

# MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Fransalians - Province of East Africa

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Provincial Circular EAP- JK.49

May 6, 2017

Beloved Confreres,

## Venerable Angelina Lyaka - Inspiration to live and love as Christ did!

It is not for the first time that I am sending the circular dated May 6! I have the special reason for the same. Every year on this day - May 6 - we mark the Martyrdom of Dada Angelina Lyaka, also known as the *Maria Goreti of Tororo*, Uganda. For the deep love for God, in order to preserve her chastity as the bride of Jesus, she gladly accepted Martyrdom in the year 1927. Her tomb is in the parish premises of Agururu, where we serve as Missionaries. It is our sacred privilege to serve this parish where her mortal remains are kept.

We the consecrated persons have a lot to learn from the life and *ministry* of Angelina. Her *ministry* was not one of performance, but of *being* that leads to a special *belongingness*. In her very being she belonged to Jesus and to Jesus alone. Today we live in a world, where religious life is somehow considered to be a *career*, in which the *human performance* matters. *Holiness of a consecrated person* does not seem to be an interesting subject today for discussions and seminars.

Venerable Angelina was convinced that without a chaste heart one cannot serve God in true freedom. Human sexuality is a sacred trust bestowed by God on human being. It is a sacred domain reserved for God, for it is there the miracle of creating a new human being is accomplished. When human beings exercise the intimate love in legitimate manner in the sacred bond of matrimony, God guarantees his loving and sanctifying presence with them. Angelina tells us today that without being holy one cannot serve God who is holy. Besides, our life and mission will bear the lasting fruits when we are holy, manifesting the holiness of the Father.

Let us pray through intercession of Dada Angelina that:

- We are inspired and strengthened to live our life of holiness
- We remain sacred temples of the Holy Spirit
- We are courageous enough to face the enemies
- We avoid any circumstances or relationships that lead us to sin
- We have the wisdom to distinguish between good and bad
- We belong to no one but Jesus alone.
- We do not compromise on values of Jesus.
- We not only do not sin, but will never lead others to sin
- We are ready to crucify our passions to the cross of Christ.

We wish Fr. Sunny Mattathil MSFS the parish priest and the entire assembly of the devotees of Dada Angelina, the blessings of God through her powerful intercession.

*Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*

*Gal. 5:24*

## **Formation: Promotions and approvals**

### **Promotion to Priestly Ordination**

The following Deacons are promoted for the priestly ordination

Dn. Amal Neerolickal MSFS  
Dn. Gerald Mabiriizi MSFS  
Dn. Ibrahim Musajja MSFS  
Dn. Jonathan Muema MSFS  
Dn. Lawrence Sebowa MSFS

Let us continue to accompany them with our prayers and blessings as they are now completing the final semester of Theology course and preparing for the great blessings of the Sacred Order.

### **Promoted for Fourth Year Theology**

Bro. Francis Kyule MSFS  
Bro. Martin Pendanath MSFS  
Bro. Patrick Musyimi MSFS  
Bro. Simon Nabende MSFS

### **Promoted to the Third Year Theology**

Bro. Kenneth Maina MSFS

### **Promoted to the Second Year Theology**

Bro. Francis Indumuli MSFS  
Bro. Richard Tamaro MSFS

### **Promoted for Renewal of Vows and to the Second Year Theology**

Bro. Gregory Mutisya MSFS  
Bro. John Dennis Dindi MSFS  
Bro. Leornard Musembi Ngumbi MSFS  
Bro. Michael Mwangi Mumbi MSFS  
Bro. Ssentamu Ruthitical MSFS

### **Promoted for Renewal of Vows and to First Year Theology**

Bro. Brian Wassawa MSFS  
Bro. Joseph Ambongo Orengo MSFS  
Bro. Lubega Gonzaga MSFS  
Bro. Remijus Danda MSFS  
Bro. James Makuli MSFS

### **Promoted for Renewal of Vows and to the Year of Regency**

Bro. Alex Wambua Thomas MSFS  
Bro. Avil Veigas MSFS  
Bro. Edward Azigard Mgagi MSFS  
Bro. Victor Muia Mutuku MSFS

## Promoted for Renewal of Vows and to the Third Year Philosophy

Bro. Joseph Ssendendo MSFS  
Bro. Moses Okoth MSFS

## Promoted for Renewal of Vows and to the Second Year Philosophy

Bro. Collins Barasa Simiyu MSFS  
Bro. Cosmos Clement Mungo MSFS  
Bro. Fred Bwoba MSFS  
Bro. Godwin Nanalo MSFS  
Bro. Joseph Mwasa MSFS  
Bro. Ronald Kumali MSFS

The scholastics in EA are to renew the vows on May 19.

## St. Joseph's Feast in Mlolongo

The Feast of St. Joseph was celebrated very solemnly on April 30, 2017 at St. Joseph Parish Mlolongo, with unprecedented number of faithful gathered in prayer. The celebration consisted in the solemn faith proclaiming procession on the public road, Most Holy Eucharist, ceremony of honouring the church personnel and religious, distributing help to the poor and needy and finally the family meal shared by over 3000 faithful. May St. Joseph continue to protect and guide us. Congratulations and appreciation to our confreres Fr. Jose Eriyanickal and Fr. Clement Sudhakar for the initiative to organize the feast in this manner.

## News Snippets

- **Fr. Thomas Kochuparampil** was guiding the retreat for the SMI Sisters East Africa Province from April 26 to May 1, in preparation for their Chapter. He will be giving another retreat for the Montfort Brothers in the coming days.
- **The Deacons** will be attending a common retreat organized by the Formators Forum in JUCO from June 24 to 30, in preparation for the priestly ordination. The retreat will be at the Spiritan retreat centre at Mlandizi, Dar es Salaam.
- **Rev. Fr. RVP Prasad** - our Associate Member from the Archdiocese of Vizag, India - is now completing two years of his service in EA. He is now given the permission by the respective Archbishop His Grace Prakash Mallavarapu to extend his ministry with MSFS EA for one more year. We wish Fr. Prasad a graceful time of ministry in EA.
- **Rev. Fr. Stephen Nadakuzhakal** - our new Associate Member from Srikakulam Diocese, India - has already arrived in Tanzania on May 3, 2017. We extend a warm welcome to him. His place of ministry will be specified in the course of time.
- The ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the **Project in Bissel**, Kenya will be on May 26, 2017. Let us entrust this project to the hand of the Lord. We wish Fr. Chinnappan Arockiasamy and all the confreres in Mlolongo - Katani in their united efforts to bring this project to fruition.
- **Fr. Kurian Kollapallil MSFS** who was working in USA for the past 11 years is completing his assignments there on June 30, 2017. He will be returning to EA in July. After the holidays and visit to the Holy Land he will be here for the ministry from September 15, 2017. We extend a warm welcome to him.
- The official opening of the **St. Francis de Sales Parish Kashishi**, Tabora will be on July, 2, 2017. This new parish under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales, being the

first one in Tabora Archdiocese, really marks the 30th year of our MSFS presence in Tabora, Tanzania. All are welcome to Kashishi to bless the occasion.

- Under the banner of Fransalian Communications, our scholastics in Kola organized a day of seminar and **spiritual renewal for the University Students** of SUA on April 29, 2017. Almost 500 students participated from morning till late evening. Due to the large number of students the program was conducted in the open stage of Fransalian School, Morogoro. Congratulations to the young Fransalians.
- **The graduation ceremony at Lumen Christi Institute:** Those who completed their Bachelorette in Philosophy (affiliated to De Sales University USA) and the Diploma in Religious studies and Formation were awarded with the certificates during the graduation ceremony conducted on May 6, 2017 at LCI.
- **Fr. Kujur Kuldeep MSFS** from SW India Province/ Chad Cameroon Mission is completing his assignments in East Africa Province and will be returning to the respective mission by middle of June. We thank him sincerely for the time he spent here and for the services he has rendered both in the noviciate and in the mission in Dumila. We wish him all the blessings in his further assignments.
- **Pre-Noviciate program** will be arranged from June 1 to June 30 at Lumen Christi Institute. **Fr. Charles Ouma MSFS** will be the one in-charge of the program. He will be assisted by other resource persons.
- **New Mission in Uganda:** From October 1, 2017 we will be taking up a new mission in Uganda in the Diocese of Jinja.
- **Fr. Murali Balam MSFS** from Vizag Province has joined the staff of LCI. We extend a warm welcome to him and wish him fruitful ministry in LCI.
- **Fr. Philip Thomas MSFS** from North East India Province has reached LCI as the resource person for the formators program and other animations. We extend a warm welcome to him.

### **Apostolic Community - Kenya: New Office bearers**

The Provincial Administration ratifies the election of Fr. Jose Eriyanickal and Fr. Aristides Danda as the Convenor and Secretary respectively of Kenya Apostolic Community. We wish them all the blessings of God and the good cooperation of all the members in carrying out their tasks.

### **Home holidays**

Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel	from March 16 to May 3, 2017
Fr. Reji Pendanath	from March 28 to May 26, 2017
Fr. Sebastian Antonysamy	from April 17 to June 16, 2017
Fr. Robert Antonysamy	from May 20 to July 13, 2017
Fr. Francis Kallikattu	from April 21 to June 5, 2017

*We wish them good time of relaxation and rejuvenation.*

### **Transfers and Appointments**

**Fr. Joseph Kayanja MSFS** is transferred from Kashishi Mission and is appointed to the MSFS Formation house, Ndagani. He will be the Vocation Promoter in Kenya, Vice Rector and Bursar of the Community.

**Fr. Peter George Antony MSFS** is completing his assignments in Divine Retreat Centre, Kerala, India by the middle of this month and he is appointed to the MSFS Community in

Chera with effect from May 27, 2017. He is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest, St. Michael's Parish Chera. He will be also the Manager of the Salesan School.

**Fr. Raparthy Prasad** is transferred from Chera, Kenya to the MSFS Community in Agururu, Uganda. He is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest in St. Bruno Parish Agururu with effect from June 15, 2017.

**Fr. Chinnappan Arockiasamy MSFS** is mandated to be the pioneer in our new mission in Bissel, Ngong Diocese, Kenya. From April 5, 2017 he is already residing with the diocesan priests in Kajiado Parish, while being a member of the MSFS Community Mlolongo.

**Fr. Charles Ouma MSFS** is appointed to conduct the Pre-Noviciate Program to be held in June at LCI. Later from September he is designated to attend the 9 months program for the formators at LCI.

### **Appointments : Regents**

Bro. Alex Wambua Thomas MSFS	MSFS Community Ipuli, Tabora, Tanzania
Bro. Avil Veigas MSFS	SFS Junior Seminary, Kihonda, Morogoro
Bro. Edward Azigard Mgagi MSFS	MSFS Community Iyolwa
Bro. Victor Muia Mutuku MSFS	MSFS Community Katani

### **Important information to regents**

Unless specified otherwise in the individual cases, kindly note that those who are going to start the regency, will have one month of home holidays from May 20 to June 20 and they have to report to the communities on June 20. In the same way unless specified otherwise and approved by the Provincial in the individual cases, those who are doing regency at present will continue in their respective places till August 15. From August 15 they will have home holidays. On September 15, 2017 they have to report to Fransalian House, Kola. Morogoro.

### **Holiday assignments for the scholastics**

Depending on the availability of the scholastics they will be assigned to different communities during the holidays. However if a community wishes to have the scholastics, in order to ensure their presence, Superior of the community is requested to contact Fr. Thomas Kochuparampil and Fr. Thomas Kochalumchuvattil at the earliest.

### **Departure from the Congregation**

The following scholastics are discontinuing their formation and they cease to be the members of the congregation.

Anand Pandanath	(Phil I Suvidya)
Francis Aura	(Phil I LCI)
Joseph Kisseka	(Regency)
Denis Musugu	(Regency)

*We wish them all the blessings in their lives and call. We also thank them sincerely for their contributions to us during the time of our being together.*

### **New Provincial Administrations in other Provinces :**

*The new Provincial Administration of South East India Province*

Fr. Ignaci Muthu	- Provincial Superior
Fr. A. Santhiyagu	- PCIC for Formation cum Admonitor
Fr. J. B. John Thadews	- PCIC for Education

Fr. D. Kanikkai Nathan - PCIC for Mission  
Fr. D. Amirtha Rajan - PCIC for Social and Innovative Ministries  
Fr. M. Nicholas - Provincial Bursar

*The new Provincial Administration of North East India Province*

Fr. George Panthanmackal - Provincial Superior  
Fr Philip Thomas - PCIC of Mission cum Admonitor  
Fr George Vettukattil - PCIC for Formation  
Fr George Poovathunkal - PCIC for Education  
Fr Saji Puthiyakulangara - PCIC for Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries  
Fr Santhosh Chavaranal - Provincial Bursar

On behalf of the entire Province of East Africa, I congratulate the new teams in both the Provinces and wish them all the blessings of God in their apostolate of servant leadership.

### **Joy of the Gospel - 2018**

As you know during the past three years, Fransalian Bible Diary - *Joy of the Gospel* was well accepted and appreciated. The issue for 2018 is already in the making. May I request you to place your order to the Provincial Bursar, before the end of May 2017, so that we can order the optimum number of copies. Let us continue to support this project of evangelization through our efforts publicize and to circulate the book.

### **Rejoice in the Lord: New Prayer Book for the Fransalians in East Africa**

Through the persevering efforts of our confrere Fr. Sebastian Antonysamy and the team, the dream of having a specific prayer book for us, has come true. The first pre-print copy was ready in January - and was officially released during the Solemn Mass of the Feast of St. Francis de Sales in Mkuza on January 22, 2017. Hearty Congratulations to Fr. Sebastian Antonysamy and team for this very significant achievement. For the copies of the prayer book, kindly contact Provincial Bursar, Fr. Robert.

### **Prayers for the departed**

**Mr. Mathew Kinalwa**, the paternal uncle of Fr. Joseph Kayanja MSFS, was called to eternal rest on April 9, 2017. He was 86 years old.

**Mr. Varghese Kallikattu**, the father of Fr. Francis Kallikattu MSFS was called to eternal rest April 22, 2017. He was 87 years old.

### **Prayers for the sick**

I request your prayers for the **Mother** of Bro. John Dennis Dindi MSFS. She is suffering a lot from stomach related illnesses.

### **THE OFFICIAL INAUGURATION AND BLESSING OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES College, Iyolwa, Tororo, Uganda**

*The 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2017 was a very significant day to St. Francis de Sales College Iyolwa Tororo. It was the official inauguration and blessing of the school.*

*This day was important not only to the stakeholders involved in the school: the missionaries of St. Francis, staff and students in this school but to the whole community of Iyolwa. It marked the Inauguration of the first recognized credible school in Iyolwa sub-county and as such a big achievement to the people of Iyolwa and Tororo as a whole.*

*In attendance was a cross section of guests ranging from political leaders, church leaders, and cultural leaders. The chief guest was honourable Dr. J.C. Musingo the minister of state for higher education. He by right and protocol commissioned and inaugurated the school. Other notable*

political leaders included Hon. Ofwono Opondo the government spokesperson, members of parliament from Tororo district led by Hon. Jacob Oboth Oboth Member of Parliament West Budama. The RDC was also in attendance with the various councilors and district leaders including the DEO. The district police commander was also ably represented. On the cultural front, the kwar Adhola (king of the Adhola) his highness Moses Stephen Owor was in attendance flanked by his entourage of ministers and other cultural leaders

Being a church founded institution of missionaries, it was only right that the religious graced the ceremony. The Archbishop of Tororo was the main celebrant during mass and consequently blessed the school during the official inauguration. The archbishop was in the company of a big following of religious fathers and sisters from Tororo archdiocese and other parts of Uganda. The provincial superior of MSFS East Africa province - Fr. Johnson Kallidukil MSFS was in attendance and together with other missionaries of St. Francis de sales, hosted the guests. To show religious solidarity, leaders of other denominations like the Protestants and Pentecost attended the ceremony and were impressed by the initiative of the MSFS.

The first part of the ceremony was holy mass which started at 10:00am celebrated by His Grace Emmanuel Obbo, during mass; the students of St Francis took readings and joined up with the parish choir in singing. After mass there was blessing of the school by his Grace the arch bishop and cutting of the ribbon by the Hon. Minister. The rest of the program followed suit kicking off with speeches sandwiched by cultural dances performed by the students of St Francis De Sales College.

The speeches centered on appreciating and congratulating the MSFS for the initiative, pledging of support and emphasizing the importance of education. The archbishop particularly welcomed the MSFS to the archdiocese. As an educationist he emphasized encouragement of religious congregations to set up educational institutions. He was also very much impressed by the standards set up by the school despite its infancy. He was more especially impressed by the English language ability of the students who took the reading, quipping that they were "vomiting" English making him think that they had been hired from elite town schools and not the rural environs of Iyolwa. He however cautioned the teachers and the administrators not to slacken in their efforts.

His highness the Kwar Adhola on the other hand thanked the missionaries for bringing light to Iyolwa and called upon his people to embrace the school as their own more so he pledged full support for the school. Rev. Fr. Dr. Johnson Michael MSFS, the Provincial Superior of the MSFS in East Africa thanked everyone for making this great dream of St. Francis de Sales College true.

The MPs on the other hand requested that the policy makers consider giving a tax exemption to schools like St Francis de Sales College which are founded by the Church and serving the local population.

To crown it all, the guest of honour Dr. J.C. Muyingo stressed that the government fully supports and encourages investing in education as long as the required standards are met. Concerning the school, he couldn't hide his amazement and gratitude towards the great work done by the school. He was particularly impressed by the academic and infrastructural in place. He concluded by assuring the audience that the government would support the school in any way possible.

All in all the day was very colourful and momentous for all the guests who were well attended to and left impressed and satisfied with the school.

**As reported by Mr. John Peter Sasaga -Teacher SFS College**

Our Sincere thanks to His Grace the Archbishop Emmanuel Obbo and all the civil, political and cultural leaders and all the people of Iyolwa and around for their whole-hearted support and

encouragement in this endeavour of ours. We also remember with sincere gratitude all our benefactors, friends and organizations who have generously supported us in this project.

We also congratulate Fr. Thomas Chozhithara and all the confreres in Uganda for being together in making this project a reality .

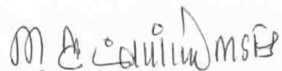
### **Conclusion - We belong to Christ Jesus (Ref. Rom.8:9-11)**

It is the basic call for each one of us the consecrated ones, to belong to Christ. We who are supposed to belong to Christ, and we who proclaim ourselves to be belonging to Christ, when really belong to him, we can really enjoy the freedom of the Children of God. Many issues in religious life today, would no more be the matters that really matter. Many a time, we are occupied with things that come on our way, because we do not belong to Christ. When one does not belong to Christ, it is a must that one would belong to someone or something - which is not according to the mind of Christ. It is here we go wrong in religious life.

The most important question that we ever need to answer is, "Do I belong to Christ?" If we belong to Christ, all of God's promises are "yes" for us in Him (2 Cor.1:20). If we belong to Christ, we are reconciled to God, our sins are all forgiven, we can enjoy fellowship with Him every day, and we know that if we were to die today, we would be with the Lord in the glory of heaven forever.

I wish you a good days in the Easter Season, preparing for the celebration of Pentecost.

Yours in the risen Lord,



Fr. Johnson Kallidukil MSFS

My brothers, God called you to be free. But do not use your freedom as an excuse to do the things that please your sinful self. Serve each other with love. The whole law is made complete in this one command: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." If you go on hurting each other and tearing each other apart, be careful! You will completely destroy each other.

**Gal. 4:13-15**