

HOLY TRINITY CAPUCHIN PROVINCE
KARNATAKA, INDIA

Saccidananda, Capuchin Provincialate, P.B.No.1060, Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560 010

PC 02/10

K.101.11

Admonitions of St. Francis of Assisi – I

The happy and the unhappy Religious

St. Francis of Assisi often advised his brothers and gave them admonitions while he was alive and some of them have been preserved. They are exhortations or reminders to the early friars concerning various points of the ascetical life. Twenty-eight of them have been recorded under the title: “The Words of Admonition of the Holy Father Francis” in the Assisi Manuscripts 338. As a foreword to the circular let me share some of my personal reflections on these admonitions of our Seraphic Father.

The admonition No. 19 has the title: “The happy and the unhappy religious”. It reads as follows: *Blessed the religious who refers all the good he has, to his Lord and God. He who attributes anything to himself hides his master’s money (Mt. 25: 18) in himself and even what he thinks he has shall be taken away (Lk. 8: 18).*

First of all a happy religious is the one who has an experience of God and hence he is centred on God and not on himself. Hence he can refer ‘all the good he has to God’. It means he lives at the centre of the circle of religious life and never at the periphery. Even if he moves sometimes a little away from the centre, he realizes it immediately and tries to move towards the centre. His life is a constant movement towards the centre of his being. Hence, he has accepted himself as he is and contented with everything around him. He can accept others as they are and also accept the existential situation and the context in which he lives.

Happiness is not just all the times smiling, joking, laughing and going around making fun. The happiness St. Francis refers to is, an interior disposition of mind and heart. It manifests itself in everything what a person does. It defines what a person is and not what a person has. The contrary is also true. Unhappiness also manifests itself what a person does - many a times under frustration and depression - especially when he carries out evil designs just to assert his selfish ego. How to characterize such a religious? Indeed, this is the greatest problem he can give to others. In this sense he will lose the friendship and good will of others and that might lead to a greater unhappiness. A good religious according to St. Francis is a happy religious. Hence, his insistence is on the virtue of joy, in living our call to religious life.

- Br. Vincent G. Furtado OFM Cap

PROVINCIAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Formation of new Fraternities

We are grateful to all our brothers for their cooperation in the formation of new Fraternities. The process is becoming more and more complex for a large province like ours. It also brings to the fore the changing attitude of brothers in the province. The interest to respond to the needs of the province and the missions is dwindling. Few are willing to take up challenging and pioneering ministries. Nevertheless, there are brothers who are also generous; self sacrificing and desirous of facing hardships, but their number is certainly diminishing.

Before the Chapter we have deliberately circulated the 'Transfer Procedures' agreed upon during the Superior's meeting of 2007. It is still tragic to see that some brothers have not heeded the points resolved for observation by the Superiors. Certain irreligious and unhealthy incidents have been repeated in some places on the occasion of transfers. These incidents - sagaciously instigated by our own friars - do not speak well of our brotherhood.

2. Appointments and Placements

- Br. Alpheus Antony D'Souza - Vicar, Dayalbagh Ashram, Ujire.
 - Br. Arthur Menezes - Parish Priest, Banakal.
 - Br. Gerald Lobo - Administrator, Saccidananda, Bangalore.
 - Br. William Prabhu - Asst. Director Postulancy, Monte Mariano (June, 15).
 - Br. Prasanna Kumar - Kanchanpur Mission, Tripura (July, 7).
 - Br. Ajit Rodrigues - Japan Custody (August, 30).
 - Br. Satish Kumar - Kripalaya, Mysore.
 - Br. Vincent Praveen Kumar - Japan Custody (August, 30).
 - Br. Anthony Raj Kudlur - Asst. Director and Treasurer, Clara Vihar, Pothnal.
 - Br. Vincent Balaraj - Asst. Director and Treasurer, Asha Kiran, Bhadravati.
 - Br. Manoj Victor D'Souza - Provincial Secretary, Saccidananda, Bangalore.
 - Br. Vincent D'Souza - Local Director Vimukti, Banakal.
 - Br. Dancy Sunil Martis - Treasurer, Trinity School, Shivally, Udupi.
-
- Br. Anand Santmajor is in Atoizu (Nagaland) to help our Brothers in the Missions. He will continue there till November end.
 - Br. Brian Alphonso, candidate for non-clerical brotherhood will begin his one year of Diploma in Franciscan Spirituality course in FISI, Shanthi Sadhana from June 19, 2010.

- Br. Pradeep Rohan Menezes has been assigned another year of Fraternity Experience in Darshan College Campus. Br. Shanta Prakash from the Post Novitiate stage of formation has been detained and asked to help in Shiggaon Mission for a year. Br. Ivan Dias from Lower Kasarkod has left the Capuchin Order for good.

3. Promotions

The following Brothers from the First year of theology have been promoted to the Second year of Theology: Bros. Sunil Thomas Cornelio, S. Vinoto Justin Sumi, Johnson Paul D' Mello, Ivan Melwyn D' Souza, Vincy Ignatius D' Costa, Avinash Rudolph Rodrigues, Alfredo Antao Jose Mario Seville, Michael Joseph Albuquerque.

The following Brothers have been promoted to the Order of Diaconate: Bros. Royston Ranvil D' Souza, Alwyn Pascal D' Silva, Deepak Fernandes, Lancy Jerald Fernandes, Roshan Rosario, Rohan Maxim D' Souza, Marcus Fernandes, Bruno Leitao, Rodney Rebello, Brian Pinto, Elridge Jude D' Souza.

Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras, our Archbishop will ordain these our brothers as Deacons on June 29, 2010 at 10.00 a.m. at Darshan Institute of Theology, DSA, Bangalore. Please remember to pray for these our new Deacons. We wish them all a very fruitful diaconate ministry.

4. Superior's Retreat and the Meeting

The Superior's Retreat will be held in the Pastoral Centre at Bajjodi, Mangalore from 16th evening to 21st evening of August 2010 and thereafter the Superior's Meeting will take place on 22nd and 23rd August 2010. All the Local Superiors of Fraternities in Karnataka and Bhopal as well as the Vice Provincial of Goa will be present for the entire programme.

5. Missions

The Bishop of Aizawl was requesting constantly to take up Kanhmun Mission in Mizoram. Br. Alban D'Souza has been asked to make further study of the Mission and consult our brothers working in Mizoram. Depending on the feasibility report obtained from him, the Definitory will take further steps.

6. CCMSI Meeting

The CCMSI Meeting was held on 24th to 25th of May 2010 at Guwahati, Assam. Following are the recommendations and conclusions:

(1) As Br. General Minister has made obligatory one year of Post Novitiate programme for all Indian jurisdictions, the CCMSI has decided to have the programme either immediately after the Novitiate or immediately after the Philosophy. The "regency" or the Fraternity Experience could be optional.

(2) The CCMSI has also approved our collaboration in Sri Lanka with the Brothers from Tamil Nadu, especially for pastoral ministry in the Jaffna area.

(3) To recommend the General Definitory to raise the Vice Province of Goa to a Province and the Nirmala Custody of North East to Vice Province.

(4) To organize common “special formation” for all the jurisdictions of North East. Accordingly, the philosophy students will stay in the Capuchin House, Dimapur and the Theology students will reside in the campus of Sacred Heart College, Shillong, for which a friary has to be planned. The students will attend classes in the SDB seminaries close by.

(5) The Preparatory course for Solemn Profession in 2011 will be held in FISI.

(6) The General Office of Formation will hold a seminar on General Minister’s Circular “Fanning the Flames of our Charism” for all the Rectors and Directors of formation houses in India at four places. The Seminar for Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra jurisdictions will be in Bangalore from 21st – 25th January 2011.

(7) General Minister has sent a new document “HIV in our Houses” for study and reflection. We shall discuss the document during the Superior’s Meeting.

7. Results of Students in Aspirancy

Among the 14 II PUC student brothers at Dayalbagh Ashram, thirteen have passed in I class and one in the II class. We Congratulate the Director, Staff and the Students for their good success.

8. SSLC Results

The results of SSLC students in St. Anthony’s Institutions, Gangondanahalli are as follows: English Medium 85.6% and Kannada Medium 68%. We thank the entire Management and Staff for their hard labor towards this success.

9. The Next Definitory Meeting

The next Definitory Meeting will be held at Monte Mariano, Farangipet on 5th and 6th of July, 2010. The Definitory will be meeting the Vocation Promotion and SFO Commissions on 6th July 2010.

10. Provincial's Programme

June, 2010

1	DITh: Inauguration of the Academic year and Staff Meeting.
2 – 8	Provincialate
9	5.00 p.m.: Finance and Building Commission Meeting.
10	Celebration of the Feast of Holy Trinity at the Provincialate.
11 – 16	Ashirvanam Monastery
17 – 18	Provincialate
19	Blessing of the new building of Infant Jesus School Chikmagalur
20 – 26	Provincialate
27	CEB Meeting at Saccidananda
28	Provincialate
29	DITh – Diaconate Celebrations
30	Provincialate

JULY, 2010

1 - 3	Provincialate
4 - 5	Monte Mariano; 5th, Def. meeting. 6 th St. Anne' Friary – Commission Meetings: A. M: Vocation Promotion and P.M.: SFO.

Date: June 3, 2010

Place: Saccidananda, Bangalore - 10

**Br. Vincent Gabriel Furtado OFM Cap
Provincial Minister**