

# MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Fransalians - Province of East Africa

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**Provincial Circular EAP- JK.26**

**August 1, 2014**

Beloved Confreres,

With deep sense of gratitude to God and to each one of you, I greet you in this circular as I have begun my second term in the office. I have the firm hope that the Lord who was guiding our destiny till this day will continue to accompany us in the days to come. I am not sure what is in store for us or how the Lord is going to lead us and to what direction he takes us. Only one thing we can be sure of is that the Lord leads and he will take us to right direction.

I believe my dear Confrere, you also share in this faith and thus accepting me as the leader and placing your confidence in me. I believe it is the same faith shared by the General Administration in entrusting this task to me. With sincere humility and deep trust in God I accept this task of servant leadership and go forward.

## **Provincial Congress - 2014**

In accordance with the norms of the Constitutions and the General Directory and following the particular directives in the letter of my appointment as the Provincial Superior, in consultation with the Provincial Administration and with the due consent of the Superior General, I hereby convoke the 7th Ordinary Provincial Congress of the Province of East Africa of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, to be held from September 22 to 26, 2014 at MSFS Scholasticate, Fransalian House Post Box 896 Morogoro, Tanzania, with the guiding theme:

### ***MSFSness in being and doing at the service of the Mission of Christ in Africa.***

*Theme explicated:*

We the Fransalian Family in East Africa  
Celebrating our Seventh Provincial Congress as our *Magnificat* to the Lord  
To appraise the past, to amend the present and to assert the future,  
living the *MSFSness* in its fullness, as we approach  
the fourth decade of our presence  
in the continent of Africa.

I invite and exhort all the finally professed members to make themselves available for the Provincial Congress.

## **Steering Committee for the Provincial Congress**

The Provincial council has constituted the Steering Committee for the organization of the Provincial Congress.

Fr. Nirappel Sebastian (Convenor and Chairman)  
Fr. Sebastian Williams  
Fr. Kattikanayil Tomy  
Fr. Kallarackal Sheejan  
Fr. Antonysamy Sebastian

We thank the members for being at the service of the Mission and wish them all the blessings they are in need of in all the preparations for the Congress.

### **Representatives from the Temporary professed**

The scholastics in temporary profession have the possibility of electing two scholastics in temporary profession as their representatives to the Provincial Congress. Every scholastic in temporary profession will soon receive instructions and the ballot for the election. Kindly exercise this duty as a matter of very personal spiritual discernment.

### **Documents to be studied for the Provincial Congress**

As we are in the process of preparing/ amending the Statutes/ Guidelines for our mission in East Africa, soon you will receive a number of documents that we need to study. Kindly go through the documents personally, in the community and in Apostolic Community where possible and send to me the feedback with clear indication of the suggestions that you have and the rationale for the suggestions. All the feedbacks must reach the office of the Provincial before September 16, 2014.

### **Prayer for the Provincial Congress**

My dear Confreres, As the Provincial Congress is the most important event in the life and mission of the Province during the particular Provincial Administration, it is a MUST that we pray for the blessings of the Lord. I request every member and every community to make intercessory prayers, every day offering each day different communities/ individuals in prayer and to pray for the graceful celebration of the Provincial Congress.

### **2015 - Year of the MISSION**

*In order to emphasize the original missionary nature of and purpose of our Congregation and create a new mission awareness at the congregational level, our Superior General has officially communicated in his letter that the Year 2015 is declared as Year of Mission for the MSFS Congregation. Every province, Vice Province, Delegations, Regions and Missions of the Congregation are invited to prepare concrete plans for strengthening the frontier missions, foreign missions and missions within the territory of the unit. All the Forums in the Province are invited to make concrete plans and suggestions for the meaningful realization of this Year of Mission in 2015. Let us give some serious thoughts to this.*

## **We grow steadily : New members to our Fransalian Family**

### **Initiation to Novitiate**

On July 9, 2014 five pre-novices from three MSAF units, were initiated into the canonical novitiate in a simple ceremony officiated by Fr. Johnson Kallidukil, the Provincial. The new Novices are:

Egidio Abel	from Mozambique
Joseph Ssendendo	from Uganda
Moses Okoth from	from Uganda
Nymisi Yves Cyrille	from Cameroon
Toussaint Ndeialdongar	from Chad

### **First Profession**

On July 10, 2014 nine Novices from three MSAF Units made their First Profession during the Most Holy Eucharistic Celebration at Fransalianum, MSFS Novitiate Kibaha. The Eucharist was presided over by His Lordship Titus Mdoe the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam. We thank His Lordship for his availability for the Mass and sharing very good message with us. Those who made the First Profession are:

#### ***East Africa Province***

Alex Wambua Thomas	from Kenya
Edward Azigard Mgagi	from Tanzania
Victor Muia Mutuku	from Kenya

#### ***Nagpur Province/ Mozambique Delegation***

Desiderio Joao Deveriasse	from Mozambique
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#### ***South West Province/Chad-Cameroon Mission***

Madjita Tanibe Anniversaire	from Chad
M' Toudjiel Abba from	from Chad
Chiabi Titus Tosam	from Cameroonian
Leandre Francky Senguena	from Cameroonian
Philippe Roland Mbolo	from Cameroonian

### **Final Profession**

On July 10, 2014 the following Scholastics of MSFS East Africa Province made the Final Profession during the same Eucharistic celebration. With them now we are 52 Finally Professed Members in the East Africa Province.

Auppaden Siljo Cherian	from Inda
Kayanja Joseph Mary	from Uganda
Mwebia Japhet Kirimi	from Kenya
Ouma Charles Ondiek	from Kenya

Every vocation is so precious to us that we cannot but thank the Almighty God for the good and promising members to our Congregation from different parts of the world. We extend our hearty Congratulations to them. We also thank and appreciate the Councillor in-charge of Formation, Vocation Promoters, the Director and Socius of Novices and the Rector and the formators for the accompaniment they offer to the candidates in their journey of vocation.

### **Fr. Paul Samy MSFS: Welcome to Africa**

Rev. Fr. Paul Samy MSFS of the South East India Province has volunteered to work in East Africa. He was ordained priest in the year 2001 has lot of experiences in the apostolate of formation and pastoral work. He arrived in Dar es Salaam on July 28, 2014. We extend a warm welcome to Fr. Paul Samy to East Africa and wish him a time of pleasant stay, fruitful and enjoyable ministry in East Africa. We also express our sincere thanks to Rev. Fr. Antony Dharmaraj MSFS the Provincial of South East Province, the Provincial Curia and the entire Province Community for their good will, consent and encouragement given to Fr. Paul Samy. *Karibu sana Padre Paul Samy.*

### **Appointments and Transfers**

**Fr. Pathiyil Johnson MSFS.** With effect from August 31, 2014 Fr. Johnson is relieved from the present responsibilities and is designated for higher studies in Spirituality at *Angelicum* Rome. As we express our thanks to God for the memorable blessings we have received in and through him, we also entrust to the Lord his new mission. His new address and contacts will be given later.

**Fr. Sebastian Williams MSFS** the present Vice Rector is temporarily appointed as the Acting Rector and Superior of the SFS Junior Seminary community till further arrangements are made. I thank him for accepting this task, in spite of the heavy responsibilities that he already has. This appointment is effective from September 1, 2014

**Fr. Palakudy Sebastian MSFS** is temporarily appointed at MSFS Community Mlolongo-Katani, Kenya with effect from August 15, 2014.

**Fr. Paul Samy MSFS** is temporarily appointed to the MSFS Community at Ipul, Tabora, Tanzania with effect from August 15, 2014

### **Prayers Requested:**

**Mr. Antony Maruthomalayil**, the beloved father of our confrere Fr. Joby Maruthomalayil - passed away in India on July 12, 2014 due to old age related illnesses. He was 86 years old.

**Mr. Ndeialdongar Ndouba Maurice**, father of Toussaint Ndeialdongar one of our novices (from Chad) in Kibaha, Tanzania passed away on July 3, 2014. It was the very day the would be novice was starting the retreat in preparation for entry to the novitiate.

*May the soul of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace!*

## **Jubilation for St. Francis de Sales Parish Dumila, Morogoro**

On July 6, 2014 in very festive atmosphere the renovated Parish Church of Dumila along with the new altar was blessed by His Lordship Bishop Telesphore Mkude the Bishop of Morogoro. The sacrament of confirmation was also administered to nearly 100 faithful. The day also marked the Silver Jubilee celebration of the religious profession of Sr. Reena and Sr. Agnes (Sisters of St. Joseph of Annecy) who are very much associated with us. The presbytery of Dumila was also renovated with new facelift. Our Sincere thanks to Fr. Tomy Kattikanayil MSFS the Parish Priest for the initiatives and the spirit of dedication in completing the works well and on time. We also appreciate the good collaboration from the parish community and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Annecy in accomplishing all the works.

## **Another “wing” for SFS Katani**

On June 24, 2014 Rev. Fr. Jacob Thekekara MSFS the superior of the Mlolongo-Katani community blessed the shopping complex built on the side of the Katani Siyokimau Road. The first part of the building has seven rooms which are named after the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. The second stage of construction will be consisting of another seven rooms in the ground floor and fourteen living rooms on the first floor. It is another effort from the part of the Fransalians to make SFS Integrated Primary School self-sufficient. All the rooms are already occupied by people for the commercial purpose. We like to thank God and all those who supported us in this endure.

Our hearty congratulations to Fr. Sunny Vettickal and all the members of the community for the initiative of constructing shops as part of long term self-reliance program.

## **Fr. Josef Giefing : Welcome to Tanzania**

Our Mission Friend and close associate Rev. Fr. Josef Giefing from Austria has come to Tanzania to spend his holidays and to visit our missions. We extend to him a hearty welcome and wish him happy stay with us. *Karibu sana Baba!*

## **Fr. John Karondukadavil MSFS**

Fr. John Karondukadavil MSFS arrived in Tanzania on July 23, 2014 in order to guide the Congregational retreat in East Africa, along with Fr. Agnelo Fernandes. We extend a warm welcome and wish him good and effective ministry by way of guiding us in the retreat.

## **Annual - Congregational retreat**

As announced earlier, all the confreres in East Africa will have participated in the annual retreat in one of the three sessions offered at LCI. I very sincerely thank all the confreres for availing this opportunity of retreat even sacrificing some days of their precious annual holidays as they are to be back on time for the Provincial Congress. request those confreres of East Africa Province outside the territory of East Africa, to attend the retreats when organized in your respective units (like GAH, USA VP) or in the other Provinces.

## **Missionary Volunteers from Mexico**

We had been blessed with the presence of 16 missionary volunteers from Mexico with us from June 29 to July 28, 2014. They are young university students who came to support us with the construction of two village chapels in the parishes of Mkuza in the

Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam and Ngurdotto, in the Archdiocese of Arusha. The group was lead by Fr. Gabriel Gonzalez LC from Centro Universitario Valia, Mexico. We thank Fr. Gabriel and his team for their missionary dedication, support and solidarity with our missions in Tanzania. We welcome them again to Africa

### **Missionary Volunteers from Chile**

We have eighteen missionary volunteers from Chile with us in the province from July 16 to August 2, 2014. They are also university students from the Engineering department of the Catholic University of Chile. They are at present helping in our children's home and schools in Ipuli, Tabora. We wish them a very pleasant stay with us. We also express our gratitude and thankfulness for their missionary presence, support and solidarity in our missionary works. We very specially thank Ms Sole Ferrer, their Group Coordinator from the Catholic University of Chile. *Karibuni tena Afrika!*

### **Home Holidays**

The following confreres are on home holidays.

Fr. Poikunnel Joseph	from June 15 to August 10, 2014
Fr. Packiam Wilson	from July 2 to July 28, 2014
Fr. Chinnappan Arockiasamy	from August 1 to September 20, 2014
Fr. Stephen Ubadesi	from August 1 to September 20, 2014
Fr. Vettickal Sunny	from August 1 to September 20, 2014
Fr. Raj Robert Soosai	from August 1 to September 20, 2014
Fr. Kochumalayil Sony	from August 17 to August 30, 2014

We wish them all the best and good time with their dear ones.

### **My tentative Program**

#### **July 2014**

- 15 Installation as the Provincial at SFS Junior Seminary Morogoro, Tanzania
- 19 Jubilee Celebration in Dumila and meeting with Mother General of SJA
- 22 Travel to LCI Arusha
- 23-28 Retreat at LCI
- 24 Back to Morogoro
- 30 Meeting with the Mother General of DSFS

#### **August 2014**

- 1-2 Dar es Salaam- Guests from Germany (2 to 22 Aug)
- 3 Mass in Mkuza/Village
- 6 Travel to Singida
- 7 Ipuli
- 8 Opening of Novena Mass at Kategille, Itga
- 9 Graduation - SFS Primary Ipuli
- 10 Mass in Bukene
- 11 Visit to Lububu, Mwakata and travel to Mwanza
- 12 Mwanza - Bunda
- 16 at LCI Arusha
- 17 Mass in the New Outstation Maji ya Chai & Ngurdotto
- 18 Travel to Dar es Salaam
- 23 Back to Morogoro
- 24 Mass in Dumila/ Village



## September 2014

- 13 Holy Pilgrimage Lububu
- 14 Parish Feast Lububu
- 16 Blessing of the new SFS Children's Home, Ipuli Tabora
- 22-26 Provincial Congress Morogoro
- 27 Diaconate Ordination, Morogoro.

Beloved Confreres,

Today we enter into another new month - August - in our lives. Again hectic time is ahead of us. Annual retreats, home holidays, graduations in the schools, new semester in seminaries, pilgrimages in parishes, preparations for the Provincial Congress and still many more things. All of us are getting busy with one thing or other as part of our ministry. Our Patron St. Francis de Sales reminds us to start all our actions from God. *Accustom yourself to know how to pass from prayer to all sorts of actions which your vocation justly and lawfully requires of you.* This is exactly what our beloved Patron did. Our call to live our *MSFSness* demands that we do the same and in similar way. In the multitude of the actions that we do, let us give to God his due. Or else our actions will be devoid of love, our words mere clanging cymbal and our relationship purely utilitarian and lifeless.

Let us learn how to pass from prayer to actions. May prayer be the beginning of all our apostolate. Let us not regret in taking time to pray. Remember: *Actions preceded by prayer becomes apostolate; In true apostolate there is anointing. Anointed actions and words again generates love. This love impels us to pray and to transform our mere actions into apostolate! Thus, end of prayer is end of apostolate.*

Again, let us learn how to pass from prayer to actions.

United with you in the Eucharistic Lord,



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

*Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many.  
I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.  
When you walk, your steps will not be hampered;  
when you run, you will not stumble.  
Hold on to instruction, do not let it go;  
guard it well, for it is your life.  
Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evildoers.  
Avoid it, do not travel on it;  
turn from it and go on your way.*

Proverbs: 4: 10-15