



NAGPUR PROVINCE

TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL

Dear Confreres,

Greetings of peace and joy in the Lord!

On the 15th of August, as we celebrate **the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, we are invited to reflect deeply on Mary's life - a life of listening, surrender, and faithful obedience to God's will. Her Assumption is not only a sign of her glorification but also a powerful reminder for us of the destiny that awaits all who wholeheartedly say **"Yes"** to the Lord. Mary's life teaches us to discern God's will, to devote ourselves entirely to fulfilling it, and to find joy in doing so. She was always ready to be sent, to serve, and to stand firm even in suffering, making her a true prophetic witness.



As religious and missionaries, we too are called to be prophetic signs of God's love and presence in today's world. This call takes on even greater meaning in our times, where faithfulness, humility, and spiritual clarity are deeply needed. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (2822) reminds us that doing God's will is not about mere duty but about responding to God's desire that all be saved and live in truth and love. To do His will is to live in service, charity, and commitment, becoming channels of hope and healing in our broken world.

St. Francis de Sales, our patron, beautifully reminds us: **"The will of God gives all things to those who cleave to it with love."** He also said, "Our greatest happiness is to be in God's will, no matter where we are or what we do." In our present context, this means choosing fidelity over comfort, being available for mission, welcoming the challenges of ministry, and living our vocation with gentleness and joy. It means speaking the truth with love and being present wherever we are sent, not just physically but with heart and spirit.

As we honour Mary, let us take inspiration from her and renew our own commitment to the Lord. May we, in every situation, say with her: "Behold the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). May each of us strive to live and be a visible sign of our charism, doing God's will with greater passion, zeal, and love in the mission entrusted to us.

At the same time, we also join our fellow citizens in celebrating **Independence Day**, a moment to thank God for the gift of our nation and the sacrifices of those who fought for its freedom. True freedom is not just political, but spiritual - the freedom to love, to serve, and to live in truth. As missionaries, let us commit ourselves to building a society rooted in justice, peace, and fraternity, contributing to the growth of our nation by living our Gospel values in every sphere of life.

Wishing you all a blessed celebration of the Assumption, a joyful Independence Day, and a fruitful month ahead.

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LOCAL BURSARS' MEETING



The Local Bursars' Meeting was held on the **12th and 13th of July 2025 at the MSFS Provincialate, Nagpur**. The gathering brought together 27 participants representing various communities across the Province. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen the financial management skills of the local bursars and to provide a platform for collaborative discussion on matters related to community finances.

Day 1: Saturday, 12th July 2025

The day commenced with input sessions led by two resource persons from Mankeshwar & Co., our official auditors. Mr. Al-Tamash and Mr. Vansh, both highly experienced in the field of finance, delivered well-structured and insightful presentations. They addressed key aspects of financial management and auditing, using practical examples to explain complex concepts in a simplified manner. The sessions were engaging and informative, providing much-needed clarity on day-to-day accounting practices.

The interactive nature of the presentations was further enhanced by the active participation of the confreres, who raised relevant questions and shared experiences from their respective communities. These exchanges enriched the learning environment and deepened the collective understanding of financial procedures and challenges. At the conclusion of the sessions, Fr. Anup Pillai, representing the organizing team and all the participants, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the speakers. He acknowledged their valuable contribution in equipping the bursars with practical tools and knowledge essential for efficient financial administration.

Later in the day, a dedicated sharing session was held, where each participant briefly presented the financial and administrative situation of their respective communities. This session provided a space for mutual learning and support. It also led to the emergence of several constructive suggestions aimed at improving financial practices and fostering greater transparency and accountability across communities.

Day 2: Sunday, 13th July 2025

The day began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Manoj Tirkey, our Provincial. In his homily and later during his formal address to the assembly, Fr. Provincial emphasized the importance of maintaining accurate documentation and up-to-date accounts. He acknowledged the critical role that local bursars play in the stewardship of community resources and encouraged greater diligence and collaboration in fulfilling this responsibility.

In his closing remarks, Fr. Provincial expressed appreciation for the presence and active participation of all the bursars, noting that their commitment and openness contributed significantly to the success of the meeting.

The gathering concluded with a brief vote of thanks delivered by Fr. Amrit Kujur. He extended gratitude to the Provincial, the resource persons, and the organizing committee for their efforts in making the meeting both meaningful and fruitful.

Conclusion:

The Local Bursars' Meeting served as a valuable opportunity for capacity-building, mutual sharing, and reflection. It reaffirmed the importance of good financial practices within our communities and the need for ongoing support and training. The positive spirit of collaboration and engagement displayed throughout the meeting was a testament to the shared commitment to responsible stewardship and community well-being.

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS AT FR. PETER MERMIER PRE-SCHOOL

Fr. Peter Mermier Pre-School in Janakpuri, New Delhi, marked a momentous occasion on **July 21, 2025**, with a grand ceremony to lay the foundation stone for its new building. The event which began at 4:00 pm symbolized the start of an exciting new chapter for the school's community. The solemn ceremony was led by Rev. Fr. Manoj Tirkey MSFS, Provincial Superior of Nagpur Province. He presided over the prayer service and blessed the foundation stone, thus officially inaugurating the construction project. His presence was a source of great inspiration, signifying the deeper spiritual and the administration's support behind this expansion.



The ceremony was given a boost by the presence of several esteemed members of MSFS confreres who served as main celebrants. The distinguished guests were Fr. Saiju Thomas, Principal, St. Francis de Sales Sr. Sec School, Fr. Arun Kumar Ekka, Office Administrator, SFS School, Delhi, Fr. Domy Thomas, Director SFS School, Delhi and Parish Priest of SFS Church, Fr. Allan Gonsalves, Principal SFS School, Jhajjar, and Fr. Amrit Lakra, Assistant Parish Priest, SFS Church. This collective presence of the leaders of the SFS family and the Local Church underscored the unity and shared vision for the school's growth.

The event was a true community celebration, drawing an enthusiastic crowd of teachers, staff, alumni, and parent representatives. Their attendance highlighted the deep commitment and shared excitement for the future of the school. The new building is envisioned not just as a physical structure, but as a place that will foster learning and growth for the local community for generations to come. This significant milestone is a testament to the school's dedication to providing a nurturing environment for its students and a bright future for all.



In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which mandates three years of foundational stage before Class 1, the expansion will address the growing need for additional classrooms. The new pre-primary school building is envisioned as a vibrant space dedicated to nurturing young minds and fostering creativity and also reflecting the institution's dedication in providing quality education and development opportunities for its young learners. We thank everyone for the prayers and wishes.

Fr. Saiju Thomas MSFS

RENEWED IN SPIRIT, REKINDLED IN MISSION SUPERIOR GENERAL'S VISIT TO THE NAGPUR PROVINCE 2026

The forthcoming visit of Rev. Fr. Johnson Kallidukil, MSFS, our beloved Superior General, to Nagpur Province from **5th January to 10th February 2026**, will be a moment of deep joy, renewal, and significance for every Fransalian of the Province. It is not merely an official visitation, but a pilgrimage of communion, rooted in our common vocation and mission.

This visit comes at a crucial time when the Church invites us to walk together as “Pilgrims of Hope” toward Jubilee 2025. In this light, the Superior General’s presence among us will rekindle our missionary zeal, awaken fresh enthusiasm, and renew our commitment to the charism entrusted to us by St. Francis de Sales and Fr. Peter Mermier.

As he journeys through our communities, this time will be a collective moment of discernment—a sacred opportunity to reflect on how we can respond more fruitfully and prophetically to the pastoral and social needs of our time. His fraternal guidance will help us align our ministries more deeply with the gentle yet courageous spirituality of our Patron and the missionary boldness of our Founder.

May this visitation truly ignite a new fire in our hearts and communities, making us more vibrant witnesses of God’s love in Central India, Chhotanagpur, Maharashtra, and beyond.

DE SALES MERMIERIAN HERITAGE RETREAT - 2025

It was indeed a privilege and a joy for me to attend the DSM Heritage Retreat 2025, in Annecy, France. Our group consisted of eight MSFS confreres, one from each Province of India and one from East Africa Province. Our journey started on 11th May 2025 for four of us from Mumbai Airport, two from Kerala and one from Hyderabad. We all met at Dubai and from there we proceeded to Geneva. Fr. Samuel Thomas received us at Geneva airport and took us to Annecy. We reached Annecy by 4.30 pm. and celebrated Mass. We stayed in a rented house of the sisters of St. Joseph of Annecy. They took good care of us.



From 12th to 16th May we had the directed retreat on the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales. Fr. Samuel Thomas was the preacher. From 16th May onwards we began our visits to the Heritage sites of the MSFS Congregation, that is, the places where St. Francis de Sales and Fr. Peter Mermier lived and worked. On 16th May we visited the Visitation Basilica. The nuns welcomed us and shared with us some information about their Congregation. The tombs of St. Francis de Sales, St. Jane Frances de Chantal and Fr. Peter Mermier are in the Basilica. Then we visited the Cathedral of Annecy where St Francis de Sales was Bishop.

On 17th May we went to Thorens the ancestral house of Fr. Peter Mermier. Fr. Peter Mermier's great, great grandniece welcomed us and served us snacks. Then we left for Chavanod and visited the Mother House of the Sisters of the Cross. Fr. Peter Mermier with Mother Echenier founded the Congregation of the Holy Cross. On 18th May we went to Paris. We visited the Notre Dame Cathedral, Eiffel Tower and the Sacred Heart Basilica. The Basilica is situated on the top of the hill from where we can have a nice view of the city of Paris. Tourists flock to visit the Basilica, the Cathedral and Eiffel Tower. On 19th May we went to Les Allinges, Thonon and Ville-la Grande. Ville-la Grande is a village in France on the boundary of Switzerland. During the Second World War our MSFS Fathers helped the Jews to escape to Switzerland. They saved about 2000 Jews from the Nazis. Unfortunately they were caught and killed by the German Army. Recently the Israeli Government posthumously honoured them with an Award.



Then we visited Thonon the capital city of Chablais where St. Francis de Sales worked to convert the Calvinists to Catholicism. During the day he would be in the city preaching to the Calvinists and the nights he spent in the castle at Les Allinges. The Chapel in which he prayed still exists. From the hill we get a beautiful view of the lake of Geneva. On 20th May we visited Notre Dame de la Gorge. There is a Chapel where the MSFS confreres has been staying there for many years. This place is in the range of the Alps Mountains. On 21st May we went to Ars Sur Formons and Lyon. This charming village is a place of pilgrimage to the Cure d' Ars, St. John Mary Vianney. The sanctuary is a place that exudes serenity. Ars became a place of pilgrimage even during his lifetime. Then we visited Lyon which is a beautiful and historic city that boasts of a wealth of cultural and culinary delights. We visited the Basilica of Notre Dame of Fourviere which sits atop a hill overlooking the city and offers breath taking views of Lyon.

On 22nd May we went to Geneva. First we visited our school in Florimont which is one of the best schools in Switzerland. We saw the United Nations office and then had lunch near the lake of Geneva. On 23rd May we came to Rome and stayed in our house which is very close to Vatican City. In the evening we went to see the Basilica of St. Paul and after supper we went to see Vatican City. On 24th May we said mass in St. Peter's Basilica. After Breakfast we went to see the Basilicas of St. John Lateran and Mary Major. On 25th May we saw the Pope at the window during the praying of the Angelus.

On 26th and 27th May we went to Assisi, Venice and Padua. At Assisi we said mass in the Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi. The next day we went to Venice where we saw St. Mark's Cathedral. On the way back we came to Padua where St. Anthony's Shrine is. We returned to Rome by 10.30 pm. It was a fantastic experience for all of us and we express our gratitude to the Congregation, the Province and all those who assisted us during this Heritage retreat.

APPOINTMENT OF FR. HENRY NEDUMKALLEL AS THE FIRST REGIONAL SUPERIOR OF MOZAMBIQUE DELEGATION



With joy and gratitude to God, we announce that Fr. Henry has been appointed as the first Regional Superior of the Mozambique Delegation. This historic moment marks a new chapter in the mission of our Congregation in Mozambique.

We congratulate Fr. Henry on this significant responsibility and assure him of our prayerful support as he undertakes this mission with faith, dedication, and zeal for the Lord's work. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen him in leading the Delegation towards growth in faith, fraternity, and service.

CONGRATULATIONS DEAR FR. HENRY

INFORMATION

FR. AMRIT LAKRA - STUDIES IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

We are pleased to inform you that Fr. Amrit Lakra is pursuing his Master's Degree in Theology, specialising in Systematic Theology, at Vidyajyoti College, Raj Niwas Marg, New Delhi.

APPOINTMENTS

DIACONATE MINISTRY

Name	Place
Bro. Febin Tom	Bhusawal
Bro. Abhijit Bhangra	Panderpally

RECONSTITUTED RETREAT GROUPS

GROUP-1 19TH TO 25TH SEPTEMBER (TILL NOON)

Agnelo Fernande, Ambrose Minj, Amirt Kujur, Amit Tirkey, Amrit Lakra , Anand Kullu, Anil Pandit Ratan, Anson Kaliyath, Anto Deepak, Anto Thomas, Anup Pillai, Arun Ekka, Austin Correia, Barnabas Xalxo, Bimal Tirkey , Biraj Minz, Bosco P, Clement Leonard , David Paul, Emil Tirkey, Emmanuel Vattamattam, Jacob Karamkuzhiyil, John Britto Muthuswamy, John Carvalho, John Dive, John Parkhe, Jomon Mathew, Joseph Gollapudi, Joseph Kailamangalam, Joseph Kalekattil, Kamil Tete, Kulandai Raj, Lalit Tigga, Lalji Pattathil, Lambert Ekka, Manoj Tirkey, Marianus Kujur, Mathews Kodamullil, Melroy Almeida, Michael Toppo, Nevin Tete, Oscar Kujur, Peter Thomas, Rakesh Kerketta, Ramesh Damala, Ranjit Lakra, Richard Tirkey, Roshan Minj, Sainjin Benny, Sandeep Tirkey, Santhosh Kumar, Scaria Kadamkulam, Thomas Kuttiankal, Vincent Minj, William Anthony, Wilson Abraham, Sanjay Lakra

GROUP-2 16TH TO 22ND OCTOBER (TILL NOON)

Abin Baby, Albin Joseph, Allan Gonsalves, Amal Raju Bandanadam, Amit Baa, Anil George, Anoop Francis, Anthony Amaladoss, Arun P, Battula Kalyan, Bijay Kerketta, Christhu Raja, Cyprian Dungdung, Deepak Kindo, Domy Vallomkunnel, Hilarus Tirkey, Ignathi Kshirsagar, Ignatius D Costa, Jagadish Tete, Jinoy Kopy, Jnanamani Simon, John Peter, John Ruptake, Johnson Parikkapilly, Jose Mudavankunnel, Joseph Plathottam, Joseph Pullopillil, Lijohn K jose, Marcus Ruptake, Nobit Kombanathottathil, Patras Tirkey, Peter Dominic, Peter Kujur, Peter Paul, Petrus Kullu, Philip Meleparambil, Pius Gonsalves, Rajat Kumar Digal, Roshan Tigga, Saiju Vettukallel, Sameer Minj, Santhosh Soreng, Sebastian Annaikandathil, Selbestar Xalxo, Shantwan Khutekar, Silbester Kullu, Solomon Sahayaraj, Telesfor Lakra, Vinayanand Katru, Vishwas Torne, Barse Vishal yakub, Yesudoss L, Deepak Baa,

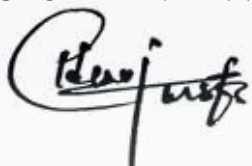
OBITUARY

- Mrs. Juleta Dungdung, 66 Years, Mother of Fr. Cyprian Dungdung, Passed away on 05th August 2025.
- Mrs. Elikutty(Elizabeth) Joseph, 82 years, Maternal Aunty of Fr. Joseph K. Passed away on 07th August 2025.

**HUMILITY MAKES OUR LIVES ACCEPTABLE TO GOD,
MEEKNESS MAKES US ACCEPTABLE TO MEN.**

YOURS FRATENALLY IN CHRIST

-SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES



FR. MANOJ TIRKEY MSFS
PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR
NAGPUR PROVINCE