



FRANCISCAN CLARIST CONGREGATION

Provincial Superior, Maria Mata Province, Assisi Bhawan,
Sadananda Road, Hazaribag P.O. & (Dt) Jharkhand- 825301, India
Ph: 09471365444 (Per) E-mail: fccmariamataprovence@gmail.com

Peace & Joy



LPS/06/ 24

Prot. No.110/24

HAPPY FEAST !

20th July, 2024

My dear loving Sisters,

We have already entered into a season of Feasts of our beloved Saints, whose holy lives still continue to nourish the church and inspire thousands of people. We the FCC daughters are fortunate to have been born as consecrated persons into this beautiful and spiritually rich Congregation, where in we have no dearth of holy people to imitate, in our *pursuit of Perfect love.*

St. Alphonsa's life was a profound testament to her unwavering love for Jesus and her total consecration to God. From a young age, she embraced a life of suffering and sacrifice, seeing it as a way to unite herself more closely with Christ. Her deep faith and trust in God's plan were evident in her acceptance of physical pain and personal hardships with serenity and grace. St. Alphonsa's unwavering devotion and faithfulness to her beloved Jesus inspired her to live a life of humility, patience, and selfless service, leaving a lasting imprint of spiritual strength and resilience in our hearts. As we are in the Novena days of our elder Sister, let us look into ourselves and see, what aspect of her spirituality resonates with each of us personally. *What more do I need to get rid of, and what more do I need to inculcate in myself to be more like her?*

Our Mother St. Clare too, from imbibed the bridal spirituality profound love for God and her life of poverty, humility, and embraced a life of radical way to fully depend on God's that true poverty was a reflection sustains and yearns for us and St. Clare's spirituality was contemplative relationship with



whom St. Alphonsa was deeply rooted in her commitment to living a prayer. St. Clare poverty, seeing it as a providence. She believed of God's love, a love that sacrificed himself for us. centered on a deep, Christ. She often

meditated on the crucified Christ, seeking to be transformed by His love and to imitate His sacrifice. Her life was also marked by a profound sense of love and service to others. As the abbess of her monastery and the foundress of the **Poor Clares**, she genuinely loved and cared for her sisters in the community, and encouraged those in other communities through her affectionate letters. St. Clare's understanding of poverty was based on love, seeing it as a means to serve and uplift those around her. Her leadership was characterized by a gentle strength and a commitment to the well-being of her community. St. Clare's spirituality was also marked by a joy that enabled her in accepting the poverty of her humanity and in living a virtuous life filled with love and compassion. Ask yourself this question as we will be reflecting on her life next month – ***What aspect of her spirituality inspires you today personally to live a life of simplicity, prayer and love?***

When we reflect on the lives of these two great saints, who upheld the virtues of deep love and devotion to the Eucharistic Lord, love for poverty, simplicity, hard manual labour and who practiced simple gestures of charity towards the other members in the community, it would be quite appropriate and interesting to answer the following questions:-

- How many times do I make visits to the Bl. Sacrament daily to adore and express my love and devotion to the Eucharistic Lord?
- How many of us receive the Body and Blood of Christ daily, keeping up old grudges in our hearts against another sister or priest, unwilling to forgive and be reconciled with them?
- How many bags and boxes do we carry with us during our transfers? Often to the embarrassment of everyone in the Provincial house community, we witness on a regular basis during transfers, that a four wheeler has to make two or more trips to carry the luggage of a single sister (Juniors and Josephites are no exceptions) to her new destinations. *And we say that we have made the vow of poverty.* These days the Priest with whom we collaborate also started commenting on the FCC Sisters' luggage. Isn't it high time that we look seriously into the things that we have hoarded up and get rid off those we really do not need.
- How many times in a year, do we have grant celebrations in the community? What is the average amount we spent on celebrations and gatherings in a year? (We have professed publicly to lead a poor life – both in spirit and in fact).
- How many times I ignore the needs of my sisters in the community, not being sensitive and concerned towards them?
- How many times have I closed myself up, in my comfort zone, unwilling to get out and be useful to the community and to the people outside in loving service?
- How many times I have opened my mouth to utter accusations and curses and not words of blessings and encouragement?

May St. Alphonsa and St. Clare intercede for us, that we may open our eyes to see who we truly are.

INFORMATION

1. Kindly find the list of Elected Synaxis members attached with this circular.
2. There will be a slight change in the schedule of **the Community Synodal Journey programme**, that will be intimated to the Local Superiors through the whatsapp shortly.
3. The following Retreats will be arranged in our Province from September to December. The Local Superiors are requested to send the names of Sisters for these Retreats by 25th of this month to Sr. Shobhita.
 - a. 14.09.24 P.M - 19.09.24 P.M - Fr. Antonysami OSM (Inner child healing Retreat).
 - b. 05.10.24 P.M to 12.10.24A.M - Fr. Manuel OCD
 - c. 01.11.24 P.M to 07.11.24 P.M - Retreat for Synaxis members.
 - d. 26.11.24 P.M to 01.01.25 P.M - Fr. Jilto CMI
4. FCC Maria Mata Province website is ready. You can open it in the Google by typing – ***fcchazaribag.org*** You can also watch our YouTube videos, other Videos and photos also in the gallery section of this website. The details of Communities, Institutions and individual sisters are being uploaded and it will take some more time to be completed.
 - a. You can also read and download all the circulars of the Mother General(LMG) and the Provincial Superior (LPS) from this website, but since it is only for private use within our Province, you need to Type in the Google page – ***fcchazaribag.org/document***
 - b. St. Alphonsa's Novena is being uploaded daily in our YouTube Channel(Maria Mata Vision) and also in our website from 19.07.24. Kindly contribute your share for evangelization by liking, commenting and sharing this Novena daily, with as many people(Christians) as you can. This will increase viewership and thereby go a long way for making Jesus known through St. Alphonsa.
 - c. I thank our chief editor of the YouTube – Sr. Shalini for her painstaking effort and beautiful editing and also our Contributors of each day – Sr. Cincy, Srs. Lincy, Betsy, Lucy, Jancy, Anupama, Pavana, Pushpa Soren, Salomi and Rose Mary for their generosity and hard work.
5. I thank God for the healing touch being given to Sr. Annie after her hysterectomy operation, Sr. Karuna from Dengue fever, Sr. Shalom's Mother from snake bite and Sr. Elizabeth's brother from a serious injury due to a fall. Also for saving the life of Sr. Sherly, from a serious accident, as she had fallen into a deep septic tank.

6. I sincerely thank Sr. Tessin and the Kumaranelloor community, who work very hard, going out of their way to be of service to our sick sisters who have been in Kerala for treatment, especially in the past three months. Sisters have recovered fast due to their timely interventions and loving care. Thank you dear Sisters! Sr. Sushma and Sr. Daisy were also there in Kumaranelloor in the past few days being with our sick sisters. Thanks for the prayers you have raised for all of them especially for Sr. Annie Therese.
7. Please continue to pray for the good health and speedy recovery of our Rev. Sr. Lourdes Mary, Sr. Louis Jose, Sr. Berthol, Sr. Anngrace, Sr. Job, Sr. Rose, Sr. Vincy, Sr. Crizy, Sr. Elseena, Sr. Nirmala, Sr. Vincy Pathil and our Junior Sisters - Reshmita and Smita.
 - a. Pray also for our Sisters' relatives who are very ill – Sr. Ancy Jose' younger Sister who will be having Angioplasty soon, Sr. Silvy's nephew, Sr. Shobhita's Father, Sr. Jossy's Father, Sr. Betsy's Mother, Sr. Bency's Brother and Sr. Shefi's Mother. All of them, except Sr. Shobhita's Father and Sr. Betsy's Mother are having advanced stage of Cancer.
 - b. **Half –yearly Account** of the communities, hostels and institutions must reach the Provincial house latest by **8th October**.
 - c. As we are going to update and upgrade our accounting System, from next month, All the communities, and hostels must bring their 3- months account (Bills and Vouchers which are correctly written and signed) without fail to the Provincial House by the 7th of the following months from now onwards; **July, October, January, April**.
 - d. **They need not do it in the tally Software**. This will be done in the Provincial house itself, in order to avoid serious mistakes in the accounting.
 - e. The institutions will carry on doing their accounting as usual.

8. REMINDERS :

- a. **33days' preparation** for the *Consecration of our communities to the Immaculate Heart of Mary* begins on **6th August**. You can conduct it in the community daily during meditation, as it is a combination of reflection and prayers.
- b. **August 25th**, is the day we have to vote for two Sisters, who are eligible to be elected as the Provincial Superior. The following are the criteria for election of the Provincial Superior:-
 - i. She must be at least 35 years old.
 - ii. She must have completed at least ten years after her first Profession.
- c. The Procedure to cast vote for two sisters who are eligible to be elected as Provincial Superiors is same as that of the election of Synaxis members. Kindly read Art.No264 from 'The Way of Life'

- d. The votes of the community are counted , put together in an envelope, which is then put in another envelop and sealed and sent directly to the Superior General & Council by speed post in the in the following address:-

To

The Superior General & Council
FCC Generalate
Portiuncula, Ashokapuram
Aluva -683101, Kerala.

- The above procedure must be done in front of everybody in the chapel.
- The total number of Votes must be written on the top of the 1st envelope .
- The second envelop(outer one) should have both the To address and From Address as shown below:-

No. of Votes :3

To

From	The Superior General & Council
Shanti Bhawan,	FCC Generalate, Portiuncula,
Patra kala, Garikala P.O	Ashokapuram
Hazaribag Dist.	Aluva -683101, Kerala.
Jharkhand.	

- e. I hope all of you have started praying for this intention personally in your daily Eucharistic celebration since 2024 May 15th and you are reciting an intercessory prayer during the evening prayer in your community.
- f. We need to offer 33 "Glory be to the Father..." for three days prior to the secret voting for the Provincial Superior (August 25).
- g. List of sisters eligible to be elected as Provincial Superiors will be sent to communities **on 30th July 2024**, as per LMG/3/2024.
- h. **Applications:** Kindly follow the format given along with the Letter of 24th August 2022, for all further applications. The applications which do not have the proper format will not be accepted.
- i. No applications will be accepted by the present Provincial Council after 30th September, 2024.

Once again wishing each one of you
a very Happy Feast of St. Alphonsa and St. Clare !

Yours ever lovingly in Jesus,



Sr. Lissy Thomas.

PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR
MARIA MATA PROVINCIAL HOUSE
ASSISI BHAWAN,
SADANAND ROAD,
HAZARIBAG P.O & DT
JHARKHAND-825301