

Missionaries of St Francis de Sales

Dibrugarh Province

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TA/11 CIRCULAR
Sep-15, 2024

MESSAGE

Dear confreres,

As we celebrate the feast of Our heavenly Patroness, the Mother of Compassion, on the 15th of September let us imbibe spiritual benefits from her patronage. Our founder, Servant of God Father Peter Mary Mermier has entrusted to her care all the members and the mission of our Congregation. The feast of Mater Dolorosa is celebrated on the 15th of September, the day following the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The theme of suffering is presented to the faithful in the liturgical celebrations on the 14th and 15th of September and thereby recalling the suffering that has brought for each one of us eternal redemption. Therefore, on the occasion of the Feast of our Patroness let us recall the importance of redemptive suffering in our Christian living. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). Spiritual life is generated through redemptive suffering. When we celebrate the feast of Mater Dolorosa, we celebrate a life that is generated through suffering. In normal life-situation suffering can leave a human being bitter and angry. But from the perspective of our Christian faith and spirituality suffering for the sake of love transforms us from within. It makes us capable of suffering with others and for others. Mater Dolorosa is for our Congregation the Mother of Compassion. This feast exhorts all of us to grow in the virtue of compassion. On this occasion, I would like to wish each one of you all the graces and blessings of the celebration of the feast of Mater Dolorosa. May our heavenly patroness be on our side in all our sufferings in our Mission.

Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu MSFS

Provincial, MSFS Dibrugarh Province

ANNUAL RETREAT OF THE PROVINCE IN KOHIMA

The First Annual Retreat of the province was held from July 08 to 13, 2024, at Mount Tabore Retreat Centre, Kohima, Nagaland. The retreat was animated by Rev. Fr. Tom Pannalakunnel MSFS (South West India Province).



RETREAT IN LIRIMOBA, BASAR

A retreat was conducted at St. Antony's Church, Lirimoba, under the Holy Rosary Parish, Basar, on July 27th and 28th. The retreat was led by resource persons Mr. Joshy, his son DePaul, Miss Angela, and Miss Cicily. It was attended by 60 parishioners, mainly from the villages of Ligo and Lirimoba, both villages under Holy Rosary Parish in Basar. Some Christians from other denominations also participated.



UPPER ASSAM PARISH'S YOUTH MEET AT SILAPATHAR

The Fransalian Youth Convention of Dhemaji District was held at SFS Parish Silapathar from July 17th to 21st 2024. The event was led by Fr. Carlus and Fr. Luke Tanti, the youth directors, with support from other priests and nuns. The convention began with an inaugural Mass celebrated by Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu, Provincial Superior of the Dibrugarh Province. Around 140 participants from five parishes of upper Assam actively took part in the convention. (Reported by Fr. Joseph Chakkalackal)



CHARISMATIC RETREAT AT ST. MARY'S PARISH, AALO

St. Mary's Parish in Aalo hosted a charismatic retreat from 2nd to 4th of August 2024, led by Mr. Joshy Varghese and his team. The retreat was preceded by three days of house visits, during which the team personally engaged with parishioners, offering prayers and spiritual guidance to prepare them for the retreat. The program was concluded on 4th of August.



BLESSING AND INAGURATION OF ST. PETERS CHURCH : TADIN , AALO

For many years, the faithful of St. Peter's Church in Tadin village had longed to have a place of worship within their locality. The foundation stone was laid on 8th August 2023 by Fr Lukose Kavunkal. Within less than a year, on 2nd June 2024, the newly constructed St. Peter's Church was blessed and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu MSFS, the Provincial Superior of Dibrugarh Province. We thank all the benefactors who contributed towards the construction of this church (Reported by Fr. Lukose Kavunkal)



SILVER JUBILEE INAGURATION OF SFS SCHOOL PASIGHAT

The Silver Jubilee Year of SFS School, Pasighat, was inaugurated on June 8th, 2024, by Rev. Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu MSFS, Provincial Superior of the Dibrugarh Province. The event was attended by over 200 participants, including parents, students, priests and religious from Don Bosco Mebo, SFS Yingkiong, Fransalian Jonaj, and Sacred Heart Parish Likabali.



In his inaugural address, Rev. Fr. Tomson emphasized the MSFS's dedication to nurturing rural talents by providing value-based education, rooted in the belief that "the heart of education is the education of the heart." The program commenced at 11:00 AM with prayers and included the initiation ceremony for the LKG students. A vibrant cultural program followed, featuring performances and speeches. Dr. Dominic Pao, a School Management Committee member, and Rev. Fr. Varghese, the school manager, also addressed the gathering. A key moment of the event was the unfurling of the Jubilee flag, symbolizing the commencement of the year-long celebration. The event concluded at 1:00 PM, followed by lunch for the guests and teachers. (Reported by Fr. Jacob Mattathil)



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT SFS PARISH DHEMAJI

On the occasion of the 78th Independence Day of our country and the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother, SFS Parish Dhemaji celebrated the First Holy Communion of 12 children (8 girls and 4 boys). The children were well-prepared through three days of catechesis led by Sr. Pushpa S.H. and Fr. Antony Eattikattil, MSFS. The celebration, officiated by Rev. Fr. Sudhir Hasda, Parish Priest of Christ the King, Gogamukh, was attended by many faithful.

(Reported by Fr. Joseph Thazhathukunnel)



ANNUAL RETREAT AT HOLY ROSARY PARISH, PURUL

The annual retreat of Holy Rosary Parish began on August 9th and concluded on August 18th, 2024. It was held in four main villages of the parish: Purul Center, Oinam, Thingba Khunou, and Koide. The retreat was led by Rev. Fr. Belo Francis and his team from the Holy Redeemer Retreat Center in Kaying. People from the parish attended the sessions in each village. (Reported by Fr. Kurian Ovelill)



BLESSING OF THE NEW MULTIPURPOSE HALL AT SFS SCCOOL AALO

On August 17, 2024, a newly constructed multipurpose hall at SFS School Aalo was blessed and inaugurated by Fr. Tomson Aerathedathu, the Provincial Superior of the MSFS Dibrugarh Province. The hall will serve various purposes for the school and the hostel, providing a space for different activities including liturgical services



FREE MEDICAL CAMP ORGANISED BY FAST

The Social Service wing of the MSFS Dibrugarh Province, FAST in collaboration with Assam Rifles and the S.D. Sisters organized two free medical camps in Manipur. The first camp was held on 1st September 2024 in Koide Village, under Purul Parish, where around 150 patients received medical care.

The second camp took place on 2nd September 2024 at a refugee camp in Phaijang Village, benefiting another 160 individuals. The refugee camp is currently home to nearly 600 people. This medical camp provided needed health care to many, and we pray that peace may soon prevail in Manipur.



GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF OUR ARRIVAL IN NORTH EAST

The Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (MSFS) - Dibrugarh Province joyfully invite you to the Golden Jubilee Eucharistic Celebration, marking 50 years of MSFS presence in Northeast India.

Date: 24 October 2024

Venue: St. Francis De Sales Church, Silapathar

Main Celebrant: His Grace Most Rev. John Moolachira, Archbishop of Guwahati, with the Bishops of Itanagar, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Imphal and Kohima.

Program Schedule:

- 04:15 PM: Arrival
- 04:30 PM: Holy Eucharist
- 06:00 PM: Felicitation
- 07:00 PM: Dinner



Sacerdotal GOLDEN JUBILEE

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Fr George Parambukattil

Rev. Fr. George Parambukattil was born on 07-07-1951 to Mathew and Annamma in Elampally, diocese of Pala. After his schooling, he joined the seminary and made his first religious profession on 04-05-1971 at Salesianum, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. He completed his philosophical studies in Fathimagiri, Nilambur, in the year 1970, and did his practical training in St. Aloysius Anglo-Indian School, Vizag. He completed his theological studies in St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Bangalore in 1975. He was ordained deacon on 04-01-1975 at Vinayalaya, Bangalore, and was ordained priest on 04-08-1975, St. Mary's Church, Anickad. He was one of the pioneers to go to North-East India in 1975. He worked in Holy Family Parish, Rongjeng in the Diocese of Tura from 1975 till 1978 as an assistant parish priest.

He was the parish priest of the newly opened parish of Nongalbibra from 1979 until 1983 and was the Provincial Bursar and Councillor of the newly erected region of North-East Vice-Province. From 1988 he was the Rector of the Aspirants at Medziphema. From 1992 he was the parish priest of SFS parish Dhemaji. From 1996 – 2002 Fr. George was the Provincial Superior of the North-East India Province.

Fr. George has contributed much to the formation mission and education. He has been the Provincial of the erstwhile Northeast India Province, Rector of SFS Seminary, and Principal of St. Joseph's College, Jakhama. He served the congregation as the General Councillor in charge of Education for 12 years. Besides these, he was also the member of the General Chapters of 1989, 2001, 2007, 2013, and 2019. His commitment to the field of education even won him national awards like the Rashtriya Gaurav award and the Best Principal of India award by the All-India Association for Christian Higher Education.

APPOINTMENTS/ MINISTRIES

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Place of Appointment</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Period</i>
1	St. Aloysius Anglo-Indian School, Vizag	Regent	1971-1972
2	Holy Family Church, Rongjeng	Asst. Parish Priest	Sep '75-Dec '78
3	SFS Church, Nongalbibra	Parish Priest	Jan '79-1983
4	SFS Bhavan, Guwahati	Bursar	1983-1988
5	SFS Seminary, Medziphema	Rector	1989- Apr '92
6	SFS Church, Dhemaji	Parish Priest	Apr '92-1996
7	SFS Bhavan, Guwahati	Provincial	1996- 2002
8	St. Joseph's College, Jakhama, Nagaland	Vice Principal	2002 – 2003
9	St. Joseph's College, Jakhama, Nagaland	Principal	2003 – 2006
10	SFS College, Church, Along, Arunachal Pradesh	Parish Priest & Principal	2006 – 2008
11	Vinay Sadan , Janakpuri, New Delhi	General Councilor in charge of Education	2008 - 2011
12	MSFS House Malkajgiri, Hyderabad	General Councilor in charge of Education	2011-2019
12	SFS Seminary, Medziphema	Rector	May 15, 2019
13	SFS College Aalo	Superior	2022-



Sacerdotal GOLDEN JUBILEE

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Fr. Kurian Pattimackel

Rev. Fr. Kurian Pattimackel was born on 20 May 1947 at Puthuvely, Kerala. After his early formation at the SFS Seminary in Ettumanoor, Kerala, and novitiate at Salesianum, Vishakhapatnam, he made his first profession in 1971. He did his theological studies at St. Peter's Seminary, Bangalore, and was ordained a priest on August 5, 1975, at St. Sebastian's Church, Mutholapuram, Kerala. He is an unwavering, long-serving priest of the MSFS Dibrugarh Province, in the states of Nagaland and Manipur.

Decades of fruitful pastoral ministry, in particular, in the Northeastern regions of India, have been the hallmark of the life of Fr. Kurian. He has been the parish priest and principal in many places, among which are St. Xavier's Church, Jaluki, Nagaland, and St. Dominic Savio Church, Tungjoy, Manipur. His deep commitment to pastoral care has taken him to various remote locations, where he served parishes and educational institutions with devotion and compassion. He has been rendering his services to our congregation for many years in various leadership roles, such as Vice-Provincial Councillor, Provincial Councillor and Dibrugarh Regional/provincial Councillor. Presently, he serves as Spiritual Director at SFS Seminary, Medziphema. He has taken keen interest in the promotion of local vocations.



APPOINTMENTS/ MINISTRIES

	<i>Place of Appointment</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Period</i>
1.	St. Xavier's Church, Jaluki, Nagaland	Asst. Priest	1975 – 1977
2.	St. Xavier's Church, Jaluki, Nagaland	Parish Priest/Principal	1977 – 1980
3.	St. Paul's Church, Peren, Nagaland	Parish Priest/ Principal	1980 – 1985
4.	St. Dominic Savio Church, Tungjoy, Manipur	Parish Priest/ Principal	1985 – 1988
5.	SFS Church, Medziphema, Nagaland	Parish Priest	1988 – 1993
6.	Holy Cross Church, Phaibung khullen, Manipur	Parish Priest/ Principal	1994 – 2001
7.	SFS Church, Kangpokpi, Manipur	Parish Priest/Principal	2001 – 2008/9
8.	St. Paul's Church, Peren, Nagaland	Parish Priest	2008/9- 2014
9.	SFS Church, Nagaland	Parish Priest	2014/6 - 2016
10	St Andrew's Church, Mangkolemba	Parish Priest	2016 - 2019
11	SFS Seminary, Medziphema	Spiritual Director	July 15, 2019.



Sacerdotal GOLDEN JUBILEE

Fr. Jose Mundoly



Rev. Fr. Jose Mundoly was born on 5th September 1948 in Mattathipara, Kerala and grew up in a devout Syro-Malabar Catholic family. His early faith formation began at Holy Cross Church in Mattathipara, where he was baptized and confirmed. His desire to be a priest and a missionary began to take shape during his minor seminary, philosophy, novitiate theology and other stages of formation. He was ordained a deacon on 04-01-1975 at Vinayalaya, Bangalore. He was ordained a priest on 04-08-1975 by Rt. Rev. Joseph Pallickaparampil. Fr. Jose has occupied several pastoral and leadership positions throughout as a priest, including parish priest, novice master, rector and provincial Councillor etc. He has worked in several parishes and formation houses across India; in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, and Nagaland. Fr. Jose is admired for his caring leadership style, pastoral concern as well as commitment to forming young priests. He left behind joyful memories wherever he rendered his pastoral and spiritual services.

Fr. Jose's has worked in remote areas of Nagaland and Assam. He was known for his kindness and friendly nature. His leadership as a Rector and Novice master further exemplified his ability to relate with young people and nurture them spiritually.

His life was marked by humility, faith, and an unwavering commitment to serving God and His people, embodying the true essence of Salesian Spirituality.



APPOINTMENTS/ MINISTRIES

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Place of Appointment</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Period</i>
1	SFS Seminary, Ettumanoor	Regent	1971 - 1972
2	Holy Cross Church, Dimapur	Assistant Priest	1975-1977
3	Holy Cross Church, Dimapur	Parish Priest	1977-1978
4	SFS Church, Medziphema	Parish Priest	1979-1984
5	Salesianum, Visakhapatnam	Socius	1984-1988
6	Vinaya Bhavan, Thamarassery	Rector	1988-1992
7	MSFS Novitiate, Ghaspani & Chabua	Novice Master	1992-1995
8	SFS Church, Jonai	Parish Priest	1995- 2002
9	SFS Church, Dhemaji	Parish Priest	2002 – 2006
10	Christ King Parish, Gogamukh, Assam	Parish Priest	2006 – 2008
11	SFS Church, Telam, Assam	Parish Priest	2008 – 2008/10
12	Catholic Church, Rukminigaon, Guwahati	Parish Priest	2008/10- 2011/11
13	MSFS Novitiate, Chabua	Novice Master	2011/11- 2018
14	SFS Parish, Telam	Parish Priest	June 5, 2018



CANONICAL VISIT TO ST. MARY'S PARISH AALO ON JUNE 01 - 02, 2024



CANONICAL VISIT TO ST. JOSEPH'S MISSION KAYING ON AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 01, 2024



CANONICAL VISIT TO SFS MISSION YINGKIOONG ON SEPTEMBER 07-08, 2024



APPOINTMENTS

- **Fr. Varghese Paul Manickathan** is appointed Principal of SFS school Pasighat with the effect from 09th September 2024.
- **Fr. .Jacob Mattathil** is appointed the associate priest of St. Paul's Parish Peren with the effect from 10th September 2024.
- **Fr. Standfort** is appointed associate priest of SFS Parish Pasighat with the effect from 09th September 2024.
- **Dn. Kevin** is appointed in Tato for the Diaconate ministry with the effect from 29th July 2024.

THANKS / CONGRATULATIONS

- **Fr. Jiji Konthananickal**, an affiliated member of the Dibrugarh Province, for visiting the MSFS provincial house Silapathar during his holidays.
- **Bro. Ateet Minj, Bro. Bibin Thekkekutt and Bro. Wanphrangsngi Soshang** are promoted to the Perpetual Profession on 30th September 2024 at MSFS Study House Shillong.
- **Fr. Andreas Syngkli** for obtaining B.Ed. admission in Daying Ering College in Pasighat.
- **Fr. Tom Pannalakunel MSFS** (South West India Province) for the Professional Psychological assistance given to the Novices in MSFS Novitiate House Chabua.
- **Fr. Anthony Avittapallil** has successfully completed the requirement of Doctoral studies at Christ University Bangalore.
- **Our Vocation Promotion Team** for getting 20 new minor seminarians at Vinaya Bhavan Seminary, Thamarassery.

INFORMATION

SECOND ANNUAL RETREAT

The Second annual retreat of the province will be held from **07th through 12th October 2024 in Christashram Pastoral Center at Mancotta, Dibrugarh**. The retreat will be preached by Most .Rev. Bishop Dennis Panipitchai (The auxilliary bishop of Miao)

BON -VOYAGE

- **Fr. Alock Tigga** will be going for the SPA program in France on the 26th of September. We wish him all the best and abundant blessings.
- We extend our warm wishes to **Fr. James Pattarakalayil** for his holiday ministry in Germany till the 2nd of October 2024.

ANNUAL NATIONAL GATHERING OF PMP

Annual national gathering and prayer days for the confreres who are engaged in preaching Ministry in India will be held in MSFS Provincial House Silapathar from **October 28 to November 1, 2024**. **Dibrugrah province cordially welcomes all the confreres from other provinces**

COMMUNICATION

- **Fr. George Kunnel** is relieved of all his services in the Diocese of Tucson in the USA on the 10th of September 2024.
- **Fr. Abraham Ponvelil** seeks to join our province and he is temporarily affiliated to the MSFS Community of Imphal.
- **Bro. Albin Anthony** has reached Brazil and will be beginning the language course shortly

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Fr. Vipin George Edakazhickal

Assumption seminary
2600 W. Woodlawn Ave,
San Antonio,
TX 78228, USA

LET US PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

- Bro. Thomas Malapuram MSFS (93), belonging to Visakhapatanam Province.
- Fr Joseph Kallacheril MSFS (K.V. Joseph) (85), belonging to south-west India Province.
- Sr. Ronjitha Daimary SCC, beloved elder sister of Fr. Ajith Daimay.
- Mr. George Thomas (87), father of Fr. James Pattarakalayil

- Mr. Benny Varghese (59), elder brother of Fr. Vipin George Edakazhickal.
- Mrs. Annama Joseph Thamarakattil (82), the maternal aunt of Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil.
- Mr. Chithung Kapangkhu (83), paternal uncle of Fr. Joel Chithung.
- Miss: Carmen Dona Bestin (05), grand-niece of Fr. Vijoy Velickakath.
- Mr. Jobin Thadathil (33), younger brother of Fr. Jaimon Thadathil.

**"Mary's sorrow was great, but her love was greater,
making her the perfect model of patient suffering."
St. Francis De Sales .**



FR TOMSON AERATHEDATHU MSFS
(PROVINCIAL, MSFS DIBRUGARH PROVINCE)