



HOLY TRINITY PROVINCE
KARNATAKA, INDIA

Saccidananda, Capuchin Provincialate, P.B. No. 1060, Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560010

PC 13/17

K.101.11

Chapter XI Our Life in Consecrated Chastity

Chapter 11 of our constitutions, as we read it, presents the call to chastity as a means towards a life of freedom and grace. The law of chastity is imposed on every human, in marriage and outside of marriage. Unchastely in thought and desire as well as in word and in deed, is seriously wrong primarily because it transgresses the law of God. Our vow of consecrated chastity, which we have voluntarily chosen from the preferential love of God and in Him of every person, adds the obligation of the virtue of religion to abstain from all indulgence of sexual pleasure. In addition it imposes the obligation of celibacy, the state of being unmarried. Often times, in church usage, celibacy refers to one who has never been married. The Constitutions urges the cultivation of an intense relationship with the Blessed Virgin Mary. She alone has not inherited a tainted nature through original sin. Original sin and its consequences in our fallen nature manifest themselves more in inclinations to unchastity than in any other way.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Christ condemned not only adultery but everything that leads up to it – all impure looks, desires, thoughts and actions. Our Constitutions in N. 171 reaffirms our need for recourse to supernatural and natural means to maintain equilibrium and avoid the dangers that threaten our celibate life, such as boredom, loneliness, love of comforts and the **immoderate and improper use of the media**. Trinitarian theology is the basis of all healthy relationships. Chapter XI does so in N.169, 2, by referring to chastity for the sake of Christ as a reflection of the infinite love binding the three divine persons.

The call to chastity should have as its source and goal to be in relationship. Taking up this vow should never bind, hinder, or limit us. Rather, it should serve to liberate, free, and inspire us towards a life of incredible joy emanating from true and plentiful relationships with our Capuchin brothers, and the wider world. This vow has not been easy, but we are told “affective and sexual maturity gradually travels a path of conversion from a self-centered and possessive love to one that is self-sacrificing and capable of giving itself to others.” When we struggle with this vow, we have to remind ourselves that this is a journey of constant conversion. We have to look within ourselves

and wonder whether our impulses are self-centered or self-sacrificing. Truth be told, they are usually the former. This is where we find an opportunity for growth, and a real dependence on God's grace and mercy. The goal, we suppose, is to one day "give witness of a love that is gratuitous and universal.

Saint Francis "captivated by a love for God and for all peoples, indeed for all created beings, is a brother and a friend of all. He was noted for the richness of his affections and his capacity to express them." We desire to have just a little of Francis' ability to love. Francis clung to nothing, even his sexuality. He struggled for sure, but he gave us a model of conversion that leads to amazing freedom. Pope Francis has called on religious men and women to "wake up the world." We find that our call to consecrated chastity is a vehicle towards deep, authentic relationships that will help us to engage a world that is often asleep when presented with freely given authentic love.

PRIESTLY ORDINATION

With immense joy and gratitude to God,
I along with all the Councilors, invite all the friars in the province
to partake in the joyful celebration of the Priestly Ordination of our two brothers:

Br. Kiran Jossie Monis on 14th January 2018

at St. Sebastian Church, Gardady,

to be conferred by Most Rev. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, Bishop of Mangalore
and

Br. Joseph Santosh Castelino on 18th January 2018

at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Fatimapura,

to be conferred by Most Rev. T. Antonyswamy, Bishop of Chikmagalur.

While congratulating the brothers on this great occasion we also wish them
all the best for their priestly ordination and to their future priestly life.

Communications

1. Junior Priests' Gathering (JPG)

Once again a gentle reminder to all the Juniors Priests to attend the gathering without fail. Junior Priests' Gathering will take place from 9th January to 12th January 2018 at Shanti Sadhana (FISI), Bangalore. Brothers who are ordained in the year 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 are the participants. The list of names of the priests has been already sent to all the individual priests.

2. Annual Retreat for the Guardians

The Annual Retreat for all the Guardians will take place from **23rd to 28th July 2018, Monday to Saturday** followed by the Meeting of all Guardians and Treasurers on 29th

July 2018 at Shanthi Sadhana (FISI), Bangalore. The retreat will be animated by Rev. Fr. Fernando da Costa, the Director of Prakash Bhavan and Ecclesiastical Advisor of Pune Diocese. We request all the **guardians, parish priests, provincial delegates, directors of formation houses, principals of schools, directors of social work and SFO and managers of Assisi Press and Capuchin Publication Trust**, to take note of the dates well in advance and not to accept strictly any other commitments during those days.

3. Inauguration of the Church at Markam Dinni, Pothnal

The Chapel dedicated to Bellari Arogya Maathe was blessed by Br. Alwyn Dias, Vicar Provincial and was inaugurated by Jilla Panchayat member, on 3rd December 2017 while the JPE commission members were present for this event. We congratulate and thank the Parish Priest Br. Antony Raj and the Clara Vihar Fraternity for the good works at Pothnal.

4. Laying of the Foundation for St. Clare's Church, Pothnal

Br. Antony Raj (Snr), the Parish Priest of St. Clare's Church succeeded in getting the partial government aid for the church at Pothnal. In view of having a little spacious church than the present one, on 7th December 2017, Br. William Prabhu, Guardian of Clara Vihar laid the foundation for the new church building at Pothnal. Br. Robin Victor D'Souza the Province Administrator and the all the community members of Clara Vihar were present. While praying for the successful completion of the construction of the church with the financial aid from province and other sources as well, we also wish Br. Anthony Raj and the entire community all the best.

5. Laying of the Foundation for new Friary at Nongdam

On 6th December 2017, Most Rev. Dr. Dominic Lumon, Archbishop of Imphal, Manipur laid the foundation for St. Francis of Assisi, our new friary, our new mission center at Nongdam in Infant Jesus Delegation, Nangaland-Manipur. While wishing all the best to Br. Mathias Dias, provincial delegate and all our brothers in the delegation we also pray for God's choicest blessings for the successful completion of the construction of the friary which is our second presence in Manipur State. We thank Economic Solidarity of the Order for their contributions.

6. Pastoral Visitation of Christ the King Delegation – Mizoram, Tripura and Silchar (Barak Valley, Assam) Nov 6 – 22, 2017.

The pastoral visitation of Christ the King delegation went on well. The Friars are living and doing excellently well in their respective fraternities. In the name of the Provincial Council, I thank Provincial Delegate and his councilors and all the Friars for their spirit of dedication and commitment to the mission entrusted to them. Following are the important highlights of the pastoral visitation:

Inauguration and Blessing of Assisi Friary, Kanchanpur, Tripura

The newly built friary at Kanchanpur, Tripura in the Diocese of Agarthala, was blessed by Most Rev. Dr. Lumen Monteiro, Bishop of Agartala and was inaugurated by Br. Joseph Dolphy Pais, on 16th November 2017, during the pastoral visitation of the Christ the King delegation. We deeply express our gratitude and raise up our prayers to God for all the generous donors and Capuchin Economic Solidarity, Rome for helping us realize this project. May the Lord be praised!

Inauguration and blessing of Assisi English Medium School at Assisi Catholic Centre, Gachirampara.

The newly built Assisi English Medium School at Gachirampara was blessed by Most Rev. Dr. Lumen Monteiro, Bishop of Agarthala, and was inaugurated by Rev. Br. Joseph Dolphy Pais, on 15th November 2017, in the presence of Honorable MLA Sri Rajendra Reang, and P.T.G. Chairman Sri Manindar Reang, Gachirampara. We are extremely grateful to Bishop Lumen Monteiro and specially Br. Joel Rosario who through the financial help of Kindermissionwerk helped us realize this project. We also thank the community and all the friars in the delegation for their hard work and their commitment to the mission endeavor.

The New Provincial Delegate Councilor: Br. Joel Rosario has been appointed as the new Provincial Delegate Councilor, as we thank him for his spirit of availability and dedication, we wish him all the best.

Br. Prasanna Kumar to Shilong Community: At the request of Fr. Mathew Kallidukkil, custos of Nirmala Custody Assam –Meghalaya, Br. Prasanna Kumar has been transferred to St. Pio Seminary. His address will be: St. Pio Seminary, Umktieh, Umroi BPO, Ri-Bhoi (Dt) – 793 103, Meghalaya. While thanking Br. Prasanna Kumar for his services as delegation councilor and guardian of St. Francis Assisi Nivas we also wish him all the best for his future ministry.

7. Interim Auditing

The Interim Audits of the various units of the society are scheduled from 8th to 13th January 2018, at Saccidananda, Bangalore. The Provincial Treasurer has already communicated the dates and other communication concerning the same to all the respective fraternities. We request all the treasurers to come prepared for the auditing.

8. Policy concerning the protection of minors and vulnerable adults

As we have mentioned in the earlier Provincial Circular the Conference of Capuchin Major Superiors of India (CCMSI) has got ready the policy in a printed booklet form. All friars in the Province must have a copy each without fail. The copies will be sent to each fraternity. It is the responsibility of the Guardians to distribute to every member. We urge all the friars to go through the text and be familiar with the policy.

9. Liturgical Calendar (ORDO) – 2018

The Capuchin Liturgical Calendar is ready and will be dispatched to all the fraternities soon. We immensely appreciate the hard work of Br. Jossy Fernandes for editing and correcting and getting ready the ORDO. He has been selflessly rendering this service to the Province and CCMSI from the past few years apart from his regular ministry at San. Giovanni Rotondo, Foggia, Italy. We thank him sincerely for his generosity and hard work.

14. A brief explanation about Mass Intentions

1. General Intention:

22 Masses/Perpetually Professed Friar/Year

2. Missions:

6 Masses/Perpetually Professed Friar/Year

3. Benefactors:

1 Mass/Ordained Priest/Month (Decision of Superiors' Meeting 2015,

4. Suffrage:

- On the event of the death of
 - ✓ The Roman Pontiff
 - ✓ The General Minister and of the former General Ministers
 - ✓ The General Councilors and the former General Councilorswho were responsible for our jurisdiction, one Holy Mass for the deceased shall be celebrated by each of the fraternities. (Statutes V, C 53)
- One Mass for the departed Friars of the Province by each priest (Statutes V, C 54)
- One mass for the Departed Parents/Step Parents of the Friars by each priest. (Statutes V, C 55)

5. Local:

As Available locally

6. Provincial Intentions:

As allotted from the Provincial Curia as per the annual budget and Masses request made by the communities.

7. Gregorian:

These are high stipend Masses in the set of thirty. One is obliged to per-solve 30 Masses in continuous sequence for one intention for an uninterrupted 30 days.

8. SMA Masses:

One Priest Friar offers Masses continually for SMA where the intentions are collected.

This is applicable to:

- a. The Perpetually Professed Friars residing in the Province
- b. The Friars working outside but attached to a community in the Province
- c. The Friars of the North Eastern Indian Delegations and Bhopal Mission

Please Note:

- Numbers 1 and 2 might differ as per the circular letter sent from the General Curia. The change, if any, will be notified to the communities as and when necessary.
- Sri Lanka Mission receives and contributes Masses independently from the General Curia.

10. Ballot Paper for election of the delegates for the General Chapter

The LXXXVth General Chapter - 2018 has been convoked by the General Minister and has been announced in our Provincial Circular No. PC12/17 dated 2nd November 2017.

The Constitutions No. 8/9 states: “**Once the General Chapter has been announced, in every province all the perpetually professed brothers shall elect one delegate to the General Chapter and a substitute for every hundred brothers**”. Accordingly we have the privilege of electing Two Delegates from our Province who will be attending the General Chapter. For this purpose, by 10th of January, 2018, we will be dispatching the ballot papers. Kindly tick **only two names** from the total number of friars and return the ballots to the Provincialate latest by 1st of April 2018 (Easter). The Counting of the ballots will take place on 2nd April 2018 at 8.30 a.m. onwards. The following members are chosen for counting the ballots & votes: Br. Gerald Lobo, Br. Joe Francis, Br. Victor Fernandes and Br. William Prabhu, we thank these chosen brothers for their service.

The procedure of election is that those friars who get the highest votes will be the delegates and the next highest will be their substitutes. **Kindly bear in mind that if you tick more than two names your ballot will be invalid.**

11. Congratulations to Brothers

St. Anne’s Friary with the collaboration of other friars has published under Capuchin Publication Trust, the new Bible Diary – 2018 which contains readings and spiritual reflections for the daily Mass. It is a new venture of Capuchin Friars of our Province. Apart from this there are also other devotional songs CDs have been released during these years, latest CD is Franciscan Hymns.

While appreciating their initiatives we also thank them for their efforts and hard work they have put in, to reach out to the people. May these good works be continued in the future too.

12. Br. Darel Priwon Fernandes to Custody of Arabia

As it was announced earlier, after the successful services to the custody of Arabian Gulf, for 12 years. Br. Fredrick D’Souza returns to the Province. In place of him Br. Darel Priwon Fernandes will be appointed to the Apostolic Vicariate of Northan Arabia (AVONA). While thanking Br. Darel Fernandes for his availability, we also wish him all the best for his ministry.

13. Sevak Konkani Magazine

We sincerely thank Br. Darel Fernandes for his valuable services as the editor of the Sevak Monthly Magazine. He has been willingly and proficiently carrying out this task for many years. In the absence of Br. Darel Fernandes, Br. Paul Melwyn Dsouza will temporarily look after the work of editing with the assistance of Br. Prakash Lobo, until we appoint a full time editor soon. If any friar is interested to take up this task kindly let us know. We thank Br. Paul Melwyn Douza and Br. Prakash Lobo for willingly accepting to carry out this work of Sevak Magazine.

14. Meeting concerning the ‘Ratio Formationis’ of the Capuchin Order

Continental Meeting for the ‘Ratio Formationis’ will be held from 26th February to 3rd March 2018, in Thailand. Br. Salvador Fernandes, the chairperson of the formation Commission will participate in the meeting from Our Province

15. Brothers to Renewal Courses

Br. Arthur Menezes

After rendering his service temporarily, Br. Arthur Menezes will be going for a renewal course at Cenacle Ashram, Patna from 2nd of January, 2018 onwards. His address and contact details are: Cenacle Ashram, Post Box No. 2, Dheka Village, Bilaspur – 495 001, Mobile No: +91 9448619080.

Br. Jeevan D’Mello: Br. Jeevan D’Mello on his return from Sri Lanka will have three months renewal course at Shanthi Sadhana (FISI), Bangalore from January to March 2018, followed by a short one month intensive Biblical course at Sanyasa in April 2018, before his next appointment. We sincerely thank Br. Jeevan D’Mello for his valuable services to St. Pio Delegation, Sri Lanka as Delegate Councillor, Novice Master and in his various capacities. On his return to the Province we wish him happy stay and all the best to his future ministry.

15. Condolences

We express our heartfelt sympathies to

- Br. Sunil Cornelio who lost his brother in law Mr. Vincent Pinto.
- Br. Sudeep Santan Gonsalves who lost his loving Brother Mr. Gabriel Gonsalves.
- Fr. Wilson Andrade, OFM Cap of St. Fidelis Province: We express our heartfelt sympathies to Br. Ramish Ekka, the provincial minister of St. Fidelis Province and all the friars upon the demise of Fr. Wilson Andrade. Fr. Wilson Andrade served as Head Master in Nirmala High school, Brahmavar, for two years residing in our friary at Holy Family, Brahmavar as a guest priest. We remember his services and pray for the repose of his soul.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, May their soul rest in peace. Amen.

16. Next Council Meeting

The Next Meeting of Provincial Council will be held from 15th& 16th February 2018 at St. Padre Pio Delegation Sri Lanka. Your suggestions are welcome.



**WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A GRACEFILLED NEW YEAR 2018**

17. Provincial's Programme:

DECEMBER - 2017	
06	Saccidananda
07	Meeting with Bishop of Bellary
09-10	Visitation: Infant Jesus Friary, Kadri Midri, Chikmagaluru.
11	Saccidananda
12	Mumbai
13-15	Saccidananda
16	Mangalore – Nuptial Mass at Rosario Cathedral
17-18	Wedding of Niece, Goa
19	Saccidananda
20	KRCR Meeting, Malleshwaram
21-22	Saccidananda
23-02 Jan	Christmas Ministry & Pastoral Visitation, Holy Land
JANUARY - 2018	
03-04	Saccidananda
05	School Day & Inauguration of New Block of St. Anthony's School, Gangondanahalli
06	Blessing of foundation stone for the chapel at Assisi Nilaya, Moodubelle
07	Mass at St. Antony Church, Gangondanahalli.
08	Saccidananda
09	Junior Priest Gathering – Inaugural session
10	Saccidananda
11	Interaction with the Junior Priests
14	Priestly Ordination of Br. Kiran Monis, Gardady
15-17	Saccidananda
18	Priestly Ordination of Santosh Castelino, Fatimapura
19	Saccidananda
20	Jubilee Mass at Nilavar- Brahmavar
21-26	Saccidananda
27-04 Feb	Custody Chapter, Japan
FEBRUARY - 2018	
05-10	Saccidananda
11-13	CCMSI Meeting, Mumbai
14-20	Council Meeting & Fraternal Visit, Sri Lanka
21	Saccidananda
22-24	AFFI National Assembly, Hyderabad
25-28	Saccidananda



Date: 14th December 2017
Place: Saccidananda, Bangalore

Br. Joseph Dolphy Pais OFM Cap
Provincial Minister