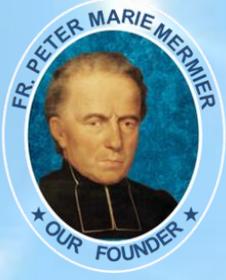


# MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES NAGPUR PROVINCE



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JBM – 13

CIRCULAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE

23.02.2019

**Greetings of peace and joy of Christ to you!**

**Fr. Paul Chakunny Pallikunneth Returns To His Creator**



*A limb has fallen from the family tree.  
I hear a voice that says, "Grieve not for me."  
Remember the best times, the laughter, the song,  
The good life I lived while I was strong.*

Rev. Fr. Paul Chakunny Pallikunneth lovingly known as Fr. P.C. Paul, 81 years, breathed his last at 10.55 pm, on 21<sup>st</sup> November in Usha Memorial Hospital, Nagpur. He was appointed in our community at Nanded for rest from 2007 after having undergone a bypass surgery in Pune. From September 2018 his health became a cause of concern and so he was brought to Nagpur. With treatment at a super specialty hospital for a period of two weeks he gradually regained his health. The doctors had then expressed the opinion that because of his advance age he is not that strong and had to be under constant medication and strict diet. Fr. Emmanuel, the confreres of Mermier Sadan and Mrs. Jessy Paulikar did their best to take care of him. Since January he had been keeping indifferent health and slowly as his health began to deteriorate, he was frequently in and out of hospital.

About a week back he had to be readmitted and was placed in the ICU under the constant care of Dr. Errol Braganza. He was given heavy medication and was dependent on the oxygen concentrator for almost 10 hours as his heart was not properly functioning. Gradually the condition of his heart, lungs and kidneys grew worse. He breathed his last at 10.55 pm on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019. May our merciful God grant him eternal peace and joy in His Kingdom.

Fr. P.C. Paul was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1938 to Mr. Chakunny and Mrs. Annamma at Anthikad, Kerala. He was baptized on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1938 at St. Antony's Church, Puthenpeedika and was confirmed in the same church on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1951. He did his primary and secondary education at Anthikad High School, Thrissur from 1952-1958. He did his minor seminary at Mount Mary, Arumanoor from 1958-1960. He did his novitiate in 1961-62 and made his first profession on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1962 at Visakhapatnam. He did his philosophy from 1962-1964 at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He did his regency at St. John's High School, Nagpur from 1964-1965. He made his final profession on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1965 at St. John's, Nagpur.

He did his theology from 1965-1969 at JDV, Pune. He was ordained a priest on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1968 at Pune. He worked at the following places: Akola, Dhuni, Goghargaon, Vaijapur, Jalna and Aurangabad. He worked in Nanded from 1975 - 84; Purna from 1984 - 94; Bhusawal 1994 - 2001; Bidkin from 2001 - 2002 and Cidco from 2002 - 2007. He was appointed to our community at Nanded for rest from 2007 onwards after his bypass surgery. Together with his classmate Fr. Cyriac he celebrated his Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Nagpur.



Fr. P C Paul, following the footsteps of our patron SFS and our Founder Fr. Mermier, had the heart and the mind of a true missionary. He did not hesitate to accept challenging and difficult tasks that were entrusted to him by the Provincial Superiors. His willingness to do God’s work and to establish the Kingdom wherever he was sent only shows his true missionary spirit. His commitment to the work he was called to do, makes him stand out as a great pioneering missionary. From working in the remote Dhuni mission as a young priest, to establishing the local church in Purna near Nanded, displays his zeal for doing God’s work. His foresight in expanding the mission of the Lord made him buy a large piece of land in Nanded on which today stands the famous school Gyan Mata Vidya Vihar. He was also a good pastor after the heart of SFS and had a deep love for the people entrusted to his care. He especially had love for the poor and those who needed help to settle down in life. As a community member he was very calm and cordial in his relationships and was a mentor for the young confreres who looked up to him for guidance. He was regular and punctual for all community exercises, except when his health did not permit him. He never went to bed without saying the rosary. He always had a sweet smile and laughed heartily whenever a joke was cracked. He had simple food habits and



did not demand anything over and above the normal items supplied at table. A happy go lucky person he always looked forward to some outings and was the first to be ready and waited patiently near the vehicle. He was a hospitable person and made sure that the guests who visited the community were properly

taken care off. He was very knowledgeable and could share information and speak authoritatively on a wide range of subjects. He was a good artist and his famous picture of the

Mother of Sorrows made of colourful birds' feathers continues to adorn the wall of the Pune Provincialate. We thank God for the gift of this wonderful person to our Congregation and Province and we pray for him that God may grant him eternal rest, as the labourer always deserves his wages.

The newly installed Archbishop of Nagpur His Grace Rt. Rev. Elias Gonsalves presided over the Eucharist. More than forty priests including the Vicar General of Nagpur Archdiocese Rev. Fr. Jerome Pinto concelebrated. Fr. P.C. Paul's younger brother Mr. Joe, his nephew Mr. Robin and some of his acquaintances from his beloved city Nanded, took part in the funeral service. Mr. Robin, on behalf of his family members, thanked one and all for their presence and for praying for the repose of the soul his beloved uncle priest. He singled out for praise the Mermier Sadan community and especially, the local superior Fr. Emmanuel, for taking loving care of Fr. P.C. for the last six month. He also acknowledged the loving service rendered by Mrs. Jessy and Mr. Philip, who were with his uncle round the clock, to ensure that all his needs were met especially during his stay in hospital. After the Eucharistic celebration, his mortal remains were taken to the cemetery at Seminary Hills to be laid to rest along with the many religious and priests who have gone before him to meet their loving and compassionate Lord and Master. I would like to thank the Provincialate community for making all the necessary arrangements for the funeral service. My special thanks Fr. William Anthony for extending all possible help for the medical needs of Fr. P. C. during the last six months.

Let us thank the Lord for the gift of Fr. P.C. to our Congregation and for all that he has done in the Vineyard of the Lord. As we bid a final good bye to him, we shall offer him to the Lord and pray that God out of the fullness of His love and compassion may grant him eternal peace and joy in His Kingdom.

Eternal rest grant unto Fr. P.C. Paul O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Fr. J. B. Muthuswamy MSFS  
Provincial Superior