
 <h2 style="text-align: center;">MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Fransalians - Province of East Africa Provincial House P. O. Box 12 Morogoro Tanzania Tel: +255 689 882 711; +255 624 027 880 www.msfs-eastafrica.com e-mail: provincialeastafricansfs@gmail.com </p> 		
Provincial Circular EAP – MT.43	May 07, 2023	

YEAR OF FRANSALIAN YOUTH



Very Rev. Fr. Superior General has declared the year starting from April 16, 2023 (Divine Mercy Sunday) to March 31, 2024 (Easter Sunday) as the **YEAR OF FRANSALIAN YOUTH** for the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales. Fr. General says, “THE YEAR OF FRANSALIAN YOUTH aims at providing all the Fransalian Youth with a universal Church experience, fostering a personal encounter with Jesus Christ in and through the spirit and spirituality of St. Francis de Sales and the missionary zeal of Father Mermier. It is an intense moment of evangelization for the Fransalians

to empower the youth to realize their potential at their disposal and strength in their hearts to promote peace, unity, and fraternity.”

During this Year of Fransalian Youth, we could reflect more intensively on **Christus Vivit**, the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation of 2019 (Synod on Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment in 2018). While in the previous exhortations Pope Francis had used the theme of joy as his starting point, in this letter, he gives the reason for our joy: “Christ is alive!” (CV, 1). With this title, he focuses his call for kerygmatic evangelization contained in his previous documents. The title of the document, *Christus Vivit*, highlights Pope Francis’s desire to have a Christocentric dialogue with his audience. Throughout the exhortation, he invites repeatedly the young to an encounter and friendship with Jesus. As the Holy Father pastorally states, “No matter how much you live the experiences of these years of your youth, you will never know their deepest and fullest meaning unless you encounter each day your best friend, the friend who is Jesus” (CV, 150).

In describing the salvation Jesus offers, he points to the beauty of the Christian message, “How valuable must you be, if you were redeemed by the precious blood of Christ! Dear young people, ‘You are priceless! You are not up for sale!’” (CV, 122). He then provides concrete imagery to captivate the minds of young people, “Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified” (CV, 123). By presenting this image he aims at, “An approach to reality that privileges images over listening and reading,” because it best influences, “the way people learn and bring about the development of their critical sense” (CV, 86).

The central emphasis of the document is reflected in its title, “Christ is alive!” (CV, §124). With joy, the Pope presents the central truth of the Christian faith: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and offers us eternal life. True to the kerygma proclamation, Pope Francis states, “Every other solution will prove inadequate and temporary . . . with Jesus, on the other hand, our hearts experience a security that is firmly rooted and enduring” (CV, 128). The encounter and relationship with the Risen Lord also become the sustaining force of the entire Christian life and the starting point of evangelization. Here, he again relies upon a favourite quotation of his from his predecessor Pope Benedict XVI, “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction” (CV, 129; cf. *Deus Caritas Est*, 1). This theme of encounter with the Risen Lord repeats itself throughout this Exhortation.

The Year of Franciscan Youth invites us to have a fresh experience of the kerygma with the “ability to integrate the knowledge of head, heart, and hands” (CV, 222). Let us reach out to the young people in our parishes, educational institutions and social centres that they may experience the love of Christ who lives amidst us.

NEW PROVINCIAL CURIA OF THE ENGLISH PROVINCE

Fr. Benny Valiyaveetil	Provincial Superior
Fr. Thomas Kulandaisamy	Councillor and Admonitor
Fr. Roy Karakkattu	Councillor
Fr. Terry McGrath	Provincial Bursar

NEW PROVINCIAL CURIA OF SOUTH EAST INDIA PROVINCE

Fr. A. Patrick Jayaraj	Provincial Superior
Fr. S. Joseph Henry	Admonitor & Councillor in charge of Mission
Fr. C. Sebastian Raj	Councillor in charge of Education
Fr. A. Edward	Councillor in charge of SAIM
Fr. Charles Michael	Councillor in charge of Formation
Fr. S. Santhanam	Provincial Bursar

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES IN THE PROVINCE

Date	Programme	Venue
29 th May evening to 3 rd June noon	Retreat I	LCI
12 th June evening to 17 th June noon	Retreat II	Kenya
June 4 to July 4	Pre-Novitiate	LCI
July 10	First Profession	Mkuza Parish
July 15	Installation of the New Provincial	Morogoro

MINISTRIES OF LECTOR AND ACOLYTE

May 1, 2023 was indeed a memorable day for the Fransalian Study House Community, Kola. On this auspicious day two of our brothers were conferred the ministry of Acolyte and seven of them the ministry of Lector.

The Ministries were conferred by Rt. Rev. Lazarus Msimbe SDS, Bishop of Morogoro, in the Chapel of Jordan University College. The celebration was graced by the presence of Superiors and members of various religious communities and the students of Jordan University College



NEW COMMUNITIES

Bombambili: A new Fransalian community is established at Bombambili Parish (Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam) with effect from May 1, 2023.

Graz/Austria: A new Fransalian community will be established in Don Bosco Parish, Graz, (Diocese of Graz), Austria, with effect from September 01, 2023.

NEW PARISH OFFICE AT BUKENE

The new parish office of St. Charles Lwanga and his Companions' Parish- Bukene was opened and blessed on 11th April 2023 by Rev. Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS, the Provincial of East Africa Province. The construction of the office building was started in July, 2022. On that day, Fr. Siljo Cherian MSFS laid the foundation stone. The new office building has space for all the necessary offices of the Parish. We are grateful to God who in His loving providence has helped us to



complete the construction of this building. The Parish Council thanks all the faithful of the Bukene Parish for their support and prayers. The blessing ceremony of the new office building was held on the day of the silver jubilee celebration of Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS in the presence of the members of the TAKA apostolic community. The celebration was attended by faithful from all the 36 substations of Bukene Parish. The whole Christian community of Bukene Parish is thankful to Rev Fr Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS, the Provincial Superior

of Fransalians in East Africa, for his presence and for officially opening the office building. Hearty Congratulations to the entire parish team.

(Reported by Fr. Siljo Auppadan MSFS)



NEW STAFF QUARTERS AT IPULI



11th April 2023 was an auspicious day for St. Francis de Sales Mission Schools in Tabora as it was on this day that the blessing of the newly constructed Staff Quarters took place. Four families of the staff can stay within the school campus itself. In the presence of all the students and the entire staff, Rev. Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel, opened the newly built houses by cutting the ribbon followed by the blessing of these

buildings. We thank God for giving us these new houses where our teachers can reside and thus provide more efficient service to the school. Hearty congratulations to the Fransalian community at Ipuli for providing these new quarters for the staff.

(Reported by Fr. Joseph Poikunnel MSFS)



PROMOTION OF SCHOLASTICS

The following scholastics are promoted to the respective next stage of their formation as well as to the renewal of vows:

Promotion to Priestly Ordination

1. Dn. Okoth Moses

Promoted to Fourth year of theology and Renewal of Vows

1. Bro. Godwin Nanalo
2. Bro. Joseph Mwasu
3. Bro. Collins Barasa Simiyu

Promoted to Third Year Theology and Renewal of Vows

1. Bro. Linto Varghese

Promoted to Second Year Theology and Renewal of Vows

1. Bro. Eboyu Peter
2. Bro. Ikachuli Dismas
3. Bro. Lobong Moses
4. Bro. Masereka Richard
5. Bro. Mnuka N. Lazaro
6. Bro. Nimusiima Xavier
7. Bro. Wamakale Abraham
8. Bro. Wangi Pascal
9. Bro. Wanjala Justine

Promoted to First year of Theology and Renewal of vows

1. Bro. Lawrence Ssekayie

Promoted for Regency and Renewal of Vows

1. Bro. Innocent Munishi
2. Bro. Joseph Kapungu
3. Bro. Raymond Simon
4. Bro. Richard Woniala
5. Bro. Victor Muhangi

Promoted to Third year of Philosophy and Renewal of Vows

1. Mugala Pascal Wanjala

Departure from the Congregation: Dennis William Minja has ceased to be a member of the Congregation. We wish him all the best in his future life.

APPOINTMENT OF REGENTS

Bro. Innocent Munishi	LCI/Fransalian Hekima School
Bro. Joseph Kapungu	Ipuli Community
Bro. Raymond Simon	Lukobe Parish
Bro. Richard Woniala	Iyolwa Community/School
Bro. Victor Muhangi	Kalagala Parish
Bro. James Okoth (SA Region)	Agururu Parish
Bro. Charles Ariinde (SA Region)	Buwooya Seminary

The new regents should report to their communities on June 25, 2023.

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS

Fr. Patrick Musyimi is appointed as the Director of Novices and Superior of Novitiate community with effect from July 09, 2023. He will join the Novitiate community from June 04, 2023.

Fr. Stephen Ubadesi is appointed as the Superior of Kikunde community and is designated to be appointed as the Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Parish at Kikunde with effect from July 10, 2023.

Fr. Sunny Mattathil is appointed as the Superior of Kashishi community and is designated to be appointed as the Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Parish at Kashishi with effect from June 24, 2023.

Fr. Simon Nabende is appointed as the Superior of Lukobe community and is designated to be appointed as the Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Parish at Lukobe with effect from June 24, 2023.

Fr. Sebastian Palakudy is appointed as the Assistant Director of Fransalian Pastoral Centre, Ndagani with effect from July 01, 2023.

Fr. Reji Pendanath is designated to be appointed as the Priest-in-Charge of Mkambrani Sub-Parish, Morogoro with effect from June 24, 2023.

Fr. Sheejan Kallarackal is appointed as the Superior of Bombambili community with effect from May 1, 2023.

Fr. Stephen Gerald Augustine is appointed as the Superior of Fransalian Community at Graz and designated for Pastoral Ministry in Don Bosco Parish, Graz, Austria with effect from September 01, 2023.

Fr. Francis Kyule is appointed as a member of Fransalian Community at Graz and is designated for Pastoral ministry in Don Bosco Parish, Graz, Austria with effect from September 01, 2023. He will pursue a course in German language in Nairobi/Dar es Salaam in July and August.

Fr. Japhet Kirimi is appointed as the coordinator of Fransalian Associates with effect from May 01, 2023.

HOLIDAYS

Fr. Jose Eriyanickal	April 14 – May 14
Fr. Robert Soosai Raj	May 01 – June 09
Fr. Augustine Mangatt	May 04 – June 07
Fr. Richard Tamaro	June 19 – July 20

OBITUARY

Fr. Abba M'TOUDJIEL MSFS (33) of Tchad-Cameroon Delegation (South West India Province) passed away on April 15, 2023.

Fr. Jerry MISQUITH MSFS (74) of Pune Province passed away on April 30, 2023.

May God grant them eternal life!



MY TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Date	Programme
April 23 – May 19	Ministry and Visitation in Europe
May 23	Graduation at LCI
May 29 – June 3	Retreat at LCI
June 5 – June 16	MSAF Meeting and visit to South Africa and Namibia
June 24	Blessing of Multipurpose Hall, Bissil
June 26	First death Anniversary of Fr. Sebastian Kuzhupil MSFS, Kibaha Novitiate
July 10	First Profession at Mkuza
July 15	Installation of the new Provincial, Morogoro

Yours devotedly in Christ Jesus,

Mathew

Father Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS,
Provincial - East Africa Province

Salesian Thought

Go to prayer in faith, remain there in hope. Go out only by love.
St. Francis de Sales

