



## ROGATIONISTS OF THE HEART OF JESUS

Indian Quasi Province

West Desom, Aluva - 683102

Kerala, India

Tel: 0484 - 2607573, Fax: 0484 - 2604747

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August 26, 2013

Dearest,

The demise of our beloved Major superior Fr. Luigi Toffanin was indeed very sad news for all of us the Religious Priests, Brothers, Novices, Postulants, Seminarians, employees, collaborators, ex alumni, friends and beneficiaries of adoption at distance program of St. Thomas Quasi Province, India. Along the years of active involvement in the mission of the Rogate in India Fr. Luigi could insert fully in the local ecclesiastical life and was accepted by all because of his attractive personality. We share the pain of this difficult moment with our generalate, all the confreres and friends of Philippine Quasi Province, all the confreres of our Congregation in different circumscriptions and with all the loving relatives most especially his brother Mr. Guarino and Maria (sister in Law) whose loving involvement in the last few months was an unforgettable one. I sincerely thank all of you on the part of Quasi province, all those who empathetically approached our dear loving father during his sickness with their physical presence, consoling words, phone calls, e-mail messages and with continuous prayer support. I thank sincerely Fr. Togy Ullatikulam for his availability and filial concern that he expressed for Fr. Luigi and remained throughout as a representative of our Quasi Province. Let us comfort each other for the painful physical departure of Fr. Luigi but let us be ever more committed in our way of life since his shining spiritual and moral presence is active now more than any other time.

**Fr. Luigi, you are really great!!!** We really thank God for the gift of Fr. Luigi for our congregation and in a special way for the Quasi Provinces of Philippines and India. His missionary spirit attracted him to work untiringly in the Philippines and in India and on the other hand his great personality attracted all to him. The joyful personality of Fr. Luigi is praiseworthy. He was transparent in all his activities. He was a witness of joyful living of consecration with contentment. His simplicity of life and of dealings was experienced by all who knew him. His interior calmness is a challenge to this busy world. His sensitivity and concern towards others was even explicated in his suffering days. His love for nature was authentic and cleanliness was his passion. **Fr. Luigi, you are really great!!!** His love for the congregation and ardent devotion to St. Hannibal manifested very often in his words and deeds. As he received the gift of compassionate Heart of Jesus he expressed it very well in the values of Meekness and Humility. He had time for all and all received his love plentifully. His great trust in the divine providence especially in difficult moments of financial crisis remains as a challenge for all of us. *"Reduce, reuse and recycle"* was one of the strong exhortations of Fr. Luigi. He was a man, forced



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himself to believe that all are good and wanted to highlight the goodness of others. He silently endured lot of sufferings and wanted no one should know them and kept the pains for himself. In short, charity and patience were his only "**weakness**". **Fr. Luigi, you are really great!!!**

The growth of Rogationist Congregation in India, is indebted to Fr. Luigi very much, for her growth. All the Rogationist Indian priests were ordained during his mandate. It was during his time the congregation began to flourish from Rogate Ashram Aluve to Aimuri, then Manathavady, Meenangadi, Attapadi, and Nalgonda. Recently with the deep missionary spirit Fr. Luigi began a missionary opening in Sri Lanka and rehabilitation center in Trissur. In all the difficult moments of growth he was preaching the Hope of flourishing of Rogate with his innovative ideas. He expressed to me as his last wish and the priority of the Quasi province; "**animation of community life in the communities and our expansion**". As years passed as he conquered all with love he was an Indian Rogationist more than all of us. He had a clear projected dream for the growth of our Congregation in India. Even few days before his death he was sharing to many he has few things to do in India. We hope we will be able to realize what he wishes to do, of course, with his intercession.

I extend my sincere condolences to all those who sincerely feel his absence among the Rogationists and to the near and dear ones of Fr. Luigi. May the Heavenly Father reward the departed soul of Fr. Luigi with eternal bliss!

Fr. Shajan Pazhayil Rcj

Vicar St. Thomas Quasi Province, India

