

MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Fransalians - Province of East Africa

Provincial House P. O. Box 12 Morogoro Tanzania

Tel: +255 787 766 555; +255 652 166 [+255 786 558 809 (office)]

E-mail: msfsmoro@gmail.com johnsonmsfs@gmail.com



Provincial Circular JK.1

July 18, 2011

Beloved confreres!

Greetings of peace and joy in the name of the Lord.

It is my deep and genuine joy to greet you and to reach you through this circular. At the very outset let us raise our hearts and minds in gratitude to the Almighty God for the multitude of blessings showered up on each of us, up on our communities and ministries, up on the East African Mission of the MSFS and up on our entire Fransalian Family. Beyond doubt, through our instrumentality God has been blessing the society and the Mother Church. As integral and intrinsic element of the Mother Church and our beloved Fransalian Family we have been able to grow steadily. We move into the 16th year of the East African Province of the MSFS. 23 years ago when four pioneering Missionaries landed at Dar es Salaam, Tanzania that marked the beginning of new era of grace in the history of the MSFS. We are all part of this new era marked by blessing after blessing. We have no doubt that have also experienced from within our own very selves and from outside multitude of challenges confronted by many unfavourable systems and situations. But all these were the mysterious ways in which the Divine was at work in us, for that was the way Jesus himself chose. His birth in the stable and death on the cross tell us always of the many defying odds that we have to accept and work out. Being open to all the odds of life and ready to confront anything for the passionate love for Jesus, let us always have the missionary enthusiasm of our holy Founder Fr. Peter Mermier. May St. Francis de Sales our patron and doctor of love, continue to inspire us to be more and more loving and self-giving.

Beloved Confreres, I sincerely thank you for placing your confidence in me. I express my gratitude to Rev. Fr. Agnelo Fernandes the Superior General and entire General Administration for trusting me and hence entrusting me this task of serving the province in the capacity as its leader and guide. Trusting in the Almighty God and counting on the cooperation of all concerned, I assure you my whole hearted commitment to the well being and welfare of every confrere and mission entrusted to our care. I believe firmly in the guiding hands of God in every moment of our lives, no matter how challenging the tasks ahead of us are. We can do all things in him who strengthens us (ref. Phil.4:13).

Great Gratitude... Rev. Fr. Thomas Olickal MSFS

Six years at the helm and being focussed on the mission and direction of the East African Province, the tasks accomplished by Rev. Fr. Thomas Olickal our outgoing provincial, are numerous. In spite of various challenges of paucity of personnel and lack of resources, he took remarkable and daring steps to meet the needs of the mission as well as to give us a firm foundation for the MSFS Mission in East Africa. Under his efficient visionary leadership, the province could strike a balance between consolidation and expansion. The task of leadership during the last six years demanded of him to confront situations of unparalleled challenges and difficulties to which Fr. Thomas responded with serenity and confidence. **"Putting confreres first"** was his policy, when choices had to be made and priorities were to be set. A person of simplicity and who cared least for the formalities of position, he was

approachable and attended to the needs of every mission with a caring attitude. None of us missed his unique loving pat.

Our beloved Fr. Thomas Olicka! Please accept our sincere gratitude and deep appreciation for all that you were and are to each one of us. May God the giver of life and source of your call, give you many more wonderful opportunities to serve God and his people in various capacities in the times to come.

Convocation of the Provincial Congress

In accordance with the directives of our Constitutions and the General Directory, in due consultation with the Rev. Fr. Superior General **I hereby convoke the Sixth Ordinary Provincial Congress of the East Africa Province of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales.** The Congress will be held from September 23 to September 28, 2011 at Fransalian Study House, Kola Hills Morogoro, Tanzania.

The theme of the Provincial Congress is:

Fransalians called to be mystics:

enriched by Fraternal Love and Prophetic zeal

for the Mission of Christ in East Africa

The council meeting held on July 17, 2011 at MSFS Provincial House, Kihonda Morogoro has constituted the steering committee for the preparation of the Provincial Congress.

The steering committee members

1. Fr. Johnson Pathiyil (convenor)
2. Fr. Reji Pandanath
3. Fr. Jomat Kollapallil
4. Fr. James Panthalanickal
5. Fr. Jomon Vellachalil
6. Fr. Johnson Kallidukil (chair person)

The first meeting of the Steering committee will be held at MSFS Provincial House Morogoro on July 27, 2011 from 9.00 am onwards.

Beloved Confreres! Let us take this forthcoming Provincial Congress as a God-given chance to be a truly praying and discerning community. I earnestly request your valuable prayers for the Provincial Congress and our life to come and the mission to be accomplished.

As we pray daily the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, let us mention the intention of seeking God's blessings for the Provincial Congress. I also request you to pray at least once a day as a community the prayer "Memorare" seeking the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother.

Election of the Delegate for the General Chapter – 2013

As it is already known to you, our beloved Superior General has convoked the 19th General Chapter of our Congregation. The GC sessions will be conducted from **1st February 2013 to 15th February 2013 (ref. Sgmsfs-2af-15, dated 31st January 2011)**. Now we need to elect a delegate from our Province to be the capitulant of the General Chapter 2013.

As you exercise this sacred and noble task, I like to remind of the utmost importance of the process of discernment that each one should undergo, keeping in mind that the General Chapter is the most important event in the life of our Congregation. Each one of us is an active participant of this significant event, at various levels and in diverse capacities (cf. GD.215).

To this effect, each of the finally professed member of the province who is eligible for the ballot will receive the ballot paper along with the required instructions and the lists of names and the envelopes.. The duly filled ballot is to reach the office of the Provincial latest by August 28.

Appointments

Fr. Thomas Olickal is appointed temporarily to the Fransalian community at Mlolongu-Katani, Kenya. He will reside at our residence in Katani and assist in all the ministries of the community. The appointment is effective from July 18, 2011.

Fr. David Soosai is designated to be appointed as the assistant parish priest in the parish of Our Lady of Grace, Lububu, Arch-diocese of Tabora, Tanzania. The appointment is with immediate effect and from now he is attached to the MSFS community Lububu. But he is expected to reach the place on or before August 25 after the home holidays.

Fr. George Antony Peter is designated to be appointed as the assistant parish priest in the parish of St. Francis de Sales Mkuza, Arch-diocese of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The appointment is with immediate effect and from now he is attached to the MSFS community Mkuza. But he is expected to reach the place on or before August 25 after the home holidays.

Fr. James Panthalanickal: In conformity with the decision by the previous administration, I am very happy to inform you that Fr. James Panthalanickal will be leaving for Europe to peruse his higher studies in Biblical Theology at the University of Leuven. He has already secured admission for the same. Right now he is learning German language in Dar es Salaam. From July 3 he was relieved from his responsibilities in the Noviciate and is attached to the MSFS Provincial House Community.

Dear Fr. James, we thank you very sincerely for the great dedication and exemplary religious commitment with which you have enriched each of us. Congratulations for accomplishing with diligence and love the challenging task of formation entrusted to your care during the last six years.

We wish you every blessing you need to fulfil the new mission entrusted to you by the Congregation. We promise you our sincere prayers and whole hearted support.

Fr. Sheejan Kallarackal will return to Europe on August 27 in order to complete the final requirements for the Masters in Business Management from the Strathclyde University, Glasgow Scotland UK. He is expected to return to Tanzania on November 14, 2011. We wish Fr. Sheejan every blessing for the successful completion of his studies.

Promotion to Diaconate

Bro. Innocent Vincent Ngowi is promoted to be ordained deacon. The diaconate ordination is scheduled to be held on October 1, 2011 at the Chapel of the Jordan University College, Morogoro. Our hearty congratulations to Bro. Innocent.

Initiation to the canonical noviciate

The following pre-novices were initiated into the canonical noviciate on July 9, 2011 at Fransalianum, Kibaha, Tanzania.

1. Gregory Mua Mutisya
2. Kennedy Mwakio Mwamburi
3. Michael Mwangi Mumbi
4. Patropio Mutangili Mungala
5. Ssentamu Ruthital
6. John Denis Dindi
7. Leonard Musembi Ngumbi
8. Moises Goma Supaida

We wish them every blessing in their formation.

First profession

The following novices made their First religious profession on July 10, 2011 at Fransalianum, Kibaha.

1. Augusto Antonio (Nagpur Province)
2. Julius Alex Woniala (East Africa Province)
3. Paul Onyango (East Africa Province)
4. Pedro Antonio Languitone (Nagpur Province)
5. Richard Tamaro (East Africa Province)
6. Ventino Peter Mutume (North East India Province)
7. Vincent Olowo (North East India Province)

Dear young Fransalians, We congratulate you and welcome you whole-heartedly to our Fransalian Family. May the good God who has begun the good work in you bring it to completion.

Congratulations to our Confreres

Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel has completed his doctoral studies in Systematic Theology from the University of Graz, Austria. His thesis under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Rainer Bucher titled, "**The Pastoral theological approach to interreligious dialogue**" is aimed at promoting interreligious dialogue at the grass root level. The context of this study is Christian-Muslim relations in Tanzania. Hearty Congratulations, dear Fr. Mathew!

Fr. Kurian Kollapallil has successfully completed his doctoral studies in May 2011. He graduated from Evans Ville, Indiana USA - Master's International School of Divinity and Theological Research Centre. He secured Doctoral degree in Biblical studies (DBS). He defended his thesis on "**Emotional trauma of parental divorce and the coping challenges of grade school children**". The work concentrated on pastoral counselling. Hearty Congratulations, dear Fr. Kurian!

Pilgrimage to Holy Land

Fr. Nelson Vijayakumar and **Fr. Tomychan Perumanoor** are visiting the Holy Land from July 17 to August 8, and will attend the spiritual renewal course for the priests organized by the Pontifical Institute Notre Dame of Jerusalem Centre. We wish them a safe trip and refreshing and graceful time in the Holy Land.

Holidays

Our Confreres on home holidays			
No.	Name	From	To
1	Fr. Pius Kochuparampil	July 25	September 23
2	Fr. Thomas Kochuparampil	August 24	September 23
3	Fr. Zachariah Burrofero	July 25	August 24
4	Fr. Wilson Packiam	June 30	July 29
5	Fr. Thomas Kochalumchuvattil	July 12	Aug 17
6	Fr. Devadoss Francis	July 9	Sept 8
7	Fr. David Soosai	May 15	August 8
8	Fr. George Antony Peter	May 15	August 8

To each of you we wish you very Happy Holidays and good time with your dear ones.

New Addresses:

Fr. Sebastian Palakudy MSFS

SIDDHIVIHARA
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN WHOLENESS
H D Kote Road, Srirampura P.O.,
Mysore 570008, INDIA

Fr. Kurian Kollapallil MSFS

St. John the Evangelist Church
600 N Adelaide Street
Fenton, MI 48430 USA

Uganda Kenya Apostolic Community.

In the new scenario of the Convenor and the Secretary of the Apostolic Community of Uganda-Kenya being away due to their transfers recently, I have authorized and requested **Fr. Thomas Olicka** to take the initiative and convene the Apostolic Community meeting any time from now and not later than August 30.

New Book

Fr. Kurian Kollapallil has authored a book a book titled "**In his outstretched arms**" published by Leonine Publishers, Arizona USA containing reflections from his missionary encounters in Africa and pastoral and life experiences in US. The pictorial presentations and the lucid style makes the book very pleasant to read and easy to understand. For more details you may hit. leoninepublishers.com. Hearty Congratulations, dear Fr. Kurian!

Let us remember them in our prayers:

Fr. Lucian Salim (80) of the Catholic Diocese of Morogoro passed away on July 11. As a Fransalian family, we owe our gratitude to late Fr. Lucian for his generous availability as the confessor and spiritual director for that past many years. RIP.

Mrs. Rosamma George Thekkekara, the sister-in-law of Fr. Jacob Thekkekara. She died on June 7, 2001 due to cancer at the age of 59. RIP.

The Manner of dispensing the Provincial Circular

Please note that due to the reasons that are good and worth, **hereafter the Provincial Circular will be reaching you only in the electronic version.** Once it is sent to you via email, you will be notified by SMS and please have access to the circular in your email. If you have any difficulties in this procedure please do not hesitate to let me know. In the established local communities and in the formation houses I request the superior or someone on behalf of the superior to print it out and place it for the community to read and later to keep in the community files for the future reference.

News Letter of the Province

There is also a plan to bring out a Newsletter of our province on a regular basis in the electronic version. I request you to send to me the news as well as relevant photos by email as early as possible.

My Programs

July

- 16 Holy Mass and Ceremony of Installation of the Provincial elect. Morogoro.
- 17 Council Meeting
- 18 Birthday celebration of Fr. Thomas Olickal the outgoing provincial and farewell
- 19 to 21 LCI Arusha, Meeting with Local Administrative Council
- 23 Visit to the Noviciate, Kibaha
- 24 Visit to MSFS Community at MKUZA; St. Francis de Sales Parish; Mass with the faithful
- 25 Visit to MSFS Community at Mji Mpya Dar es Salaam
- 27 Provincial Congress Steering committee meeting
- 28 Visit and Pastoral works Germany - Austria till August 27.

August

- 2 to 22 Pastoral Ministry Marz – Rohrbach the parishes in Eisenstadt diocese, Austria
- 8 Meeting with Diocesan Authorities Klagenfurt Diocese, Austria
- 11 Meeting with the Bishop of Eisenstadt His Lordship Ägidius Zsifkovics
- 29 Meeting with the Major Superior FCC Sisters (Collaborators- Fransalian School Mkuza)
- 30 MSFS Provincial House community meeting, Morogoro

September

- 1 – 7 In Arusha
- 2 Joint meeting with LCI Staff, Arusha
- 3 Official Opening of the academic year 2011-2012 at LCI, Arusha
- 4 Visit to MSFS Community Ngurdoto, Mass with the Faithful

- 5 Meeting MSFS Scholasticate Community LCI
- 6 Meeting with the Diocesan Authorities, Arusha Archdiocese
- 10 Meeting with the formation staff of SFS Junior Seminary, Morogoro
- 11 Mkambarani Mission, Morogoro First Communion
- 13 Travel to Tabora, Visit to MSFS Community Ipuli
- 14 Evening to MSFS Community Itaga
- 15 Evening to MSFS Community Bukene
- 16 Afternoon to MSFS Lububu; First communion
- 17 Hija Takatifu Lububu (Holy Pilgrimage to the Salvation Hill)
- 18 Parish Feast at Lububu : Afternoon Visit to MSFS Community Isaka
- 19 Afternoon to MSFS Community Mwakata
- 20 Back to Morogoro
- 23 - 28 Provincial Congress, Fransalian House, Kola Hills, Morogoro
- 29 - 30 Provincial Council Meeting, Kihonda, Morogoro

October

- 1 Diaconate Ordination of Bro. Innocent Ngowi, Kola Hills, Morogoro
- 2 Visit to MSFS Community Dumila and Mass with the Faithful
- 7 Visit to the Fransalian House Kola
- 9 Parish of Our Lady of Compassion Mji Mpya, Blessing of the new Church
- 11 to 16 Visit to the Apostolic Community of Uganda and Kenya (Details later)

When no programs are mentioned it can be presumed that in the normal situation I am in Morogoro.

Province Vicar

During my stay in Europe from July 28 to Aug 27, **Fr. Johnson Pathiyil** will be Province Vicar. I thank sincerely Fr. Johnson for accepting this additional responsibility.

Some of our visitors

Rev. Fr. Joseph Giefing from Austria from August 3 onwards

Mrs. Yeo Grace from Singapore from July 25 onwards

On behalf of the entire mission Fransalian Family we extend to you a very warm welcome.

Gratitude and Prayer Request

As I join the MSFS Provincial House community and the Morogoro Apostolic community, I would also like to express my sentiments of gratitude to the Lumen Christi Institute, MSFS community Maji ya Chai, Arusha and to the Dar es Salaam Apostolic community where I was part of. The fraternal bond and whole-hearted cooperation that I experienced from the confreres, parishioners and collaborators while in Arusha gave me always the good vibes to work tirelessly for the mission entrusted to us. I also express my heartfelt thanks to the Archbishop of Arusha, His Grace Josaphat Lebulu for his fatherly care and concern for the MSFS and in a very special way for the encouragement and whole hearted support from him and from the diocesan clergy and other religious congregations in our efforts to establish the Lumen Christi Institute.

My sincere appreciation and thanks for Fr. Thomas Olickal the outgoing provincial and Fr. Jose Eriyanickal the provincial bursar and all the confreres of the Morogoro Apostolic community for the

beautiful and very meaningful manner in which they have organized the Installation ceremony. With deep sense of dedication everyone tirelessly worked to make the day very colourful. The students of the SFS Junior Seminary, Kihonda and the Fransalian Primary School Kigurunyembe performed their best to make the event exuberant. Congratulations and thanks to the management, staff and the students!

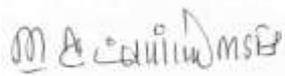
Beloved Confreres, I request your prayers and blessings. I need your constant support so that we as a community may always seek the will of God and do it in the most appropriate manner. The task ahead and the challenges are diverse and many. As you know I am also appointed as the Chairman of the MSAF and the Superior Delegate on behalf of the Superior General, for the Lumen Christi Institute. Till Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel takes charge as the new Director of LCI, I continue to function as the Director.

As you have seen in the program from July 28 to August 28 I will be in Europe. During the three weeks from August 2 to 22 I will be working in the parishes of Marz and Rohrbach where Fr. Joseph Giefing is the parish priest. I will be also making use of the chance to visit our confreres, our collaborators as well the some of the diocesan authorities where our confreres are working.

From September 1 to 7, I have the commitment to direct a retreat for some religious sisters who are in their Jubilee year of their religious profession. The retreat will be conducted in Arusha. I earnestly seek your prayers.

Let us entrust to the care of the Lord all our plans and concerns through the intercession of our Holy Founder Servant of God Fr. Peter Mermier who had a special heart for Africa. May Blessed Mother of compassion pray for us.

Yours in the Lord,



Fr. Johnson Kallidukil msfs
Provincial East Africa Province

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. (Rom. 12: 9-12)