

NAGPUR PROVINCE

CIRCULAR

Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales



MT-22 2025

To All The Members of The Province

01-07-2025

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL



Dear Confreres,

Greetings of peace and joy in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

At the outset, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to each of you for your generous and faith-filled response to the recent transfers and appointments announced by the Provincial Administration. Your openness to be available for the mission of the Church, even when it involves uncertainty, challenges, or personal inconvenience, is a true sign of your missionary spirit and religious commitment. In saying “yes” to where you are needed most, you echo the words of the prophet Isaiah, **“Here I am, send me!”** (Isaiah 6:8).

As we enter the month of July, we celebrate the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle—our beloved patron of India and a courageous witness to the Gospel. St. Thomas’ journey from doubt to deep faith, from fear to fearless proclamation, is a powerful reminder that we too are **“sent ones”**. We are called not only to follow Christ but to go where He sends us, often into unfamiliar lands, difficult contexts, or situations that test our faith and obedience.

In our own times, the call to be prophetic witnesses remains urgent. To be “prophetic” is not to predict the future, but to live the Gospel authentically, boldly, and joyfully, even when it is uncomfortable. Like St. Thomas, we are invited to go beyond comfort zones and become missionary disciples in our parishes, schools, formation houses, and social outreach initiatives.

Our patron, St. Francis de Sales, offers us a deeply pastoral and incarnational model of being an apostle in today’s world. He teaches: **“Great occasions for serving God come seldom, but little ones surround us daily. Be faithful in the little practices of love, of kindness, of gentleness, of peace, of joy.”** He reminds us that our apostolic mission is not only in what we do externally but in how we live our daily lives - with gentleness, humility, patience, and inner joy. As followers of Francis de Sales, we are called to radiate God’s love even in the simplest gestures: a listening ear, a forgiving heart, a quiet witness to truth, and a life rooted in prayer and communion.



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Dear confreres, the Church today needs credible witnesses - men who are holy, humble, hard-working, and happy in the Lord. Your availability, presence, and silent witness in mission fields, whether remote or prominent, make a lasting impact. Let us continue to draw strength from the Eucharist, live in fraternal communion, and encourage one another in our vocations.

As you prepare to take up your new responsibilities or continue in your present mission with renewed fervour, may the example of St. Thomas, the teachings of St. Francis de Sales and the life of Fr. Peter Mermier inspire you to be apostles of God's love, peace, and joy in this world, so deeply in need of hope.

Let us continue to pray for one another. May Mary, Queen of Apostles, guide our steps, and may the Spirit of the Lord lead us as we proclaim the Gospel not only in words, but in our lives.

DIACONATE ORDINATION AT SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH, PANDERPALI

On 23rd May 2025 Saint Francis de Sales Church, Panderpali witnessed a historic and grace-filled occasion with the solemn celebration of the Diaconate Ordination of Bro. Bimal Topno. The ordination ceremony was presided over by the Rt. Rev. Kishore Kumar Kujur, Bishop of Rourkela. Also present were Fr. Manoj Tirkey, Provincial Superior of Nagpur Province, Fr. Sandeep Tirkey and Fr. Alen Gonsalves, Provincial Councillors, Priests, Religious and a large congregation of the Faithful.

The Eucharistic celebration began with a solemn entrance procession, accompanied by liturgical hymns and traditional music. In his homily Bishop Kishore shared his reflections on the vocation of the deacon, who is a servant of the Word, of the altar and of charity. He urged the newly ordained deacon to be a faithful witness of Christ through humble service to the Church and society. The congregation was filled with joy and reverence as they witnessed Bro. Bimal make his promise of service, receive the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands and his duty to preach God's Word by receiving the Book of the Gospels.

After Mass, a short felicitation program was held. The atmosphere was vibrant with the rhythm of traditional Adivasi drums and a colourful display of the chain dance, a symbol of unity, joy and cultural richness. The Bishop, priests, religious and the Deacon Bimal were greeted with smiles and local hospitality, by being honoured with garlands and shawls. The Parishioners and the relatives of the newly ordained deacon came forward to express their joy with their beautiful songs and dances. The Bishop in his speech expressed words of appreciation about the MSFS who dedicate their lives for the service of the Diocese through their various active ministry in the parishes.



Adding colour to the occasion were the parish youth who presented a lively cultural program. With traditional dances and songs, they showcased the rich cultural heritage of the Adivasi community. The program came to an end with a fellowship meal and a deep sense of gratitude to God for the gift of a new deacon to serve the Church.

Bro. Bimal Topno.

PERPETUAL PROFESSION AT INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SPIRITUALITY

On 28th May eleven brothers, ten from the South-West India Province and one from the Nagpur Province made their Perpetual Profession, committing themselves to the Lord and to the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales. The solemn celebration took place in the evening at the Indian Institute of Spirituality, Malleswaram, Bengaluru. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Rev. Fr. Thomas Kalariparambil MSFS Provincial Superior of the South-West India Province. In his homily, he emphasized the importance of remaining wholeheartedly faithful to one's commitment to follow Christ. He also received the perpetual vows of the brothers.

The celebration was graced by the presence of priests from various communities, religious sisters from neighboring congregations, and family members of the eleven brothers. After the Eucharistic celebration, the newly professed brothers were felicitated with flowers, and they cut of a cake as a congratulatory song was sung. The event concluded with a sumptuous dinner joyfully shared by all. The entire celebration was meticulously organized under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Sibichan Panthamackal, the Rector, and Rev. Fr. Jose Simon, in collaboration with the IIS Fathers and staff members.



Bro. Sameer Xess.

FRANSALIAN EDUCATIONAL REGIONAL FORUM MEETING AT NAGPUR

The Fransalian Educational Regional Forum meeting was held on 15th June 2025 at the MSFS Provincialate, Nagpur, under the chairmanship of Fr. Anthonyswami MSFS, General Councillor In-Charge of Education. The meeting began with a prayer and words of welcome by Fr. Allan Gonsalves. It was followed by a floral greeting and a prayer for blessings on the members by Fr. Agnelo Fernandes. Provincial Councillors in-Charge of Education and Secretaries of the Forum from all the Provinces participated. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed unanimously.





The National Educational Seminar in Bangalore, led by Fr. Benny, was commended for its effectiveness, with suggestions for more interactive and collaborative elements in future seminars. Financial updates showed a current balance of ₹11,41,108/- All the Provinces were asked to complete their contributions by 30th September 2025. The students' contributions were increased from ₹5 to ₹7 annually. Regarding **Edu Times**, it was informed that articles will be submitted to their Provincial Councillors by 30th August, as the date of publication has been fixed for September. The Inter-Province Quiz Competition hosted in Guwahati, was praised for its

planning and wonderful way of conducting. It was decided that Nagpur Province will host the 2025 edition of the Inter-Province Quiz Competition. A proposal was made to launch a Fransalian Talent Search, like the Olympiads, under the General Secretariat, to foster student growth and to generate income. Discussions on optional school audits as per General Chapter XXI were also held. This was followed by sharing of Province experiences, followed by closing remarks from Fr. Anthonyswami. He encouraged the members for their continued collaboration. The meeting concluded with a prayer by Fr. Albin Joseph.

Fr. Albin Joseph.

PRIESTLY ORDINATION OF FR. EGÍDIO ABEL MSFS

On May 31st, 2025, the Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady, the Fransalian family in Mozambique celebrated with immense joy and gratitude the priestly ordination of Fr. Egídio Abel MSFS. The sacred celebration took place at Nossa Senhora das Mercês Parish in Katembe and was presided over by His Grace João Carlos Hatoa Nunes, Archbishop of Maputo. A large assembly of priests, religious, government dignitaries, and faithful gathered to witness this profound moment of grace.

The grace-filled celebration began with a solemn procession at 9:15 a.m., starting from the parish church and proceeding to the beautifully decorated hall where the ordination took place. The ordinand accompanied by his mother and godmother, walked with reverence and emotion toward the altar, followed by the acolytes, dancers, readers, concelebrants, and finally the Archbishop. The atmosphere was both prayerful and deeply moving, as the faithful witnessed Fr. Egídio's public and definitive "Here I am", for the service of God and His people.



In his homily, the Archbishop offered a profound reflection on the priestly vocation as a life of service, inspired by Mary's joyful obedience and self-giving. The liturgy unfolded with great solemnity, marked by the promises of the ordinand, the chanting of the Litany of the Saints, the laying on of hands and the Prayer of Consecration. As the Archbishop and the priests imposed their hands and prayed the Prayer of Consecration, a reverent silence

filled the hall. Many were visibly moved, especially Fr. Egidio's mother, whose tear-filled eyes testified to a mother's pride and surrender to God's will.

The celebration continued the following day, June 1st, on the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord. Fr. Egidio's celebrated his First Holy Mass at the substation of Nossa Senhora de Fátima in Ponta d'Ouro, where he had served as a deacon. The outdoor Eucharist, held on a specially prepared stage, brought together the faithful once again, for a joyful and vibrant liturgy. On both days, the Holy Eucharist was followed by warm felicitations and the joyful sharing of meals.



These celebrations were made possible through the generous collaboration and dedication of many. We express our heartfelt thanks to the MSFS community of Katembe, the Parish Council, the substation of Ponta d'Ouro, the Diocesan clergy, and all who played a part in making these events so meaningful. A special word of appreciation goes to Fr. Moisés Goma MSFS and Bro. Zito Américo MSFS for their outstanding coordination of the liturgies and logistics.



Congratulations to Fr. Egidio Abel MSFS! May the Lord, who began this good work in him, bring it to fulfillment with abundant blessings in his consecrated life and priestly ministry.

Fr. Henry Nedumkallel MSFS



***“We belong not only to God
but to our brothers,
as Christians and even
more as missionaries”***

-Letter to Fr. Thevenet, April 1855

SCHOOL RESULT CHART- 2025

S. No .	Name of School	10th /12th	Board	Appeared	Passed	Pass %	Above 60%	Above 80%	Highest %
1	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec. School, Jhajjar	12th	CBSE	30	30	100	19	11	95.40%
2	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec School, Janakpuri, New Delhi	12th	CBSE	147	146	99	62	84	96.80%
3	Gyan Mata Vidya Vihar, Nanded	10th	CBSE	200	198	99	76	100	99.00%
4	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec. School, Jhajjar	10th	CBSE	73	73	100	51	22	98.60%
5	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec. School, Neemuch (MP)	10th	CBSE	29	28	97	17	11	92.70%
6	St. Francis de Sales School, Badnera	10th	CBSE	56	54	96	21	19	93.80%
7	St. Francis de Sales High School, Baradurgapur	10th	State Board	30	28	94	22	5	87.67%
8	St. John's School, Birbal Kandore	10th	State Board	43	43	100	36	5	89.20%
9	St. Mary's English School, Kothari, Kinwat	10th	State Board	40	40	100	5	35	97.60%

S. No	Name of School	10th /12th	Board	Appeared	Passed	Pass %	Above 60%	Above 80%	Highest %
10	St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec. School, Janakpuri, New Delhi	10th	CBSE	210	208	99	82	87	95.80%
11	St. Francis de Sales School, Seraikela	10th	ICSE	92	91	99	67	24	95.80%
12	St. Mary's High School, Jalna	10th	CBSE	202	198	98	81	98	98.00%
13	St. John's High School, Mohan Nagar, Nagpur	10th	State Board	286	286	100	97	107	92.40%
14	St. Francis de Sales Eng. M. School Nimkheda	10th	CBSE	48	40	83	18	12	88.00%
15	St. John's Public School(CBSE) Nagpur	10th	CBSE	94	93	99	67	24	94.60%
16	St. Francis de Sales School, Bumra	10th	ICSE	30	30	100	14	10	94.20%
17	FSE Aurangabad	10th	CBSE	120	114	95	52	57	96.40

CONGRATULATIONS



ALL THE VERY BEST

Mozambique Delegation Elevated to a Region A Historic Step Forward

The Mozambique Delegation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales has been officially elevated to the status of a Region, **with effect from September 30, 2025**. This historic decision comes as the Delegation prepares to celebrate its Silver Jubilee on November 16, 2025, marking 25 years of missionary presence and service. The elevation reflects the growth and maturity of the mission and opens new possibilities for expanding its pastoral, social, and educational ministries.

This long-awaited moment is the fruit of collective discernment, dedication, and collaboration. Ever since the 2023 Provincial Chapter unanimously passed the proposal, the Provincial Administration, in close coordination with the Delegation Superior and his team, worked tirelessly to bring this vision to reality. Multiple communications were exchanged, and after prayerful planning, a Statement of Understanding was jointly prepared, signed, and submitted to the General Administration.

The proposal was further discussed and affirmed during the XXI General Chapter, where we were given the assurance that this step would soon be realized. By Divine Providence, the formal approval came on the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul - Apostles and missionary giants, who laid the foundations of the early Church. Their witness reminds us: "Go into all the world and proclaim the Good News to all creation." (Mark 16:15)

This decision paves the way for the Mozambique Region to explore new vistas in pastoral, social, and educational ministries, rooted in the charism of our Congregation and the missionary spirit of our Founder, Fr. Peter Mary Mermier. As we thank the Superior General Rev. Fr. Johnson Kallidukil MSFS and his Council for their trust and support, and all the confreres who journeyed with this mission, let us be inspired to continue building up communities of faith, service, and hope.

May this new beginning ignite deeper commitment and unity among us as Missionaries of Hope and Love.

Let us move forward in faith!

Fr. Manoj Tirkey MSFS

Information

Departure from the Congregation

- Fr. Vineesh Thomas has officially left the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales. He has now joined the Anglican Church. Let us entrust him to the mercy and guidance of the Lord, praying that he may continue to walk in the light of God's will wherever he is led
- Brothers Rinkal Barla, Kulkant Kullu, and Bikash Xalxo, who were under formation in the Nagpur Province, have discerned to discontinue their journey with the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales.

Transfers and Appointments

- Fr. P. M. Joseph has been appointed as a community member at Minor Seminary, Prakash Bhavan, Mannarkkad, Kerala.

Annual Retreat and Capacity Building Programme 2025-2026

➤ Group I

Capacity Building Programme : **19th and 20th September 2025.**

Annual Retreat: **20th September Evening to 25th September Afternoon**

➤ Group II

Capacity Building Programme : **16th and 17th October 2025**

Annual Retreat: **17th October Evening to 22nd October, Afternoon**

Forum Meetings

- Local Bursar's Meeting: **12th and 13th July 2025**
- Mission Forum Meeting: **16th and 17th August 2025**
- Superior's Forum Meeting: **19th August 2025**
- SAIM Forum Meeting: **26th and 27th November 2025**
- Formation Forum Meeting: **01st and 02nd December 2025**
- Education Forum Meeting: **07th and 08th February 2026**



**“ If you are humble nothing will touch you,
neither praise nor disgrace, because you
know what you are”**

Mother Teresa

Reconstituted Forum Groups

Mission Forum

1. Agnelo Fernandes: Convenor

2. Melroy Almeida: Secretary

3. Peter Dominic
4. Domy Thomas
5. Anto Varghese
6. Bijay Kerketta
7. Gijo Francis
8. Jose Mudavankunnel
9. Philip Maleparambil
10. Kamil Tete
11. Paul Xavier V.
12. Lajarus Soreng
13. Manu Joseph
14. Marcus Ruptake
15. Mathew John
16. Oscar Kujur
17. Sanjay Lakra
18. Philip Maleparambil
19. Richard Tirkey
20. Solomon Sahayaraj
21. Sujit Minj
22. John Ruptake
23. Marianus Kujur
24. Biraj Minj
25. Jagadish Tete
26. Roshan Minj
27. Aajo Therully
28. Ashok Minj
29. Georgekutty
30. Henry Nedumkallel
31. Jijo Punchayil
32. Kailash Hiwale
33. Raju Minj
34. Ranjit Tirkey
35. Anish George
36. Ashok Antony
37. Marianus Kerketta
38. Michael Raj
39. Robin Parapuram
40. Vincent Chettiar

41. Linus Joseph

42. Moises Goma

43. Rajesh Jayaseelan

44. Daniel Bara

45. Ruben Gilbert

46. Bimal Tirkey

47. Anup Pillai

48. Sainjin Benny

49. Clement Leonard

50. Lambert Ekka

51. Amrit Lakra

Education Forum

1. Allan Gonsalves: Convenor

2. Albin Joseph: Secretary

3. Anthony Amaladoss
4. Nobit Kombanathottathil
5. Arun. P
6. Amal R. Bandanadam
7. Ambrose Minj
8. Anil George
9. Ignathi Kshirsagar
10. Bosco. P
11. Christhu Raja
12. Deepak Kindo
13. John Parkhe
14. John Britto Muthuswamy
15. Peter Kujur
16. Simplicio Rocha
17. Vishwas Torne
18. Jnanamani Simon
19. Anson Kaliyath
20. Cyprian Dungdung
21. Patras Tirkey
22. Saiju Vettukallel
23. Hilarus Tirkey
24. John Peter
25. Michael Toppo
26. Silbester Kullu
27. Vinayanand Katru

SAIM Forum

1. Joseph Kailamangalam: Convenor

2. Anto Thomas: Secretary

3. Anand Kullu
4. Lalji P.
5. David Paul
6. Emmanuel Vattamattam
7. Yobu Melkie Sadhek S
8. Emil Tirkey
9. John Dive
10. Johnson Parikappally
11. Rajat Kumar Digal
12. Deepak Baa
13. Santosh Soreng
14. Kalyan Battula
15. Gollapudi Joseph
16. Santhosh Kumar
17. Amit Trikey
18. Rakhesh Kerketta
19. Peter Paul
20. Kulandai Raj
21. Shantwan Khutekar
22. Telesfor Lakra
23. Arun Kumar Ekka
24. William Anthony
25. Amit Baa
26. Peter Thomas
27. Anil Pandit
28. Ramesh Damala
29. Anoop Francis
30. Joseph Arulraj
31. Francis Venmenikattayil
32. Issac Mankulathil
33. Anto Deepak
6. Bijay Kerketta
7. Petrus Kullu
8. Jinoy Koply
9. Vincent Minz
10. Nevin Tete
11. Sameer Minj
12. Austin Correia
13. Barnabas Xalxo
14. Joseph Kalekattil
15. Lijohn K Jose
16. Joseph Plathottam
17. Joseph Pulloppillil
18. Wilson Abraham
19. Pius Gonsalves
20. Scaria Kadamkulam
21. Roshan Tigga
22. Ramesh Damala
23. Santhosh Kumar
24. Jnanamani Simon
25. Abin Baby
26. Thomas Kuttiankal
27. Sebastian Annaikandthil
28. Ignatius D'Costa
29. Alex Tigga
30. Charles Porimattathil
31. Henry Nedumkalel
32. Poomagan
33. Jomon Mathew

Formation Forum

1. Sandeep Tirkey: Convenor

2. Vinayanand Katru: Secretary

3. Anson Kaliyath
4. George Kurickal
5. Lalit Tigga

Obituary

- Mrs. Annakutty, 87 years, Mother of Fr. Mathew Kodamullil, Passed away on 21st May 2025.
- Ms. Maria Monteiro, 99 years old, Sister of Late Fr. Freddy, Passed away on 29th June 2025.
- Mr. V.M Paul, 90 Years, Paternal Uncle of Fr. Emmanuel Vattamattam, Passed away on 01st July 2025.
- Mr. Bipin Kerketta, 45 Years, Brother-in-Law of Fr. Santosh Soreng, Passed away on 01st July 2025.



Yours Fraternally in Christ

**Fr. Manoj Tirkey MSFS
Provincial Superior
Nagpur Province**

LIVE JESUS!