

HOLY TRINITY PROVINCE
KARNATAKA, INDIA

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

PC 04/07

K.101.11

Rule 1209 (3)
Those who wish to adopt this life

Once St. Francis on his journey visited a family with his companion and the host treated him with extraordinary courtesy. Having left the house, Francis spontaneously expressed himself:

That gentleman certainly would make a good member of our order: he is so grateful to God, so kind to his neighbour, so generous to the poor, and so cheerful and courteous to guests. For, dear brother, courtesy is one of the qualities of God, who courteously gives his sun and his rain and everything to the just and to the unjust. And courtesy is a sister of charity. It extinguishes hatred and keeps love alive. (Little Flowers, I: 37).

St. Francis in Chapter Two of the Rule 1223, specifies an important condition for those who wish to adopt the Life of the Gospel, namely, that they should go and sell all they have and take care to give it to the poor. This is a condition, the basis of which is the evangelical counsels, a life founded on renunciation and ascetic ideals emerged in the monastic tradition of the Church. But according to the mind of St. Francis, which becomes clear in a quotation like above, only renunciation and ascetic practices do not make one a “good member” of the Order founded by him. Sometimes asceticism can make one arrogant, stubborn and proud. Asceticism therefore needs to be complemented with other human qualities in order to become a “good friar”. If we can integrate our thinking patterns and ascetic practices with certain qualities of heart, we shall certainly become mature, holy and good friars according to the mind of St. Francis.

It is really wonderful that St. Francis insists on such qualities of heart in every friar who desires to become a member of the Order. He speaks of gratitude, kindness, generosity, cheerfulness and most of all courtesy. He gives a very imaginative attribute to Courtesy: “Courtesy is the sister of charity” says he. Charity is made explicit through deeds and words. But courtesy is something of an ‘attitude’, a very human perspective emerging directly from the heart. It affirms that our attitude towards our brothers, sisters, friends, towards the strangers, towards those who dislike us, hate us, oppose us and let us down determines the virtue of courtesy. In other words, the way you deal with people and

situations make explicit how courteous you are. Courtesy goes along with kindness, sympathy, patience and tolerance. A courteous person does not offend the sentiments of the other, sacrifices his own views and principles to accommodate the other, controls his feelings not to hurt the other and readily goes forward to offer forgiveness and reconciliation. These are the qualities to be found in a “good friar”, in a candidate who desires to seek admission into the Order. Indeed, the above quotation provides us some basic principles to evaluate the growth of a candidate in the Fraternity as a Friar. It also provides sufficient points to evaluate our own life as a ‘Capuchin Friar Minor’.

Soon we shall celebrate the feast of our Father St. Francis. Already the preparations are in the offing. We would certainly make ourselves worthy of being complimented by St. Francis, as he did on that day after his visit to that family if we are really courteous towards all. Greetings to all of you for a very joyous celebration of the Feast of St. Francis.

- Br. Vincent G. Furtado OFM Cap.

Other Communications:

1. Inauguration of the New Novitiate House in Sri Lanka: “Monti Fest”, the Feast of the Nativity of our Heavenly Mother was the occasion for the inauguration our new Novitiate House **St. Pio Friary**, in Mawila, Nathandiya in Sri Lanka. Br. Peter Rogers, the General Definitor represented the General Minister, Br. Adri Geerts the Provincial Minister of Belgium was present as the donor of the house, Br. Francis Nadeem the Vice Provincial Minister of Pakistan represented the Vice Province from where the novices will be sent to this house for their Franciscan formation. I represented the Holy Trinity Province and all the formators who render their service to the Mission. Br. Lawrence Dilraj deserves congratulations for getting ready the house within seven months, well furnished and fully ready for occupation. Entire programme was well organized by our brothers under the able leadership of Br. Norbert D Souza, the Provincial Delegate. This year there are seven novices four from Pakistan one from Sri Lanka and two from our Province.

The inauguration of the novitiate house marks the official beginning of the implantation of the Order in Sri Lanka. We hope that not only the Pakistani novices but also the native candidates from north and south, east and west will come and fill the novitiate house and the Capuchin Order will bloom and spread all over the country. May we become true messengers of Peace in a land where hatred divides the nation horizontally between north and south.

2. 800th Centenary of the Rule 2009: To mark the 800th centenary of the Rule 1209, we have proposed a Seminar to help us to study and reflect over the rule so that we might capture its spirit and renew our commitment to it. The seminar will be conducted in three batches the participants of which will be the three groups of Electoral Roll. The first batch will be attending the seminar from 1st to 4th of April 2008. The senior group of the electoral roll of the 4th Provincial Chapter 2007 (from Br. Apolinaris to Br. Antony Vas)

will constitute the participants of the seminar. All senior brothers, please block the dates, the attendance is obligatory. The venue will be announced later.

3. Congratulations to our Jubilarians: Hearty Felicitations to our Golden Jubilarians Brs. Tarcy Mathias and Archie Lews who were ordained priests on 4th June 1957. This year being the Golden Jubilee year of their Priestly Ordination, we congratulate them very heartily and join them to thank and praise the Lord for the gift of 50 years of fruitful priestly ministry. Ad multos Annos dear brothers.

Br. Peter Mendonca did his simple profession on 2nd June 1982. This year he celebrates the Silver Jubilee of his Religious Commitment. We extend to him our hearty felicitations and join him to thank the Lord for the gift of 25 years of dedicated and committed Religious Life.

4. Formation of Fraternities in Sri Lanka Mission:

**St. Anthony's Friary
Capuchin Formation House
Chilaw Road, Dalupotha, Negombo, Sri Lanka**

Br. Norbert D'Souza **Provincial Delegate & Director of Candidates**
Br. Veerus Concessao

**St. Pio Friary
Mawila, Nathandiya, Chilaw Road, Sri Lanka**

Br. William Andrade **Novice Master**
Br. Fredrick Braggs **Vice Novice Master & Treasurer**

**Padre Pio Nivasa
No. 50, Silver Sand Road
Pallansena South, Kochikade
Negombo, Sri Lanka**

Br. Joseph Franics **Director of the Postulants**
Br. Jeevan D'Mello **Assistant Director**

**Assisi Nivasa
217/2 Meddegama Road
Ampitya Kandy, Sri Lanka**

Br. Denis Prakash Lobo **Director**
Br. Gerald Wilson **Student**
Br. Nissanka Priyasad **Student**

5. Welcome Home: After six years of meritorious service in Sri Lankan Mission Br. Liguory Noronha returns to the Province to be the Spiritual Director in our Darshan Institute of Theology (DSA). The Order is indebted to him for his selfless work as a great and zealous pioneer in the new mission of the Order. He has played a double role

in the mission: as a pioneer in Sri Lanka mission and as a Formator for the novices of Pakistan. Thank you Br. Liguory for your services.

Br. Lawrence Dilraj Sequeira returns home after an eventful year of service to the same mission. He went with a special responsibility of establishing the Novitiate House, and returns, having successfully completed the task. Welcome home dear Br. Lawrence. He will be administrator of the Darshan College and the Theological Institute.

6. Capuchin Presence along the National Highway 48: Mrs and Mr. Sigmund Sequeira have donated to us two acres of land at Palya along the NH 48 between Hassan and Sakleshpur. The Bishop has agreed to establish a Parish in Palya with Balupet as sub-station provided we return the Banakal Parish back to the Diocese. The Definitory finds the proposal worthwhile accepting as there is lot of scope for development in Palya since it is situated at a central place (17 kilometers) between the two towns: Hassan and Sakleshpur. We express our gratitude to our donors and thank the Bishop for offering us a new parish.

7. New Capuchin Presence in Choitar, Imphal Archdiocese: Brs. Joel Rosario and John Bosco accompanied by Brs. Augustine and Yesudas reached Choitar on 1st July 2007. They celebrated Eucharist there. On 14th October 2007 will be the official inauguration of the Mission by the Archbishop of Imphal and installation of the first Parish Priest, Br. Augustine D'Souza OFM Cap. in the presence of the Provincial Minister. With this we can truly say that we have reached all the territories assigned to us by the Minister General for our Mission in North East. We wish Brs. Augustine and Br. John Bosco very fruitful and enriching ministry in Choitar and we also thank Br. Joel for helping us for three months by initiating capuchin presence in the Archdiocese.

8. Generous Donation from Bondel: Mrs. & Mr. Stany Philomena Monteiro have donated to us their property of 66 cents in Bondel (adjacent to Kerala Ursuline Sister's Convent and High School) along the Airport Road through a Will. There are three houses in the property. The land will come to us once both the couple go to their eternal reward. The land could be an extension of St. Anne's Friary and available for us for any ministry.

9. Extension of CCF to Pothnal: Through the relentless efforts of Br. Arun Lobo we have succeeded to extend the CCF project to Pothnal in Manvi Taluk. Br. Arun will organize the project there and Br. Jerry Lobo will be the local project manager.

10. New Life to DATI: Br. Agnel D'Cunha and the fraternity of Ujire deserve praise and appreciation for their efforts to give new life to Dayalbagh Agricultural Training Institute (DATI). There are 15 students from remote villages who do their diploma course integrated with PUC under NIOS scheme. We need to remember here that the land at Ujire is a gift from the government to DATI.

11. Br. Martin D'Silva to Vimukti, Ujire: Br. Martin D' Silva will proceed to Ujire Fraternity on 7th October and take the charge of Vimukti Ujire on 9th October 2007. We acknowledge the wonderful pioneering work he has done in Chikodi for eight years and wish him fruitful ministry in Ujire. Br. Arun will prepare himself to launch the central office of Social Welfare Activities at Kengeri in January 2008.

12. St. Anthony's Vice Province Goa: Convocation of the Chapter: At the request of the Vice Provincial and his council, the Definitory has granted permission to the Vice Provincial to convoke the fourth ordinary Vice Provincial Chapter of St. Anthony's Vice Province, Goa from 14th -16th April 2008. We wish our brothers a very fruitful chapter.

13. St. Bonaventure Vice Province: The procedures of raising the Vice Province into a Province have begun in full swing. The visitation by the General Definitors is also completed quite successfully. We can now await in the near future the announcement of the Province. Meanwhile, Mary Matha Vice Province of Andhra Pradesh Orissa, Pavanatma Vice Province, Kerala, and General Vice Province of Krist Jyoti, India also will be raised to the status of full-fledged Provinces.

14. Ministries abroad:

Br. V.J. Menezes has proceeded to Bahrain for a month's ministry in September 2007.

Br. Aloysius D'Souza will proceed to Dubai in October 2007

Br. Jossy Fernandes will proceed to Muscat for a few days in November 2007.

15. From Japan to India for Holidays: Br. Edwin Monis has come from Japan to India for his well deserved holidays. We wish him relaxing time in India.

16. Br. Henry Alva in Canada: Br. Henry Alva has reached Toronto in Canada and commenced his studies in Pastoral Counseling. We wish him success in his studies.

17. Condolences: We extend our belated sympathies to Br. Henry D'Souza who lost his beloved father, late Mr. Baptist D'Souza on May 1007 and to Br. Pradeep Rohan Menezes who lost his beloved father Mr. Paul Menezes on 2nd July 2007. While assuring our prayers for their beloved ones we regret very much for our delay to express our sympathies through the provincial circular.

Mr. Pascal Fernandes, the beloved Father of Br. Salvadore Fernandes went to his eternal reward on 25th August 2007. While extending our heartfelt condolences to Br. Salvadore Fernandes and the bereaved family, we pray for the departed soul.

We communicate to the province the demise of Mr. Jnanaprakash, the brother of our late Br. Louis D'Mello on 13th Sept. 2007 in Sri Lanka. Please pray for his soul.

18. Absence from the Province: As I will be away in Argentina to attend an international conference at Buenos Aires organized by the Institute of Missiology, Aachen/Germany from the 18th of September to 6th of October 2007, Br. Andrew Anil Sequeira will take charge of the Province till I return. Please approach him for any needs.

19. Procedures for requests and appeals to the Definitory: All Brothers are requested to take note of the following procedure while making any request or appeal to the Definitory:

(i) If the appeal is from the Superior of the Fraternity, he is requested to discuss the subject of the appeal with the community members before writing to the Definitory.

(ii) Many Fraternities are having various departments. If a brother in charge of any of the departments would like to make an appeal to the Definitory, then he is requested to get the appeal countersigned by the Local Superior.

(iii) If the appeal is from an individual, then also he should get it countersigned by the Local Superior.

(iv) IF the appeal is for financial help, then mention the “account title” to which money has to be sent.

(v) The superior is requested to put the seal of the fraternity below his signature in all the letters he signs.

This procedure is necessary, first of all, to avoid misunderstanding, secondly to help the superior to coordinate the activities in the fraternity, thirdly, to acknowledge the role of the superior as the animator of the fraternity and all the ministries under various departments.

20. Next Def. Meeting: The next Definitory Meeting will be on 28th and 29th, October 2007 at DITH (DSA)

Provincial’s Programme:

September 2007

15	Saccidananda: PEC meeting
16 - 17	Provincialate
18 - 23	Buenos Aires, Argentina.
24 - 30	Germany

October 2007

1- 6	Germany
7 – 9	Provincialate
10	Sasthan: SFO Jubilee
11	Farangipet – Feast of St. Francis
12	Provincialate
13 - 15	Choitar, Manipur: Inauguration of our New Presence
16	Provincialate
17	Asirvanam Monastery, Anchepalya
18 - 20	Provincialate
21	DATI annual day, Ujire
22 - 23	Provincialate
24 - 26	Darshan College – Seminar
27-	Saccidananda; Society meetings.
28	DITH: Society Meeting, followed by Def. meeting.
29	DITH: Definitory Meeting.
30 - 31	Provincialate

Place: Bangalore

Date: September 15, 2007

Br. Vincent G. Furtado OFM Cap
Provincial Minister