



**The Koderma Franciscan Clarist Sisters' Society**  
**Assisi Bhawan, Sadananda Road. Hazaribag P.O. &Dt,**  
**Jharkhand – 825301 India . Mob. No. 09572133537,**  
**E-ail:fccmariamataprovence@gmail.com, Reg. No. 212**



*Peace & Joy*

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**FESTAL GREETINGS**



***The life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Gal2:20)***

My dear loving Sisters and children in formation,  
Greetings of love and peace to all in our Lord Jesus Christ!

The month of July holds a special significance for us, as we have set out together on a renewed journey of faith and community life. It is encouraging to see how, after the Synaxis and the formation of new communities, we are sincerely engaging with the Action Plan, the fruit of deep reflection, prayer, and mutual listening. At the very threshold of this journey, the Lord has blessed us with the luminous presence of two spiritual companions: St. Alphonsa and St. Clare. As our beloved elder sister and mother, they offer us a living commentary on the Gospel and a guide to live our vocation meaningfully in today's world.

***On this happy occasion, may I take the privilege of wishing each one of you a very Happy Feast of our beloved sister St. Alphonsa and our mother St. Clare.***

***"I am the wheat in the hands of the Divine Sower. Let Him sow me wherever He wants"***

St. Alphonsa, though hidden from the eyes of the world, lived a life ablaze with love. She transformed lifelong pain into a silent prayer, deeply embracing the words: ***"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness"*** (2 Corinthians 12:9). Even as a novice, she prayed not for healing but for the strength to endure, revealing a heart completely surrendered to God's will.

Though often misunderstood and sometimes hurt by others' words, Alphonsa chose always to forgive, holding no resentment. Her forgiveness and gentleness shone quietly in daily life, living what Jesus taught: ***"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you pray for those who abuse you"*** (Luke 6:27–28). This virtue invites us today, in the closeness of community life, to respond to tensions and hurts not with sharp words or silent walls, but with patient understanding and gentle forgiveness.

Alphonsa's unwavering faith in God's love also stands out. Even when her body was frail and her future uncertain, she clung to the truth that she was loved by Christ beyond measure. She could say, with the psalmist: ***"Though my flesh and my heart may fail, God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever"*** (Psalm 73:26). In our times too, when we feel discouraged by limitations, failures, or fears about the future, Alphonsa's example calls us to trust deeply in the faithful love of God.

In a culture that values recognition, Alphonsa reminds us of the sacredness of hidden service. Her childlike trust invites us to surrender our anxieties about the future to God's loving providence. Her forgiving heart challenges us to release old hurts in community life, and her gratitude inspires us to see even trials as gifts that shape our holiness.

***Place your mind before the mirror of eternity! Place your soul in the brilliance of glory!  
And transform your entire being into the image of the Godhead Itself through  
contemplation.***

St. Clare of Assisi, drawn by the radical simplicity of St. Francis, left her family's wealth to live the Gospel in poverty, prayer and fraternity. Her life echoes Jesus' call: ***"Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven then come, follow me"*** (Mark 10:21). She truly chose Christ as her only treasure.

Clare's deep contemplation made her life a living prayer. She spent hours in silence before the Lord, drawing strength and wisdom to guide her sisters. Yet this contemplation never made her distant: she was a gentle mother, teaching the community to love, forgive, and support one another, echoing Jesus' new commandment: ***"Love one another as I have loved you"*** (John 13:34).

In our life too where daily tasks and apostolates can pull us in many directions, St. Clare reminds us that prayer is not a luxury but the source of all true fruitfulness. Her joyful poverty calls us to examine what we cling to - possessions, positions, opinions, and to choose freedom and simplicity so that Jesus can be our true treasure. Her charity invites us to strengthen our communities as places of encouragement and understanding, where each sister feels seen and valued.

St. Clare of Assisi stands as a radiant example of servant leadership for each one of us. In her, we see a leader who led not from above, but from within, beside her sisters, bearing their burdens, sharing in their joys, and guiding them through her personal example. Her leadership was Christ-centred. She lived with her gaze constantly fixed on the crucified Christ, and all her decisions flowed from prayerful discernment in His presence. As an abbess, she never imposed her will but sought God's will, leading her community with wisdom, gentleness, and firm resolve. May this servant leader be a shining example for all our superiors. On this beautiful occasion, I extend special greetings of love and appreciation to all our loving superiors. Wish you all a blessed Day.

As we implement the Action Plan born from our Synaxis, St. Alphonsa and St. Clare gently guide us from external change to an interior renewal, a conversion of heart rooted in Christ. In them, holiness is not distant, but lived daily, through patient endurance, hidden service, forgiveness, gratitude, prayer, and fraternal charity.

May their intercession help us to live this time of renewal with courage, simplicity and joy, so that our communities may truly shine as living witnesses of the Gospel.

### **Festal Greetings**

We lovingly greet **Sr. Sushma** on the Feast of her heavenly patroness, **St. Bridget on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July**. May St. Bridget's **COURAGEOUS FIDELITY TO GOD'S WILL** inspire you to serve with prophetic love and joyful perseverance.

### **Our Loving Tribute**

On the ninth of August, we gratefully remember **Bishop Hippolitus**, the papal delegate for the unification and a true nurturer of the FCC. With deep faith and pastoral wisdom, he guided and strengthened us in our spiritual journey. His memory remains a blessing and an inspiration for us all.

We also fondly cherish the memory of our beloved **Mother Maurus**, (Aug.20) the first Superior General of the unified FCC. We gratefully recall the deep love she had for our mission and the missionary zeal with which she guided and accompanied us in the early stages of our province. Her dedication and vision continue to inspire us to live our charism with fidelity and courage.

**Kindly remember to offer Holy Mass on both these days.**

## Information

### 1. Opening of a new convent at Lohardaga

I am happy to inform you that we have opened a new convent in the Archdiocese of Ranchi, at Lohardaga. The convent is named **ST. CLARE'S CONVENT, LOHARDAGA**. The community consists of Sr. Suja, as the Superior, along with Sr. Grace and Sr. Pavana. In this mission, we collaborate with the diocese in the ICSE school, **LIEVEN'S ACADEMY**. Sr. Suja takes up the responsibility of Vice-Principal for the senior section, while Sr. Grace looks after the pre-primary section and Sr. Pavana is an assistant teacher in the High School section. We wish them God's abundant blessings in this new mission and assure them of our prayerful support.

2. **Blessing of the prayer house:** Our renovated prayer house at Lokai has been blessed and the sisters have started daily adoration. You are welcome to join the prayer house for your prayer days.
3. **Visit of superior General:** The month of October will be a time of special grace and blessing for our province, as we will have the joyful privilege of welcoming our Superior General, Rev. Mother Litty, from the 4th to the 13th of October. Her presence among us is a valuable opportunity for spiritual renewal, encouragement in our mission, and deepening our sense of communion with the entire congregation.
4. **Superiors meeting:** The Superiors' Seminar on **COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION** will be held from the 1st to the 5th of October. We are blessed to have the presence of our General Councillors, Rev. Sr. Julie and Rev. Sr. Josiya, who will accompany and guide our sisters throughout the programme.
5. **Penitents group:** The inauguration of the newly constructed Penitents' Group will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August, marked by a night vigil. As we begin this new chapter in our journey of prayer, penance, and reparation, we invoke the abiding companionship of the Most Holy Trinity upon them. Let us unite with them through our silent prayers and sacrifices, entrusting their mission to the loving guidance of the Lord.
6. **Retreats:** Annual retreats will be conducted on the following dates. Kindly give your names to Sr. Shobhita well in advance.

a. 19<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> of October, 2025.

b. 27<sup>th</sup> Dec.2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2026

7. **A Seminar on 'midlife transition** will be conducted from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2025.

8. **A Webinar on the uses of artificial intelligence (AI)** will be conducted by Fr. Sabu CMI on July 29<sup>th</sup> from 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm. Let us make use of this opportunity to enhance our knowledge and explore how AI can be meaningfully integrated into our mission. You may register your names for the same with Sr. Suma by 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.
9. Our second year novices are presently at divine Mercy Ashram, Hazaribagh, preparing themselves for the ministry of Evangelization. They will be going to Bagdogra parish for the proclamation ministry for a duration of three weeks, accompanied by Sr. Mala. Request your valuable prayers for them.
10. As decided by the Provincial Renewal Synaxis, we have arranged for the internal auditing of the accounts of the communities and hostels. All the treasurers are requested to keep the accounts from April to July, 2025 ready. The schedule will be shared later.

Seeking the blessings of the Lord upon each one of you,

Your humble sister in Jesus



Sr. Cincy FCC

Provincial Superior

PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR  
MARIA MATA PROVINCE  
AC88BI BHAVAN, SADANAND ROAD  
HAZARIBAG P.O. & DIST.  
JHARKHAND - 825301