

# MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

## Fransalians - Province of East Africa

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**Provincial Circular EAP- JK.16**

**July 15, 2013**

Beloved confreres,

By the grace of God, today on July 15, 2013 I am completing two years in the office of servant leadership as the Provincial. It is my indubitable duty to thank God and thank each of you for the myriad of blessings on each of us. Marvellous are the ways in which the Love of God was and is being manifested to us. Let us not count the blessings in terms of expansion and new establishments or in terms of increase in numbers and investments. But on the other hand, let us thank the Lord for the self of each of us and the sense of mission instilled in our hearts. We see our missions effervescent with life, people responding positively to our proclamation of the Good News. We realise that our services are appreciated and there is genuine need and demand for the same. Trusting in the quality of our service there are many requests for expanding our missions. In this year of Jubilees, this is the harmonious disposition we can have, characterised by sense of gratitude to God and fraternal bond of unity among ourselves as the Fransalian family of East Africa.

### **Annual retreat – 2013**

The annual retreat in this year of Jubilee was a unique graceful experience. From June 26 to July 2, 2013, we had annual retreat for the priest confreres. With special themes to mark the occasion of the jubilees, the retreat was guided by Rev. Fr. Thomas Kandathil CM. It was a lovely Fransalian gathering for us attended by 34 priests. Let us thank God for the grace of the retreat. We also thank Rev. Fr Thomas Kandathil CM who availed himself with a deep sense of commitment to guide us in our retreat. We also remember with sincere gratitude our young confreres – the scholastics who were looking after most of the communities and centres during this time. Finally I appreciate every confrere who took the pain of freeing oneself in order to be able to participate in the retreat and making it a very memorable one in this jubilee year.

### **Superiors' Forum Meeting**

The annual Superiors' Forum meeting of the year 2013 was held in the MSFS Novitiate House, Kibaha on June 26, 2013 from 09.45 hrs to 14.30 hrs. The meeting was moderated by the Provincial. It was a golden opportunity for the conferees to come together and to share the various concerns in the community especially in matters of leadership. We thank the novitiate community for the warm welcome accorded and for the preparations done to facilitate the meeting.

### **Mission Forum Meeting**

The Mission Forum Meeting of the year 2013 was conducted in July 2, 2013 at St. Francis de Sales Parish Mkuza, Dar es Salaam. In the meeting moderated by Rev. Fr. Jacob Thekkekara MSFS the Councillor in-charge of the Mission, all the parish priests and those in charge of autonomous outstations took active participation. The members shared their views and deliberated in the light of the call of the General Chapter our obligation and the

possibilities of contributions that are unique to Fransalians. We also thank the MSFS Community in Mkuza for hosting the meeting.

The dates and venue of other Forum Meetings will be made known soon.

### **Canonical Visitations**

Prior to these visitations I had a meeting with **His Eminence Polycarp Cardinal Pengo** the Archbishop of Dar es Salaam. He was very much appreciative of the active and effective missionary presence of our confreres in both the parishes. When His Eminence asked me if we have some more Fransalian Priests to work in his diocese, I could answer only with a silent smile and a sigh of resignation. As part of the visitation I had also meeting with the parish leaders of both parishes. They are very confident in the pastoral and administrative works of our confreres. They expressed the gratitude to the congregation for taking up ministry in their parishes. The only complaint that the faithful had to the Provincial was that number of priests in the parishes is not enough. They said:

*Our Fathers have too much work!*

### **Our Lady of Compassion Parish, Mji Mpya Relini, Dar es Salaam**

The canonical visitation to Mji Mpya Parish was conducted from June 8 – 10, 2013. MSFS started the ministry at Mji Mpya out station in the year 2008 and later it was raised as a parish and was entrusted to MSFS. The manner in which the overall development has taken place is astounding. The parish now consists of 66 BCCs in five Centres – some of which are eligible to be declared as new parishes. The newly constructed church and the presbytery are telling examples of the united efforts of the Catholic community of Mji Mpya. Until recently our confreres were staying in a rented house with very limited facilities. A few measures are taken to achieve self-reliance in matters of finance. Yet they are far from being able to meet the actual demands of the time. The edifying engagement of women religious in the parish adds strength to the Catholic presence. The parish is in need of further infrastructure such as office, hall, washrooms etc. Through the initiative of our confreres we have obtained a plot of land in *Bomba Mbili* – one of the out stations where we plan to start a school as part of the apostolate of the congregation. The parish is now being served by Fr. Sunny Mattathil as the Parish Priest and Fr. Innocent Ngowi as the Assistant Parish priest.

### **St. Francis de Sales Parish, Mkuza, Dar es Salaam**

It was with the establishment of the MSFS Novitiate in Kibaha, Dar es Salaam, in the year 2000 we had the first effective opening of our presence in the Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam. From that time our formators from the Novitiate community started rendering services in the outstation of Kibondeni under the Tumbi Parish. In the year 2004, it was raised to an independent parish under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales. Today the parish has nine Centres, with 73 BCCs and two Prayer Centres. At last one of the outstations can be soon raised to a new parish. The fast growing catholic population has necessitated the construction of a new spacious church. The parish has already an office and presbytery. The setting up of clean drinking water system for the public and the modern toilet facilities are unique achievements for the parish. With the fast growing ecological garden and the pictorial presentation of the history of salvation along the compound wall gives the church campus a very admirable look. The dedicated work of women religious in the parish apostolate as well as in the Fransalian Mission School in Mkuza is a big blessing for the faith formation. The parish is now being served by Fr. Mathew Chavely as the Parish Priest and Fr. Joseph Vettukattil as the Assistant Parish priest.

## **Initiation to the Novitiate**

On July 9, 2013 nine pre-novices from four MSAF units, were initiated into the canonical novitiate in a simple ceremony officiated by Fr. Johnson Kallidukil, the Provincial. The presence of all the confreres from Dar es Salaam Apostolic community added joy to the occasion. The new Novices are:

### **SOUTH WEST PROVINCE (Chad – Cameroon Mission)**

- ❖ Leandre Francky Senguena (Cameroon)
- ❖ Philippe Roland Menounga Mbolo (Cameroon)
- ❖ Chiabi Titus Tosam (Cameroon)

### **NAGPUR PROVINCE (Mozambique Delegation)**

- ❖ Desiderio Joao Deveriasse (Mozambique)
- ❖ Isac Gaspar Pedro (Mozambique)

### **NORTH EAST INDIA PROVINCE (Southern African Region)**

- ❖ Herke Heita Nande (Namibia)

### **EAST AFRICA PROVINCE**

- ❖ Alexander Thomas Wambua (Kenya)
- ❖ Edward Azigard Mgagi (Tanzania)
- ❖ Victor Muia Mutuku (Kenya)

However two pre-novices from Chad could not reach on time due to difficulties in getting in visa. The matter is being processed and we hope they are expected to join the Novitiate on July without affecting the canonical requirements: They are:

- ✚ M' Toudjiel Abba (Chad)
- ✚ Madjita Tanibe Anniversaire (Chad)

Together with Fr. Antonysamy Sebastian the Director of Novices, we wish all our new Novices, a very grace-filled time of novitiate.

## **First Profession**

On July 14, 2013 during the Solemn Eucharistic Celebration officiated by His Excellency Archbishop Francisco Montecillo Padilla the Apostolic Nuncio to Tanzania nine MSFS Novices made their First Religious Profession and one of the scholastics made the Final Profession. Thus the newcomers in our Fransalian religious family are:

### *South West India Province / Chad – Cameroon Mission*

- Bro. Boris Nixon M MSFS
- Bro. Etaba Bivina Emmanuel Cyrille MSFS
- Bro. Nguimatio Peygres Senghor MSFS

### *East Africa Province*

- Bro. Ambongo Orenge Joseph MSFS
- Bro. Kisseka Joseph Walugembe MSFS
- Bro. Lubega Aloizio Gonzaga MSFS
- Bro. Musugu Denis MSFS
- Bro. Remijus Danda MSFS
- Bro. Wasswa Brian MSFS

We whole heartedly welcome these young confreres to the Fransalian Religious family. Dear young confreres, we admire your daring step to be religious and missionary in this world that offers you more challenges than support to the way of life you have chosen. May the Lord who has begun the good works in you bring it completion.

### **Final Profession Bro. Clement Sudhakar MSFS**

On the same day July 14, 2013, and during the same liturgical celebrations, Bro. Clement Sudhakar MSFS made his Final Profession. We express our hearty congratulations to Bro. Clement for this decisive step of making the final commitment to the Lord. May the Spirit of the Lord accompany you in a very closer manner in enabling you to do what God wants of you in the Church and in the Congregation.

### ***Special Thanks:***

### **Apostolic Nuncio: His Excellency Archbishop Francisco Montecillo Padilla**

As you may remember it was on May 5, 2013 there was the bomb attack in a public Catholic liturgical gathering in Arusha. His Excellency Archbishop Francisco Montecillo Padilla the Apostolic Nuncio to Tanzania also was present in the function. It was a big shock to the entire community of people of good will irrespective of each one's faith background. On June 25, 2013 while addressing the Tanzanian Episcopal conference and the gathering of Religious Major Superiors and representatives from various Catholic Associations, in Dar es Salaam, the Archbishop said:

*I am not afraid. In fact after the event in Arusha I am more interested in participating in public liturgical celebrations. It has made my faith strong!*

The Fransalian Family in East Africa and the parish community of St. Francis de Sales Parish Mkuza express our deep sentiments of gratitude to the Apostolic Nuncio. He has proved himself to be a true ambassador of our Holy Father Pope Francis who is *not afraid!*

### **Diaconate Ordination**

Bro. Clement Sudhakar MSFS is promoted to receive the Diaconate Ordination. God willing he will be ordained Deacon on July 18, 2013 at St. Charles Luangwa Parish Bukene by His Grace Most Rev. Paul Ruzoka the Archbishop of Tabora.

### **Promoted to First Year of Philosophy**

The following scholastics are promoted to do the First Year of Philosophy formation program at LCI, Arusha. We wish them all the best.

- Bro. Ambongo Joseph
- Bro. Kisseka Joseph
- Bro. Lubega Gonzaga
- Bro. Musugu Denis
- Bro. Remijus Danda
- Bro. Wasswa Brian

### **Jubilee of Itaga Parish 100 Years!**

The Catholic Parish of Itaga under the patronage of St. Antony of Padua in the Archdiocese of Tabora, Tanzania is celebrating the grace filled 100 years of its life of faith. The Jubilee year was opened on June 9, 2013 with the Most Holy Eucharist presided over by His Grace Most Rev. Paul Ruzoka, the Archbishop of Tabora. This day was preceded by nine days of Novena to St. Antony. On the day of the opening of the Jubilee 315 persons – young and old received the sacrament of confirmation. A special Jubilee Cross was blessed. This cross would be circulating in all the outstations/ Small Christian communities/ families etc during the jubilee year. There was also the blessing of the Jubilee Memorial Open Air

Stage in the premises of the church. The concluding Jubilee celebration is scheduled to be held in June 2014.

*Report from Fr. Tomychan Perumanoor MSFS the Parish Priest Itaga Parish*

### **Greetings from Bro. Kenneth Maina in Bangalore, India**

Bro. Kenneth Maina MSFS reached India on May 30, 2013. And is now perusing his studies at Dharmaram Vidya Kshetra, Bangalore. He sends his greetings and thanks to all. He wrote recently. Here are some excerpts from his letter.

*... Regarding my studies, all is well. I fully attend the L. Ph classes and partially the MA classes due to the fact that both classes run simultaneously. The MA is more class-study oriented whereas the L. Ph is more of research oriented so my schedule is really tight. I am doing my best though time seems to be quite insufficient given the high academic demands that I have. Nevertheless, I am optimistic - please pray for me.*

*I am in touch with Fr. Jose Eriyanickal my local Superior and fathers in Suvidya, IIS and Vinayalaya. Fr. Vincent the Provincial of Pune calls me and encourages me often. ....I wish to inform you that Fr. Antony Mookenthottam MSFS has consented to be my spiritual director during my stay here in India. I am also in touch with Fr Josephat Bududu (from Tabora) and Fr Emile Amougou MSFS (Cameroon) who are doing their studies at Indian Institute of Spirituality. It was a matter of great joy to meet Bro Fabian and Bro Godwin in Suvidya.*

*Please give my loving greetings to all. .... I have found a new home here in India - thanks be to God...*

We wish Bro. Kenneth Maina all the blessings for this new task entrusted to him. His new address will be:

Bro. Kenneth Maina MSFS  
Post Graduate Phil Department  
Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram  
Dairy Circle, Hosur Road  
Bangalore 560029, INDIA tel +919164281879 (India). +255687706255(Airtel Tanzania )

### ***Good thief is not only a biblical character! Fr. Tomychan Perumanoor shares:***

*On May 22, 2013 evening we had the liturgical celebration of the renewal of vows of Bro. Amal Paul MSFS at Ipuli, Tabora. I was the delegate to receive the vows. That evening after the function around 21.15 hrs as I was returning to the Itaga Parish from Ipuli, at a particular point where there was a diversion, I was stopped by some thugs who had already blocked the way by creating some hindrances – mud road, lonely area, semi thick forest, almost dark night I was alone in the car! They flashed torch on my face and asked to stop the car and get out. Started with a strong bang on my head with a pole. Asked me to lie down on the ground – while they searched the car and my body for money and valuables. I acted very discretely and cooperated with them. They found cash – Tanzanian Shillings worth less than US\$ 20.00; mobile phone, chargeable torch, my spectacles, ring rosary, car key and what not... One of them wanted to lay his mighty hand on me again for anger of not getting enough. Other one prevented saying. “Do not do that, he is a priest” This scene of being prostrate on the ground lasted almost an hour. Then came from the opposite side a few trucks, one after another. Then I was asked to get into front seats of the car and lie down. I squeezed myself to the width of Toyota Pickup and with slightly raised head observed for another hour the robbery scenes around 30 meters from my car, in the blurry moon light with occasional flashes from the torch. There was also someone closely observing me if I would raise my head or make any signs to alert the police. By 23.15 hrs they had finished their*

*mission of getting from the trucks whatever was possible and they decided to stop the operation for the night. (Everyone has the right to take rest!) They asked the guys in the truck to remove all the blocks on the road and throw them far from the road. Then it was the time of my release, at last! They gave me back the SIM card of the phone they retained; gave back the gold rosary ring telling "you need it for prayer". They kept the car key on the bonnet and asked me to take the car and go. While starting the car, I noticed that I cannot drive without the spectacles. So I made a request to them for the same. They obliged. Good and noble robbers! As a good and very docile prey, they must have appreciated me and they let me go first, while the trucks were still waiting. Around midnight I reached the presbytery in Itaga .....*

*My dear friends, I believe in the power of prayer. I know many people are praying for me and for all of us missionaries here. Recalling to mind those moments of confrontation, it is very agonizing. But this does not bring down my missionary enthusiasm. Somehow, I had the inner courage and strength and deep faith that God is with me. I thank everyone who showed concern and prayed for me.*

*Fr. Tomychan Perumanoor MSFS*

Fr. Tomychan is now 23 years in Tanzania! Four years as a scholastic and 19 years as priest. It was for the first time he was experiencing such a thing. Let us thank God for the safety given to him by God. My dear confreres and friends! It is not always in our capacity to control the actions of others. But I believe it is always in our capacity to regulate our reactions to those actions. The manner in which Fr. Tomychan conducted himself very prudently in that situation is a very clear example of the same. As we have said, *pole sana* (our sympathies) to him, let us continue to pray him and for all of us that we will always experience the guiding hand of God in our life and ministry.

### ***Our God is powerful! Another Robbery attempt ripped to shreds***

As early as 02.30 hrs on Monday May 20, 2013 a gang of around 15 persons broke into the office of St. Francis de Sales Mkuza Parish – in spite of the security guard, and compound wall. Soon one of the faithful – a neighbour – a good Samaritan - who noticed something strange in the parish compound alerted the neighbours in mobile phone and the news spread very fast. In fifteen minutes as the robbers were still in operations police force many in number rushed to the compound with continuous gunfire. The robbers ran for life. Our confreres in the parish were ardently praying in the community chapel expecting the robbers to reach the presbytery any moment! After things became quiet they noticed that from the parish office cash worth 3.1 Million Tanzanian shillings (US\$ 1,500/- ) was taken. The whole office was in a mess. All were happy that our fathers were safe and no one was hurt. In the same morning there was thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration officiated by Fr. Mathew Chavely the parish priest. (Give thanks God in all circumstances... cfr. I Thess. 5:18) Many people participated in the Mass, as hearing of the robbery so many had come to parish even before the dawn to say "*pole sana*" (expression of sympathy) to our priests.

Any way around 10.00 hrs the entire money that was said to be lost, was found in a carry bag in the cemetery beside the presbytery. Poor Robbers! Along with the currency with 3.1 Million T. Shillings they also grabbed the coins weighing around Kg.20! Everything was put together in the bag and while jumping the compound wall they had to abandon *the fruit of their labour*, in order to save their lives. Unfortunately it is in the *robbery rules and regulations* that the booty must be put together and must be carried by only one person who is designated for the same task; later it would be divided and each one will get a share according to one's status in the gang.

Hearing of this Good news of getting back the lost money an old woman acclaimed with a sense of victory: *Our God is powerful! May Jesus be praised!* Lesson: Do not complain to God about what you lost; thank God for what you still have!

### **Home holidays**

Fr. Santhosh Prakshbhavan	From August 6 to October 2, 2013
Fr. Soosai David	From July 22 to September 21, 2013
Fr. Francis Kallikattu	From August 5 to October 5, 2013
Fr. Joby Maruthomalayil	From July 24 to Oct 24 (incl. renewal Program 6 weeks)
Fr. Pius Kochuparampil	From August 2, October 2, 2013
Fr. Thomas Kochuparampil	From August 2, October 2, 2013
Fr. Wilson Packiam	From July 3 to August 2, 2013
Fr. Devadoss Francis	From July 16, 2013 – followed by Studies
Dn Robert Antonysamy	From July 29 to October 20, 2013

### **The Residence of the General Councillors**

Although in the previous circular I had informed that one of the General Councillors would be residing at SFS Bhavan Peechanikad, Kerala, now the latest plan from the General Administration is different. Three of the General Councillors will be staying at Mermier Bhavan Malkajagiri, AP and one of them at Lumen Christi Institute in Arusha, Tanzania.

### **Welcome to Fr Agnelo Fernandes MSFS**

Our beloved Superior General writes: Fr. Agnelo Fernandes will base himself at LCI Arusha and animate, monitor, evaluate and report on the Apostolate of Mission Forum for all the Provinces from Africa, with special delegated responsibility to all other Apostolates in East Africa Province and other mission units in Africa.

It is with much delight we have received this news from the desk of the Superior General. We extend a warm and hearty welcome to our beloved Fr. Agnelo Fernandes.

### **Congratulations, Thanks: USA Vice Province Rev. Fr Augustine Tharappel MSFS**

Through the assiduous efforts and with a spirit of patience and perseverance of Fr. Augustine Tharappel and all the confreres concerned, the USA Region was raised to the status of a Vice Province. Fr. Augustine Tharappel has assumed the office on July 3, 2013 as the first Vice Provincial of this new Vice Province. We express our sincere congratulations to Fr. Augustine Tharappel and all the confreres in USA and to the General Administration for this step which is a clear sign of growth and stability.

Besides, we express our sincere gratitude to the USA Vice Province for the good collaboration we have formerly as USA Region and now as Vice Province. We thank for the support they give to us through their prayers, genuine interest in our mission and by sharing with us the proceeds of the mission appeal each year. As we know it involves lot of meticulous planning, organization, travel and sacrificing personal time and energy. *The USA Region / Vice Province does not exist for itself; it is for the Missions; for the mission of the Congregation.* This was the dictum shared by Fr. Augustine Tharappel in our deliberations on the MSFS Mission and Apostolate in USA. May God continue to bless you dear Fr. Augustine and all the confreres in USA.

### **The New Provincial Administration in Brazil Province**

Rev. Fr. Bugnon Gilbert Francois	: Provincial Superior
Fr. Ladir Brondani	: Provincial Councillor and Admonitor
Fr. Eldin Singarayan	: Provincial Councillor

Fr. Joao Inacio Rodrigues : Provincial Bursar

*We extend our hearty congratulations and prayerful wishes to the new Provincial Administration of the Brazil Province.*

**Fr. Thumma Mariadas, our Assistant Superior General is appointed procurator General** to the Holy See. Congratulations dear loving Fr. Thumma!

### **The Forthcoming Jubilee celebrations in our Congregation**

The *Quartoseptcentennial* (175 Years) celebration of the Foundation of our Congregation is scheduled to be celebrated at Province and Inter-Province level in different places as follows:

- At PIF Level in Suvidya College Bangalore : September 23, 2013
- South-East India Province – Trichy : October 2, 2013
- North-East India Province, Guwahati : October 17, 2013
- Franco-Swiss Province, Annecy : October 24, 2013

Those Confreres who would be on holidays during this time, and confreres in Europe and India are encouraged to participate in these Jubilee Celebrations - bringing greetings from East Africa.

*Finally we have the **175 Years of MSFS Foundation & 25 Years of MSFS in Africa** combined Jubilee Celebrations on **October 26, 2013 in Morogoro, Tanzania.***

***His Eminence Polycarp Cardinal Pengo** the Archbishop of Dar es Salaam will be the Main Celebrant of the Thanksgiving Holy Eucharistic Celebration.*

***His Excellency Archbishop Francisco Montecillo Padilla** the Apostolic Nuncio to Tanzania will be the Chief Guest for the function. *Karibuni Sana! Most Welcome!**

### **Fr. Thomas Olickal MSFS needs our prayerful support**

It was with deep shock that we received the news of the health condition of our beloved Fr. Thomas Olickal. He is diagnosed with cancer of the colon and still some tests are going on. The course and method of treatment will be finalized only after the results of all the tests are known. Let us remember Fr. Thomas and pray for him very specially each time we celebrate the Most Holy Eucharist.

The present address is:

Fr. Thomas Olickal MSFS

Prince of peace Catholic Church

903 East Main Street

Whitehouse, Texas 75791 3643. U S A. Phone: +1 903 221 6116

### **MSFS Jubilee Child: Zambian Mission MSFS PUNE Province venturing to Zambia!**

This is the jubilee Good News that we have that our confreres from Pune Province has decided to start the apostolate in Kabwe Diocese in Zambia. **Fr. S. Amal Arockia Swamy, Fr. Britto Michael Selvam MSFS and Fr. Jude Thadeus Augustine MSFS** are expected to be the pioneers in Zambian Mission. We expect that they will arrive in Nairobi on August 1, 2013. Then for three weeks they move around in our missions in East Africa and on Aug 21, 2013 accompanied by Rev. Fr. Vincent Lourduswamy the Provincial of Pune Province



they will land in Zambia marking the beginning of another historical event in this year of jubilees. If so, Zambia will be the 9<sup>th</sup> African nation in which MSFS would be working. With the opening of the Zambian Mission MSAF will consist of five units.

We whole heartedly welcome our dear confreres to Africa and wish them every grace and blessing they are in need of. May Jesus the first missionary be their model, inspiration and strength in this task of pioneering mission. Congratulations to dear Fr. Vincent Lourduswamy and all the confreres on this daring step.

### **Appointments/ transfers**

- **Fr Devadoss Francis MSFS** will peruse studies in Mass Media in India. The details of the program will be made known later.
- **Fr. Babu Joseph Kudakkachirakunnel MSFS** is appointed to be on the formation staff of Fransalian Seminary Ndagani Kenya from August 1, 2013

### **Refresher Programs**

- **Fr. Joby Maruthomalayil MSFS** will be attending a renewal program at Sadhana Institute Lonavala Pune India, from Sep 1 – Oct 19, 2013.

### **Visits**

**Rev. Fr. Jose Kumbloickal MSFS** the Provincial Superior of South West India Province will be visiting from July 29 to Aug 5, 2013 on his way back from Cameroon. He will be visiting most of our communities in Kenya, Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Morogoro. We extend to him a hearty welcome and pleasant stay with us.

**Rev. Fr. Josef Giefing** from Diocese of Eisenstaedt, Austria, was with us from June 25 to July 15, 2013. He still cherishes the good memories of working with us for many years and still continues to support our mission in various ways. We thank him for his visit and we welcome him again.

### ***Kwa Heri... Bye Bye; ...Asanteni.....Thank you! Fr. Simon Raja and Fr. Antony Rajesh***

It is with deep sorrow and feeling of great “Missing” that we have accepted the news of that our beloved confreres Fr. Simon Raja MSFS and Fr. Antony Rajesh MSFS from South East Province are to go back to India to take up further ministry. Their presence over last two years here was a great blessing for our mission here. Persons endowed with many Salesian virtues, through their life of simplicity, total availability and deep sense of commitment for mission they have won the hearts of us all. We appreciate the way they have mastered the Swahili language and plunged themselves into the mission here.

Dear Fathers, you have become part of the life and history of the MSFS in East Africa. We will always cherish our being together. May God be with you wherever you are and you continue to be the persons you are being blessing and bringing blessings to many. We thank you for your daring venture to come this side of the globe, and for all the kind and valuable services both of you have rendered. May God bless you. Welcome again to East Africa! *Karibuni sana!*

### **Our Sincere Gratitude: South East India Province**

It was at a time when we were in travail due to acute shortage of personnel, (the fact is: still we lack personnel) the South East India Province volunteered to provide us two priests for two years. We thank Rev. Fr. Antony Dharmaraj MSFS the Provincial of the South East India Province and the team for sparing Fr Rajesh and Fr. Simon for the last two years. We also extend our warm welcome to any confrere from any Province who wishes to

share in our mission in East Africa. It would be great blessing for us to have some more confreres here as the harvest is plenty and the labourers here are very few. *Karibuni sana!* Most welcome.

### ***Kwa Heri... Good-bye ; Asante... Thank you! Fr. Mathew Pallichankudy MSFS***

After one and a half years of generous services at Lumen Christi Institute, Arusha, Rev. Fr. Mathew Pallichankudy MSFS from Southern African Region is returning to the Region on Aug 12, 2013. Despite his ill-health he found time and means to avail himself to share in the mission of LCI. We thank the Southern African Region and the North East India Province for their generous support for the cause of LCI from the very beginning. We wish dear Fr. Mathew every blessing you are in need of. Welcome again to East Africa.

### **Hearty Welcome to Fr. Babu Joseph Kudakkachirakunnel MSFS**

It is with great enthusiasm and with a sense of relief we accord a warm welcome to Rev. Fr. Babu Joseph Kudakkachirakunnel MSFS to East Africa. Fr. Babu from the North East India Province was hitherto working in Southern African Region. He landed in Dar es Salaam on June 22, 2013 and right now he is attending Swahili Language course at LCI. From August, 1 2013 he will join the formation team of Fransalian Seminary Ndagani, Kenya. We wish Fr. Babu all the best and a graceful time in East Africa.

### **Mozambique Mission: In the process of being raised to a Delegation**

The Provincial Administration of Nagpur Province had made the request to the Superior General to raise Mozambique Mission to a Delegation under the Jurisdiction of the Province of Nagpur. The proposal was approved and the procedures were initiated. The General Council meeting held from 15<sup>th</sup> May 2013 has decided to raise Mozambique a delegation of the Province. Decree of the Superior General is yet to come. This is however a daring and decisive step that would trigger the further mission planning and development of our presence and apostolate in Mozambique. Hearty Congratulations to the Province of Nagpur and very specially those in Mozambique.

### **Change of residence: Fr. Thomas Chozhithara MSFS**

In order to be able to intensify the academic pursuit, from the Middle of August, Fr. Thomas Chozhithara MSFS will be changing his residence from Undorf Parish to the Seminary in Munich. So far he was been rendering pastoral service in the Parish of Undorf the along with his studies. His new Address will be:

P. Thomas Chozhithara Varghese MSFS  
Herzogliches Georgianum  
Professor-Huber-Platz 1  
80539 München, Germany Tel +49 89 286 20 288; Mob: +49 175 876 694 9

Dear Fr. Thomas we wish you a very conducive time and all the best for the studies.

### **Prayers Requested:**

#### ***Sick and suffering***

- **Fr. Raison Kaduvakuzhiyil** MSFS (South West India Province) is suffering from Cancer in the brain. He is undergoing Chemotherapy in Bangalore.
- **Fr. James Manjackal** MSFS (South West India Province) is steadily improving from the situation of the paralysis of the muscles.

- **Fr. Joseph Thayil MSFS** (South West India Province) is undergoing further treatment for the fluid formation in his stomach.
- **Mr. S. Antonysamy** the father of our confrere Fr. Sebastian Antonysamy, was suffering from pain on the knees and has now undergone an operation.
- **Mrs. Savariammal**, the beloved mother of our confrere Fr. David Soosai, is rather critical due to old age related illnesses.
- **Mr. Paul Cruz** the elder brother of our confrere Fr. Stephen Ubadesi, was sometime back attacked by some unknown persons and was admitted in hospital CMC Vellore with multiple fractures on legs and has now undergone a few operations. Still he is not in a position to move well.
- **Mr. Savarimuthu S.** the father of our confrere Fr. Stephen Ubadesi, was in hospital due to illness of rheumatism and malfunctioning of kidney. Now he is steadily improving.
- **Mr. Saji** the elder brother of our confrere Fr. Gijo Panamattathil MSFS had a fall and now he is recuperating after the operation.

### ***Called to Eternal Glory***

- **Mr. Thomas Paicatt** (65), elder brother of Fr. Simon Paicatt MSFS (Provincial of Vizag Province), passed away on June 15, 2013.

*May God grant him Eternal Rest!*

*Amen*

### **My Tentative Programs:**

#### **July**

15 Meeting with Regional Commissioner Morogoro  
 16 Travel to Bukene  
 18 Priestly Ordination and Diaconate Ordination – Bukene  
 19-20 Ipuli  
 21 Thanksgiving Mass in Bukene; Evening to Mwakata  
 22-23 Mwanza  
 24-25 Dar es Salaam  
 26-28 Arusha  
 29-31 Moro, Dar es Salaam

#### **August**

1-5 Moro, Dar es Salaam, with Fr. Jose Kumblolickal MSFS  
 6 – 20 With confreres from Pune  
 7-13 To TAKA  
 11 Hija in Kategille Itaga, Tabora  
 14-15 Arusha  
 16 Morning To Nairobi  
 16-23 Kenya  
 30-31 Apostolic Community Meeting Morogoro

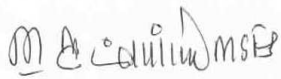
Beloved Confreres,

We have all received the *Call of the General Chapter*. The message challenges us regarding our true identity as Fransalians, the quality of our commitment, the manner of our being priests, religious and missionaries. It is very easy to tread the already trodden paths –

walking with those who walk. No matter where they go, how they move, what they talk, - we sometimes join them, for we find it easy. The crowd can keep me going. There is nothing much for me to decide for I would do mostly what others do.

But is not my call for something beyond? In my life style as a priest, as a religious, as a formee, as a seminarian, as a missionary, what is that charisma that instils the true *MSFS-ness* into my being? Do we not often fail to articulate our existence as MSFS characterized by true *MSFS-ness* emanating from a life based on the spirit and spirituality of St. Francis de Sales? Just being a religious, priest, missionary or a formee, or seminarian etc is not what a Fransalian is to be.

Let us make genuine efforts to imbibe the true Fransalian Spirit in our life and ministry, after the example of our Holy Founder, Servant of God Fr. Peter Mermier. Praying for you dearly through the intercession of our holy founder Fr. Peter Mermier,



Fr. Johnson Kallidukil MSFS  
(Provincial MSFS East Africa Province)

*I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!*

Ps. 26:13 - 14