



MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

DIBRUGARH PROVINCE

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30 OCTOBER 2021



St. Francis De Sales
MSFS PATRON



Mother of Sorrows
MSFS PATRONESS



Fr. Peter Mary Mermier
MSFS FOUNDER



My dear Confreres,

We are very happy and excited that our Superior General, Very Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil MSFS has announced his Canonical Visitation to our new Province from 12 December, 2021 to 09 January 2022. I, on behalf of the entire MSFS Dibrugarh Province, welcome you dear Rev. Fr. Abraham warmly to our new Province and wish you a blessing-filled visitation! Let this spiritual event be an occasion for evaluation, renewal, and reinvigoration of the Province Life and Apostolate (Art. 201/vi).

Canonical Visitation of Superior General

Our Constitutions state: The Superior General through his visits enhances the quality of religious life, enlivens the apostolic zeal, and fosters love and teamwork among the confreres (Art. 201/v). Therefore, the focus of his Visitation, as he spells out, is:

1. Meeting all confreres personally and in Local Community
2. Evaluation of Community Life
3. Strengthening of Community Life and Apostolates
4. Renewal and reinvigoration of the Local Community and Province Community

Accordingly, he also proposes the following guidelines for the Visitation:

1. A minimum of half hour with every confrere
2. Meeting with the Local Community: The Superior of the Local Community prepares a Reflective Report with an evangelical critique on community life, religious life and Apostolate of the Community.
3. The report highlights the strength, weakness, opportunities, and possibilities in the Mission of the Local Community
4. Half hour Adoration with the Local Community
5. Identify one area that the Community will focus in the next 3 years
6. How far the Call of the General Chapter 2019/Provincial Congress 2020 is being realized in the Community?
7. Major challenges and concerns in the Local Community

As per the focus of the Visitation, Fr. Superior General wishes that it remains a simple and spiritual event in the Province. I would like to request all the Local Community Superiors to follow all the guidelines given by Fr. Superior General in preparing for his Visitation to our Communities.

**Visitation of Very Rev. Fr. Superior General to MSFS Dibrugarh Province
Proposed Schedule (12 Dec 2021 – 09 Jan 2022)**

December 2021	
12 Sun	Arrival in MSFS Provincial House, Silapathar (Assam)
13 Mon	SFS Campus Community, Silapathar
14 Tue	Silapathar/Gogamukh /Dhemaji
15 Wed	Dhemaji/Jonai/Telam
16 Thu	Telam/Dibrugarh (Bishop @10.30 a.m)/SFS Parish, Chabua/MSFS Novitiate, Chabua
17 Fri	MSFS Novitiate, Chabua/MSFS Provincial House, Silapathar (Personal Time for SG)
18 Sat	MSFS Provincial House, Silapathar/To Arunachal Pradesh - Pasighat
19 Sun	Pasighat/Yingkiong
20 Mon	Yingkiong/St. Mary's Parish, Aalo/SFS College Campus Community, Aalo
21 Tue	SFSC Aalo/Tato
22 Wed	Tato (Blessing of the Presbytery)/Kaying
23 Thu	Kaying/Basar
24 Fri	Basar/MSFS Provincial House, Silapathar
25 Sat	MSFS PH/Likabali/MSFS PH, Silapathar
26 Sun	MSFS Provincial House, Silapathar (Personal Time for SG)
27 Mon	MSFS PH, Silapathar/To Manipur - Imphal (by Flight)/SFS Tech School, Imphal
28 Tue	SFS Tech. School, Imphal/Imphal (Archbishop)/Kangpokpi
29 Wed	Kangpokpi/Purul/Thingba Khullen-Khunou
30 Thu	Purul/To Nagaland - Kohima (Bishop@ 10.00 a.m)/SFS Parish, Medziphema
31 Fri	SFS Parish/SFS Seminary, Medziphema
January 2022	
01 Sat	SFS Seminary Medziphema/Peren
02 Sun	Peren/Tening
03 Mon	Tening/SFS Seminary, Medziphema
04 Tue	SFS Seminary, Medziphema (Personal Time for SG)
05 Wed	SFS Seminary, Medziphema/Mongkolemba
06 Thu	Mongkolemba/MSFS Provincial House, Silapathar (Personal Time for SG)
07 Fri	MSFS PH, Silapathar (Provincial Council Meeting)
08 Sat	Itanagar (Bishop)/Tezpur (Bishop)
09 Sun	Tezpur/Guwahati

CONGREGATIONAL MATTERS

Preparation for the Extraordinary General Chapter 2022

In preparation for the Extraordinary General Chapter 2022, Superior General has invited us to study seriously and reflect on four study papers prepared by the Expert Committee, appointed by the General Administration on the authorization by the General Chapter 2019, to educate, enlighten, and enrich us on the basics of our Congregation (MSFS, Wake up to the Basics). The Committee consisted of Fr. Jean Paul Fournier, Fr. Agnelo Fernandes, Fr. Jacob Parappally, and Fr. Sesity Mariadas under the guidance of Fr Suresh Babu. We have already made efforts to study and reflect on the First Paper on the History of the Congregation in our apostolic community level. We shall take up the next three papers in the coming months for our study and reflection at personal, local community and apostolic community levels.

MSFS Value Education Books for classes 1 to 6

As a follow up to General Chapter 2019 directives, Fr Jacob Karamakuzhyil, the General Councillor in Charge of Education has informed us that General Secretariat of Education is ready with the lessons of MSFS Value Education books titled A SPOON FULL OF HONEY from classes 1 to 6. It is a project planned at the level of General Chapter. We thank Fr Jacob Karamakuzhyil and the team of MSFS Fathers, who designed the curriculum keeping in mind the policies of the Government, CBSE, NCERT and Salesian Virtues etc., and the team of lesson writers on the planned curriculum. As planned earlier at the Education Forum level, we are supposed to initiate MSFS VE books from the academic year 2022-2023. In order to place orders for our schools, please use the format that is shared with the Education Forum members in the respective WhatsApp Groups.

Congratulations to the New Provincial/Regional Administrations:

In the name of the Dibrugarh Province, we congratulate the new Administrations of Visakhapatnam and English Provinces as well as the Southern African Region, and wish them God's abundant blessings in their missionary commitment!

New Provincial Curia of Visakhapatnam Province

The Visakhapatnam Province has elected a new team of Administration under the leadership of the Provincial Rev. Fr Baviri Suresh Babu MSFS. They are:

1. Rev. Fr Pathuppallil Manoj (Provincial Councillor for Formation)
2. Rev. Fr Kurella Vijaya Sekhar (Provincial Councillor for Mission)
3. Rev. Fr Mallela Joji (Provincial Councillor for Education)
4. Rev. Fr Jaddu Joseph (Provincial Councillor for Social and Innovative Ministries)
5. Rev. Fr Gade Bhaskar Reddy (Provincial Bursar)

New Provincial Curia of the English Province

The Province of England has elected a new team of Administration under the leadership of the Provincial Rev. Fr Benny Joseph Valiyaveetil MSFS. They are:

1. Rev. Fr Paul Gonsalves (Provincial Councillor and Admonitor)
2. Rev. Fr Thomas Kulandaisamy (Provincial Councillor)
3. Rev. Fr Terry Mcgrath (Provincial Bursar)

New Regional Curia of Southern African Region

The Southern African Region of Guwahati Province has elected a new team of Administration under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Baiju Mundackal MSFS. They are:

1. Rev. Fr Job Karikkampally (Regional Councillor)
2. Rev. Fr Shiju Poomarathingal (Regional Councillor)
3. Rev. Fr Augustine Parampuzhayil (Regional Bursar)

XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

In March 2020, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops would be "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The journey towards the celebration of the Synod in October 2023 was solemnly opened on October 9-10, 2021 in Rome. On September 7, 2021, the preparatory document and the *vademecum* (handbook) for the synodal journey were released. With the convocation of the Synod of Bishops on the themes of communion, participation and mission, Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for

its life and mission: “It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium. This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church’s ‘renewal’ proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission. Our “journeying together” is, in fact, what most effectively enacts and manifests the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God”.

The two-year long ‘Synodal Journey’ which the Church has begun and which will unfold itself in three phases of consultations -- at the diocesan, the continental and the universal levels -- culminating in the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023, in Rome. Now all are invited to get actively involved in this synodal process at various, appropriate levels and we pray that it may really be an experience of journeying together of the entire People of God in the power of God’s Spirit.



PROVINCE MATTERS

Perpetual Profession at Shillong

On the 30th of September, on our Founder’s Day, it was a joy to receive three (3) of our Theology Scholastics as permanent members of our beloved Congregation. Hearty Congratulations to our brothers viz. Bros. James Kasaso Kachiipomai and Hiinii Ngaoveinii (Bosco) (Dibrugarh Province), Edrigson Lawai (Guwahati Province) who have taken the bold step to commit themselves forever to the Lord in the Congregation of MSFS. The ceremony was conducted in MSFS Study

House Shillong. Sincere thanks to Fr. Saji George Puthiyakulangara, the General Councillor in charge of Formation and Delegate of the Provincial Superiors, for receiving their vows. In his homily he enlightened the candidates of the significance and implications of the public act of religious consecration and exhorted them to lead an exemplary life by imbibing the spirit of our patron, St Francis de Sales and our founder, Fr Peter Mermier. We are grateful to Fr. Athnas Kerketta and Fr Sebastian Kuzhuppil for their accompanying guidance and formation provided in preparing them to make their perpetual profession as well as for organising the whole programme.



The Second Annual Retreat 2021 and Felicitation of the Silver Jubilarians

The Second Annual Retreat of our Province (04 – 09, October), with the theme, “MSFS: Consecrated to Mission”, animated by Fr Devasia Vazhayil SDB concluded on 9th October 2021 at *Christashram* (Pastoral Centre), Dibrugarh with the Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee Celebration of our Confreres Fr Corbinus Soreng and Fr James Pattarakalayil. The Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist celebrated by the Jubilarians was followed by a short felicitation program and a festive meal. On behalf of the entire Province, Fr Francis Poovelil gave the felicitation speech, thanking them for their life and service in the Congregation/Province. They were also felicitated with the Jubilee Mementos, bouquets, shawls and gifts. About 35 confreres were present for the celebration including the retreatants. After the felicitation and lunch, all the confreres present gathered for a meeting in which Fr Provincial consulted and apprised about the upcoming programmes and events in the Province.



Welcome Ceremony to the New Members @ Sacred Heart Parish, Likabali

In this MSFS year of Missions, Sacred Heart Parish, Likabali had the joy of welcoming 11 (eleven) new families from various Christian denominations on 03rd October 2021. Their desire to be part of the Catholic Church was expressed through the catechists, which prompted necessary catechetical formation and initiation into the reception of the sacraments. On Sunday, the 03rd October 2021, Rev. Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu, the Admonitor and Provincial Councillor for Formation celebrated the Holy Eucharist and received them into the Church in the presence of the Catholic Community, Parish Priest, Associate Priest and our confreres namely, Frs. James Pattarakalayil, Carlus Barowa, and Wanlambor K. Congratulations to Frs. Peter Peuhausuiding, the Parish Priest and Jimal Painappally, the Associate Priest and the Catechist for their missionary initiatives and undertakings!



Mermier's Championship Basketball Tournament at Jonai

A Basketball Tournament for Mermier's Championship was organised at Fransalian High school Jonai, from 10–11 October, 2021 in collaboration with Alumni Association of the school. The participants were students under eighteen (18) from Assam. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Mr. Pradeep Kumar Dwivedi IAS, SDO of Jonai as the Chief Guest and Mr. Raj Kumar Morang TMPK President Central Committee of Dhemaji as well as Fr Mathew Puthumana MSFS as the Guests of Honour. Ten teams from different parts of Assam participated in the tournament. The team from Malegaon lifted the champion's trophy and Fransalian School Jonai, the runners up trophy. The tournament was ceremoniously

closed by Mr Bhargav Muni Das SDPO of Jonai. Congratulations to Fr Jacob Raising and Fr Thomas Kollathuvayalil for organising such an event in collaboration with the Alumni Association of the School!

Inauguration and blessing of the New School Building Block at Jonai



The long-cherished dream of having a new school building block for Fransalian High School Jonai was realised on 11th October 2021 as it was inaugurated and blessed by Fr Emmanuel Mappilaparambil, the Provincial of MSFS Dibrugarh Province. The blessing was preceded by a short welcome program. The event was attended by a good number of confreres, sisters, teachers, catholic representatives, and students. Congratulations and thanks to Fr Thomas Kochuparathanathu, (former principal and manager), Fr Thomas Kollathuvayalil, and Fr Jacob Raising for implementing the project! May God be praised!

Fransalian Youth Animation Programme at Christ King Parish, Gogamukh

The Fransalian Youth Mission, Dibrugarh Province, in this MSFS Year of Missions, conducted a three-day Youth Animation Programme at Christ King Parish, Gogamukh from 12-14 October, 2021. Considering the Covid situation, the youth programme was organised in 3 three different zones of the Parish. On 12th October 2021, it was held in Dakhin Rupohi Village Church. About 120 youths including from neighbouring villages like Anando, Ranchi line, Factory line, and Khuri line, took part in the one-day animation programme. The second day of the programme was held in Dhol



Basti Church. About 100 youths including from neighbouring villages like Rupohi line, Khapra line etc., took part in it. The final day programme was held in the Christ King School Auditorium where about 100 youths from Gogamukh and its surrounding villages like Pub-Baligaon, Legasung, Bordoi TE, and Nagaon took part. In all the three days, the programme began with Holy Eucharist and followed by different group activities and input sessions. Fr. Francis Belo, the Director of HRRC, Kaying was the Chief Guest and the Main Celebrant for the Holy Mass on all the three days. The sessions were jointly animated by Fr Carlus Barowa, Fr Francis Belo, Fr Sudhir Hasda and Sr Frisca CSN. Congratulations to the Parish Team and Fransalian Youth Mission Team!

Fransalian Youth Prayer & Adoration at SFS Parish, Chabua



As a part of the celebration of the MSFS Year of Missions, SFS Parish, Chabua organized a three days' of Prayer and Adoration for Fransalian Youth from 12th to 15th October 2021 at SFS Church, Chabua. The Youths from the various villages came together, taking turns and participated in fasting and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. It was 24 hours of day and night adoration, animated by different youth volunteer groups. The whole day - night adoration brought together all our parish youth, giving them an opportunity to renew their lives through the Sacrament of

Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist, enhancing their missionary commitment. Congratulation to Fr Milkus Tirkey, the Parish Priest and the Parish Team for organizing this renewal program for the Fransalian Youth!

Fransalian Youth Animation Programme at Sacred Heart Parish, Likabali



Sacred Heart Parish Likabali, conducted two days of youth animation program from 16th to 17th October 2021. It was conducted simultaneously in Sacred Heart Church, Likabali (Parish Church) and in St. Thomas Church, Namey (Village Church under Parish). Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians, namely, Sr. Alphonsa, Sr. Irene, and Sr. Augusta, Ms. Kripa Sangma, Fr. Jimal Johny and Fr. Carlus Barowa MSFS, were the resource persons for the programme. The youths were enlightened and instructed on their various roles in the Church and family, and on the importance of prayer and Holy Eucharist in their lives. The programme was attended by around 65 youths of

the parish. Congratulations to Frs. Peter and Jimal (Parish Team) and Fransalian Youth Mission Team!

Marian Retreat at Holy Redeemer Retreat Centre, Kaying



Holy Redeemer Retreat Centre, Kaying animated five days of Marian retreat from 18th to 22nd October 2021. Eighty-seven (87) faithful who participated in the retreat from various parishes of Arunachal Pradesh had experienced special blessings and favors through the intercession of Mother Mary. A team comprising of Fr. Belo Francis, Fr. Luke Tanti, Fr. Varghese Paul, Sr. Rita, Mr. Mathew Tabang, animated the five days programme. The retreat witnessed many healings through the intercession of our beloved Mother and strengthened their love and faith in God. Most of them bore the testimony of the healing they experienced. The Marian retreat of this sort in the month of October was pertinent, particularly in the backdrop of many Christian denominations around, who were skeptical of Marian devotion.

Celebration of the Foundation Day by Planting 12 Trees



To mark the Foundation Day of our Congregation on 24th October (and as suggested by our Superior General), most of the centres of Dibrugarh Province planted 12 trees/plants representing 12 Provinces of our Congregation (including the Vice-Province) and thereby symbolically connecting each Community in the Province to every other Province in the Congregation through this gesture of planting and caring for the trees. May this meaningful celebration of our Foundation Day increase our solidarity with every Province and unity in the Congregation! Congratulations to all the confreres who took the initiative to plant the trees on our Foundation Day!

Congratulations to...

- ✓ Congratulations to Fr Jose Karipadathu and Fr Rojin Pullattuvaliyaparambil, who are elected as the Convenor and the Secretary of the Arunachal Apostolic Community respectively
- ✓ Congratulations to Fr Varghese Chettupuzhakaran and Fr Roy Muthedathu, who are elected as the Convenor and the Secretary of Manipur Apostolic Community respectively

- ✓ Congratulations to Fr George Parampukattil and Fr. Standfort Stephen, who are elected as the Convenor and the Secretary of Nagaland Apostolic Community respectively
- ✓ Congratulations to Fr Augustine Thundathil and Fr Sudhir Hasda, who are elected as the Convenor and the Secretary of Upper Assam Apostolic Community respectively
- ✓ Congratulations to Fr Benjamin Nakho Ngade for having completed his B.Ed. Studies from Manipur University, with First Class!
- ✓ Congratulations to Dn. Chithung Horam Joel and Dn. Narzary Pakon, who are promoted to the Order of Priesthood!

Priestly Ordination of our Deacons

We are happy that we are blessed with the following two (2) Deacons to be ordained Priests in their respective home parish/diocese for our Congregation and the Church at large. Please do attend their ordinations, wherever possible and accompany them with your prayers during their time of preparation.

Dn. Chithung Horam Joel was born on 2nd April 1994 as the second child of Mr. Chithung Ambrose and



Mrs. Chithung Mary. He hails from Kasom Kullen Parish from the Archdiocese of Imphal, Manipur. After completing his HSLC in SFS School, Kangpokpi, Manipur, in 2009, he joined SFS Seminary Medziphema. He made his First Religious Profession on 31st May 2013 at MSFS Novitiate, Chabua, Assam. After the completion of philosophy course at Suvidya College Bangalore, he was sent for Regency to SFS Parish Jonai from 2016-2017 and MSFS Community, Panbari from 2017-2018 after which he was promoted to pursue theological formation at MSFS Study House, Shillong. He completed his theological studies at Oriens Theological College, Shillong, and was ordained deacon on 24th July 2021. Having successfully completed his theological formation and diaconate ministry, he will be ordained priest on 19th December 2021 in Imphal by Most

Rev. Dominic Lumon, the Archbishop of Imphal.

Dn. Narzary Pakon was born on 18th November 1990 as the fifth child of Mr. Sumarendra Narzary and



Mrs. Renu Narzary. He hails from St. Francis Xavier's Parish, Bashbari from the Diocese of Bongaigaon, Assam. After completing his Higher Secondary studies in 2011, he joined Vinaya Bhavan Seminary Thamarassery. He made his First Religious Profession on 31st May 2014 at MSFS Novitiate, Chabua, Assam. After the completion of philosophy course at Suvidya College Bangalore, he was sent for Regency to Divine Mercy Parish, Yingkiong from 2017-2018 after which he was promoted to pursue theological formation at MSFS Study House, Shillong. He completed his theological studies at Oriens Theological College, Shillong, and was ordained deacon on 24th July 2021. Having successfully completed his theological formation and diaconate ministry, he will be ordained priest on 22nd January 2022 in St. Francis Xavier's Church, Bashbari by Most Rev. Thomas

Pullopillil, the Bishop of Bongaigaon.

Transfers and Appointments

- ✓ **Fr Biju Kanicherry:** Local Community Superior, Principal of Christ King High School and designated to be appointed as Associate Priest of Christ King Parish, Gogamukh with effect from 6th November 2021.

- ✓ **Fr Sudhir Hasda:** Designated to be appointed as the Parish Priest of Christ King Parish Gogamukh with effect from 7th November 2021
- ✓ **Fr Jiji Konthananickal:** For Medical Treatment and Update Programs with effect from 15th November, 2021. During this time of treatment and update program, he will be attached to the MSFS Provincial House Community, Silapathar.

Change of Address

P. Avilhou Stephen Metha MSFS Résidence le Basilique 8 Chemin de Proupeine 74000 Annecy France	P. Francis Mathew Peethuruthel MSFS Priesterseminar Dreifaltigkeitsgasse 14 5020 Salzburg Austria
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- **Fr. Francis Peethuruthel** has reached Austria on 30th September 2021 to begin his Higher Studies in Paris-Lodron University, Salzburg, Austria.
- **Fr. Shiji Mathew Poonthuruthil** has reached Hanover on 21st October 2021 to render Pastoral Ministry in the Diocese of Hildesheim, Germany.

We wish both of them all the best and God's blessings!

Obituary

- ✠ Mrs. Dolly Sebastian Kakkattupillil (54), the younger sister of Fr Joy Velickakathu, who passed away on 17th September 2021
- ✠ Ms. Brijith Devasia Chackananickal (87), the maternal aunty of Fr Joy Velickakathu, who passed away on 19th September 2021
- ✠ Mrs. Khanai Mary (90), the mother of Fr Benjamin Nakho Ngade, who passed away on 26th September 2021
- ✠ Ms. Marykutty Thomas (77), the aunty of Fr. Tomy Joseph Thekkel, who passed away on 11th October 2021



May they rest in peace!

My dear confreres, I wish you all the powerful accompaniment of the Lord in all your missionary engagements! May Mary, Mother of Compassion, St. Francis de Sales and Servant of God Fr. Peter Mary Mermier intercede for us all!

Live Jesus!

Fraternally yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr Emmanuel Mappilaparambil MSFS
 (Provincial, MSFS Dibrugarh Province)

