

MOTHER PABLA BESCOS PROVINCE X PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

Chronicle : From 28th to 31st December 2021

“I am here among you as one who serves.” Luke 22:27

Chapter hall ambience:



28/12/2021 TUESDAY

THE PROVINCE OF MOTHER PABLA BESCOS held it's X Provincial Chapter at Sewasi, VADODRA on 28/12/2021. The theme was: 'A government at the service of the community and the Mission.' 'Consecrated Life called to move beyond'.

There were 62 members including 2 juniors.

DAY 1 (28/12/2021)

The Day began with an hour of adoration from 6.45 am to 7.45 am. After a short introduction Homage was paid to the Blessed Sacrament by doing an Aarti. It was special Day for our Congregation. The day marked three important Celebrations namely 217th birth Anniversary of our Congregation, Feast of The Holy Innocence and Commencement of the X Provincial Chapter. Prayer took us way back to 1804 and all of us got enveloped in the aroma of the virtues of our Founders. Thus, the mesmerizing prayer was concluded.

At 11:00 am there was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The Mass was solemnized by His grace Archbishop Thomas Macwan. He in his homily inspired, encouraged and motivated the sisters emphasizing on servant like Leadership. He said that the Jesus is the role model for authority. He highlighted the qualities of a leader.

Bishop concluded his Homily quoting the words of Mother General Sr. Carmen Mora in her announcement letter about the XXX Extraordinary General Chapter “Let us put our eyes on Jesus who lived His authority in obedience to the will of the Father, helping to grow the best of what He had placed within each person. And let us look at Mary and Founders who knew how to live their leadership in the first Christian community and in the primitive Fraternity without protagonist, going out of themselves and totally dedicated to seeking the greatest good of their sisters and Brothers, and through them – to all the people close to them, especially the



**Rev. Archbishop Thomas Macwan
Arch Diocese of Gandhinagar**

neediest and most vulnerable.



Enthronement of the Bible: The entronement procession commenced at 3:15 pm. The Chapterians were welcomed to the assembly hall with a rose and a lamp. The lamp was then lighted and placed on the lamp stand. Thereafter Sr. Benita carried The Holy Bible and enthroned it on the lectern and it was garlanded by Sr. Rosamma Joseph. Sr. Maria Bhajji placed the lighted the candle on the stand and Sr. Anne Fernandez placed Constitutions. The symbol of service was carried and placed by Sr. Enjeren Lakra. Synod Logo was placed by Sr. Elsa Rodriguez.



During the entrance procession the hymn “We are God’s people’ was sung and lit lamps were placed on the stand

by the capterian.

The Introduction based on Word of God was read by Sr. Sunita William which was followed by prayer of intercession by Sr. Kundan. Thereafter Scripture reading was done by Sr. Sissy Scaria. Sr. Ramila Parmar offered a prayer based on the Word of God. The assembly joined in the Lord’s Prayer followed





by the recitation of prayer offered by Sr. C J Mary. After exchanging the sign of peace the chapterians invoked the Holy Spirit by singing 'Come



O Creator.'

Soon after the enthronement of the Bible there were **Opening Words of Provincial for the X Provincial Chapter.**

She said "this is the time of year of being merry for it is a Christmas season! 'Immanuel'! God with us! Joy is the outcome of "God is with us"!! She welcomed the sisters who are present and also greeted the sisters that are in the communities and the also the SAF members.

"This Day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. Ps 117

As the psalmist proclaims, let us rejoice in the Lord who has given us this day in which we have numerous sweet memories to Cherish and rejoice! We have countless reasons to be happy and be glad!



Today is the day when we celebrate the feast of Holy

Innocents who gave their life for the sake of Jesus our saviour and became martyrs. They invite us to live and die to self every day. This is the fortunate day on which Blessed Maria Rafols and eleven Sisters offered themselves at the feet of Our Lady of Pillar, 217 years before.

As we enter the Chapter, our hearts, may be are filled with uncertainties, fear or expectations and of what will be? But let us be without fear and full of Hope. As Pope Francis says "The future has a name and the name is Hope. Hope is the virtue of a heart that does not lock itself in the darkness, does not dwell in the past, does not simply get by the present but is able to see a tomorrow. Hope is the door that opens

Family, all our friends and well wishers are accompanying us with their prayers.

As we begin our time together here, we are forming a community of study, reflection and of decision making. Very important components of our task, the commitment to communion is at the core of what we are doing. This does not mean that we are to avoid disagreements or to shy away from conflict. We are here to move through differences and disagreements in order to find common good.

We are committed to listening to one another, so that my total reason for listening is to understand the other person, to hear her on her own grounds, to let her words mean what they mean to her, not what they mean to me. We are bound to speak, not in order to convince the other or impose my vision but to give the other a chance to understand me and my views. All these are to be done without prejudices with charity, kindness and gentleness.

The Holy Spirit, who is a weaver of relationships, will help us take into account the needs and the different points of view of others so as to participate effectively and to leave aside our own personal interests or the temptation to turn in on ourselves. It is the Holy Spirit who brings about unity among us and leads us on the path of peace!

We are called to share, to listen and to discern for our Province and also for the Congregation. These days have the perspective of setting in motion the reorganization of our Congregational Government and also renewal of our Discipleship of the consecrated life for our Province.

We are entrusted with a mission to summarize the Documents on Government at General level and consecrated life at Province level which our sisters have reflected upon and given their opinions. We have commitment to faithfully conclude the Four Parts of Working Document of XXX General chapter and Consecrated Life for renewal of our Discipleship in the Province.

We would dwell on Consecrated life to renew our Discipleship, on Self-Awareness, our Religious Community Life and Discernment which are very important aspects of our Religious Life. As we reflect on discipleship, let us introspect and see if our discipleship is that of Jesus? By doing it we want to set milestone to achieve true discipleship. We want our Province to grow and be fruitful.

- Approval of sexennial report of the province and all the Ministries and fields.
- Evaluation of last agreements
- Another big task we have to carry out is the Election of Provincial and Team.
- Election of Srs. to attend the XXX Extraordinary General Chapter.
- Election of a Sr. who will participate in Central Pre-Chapter commission”.

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever”. 1Chronicles 16:34
“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.”
Ps.118:1”*

She expressed her gratitude to God. Superior General and the council members present and the former. She thanks her council members and to all the sisters.

She thanked God for the very many blessing he has showered upon us during this 25 years. “As we have completed 25 years of our Province I thank our first five Spanish Sisters: Srs. Antonia Heredero, Irene Palacios, Soledad Madrid, Ascension Lopez, Maria Gonzalez, and Fausta Perez. Because they came, we exist. God bless them and grant eternal peace for all the sacrifices they made and the austere and hard life they lived. Today we are what we are! It is because of them; we enjoy the fruit of their hard work and struggle.

She also remembered thanked for the deceased sisters during this tenure; Srs. Matilda Falcao, Martha D'souza, Scholastica Apian, Pushpa Natha, Anandi Joseph, Ranjita Rani and Sr. Lucy Columban. They all have contributed in the growth of the Province through their ministry and apostolate. They have been sources of inspiration and encouragement to the Sisters by their lives. May God be gracious to them and shed his light upon them and grant them eternal rest”.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him”. With a note of thanks to God I end these opening words.

I officially declare open the X Provincial Chapter of Province Mother Pabla Bescos. It will offer grace, to each one here present and the experience of the presence of God with us.



At the end Sr. Provincial declared open the X provincial Chapter.



At 4:15 pm The chapterians dispersed for tea-break.

The next session began at 4:45 pm with the election of the scrutineers and moderator was done Sr. Sheetal Parmar and Sr. Manisha Macwan was appointed to be the scrutineers.

Sr. Elsa Rodriguez was elected moderator with absolute Majority.

The Chapterians then proceeded with the election of the Secretary.

Election of Secretary Sr. Alka Dabhi was elected secretary by absolute majority.

Sr. Mercy Varghese and Sr. Nayna Peter were asked to help Sr. Alka.

Sexennial Report.

After the election procedures Sr. Sunita William the secretary presented the sexennial report of the province. From 2016 -2021.

It was unanimously approved by the chapterians.

Sr. Kundan the Councillor of Pastoral Ministry of Health, presented her report of past six years.

Sr. Mary C J presented the report of Pastoral Ministry of Social Action and field of development and co-operation.

After the reports the work of the Chapter Came to an end and the Chapterians dispersed for supper and night rest.

DAY 2

29/12/2021 WEDNESDAY



The day began with prayer. It made us to pray and reflect on humble servant. It was followed by Holy Eucharist. It was celebrated by Fr Vincent Saldana S J. He made us to reflect on EVMSA.

E – ncounter
V – ision
M – ission
S –ervice
A- Dministration.

Online talk on Consecrated life during Covid- 19 by Rev Sr. Inigo SSA.

Sr. Mercy Jerom introduced Sr. Inigo and welcomed her on virtual platform.

Time table for online talk was as follows.



Approval of Sexennial Report

After certain discussions, clarifications and suggestions the following sectors Sexennial reports were approved by Chapterians.

1. Province Secretary
2. Pastoral Ministry of Health.
3. Pastoral Ministry of Social Action and Field of Development and cooperation.

Sr. Sissy Scaria presented her sexennial Report of Pastoral Ministry of Education.

After certain deliberation and discussion, it was approved unanimously.

At 1:25 pm we dispersed for lunch break.

After the lunch break the chapterians gathered in the assembly hall with Marian devotion.

She highlighted that a religious should be a mystic and prophet. She also added that only a transcended religious can be a transformer. A leader should be simple and sober personality.

In her IV talk she explained in detail what is discernment

Sr. Kalpana Raymond proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of the chapteriens.

At 5:50 pm there was a break for 10 minutes.

After the break Sr. Ramila Parmar presented her sexennial Report on Pastoral Apostolate

– Missionary Animation

-SAF Field of Formation and Spirituality.

After certain deliberation and discussion, it was approved unanimously.

After a short break Sr. Rosamma presented her Report of Service of Economy and administration. (2015 to 2021).

3rd Day 30/12/2021 (THURSDAY)

The day began with the morning prayers at 6.45 am followed by the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by Fr. Vincent Saldana S J. The Homily was based on the Gospel 'The call to be disciples. He stated that we are all handpicked and trusted by the Lord and we are called to be with Him and to be sent. He urged us the importance of establishing a deep relationship with Him with ourselves and with whom we live and serve.



The first session of the day started at 9: am with a short prayer "DISTURB US LORD".

Sr. Sunita William the Provincial Secretary explained the methodology of the study of the document. She asked the assembly to elect a secretary and moderator for each group. We began our group work on the documents

31/12/2021 (FRIDAY)

The fourth day began with very inspiring and enriching prayer service followed by the Eucharistic celebration by Fr. Vincent Saldana S.J. with the befitting theme "Thanksgiving" on the last day of the year. The homily was delivered on the bases of



the Gospel passage Jesus' encounter with Zacheus. He highlighted on the capacity of Zacheus to take necessary action to rectify his situation of life. Jesus restored him to the Jewish community and made him one of the sons of Abraham. Thus Jesus restored him Justice. He Concluded his homily by making us to think upon that -If Jesus or our founders comes to our house to how do we respond?

At 9 am. after the prayer the minute of the third day was presented by the secretary. There were number of correction and matters to be added. Thereafter the minutes

were approved by the assembly. The moderator read out the message from the community of Divya Dhara. There upon the assembly proceeded with the drafting of points Chapter I question 4

Being the last day of the year we had Thanksgiving Holy Hour from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

