



Nagpur Province

CIRCULAR

Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales

09 OCT 2025

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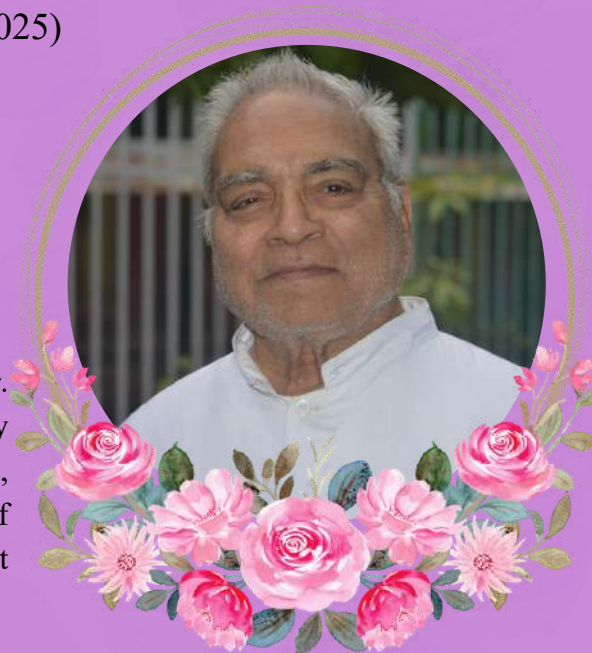
TO All the Members of the Province

IN LOVING MEMORY OF REV. FR. PIUS GONSALVES, MSFS

(18th October 1939 – 09th October 2025)

With deep sorrow and a profound sense of loss, we announce the passing away of **Rev. Fr. Pius Gonsalves, MSFS**, a beloved priest, educator, musician, and missionary of the **Nagpur Province**. He departed for his heavenly reward on 09th October 2025, leaving behind a legacy of unwavering faith, dedicated service, and joyful fraternity.

Born on **18th October 1939** in **Manickpur, Vasai**, to Mr. Anthony Gonsalves and Ms. Joanna, Fr. Pius was baptized shortly thereafter on **29th October 1939** at **St. Michael's Church**, Manickpur. From his earliest years, his life reflected the values of discipline, devotion, and a thirst for knowledge—qualities that would define his priestly and professional journey.



Formation and Vocation

Fr. Pius began his schooling at St. Philomena Primary School, Manickpur, and continued at Thomas Baptista High School, Papdy, Vasai. He pursued his Pre-University studies at SFS College, Nagpur (1962-63). Feeling called to religious life, he entered the Novitiate at Salesianum, Visakhapatnam (1963-64) and **made his First Religious Profession on 9th May 1964.**

He studied Philosophy at St. Charles Seminary and earned a BA from SFS College, Nagpur. His Regency (1967–69) was served at St. Francis Xavier High School, Siolim, after which he completed his Theological studies at JDV, Pune (1969–72). He made his Final Profession at Chikaldha on 9th May 1972, was ordained a Deacon the same year, and was finally **ordained a Priest on 28th October 1972** by [Late] Bishop Joseph Rosario MSFS at St. Michael's Church, Manickpur.

MSFS PROVINCIALATE

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Appointments and Mission

Fr. Pius lived his priesthood in service, marked by obedience and mission-centred living. His assignments included:

- 1973–76: Asst. Parish Priest, St. Francis de Sales Church, Aurangabad
- 1977–81: Parish Priest, St. Francis de Sales Church, Aurangabad
- 1981–90: Asst. Teacher, St. Mary's School, Jalna
- 1990–93: Principal, St. Mary's High School, Jalna
- 1993–2000: Principal, Gyan Mata Vidya Vihar, Nanded
- 2000–07: Mission-in-Charge at Kinwat and Founder of St. Mary's High School, Kinwat
- 2007: Superior, Mermier Sadan, Nagpur
- 2008: Founder, Fr. Peter Marie Mermier Pre School (now St. John's Public School), Nagpur
- 2012: Asst. Pastor, St. John the Evangelist Church, CIDCO, Aurangabad
- 2017 onwards: Resident member at Mermier Sadan, Nagpur, home for senior priests (Untill his Demise)

Scholar, Educator, and Musician

A passionate lifelong learner, Fr. Pius was the **first priest from the Nagpur Province** to earn a **PhD**. In 2004, he was conferred a Doctorate by Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded, for his thesis:

“Educational Management in Ancient System to Modern Education System.”

As an educator, he was deeply loved and respected by students and staff alike. His dedication to academic excellence, holistic development, and value-based education remains etched in the hearts of many.

He was also a talented **musician and singer**, playing the **trumpet and drums with remarkable skill**. His vibrant personality, booming laughter, and joy-filled presence brightened every gathering and community celebration.

A Life of Virtue and Discipline

Fr. Pius was known for his **strict adherence to the religious time-table, his love for community life**, and his **active participation in Apostolic and Diocesan events**. A gifted preacher and fluent in multiple languages, he was in demand for retreats, missions, and special occasions.

Even in his later years, Fr. Pius remained an inspiration with his **disciplined lifestyle, regular exercise, and healthy habits**—a testament to his enduring spirit and vitality.

Farewell, Beloved Father

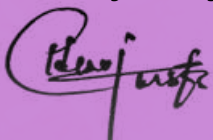
Fr. Pius Gonsalves has fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith (2 Tim 4:7). We thank God for the gift of his life and priesthood, and we entrust his soul into the merciful hands of our Lord.

May his **faithful service, dedicated mission, and radiant joy** continue to inspire all of us in our journey of faith.

Let us unite in prayer for the repose of his soul and give thanks for a life well-lived in the service of God and His people.

Yours Fraternally in Christ
Fr. Manoj Tirkey MSFS

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul rest in peace. Amen.



Provincial Superior
Nagpur Province

