

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES



OUR PATRON

Missionaries of Saint Francis de Sales

MSFS - USA Vice Province

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SERVANT OF GOD PETER MERMIER



OUR FOUNDER

Circular: TJP-17

July 2020

This Too Will Pass

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Beloved Confreres,

It has been a tough time for all of us as we are dealing with Covid-19, and it may continue to be so for a while. There is no way to get around it at this time, other than taking it in the right way. The right way may vary from person to person in dealing with the current situation. All of us are met with different challenges in our local situations. All that we can do at this time is to be patiently waiting for a vaccine to come out or the virus to fly out. So let us pray for each other and support one another during this trying time. Let us be sure that this too will pass one day. I assure you my prayers, support, and love. May you be blessed in your ministry and parishes. May the Lord bless the people that we serve for the Lord.

Update on the DeSales Clergy Home

Building a clergy home has been our priority, and we have been working on this project for a while. Our original idea was to build a clergy home with 12 accessible suites for the retired clergy in the Vice-Province. When we did the due diligence towards this project, we realized that the county would not grant permission for 12 suites as the location is in a residential area. With the help of a local attorney, we decided to apply for a Special Use Permit (SUP), where they would allow us to have a structure with 8 suites instead of 12 suites. Therefore, we have decided to go forward with the 8 suites project on one of the 2 parcels of our property on Rosebud Road, Loganville-Atlanta. If we need more facilities in the future, we may be able to build another 8 suites in the other parcel as our entire property of 14 acres is spread out into 2 parcels. The application for the Special Use Permit has been submitted to the county, and there will be a public hearing with the residents in the neighborhood. Once it is approved, then we will apply for the building permit and move forward with our project. Our approximate start time is sometime later this fall, and the expected completion will be sometime in late summer of 2021.

We are also soliciting and encouraging donors and friends to support this project for the retired clergy. Any donor who is willing to contribute \$45,000.00 or more, a suite will be dedicated in honor/memory of them or their loved ones.

We are looking forward optimistically towards this project, trusting that the Lord will provide our needs and requirements.

“Do not say that anything is impossible; for everything is possible with the grace of God.”

- St. Francis de Sales

Fransalians 20/30 Master Plan: Atlanta, USA

*(A master plan that can be achieved within 20-30 years,
approximately by 2040-2050 by different administrations of the USA Vice-Province)*

GOAL: To Establish a “Fransalian Campus” on the existing property of 14 acres of land on Rosebud Road Loganville-Atlanta with the following physical developments:

1. DeSales Clergy Home: 8 accessible suites for retired priests (Project in Progress)



Future Projects:

2. Fransalian Spiritual & Retreat Center:

Multipurpose Hall that can accommodate 400-500 people for retreats, community gatherings, counseling/motivational talks, celebrations, and other community-building activities/events/programs.

- 2.1 Chapel for 24 Hour Perpetual Adoration
- 2.2 Facility for Spiritual Direction by Retired Priests
- 2.3 Facility for Confession by Retired Priests
- 2.4 Facility for Counseling by Retired Priests and Professionals

3. Fransalian Institute of Salesian Studies and Research (FISSAR).

(Affiliated with DeSales University Allentown, PA)

4. MSFS Provincial House with 5 administrative offices:

- Office of the Provincial
- Office of the Bursar
- Office of the Director of Fransalian Ministries
- Office of the Director of Mission & Development
- Office of the Director of Vocation & Formation
- Conference/Meeting Facility

5. Fransalian Media & Publication Center (in the existing building)

6. DeSales & Mermier Research & Study Center (in the existing building)

7. Villa Luyet House of Formation: (Place for seminarians to stay.)

“Fransalian World Mission USA”

with the intention of achieving the above-mentioned plans and projects.

Thanks to Fr. Joseph Pottemmel

I am here to express my profound gratitude to Fr. Joseph Pottemmel, who has been the Bursar of our Community for the past 10 years. He worked with Fr. Gus for 7 years, and with me for 3 years (Bursar of the Region for 4 years, and Bursar of the Vice-Province for 6 years). He also worked as the Chaplain of the Monastery of the Visitation, Snellville, GA, for the past 8 years. Now he is taking up his new assignment as the Pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Sugar Land, Texas, in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. He took charge on the 4th of July 2020. Fr. Joseph Arulraj is designated to be his Parochial Vicar. As he has not arrived yet from India due to the Covid-19 situation, Fr. Mathew Thayil will be temporarily assisting Fr. Joe as the Parochial Vicar until Fr. Joseph Arulraj arrives.

I want to thank Fr. Joe, for accepting the responsibility of this new assignment and assure him of my continued support, assistance, and prayers. This will be a change for Fr. Joe and he has gracefully welcomed the change as a true Fransalian. I am proud of his Fransalian spirit and thankful to him for his commitment, dedication, and love for the congregation. I especially thank him for all the services rendered to the Fransalian family in the USA. Thank you, Fr. Joe, and may God bless you and your ministry. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Welcome to Fr. Noble Dominic

Fr. Noble Dominic will be our new Bursar, he arrived on the 1st of July. I extend him a hearty welcome to the Provincial House in Atlanta, Georgia. All the services rendered to the confreres and different Provinces will continue without any interruption, and the email address of the Bursar remains the same. If any issues arise during this time of transition, please bring them to our attention, and we will certainly resolve them. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Email of the Bursar: msfsbursarusa@gmail.com

Email of the Vice Provincial: viceprovincialusamsfs@gmail.com

Congratulations to All of Our Confreres Who are Taking Up New Assignments at Parishes in the Vice-Province

On behalf of the Vice-Province, I would like to congratulate all our confreres who are taking up new assignments and assuring them our prayers, support and love. May the Holy Spirit lead and guide you through the right path. May St. John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of priests, may intercede for all of us as we are coming close to celebrating his feast on August 4th. Thank you and God bless!

Update of the Arrival of the New Priests for Ministry in the USA

There are 3 priests scheduled to arrive in the US for ministry from 3 different provinces. Their Visas are approved, but due to Covid-19, they are not able to get their Visas stamped on their passports and travel to the US. They are **Fr. Ginu Pathiyakam**, from Southwest Province currently working in the Philippines, assigned to the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan; **Fr. Joseph Arulraj**, from Nagpur Province, assigned to the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Texas; and **Fr. John Vedanayagam**, from Vizag Province, assigned to the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Georgia.

As soon as the consulates are open, they will do the needful and reach the US for ministry at any time. Please keep these confreres in your prayers so that everything will go well for them. I would like to use this opportunity to welcome them to the Vice-Province and looking forward to the opportunity of working with them.

Welcome on board, dear Confreres, and we are glad to have you here! We hope and pray that you will enjoy your ministry in the USA.



Abraham Cyriac
Thuruthiappallil

Seminarians for the USA Vice-Province

I am glad to bring to your attention that we have 2 seminarians for the USA Vice-Province currently in India. Last year we had given some advertisements and personal contacts for recruiting candidates who had completed their graduate studies to join the seminary for the USA Vice-Province. Out of the personal contacts, we have 2 young men who have finished their engineering degrees and want to serve the Lord in our community. I had interviewed both of them personally during my last visit to India and kept in contact with them, and now they are in Prakash Bhavan Minor Seminary, located at Pottassery P.O. Mannarkad, Palakkad, Dt.



Anthony George
Burrows

Kerala, India, belonging to the Nagpur Province. They are supposed to do their orientation and minor seminary program here and go to the novitiate in the future. Abraham is an automobile engineer from Kottayam Dist. Kerala and Anthony George is an electrical engineer from our parish at Kelambakkam Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Two of our priests have been instrumental in recruiting these candidates, and I am grateful to them on behalf of the Vice-Province.

We assure them our prayers, support, and accompaniment in their journey throughout their religious and priestly formation. As of our plan now, all their studies will be completed in India prior to their arrival for ministry in the USA.

Change of Addresses of Confreres!

Fr. Davis Chackaleckel
St. Stephen Catholic Church
14544 Lebanon Road
Old Hickory, TN 37138
Cell: 931-627-1780

Fr. Arulanantham Yagappan
St. John the Evangelist Church
4050 NW Highway 27 Alternate
Chiefland, FL 32626
Cell: 904-729-5706

Small Group Retreats

I am glad some of the local communities have already organized local community/joint community retreats according to their convenience. I encourage all the local superiors to take up the responsibility of having at least a short retreat and family gathering for your community. Fr. Gus is willing to help us and please contact him for any assistance. You may also take your turn or let one of the members preach for the community as all of us are preachers. Please let me know about your programs. Thank you very much.

Happy Feast of St. John Mary Vianney

As we are celebrating the Feast of St. John Mary Vianney, on August 4th, I wish every one of you a Happy Feast. May St. John Vianney, the patron Saint of the priests, intercede for us along with our heavenly patron, St. Francis de Sales. Let us stay blessed that we can become a blessing for others. May God bless us all.

Happy Feast!

United with His Love,

Fr. Tomy Joseph Puliyanampattayil, MSFS
Vice Provincial-USA Vice Province

One rarely does well
what one rarely does.

Saint Francis de Sales