



**Missionaries of Saint Francis de Sales**  
**MSFS - USA Vice Province**  
**Fransalians**



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**New Year with Renewed Vision and Perspectives!**

We are almost ready to bid adieu to the year 2018, which brought in lots of positive and negative experiences. We have several reasons to thank God for the several blessings that we received from the year 2018. Certainly we learned our lessons from every experience. Now we are ready to welcome the New Year 2019 with its uncertainties and challenges. I wish every one of you a blessed and grace-filled New Year! Let us welcome the New Year joyfully and happily and look forward with hope for new things to happen in our lives. New perspectives, new attitudes, new vision, and renewed commitments are essential components of making the New Year a bright year. I wish all my beloved brothers a grace-filled Happy New Year 2019.

**Golden Jubilee of Fransalian Pastoral Presence in the United States!**

The year 2019 is a mile-marker for the Fransalians in the United States, as it marks the 50th year of Fransalian pastoral presence in the United States. It was in the year 1969 that the first Fransalian priest from English Province was appointed as the Associate Pastor of St. Joseph Church in Athens, in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, GA. However, there were a few confreres in different parts of the country; but they did not have formal pastoral commitments in parishes.

Our Congregation grew in this country with its tests and trials, and we have come a long way now with God's blessings and the commitment of our beloved confreres. Their commitment and dedication has helped to reach where we are today. We gratefully remember them and thank them no matter they are deceased or alive. We salute the deceased confreres with honor and dignity; and shake hands with those around us with love and gratitude. May God bless them all.

**Update on the Growth and Development of the Fransalian Ministry in the USA!**

**USA Vice-Province was established on 3rd of July, 2013**

The different Provinces currently representing:	08
The states with the Fransalian presence currently:	12
The dioceses with the Fransalian presence currently:	23
The Fransalian priests working currently :	62
The expected number of Fransalian priests by July 2019:	73
The parishes taken over on a long-term contract:	07
The expected number of long term parishes by July 2019:	10
The spirituality center (Wellspring):	01
The Provincial House:	01
Fransalian Houses:	02
Fransalian Neighborhood Communities currently:	13
Fransalian Neighborhood Communities by July 2019:	14

## **Looking back to the Fransalian path in the United States!!!!**

The Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, also known as Fransalians, have been serving in the pastoral field now for 50 years in the United States, from 1969-2019. The Priests from mainland Europe, England and India have been serving in the United States. There were attempts made to establish some sort of formal set-up of our presence in the USA in 1935 but it was unsuccessful. In 1949, Fr. Basil Luyet MSFS and Fr. Grorod MSFS visited 7 Bishops in the USA without success.

In 1968, Fr. Adrian Duval, then Superior General of the Congregation, decided to initiate actively the process of establishing a mission in the USA. He commissioned Fr. Pat Waldron, the Provincial of the English Province, to proceed to the United States to contact some Bishops. Fr. Waldron arrived in the USA on December 6, 1968. However, he faced failures in this initial attempt. Finally, in 1969, Fr. Waldron was able to secure a favorable response from the Archbishop of Atlanta, Georgia and Fr. Gill MSFS was assigned to St. Joseph Parish in Athens, Georgia. In February, 1970, the Council of the English Province decided that Atlanta would be the most favorable location for establishing the foundation of the MSFS in the USA. The Archbishop of Atlanta, Most Reverend Thomas Donnellan, entrusted the care of St. Patrick's Church Norcross to the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales on April 24, 1972. He also entrusted the MSFS the pastoral care of St. Lawrenceville Church, Lawrenceville, GA on July 3, 1974. However, the MSFS handed over St. Lawrence to the Archdiocese in 1994 and St. Patrick in 2001 due to lack of personnel. In 1975, the MSFS was offered a house in a secluded woods by the widow of Ed Barton, a parishioner of St. Lawrence Parish. It was named Villa Luyet in honor of Fr. Basil Luyet MSFS, a well known scientist in Cryogenics, who died in 1968 in Madison, Wisconsin. This house was also used as a Novitiate House for the formation of Fransalian Priests in the United States. This house still continues to exist as the home of the Fransalians in Atlanta at a different location.

The second phase of our growth and development occurred with the arrival of the Indian MSFS to the United States more than twenty years ago. Fr. Augustine Tharappel was assigned with the job of raising the American Mission to a Region of our Congregation. At that time, there were only five confreres in ministry in the USA. Many things have happened since then such as; including the arrival of many confreres for ministry and study to the USA from several Provinces; the establishment of Wellspring Spirituality Center at Tyler, Texas; and organizing the confreres into different local communities in different parts of the United States. Fr. Augustine Tharappel served as Coordinator of Fransalians in the United States for seven years and helped to raise the American Mission to USA Region and served as Regional Superior for six years. Afterwards, the Region was raised to the status of a Vice-Province and Fr. Augustine served from wellspring Spirituality center, White house Taxes, as the Vice Provincial for a term of 3 years from 2013 to 2016.

Fr. Tomy Puliyanampattayil was elected and appointed as the Vice Provincial on July 3, 2016 and he is currently functioning as the Vice Provincial of the USA Vice-Province from our headquarters located at 3887 Rosebud Road, Loganville, Atlanta, GA 30052.

### **Congratulations and Prayerful Wishes!**

Rev. Fr. Benny Koottanal is appointed as the Provincial of Southwest Province for a second time.

Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy is appointed as the Provincial of Visakhapatnam Province for a second term.

His councilors are:

Rev. Fr. Sesetti Maria Das, Councilor and Admonitor

Rev. Fr. Dola Velangani Rao, Councilor

Rev. Fr. Manoj Pathippalil, Councilor

Rev. Fr. G. Sandeep Reddy, Councilor

Rev. Fr. Bellamkonda Anil Bosco, Bursar

Rev. Fr. Anthony Bonela is appointed as the Superior of the Fransalian Local Community in San Antonio, TX.

Rev. Fr. Amarnath Nagothu is appointed as one of the Deans in the Diocese of Jacksonville, FL.

Rev. Fr. Davis Chackaleckel is appointed as one of the Deans in the Diocese of Nashville, TN.

*Prayers and congratulations to all of them in their new responsibilities! May God lead them thorough the right path everyday!*

### New arrivals and their addresses

Beloved Confreres,

On behalf of the USA Vice Province, I wish a very hearty welcome to our new confreres who have arrived in the U.S. for doing pastoral ministry from different provinces. We welcome them here as Fransalian family and extend them our whole-hearted support and cooperation. We pray that their ministry will be a fulfilling, fruitful, enriching, and enjoyable one. May God bless them all in their pastoral ministry!

Fr. Anthony Dharmaraj (Southeast)  
St John the Baptist Catholic Church  
P.O. Box 7, 1024 Hwy 1207  
Deville, LA 71328-0007  
Email: dharmarajmsfs@gmail.com  
Phone : 318-466-5587  
Cell: 318-319-7321

Fr. Pangiraj Jabamalinathan (Southwest)  
112 Capital Ave NE  
Battle Creek, MI 49017  
Email: pangiraj@yahoo.com  
Cell: 269-271-1620

Fr. Nusi Konda Reddy (Vizag)  
St. Patrick Catholic Church  
505 Lord Street  
Osage City, KS 66523  
Email: nusireddy@yahoo.com  
Cell: 785-219-3339

Fr. Nannam Ratna Swamy (Vizag)  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
306 Iowa, P.O. box 165  
Olpe, KS 66865  
Email: fatherratnaswamy@gmail.com  
Office Phone : 620-475-3326  
Cell phone number: Not yet

Fr. Francis Thadathil (Northeast)  
Immaculate Conception Parish  
1712 Highland Ave,  
EauClaire, WI 54701-4341  
Office Phone: 715-835-9935

Fr. Noble Dominic Ambalathuruthel (Designated for Vice Province)  
St. Philip Catholic Church  
113 2nd Ave S  
Franklin, TN 37064  
Cell: 931-982-8157  
nobledominic@gmail.com

Fr. Regi Augustine Narikunnel (designated for Vice Province)  
St. John the Evangelist  
1061 S Ellington Pkwy  
Lewisburg, TN 37091  
Office: 931-359-5017  
Cell: 931-652-3663  
Email: regimsfs@gmail.com

Fr. Jesuraja Alangaram (designated for Vice Province)  
St. John the Evangelist  
2102 Ave J  
Hondo, TX 78861  
Email: jesurajamsfs@gmail.com  
Office: 830-741-2236  
Fax: 830-426-3339  
Cell: 830-410-9743

Fr. Benoy Joseph Veliyathu (Northeast)  
Assumption Church  
4101 Old Bethlehem Pike  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
Cell: 484-273-5676  
Email: benoymysfs@gmail.com

New Cell phone of Fr John Peter Arul: 248-719-4700

### New Address

Congratulations to Fr. George Puraidam, who has been appointed as a Catholic Chaplain at North East VA Medical Center, Cleveland, OH.

His new address is:

Fr. George Puraidam, MSFS  
Reserve Square Apartments  
1700 E. 13th St.  
Apt.# 05Q, Cleveland, OH 44114

### Delegate for the 20th General Chapter 2019

Fr. Gus is elected as the delegate for the General Chapter 2019, but he is not able to make it due to health reasons. Fr. Davis Chackaleckel, who is the substitute, will be attending the General Chapter 2019, which will begin from 1st to 13th of February 2019. Congratulations to the delegate and the substitute. Thank you for your willingness to serve the community!

### Fransalian Annual Retreat 2019 beginning from September 9-13, Atlanta GA

The Fransalian Annual Family Gathering & Retreat will be held from Monday, September 9 to Friday, September 13, 2019 in Atlanta, GA. Please mark your calendar and do not take up any commitment that week. It will be in the Jesuits retreat house, where we met in 2017 for our annual retreat. Let us celebrate this week as our religious family time. The retreat master will be Rev. Dr. Joe Boenzi, SDB, a renowned Salesian Retreat Master. The month of September is also important for us as we celebrate the feast of our Patroness Mother of Compassion on September 15 and our Founder's Day (Mermier Day) on September 30. Let us celebrate it as our Family Month.

### **Ave Maria-Fransalian Gifts & Books Store**

Ave Maria Gifts & Books is one of the best sources for Catholic gifts and books. It is owned and operated by a family in Atlanta. They focused on providing gifts and books specific to the Catholic and Christian communities. In the gift section, they carried many items such as: Music Boxes, St. Joseph Statues to pray to when selling your home, St. Christopher Statues, Mary Collectibles, Picture Frames, Crosses, Crucifixes, Framed Prints, Angel Statues, and the list goes on and on.

Now, this is taken over by the Fransalians and begin to function eventually at 3887 Rosebud Rd, attached to the Provincial House in Loganville, GA. This will become a ministry of the Fransalians to the Catholic population of Atlanta area.



### **Suggestions Invited Please!**

Your suggestions and recommendations are invited and highly appreciated for the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Fransalian pastoral Presence in the United States. Please email me your recommendations/suggestions at [viceprovincialusamsfs@gmail.com](mailto:viceprovincialusamsfs@gmail.com), at your earliest convenience. Your suggestions and ideas are very important in the planning process. Thank you.

### **Renewal of the Pastoral understanding between the Diocese of Tyler and the USA Vice-Province!**

Prince of Peace Parish in Whitehouse, Texas was the 1st long term parish for the USA Vice Province; and the contract was for 5 years. Fr Augustine Tharappel is currently functioning as the pastor of the parish; and will continue until April 30, 2019.

Now, the contract is renewed for a term of another 10 years. A very big thanks to Fr. Augustine for his dedication and commitment. He built new social hall and did other developmental works to the parish. Thank you

### **Update on Fr. Joseph Kuzhupil!**

Fr. Joseph Kuzhupil had a bypass surgery on December 7, 2018. Now he is back to his rectory. But he will continue to take cardiac rehab for some time. He is very much thankful to all our fathers for their prayers, support and visits. He is planning to get back to schedule in the second week of January. Thanks to all, especially Fr. A. Selvam for his timely help and frequent visits. God bless you all.

### **Prayers and Condolences**

Prayers and condolences to Fr. Sunny Punnakuzhiyil who lost his mother on December 17, 2018. We express our prayers, support, and love to Fr. Sunny and his family. May her soul rest in peace! He is gone to India to be with his family.

*Do not allow personal prejudices and aversions to influence your behavior*

*St. Francis de Sales*

**A Blessed and Grace-filled New Year 2019 to all of you!**

May our Blessed mother of Compassion and St. Francis de Sales intercede for all of us.

United with his Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fr. Tomy Puliyanampattayil'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Fr. Tomy Puliyanampattayil, MSFS

Vice Provincial- USA Vice Province