

"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 472

realising our charism through art

Art is in the heart of every individual. Where art is alive a culture is born and where a culture is born, art continues to serve the society. True religious art has the power to stir the deepest longings of the human heart for God. For society to bloom we need a charism of art. 'Charism' comes from the Greek word 'Charis' which means grace or a gift freely and graciously given or a favour bestowed. Therefore, art becomes a God given gift.



Pallotti used every possible means at his disposal to bring about the salvation of mankind. As he himself would say: "Whether young or old, healthy or sick, alone or in community, in any position of life given to them by God, all can participate fully in the apostolic mission of Jesus Christ by any means whatever." One of the means he himself used in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ was art for which he hired artists to paint holy images to be sent to the missions.

The charism and vision of St Vincent Pallotti is so universal that every member of the Union is able to exercise his or her personal charism in order to strengthen the charism of society according to the needs of the time. The Union is open to all the faithful. It sets itself the task of bringing to light the mystery of the church. It revives the personal charism of the vocation of each person, which will include all Catholics and people of good will. All forms of pastoral and missionary activities, all material and spiritual means are employed to this end. Nobody is excluded.

India is the most complex country in the world because of its plurality and contrasting diversity at all levels. It is a hub of the most ancient religious cultures of the world and is known for its unique spirituality, religious consciousness and traditions. It emerged from continuous interaction between major cultures and religions of the world. Whichever religion one belongs to, art has a major part to play in raising one's heart to God in India.

It is just in this context that the importance of an innovative ministry through the medium of art is so relevant for the Pallottines in India. With this vision, to move with the times by the use of modern and technological advancements in the field of Fine Arts and to mould artists for the future, that the Prabhu Prakash Province has initiated '**Pallotti Kalagram**'.

This Centre for Art and Culture was blessed and inaugurated by the Archbishop of Nagpur on 18th July this year. Two Pallottines have been appointed to it – Fr Dominic sac who has a Diploma in Fine Arts from the School of Fine Arts, Indore and myself having completed a Masters degree in Fine Arts (MFA) from Raja Mansigh Tomar University, Gwalior securing first position.

The institute undertakes art works such as church design, museum design, clay modelling, portrait, sculpture, glass mosaic work, oil and acrylic painting. As of now fifteen church and chapel designs have been completed, amongst which are the following:



- Rani Maria Museum
 - FCC Historical Museum
 - Malankara Marlvanius Museum
 - Pallotti Art Gallery
 - Golden Museum
 - IMS Platinum Jubilee Museum
 - Pallotti institute and Museum
 - DSS Historical Museum
- FCC Provincialate, Bhopal
 - FCC Generalate, Aluva, Kerala
 - OFS. Provincialate, Trivandrum, Kerala
 - Pallotti Bhawan, Nagpur
 - Pallottigiri, Trivandrum
 - IMS Generalate, Varanasi
 - Prabodhana, Mysore
 - DSS Generalate, Pattuvam, Kerala



Three of these museums have been Pallottine museums based on the life and charism of St Vincent Pallotti. Their uniqueness and beauty consists in blending Pallottine history with original artistic works depicting the person and spirituality of St Vincent. They serve as an effective instrument to communicate the spirit of our founder and the history of the Pallottines to everyone who visits.

Pallotti gathered people from different walks of life for a noble cause. True to this spirit we have managed to gather more than 15 artists including Hindus, Muslims and Christians, all of various capabilities and working together for a single cause. Through this ministry we are able to provide them with a reasonable remuneration for the work done. The idea of Union is present very much in our work and ministry.



We also hope to open a Fine Arts college (Pallotti School of Fine Arts) affiliated to Khairagarh University, Chhattisgarh.

Our vision is to realize the Pallottine charism through the medium of art.

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you commented...

on #251 Grazie veramente di cuore per il suo bollettino. Lo leggo sempre. Buon Natale!!

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