

PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

SALESIAN PROVINCE OF HYDERABAD



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MARCH, 2016

Dear Confreres,

Greetings from Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad. Right at the outset, I thank you dear confreres and other members of the Salesian family for the simple but genuinely warm welcome you extend to me as I make my maiden visit to different communities of our Province. Besides the important pieces of information and news, I wish to share with you my sincere priorities for the continued growth of our Province based on the rich Salesian legacy we have inherited from Don Bosco.

ROOTED IN GOD

Our province is recognized for its interventions on behalf of the poor and those on the peripheries. As I visit the communities and come to know more realistically the work being done, I am amazed to see the volume of work accomplished by our confreres in the various settings. Your commitment and willingness to sacrifice, on behalf of the marginalized young people and in the service of the poor, is appreciated. Truly the wealth of our province is our confreres who are committed and hardworking. As we continue to grow in this virtue, we also need to consciously remind ourselves that this enormous work culture is to be sustained by deep faith and spirituality. We need to strike a balance between doing and being. I recall distinctly what Fr. Pascual Chavez, our former Rector Major, cautioned the Salesians of our region during the Team Visit in 2011: pay attention to the danger of workaholism. If we are not deeply rooted in God, our service becomes a mere sporadic and self-satisfying social work. We are primarily consecrated persons and hence we cannot hide or betray our identity. Our lives have to be built on the foundational principles of our identity as 1) 'men of God' 2) living, loving, praying and sharing our lives in fraternal communities and 3) communicating our God experience and unconditional love experienced and expressed in the community with young whom we serve.

Union with God

The General Chapter 27 was truly an intervention of the Spirit inviting the whole congregation to a more radical way of living our consecration based on the Gospel as mystics in the Spirit, prophets of fraternity and servants of the young. The clarion call of the Chapter was that we live as 'Men of God'. Article 12 of our Constitutions speaks about our 'Union with God'. The Salesian, "...works for the salvation of the young, the Salesian experiences the fatherhood of God and continually reminds himself of the divine dimension of his work: 'Apart from me you can do nothing' (Jn 15:5)." In the light of weariness and lack of enthusiasm on the part of some, in the context of fragility of vocations and a sort of lost sense of belongingness, I believe moments spent in prayer will reinvigorate our connection with the divine and bring a lot of meaning to our challenging choice of consecrated life.

Spending time with God in His presence is not an option but a necessity. It is coming together of the longing of God for man and the longing of man for God. Pope Francis in one of his catechesis in St Peter's square said, "If we do not set aside time for dialogue with God in prayer, we are in risk of serving ourselves and not God present in our needy brother." GC27 reiterates this fundamental aspect of our life: "As for Don Bosco, for us too the *primacy of God* is the cornerstone of our *raison d'être* in the Church and in the world. This primacy gives meaning to our consecrated life, helps us avoid the risk of letting ourselves become too caught up in our activities and forgetting that we are essentially "seekers of God" and witnesses of his love among the young and the poor. We are called, then, to redirect our heart, our mind and all our energy to the "beginning" and the "origins": the joy of that moment when Christ looked upon us, to recall the meanings and needs that underpin our vocation" (GC27, 32).

Let us remind ourselves of the deliberation of our Provincial Chapter VIII concerning our union with God: "In view of personal conversion, we need to be faithful to personal prayer and the sacrament of reconciliation." It is imperative to spend some moments each day in personal prayer. Art. 93 of our constitutions invites us to become sons of God through personal prayer. It helps us to be intimately united with God. It saves us from routine and as Don Bosco says, it guarantees the perseverance of our vocation. Dear confreres this is a reminder to myself and to each of you to be faithful to our personal prayer, at least 15 minutes a day besides the community moments of prayer.

Community Moments with God

For us Salesians, community life is at the heart of our vocational journey. Like the heart, it supports, purifies and rejuvenates the life of a Salesian. A consistent spiritual discipline in a community creates a rhythm of our intimate dialogue and relationship with God and with one another. The possibility of encountering the Lord depends very much on our ability to encounter each other in His presence. Here the vertical and the horizontal dimensions meet. While in personal prayer we enter into a deeper union with God, in our community moments of prayer and liturgy we share that experience in a mystical way with our brothers.

Our Constitutions remind us of the need for communitarian prayer. Article 85 affirms that "...God brings our community together and keeps it united..." Article 86 continues, "...Salesian prayer is joyful and creative, simple and profound. It lends itself to community participation, is drawn from life experience and flows back into it." In some communities there is a tendency to undermine the efficacy of community prayer. Our workaholic culture many times justifies irregularity and non-participation in community moments with God. Dear confreres let us revitalize our community moments of prayer. Let us remind ourselves again of the deliberations of the PC8: to be regular for prayer, to have *Lectio Divina* and community spiritual sharing every Thursday, to read and reflect on the Salesian Constitutions every Tuesday, to be faithful to the daily celebration of Eucharist, to have the community celebration of the Eucharist with all the members of the community once a week, to be faithful to the weekly adoration (Friday or Sunday). Dear confreres, this is the minimum that is expected of us. If we truly love God and

our brethren we will find our own means of staying connected with them in ways over and above set patterns. Let us be more open to experience a deeper joy, fulfillment and acceptance when united in prayer, because a community which is lead by the Spirit will emanate the joy of the Gospel.

Witnesses of God

During the recently concluded year dedicated to consecrated life, there has been a lot of reflection on religious life today. Not so much because there is a change in the religious life today, but because the world in which we live is constantly undergoing change. We are constantly re-discovering and re-understanding the relevance of religious life in a globalized world which is guided by the principle of rapid change. However, amidst everything that seems to be changing, the eternal principles remain constant. Therefore as consecrated persons, as Salesians invited to adopt a radical understanding of the Gospels, we are called first and foremost to BE witnesses. We are primarily to BE witnesses of Jesus and share the experience of Jesus with people, particularly with the young. Concretely speaking we are challenged to be personally and internally filled with Jesus and then the external service will naturally be an overflow of this rich inner experience. Bereft of that personal encounter, we may do some good, reach out to some in need, but not necessarily for long and not exactly for the right reasons.

Dear confreres let us ask ourselves: Am I honestly in love with Jesus? Do I come across to others as a person of God or merely as one who helps? Do people approach me only for material help but ask someone else for spiritual guidance? Do I truly enjoy living a life of witness to the Gospel values? Am I too caught up in the secular sphere, in superficial pragmatism, worried merely about many things like Martha of the Gospels? With Jesus our Master, let us launch out on this adventurous journey with the help of the Spirit and with absolute confidence in God that we may become faithful and fruitful witnesses of Jesus.

SPCSA Meeting, Mumbai

There was a meeting of SPCSA assembly and council organized at Provincial House, Mumbai. Mr. Amitabh Behar, executive director of the National Foundation for India -a renowned social activist and Fr. Pallithanam Thomas, the National convener for WADA NA THODA ABHIYAN addressed the Provincials and their delegates on the Millennium Goals and Sustainable Development Goals. They conscientized and challenged the Salesian Provinces to take on board the development goals. After the presentation and discussion of administrative matters SPCSA and the networks, the general councillors; Fr. Fabio Attard, Fr. Guillermo Basanes and Fr. Filiberto Gonzales animated the Provincials on Youth Ministry, Mission and Social communications respectively.

Good news! We are fortunate and blessed to have the visit of our beloved Rector Major, Rev. Fr. Angel Artime Fernandez during this year of the Silver Jubilee of the birth of our Province. He will visit our Province from 17 November 2016 (arrival) to 21 November 2016 (departure to Rome). We will be commencing the Jubilee Year on 24 April 2016, culminating the celebrations in the month of November with the visit of our Rector Major. May this expectation and occasion reinvigorate our love for our founder as we manifest it through our renewed commitment.

Congratulations to our Deacons

This year four students of theology, Cl. Salibindla Sandeep Inna Reddy, Cl. Mallavarapu Anil, Cl. Aduri Chinna Babu and Cl. Gorumuchu Christuraj will be ordained as Deacons on 19 March, 2016 at Kristu Jyoti College, Bangalore. Cl. Gorumuchu Christuraj, who completed his studies at Sacred Heart Theological College, Shillong too will be ordained a deacon along with the brothers of KJC. We congratulate them and assure them of our fervent prayers as they enter another 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. Salibindla Sandeep Inna Reddy	-	Don Bosco, Mariapuram
Cl. Mallavarapu Anil	-	Assumption Church, Pezzonipet
Cl. Aduri Chinna Babu	-	St Theresa's, Sanathnagar
Cl. Gorumuchu Christuraj	-	Bosco Ashram, Ponnur

Applications for Renewal and Perpetual Profession

The Clerics in temporary Profession are once again reminded about submitting the application forms for Renewal and Perpetual Profession after due reflection, consultation and prayers. Those making the Perpetual Profession, will have to send two admission forms along with the application. I remind the Rectors and leaders of the communities to accompany our young Salesians to make a proper discernment. I thank the confreres who have already sent the application forms. Those who have not yet sent the forms are requested to do so before 11 March 2016.

Renewals at Don Bosco Provincial House

Confreres in initial formation, due for renewal of vows, will have a day of recollection on May 22, 2016 starting at 9.00 am in the Provincial House. The renewal of vows will be on the following day at 6.30 am in St Joseph's Chapel, Provincial House.

Summer Apostolate

As the academic year draws to a close, and we look forward to a time of recuperating our energies and evaluating the year, let us not forget the opportunity to make the most of our premises and buildings for the poor of the neighbourhood, through the annual summer camps. There will be a few brothers available to help the communities in organizing the summer camps. 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 kindly send a report about their performance to the Rector of the studentate and to the Vice Provincial.

Vocation Camps

Vocations to religious life are the crown of our youth apostolate. In the month of April and May there will

be vocation camps organized in three regions of our province. Communities hosting the camps too are requested to assist Fr Mattukoyya Mariadas, the Vocation Promoter and his team in every way possible. Kindly encourage 10th students and above to participate in any one of the camps. All the camps begin on the first day at 01.00 pm and conclude at 01.00 pm on the last day. The dates and locations are as follows:

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

May 03 - 07 : Don Bosco ITC, Station Road, Kadapa

May 11 - 18 : Don Bosco Nilayam, Gunadala, Vijayawada

Summer Formation Course

For all the Brothers in practical training and college studies, there will be a summer formation course organized at BIRDY, Hyderabad from 12 May to 21 May 2016. The list of Brothers and the details of the programme will be sent to the communities by Fr Vice Provincial.

Preparatory Course for Perpetual Profession

The annual preparatory course for those preparing themselves for Perpetual vows in the next academic year will be held at DBRC, Bangalore from 24 April to 19 May 2016. Bro. Kakumanu Praveen Kumar, Cl. Pale Justin, Cl. Dibbagalla Rajashekar and Cl. Thumma Pradeep are participating in the course. We wish them a fruitful period of discernment in deepening their call to religious life.

Consultation forms

Dear confreres, as I begin this ministry of service, I rely on your cooperation and suggestions. I am left with the important task of facilitating the finalization of the provincial council and the appointment of the Rectors. I request those of you who have not yet sent the consultation forms before 11 March 2016. Sincere thanks to those who have already sent the forms.

Lenten Contribution

All the leaders of the communities are requested to send the Lenten contribution to the Provincial Economer before 2nd April 2016. We will be sending the total amount to the Rector Major.

Congratulations

- ✓ The long dream of the Province to start a B.Ed. college is finally realized. It was in 1988 that Fr U.V. Mathew and Fr John Samala studied the possibility of starting a B.Ed. college in Nandigama. Due to various factors it remained an unfulfilled dream. We thank and congratulate Fr Gopu Anand and Fr Vatti Balashowry and the community for their hard work and perseverance in obtaining the permission to start the B.Ed. College at Don Bosco Academy, Nalgonda. Let us continue to support them with our prayers.

Heartfelt Condolences

- ✓ Mr Baby Varghese, the elder brother of Fr Jose Therampil died on 15th February, 2016. He was 59 years old. We offer Fr Jose and all the members of the family our deep condolences and sincere prayers.
- ✓ Mrs Sampuranamma, aged 65, the eldest sister of Fr Mattukoyya Mariadas died on 17th February, 2016 due to cancer. We stand by Fr Mariadas and all his dear ones as they come to terms with the loss of their dear one.
- ✓ Our condolences to the Provincial and confreres of the Salesian Province of Chennai, at the demise of Fr Pamparel Thomas who passed away on February 17, 2016. He was aged 85 of which he spent 54 years at Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, initially as a student and then as a professor and head of the Department of English.

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. From the early church he has been rightly venerated as the greatest saint after Mary his spouse.

Though we are in the season of Lent let us not forget the Novena in preparation for the solemnity of St Joseph on 19th 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 and patient saint. Let us celebrate his feast in a fitting manner and implore him to continue to protect us and to intercede on our behalf for the various intentions we have for the good of our Province.

As I conclude, let me once again remind you of our primary call as religious to be witnesses of Christ and hence the need for prayer, both personal and communitarian. Let us make the most of this holy season of Lent to grow deeper and more genuine in our relationship with God and our brethren.

Affectionately in Don Bosco,

 

Fr Thathireddy Bhaskar SDB

Provincial

TRAVELOGUE OF THE PROVINCIAL - MARCH 2016
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06	Don Bosco, Ongole
07	Bosco Ashram, Ponnur, DB Mission - P.T. Parru
08	St. Michal's Boys Home, Guntur
09	BIRDY, Hyderabad
12 -13	Provincial Council
14	St. Theresa's Church, Sanathnagar; Don Bosco School, Sanathnagar
15	Don Bosco Navajeevan, Ramanthapur
16	St. Mary's, Kollapur
19	KJC, Bangalore - Diaconate Ordinations
20	Don Bosco Navajeevan, Punganur
21	Don Bosco I.T.C Kadapa
22	Don Bosco Mission, Raptadu
23	Don Bosco Technical School, Kurnool
26	Don Bosco Nava Nirman, Muniguda
28	St. John's Regional Seminary, Kondadaba
29	Don Bosco Mission, Peddaboddepalli
30	Don Bosco Navajeevan Bala Bhavan, Visakhapatnam

TRAVELOGUE OF THE VICE PROVINCIAL - MARCH 2016

05	Don Bosco Mission, Ravulapalem
06	Don Bosco Guntupalli
07	Don Bosco Gunadala
08	Don Bosco Mission, Raptadu
09	Don Bosco Navajeevan, Punganur
12-13	Provincial Council
17	Don Bosco Provincial House
18	DBNJ. Visakhapatnam / St. John's Reg.Semi. Kondadaba
19	Don Bosco Nava Nirman, Muniguda
20	Don Bosco Mission, Narsipatnam
24-25	Don Bosco, Sanathnagar
28	Don Bosco Mission, Wyra
29	Don Bosco Philosophate, Karunapuram

TRAVELOGUE OF THE ECONOMER - MARCH 2016

01	Don Bosco Provincial House
06	Don Bosco Guntupalli
08	Don Bosco Mission, Raptadu
12-13	Provincial Council
15	Don Bosco Navajeevan, Visakhapatnam
17	Don Bosco Provincial House
21	Assumption Church, Pezzonipet
22	Don Bosco Prem Nivas, Mangalagiri
24	St. Michael's Boys Home, Guntur
26	Don Bosco Mission, PatsalaTadiparru
27	Bosco Ashram, Ponnur

Salesian Feast of the Month

Bl. Artemide Zatti (15th 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 himself contracted tuberculosis while 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 really cured, he continued his training as a Salesian religious brother. In 1908 he professed as a 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 literally lived what St John Bosco instructed 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."

SUMMER MINISTRY (March – June 2016)

S.N	NAME	COMMUNITY	DURATION
1.	DN. ADURI CHINNA BABU	ST.THERESA'S HYD	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
2.	DN. GORUMUCHU CHRISTURAJU	PONNUR	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
3.	DN. MALLAVARAPU ANIL	PEZZONIPET	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
4.	DN. SALIBINDLA SANDEEP INNA	MARIAPURAM	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
5.	CL. JINUGU VIDYA SAGAR	GUNADALA	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
6.	CL. JANGALA UPENDAR	NARSIPATNAM	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
7.	CL. SALIBINDLA MARREDDY	KURNOOL	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
8.	CL. YERUVA INNA REDDY	NALGONDA	20 MARCH – 2 JUNE
9.	CL. KOTTE RAVI	DBNJ, VIZAG	20 APRIL – 5 JUNE
10.	CL. BEDIKALA MAHESH	NUZVID	17 APRIL – 24 MAY
11.	CL. GOLLAPALLE DAVID SUNDER	GUNADALA	22 APRIL - 24 MAY
12.	CL. JUBARAJ NAYAK	ONGOLE	17 APRIL – 24 MAY
13.	CL. KADIYAM PRASANNA KUMAR	KURNOOL	17 APRIL – 24 MAY
14.	CL. KAKARLA CHANDRA MOHAN	GUNTUR	10 MARCH – 24 MAY
15.	CL. LAKKINENI DAVID	DBNJ, VIJAYAWADA	17 APRIL – 24 MAY
16.	CL. MABBU DAVID	BANDLAGUDA	17 APRIL – 24 MAY
17.	CL. MARKAPUDI THOMAS	NALGONDA	17 APRIL – 24 MAY
18.	CL. NAYAK JAMESON	KARUNAPURAM	22 APRIL – 24 MAY
19.	CL. PRADAN ASHISH	GUNTUPALLI	22 APRIL – 24 MAY
20.	CL. CHINTAGUNTLA PREM	MARIAPURAM	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
21.	CL. KODURI JOSEPH THAMBI	NALGONDA	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
22.	CL. LIMA SUSHANTH	MANGALAGIRI	10 MARCH – 2 JUNE
23.	CL. MADIRI RAKESH	MANGALAGIRI	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
24.	CL. MADUGU PRABHAKAR	RAMATHAPUR	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
25.	BRO. PANI NANOK	RAMATHAPUR	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
26.	CL. UBBANA SURESH	KARUNAPURAM	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
27.	CL. BALIARSINGH ASWIN	MUNIGUDA	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
28.	CL. JANGAM SRAVAN	RAVULAPALEM	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
29.	CL. KODUDHULA SUNIL KUMAR	BANDLAGUDA	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
30.	CL. MALISETTI BALARAJU	P.T. PARRU	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
31.	CL. MARPU SOLOMON RAJU	KADAPA	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
32.	CL. MIKKILI RAVI KUMAR	WYRA	22 APRIL – 24 MAY
33.	CL.PATHURI SWAROOP SURYA TEJA	NARSIPATNAM	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
34.	CL. PATIBANDLA MAHESH	KADAPA	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
35.	CL. RAITO ABOSALEM	RAVULAPALEM	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
36.	CL. RAMINEDI INFANT ADITHYA	DBNJ, VIZAG	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
37.	CL. RENTALA AJAY KUMAR	NALGONDA	22 APRIL – 24 MAY
38.	CL. SALLAGALI VINAY BABU	KOLLAPUR	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
39.	CL. SOMIREDDY KRANTHI RAJ	BANDLAGUDA	22 APRIL – 24 MAY
40.	CL. THUMMA BALA RAHUL REDDY	KARUNAPURAM	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE
41.	CL. TOPNO RANJIT	DBNJ, VIJAYAWADA	22 APRIL – 24 MAY
42.	CL. VALLAMALLA DAVID	MANGALAGIRI	7 APRIL – 2 JUNE