



Prot. No.423/2025

Dated: 13.12.2025

LMG.08/2025

***“See what great love the Father has bestowed
on us, that we should be called children of God,
and that is what we are” (1 Jn 3:1)***



Loving Provincial Superiors, Regional Superiors, Local Superiors,
beloved Mothers, Sisters, and my dear Formees,

I believe that everyone is living in peace and happiness. It is a time of preparation for the 2025 birthday of our Savior and Lord Jesus. A celebration of the love of the Father who gave to the earth His only Son who was at his Bosom, in order to keep closer to His heart the human beings who were created in His own image and likeness, and to call them dear Son and daughter. A celebration of the self-emptying of the Son who came down from the heart of the Father to find a place in the hearts of human beings! Christmas is the manifestation of the fullness of God's love in the form of self-giving and self-emptying love. Let us pray daily to know and experience the greatness of the incarnation in its fullness and to give response whole-heartedly to this reality. As the Scripture testifies that “From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace” (Jn 1:6), I pray that this Christmas Season when we celebrate the jubilee of incarnation may grant the fullness of grace to everyone. All jubilees give us many graces. If so, this Jubilee of the Incarnation of the Son of God is certainly a treasury of grace to all. So with much hope let us turn to Him who is waiting to forgive our shortcomings and sins. Let us receive forgiveness. May every F.C.C. daughter be able to become an icon of Jesus' love, by receiving grace upon grace through complete forgiveness, generous sharing, and the complete surrender of ego. With this prayer, I wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a New Year filled with abundance of grace.

This Jubilee Year 2025 was also a Jubilee of the Consecrated Religious Life. Let us take to heart the call we have received from the Mother Church to “Go forth as pilgrims of Hope on the Way of Peace.” Are we able to lead those who walk through the corridors of worry, despair, sorrow, uncertainty, and insecurity, to Jesus - the shore of hope and security? We are at the close of this Jubilee Year. Now let each of us examine oneself and see whether I could spread the light of hope in the lives of my poor brothers and sisters. Could I empower them by infusing the life of the Word of God? How far have I been able to spend my time, health and energy to their unhappy lives? Let us give glory to God for every good deed He has done through us. Let us learn good lessons from our shortcomings, and welcome the New Year as a God given opportunity to be His missionaries with an increased zeal.

This New Year is another Jubilee year that will open the doors of grace for all of us – the Franciscans. It is the 800 anniversary of the Passing of our Seraphic Saint into heaven. Let each of us find what we can do personally to make the observation of this Jubilee year more lively and meaningfully. Wouldn't it be good to read at least one biography of St. Francis during this Jubilee Year? I cordially invite all my sisters to practice and acquire with thirst any one of the virtues that reflect in the life of our Father. I believe that each sister carefully meditate the topic given from the Generalate every month, for your self-examination and practice. Let not this Jubilee celebration passes by as a mere ceremony without touching you and me.

As we know, we are observing a Five-Year Plan in preparation for the Great Jubilee of 2033. The year 2026, being the Jubilee Year of St. Francis, we shall celebrate it with the title and theme, '*FCC with the Marginalized*'. The Local Synaxis and the Provincial Council / Provincial Plenary Council has to plan out the ways to implement it at the Community and Province Level in a proper way. We are doing many things for the marginalized brethren in our society. Yet, we have to find out prayerfully what more can we do? The Franciscan methodology is to help the poor by experiencing the shortages in our daily lives. It was Francis' determination that no one should be poorer than him. If Francis saw someone dressed in poorer clothes than him, he would immediately take off his cloak and give it to him and he would buy his clothes and wear them (2 Cel. 4/8). Let us take this opportunity to prayerfully find out what we can give up personally or as a community. How about making this Christmas a 'special' by collecting our things which we can give up, and distributing these to help those in need? This is also a time when we need to pay more attention to ensure that the marginalized brethren who live in our institutions enjoy the facilities and mental security as their human dignity demands. I think this should be the main concern of the community level Jubilee celebration. The Plenary Council has decided to make the Apostolic Exhortation 'I have loved you' (*Dilexi Te*), the topic of our study and reflection in this Jubilee year. In this exhortation, Pope Leo XIV calls upon the entire Church to love the poor and to be on the side of the poor, by repeatedly presenting our Father St Francis as an example. (Articles 6, 7, 64, 67). In the 65 paragraph, Pope who praises the 'Privilege of Poverty' of our Mother St. Clare, qualifies the life of St. Clare and her sisters as follows: "Her prayerful and hidden life was a cry against worldliness, and a silent defense of the poor and the forgotten" (*Dilexi Te*, No. 65). By reading this Apostolic Exhortation meditatively, let us strive to cultivate in us the attitude of our Holy Mother Church - the attitude of solidarity with the poor and the marginalized.

We celebrated 2025 as the Year of Family. Every community is to evaluate how fruitful the celebration of the Year of the Family was. The conclusion of the Year of Family is to be held at the Community and Province Level with appropriate programs before 31 December. Although the Year of the Family is getting over, everyone should take care to assimilate its spirit more and more, and to continue to engage in this ministry with great zeal.

FCC Day is being celebrated on 14 December. The FCC Day celebration should enable us to remember the Foundational Charism, and the holiness of the lives and mission of the

Founders, and also to accept and put into practice the inner inspiration to live the FCC Charism deeply. May the meditation, reflection and prayer of these days lead us to this great cause. There are many feasts awaiting us as we step into the New Year, 3 January feast of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara, then 6 January feast of the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus. May this feast strengthen us to adore and confess His divinity with great love. This same day is the birthday of our Founder Father, Rev. Bishop Charles Lavigne and 29 January is the birthday of Blessed Martyr Rani Maria. Although their birthdays are not celebrated, let us remember our Founder Father and our elder sister with much gratitude and love.

With the powerful prayer support from all of you, Sr Mercy and myself returned safely and comfortably after our visit to African countries. Although we had informed that we would be going to Malawi, we could not go, because of the cancellation of the flight due to the problems that arose following the elections in Tanzania. Let me share with joy that our mission in Kenya and Tanzania is flourishing well by the grace of God. I gratefully remember all our sisters from the Provinces: Irinjalakuda, Ernakulam and Thrissur, who are serving in Kenya, as well as the sisters from Idukki, Noida and Delhi who are serving in Tanzania, and congratulate each of them whole-heartedly. There is a house of the Ernakulam Province in Uganda and a house of the Irinjalakuda Province in Rwanda. These are the two countries where our ministry is most needed. I express our gratitude and appreciation to the sisters who are serving in these two countries with much sacrifice and zeal. Although we have not been able to visit them yet, we thank the good Lord for all those who are serving in the countries of South Africa (Bharananganam), Malawi (Palakkad, Bhopal), Angola (Irinjalakuda), and Zambia (Vijayawada). We remember with love and gratitude the sisters who are serving in the underdeveloped country of Papua New Guinea (Changanassery). I extend all the prayerful best wishes and heartfelt congratulations to the sisters of Mananthavady Province who are preparing to go to Brazil for mission work.

After a long 34 years of commendable service in Africa, our dear Rev Mother Mello of Irinjalakuda Province, will be returning to the Province on 14 December 2025. It is happy to inform that the Global Peace Foundation has selected to award her for the Humanitarian Activities in Africa. Mother Mello has been with the poor in Rwanda for about two and a half years. Remarkably, even at the age of 86, her services there continue to astonish everyone. Dear Mother Mello, Heartfelt congratulations to you from the heart of Mother FCC!

Formation

The Final Profession

The three-month course in preparation for the Final Profession of our Junior Sisters will be commenced from 4.00 pm on 3 March 2026. The Final Profession will be officiated by His Beatitude Mar Raphael Thattil, Major Archbishop of Syro Malabar Church, on 21 May 2026 at 9.30 am. Their brother priests and religious sisters are specially invited to participate in all the functions related to the Final Profession. The names of their brothers or sisters who will be participating in the Final Profession are to be communicated to the Generalate when they

come for the course. The answer papers of the examinations in preparation for the Final Profession should be sent from the Mission Provinces to Shanti Dham, Indore and those from Kerala Provinces to the Generalate before 15 January 2026.

Formators' Meet

As per the Ninth General Plenary Synaxis, the meeting of our Formators from India and abroad will be held from 5.00 pm on 22 May to 4.00 pm on 2 June 2026. The Formators from Kenya, Tanzania and Papua New Guinea are also to be present at this meeting. Since the timing of the meeting is same as that of the commencement of the initial formation, the Provincial Superiors are to make arrangements to provide other sisters to assist in the responsibilities of the formators, so that all of them can participate in the meeting. Provincial Superiors will attend the meeting from 5.00 pm on 23 May to 4.00 pm on 24 May 2026.

Second Year Novices

As per the decision of the Ninth General Plenary Synaxis, the regency period of the Novices will be for 3 months. The three-month course for Novices in the Mission Provinces of India will begin on 10 March 2026 at Santhi Dham, Indore and it will conclude by 10 June. In Kerala, this program will be conducted at St. Antony's Convent, Kollad, Kottayam (CHY Province). The Second Year Novices of Kerala Provinces are to be sent there on 1 May 2026.

Let us pray earnestly for our formees who are entering the Novitiate and Postulancy on 14 December 2025. My dear little daughters, may you be able to cooperate constantly with the Holy Spirit so that all the formation programs that you undergo may become fruitful in its fullness as our Lord wishes. Praying for this grace, I wish you all the best for a joyful and dynamic formative journey with our Lord. The names of our candidates, their formators, and the houses assigned for formation are attached below.

FIRST YEAR NOVICES (2025 – 2026)				
KERALA PROVINCES				
Sl. No.	Novitiate Houses & Provinces	Provinces of the Novices	Total	Formators
1.	KLM - Clara Sadan, Novitiate House, Kozhippilly	KLM -1, TSR - 6, CHY -2, BHM-3, TKLY- 2	14	Sr. Ligy Maria (BHM)
		Total	14	
MISSION PROVINCES				
2	DMPR - San Damiano Novitiate House, Medziphema	DMPR - 6 Meghalaya - 4	10	Sr. Rinet (DMPR)
3	IMPL - Assisi Home, Tuibuong	IMPL - 7	7	Sr. Johnsy (IMPL)

4	VJDA - Assisi Convent, Nidamanuru,		ELU - 6, VJDA - 1, ODA - 1	8	Sr. Reshmi (DLH)
5	JLDR - St. Francis Convent, Pawasa		NDA - 1, DLH - 3, RJN - 3, JLDR - 2	9	Sr. Shallet (JLDR)
6	Kenya (EKM)	St. Clare FC Convent, Kiirua	EKM – 6, TSR – 1, IJK - 4	11	Sr. Regy Sebastian (EKM)
7	TNZA (DLH)	Rani Maria Convent, Ilazo	IDK – 3, DLH – 1 PKD – 1 (Malawi)	5	Sr.Grace Nattekadan (DLH)
			Total	50	
			Grand Total	64	
	POSTULANTS (2025-2026)				
	KERALA PROVINCES				
	Postulants Houses & Provinces		Provinces of the Postulants	Total	Formators
1	TLY - St. Mary’s Novitiate House Kunnoth		IJK - 3, EKM - 2, TLY - 3, PALA - 1, BHM - 1	10	Sr. Shefy (IJK)
2	TSR - Blessed Sacrament Novitiate House, Mararthakkara		TSR. - 10	10	Sr. Regin Therese (TSR)
			Total	20	
	MISSION PROVINCES (2025 -2026)				
3	IMPL - Alphonsa Convent, Itanagar, Naharlagun		IMPL - 5, Meghalaya - 2	7	Sr. Genevive (IMPL)
4	DMPR - Clare Bhavan Provincial House, Kacharigaon		DMPR - 8	8	Sr. Anslit (DMPR)
5	NDA - Assisi Bhavan Chamkeri, Etah		NDA - 6, ELU -1, BLY -3	10	Sr. Annie Maria (NDA)
6	BPL- Christu Jyothi Convent Anadnagar, Bhopal		ODA - 5, BPL - 3, RJN - 2, JLDR - 3	13	Sr. Jessy Joseph (BPL)
7	Kenya (IJK)	Laverna FC Convent, Donyo Sabuk	IJK - 5	5	Sr. Ligy Grace (IJK)
8	Kenya (TSR)	St. Alphonsa Formation House,	EKM – 2, TSR - 3	5	Sr. Alphin (TSR)
9	TNZA (IDK)	Assisi FC Convent, Kikwavilla, Ifakara	IDK – 1, DLH – 2, PKD – 1 (Malawi) NDA - 4	8	Sr. Bince Maria (IDK)
	Papua new guinea (CHY)	St. Clares Convent, Mendi	CHY - 2	2	Sr. Teslin (CHY)
			Total	58	
			Grand Total	78	

Convocation

Convocation Program of our Common Juniorate at Portiuncula, Aluva and Santi Dham, Indore will be held on 26 February 2026.

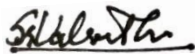
Conclusion of the Family Year

As it was informed through the Provincial Superiors, a Family Week is to be observed with appropriate programs in the community level as a part of the conclusion of the Family Year. During this family week, let us conduct Eucharistic Adoration, and adore our Eucharistic Lord with the families, and also let us thank our Lord for all the blessings that He has showered upon all the programs that have been organized this year. My dear sisters who have faithfully studied the Apostolic Exhortation “The Joy of Love” and have written the examination, may God bless you abundantly.

On the shore to Eternity:

Let us pray for the departed souls of Sr. Gails Kunnel (KPLY, 06.10.2025), Sr. Annie Jose (TMY, 16.10.2025), Sr. Hyacinth (TSR, 18.10.2025), Sr. Jose Catherine (PALA, 18.10.2025), Sr. Mary Thekkumthottam (KPLY, 19.10.2025), Sr. Claret (TSR, 03.11.2025), Sr. Fathima (EKM, 07.11.2025), Sr. Tresa Pulickal (ELU, 08.11.2025), Sr. Cletus Mary (BHM, 18.11.2025), Sr. Mariette Thayil (BHM, 19.11.2025), Sr. Innocent (TSR, 01.12.2025), Sr. Jositta (EKM, 03.12.2025) and Sr. Henriate (JLDR, 07.12.2025).

Your humble servant in Jesus Christ,



Sr. Litty
Superior General
Portiuncula

Superior General
Franciscan Clarist Congregation
Portiuncula, Asokapuram
Aluva - 683 101, Kerala, India



(Kindly make this letter available in all our houses)
(For private circulation only)

happy new year



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Date: 13.12.2025

General Plenary Council Decisions - 2025

- 1) The General Plenary Synaxis is conducted in the same manner as the Synodal Journey. The Synodal Journey is carried out in each community under the leadership of the Provincial Councillors or Animators, in accordance with the instructions given by the Generalate. The outcomes are consolidated at the provincial level, and the report is presented at the Provincial Plenary Synaxis. The Synodal Journey is conducted based on the Design–Commitment–Plan of Action adopted at the General and Provincial levels for the realization of the F.C.C. Dream.
- 2) As part of the Five year Plan 2026 will be observed as *FCC with the Marginalized*. This is to celebrate the Jubilee year of St. Francis more meaningfully.
- 3) In the year 2026 the Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te* of Pope Leo XIV will be our topic for study and reflection in the Province Level.
- 4) In the Mission Provinces, one house may be ascribed to the Latin Rite in each province, as per the needs of the province concerned. After taking the decision in the Provincial Plenary Assembly, the application is to be submitted to the General Council.
- 5) It is decided to sell the land under the Generalate in Okhla, Delhi. Its management has been entrusted to Rev. Sr. Metsy, the Provincial Superior of Delhi Province.
- 6) Per-Capita system should be implemented in all the Provinces.
- 7) Mess Fee for 33 – day retreat has been raised to Rs. 6000/-.
- 8) Provinces with financial capacity will assist provinces in need of financial support. This decision of the previous Synaxis will be continued.

Decisions regarding Formation

- 1) In the mission Provinces, it is advisable to obtain the Affidavit from the parents of candidates during 'Come and See' or Pre-Postulancy Phase 1.
- 2) During the regency period in Postulancy, the formees can be involved in the evangelization programs. Prior to this they do not participate in it.
- 3) Trained formators should be appointed to take care of the Pre-Postulancy Academic Group. They should be made available to the formees.
- 4) The General Study Forum members who are proficient in various theological-psychological-spiritual subjects were divided into three groups under the leadership of the following sisters, so that their services may be easily available to the entire FCC family.

Sacred Scripture - Sr. Thejus (EKM)

Psychology - Sr. Terceline (CHY)

Other Theological Subjects - Sr. Rani Therese (TSR)

- 5) Giving importance to training for community life, the regency of the Postulants in 2026 will be held during the months of July and August. This is tried only as an experiment this year.
- 6) Since combined formation is taking place in almost all stages, the vote of the Formation Team is no longer required in matters related to the promotion of formees. Instead, the members of the formation community are to cast the vote and submit it to the Provincial Council of the formees.
- 7) The following sisters have been entrusted to translate, the book "The Fundamental Principles of Faith" into the regional languages that is to be studied in 'Come and See'.

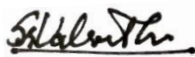
Hindi - Sr. Alice (HZB), Sr. Lucy (HZB)

Oria - Sr. Lichuma (ODA), Sr. Anjana Maria (BRLY)

Punjabi - Sr. Gracin (JLDR), Sr. Christina (JLDR)

Telugu - Sr. Archana VIDA

- 8) Junior sisters are not given leadership responsibilities in Hostel, Sunday School, Pious Associations etc. However, in these cases, they can assist the senior sisters.
- 9) As far as possible, Assistant Provincial Superiors and Provincial Councillors, should not be appointed as Junior Coordinators or Formators at the initial stages, as they are required to cast votes for them.
- 10) In Pre-Postulancy Phase I, the basic of Mathematics, Social Science, Science etc. are also included in the curriculum of the formees from the Mission. At this stage, due importance should also be given to the learning of English.
- 11) *Tripple Way Retreat* is conducted under the leadership of Sr. Stella Jeas (NDA) for the Formees and those who are taking class on Franciscan Spirituality.
- 12) Postulants' holidays will be of 10 days.
- 13) In order to empower our formators, online classes are conducted on various subjects connected with formation.
- 14) After the First Profession, it is advisable to provide proper training to our newly professed junior sisters for the ministry of evangelization.



Sr.Litty

Superior General
Portiuncula

Superior General
Franciscan Clarist Congregation
Portiuncula, Asokapuram
Aluva - 683 101, Kerala, India

