



MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES USA VICE PROVINCE

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VPUSA-AT-7

November 27, 2014

Dear Confreres:

We have come close to the end of our Liturgical Calendar. Next Sunday, we begin the season of Advent. We hear the call to be alert, to stay awake because God is breaking into our history now. The season of Advent is a time of joyful and faith-filled waiting. We are invited to consider the weeks of preparation for Christmas as an opportunity for nurturing a spirituality of waiting in expectation - not a passive, inactive, idle and unimaginative presence in space and time - but a dynamic, active and positively imaginative waiting - a spiritual posture of waiting and longing for Christ, praying and preparing for his ultimate appearance among us - a spirituality of hope, simple and pure optimism about us and the world around us.



Each week we are encouraged to deepen our spirituality even further, personally and as a faith community. We are reminded again that our faith in God, our hope in His promises and our love for Him and each other are the greatest wealth that we possess; that we are a privileged people, a people blessed and graced by God's unconditional love revealed in Jesus; that God has not abandoned the world; that God breaks into our history with healing and transforming grace; that the presence

of or even the height of evil must not discourage us. We must be people of Hope.

Our God continues to heal the brokenness and disintegration of the world and return our world to wholeness. Dynamic waiting, positive thinking, optimistic disposition, blameless living, hope-filled anticipation and joyful, loving and faith-filled presence are to characterize all our Advent days and nights because we wait for Jesus the incarnation of God's all-embracing, steadfast, faithful, unconditional and everlasting love.

This year we follow cycle B of Scripture Readings on Sundays. Thoughts of "watchfulness, mindfulness, prayerfulness and blamelessness" permeate the Scripture readings of the four Sundays of Advent. Let us take a few moments to prayerfully reflect on our call to be "Be watchful, mindful, prayerful and blameless". Let us prayerfully discern what we can do to cultivate these qualities and make a few personal choices that will enable us to nurture them, during the season of Advent this year.

Be watchful – Be mindful - Be prayerful - Be blameless.

Congregational Retreat 2014

Our Vice Province has been blessed, graced and renewed by a well-organized, well-presented and well-participated congregational retreat in late August and early September 2014. Forty six confreres out of fifty two participated. Our Superior General, Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil was our retreat director. His dynamic presentations, prayerful and joyful presence and personal sharing made the retreat a real time of renewal.

Dear Father Abraham, please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation for being with us and guiding our retreat.

New Adviser for Vice Province:

Fr. Tomy Puliyanampattayil was elected one of the two Advisers of the Vice Province from the short-term members at Vice Provincial Congress. He resigned from this office since he recently became a permanent member making way for another short-term member to serve as adviser. Following established norms, the Vice Provincial invited **Fr. Arokiam Santhiyagu** to be the adviser in place of Fr. Tomy since he had the next highest vote at the elections during the Vice Provincial Congress and he has accepted the invitation.

Thank you, Fr. Tomy, for your services to the Vice Province and your thoughtfulness in stepping aside paving the way for new and appropriate directions.

Thanks you, Fr. Santhiyagu for accepting new responsibilities for our Vice Province. Your generosity in service is appreciated.

Director for Vocation Promotion and Formation

Fr. Tomy Puliyanampattayil is appointed Director of the Office of Vocations and Formation for the Vice Province, effective December 1, 2014. I thank him for accepting this new responsibility. Much work has to be done in this area as we are beginning new. I am confident that Fr. Tomy will do very well. We are now in the process of organizing a team of confreres to help him with the process. You will be updated on the progress as it evolves.

Year Dedicated to Consecrated Life

The following activities and events are envisioned to celebrate and honor the year dedicated to Consecrated Life:

- 1. Retreat 2015 on Consecrated Life - Monday evening, September 14, 2015 to Friday noon, September 18, 2015 at Montserrat Retreat Center in Dallas. Please mark your calendar.**
2. Establishment of a well-functioning Vocations and Formation Office for the Vice Province.

3. Developing a concrete, detailed, meaningful and viable process of collaboration in ministry between the Vice Province and other Provinces. Dialogue with the Provincials is in progress.
4. Publishing information about our congregation in the Church Bulletins, diocesan News Papers and other channels of communications in the dioceses and parishes where our confreres work
5. More information about our congregation on our websites and providing link to our websites in parish bulletins and other channels of communication.
6. Your suggestions are welcome. Please send your suggestions to the Vice Provincial by December 30, 2014.

New Assignments:

Fr. Alex Tigga was appointed Pastor of Infant Jesus of Prague Parish, Kearny in the diocese of Tucson, AZ, effective July 1, 2014. Please accept my apologies for the delay in announcing this assignment.

Fr. Alexander Tigga	520-820-5655 (Cell)
Infant Jesus of Prague	520-363-7205 (Office)
501 Victoria Circle	520-363-7179 (Fax)
P. O. Box 459	fralex@hotmail.com
Kearny, AZ 85137	

Fr. Matthew Thayil was appointed Pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Hayden in the diocese of Tucson, AZ, effective July 1, 2014. Please accept my apologies for the delay in announcing this assignment.

Fr. Mathew Thayil	318-542-2332 (Cell)
St. Joseph Church	520-356-7223 (Office)
300 Mountain view Dr.	520-356-7376 (Fax)
P. O. Box C	mthayil21967@gmail.com
Hayden, AZ 85135	

Fr. Sesetti Mariadas was appointed Parochial Administrator of a small rural consolidated parish that has three parishes attached. He resides at St. Vincent de Paul church, ONEGA and serve also St. Bede Church at Kelly and St. Patrick's Church at Corning in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, effective July 1, 2014. Please accept my apologies for the delay in announcing this assignment.

Fr. Mariadas Sesetti, (VZP)	785-294-2759 (Cell)
St Vincent De Paul Rectory	785- 889-4866 (Office)
308 E 3rd St	785-889-4896 (Rectory);
P. O. Box 369	
Onaga, KS 66521	mariamsfs@yahoo.com

Fr. Antony Rajesh was appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Monica Parish in the diocese of Kalamazoo, Michigan, effective July 1, 2014. Please accept my apologies for the delay in announcing this assignment.

Fr. Antony Rajesh	269-201-8003 (Cell)
St. Monica Parish	269-345-4389 (Office)
534 W. Kilgore Road	269-345-5211 (Fax)
Kalamazoo, MI 49008	antonyrajeshmsfs@gmail.com

Change of Citizenship

Fr. John Peter Arulanandam has become a Naturalized Citizen of U.S.A. on Thursday, July 10, 2014. His legal name is changed to John Peter Arul. Henceforth, we will refer to him as “JOHN PETER ARUL” in all documents. Hearty congratulations and best wishes to Fr. John Peter Arul.

NEW PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIONS

East Africa Province

Fr Kochuparampil Thomas	- Councillor in-charge of Formation & Admonitor
Fr Vettickal Sunny	- Councillor in-charge of Education
Fr Chinnappan Arockiasamy	- Councillor in-charge of Mission
Fr Chozhithara Thomas	- Councillor in-charge of Social Apostolate & Innovative Ministries
Fr Soosai Raj Robert MSFS	- Provincial Bursar

Pune Province

Fr Sunny Kulangarath	- Councilor in-charge of Formation & Admonitor
Fr Peppin Jeyaraj	- Councilor in-charge of Education
Fr Nazareth D'silva	- Councilor In-Charge of Mission
Fr Albert Fernandes	- Councilor In-Charge of Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries.
Fr Jerry Misquith	- Provincial Bursar

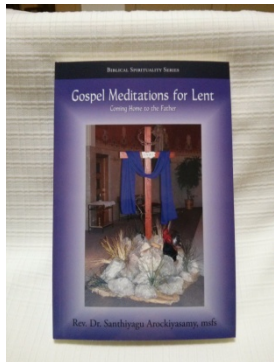
Nagpur Province

Fr Benedict De Souza	- Councilor in-charge of Formation & Admonitor
Fr Manoj Tirkey	- Councilor in-charge of Education
Fr Willie D'silva	- Councilor In-Charge of Mission
Fr Joseph Kailamangalam	- Councilor In-Charge of Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries.
Fr Wilson Adackaparayil	- Provincial Bursar

Our prayers are with you as you strive to fulfill your responsibilities. May God bless you with the wisdom and insight to help you discern the needs of your province and attend to them wisely.

New Book published

Dear Confreres, I have published a new book named “**Gospel Meditations for Lent: coming home to the Father**” from St. Mary parish, Flint. Our bishop Most Rev. Earl Boyea, bishop of Lansing says, “In this book, Fr. Santhiyagu Arockiyasamy offers us the fruit of his spiritual reflections on the Lenten readings. His meditations are complemented by passages from the writings of the great spiritual director of souls, St. Francis de Sales. Salesian spirituality is noted for assisting us to translate spiritual principles to our ordinary lives in practical ways. These meditations foster a desire for holiness and offer common-sense ways to grow spiritually. My prayer and hope is that those who use this book will be led more deeply into the Paschal Mystery, imitating Jesus and growing in love of God and one another.” I take this opportunity to sincerely thank our Superior General Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvelil, msfs, Fr. Augustine Tharappel, msfs, Fr. A. Dharmaraj, msfs, the provincial of South-East India Province, and all the members of our Michigan Fransalian communities for their encouragement, loving support and inspiration. (Message sent by Fr. Santhiyagu)



Hearty Congratulations! You have done well! Thank you, Fr. Santhiyagu, for the new book.

Conclusion:

Dear confreres, thank you for your ongoing support. Be courageous and learn to walk faithfully and joyfully! We are Fransalian Missionaries. We must learn to live a lifestyle that is uniquely Fransalian, different from that of the world around us. The only measure of our faith is how we live, not what we profess! Let us walk faithfully, for faithfulness is the mark of a man of God.

Be faithful to your calling! All you do may not be successful in your eyes or in the eyes of others. The real success lies in your fidelity to who you are and what you have come to know as your calling. Just be faithful and be joyful!

You are in my daily prayer. God bless you and all you do for God’s people and keep you safe in the center of His Love.

Augustine Tharappel, msfs
Vice Provincial,
Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales, USA Vice Province

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Bursar: msfsbursarusa@gmail.com
Personal: frgus@suddenlink.net

**It is necessary that you renew and repeat very often
the deliberate decisions you have made to serve God. (SFS)**

