl. Mabbu David	7 April – 4 June	DB Academy – Nalgonda
Cl. Chinthaguntla Prem Kumar	7 April – 4 June	DB Academy - Nalgonda
Cl. Dalai Augustine	18 April – 20 May	DBNJ – Vijayawada
Cl. Kadiyam Prasanna Kumar	7 April – 4 June	DBNJ - Vijayawada
Cl. Kotte Ravi	18 April – 20 May	Wyra
Cl. Polepaka Sampath	18 April – 20 May	Rapthadu
Cl. Gollapalle David	21 April – 1 June	Rapthadu
Cl. Tagaram Ashok	21 April – 20 May	St. Therasas', Sanathnagar
Cl. Lakkineni David	7 April – 4 June	Ongole
Cl. Markapudi Prathap	7 April – 4 June	P. T. Parru
Cl. Palle Sravan	18 April – 20 May	Mangalagiri
Cl. Madugu Prabhakar	7 April – 4 June	Mangalagiri
Cl. Bagsingh Pramod	18 April – 20 May	St. Michaels' – Guntur
Cl. Bedikala Mahesh	7 April – 4 June	St. Michaels' - Guntur
Cl. Konigipogu Yohan	7 April – 4 June	DBNJ – Hyderabad
Cl. Indrajit Guptha	18 April – 20 May	DBNJ - Hyderabad

Cl. Beesupaka Suman	18 April – 20 May	Kurnool
Cl. Ubbana Suresh	7 April – 4 June	Kurnool
Cl. Nayak Jubaraj	7 April – 4 June	Rajamundry
Cl. Koduri Joseph Thambi	7 April – 4 June	Rajamundry
Cl. Madiri Rakesh	7 April – 4 June	Ravulapalem
Cl. Pradhan Ashish	21 April – 1 June	Karunapuram



DON BOSCO

BICENTENARIO DELLA NASCITA