

**CONVENTUAL  
FRANCISCAN FRIARS**



**PROVINCE OF  
ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE**

Office of the Minister Provincial

ASSISI SHANTHI KENDRA, KARUKUTTY - 683 576, ERNAKULAM DT., KERALA, INDIA

E-mail: [conventualsindia@gmail.com](mailto:conventualsindia@gmail.com); Web: [www.conventualsindia.org](http://www.conventualsindia.org)

Tel: Fr. Provincial (0091 484) 2613353; Friary (0091 484) 2613449; Fax: (0091 484) 2613463

**Monday, September 30, 2019**

**Pro. No. 18.19**

## **CIRCULAR LETTER**

To

The Friars and Students of the Province

And their respective addresses

My dear brothers,

Greetings of Peace and All Good!

### **“SELF-EMPTYING (KENOSIS)”**

*Though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be exploited. But emptied himself taking the form of a slave...” ( Phil 2, 6-7).*

*Kenosis* has profound significance in Christian theology. It refers to the very disposition of the triune God who is the communion of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *Kenosis*, or self-emptying, is revealed in the Trinity. The Cappadocian Fathers of the fourth century saw that God the Father, who is Love, completely empties God’s self into the Son; the Son empties into the Spirit; and the Spirit empties into the Father. Incarnation flows from this *kenosis* that is inherent to God’s nature. Jesus taught us to follow him down the path of humility, servant hood, and surrender. As Paul writes, “His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God, but emptied himself, being born in human likeness” (Phil 2:6). Jesus’ entire life demonstrates how God loves unconditionally and selflessly.

Although Paul’s message on *kenosis* was addressed to all Philippian Christians, it targeted particularly those with power and status within the community. Paul is directly telling them to exemplify servant hood by ‘giving space’ to others as Jesus did rather than holding on to power and privilege. Paul’s message obviously coheres with Jesus’ own teaching at the Last

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Supper: "You call me Teacher and Lord and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you" (Jn 13:13-15).

*Kenosis* tells that God is powerful enough to give up his own privilege in order to empower others. Bearing the image of God, humans are called to reflect God's compassion, humility, and care for every life, especially the helpless ones. Our *kenosis* is possible when God's reign takes deep root in our own lives through the Spirit, and when our hearts are filled with thankfulness to God's love and conviction in the final victory of God.

Paul's message is a challenge to our individualistic, self-centered, and materialistic lifestyle and cultural ethos. To have the attitude of Christ looks foolish to the world, but that is what the gospel is about. Today, to have this pattern of thought requires strong faith and courage because to be kenotic will turn out to be countercultural in many aspects.

Those who have the attitude of Christ should even expect inevitable clashes with some prevailing social and cultural forces, just as Jesus and his followers did in their time. We may be ridiculed, humiliated, and even persecuted, but God's power will be more visible through our *kenosis* because *kenosis* is the mystery of God and God's power. Christ-like motives, attitudes, thoughts, purpose and priorities can only prevail in a Christ-like mind. Our spiritual vision and goals should not be worldly. Our purposes and priorities should not be worldly, but other-worldly.

Religious life, as a special way of discipleship (*Sequela Christi*) "for the sake of the Kingdom" (Mt 19:12) and mission as the continuation of the prophetic mission of Jesus, are the two components of the chrism of our Franciscan Order.

Christ emptied himself of all the heavenly glory and became like human beings. But his self-emptying was at the same time the first stage of his glorification in the heavenly realm. St. Paul says "For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name" (Phil. 2:9). In religious language, it also means total surrender; nothing is left for the self. Everything is given up. As Christ surrendered his heavenly glory, we too, in religious life surrender all that constitutes our life: we surrender our freedom, and we surrender our life.

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However, by making ourselves empty and totally surrender to God, we gain everything that we have surrendered. We surrender our homes, but we get more homes and become global citizens. True faith in the incarnate Son of God is inseparable from self-giving, from service, from reconciliation with others.

I take this occasion to thank all the officials of last Quadrennium 2015-2019, especially Fr. Leo Payyappilly, Minister Provincial, for all they have done for the good of the Province and for their sincere efforts to better the situation of our Province. I hope, in this Quadrennium 2019-2023, we work together hand in hand for the betterment of the province with creative suggestions and concrete actions. I thank all of you and ask you all to cooperate with me and the new officials, to attain all that we have agreed in the statutes and in the four year plan. Our hope and our prayer, as we grow closer to God and to one another, is that we may also be more prompt and eager to answer the call of the Lord in our Franciscan vocation in doing what is best for the Province and our ministries.

With this letter I announce the new structure of our Province. Please, the final date of the possession of the offices is 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2019. The outgoing and incoming Guardians of the friaries do the necessary arrangements.

With Fraternal Regards

Your Brother in St. Francis

*Friar Bonaventure K. ofm conv.*

Friar Bonaventure Kalluvettukuzhiyil OFM Conv.

Minister Provincial



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## **NEW SET-UP OF THE PROVINCE, SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **MINISTER PROVINCIAL**

- Friar Bonaventure Kalluvettukuzhiyil - Direct in charge of all the activities of the Province with immediate attention on:
- Fraternal and Spiritual life of the Province
  - Land and Building Commission
  - Finance and Development Commission
  - Missions of the Province
  - Ministries and Activities of the Friars Abroad

### **DEFINITORY**

- Friar Antony Nallukunnel - Vicar Provincial
- Definitor in charge of Formation
  - Definitor in charge of On-going Formation
  - Social Projects and Education Apostolate Commission
- Friar Williams Pengiparamban - Province Secretary
- Guardians' Meeting
  - Delegates' and Mission in Charge's Meeting
- Friar Roger Vazhappilly - Definitor in charge of Ministries and Apostolates
- Friar Stephen Ollethazhathu - Definitor in charge of Junior Priests

### **Province Econom:**

- Econom of San Cupertino Delegation - Friar James Ayyamkolil
- Econom of St. Francis Mission, Sri Lanka - Friar Geo Thanaparambil
- Econom of St. Paul Joint Mission, Calcutta - Friar Sijo Njarakulath
- Econom of St. Paul Joint Mission, Calcutta - Friar Manuel Manicompel

### **Province Exactor:**

- Secretary for the Missions: - Friar Shaji Kaniyaparambil
- Secretary for the Missions: - Friar Roger Vazhappilly
- Delegate of San Cupertino Delegation - Friar Louis Panthiruvellil
- In Charge of St. Francis Mission, Sri Lanka - Friar Kolbe Puthenpurayil
- In Charge of St. Paul Joint Mission, Calcutta - Friar Manuel Manicompel



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**GUARDIANS OF FRIARIES/FRIARS IN CHARGE OF NON-CANONICAL HOUSES**

Assisi Shanthi Kendra, Karukutty	-	Friar Stephen Ollethazhathu
Nirmalaram Franciscan Ashram, Chotty	-	Friar Sinto Thiruthel
Kolbe Franciscan Ashram, Aluva	-	Friar Paul Pothanattuvelyil
Franciscan Ashram, Nattakkal	-	Friar Aloysius Polackal
Padua Franciscan Ashram, Puthenchira	-	Friar Antony Nallukunnel
Assisi Snehalya, Rottikaundanur	-	Friar Roger Vazhappilly
Belvedere Franciscan Ashram, Kottagiri	-	Friar Damian Veliyil
St. Paul Franciscan Ashram, Kattapana	-	Friar Manilal Cris
Bala Yesu Franciscan Ashram, Dondapudi	-	Friar Jobin Eenthumkal
St. Maximilian Franciscan Ashram, Christianpet	-	Friar Geo Thanaparambil
St. Francis Friary, Dalupotha	-	Friar Kolbe Puthenpurayil
<i>San Cupertino Franciscan Ashram, Eluru</i>	-	<i>Friar Louis Panthiruvellil</i>
<i>Assisi Franciscan Ashram, Mancherial</i>	-	<i>Friar Lawrence Poovathummoottil</i>
<i>St. Antony Franciscan Ashram, Warangal</i>	-	<i>Friar Dais Theemalangattu</i>
<i>St. Peter's High School, Gajwel</i>	-	<i>Friar Mario Kaniyamkunnel</i>
<i>St. Antony's Friary, Katana</i>	-	<i>Friar Martin Pallikkara</i>
<i>St. Joseph Vaz Friary, Kandy</i>	-	<i>Friar Ferdinand Melappilly</i>
<i>Ave Maria Franciscan Friary, Jaffna</i>	-	<i>Friar Mathew Purayidom</i>
St. Francis Friary, Dolthala	-	Friar Manuel Manicompel
<i>St. Bonaventure Franciscan Ashram, Kengeri</i>	-	<i>Friar Kuriakose Mattathil</i>

**DIRECTORS/RECTORS OF FORMATION STAGES**

Rector of Major Seminary (post – Novices), Aluva	-	Friar Paul Pothanattuvelyil
<i>Vice Rector</i>	-	<i>Friar Cibi Mukkungal</i>
Rector of Major Seminary (post – Novices), Kengeri	-	<i>Friar Kuriakose Mattathil</i>
Rector of Minor Seminary (Orientation and Aspirancy Years)	-	Friar Sinto Thiruthel
<i>Vice Rectors</i>	-	<i>Friar James Chooramana</i>
		<i>Friar Bijin Mullappally</i>
Novice Master	-	Friar Damian Veliyil
<i>Assistant Novice Master</i>	-	<i>Friar Alphonse Vazhappanady</i>
Director of Postulancy	-	Friar Rapheal Kaniyampalackal

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- Director of Regency - Friar Williams Pengiparamban
- San Cupertino Delegation**
- Rector of Post Novitiate and Orientation Year - Friar Francis Antony Parekkattil
- Rector of Aspirants (Plus I & II) - Friar Thomas Uzhuthuval
- Vice Rector* - *Friar Basil Maniparambil*
- St. Francis of Assisi Mission, Sri Lanka:**
- Rector of Major Seminary (Post-Novices), Kandy - Friar Ferdinand Melappilly
- Vice Rector* - *Friar Sijo Njarakulath*
- Rector of Formation House, Jaffna - Friar Mathew Purayidom
- Vice Rector* - *Friar Justin Puthenveetil*
- Director of Orientation and Aspirancy Years - Friar Martin Pallikkara
- Vice Rector* - Friar Prince Illinilkumthadathil
- St. Paul Joint Mission, Calcutta:**
- Friar in Charge of Student-Friars in Shillong - Friar Paul Pothanattuvelyil

## DIRECTORS OF MINISTRIES PROPER TO THE PROVINCE

- Director of Vocation Promoters - Friar Abin Madathumkudy
- Vocation Promoter for San Cupertino Delegation - Friar Francis Antony Parekkattil
- Vocation Promoter of St. Paul the Apostle Joint-Mission - Friar Manual Manicompel
- Vocation Promoter for Sri Lankan Mission - Friar Sachith Diluka Fernando
- Director of OFS Spiritual Assistants - Friar James Chooramana
- Director of YouFra - Friar Giles Veliyana
- Director of Marian Apostolate - Friar Samuel Paramby
- Director of F.C.P.D. - Friar Elias Thekkemundackapadavil
- Director of Greyfriars Publications - Friar Mariadas Palatty
- Director of Kolbe Communications - Friar Akhil Thazhathel
- Director of Social Apostolate - Friar Antony Nallukunnel
- Director of Franciscan Centre - Friar Shaji Kaniyamparambil
- Assistant Director of Franciscan Center - Friar Akhil Thazhathel
- Director of Pastoral Commission - Friar Aloysius Polackal



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Assistant to the Province Secretary	-	Friar Akhil Thazhathel
Assistant to the Province Secretary, Sri Lanka	-	Friar Sijo Njarakulam
Assistant to the Province Secretary from St. Joseph Cupertino Delegation	-	Friar Jobin Eenthumkal
Assistant to the Province Secretary from St. Paul the Apostle Joint- Mission, Kolkatta	-	Friar Sebastian Vadakekatteth
Province Librarian	-	Friar Cibi Mukkungal
Director of Assisi Snehalaya	-	Friar Giles Veliyana
Admi. of Greyfriars Junior College, Dondapudi	-	Friar Jobin Eenthumkkal
Admi. of Vidhyanikethan Junior College, Karunapuram	-	Friar Thomas Uzhuval
Admi. of Oxford Creativity High School, Mancheril	-	Friar Joe Palukunnel
Admi. of St. Antony's School, Vanamala	-	Friar Dais Theemalangattu
Admi. of Bala Yesu Hostel, Dondapudi	-	Friar Shyju Elamthuruthiyil
Admi. of St. Augustin's and St. Antony's Hostels, Karunapuram	-	Friar Basil Maniparambil
Admi. of St. Antony's Social Projects, Aluva	-	Friar Antony Nallukunnel
Editor of Amalobhava	-	Friar Mariadas Palatty
Circulation Manager of Greyfriars Publications	-	Friar Mithin Kavalammackal
Responsible for the Land at Nattakkal	-	Friar Simon Elijely
Responsible for the Tea Plantation, Kottagiri	-	Friar John Paul
<b>PASTORAL MINISTRIES</b>		
St. Francis Parish, Nattakkal, Kerala	-	Friar Aloysius Polackal
Bala Yesu Parish, Dondapudi, Andhra	-	Friar Alex Chokky
St. Maximilian Parish, Christianpet, Andhra	-	Friar Jerry Pathikkattil
St. Padre Pio Shrine, Athurugiriya	-	Friar Ferdinand Melappilly
St. Anthony's Shrine, Puthenchira	-	Friar Antony Nallukunnel
Pastoral Ministry in Kolkata	-	Friar Sebastian Vadakekattethathu

## COMMUNITIES IN KERALA AND TAMIL NADU

### Assisi Shanthi Kendra, Karukutty

Minister Provincial:	Friar Bonaventure Kalluvettukuzhiyil
Province Secretary:	Friar Williams Pengiparamban
Province Econom:	Friar James Ayyamkolil

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Guardian: Friar Stephen Ollethazhathu  
Members: Friars Shaji Kaniyamparambil, Abin Madathumkudy,  
Akhil Thazhathel

Filial Members: Friars Peter Kannampuzha (Parish Ministry),  
Tomy Malakkaran (Parish Ministry)  
Leo Payyappilly (In preparation to USA),  
Michael Earaly (In preparation to ITALY),  
Kolbe Puthenpurayil (In preparation to Sri Lanka)  
Prince Illinilkumthadathil (In preparation to Sri Lanka)

**Nirmalaram Franciscan Ashram, Chotty**

Guardian: Friar Sinto Thiruthel  
Members: Friars James Chooramana, Bijin Mullappilly,  
Varghese Puthussery (In preparation to USA)

**Kolbe Franciscan Ashram, Aluva**

Guardian: Friar Paul Pothanattuvelyil  
Members: Friars Nineesh Kurudiyakulam, Cibi Mukungal,

**Franciscan Ashram, Nattakkal**

Guardian: Friar Aloysius Polackal  
Members: Friars Simon Elinjely, Samuel Paramby,  
Angelo Chully  
Filial Member: Friar Jerome Kuriyedom

**Padua Franciscan Ashram, Puthenchira**

Guardian: Friar Antony Nallukunnel  
Members: Friars Rapheal Kaniyampalackal, Antu Pallippatt,  
Mariadas Palatty, Elias Thekkemundackapadavil



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**Assisi Snehalya, Coimbatore**

Guardian: Friar Roger Vazhappilly  
Members: Friars Giles Veliyana, Pradeesh Karikunnel  
Justin Puthenveettil (In preparation to Sri Lanka)

Filial Member: Friar Rojo Purayidom

**Belvedere Franciscan Ashram, Kottagiri**

Guardian: Friar Damian Veliyil  
Members: Friars Alphonse Vazhappanady, John Paul Vengackal

**St. Paul Franciscan Ashram, Kattapana**

Guardian: Friar Manilal Cris  
Members: Friars Sebastian Kalathilparambil, Stanly Panelikudy

**Assisi Franciscan Friary, Mancherial**

Friar in Charge: Friar Lawrence Poovathummoottil  
Members: Friars Joe Palukunnel, Titus Thekkilakkattil

Filial Member: Friar Lijomon Pathadan

**St. Bonaventure Franciscan Ashram, Kengeri**

Friar in Charge: Friar Kuriakose Mattathil  
Members: Friars Senet Kanjiraparambil (In preparation to Sri Lanka)

**COMMUNITIES IN SAN CUPERTINO DELEGATION, ANDHRA-TELANGANA**

**Bala Yesu Franciscan Ashram, Dondapudi**

Guardian: Friar Jobin Eenthumkal  
Members: Friars Alex Chokky,  
Shyju Elamthuruthiyil (In preparation to USA)

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Guardian: Friar Geo Thanaparambil

Members: Friar Jerry Pathikkattil

**San Cupertino Franciscan Ashram, Eluru**

Friar in Charge: Friar Louis Panthiruvellil

Members: Friars Francis Antony Parekkattil, Dominic Thekkemundakapadavil  
Regit Thuruthel

**St. Antony Franciscan Ashram, Warangal**

Friar in Charge: Friar Dais Theemalangattu

Members: Friar Robert Vellachalil, Basil Maniparambil, Thomas Uzhuthuval

**St. Peter's High School, Gajwel**

Friar in Charge: Friar Mario Kaniyamkunnel

Members: Friar Justin Koonamparayil, Felix Kandathinkara

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI MISSION, SRI LANKA**

**St. Francis Friary, Dalupotha**

Guardian: Friar Kolbe Puthenpurayil

Members: Friar Senet Kanjiraparambil

**St. Antony Friary, Katana**

Friar in Charge: Friar Martin Pallikkara

Members: Friar Prince Illinilkumthadathil

**St. Joseph Vaz Franciscan Friary, Kandy**

Friar in Charge: Friar Ferdinand Melappilly

Friar Sijo Njarakulath

**Ave Maria Franciscan Friary, Jaffna**

Friar in Charge: Friar Mathew Purayidom

Members: Friar Justin Puthenveettil

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**ST. PAUL, THE APOSTLE JOINT MISSION, CALCUTTA**

**St. Francis Friary, Dolthala**

Friar in Charge: Friar Manuel Manicompel

Members: Friars Sebastian Vadakekattethathu, Jain kottukappilly,  
Sajesh Kottuppallil, Sijo Nadackal, Shinto Venkuzhiyil,  
Vinay Thekkiniyeth, Aby Cheeran

**FRIARS WORKING/STUDYING IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS OF THE ORDER**

Australia: Friar John Vayalilkarottu

Austria: Friars Nicholas Thenammakkal, Francis Paramby, Joel Koikkara ,

Ireland: Friar Aquino Maliakkal

Italy:

Assisi: Friars Daniel Palattykoonathan, Paul Puthenpurayil, Philip Karottapuram ,  
Shibin Malayil

Padua: Friar Christy Kallupalathinkal

Rome: Friars Sebastian Pendanathu (Paenitentia),  
Alfred Parambakathu( OFS Secretary General)  
Micheal Earlay, Patrick Kannadan, Jijo Karakkattu  
Justin Palamattath(AllStudying)

Malta: Friar Jacob Kurishummoottil

USA: Friars George Munjanattu, John Pozhathuparambil, Leo Payyappilly,  
Albert Pulliyadan, Tony Vattaparambil, Savio Manavalan, Rijo Mulavarickal

Canada: Friars Saviour Karamvelil, Varghese Puthenpurackal

Germany: Friar Jesmond Panamparambil

