

PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

St. Joseph Province of Hyderabad - INH



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Dear Confreres,

Greetings of joy in this gracious month of the Holy Rosary from Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad! We have just concluded the Salesian Family Congress in Kolkata and Youth Expo in New Delhi. During the SFC the Salesian Family Mission statement was prepared and passed by the members.

The Mission Statement as drawn up by the members:

The Salesian Family groups (SDB, FMA SCC, DBA, MSMHC, SMI, SMA, VDB, ADMA, VSDB, and Disciples of the South Asian Region came together with the theme "One Family and One Mission".

We, the members of the Salesian Family, the disciples of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, rooted in the Eucharist, the Word of God and guided by Mary Help of Christians, imbued with the spirit, mind and heart of Don Bosco, enriched by our diverse, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, respecting the individual identity of each group and in communion with one another, resolutely move forward as mystics in the Spirit, prophets of fraternity and servants of the young, to be at the service of the Church, especially the young who are poor and at risk, and families. Through mutual collaboration, shared responsibility and accountability.

We commit ourselves

- To grow in holiness by living out Don Bosco's motto: "Give me souls, take away the rest" according to the charism of each family.
- To foster networking at national, provincial and local levels among the Salesian Family Groups.
- To enable the young and families to live their lives in all its fullness.

We strive

- To improve our communion among ourselves by studying and reflecting seriously

on the Salesian Family Charter and Salesian Family Directory, and accompanying each member of the Family in moments of joys and sorrows.

- To be effective in the ecclesiastical and secular spheres as youth experts,
 - a) By setting up youth spirituality and retreat centres in collaboration with other members of the Salesian Family at provincial level
 - b) By combating social evils such as human trafficking, crimes against minors and women and any other forms of exploitation through networking and advocacy.
 - c) By strengthening the ministry among the migrant youth.

To enhance our family apostolate

- By reaching out to the homes of the students of our institutions and of our neighborhood in a meaningful manner.
- By setting up family counseling centers at provincial level.

In order to carry forward the collaborative process effectively, all the Provincial and heads of the Salesian family Members will meet at least once a year at the national and provincial level. Thus we aim to achieve the goals of our charism as a strong united youth work agency of God's kingdom in our region.

During the SFC the Rector Major and the provincials had interaction with the monks of the Ramakrishna Math. Here is some news about the Meeting.

An Historical visit took place on 28 September when the Rector Major, Fr. Angel Fernandez Artime, met with the monks of a top Hindu religious order – the Ram Krishna Mission Math at Belur, on the northern outskirts of Kolkata.

The tenth successor of Don Bosco expressed his happiness at meeting with the top officials of the Hindu religious order. Assistant General secretary Swami Bhajanananda along with 11 senior monks welcomed the Salesian Rector Major and 10 Provincial's at Ramkrishna Mission World Headquarters.

“It was the very first meeting of a Superior General of any Catholic religious order to the Hindu Monastery”, as noted by Shyamal Baran Roy a senior journalist and Salesian Past Pupil. “It is an important moment for us as seekers of God. We are all brothers,” said the Rector Major explaining the fact that “when we meet with other brothers and sisters of any religion who are serious about their spirituality we feel close to them”.

“These moments of communion are for me and for the provincials a call to deeper

spirituality”, said Fr. Artime, recalling his three-hour meeting with missionaries of Charity Sisters at the Mother House on the previous day. Swami Bhajanananda explained the missions’ monastic spirituality saying, “We believe in religious pluralism. Monks cooperate with lay devotees and render social service, medical assistance, education as well as conduct rural youth welfare programs.”

The Rector Major also proposed the possibilities of Catholic and Hindu orders working together on common social issues; and Swami Bhajanananda welcomed the idea, saying also that it is important to pay attention to preserving their own identities.

After some 30 minutes of interaction and exchange of gifts, the visitors had a darshan (tour) of the Ram Krishna Math temple with Swami Atmaroopananda, an American monk who described it to the Rector Major in Spanish.

Rama Krishna Mission is a monastic organization for men started by Sri Rama Krishna Paramahansa (1836-1886). The mission aims at the harmony of religions, East and West, ancient and modern. It also strives for spiritual fulfilment, all-round development of human faculties, social equality, and peace for all humanity, without any distinction of creed, caste, race or nationality.

Bicentenary Message of Pope Francis to the Salesian Family

Marking the Bicentenary of the Birth of Don Bosco, Pope Francis has sent an official letter to our rector Major, recalling his recent meeting with the Members of the Salesian Family in the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians in Turin. The Pope declares in his message that, Don Bosco is remembered among Salesians as the father of the present day Salesian Family.

At the heart of Don Bosco’s vision, is love in action, reaching out to those most in need. The distinctive traits of Don Bosco’s educational method were a family environment and the presence of the educator as a father, teacher and friend of the young person, which is conveyed by a classical term of Salesian Pedagogy: Assistance.

Pope Francis calls the attention of educators with two challenges to shape our responses today for the discernment of the youth reality today. First – helping young people to navigate the social networks which so profoundly shape young people’s views of religion and human life. Second – encouraging young people to engage in voluntary work.

The Holy Father makes a plea to the Salesian Family: “The Church has great expectations concerning the care of the young; great too is the charism that the Holy

Spirit bestowed on St. John Bosco, which is carried on by the Salesian Family with a passionate dedication to the youth of all continents and with numerous priests, religious and lay vocations. Therefore I encourage you to take up the legacy of your founder and father, with the Gospel radicalism, like that of Don Bosco, with the young and for the young”.

Salesian Saint of the Month

Bl. Albert Marvelli (5th Oct)

Albert Marvelli was born on 21 March 1918 in Ferrara, Italy, the second of six children to Luigi Marvelli and Maria Mary. He was a lively child but also very thoughtful and reserved, most sensitive to the needs of others. He was especially influenced by his mother, who was the ‘Good Samaritan’ of the Marvelli family and always kept open house for the poor.

In June 1930 the Marvelli family moved to Rimini and Alberto began to attend the Salesian Oratory and Catholic Action group in the parish, where his faith was nurtured and sustained increasing the awareness of his call to holiness. He would often say, “My programme of life is summed up in one word: **holy**”. He lived his Christian faith especially in the political and social work, understood as service of the common good: With the Lord’s help I desire and I resolve to be always an example to my colleagues and to defend my faith in all circumstances without human respect, and have my mind always directed to the greater glory of God.

He was one of the most popular candidates of the Christian Democratic Party and was respected by all. On the evening of 5th October 1946, as he was cycling to attend a meeting for the local election, for which he was a candidate, he was run over by an army truck and died. He was 28 years old.

Blessed Alexandrina Maria da Costa, Virgin (13 Oct)

Alessandrina Maria da Costa was born on 30th march 1904 in Balasar, Portugal. She received her Christian education from her mother and her sister. Her lively, well-mannered nature made her very likeable. On Holy Saturday of 1918, three men violently entered their home and attempted to sexually violate her. To preserve her purity, she jumped from a window, falling four meters to the ground. Her injuries were many and paralysis was predicted.

She was still able to 'drag herself' to church where, she would remain in prayer, to the great amazement of the parishioners. With her paralysis and pain worsening, however, she was forced to remain immobile, until her death – approximately 30 years. She continued to ask the Blessed Mother for the grace of a miraculous healing, promising to become a missionary if she were healed. Little by little, God helped her to see that suffering was her vocation and that she had a special call to be the Lord's 'victim'.

On 27th march 1942, a new phase began for her which would continue for 13 years and seven months until her death. She received no nourishment of any kind except the Holy Eucharist and at one point weighed as little as 33 kilos. In 1944, she became a member of the 'Union of Salesian Cooperators' and offered her sufferings for the salvation of souls and for the sanctification of youth. She kept a lively interest in the poor as well as in the spiritual health of those who sought out her counsel.

Saint Louis Guanella, Priest (24 Oct)

St. Louis Guanella was born on December 19, 1842 in the small village of Fraciscio, Italy in the Southern Alps. He grew up experiencing both poverty and illiteracy, which had a profound impact on his life. He was raised in the school of Don Bosco and St Joseph Cottolengo: Louis Guanella was a champion of faith and charity. Guanella was ordained a priest on May 26, 1866 in Como, and was assigned to a small parish in Savogno.

A deeply spiritual person, he offered his whole humanity to God, through his personal moral integrity and his witness to the presence of God among the poor of this world, in a way that was original and heroic. "Take away the sense of despair and bring all people to God," sums up the work of Fr Luigi Guanella, a man who dedicated his life to the homeless and elderly, and to young people with mental disorder, physical difficulties or some moral issues.

St. Joseph is the patron saint of the Dying and of a Happy Death and Fr. Guanella began the Pious Union of St. Joseph, a worldwide confraternity that prays daily for the sick and the dying of the world. He was stricken with a paralysis and died on October 24, 1915. He was beatified by Pope Paul VI on October 25, 1964 and was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 23, 2011 in Rome.

Blessed Michael Rua (29 Oct)

Born in Turin on June 9, 1873, the youngest of nine children. He came to the Oratory in 1852. "Don Rua was the most faithful, and therefore the most humble and the most

valiant of the sons of Don Bosco. He was the first successor of Don Bosco: son, disciple, imitator. He made the example of the Saint a school, his life a history, his rule a spirit, his holiness a type, a model. He made this source, a stream, a river." With these words on 29 October 1972, Pope Paul VI delineated forever the human and spiritual figure of Don Rua. Fr Rua's road to holiness was marked by devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary Help of Christians, the three vows and total fidelity to Don Bosco.

He was the most faithful and most valiant of the sons of Don Bosco. He carried out the vision and mission of Don Bosco with a spirit of faithfulness and availability. Like Don Bosco, he had the same gentleness, the same humility, the same simplicity, the same greatness of soul and same spirit of joy. He was loved and admired by all for his faithfulness in imitating Don Bosco in words, deeds and gestures. His heroic example is a perfect testimony to Salesian holiness.

Salesian Family Congress and Youth Expo

The south Asia Salesian Family Congress 2015 was celebrated at don Bosco Liluah, Kolkata from September 26-28. The conclusion of the Bicentenary celebrations of Don Bosco's Birth was organized by SPCSA, co-ordinated by Fr. Noel Maddhichetty – Salesian Family delegate South Asia. We congratulate and thank Fr. Noel Maddhichetty and the Provincial of Kolkata for organizing the national event in a big way. The theme was "One Family One Mission of Don Bosco" brought together 2000 participants from 12 groups of the Salesian Family in the Region. We also congratulate and thank Fr. Maria Charles for organizing the Youth expo at Delhi. In a special way we thank and appreciate Fr. Garlapati Kishore for accompanying the Salesian Family members to Kolkata from our Province and Fr. Yeruva Joji Reddy, the Vice Provincial for accompanying the youth to Delhi from our Province.

New Rector for DB Kurnool

The Rector Major Fr Angel Fernandez Artime has approved the appointment of Fr Vettathukandathil Philip as the Rector of DB Kurnool. I thank him for his availability to lead the community of DB Kurnool. I wish him God's blessings for a fruitful ministry of animation.

I would like to thank Fr Chowran Tom Varkey who worked as the Rector for the past 5 years. I thank him for his self-sacrificing hard work during his stay at Kurnool.

Apostolic Assignments

Bro Castilino Vincent	-	Administrator/Dean at DB Navajeevan, Ramanthapur
Fr Chowran Tom	-	DB HRD center, Gagillapuram
Fr Emprayil Mathew	-	Liturgical animator at DBPH, Hyderabad
Fr Miriyala Bala Kishore-	-	Hongkong, CIN Province (for 3 years)

Ministry of the Deacons

Dn. Boddu Charan Kumar	-	Muniguda, Orissa
Dn. Kalakoti Ramesh	-	Navajeevan, Ramanthapur
Dn. Gandala Simharayulu	-	DB Punganur
Dn. Talari Sanjay	-	DB Kurnool
Dn. Kalukula Rajesh	-	DB PT Parru

Annual Retreat

The second annual spiritual retreat for this year begins on 19th and concludes on 24th of this month at Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad. Fr. Glenford Lowe SDB is the preacher for this retreat. Let us make this experience a fruitful one in praying for the Provincial Chapter IX, for Province and for one another so that we may continue to grow in faith.

Brothers Meet

The meeting of Practical training and student brothers is scheduled for 27th – 29th October 2015. I request all the Rectors and In-Charges of the communities to please send all the brothers in time for the meeting. The meeting starts at 9.30 am on 27th October and ends by 4.00 pm on 29th October at Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad.

Provincial Chapter IX

The Preparatory session of the Provincial Chapter IX will be from 16th to 17th October 2015. The Provincial Chapter IX will be from 9th to 12th November 2015. Let us all pray for the success of the Provincial Chapter IX.

Forthcoming Events – October 2015

- 16 – 17 – Preparatory of Provincial Chapter IX
- 19 – 24 – Annual Retreat II
- 27 – 28 – Brothers Meet
- 31 - Provincial Council

Conclusion

We are in the month of the Rosary. Let us pray the rosary fervently during this month meditating on the Salvific mission of Christ. Some pray all the mysteries of the Rosary daily. Let us invoke the help of our Blessed Mother by praying the Rosary. Let us pray

especially for the Christians who are being persecuted and for people who are migrating from Syria to Europe. Let us pray for the conversion of the groups that are spreading violence and killing innocent people. May Our blessed mother come to our help during the times of difficulties. May she bless us all.

Yours Affectionately in Don Bosco,

Fr. R. Balaraju



Fr Ramedini Balaraju sdb

Provincial

TRAVELOGUE OF THE PROVINCIAL - OCTOBER 2015

Oct	Community
01 - 02	DB Navajeevan, Ramanthapur - APV
03 - 06	Consultation by Regional Councilor
07 - 08	St. Johns Regional Seminary, Vishak - APV
09 - 10	DB Mission, Narsipatnam - APV
13 - 14	DB College, Chandur - APV
16 - 17	Preparatory Session for the Provincial Chapter IX
19 - 24	Annual Retreat II
27 - 28	Brothers meet
31	Provincial Council
TRAVELOGUE OF THE PROVINCIAL - NOVEMBER 2015	
02 - 03	PT Parru - APV
04 - 05	DB Guntur APV
09 - 12	Provincial Chapter IX
12	Jubilee Celebrations
13 - 15	DB Karunapuram APV
16 - 17	DB Mariapuram - APV
18 - 19	DB Wyra - APV
20 - 21	St. Pauls, nuzvid - APV
26	Provincial Council
28	First Anniversary of Fr. Lens - Mass in Karunapuram

	TRAVELOGUE OF THE VICE-PROVINCIAL – OCTOBER 2015
07	PC IX Pre. Commission Meet - DBPH
12	CRI - Ananthapur, Visit to Raptadu
16 - 17	Provincial Chapter IX – Preparatory sessions
20	Youth Meet - Nuzvid
27 – 29	Clerics Meeting
31	Provincial Council