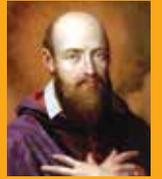




OBLATES OF SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

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Dear Fathers & Brothers,

Greetings to you all.

The descending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost had enlightened the disciples of Jesus, to radically rooted in the purpose of their living. The mission of proclaiming the Gospel and to continue the ministry of Jesus on earth was, gracefully instilled through the gifts and the power of the Holy Spirit, which induced them to have a paradigm shift of their vocation as the apostle of Christ. And continued to persuade as the effective witness of God, fulfilling their entrusted mission throughout the world.

As we are preparing for the Pentecost I ask all of you to pray: for the outpouring of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit upon our Indian Region, on our Congregation, on our provinces and communities, upon each one of us who is watching and waiting for understanding and peace. The Gift of the Holy Spirit changed the early Church. Pentecost and the outpouring of the Spirit was the decisive moment for the apostles. It defined the Church. It was at that moment – not even at the Resurrection itself or the Ascension – that the peoples' fears were relieved. In Pentecost they were renewed with the full love of the Risen Jesus – such that they could go forth and proclaim Good News of salvation. And so we are praying, “Come Holy Spirit. Save us Oh Lord our God; Have mercy on us in these difficult days. Don't let these days of the Easter end without granting us the gifts we need.”

One of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to the Church is unity. From the account of the Tower of Babel in the Old Testament, people had been divided. All too well do we know how our hurts and fears can divide us come Holy Spirit, and bring us greater unity. Concerning unity, at the Last Supper Jesus prayed, “Father, I pray that they may all be one.” Two thousand years later, sadly Christians remain divided, but Jesus' prayer is still alive and more important than ever, “Father May they all be one.” (Jn 17:21). I pray also that – despite the real and significant, the justified hurts that we experience that – in accord with Jesus' own prayer, we may be one; that we will somehow trust again. This is and must be God's work. It requires the openness of our hearts. It requires docility to the Holy Spirit. But we need to think and pray, “Come Holy Spirit, make us stronger than ever before. “Our simple and powerful prayer is, “Come Holy Spirit Come. Come, Holy Spirit of Love, Come.”

I thank you fathers and brothers for your support and encouragement. There is much work ahead, but I am not afraid. Our God loves us. He still loves us. The Lamb of God came among us to take upon Himself the sins of the world. It is His Spirit who sustains in us lasting hope.

Mary Our Mother, St. Joseph, St. Francis De Sales and all our Salesian saints intercede for us. Join us in our prayer, at Pentecost and always, “Come Holy Spirit.”

MAJOR EVENTS

Diaconate

Three of our Brothers Bros. Anjilickal Joe Wilson, Maniyamkulath Nikhil M.D and Kanjirathinkal Shabin Jose, were ordained as Deacons together with the Brothers of CMI on 22nd March 2018, at Dharmaram Chapel from his Excellency, the Most Reverend Antony Prince Panengaden, Bishop of Adilabad. Hearty congratulations dear Deacons.



Annual Retreat

The annual retreat of the fathers of Indian Region was begun on 23rd April 2018 at Nirjahari, Carmalaram, Bangalore, which was directed under the graceful spiritual guidance of Rev. Dr. George Kaitholil SSP, a person embedded with immense knowledge and vast experience of lived religious life along with the experience as an efficient preacher and writer of

world at large. It was indeed a blessed occasion served, to rejuvenate ourselves spiritually and psychologically to move further with more zeal and passion in our vocation and mission.

General meeting

The general meeting of the Indian Region was organized on 27th April 2018. Most of the members of the Indian Region actively participated in it and had presented and discussed various matters of concern and achievements regarding all the areas of Region for its well being.

Major decisions of the Regional Council.

The meetings of the Regional council were held on 25th and 26th of April 2018, and had discussed and approved the various necessary concerns and suggestions. Following are the decision of the council.

- Drilling a new Bore well at Brisson Nilayam.
- Permission to buy a new inverter for Nedumakkala
- Request of Rev. Fr. John Sankaratil was granted for a Regent and a Deacon for the smooth functioning of Thaddeusdam.
- Completing the work of cemetery at Salespuram by degrees.
- Bro. Paul Martin and Bro. Sanal Santhosh will be sent for their theological studies at Prabodhnaa Pallottine Theologate, Mysore.
- Bro. Rojins N.D will be sent for nine months intensive Diploma course on Christen Spirituality at Adhyatma Vidya Peetha (AVP) Carmalaram in the Academic year 2018-19.
- Rev. Fr. John Sankarthil and Rev. Fr. Bijesh Thomas will be representing the Indian Region in the forthcoming General Chapter at Annecy on 16th July 2018.

Upcoming events

First Profession

Four of our Brothers, Bro. George Antoney Kizhakemudakamparan, Bro. Jerin Jose Parappallil, Bro. Jyoti Prakash Kullu, Bro. Sumit minz, are after their prayerful reflection and discernment of their vocation will make their first commitment to the Lord on 31st May 2018. The programs of this grace filled ceremony will begin at 7 pm at Brisson Nilayam.

Admission to Novitiate

There are nine postulants from Salespuram, Bro. Dinesh Soreng, Bro. Mandeep Tigga, Bro. Melvin Stephen, Bro. Millanius Kullu, Bro. Ajay Kerketta, Bro. Christo P George, Bro. Dilingstar Lyngdoh, Bro. Sainkupar Nongsiej, and Bro. Rakesh Dungdung will be admitted novitiate on 30th May 2018.

Renewal of Vows

The Regional Council unanimously voted for the requests of nine Brothers to renew their religious commitment to the Lord (Vows), which will be held on 30th May 2018.

1. Anad Assisi osfs (6th Renewal)
2. Rojins N.D osfs (6th Renewal)
3. Sanal Santhosh osfs (5th Renewal)
- 4 Paul Martin osfs (4th Renewal)
5. Thomas Mastan Arumalla osfs (3rd Renewal)
6. Vinod Chintapalli osfs (3rd Renewal)
7. Joseph Tharun Kukkamalla (1st renewal)
8. Amal Pious Charattuvayalil (1st renewal)
9. Ashwin Kullu osfs (1st renewal)
10. Anand Jerald osfs (1st renewal)

Appointments

- Rev. Fr. Biju Simon is appointed as the Treasurer and in-charge of the orientation brothers in Salespuram, effective from 28th May 2018.
- Rev. Fr. Bijesh Thomas is appointed as the in charge of Mysore Project and will also extend his service as the priest in charge of the St. Josephs and St. Mathias School at Mysore, effective from 20th May 2018.
- Rev. Fr. Dennis Jose is appointed as the Superior and Scholastic Master of Samarpanaram community, effective from 28th May 2018.
- Rev. Fr. John George and Rev. Fr. Xavier Manchu are appointed as the school board members, and will serve as the representatives from the Regional Council, effective from 28th May 2018.
- Rev. Fr. Thambi Joseph is appointed as the coordinator for Koinonia. Effective from 28th May 2018.
- Rev. Fr. Shaju is appointed as a faculty member at De Sales University.
- Rev. Fr. Sleeva is appointed as the Treasurer and In charge of the orientation brothers in Brisson Nilayam Community, effective from 28th May 2018.
- Dn. Joe Wilson is appointed in St. Mother Theresa Church, Padankavla till 14th July 2018, effective from 1st June 2018.
- Dn. Nikhil M.D is appointed in Thaddeusdam and will exercise his ministry at Vandamattam Parish, effective from 10th May 2018.
- Dn. Shabin Jose is appointed in Muthappanpuzha Parish for his ministry till 14th July 2018, effective from 25th May 2018.

- Bro. Thomas Masthan is appointed as the Regent of Thaddeusdam, he also will render his service as a teacher at Little Flower U. P School, effective from 1st June 2018.
- Bro. Vinod is appointed as the Regent of Salespuram, effective from 1st June 2018.
- Rev. Fr. Micheal Mathew is appointed as the internal auditor for the Indian region, effective from 28th May 2018.

All other previous appointments and responsibilities will continue to exist till the next notification.

I am indeed indebted to express my sincere gratitude and congratulations to fathers who are outgoing from their previously assigned duties for their dedicated, diligent and faithful service rendered to entrusted responsibilities. Simultaneously, I am glad to extend my best regards and the immense blessings of the Almighty to the Fathers who takes up the new responsibilities along with it challenges for their successful completion of the term. I would like to kindly remind that all the essential and necessary things for the running of the office must be handed over properly by the outgoing person to the next person who comes to hold the office. I assure you my constant prayers and support. May God bless you all.

Fr. Baiju Puthussery OSFS

The Regional Superior



**And You
Will Receive
the Gift
of the
Holy Spirit**
Acts 2:38