# MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

## Fransalians - Province of East Africa

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**Provincial Circular JK.07** 

**February 1, 2012** 



Tomorrow we celebrate the *Day of Consecrated life*. Since 1997 the Feast of the presentation of the Lord is celebrated as the *Day of Consecrated Life*. It was the initiative of the then Holy Father Blessed John Paul II to dedicate this day to honor and to pray for all the consecrated persons in the world. The historical event that we celebrate reminds that we have a God who was like us in every respect. Jesus did not make any exception for himself in so far as social and cultural obligations were concerned. The event also reminds us that after the example of Jesus, we can be to the Father totally consecrated beings in love and gratitude. But this demands that we are purified and sanctified at the hands of Lord. From Prophet Malachi we heard: *He will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, Refining them like gold or like silver that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD (Mal.3:3) In this process of sanctification which leads to total consecration we can be light and hope to the world. Simeon and Anna represent humanity waiting for the Good News. Being inspired by this feast unique to each one of us, let us be agents of the Good News.* 

## **Transfers and appointments**

The decisions taken are already communicated to the persons and communities concerned. Before I place them in the circular, I would like to share with you certain reflections.

Every one of us shares in the mission of the Province entrusted to us by God through the instrumentality of the Congregation and the Local Church. This mission is accomplished <u>primarily by our life of witness and secondly through our apostolic activities</u>. As far as the life of witness is concerned, there is no difference for any of us. Our witness is to be characterized by Fransalian way of life rooted in Jesus. In so far as our activities are concerned, they do differ in nature, volume, kind, place of work etc. This part of our witness is entrusted to us by the congregation depending on the collective discernment manifested through the decision of the legitimate authorities. But in whatever we do we are sharing in the common mission entrusted to us as a Congregation.

Certain matters and guidelines regarding the transfers and appointments, I am sending to you in another document as continuation of these reflections. Please see also the appendix to this circular: Appendix A. (EAP-JK-07)

## Fr. Joby Maruthomalayil

With effect from May 25, 2012 Fr. Joby is appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest of Itaga Parish, Tabora, Tanzania. He will be relieved from his present responsibilities in Chera, Kenya from May 22, 2012.

## Fr. Peter Johnson Napoleon

Along with his current responsibility as Director of Aspirants, Fr. Johnson Napoleon is appointed as the Vice-Rector, Vice Principal and Disciplinarian of the SFS Junior Seminary, Morogoro with immediate effect.



## Fr. Pathiyil Johnson

While continuing to be the Rector and Superior of the SFS Junior Seminary, Fr Johnson is appointed as the Principal of the SFS Junior Seminary with effect from June 1, 2012. From June 3, 2012 he will be relieved from his assignment as the priest in-charge of the Lukobe Mission.

#### Fr. Vettickal Sunny

Fr. Sunny will be relieved from all the present responsibilities in the SFS Junior Seminary from June 7, 2012. From June 8, 2012 he will be the member of Fransalian Community at Mlolongo with his residence at MSFS House at Katani, He is appointed as the Manager of SFS School Katani, Kenya with effect from June 15, 2012.

## Fr. Poikunnel Joseph

Fr. Joseph will be relieved from all his present responsibilities at SFS VTC Mwakata, Kahama from March 11, 2012. He will join the Fransalian Community of SFS Junior Seminary from June 1, 2012. With effect from June 7, 2012 he is appointed as the Administrator and Bursar of SFS Junior Seminary. From June 3, 2012 he will be also priest in-charge of the Lukobe Mission, in the diocese of Morogoro.

## Fr. Chinnapan Arockiasamy

Fr. Samy will be relieved from all his present responsibilities at Fransalian Community Ipuli from March 10, 2012. With the effect from May 15, 2012 he is appointed as the Manager of Salesan School, Chera and is designated to be as priest in-charge of Chera parish, Kenya.

## Fr. Stephen Upadesi

Fr. Stephen is relieved from his responsibilities in Itaga Parish with immediate effect. From February 1, 2012 he joins the Fransalian community Ipuli. With effect from March 1, he is appointed as the Bursar and Accountant of all Foster Projects at Ipuli, Manager of *Simba Clay* and Manager of SFS Secondary School, Ipuli, Tabora.

#### Fr. Antony Rajesh

With the effect from March 1, 2012 Fr. Rajesh is appointed as the Manager of the SFS Children's Home, Ipuli, along with all the day care and outreach programs. He will be also in charge of the News Bulletin from Foster Projects in Ipuli and will look after the sponsorship correspondence.

#### Fr. Vellachalil Jomon

With effect from March 8, 2012 Fr. Jomon is appointed as the Local Superior of the Fransalian Community, Ipuli. He is also appointed as the Manager of SFS Pre-& Primary School and Principal of the SFS Secondary School Ipuli. From March 1, he is relieved from his present responsibilities as Manager of SFS Children's Home and as Manager of Simba Clay – project for the visually impaired.

## Fr. Robert Soosai Raj

Fr. Robert is appointed as the Director and Administrator of SFS VTC Mwakata with effect from March 11, 2012. From March 1, he will be residing at Mwakata. To this effect he is relieved from the responsibilities as the Assistant parish priest of Isaka and as the Manager of De Sales Primary School Isaka. However he will continue to be the manager of SFS School Kagongwa.

#### Fr. Thomas Olickal

Fr. Thomas is designated for pastoral works in USA under the jurisdiction of US Region. He will be relieved from all the present tasks at Katani and Mlolongo with effect from June 15, 2012.

#### Fr. Devadoss Francis

With immediate effect Fr. Francis is appointed as the assistant parish priest of Isaka. He will also render his service at SFS VTC Mwakata as a teaching staff while residing in Isaka parish community.

## Fr. Simon Raja

From March 1, 2012 Fr. Simon will hold the responsibility as the Manager of the De Sales Primary School Isaka. Added to that, he is appointed as the Assistant Director and Assistant Administrator at SFS VTC. Mwakata from March 15, 2012.

#### Fr. Sebastian Kuzhuppil

Fr. Sebastian is appointed to be part of the Congregation's Committee for the preparation of the recent history of our Congregation. As one of the pioneers and as a person who has aptitude to record the history we are very confident that he would be able to make very valuable contributions in preparing the history of our Province as part of the history of the Congregation.

## ■ Fr. Sebastian Nirappel

Fr. Sebastian Nirappel is appointed as the coordinator for Vocation Promotion in Uganda. He will work in close collaboration with the others confers in Uganda and formators at Fransalian Seminary Ndagani and the Common Vocation Promoter of the Province.

## New formulation of community

Due to canonical and practical reasons the hitherto Fransalian Community of Mwakata and Fransalian Community at Isaka are clubbed together to form one community with effect from March 11, 2012. Fr. Pius Kochuparampil will be the local superior of this community.

#### **Province Forums**

In the light of the transfers the new list of members of various forums is prepared. Please find it in another document Appendix B (EAP-JK-07).

## **Local Governing Bodies**

As stipulated in our statutes we have reformulated the local governing bodies to ensure the smooth running of our social, health and educational and developmental projects. Please find the list of new LGBs in another document Appendix C (EAP-JK-07). The LGB meetings are to be held at least twice in a year – preferably in May and November - and the report is to be submitted to the Provincial. The gist of the LGB meetings are to be shared in the concerned Apostolic community meetings too.

#### **Guidelines on Administration of temporal goods**

Certain new guidelines on the Administration of temporal goods, is being prepared in consultation with the Provincial Bursar. The part I of it is ready and you will find it in. Appendix D (EAP-JK-07)

#### **Mission Superiors Africa Forum**

The annual meeting of the MSAF will be held on April 25 & 26, 2012 in Cameroon. If you have any matter that you think could be discussed you are welcome to bring to my notice.

## Blessing of the Fransalian Rectory IPULI

The newly constructed Fransalian Residence at Ipuli, Tabora was blessed by **Fr. Joseph Kunnapilly** on January 17 in a simple function followed by Eucharistic celebration and cultural evening and dinner with the inmates and staff of our children's homes, confreres from nearby communities and sisters who are collaborators at Ipuli. Our sincere gratitude to all our benefactors and well wishes who have generously contributed to this cause. We also thank and appreciate Fr. Samy and community for the strenuous efforts they have made to implement the construction. We also remember with gratitude the consistent efforts made by Fr. Thomas Chozhithara in raising funds for the constructions. At present the new building will be used only for the office purposes.

## Annual Retreat for the Confreres and ongoing formation programs

The schedule of the retreat was communicated to you at the very beginning of this year. I would like to remind you that the annual retreat arranged by the province is <u>mandatory for all the confreres</u> except those who are given other assignments by the province during the same time. No one is expected to go for home holidays at that time. Just as we make arrangements for the smooth running of the affairs of ministries during the Provincial Congress, I request you make timely and proper arrangements in your communities and areas of ministry so that all of us can take part in the retreat. Even if you have made a retreat or plan to make a retreat during you home holidays or any other time, the Province retreat is a MUST. It is a chance for us to pray, to share and to grow together as a family. The guide of the retreat is **Rev. Fr. Thumma Mariadas MSFS** 

## Retreat ONE

June 18, 2012 Monday 18.00 hrs to June 23 Saturday 20.00 hrs Retreat for the priest confreres at Fransalian House Kola. Morogoro, Tanzania

#### Retreat TWO

From June 25 Monday 18.00 hrs to June 30 Saturday 20.00 hrs for all the Scholastics: Venue LCI Scholasticate Arusha

#### Ongoing formation program:

There are two programs and every confrere is expected to participate in one of them according to the group he belongs to.

The guide is Rev. Dr. Charles Gravenstine from USA well experienced councilor and trainer.

## Program one: Clinical Pastoral Education (self realization and self transformation)

From October 2 Tuesday Morning to October 19 Friday evening Arrival October 1 and departure October 20.

Target group: All the priest confreres ordained from 2002 to 2012

#### Program two:

It is meant for all the confreres who are not participating in the first one. Also meant for non-msfs priests and religious both men and women religious. It is conducted twice. You may chose either of them. In each group there will be maximum 10 participants. The first preference is for the MSFS Confreres

Topic: Leadership in Church / religious life

#### Session one

Dates: October 23 to 27, 2012 Arrival Oct 22 and departure Oct 28, 2012

#### Session two

Dates: October 30 to Nov 3 Arrival Oct 29 and departure Nov 4, 2012

#### Forum Meetings:

June 24 08.30 hrs to 13.00 hrs Superiors Forum Meeting

June 24 15.00 hrs to 19.00 hrs Pastoral Forum Meeting

#### **New office bearers of Apostolic Communities**

The newly formed Arusha Apostolic Community has elected Fr. Nelson Vijayakumar as the Convener. The TAKA Apostolic community has elected Fr. Sebastian Williams as the Convener. The Provincial council has approved these elections and wish them all the best in the animation of the apostolic community meetings and activities.

## **Apostolic Community of Kenya and Uganda**

Fr. Jacob Thekkekara is entrusted with the task of convening the Apostolic community meeting of Kenya and Uganda on April 10, 2012.

#### **Decennial Jubilee of Bukene Parish**

The Parish of Bukene established in the year 2002 is planning to have its decennial jubilee on June 3, 2012. As we thank God for the blessings we have received during the past, we wish them every blessing in the days to come especially in all the preparations and celebrations.

## Forum meetings

The Superiors' Form and Pastoral Forum meetings will be held on June 24, 2012 immediately after the first retreat. Dates of the meetings of other Forums will be announced later.

## **New Accounting system**

As part of the full computerization of the accounting system, the Provincial Bursar Fr. Sheejan Kallarackal is takings some training in accounting software in Nairobi for two weeks. Later the training will be introduced to all our institutions and communities.

#### Study visit to Malawi

Responding to the invitations from the local church, I will be visiting the Diocese of Karonga and the Archdiocese of Lilongwe in Malawi from February 25 to March 2. I request your prayers for the success of this visit. The purpose of this visit is to explore the possibility of our congregation to start missions there.

## Departure from the congregation

One of the scholastics John Mbogo (First Year Theology, Kola Morogoro) has decided to leave the congregation after having discerned his vocation. We thank God for his person and for all the blessings through him and we wish him every blessing in his life.

#### **Home Holidays**

Stephen Ubadesi (anticipated) April 15 to June 15 (April 15 to 30 visit to Mozambique)

Chinnapan Arockiasamy March 10 to May 10, 2012 Joseph Poikunnel March 11 to May 31, 2012

We wish them a relaxing and enriching time with their beloved ones.

#### Initiation to Pre-novitiate

On January 30, seven Aspirants were initiated into the Pre-novitiate in a ceremony presided over by Fr. Jacob Thekkekara. We congratulate all our young pre-novices and we assure them our prayers in their further journey. Two pre-novices from Cameroon are expected to join them soon. We welcome them to Fransalian Seminary Ndagani.

#### **Welcome to East Africa**

- Our confreres Fr. Gijo Panamattathil from the Chad-Cameroon Mission and Fr. Mathew Pallichankudiyil from Southern African Region are joining the Staff of LCI shortly. We extent to them a very warm Welcome and wish them every blessing of God in the Apostolate at LCI.
- The Congregation of the **Sisters of the Sacred Sciences** founded by Fr. Antony Kolencherry MSFS is starting their first community in Africa at Maji ya Chai, Archdiocese of Arusha. They are arriving on Feb 4 to Arusha together with Fr. Antony who will be giving some classes at LCI from February 6. We extend to them a very warm welcome and promise our prayers for their new beginning in Africa.

## Guidelines on home holidays

After having reviewed the present arrangement of the home holidays the council thought it is good to have some clear guidelines in all the possible variations in order for the smooth, just and functionally effective management of our holidays. The Home holidays for a priest confrere from outside of East Africa begins after the completion of the two years of service. When holidays are anticipated with the due permission and for valid reasons, the anticipated duration is to be compensated before the next holidays. The accumulated holidays may be retrieved but with prior permission from the Provincial Administration well in advance. However the duration of accumulated holidays should not exceed more than three months in the normal circumstances.

#### Cotnacts:

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#### **Prayer requests:**

Let us continue to pray for Mr. Augustine - the father of Fr. Stephen Gerald - who is steadily improving from the aftermath of the stroke.

## My programs

#### February 2012

- 3 Spiritual Conference for Fransalian Community Kola; Mass at Fransalian School Kigurunyembe
- 5 Mass with the Faithful in Mkuza Parish, Kibaha; Evening to Novitiate
- 6 Meeting with the His Eminence Polycarp Cardinal Pengo
- 6 10 Canonical Visitation and classes in the Novitiate
- 11 To Mji Mpya Parish, Dar es Salaam
- Mass with the Faithful Mji Mpya Parish, Dar es Salaam, Evening to Morogoro
- 14 Travel to Arusha
- 14 -17 At LCI Visitation to Scholasticate and Meetings of the Local Administrative Council of LCI
- 18 -19 Canonical Visitation to Maji ya Chai Parish, Arusha
- 20 Back Morogoro
- 22 Ash Wednesday Service at Mji Mpya, Dar es Salaam
- 24 Meeting of the Jubilee Committee Morogoro
- 25 Travel to Malawi by road

## March 2012

- 2 Back from Malawi
- 3 Silver Jubilee of Sr. Treesa Thomas DSFS and Joan Francis DSFS Collaborators Morogoro
- 4 Reception to Rotarians from Karlstadt- Arnstein, Germany Provincial Hosue
- 5 Travel to Dodoma
- 6 Travel to Tabora
- 7 Opening of Secondary school Ipuli, and Blessing of the foundation stone of the SFS Boys Home
- 10 Opening of Electrical Section in SFS VTC Mwakata
- 11 15 Accompanying guests from Germany
- 16 At LCI Arusha
- 17 18 Canonical Visitation to St. Francis de Sales Parish Ngurdoto, Arusha
- 19 Back to Morogoro

## **April 2012**

- 3 9 Holy Week and visitation to our parishes in Uganda
- 10 Apostolic Community meeting Kenya & Uganda in Mlolongo
- 11 Meeting with the Major Superior Precious Blood Sisters, Riruta Nairobi.
- 19 20 Council meeting in Morogoro
- 23 30 MSAF Meeting and visits in Chad & Cameroon Missions

Let us entrust to the care of the Lord all our plans and programs. May the coming days be of blessings to each one of you. As we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord as OUR DAY, let us pray for the grace of deeper commitment.

United with you in the Eucharistic Lord,

Yours in the Eucharistic Lord

Fr. Johnson Kallidukil msfs

(Provincial Superior MSFS East Africa Province)

Please note: This circular contains the following.

Appendix A : Guidelines on Transfers and Appointments
Appendix B : List of the members in Province Forums
Appendix C : List of the members in Local Governing Bodies

Appendix D : Guidelines on Administration of temporal goods

May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Thess. 5:23