



# MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

## DIBRUGARH PROVINCE

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**TA/01- CIRCULAR**  
**28 September 2022**

Dear Confreres,

Fraternal greetings from Silapathar.

As we celebrate **the Founder's Day** on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, we raise our hearts and minds in gratitude to the Servant of God Father Peter Mary Mermier. He reminds us that authentic Christian spirituality is gauged by its universal appeal and its transmission from generation to generation for all peoples. The phenomenal growth of our Congregation bear testimony to the permanent nature of a true **Charism** in the Church and places on our shoulders the great responsibility of imbibing his spirit and transmitting it in our Apostolates.



“The Age of Enlightenment” of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century in Europe culminating in the confusion and violence of the French Revolution and the subsequent secularization, his mother instilled in him a devotion to Christ and His Church and live this devotion in trying times. He naturally followed the footsteps of St. Francis de Sales who already showed the way that true devotion can stand the test of time during the confusion of the Protestant Reformation in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century marred by confusion and tendencies of secularization we have a great role to play in promoting true devotion as envisaged by our founder. May the celebrations on the **30<sup>th</sup> of September** help to breath in us his spirit for **the Mission**.



**St. Francis De Sales**  
**MSFS PATRON**



**Mother of Sorrows**  
**MSFS PATRESS**



**Fr. Peter Mary Mermier**  
**MSFS FOUNDER**



## Heartfelt Gratitude to Rev Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil

On behalf of all the confreres of the Dibrugarh province I **place on record the gratitude** that we all owe to Rev Fr Emmanuel Mappilaparambil, the first provincial of the Dibrugarh province of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales. Already as the Regional Superior of the present geographical territory of our Province for a period of four years Fr Emmanuel Mappilaparambil had laid strong foundations for the building up of different apostolates of our Congregation in this region. He planned meticulously in terms of finance and infrastructure for a stable future of this province. During his term as the provincial he had to undergo the constrains caused by the pandemic and the bureaucratic works entailed in the erection of a new Province. He planned well all the works and activities despite of these constrains and today we are in a good position to forge ahead.



As he is already making good progress in his health conditions, we wish him a speedy recovery so that he can join us soon in giving a new momentum to the apostolates of our province by placing his personal competence and dedication for its growth. **Thank you Father Emmanuel!**

## CONGREGATIONAL MATTERS

### Extraordinary General Chapter 2022

Our beloved Superior General, Very Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil has re-convoked the Extraordinary General Chapter and it will take place in Fransalian Seminary, Pune, India, from November 08-14, 2022. The Delegates of the EGC will be the same as those who took part in the Ordinary General Chapter 2019 held in Guwahati. The date of arrival of the participants will be the 7<sup>th</sup> and the departure will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. The Ex officio members will be the members of the General Curia and the Provincials and the Vice-Provincial. The members of the previous General Administration and the Ex-Provincials who took part in the Ordinary Chapter 2019 will be the special invitees. After the EGC 2022, on November 16, there will be a joint meeting of MSFS Provincial Superiors with the General Curia. Dear confreres, we shall continue to pray for the success of the EGC 2022 in our communities.

## Congratulations to the newly elected Provincial curia of USA Vice Province

PROVINCIAL

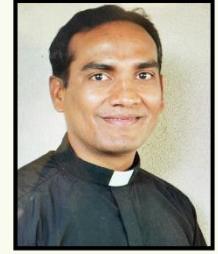
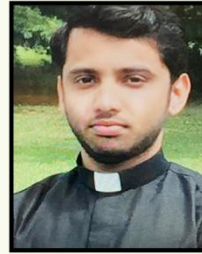
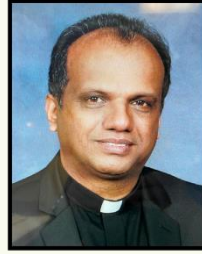
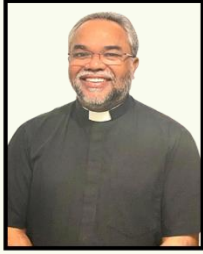
ADMONTOR

COUNCILOR

BURSAR

CONSULTER

CONSULTER



Fr Anthony Bonela

Fr Augustine Tharapel

Fr Regi Narikunnel

Fr Noble

Fr Jose Kumblolickal

Fr Anthony Rajesh

## Congratulations to the newly elected Provincial curia of Franco-Swiss Province



## PROVINCE MATTERS

### Installation Ceremony of the Provincial

In a moving and solemn rite, Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu MSFS, the newly elected Provincial Superior was installed as the second provincial of MSFS Dibrugarh Province during the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Most Rev. Joseph Aind SDB – Bishop Emeritus of Dibrugarh Diocese. The Ceremony took place on September 15, 2022, the Congregational Feast of Mary Mother of Compassion. During the Eucharistic celebration, Fr. V. George MSFS - councilor for Education read the appointment letter and Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu took the oath of office and signed the documents. The installation ceremony witnessed the presence Fr. George Poovathunkal – Provincial



Delegate from MSFS Guwahati Province, scores of MSFS confreres from the province and many fathers, brothers and sisters from the neighbouring communities. A short felicitation program was staged to congratulate the new provincial and to honour the dignitaries. (Reported by Fr Jobins Vengathadathil)

## Convocation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Provincial Congress of Dibrugarh Province 2022

In accordance with the Constitutions of the Congregation (*Con. 234ff and GD. 261ff*), with the prior approval of the Superior General, Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil (SG-AB2 22-166), and with the consent of the Provincial Council, I am glad to convoke the **2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Provincial Congress of the MSFS Dibrugarh Province**, which is to be held **at Christashram, Mancotta, the Diocesan Pastoral Centre of Dibrugarh Diocese from November 29 (at 05.00 p.m.) to December 02, (01.00 p.m.), 2022**. The theme of the Provincial Congress is: ***“MSFS DIBRUGARH PROVINCE: JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN MISSION AS FRANSALIANS”***. All the members of MSFS Dibrugarh Province with active voice are convoked to take part in the Congress (*Cf. GD 277*). If anyone is unable to take part in the Provincial Congress due to unavoidable circumstances kindly take permission for absence from the Provincial at the earliest.

## Constitution of a Steering Committee

After having consulted the Provincial Council, I have constituted a Steering Committee for the preparation and organization of the Provincial Congress 2022. The members are the following: Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu (Provincial & President), 1) Fr. Carlus Barowa (Convenor), 2) George Parampukattil 3) Fr. James Pattarakalayil 4) Fr. Philip Mhonchumo, 5) Fr. Benjamin Ngade Nakho and 6) Fr. Jobins Vengathadathil.

## Preparation for the Provincial Congress 2022

The Steering Committee had a meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and they have already done a commendable work by coming out with various plans for the effective organization of the Provincial Congress. In order to facilitate a better involvement of the confreres of the whole Province in the preparation of the Congress (*Con. 235*), it has also formulated a few questions (core issues) to be studied by all the members, especially in their respective Apostolic Communities. The Steering Committee will contact you with all the details for an effective preparation both individually and as a community. The Convenors of the Apostolic Communities in the Province are to hold the meeting before the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 and to send their reports to the Convenor of the Steering Committee Fr. Carlus Barowa (carlbarowa@gmail.com), latest by the 31<sup>st</sup> of October, 2022. Those members, who are not directly attached to any of our communities or Apostolic Community, would study the matter individually and send their reports personally to the Convenor. Your reports and suggestions will facilitate fruitful discussions and deliberations during the Provincial Congress.

## Prayer in Preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Provincial Congress 2022 of MSFS Dibrugarh Province

God of goodness and love, in your foreknowledge and wisdom, you inspired Fr Peter Marie Mermier, to found the Congregation of the Missionaries of St Francis de Sales. You bestowed upon him the special charism of strengthening the faith of the people, renewal of Christian life, and formation of youth for the building up of the Church. Rekindle in us that spirit of our founder that we may tread his path and pass on the love of God to people and bring about the renewal of Christian life, while enriching them with Christian values through a Fransalian approach. May the creative and missionary spirit of Fr Mermier, guide us on our “Journey in Mission as Fransalians”.

May the missionary zeal of St Francis de Sales, his ingenious and inventive ways of evangelization be ours too. That as members of the province of Dibrugarh, we may be men of vision, who build communities, who inspire and venture into the unknown and sow God's Word to all at all times. May our heavenly patrons, Mary, Mother of Compassion and Saint Francis De Sales, intercede for us, and be our strength and guide. Amen.

**Mother of Compassion, Pray for us  
St Francis de Sales, Pray for us  
Servant of God Fr Peter Marie Mermier, Intercede for us.**

I humbly request all the Superiors of the Communities to make available a copy of this prayer for everyone in the community and pray this prayer daily during the community prayers.

### **Logo of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Provincial Congress 2022, Dibrugarh Province**



### **Annual Retreat 2022**

As already informed, our second Annual Retreat 2022 will be held from October 03 (04.00 p.m.) to 08 (01.00 p.m.), 2022 in *Christashram* (Pastoral Centre of the Diocese of Dibrugarh), Mancotta, Dibrugarh, animated by Rev. Fr. Benny Koottinal MSFS. Please bring your Bible, Treatise on the Love of God, Introduction to the Devout Life and book/paper and necessary stationery as well as toiletry items required for your personal use. The participation in the annual retreat is obligatory (GD Art. 80). Please make your travel arrangements in such a way that you are at the venue on time (i.e., by 4.00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2022).

## Celebration of the National Youth Day at Chabua and Gogamukh

National Youth Day was celebrated on 14 August 2022 at SFS Parish, Chabua. Fr. Huwn Francis and Fr. Alok Tigga animated the sessions in Chabua and there were 83 youths who participated in one-day programme.

The day's programme in Christ King Parish Gogamukh began with the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Carlus Barowa, Director of FYM. It was followed by dance and speech competitions. The day's programme also included games and input sessions on various topics like education, career guidance, sanitation etc. The resource persons for the event were Fr Carlus Barowa, Mr Wilfred Topno, and Dr Silas Murmu. Congratulations to Fr Sudhir Hasda and Fr Milkus Tirkey for organising the celebration of the National Youth Day.



## Celebration of Saint Monica's Day /Mother's Day at Chabua and Gogamukh

Saint Monica's Day coupled with Mother's Day was celebrated on 28 August 2022 at SFS Parish Chabua and Christ King Parish Gogamukh. Nearly 300 women from different villages participated in the celebration in Chabua. Fr. Milkus Tirkey, Sr. Felicita Kujur and Sr. Roja Tirkey animated the sessions. Women performed cultural dances and songs to mark the celebration of the day. The day was concluded by the solemn Eucharistic celebration and followed by the fellowship meal.

There were about 352 women who participated in the celebration of St. Monica's day at Gogamukh. Frs. Alok Tigga, Carlus Barowa and Sr. Leena Topno animated the sessions. Congratulations to Fr Sudhir Hasda and Fr Milkus Tirkey for organizing the celebration of the St. Monica's Day in Gogamukh and Chabua parishes.



## Personality Development Camp at SFS College Aalo

The Internal Quality Assessment Cell (IQAC) of SFS College, Aalo had organised a Three-Day Personality Development Camp for the Students from 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> August 2022, at Mermier Auditorium, Aalo. The resource persons for the same were Fr Dr Carlus Barowa, Director FYM, Fr Luke Tanti, Assistant Director FYM and seven FYM volunteers from St. Mary's Parish, Aalo. The sessions consisted of both theoretical and practical tips. In the lecture sessions the resource persons spoke about the advantages of having a good personality and also highlighted some of the popular theories as to how one can achieve all-round development. Through the various group activities, the students were taught to be more competitive and goal oriented. *(Reported by Fr Carlus Barowa)*



## YCS/YSM in SFS Hr. Sec. School, Medziphema

On September 9, 2022, FYM along with NERYC introduced YCS/YSM programme in SFS Hr. Sec. School, Medziphema. YCS/YSM is a student movement where students gather together in small groups of 8-10 to share their interests, problems, experiences, anxieties etc and find a solution of their own through the YCS methodology of See, Judge and Act, i.e. Awareness, Reflection, Action and Evaluation. The resource persons were Sr. Aluti Rabha MSMHC, Lady Animator NERYC, Miss Magdalene Anal, President NERYC and Fr Carlus Barowa. *(Reported by Fr Carlus Barowa)*



## Appointment

- ❖ Fr Rojin Joseph Pullattuvaliyaparambil is appointed as the Principal of SFS School Basar with effect from 11 October 2022.
- ❖ Fr Sebastian Kuzhupil is the new Convenor of Nagaland Apostolic community.

## Congratulations

- ❖ Congratulations to Fr Jose Karipadathu and the SFS College Fraternity Aalo for publishing the SFS College Annual Magazine
- ❖ Congratulations to Fr Milkus Tirkey for having been elected as the secretary of Dibrugarh CRI Region
- ❖ Congratulations to Frs Francis Belo and Carlus Barowa for animating PMP programme in Mary Immaculate Parish Hapoli, Ziro from 1-4 September 2022
- ❖ Congratulations to Fr George Vadakkeperincherimannil & Fr Benjamine Ngade Nakho for completing the M.Ed studies from Indira Gandhi Institute of Higher Education, Coimbatore.
- ❖ Congratulations to Fr. John Hepuni who is elected as the Admonitor of Franco-Swiss province.

## Prayer Request

- ✦ Fr Tomy Thekkel is currently at home in Kerala after undergoing dialysis Fistula surgery at Lisie Hospital Ernakulam. Let us pray that he may experience God's healing and comforting touch.
- ✦ Let us pray for Mr. Joyce Jacob (32), the nephew (younger brother's son) of Fr George Parampukattil, who is suffering from cancer for the last 5 years. His condition is critical and is admitted in Mar Sleeva Hospital Cherpunkal. Let us pray that he may experience the healing and comforting touch of the Lord.

## General Information

- ❖ Bi-annual Governing body meeting of DP-GP was held on 27 September 2022 in MSFS Provincial House Silapathar.
- ❖ Fr Joseph Thazathukunnel after his home holidays in India will be going to Switzerland on 15 oct 2022 for three months of holiday ministry.

## Obituary

- † Genevive Syngkli (15) the youngest sister of Fr Andreas Syngkli, passed away on 7 August 2022.
- † Mrs. Thresia (70) the sister of Fr Varghese Chettupuzhakaran, who passed away on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022.
- † Mr. Francis Cheruvallil (74), the maternal grandfather of Fr Jimal Johny Painapally, who passed away on 7 September 2022.
- † Mr. Th Weitsii (76), the eldest brother of Fr Stephen Pou, who passed away on 10 September 2022.

**May the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in Peace**

**Wish you all a happy Founder's Day and may he intercede for us all!**

Yours in the Lord Jesus,



**Fr Tomson Aerathedathu MSFS**  
(Provincial, MSFS Dibrugarh Province)