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— N U R T U R I N G —
— T O L E R A N C E —

DIOCESE OF KALYAN
DEPARTMENT OF CATECHESIS

DREAM Big



Dream Big programme was conducted at Christ The King Church, Bhandup on 6th July, 2019. His Excellency Mar Thomas Elavanal felicitated the children those who scored 90% and above in SSC and 80% and above in HSC. Mrs. Sunitha George (Principal of Bombay Schotish School) gave a motivation talk.



YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO MY FEET AND A LIGHT TO MY PATH

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സഹിഷ്ണതയുടെ സംസ്കാരം

അക്രമവാസനയും, ക്രമസമാധാനമില്ലായ്മയും, തീവ്രവാദവും നമ്മുടെ ലോകത്ത് പടർന്നു പിടിക്കാൻ കാരണം മനുഷ്യന്റെ ധനത്തോടും, അധികാരത്തോടും, സുഖത്തോടുമുള്ള അമിതമായ ആഗ്രഹമാണ്. അതോടൊപ്പം, ഉള്ളിൽ ചെറുപ്പം മുതൽ അടിഞ്ഞു കൂടിയിരിക്കുന്ന ദേഷ്യവും, ദുഃഖവും, അപകർഷതാബോധവും അക്രമത്തിലൂടെ അണപൊട്ടിയൊഴുകുന്നു. പടർന്നു പന്തലിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന അക്രമസംസ്കാരത്തെ തുടച്ചു നീക്കുകയെന്നതാണ് നാമോരോരുത്തരുടേയും കടമയും ദൗത്യവും.

കുഞ്ഞിളം മനസ്സുകളിൽ “നമ്മൾ പരസ്പരം ഒന്നാണ്” എന്ന ബോധ്യത്തിന്റെ വിത്ത് പാകാൻ നമ്മുക്കു സാധിക്കണം. എല്ലാവരും ദൈവമക്കളാണെന്നും പരസ്പരം മല്ലടിച്ചു പിളരാതെ, ഒത്തൊരുമിച്ചു കൈപിടിച്ചു വളരാനുള്ള സാഹചര്യം ഒരുക്കണം. ഹൃദയമിടുപ്പുകളിലെ താളവും, മനസ്സിന്റെ ശാന്തതയറിയാനും മന:സാക്ഷിയുടെ സ്വരം തിരിച്ചറിയാനും കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങളെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുകയും പരിശീലിപ്പിക്കുകയും വേണം.

അതിന് കുടുംബവും, പഠനകളരിയും, സമൂഹവും, കുട്ടുകാരും ഒരേ ലക്ഷ്യത്തോടെ ചിന്തിക്കാനും പ്രവർത്തിക്കാനും സാധിച്ചാലേ സമാധാനാന്തരീക്ഷം സൃഷ്ടിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കൂ.

പ്രാർത്ഥനയാണ് അക്രമവാസനക്കെതിരായുള്ള ഏറ്റവും വലിയ ആയുധം. ക്ഷമയാണ് അക്രമമുറിപ്പാടുകളിലേക്കുള്ള ഏറ്റവും വലിയ ലേപനവും.

നാമോരോരുത്തർക്കും സമാധാനത്തിന്റെയും, സഹിഷ്ണതയുടേയും, ശാന്തിയുടേയും പ്രാർത്ഥനയുടേയും സന്ദേഹവാഹകരായി മാറാം. അങ്ങനെ സ്നേഹത്തിന്റെ ഒരു ലോകം നമുക്ക് പടുത്തുയർത്താം

ഏവർക്കും സാതന്ത്ര്യദിനത്തിന്റെയും, സ്വർഗ്ഗാരോഹണ തിരുന്നാളിന്റേയും ആശംസകൾ



NURTURING TOLERANCE IN TIME OF VIOLENCE

Fr. Tom Uzhunnalil SDB

is an Indian Catholic priest who is a Salesian of Don Bosco and a member of the Missionaries of Charity. He was kidnapped in March 2016 and held hostage by terrorists in Yemen, before being released in September 2017 after the intervention of the government of Oman and the Catholic Church. He currently visits places and shares his living testimonial of faith.

Every one of us has worry and anxiety to some extent about many things in life. The Gospels speak about it and the means to face them. Faith in the good and loving God, prayer to Him and forgiveness to oneself and others are the means to overcome fear, anxiety and worry.

“I tell you not to be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn't life worth more than food? And isn't the body worth more than clothes? ... Can any of you live a bit longer by worrying about it?” (Mt 6:25)

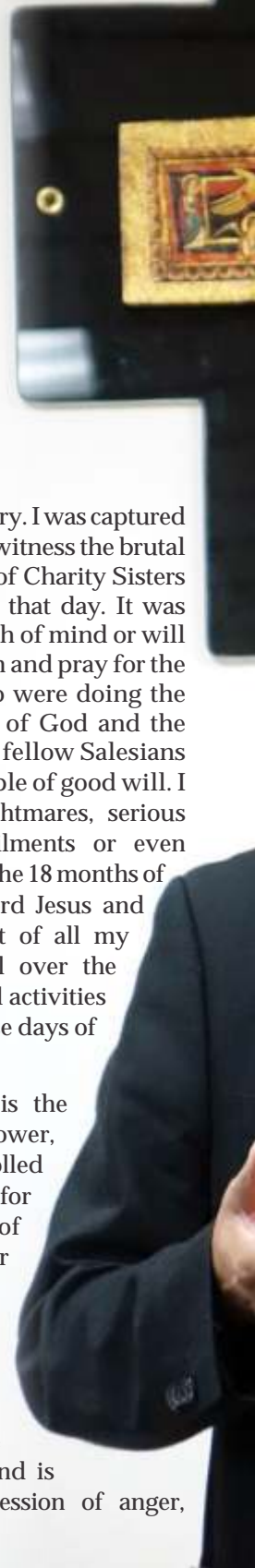
“Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. No one gives to his /her child a stone when it asks for bread and a snake when asked for a fish. You know how to give good things to your children. How much more, then, will your Father in Heaven give good things to those who ask Him? (Mt 7:7)

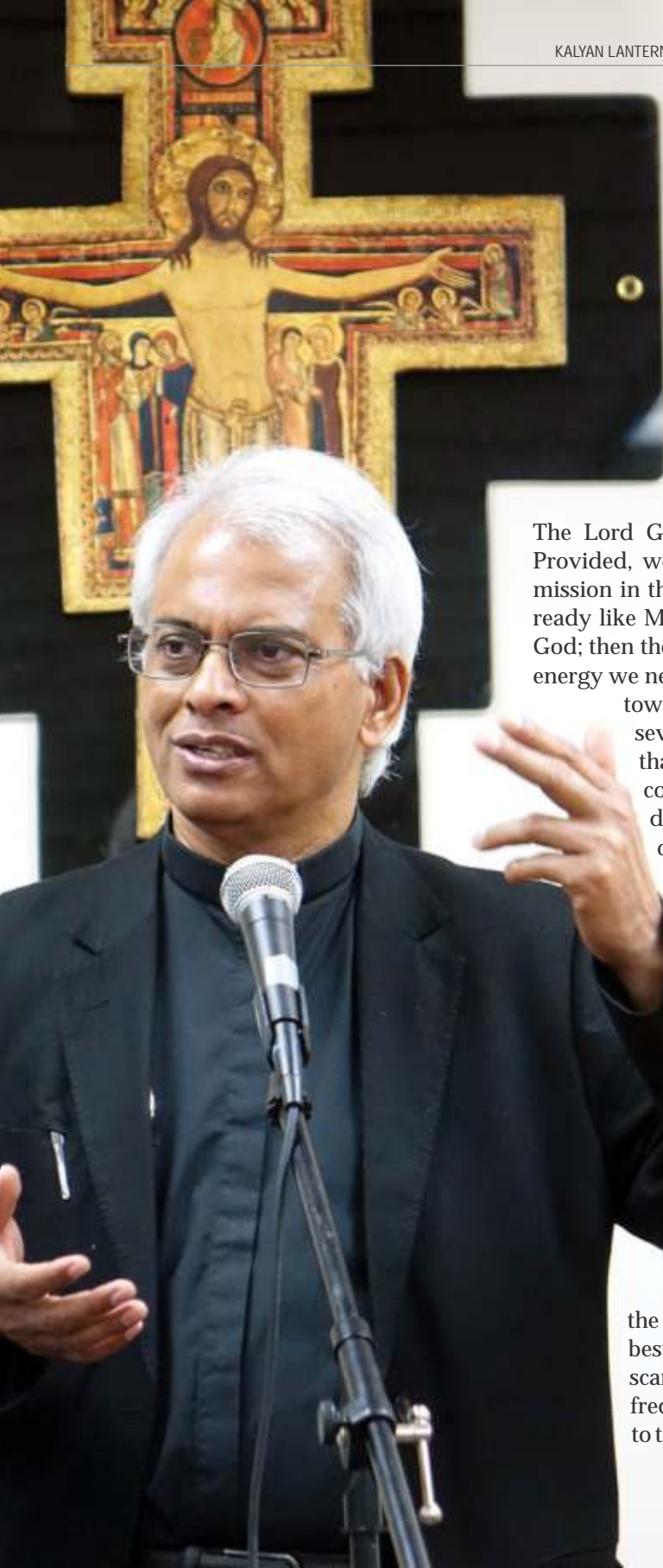
“Aren't five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one sparrow is forgotten by God. Even the hairs of your head have all been counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth much more than many sparrows.” (Lk 12:6-7)

These and a few other passages of the Gospel were my frequent comfort in my long 557 days of life in captivity under the terror group in Yemen from the 4th March 2016 to 12th Sept. 2017. In Yemen, I happened to see many a people dead in the bombings due to the war, the destructions

and ravages of war in that country. I was captured on the 4th March 2016. I had to witness the brutal killings of the 4 Missionaries of Charity Sisters and a few others with me on that day. It was certainly not due to my strength of mind or will power that I could remain calm and pray for the dying ones and the ones who were doing the killing; I owe it to the grace of God and the prayers of the MC Sisters, my fellow Salesians of Don Bosco, family and people of good will. I was preserved from any nightmares, serious physical or Psychological ailments or even spiritual letdowns all through the 18 months of captive stay. Praise to the Lord Jesus and thanks to the prayer support of all my sisters and brothers from all over the world, I am back to my normal activities after having gone through those days of captive life in Yemen.

The root cause of violence is the undue desire for wealth, power, authority, etc. The uncontrolled desire to have everything for oneself, even at the cost of deprivation and destruction for others, one's own fellow beings, lead one to make inappropriate attempts to handle one's emotions of anger, frustrations, sadness, and the like. Violence is one such inappropriate attempt and is used as a medium of expression of anger,





frustration and sadness by many an individual. The training we receive and the examples we witness right from our childhood through, from our family, schooling, society and circle of friends have a great say in the way we express our feelings, emotions, frustrations etc. It could be in a healthy manner or in an inappropriate. We ourselves can be our best judges on that. In any case, the responsibility lies on each one of us to wipe out the growing culture of violence in our lives and society.

The Lord God has a mission for each one of us. Provided, we are willing to listen to the call to the mission in the silence of our heart in prayer and are ready like Mother Mary to say that generous YES to God; then the Lord God will give all the strength and energy we need to go through and fulfill that Mission towards our sisters and brothers. There are several incidents, small and big, in my life that brought me to this realization and conviction. Some of these are narrated in detail in my autobiography "By the Grace of God". Jesus has given us the command to love one another as He has loved us and to forgive our offenders and to pray for them. 'Let not the sun go down on your anger.' By forgiving others of their offences against us and by praying for their well being we develop the capacity to remain calm in mind and in soul, even in the storms and turmoil of life.

Prayer is the most powerful weapon against the enemy in the face of violence and forgiveness is the best medicine in healing the injuries and scars of violence. Let us make use of it frequently and generously to bring healing to the violence ridden society.



അക്രമമുഖത്തെ സഹിഷ്ണുത

- ഫാ. ടോം ഉഴുന്നാലിൽ SDB



സലേഷ്യൻ സഭാംഗമായ ഫാ. ടോം ഉഴുന്നാലിൽ വി. മദർ തെരേസായുടെ മിഷനറീസ് ഓഫ് ചാരിറ്റിയിലും പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നു. മാർച്ച് 2016 മുതൽ സ്പെന്തംബർ 2017 വരെ ഇന്ദോനേഷ്യയിൽ ഭീകരരുടെ തടവിലായിരുന്നു.

AFP

ജീവിതത്തിലെ പല കാര്യങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചും ആകുലത ഉള്ളവരാണ് നാം. അവയെ അഭിമുഖീകരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ളവഴികൾ സുവിശേഷങ്ങൾ നമുക്ക് പറഞ്ഞു തരുന്നുണ്ട്. സ്പെന്തംബർ 2017 ന്റെ നവംബർ 2017 വരെ ദൈവത്തിൽ വിശ്വസിക്കുക, അവനെ ആരാധിക്കുകയും അവനോട് പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുക, തന്നോടു തന്നെയും മറ്റുള്ളവരോടും ക്ഷമിക്കുക എന്നിവയൊക്കെയാണ് ഭയവും ആകുലതയും പരിഹരിക്കാനുള്ള വഴികൾ.

“ഞാൻ നിങ്ങളോടു പറയുന്നു : എന്തു ഭക്ഷിക്കും, എന്തു പാനം ചെയ്യും ജീവനക്കുറിച്ചോ എന്തു ധരിക്കും എന്നു ശരീരത്തെക്കുറിച്ചോ നിങ്ങൾ ഉൽകണ്ഠാകുലരാകേണ്ട. ഭക്ഷണത്തെക്കാൾ ജീവനും വസ്ത്രത്തെക്കാൾ ശരീരവും ശ്രേഷ്ഠമല്ലേ? ” (മത്താ. 6:25)

“ചോദിക്കുവിൻ, നിങ്ങൾക്കു ലഭിക്കും. അന്വേഷിക്കുവിൻ, നിങ്ങൾ കണ്ടെത്തും. മുട്ടുവിൻ,

നിങ്ങൾക്കു തുറന്നു കിട്ടും.” (മത്താ. 7:7)

“അഞ്ചു കുരുവികൾ രണ്ടു നാണയത്തുട്ടിനു വിൽക്കപ്പെടുന്നില്ലേ? അവയിൽ ഒന്നുപോലും ദൈവസന്നിധിയിൽ വിസ്തരിച്ചുപോയില്ല. നിങ്ങളുടെ തലമുടിയിടപോലും എണ്ണപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഭയപ്പെടേണ്ടാ, നിങ്ങൾ അനേകം കുരുവികളെക്കാൾ വിലയുള്ളവരാണ്.” (ലൂക്കാ. 12:6-7)

2016 മാർച്ച് 4 മുതൽ 2017 സെപ്തംബർ 12 വരെ 557 ദിവസം നീണ്ട ഭീകരതയും ദുരിതവും നിറഞ്ഞ തടങ്കൽ ജീവിതത്തിൽ എപ്പോഴും എന്നെ സമാശ്വസിപ്പിച്ചത് മേൽ പറഞ്ഞ വചനങ്ങളും, ഇതുപോലുള്ള മറ്റു ദൈവവചനങ്ങളുമായിരുന്നു. യുദ്ധദുരന്തത്തിന്റെ പലതരത്തിലുള്ള കെടുതികളായ മരണങ്ങളും നാശവുമെല്ലാം യെമനിൽ വച്ച് കാണാൻ ഇടയായി. ഭീകരർ എന്നെ തട്ടികൊണ്ടുപോയ മാർച്ച് 4ന്, എന്നോടൊപ്പം ശുശ്രൂഷ ചെയ്തിരുന്ന 4 സന്യാസിനിമാരെയും മറ്റു ചിലരെയും ദാരുണമായി വധിക്കുന്നത് എനിക്ക് കാണേണ്ടി വന്നു. ആ ദിവസത്തെ ശാന്തമായി നേരിടാനായത് എന്റെ കഴിവൊന്നുമല്ല; മറിച്ച് എനിക്കുവേണ്ടി പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചിരുന്ന മിഷനറിസ് ഓഫ് ചാരിറ്റി സിസ്റ്റേർസിന്റെയും, സലേഷ്യൻ സഭാസമൂഹത്തിന്റെയുമൊക്കെ പ്രാർത്ഥനയുടെ കരുത്താലേയാണ്. തടവിലായിരുന്ന 18 മാസങ്ങളിൽ ദു:സ്വപ്നങ്ങളോ, ഗുരുതരമായ ശാരീരിക - മാനസിക പ്രശ്നങ്ങളോ ആത്മീയമായ നിരാശയോ ഒന്നും എന്നെ ബാധിച്ചില്ല എന്നത് അത്ഭുതാവഹമാണ്. തടങ്കൽ ജീവിതത്തിനുശേഷം സാധാരണജീവിതത്തിലേക്ക് തിരിച്ചു വരാനായത് എല്ലാവരുടെയും പ്രാർത്ഥനയുടെ ഫലം ഒന്നുകൊണ്ട് മാത്രമാണ്.

അക്രമത്തിന്റെയും യുദ്ധത്തിന്റെയുമൊക്കെ അടിസ്ഥാനകാരണം പണം, അധികാരം, പദവി എന്നിവയോടൊക്കെയുള്ള ക്രമാതീതമായ ആഗ്രഹമാണ്. ഇത്തരത്തിലുള്ള അനിയന്ത്രിതമായ ആഗ്രഹങ്ങൾ ഒരാളുടെ വികാരത്തെ അക്രമാസക്തമായ വഴികളിലേക്ക് തിരിച്ചുവിടുന്നു. തന്റെതായ വികാരങ്ങളെ എങ്ങനെ പ്രകടമാക്കുകയും നിയന്ത്രിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു എന്നുള്ളത് വളരെ പ്രസക്തമായ ഒരു ജീവിതപാഠമാണ്.

ചെറുപ്പം മുതലേ കുടുംബത്തിലും, സ്കൂളിലും, സമൂഹത്തിലും, സുഹൃദ്വലയങ്ങളിലുമൊക്കെ കാണുകയും സ്വീകരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്ന ജീവിത അനുഭവങ്ങളാണ് ഒരു വ്യക്തിയുടെ വികാര പ്രകടനങ്ങളെ രൂപപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്; അത് നന്മയായാലും തിന്മയായാലും. ഞാനാണ് എന്റെ വികാരഭാവങ്ങളുടെ വിധിയാളൻ. ഇന്ന് സമൂഹത്തിൽ നടമാടുന്ന അക്രമവാസനയും

യുദ്ധദുരന്തത്തിന്റെ പലതരത്തിലുള്ള നാശോന്മുഖമായ കെടുതികൾ യെമനിൽ വച്ച് കാണാൻ ഇടയായി; മരണങ്ങളും നാശവുമെല്ലാം! ഭീകരർ എന്നെ തട്ടികൊണ്ടുപോയ മാർച്ച് 4ന്, എന്നോടൊപ്പം ശുശ്രൂഷ ചെയ്തിരുന്ന 4 സന്യാസിനിമാരെയും മറ്റു ചിലരെയും ദാരുണമായി വധിക്കുന്നത് എനിക്ക് കാണേണ്ടി വന്നു.

അസഹിഷ്ണുതയും ഇല്ലാതാക്കാൻ നാം ഓരോരുത്തരും പരിശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതായുണ്ട്.

ദൈവം നമ്മെ ഒരു ദൗത്യം ഏൽപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. പ്രാർത്ഥനയിലൂന്നിയ ഒരു ആത്മധ്യാനത്തിനു മാത്രമേ ഈ ദൗത്യം തിരിച്ചറിയാൻ കഴിയുകയുള്ളൂ; അവർ പരിശുദ്ധ അമ്മയെപ്പോലെ ഉദാരമായി ദൈവത്തോട് സഹകരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. ചുറ്റുമുള്ള സഹോദരർക്ക് നന്മ ചെയ്യുവാനുള്ള ശക്തി നൽകി അപ്പോൾ ദൈവം അവരെ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കും. ഈ ബോധ്യം എന്നിൽ ജനിപ്പിച്ച ചെറുതും വലുതുമായ നിരവധി അനുഭവങ്ങൾ എനിക്കുണ്ട്. “By The Grace of God” എന്നുള്ള ആത്മകഥയിൽ ഞാൻ അവ വിവരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഈശോ നമ്മെ സ്നേഹിച്ചതുപോലെ മറ്റുള്ളവരെ സ്നേഹിക്കാനും, അവിടുന്ന് തന്നെ വേദനിപ്പിച്ചവരോട് ക്ഷമിച്ചതുപോലെ നാമും ക്ഷമിക്കുവാനും, അവർക്കുവേണ്ടി പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുവാനുമുള്ള പാഠവുമാണ് സ്വന്തം ജീവിതത്തിലൂടെ അവിടുന്ന് നമ്മെ പഠിപ്പിച്ചത്. മറ്റുള്ളവരോട് ക്ഷമിക്കുവാൻ നാം ശീലിക്കുമ്പോൾ, നമ്മുടെ ദു:ഖങ്ങളിലും, ദുരിതങ്ങളിലും ശാന്തരായിരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള മനസ്സിന്റെയും ആത്മാവിന്റെയും ശക്തികൂടി നാം സായത്തമാക്കുന്നു. അക്രമമുഖത്ത് ശത്രുവിനെതിരായ ഏറ്റവും വലിയ ആയുധം പ്രാർത്ഥനയാണ്. ക്ഷമയാകട്ടെ, അക്രമങ്ങൾ മൂലമുണ്ടാകുന്ന മുറിവുകളും മുറിപ്പാടുകളും ഉണക്കുന്നതിനും മായ്ക്കുന്നതിനുമുള്ള ഏറ്റവും നല്ല ഔഷധവും. അക്രമാസക്തമായ ഇന്നിന്റെ സംസ്കാരത്തെ സുഖപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനും സാന്ത്വനപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനും പ്രാർത്ഥന, സ്നേഹം, ക്ഷമ എന്നീ ഔഷധങ്ങളെ നമുക്ക് തുടർച്ചയായും ഉദാരമായും ഉപയോഗിക്കാം.



SHARMAN JOSHI

STEPHEN BALDWIN

SHARI RIGBY

SKYPASS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

The LEAST of THESE

the Graham Staines Story

MAY 16

BASED ON TRUE EVENTS THAT SHOCKED THE NATION...

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TheLeastOfTheseMovie.com.au

HERITAGE FILMS

MOVIE REVIEW

The Story:

The Least of These is a documentary based on the life of an Australian missionary - Graham Staines and his family who worked in a remote village in Orissa. This true story dates back to the late 1990s when Staines and his family dedicated their lives to treating the lepers and downtrodden tribals. Lepers have been treated as a curse in our society since time immemorial and in a country like India, where most villagers do not have access to basic education, the alienation of lepers is much more extreme. They are treated as untouchables and do not receive the

medical attention needed to cure their condition. When missionaries like Staines reach out to them and help them - they are perplexed and wonder why someone would leave their own country and come here to serve us. Is an act good, just by virtue of the act or does the intent or motive behind the act also matter? What Staines considered as his life long mission to serve Christ was perceived as a stunt to convert locals to Christianity. As the social fabric in the area crumbled, Hindu fanatics criticised his work and strongly opposed it. Staines and his two sons were attacked by a mob of extremists who burnt their car and reduced their bodies to ashes.

Movie Review:

The events in the movie unfold through the eyes of a journalist, *Manav Banerjee* played by Sherman Joshi. The naive journalist is given an assignment to collect evidence about forcible conversion by Staines. As he tries to uncover information, his own beliefs and stance on Staines (played by Stephen Baldwin) and his work slowly changes. However, other events incite further communal hatred and lead to the barbaric scene when a mob surrounds Staines and his two sons in their station wagon and are subsequently incinerated.

Overall, the movie is shot on location and has some soul stirring performances from Sherman Joshi and Prakash Belawadi (editor of the newspaper). The director of the movie Aneesh Daniel, has portrayed this provocative narrative in the most neutral manner possible. It is interesting to note how the movie refrains from naming the political party involved in the gruesome murder of the missionary. Additionally, while Staines and his family members' identities are revealed, the perpetrators names have been changed from Dara Singh to Mahendra. Some of the questions that popped into my head are:

Who are we protecting and why?

Has the movie served its purpose?

My Reflections and Learnings:

There's a lot of uproar regarding communal violence recently around the country which makes me wonder if much has changed in the past two decades. Yes, we've been to the moon and back two times, but our minds are still cloistered. After Staines' untimely death, President K.R. Narayanan spoke for everyone when he described the murder as "a monumental aberration of time-tested tolerance and harmony. The killings belong to the world's inventory of black deeds". What can we do to ensure that no one has to suffer in this manner? An open dialogue needs to be initiated between different communities. Schools should build

tolerance in students and have activities that cater to the same. We all should understand that there is no 'us' and 'them', we should all be able to connect with each other as humans regardless of caste, creed, sex and religion.

Our role as Christians is to absorb and end violence and not incite any further hatred. My biggest learning and inspiration is that Glades Staines (wife of Graham Staines) forgave the perpetrators in the spirit of Christ's love and teaching of forgiveness. Although the perpetrators were given a life sentence to prison, Glades chose to truly love her enemy, just like Christ would. What would you do if you were in Glades' place?

In conclusion, I would like to share Mother Teresa's poem *Anyway* which encourages me to work in the social sector even though many challenges arise every single day!

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered; Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and your God; It was never between you and them anyway.

Anju Meritta Joseph

belongs to St. Sebastian Church, Goregaon East and currently leads the Kashvi Learning Centre, Chembur



LIVING UP TO THE CHALLENGE OF BEING TRUE CATHOLICS IN TODAY'S INDIA

On 23th May 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi demolished his opposition and swept to victory in the world's largest democracy. But seeing it through a Christian lens raises some pressing questions about the future of religious minorities here. The election results of 2019 has not exposed Modi, in fact, Modi need not be exposed as he is quite well-known since 2002. Sadly, the election exposed the true colours of the majority of the people of India. It stripped naked or exposed the true person hiding behind the mask of secularism. What upset many, and especially me, was not that Modi came back to power but that our country can no longer claim to be secular. It has been eight weeks since then and there are numerous examples that proved my point and so, I need not explain this in detail.

My question is, what has this result done to the minorities of this nation? It has created in each one a remorse or sadness that we are pushed down towards being second-class citizens. It has suddenly taken away the feeling of being proud of/for our country. It has shocked us and left us hopeless that India will never be great again. It has created a fear in the minorities that our Hindu neighbours can no longer be trusted. We will think twice before engaging in a political conversation with any of them. The scenario

seems grim and saddening. Till now, all who were lynched are Mohammed Akhlaq or Pehlu Khan. I fear a day when these names would change to be a Joseph, Thomas or Varghese. In fact, there are already quite a few instances reported of atrocities against the Christians in the North of India. Lynched for what we eat or simply for being a Christian minority. I do not want to sound disillusioned and hopeless or in any way fill you with fear. In this context, to tell that the church teaches universal brotherhood and sisterhood, that each person is made in the image of God, and so, should work towards fostering and promoting dignity would be too preachy. This political scenario must lead us to re-think and re-orient ourselves.

In spite of these situations, we Christians are seen by our Hindu brothers and sisters as people of peace who love the enemy and are non-retaliatory. Therefore, in this situation, we are called to take two concrete steps: 1) re-orient ourselves through introspection; 2) re-think our social stance and social commitments.

Whatever the situation is, Christians are often viewed as peacemakers and contributors to our society. Apart for the issue on conversion, our Hindu brothers and sisters, as a whole, see and

place Christians in high regard. They are highly appreciative of our institutions as well as of the way we, as a community contribute to the development of the society. However, of late, this aspect of our overall image has come under attack. The church in Kerala, especially, has undermined the image of the church by constantly engaging in internal fights to bring them out in public. The media celebrates each juicy tidbit on prime time, which has brought the credibility of the church under constant scrutiny. This political scenario should lead us to introspect on these elements of internal divisions within the church, which are decaying and rotting it. More than ever, these are the times when the church as a whole should stand united. Whatever denomination one might belong to, the leaders of the church must come together and unite in an act of sincere retrospection and find the courage to change the things which would label us as an anti-witness to Christ. When there are dangers outside waiting for an opportunity to attack and hurt us in whatever way possible, we cannot afford to be in our slumber of internal fights, issues on leadership and petty disagreements on faith, liturgy and traditions. Our efforts to be united under one Shepherd Jesus must be our utmost priority in these difficult times. These are times which must be outlived by constant prayer and supplication for the world, and especially for our country.

The other aspect that needs immediate attention is for us to re-think our social stand and social commitment. There will be a tendency, in these troubled times, to feel angry, which can demoralize us and lead us to curb all our charitable initiatives. There would also be a number of instances where we might feel less than enthusiastic to help others, especially our Hindu brethren. These feelings can easily be justified saying that let the government help the poor and the needy. In fact, it was the poor and the needy who voted them in. In these moments, it will be normal to look at society with our political interests in mind, but one needs to look at it through the lens of Jesus Christ, as revealed in the gospels. Neither person nor any evil could deter Jesus from doing good to others. And the

church and its calling is to bear witness to this same activity like its leader, the Prince of Peace-Jesus Christ.

We need to re-focus our mission to do more good when there are ample chances where we will be misunderstood for doing them. Let our institutions, schools and hospitals, do more charity, towards the society, than ever before. It is the Christian associations and institutions that play a key role in linking the Church and the state. Our leaders and we as a church must constantly engage in healthy inter-religious interactions: organize inter-religious dialogue sessions in our premises as well as go to participate and make our presence visible and audible in all the programs organized by the ruling party as well as other religious groups. Build healthy relationships with all politicians at the parish, diocese and national levels. These are times of networking and making ourselves understood well by others. In fact, when there are chances of being misunderstood, we should continue our mission to serve humanity and especially, the society we live in. Believing in and thinking of the verse Jesus taught us in the beatitudes, "When others persecute you and utter all kinds of evil falsely against you for my sake and the gospel, rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for they persecuted the prophets and me before you" (Matthew 5:11). In fact, when there are instances or chances of the church being misunderstood and has come under attack, we will continue to do good with great fervour; we must increase our charitable works and infuse them with more love because the Lord taught us to do so.

I would like to conclude in Dalai Lama's words:

Compassion is the radicalism of our time...

For only when the power of love overcomes the love of power will the world know true peace.

Fr. Rajesh Mathew

is a priest with the Diocese of Kalyan and currently a Doctoral student in Milan, Rome.

Of Experiments and Experiences

Today the world is more polarised than ever. I know, trust me to come up with the understatement of the century!

It is an undeniable reality that across the world, right wing political parties are winning elections and building governments that fan the flames of communal discord. But before I share my personal views on today's political scenario, let me present a few short summaries of various conversations that I have had with colleagues and friends.



One guy, let's call him Ajay, a Buddhist by religion, told me that he was very disappointed with the choice of candidates this election. So he opted for NOTA. When I asked him how that would help, he mentioned that by doing this, he has recorded his displeasure. Oh well.

Another friend, Dipti, a Hindu lady, voraciously defended the current regime's tough stance on terrorism. On being pointed out that there were more attacks in comparison to the previous government, she mentioned that she is happy that the current government gives it back as good as it gets.

I, later, had a similar conversation with some of my Catholic friends. Sadly, most were completely oblivious to the gravity of recent happenings and largely apathetic about the current political scenario.

As I interacted with more and more people about the political climate in the country, to my dismay, I found that most had bought in to the popular narrative.

Humans have survived across millennia because we were able to identify and neutralise threats early on. Today, when our very existence is in question, largely due to environmental factors, we are being head faked by politicians.

And so, here we are, with our very own survivor series - The survival of the fanatic. Educated, uneducated, rich or poor, all are welcomed as long as one adheres to populism.

A common enemy is chosen. It's often a community or group that is in the minority. They are mistreated as the majority (read - the righteous) strive to build a new region devoid of blemishes. How fascinating! If only we could easily rid ourselves of the unwanted! Case in point: the Rohingyas in Myanmar.

Coming back to the friends I mentioned earlier, a few days ago, Dipti was ready to go to war on my behalf when she heard that someone had been disparaging me. It took me by surprise when I heard her defense of me as I was already quite upset with her political views. I belong to a minority, so why save me now when you don't

care about my rights one way or another.

I soon realised that this feeling of being protective towards one's friends rang true across religions and communities. They saw me as their friend. There, one's political or religious stance was of no consequence whatsoever, which opened my eyes to the fact that it is only when the enemy is nameless that the other has power.

A Dipti would not want her friend, Rini, to suffer, but an unknown Catholic fellow suffering in a remote corner might not trouble her.

Human beings have always been subjective, but like to think of ourselves as objective. This is why we feel so furious whenever we see favouritism in our workplaces or groups. But it is this exact emotion that has saved people when trouble came calling. When Hitler tried to eliminate the Jews, more often than not, it was their friends who stepped up to the challenge and protected them in their own homes.

Wise and kind, the former US President Abraham Lincoln once said, "Do I not kill my enemies when I make them my friends?"

It's time we take a leaf out of the lives of legends who survived the harshest parts of history. As we move ahead in these turbulent times, the time has come for us to befriend our neighbour. Not just because our lives might depend on it, although it's part of it, but because as Christians it is our duty is to love our neighbours without judgement. It is only when someone feels affectionate towards you that they would be amenable to your views. Respecting and understanding the other's point of view is an important part of building communal harmony.

So, the next time anyone thinks of going to war against their neighbour, let the battle cry be - '*Kill them with kindness*'.

PS: Names have been changed to protect identities.

Rini Kunjuvareed

belongs to St. Joseph's Parish, Powai

TESTIMONIAL

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

A wise, old boatman took pilgrims across the river,
On the other side was a mosque, a church and a temple,
St Thomas built the church with love and Faith.
A wise Travancore king, famous for his generosity,
love and peace, donated him the land.
He loved listening to the bells and call for worship.
The church was built by Muslim artisans and Hindus.
Some of them converted to Christianity,
Love and acceptance, brotherly love prevailed,
Simple villagers who shared the beliefs of St. Thomas.

As they journeyed across the river, they admired
the coastal areas, shared food, ideas on farming and laughed.
Many years passed; People travelled by cars, schools established.
Technology and gadgets took over; Modern culture prevailed
Luxury living and high thinking, replaced the simple life.
Nostalgia, St. Thomas came down and took the boat again,
As the boat started, chaos and confusion, fist fights followed,
Ishmael sat with his friends, Xavier took his group stern side
Hindus in the middle, no one spoke, nor shared water or food.
Indifference all around, St. Thomas dismayed, spoke to them:

...The king of Travancore, accepted me like a brother...
He looked at Xavier and Ishmael, their hearts melted,
Arms outstretched Thomas embraced them with Love;
Hindu brethren watched with emotion and smiled with wisdom;
I built my church with Love, Peace and Brotherhood on this land.
Fill your hearts with Love, Spread the Love of a Perfect Saviour.

And then came the havoc, rendered by Floods,
Differences forgotten, they helped one another,
They conquered the disaster, St. Thomas was pleased
Love One Another As I Have Loved You. The message bore fruit.

I Anonymous





ദൈവികമായ രഹസ്യം

മാർ തോമസ് ഇലവനാൽ
കല്യാൺ രൂപതയുടെ മെത്രാൻ

“ദൈവികമായ ഈ രഹസ്യത്തെ സന്തോഷത്തോടെ സ്വീകരിക്കുകയും സ്തുതിക്കുകയും അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു” എന്നാണ് പ്രാർത്ഥനയിൽ ചൊല്ലുന്നത്. കർത്താവിന്റെ പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ അനുസ്മരണമാണ് വി. കുർബ്ബാനയെന്ന് ഈ പ്രാർത്ഥന വ്യക്തമാക്കുന്നു. പൗരസ്ത്യസഭാപിതാക്കന്മാർ ‘രഹസ്യം’ എന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ‘കുദാശ’ എന്നാണ് അർത്ഥമാക്കുന്നത്. അതുകൊണ്ട് കർത്താവിന്റെ പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തോടു ബന്ധപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ് കുദാശകളെ മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടത്. വി. കുർബ്ബാനയിൽ പങ്കെടുക്കുന്ന നമ്മൾ പെസഹാരഹസ്യങ്ങളുടെ അനുസ്മരണത്തിലൂടെ, കർത്താവിന്റെ രക്തത്തിലൂടെ ഉറപ്പിക്കപ്പെട്ട പുതിയ ഉടമ്പടിയിൽ പങ്കുകാരാവുകയാണ്. പുതിയ ഉടമ്പടിയിലൂടെ, നമ്മൾ കർത്താവിന്റെ പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിലും അവിടുത്തെ ഉത്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ സന്തോഷത്തിലും പങ്കാളികളാകുന്നു.

സന്തോഷത്തോടെ

ഉത്ഥിതനായ ഈശോയെ കണ്ടപ്പോൾ ശിഷ്യന്മാർ സന്തോഷിച്ചു എന്നാണ് നമ്മൾ വായിക്കുന്നത് (യോഹ. 20:20). ആദിമക്രൈസ്തവസമൂഹം കർത്താവിന്റെ ഉത്ഥാനത്തെ അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്ന ആഴ്ചയുടെ ആദ്യ ദിവസമാണ് അപ്പം മുറിക്കലിനായി ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടിയിരുന്നത് (നട. 20:7). അതുകൊണ്ട് ആഹ്ളാടത്തോടെയാണ് അവർ അതിൽ പങ്കുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നത് (നട. 2:46). ഈശോയുടെ ഉയിർപ്പിന്റെ സന്തോഷത്തിൽ അവർ ദൈവത്തെ സ്തുതിച്ചു. അതുപോലെ വി. കുർബ്ബാനയിൽ പങ്കെടുക്കുന്ന സമൂഹവും കർത്താവിന്റെ രക്ഷാകർമ്മത്തെ ഓർത്ത് സന്തോഷത്തോടെയാണ് ദൈവത്തെ സ്തുതിക്കുകയും അവിടുത്തേയ്ക്ക് നന്ദിപറയുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നത്. കർത്താവിന്റെ ഉത്ഥാനത്തെ

അനുസ്മരിക്കുകയും ആചരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്ന സമൂഹത്തോടാണ് വി. പൗലോസ് പറയുന്നത്. “നിങ്ങൾ എപ്പോഴും നമ്മുടെ കർത്താവിൽ സന്തോഷിക്കുവിൻ” (ഫിലി. 4:4) എന്ന്.

അനുസ്മരിക്കുകയും അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും

അപ്പവും വീഞ്ഞും പുരോഹിതൻ അൾത്താരയിൽ സമർപ്പിക്കുമ്പോൾ ചൊല്ലുന്നത്. ‘പീഡാനുഭവത്തിന്റേയും മരണത്തിന്റേയും ഓർമ്മയാചരിക്കുവാൻ കല്പിക്കുകയും ചെയ്ത മിശിഹ’ എന്നാണ്. കുദാശാവചനങ്ങൾ ആരംഭിക്കുമ്പോഴും ‘പീഡാനുഭവത്തിന്റെ സ്മരണ ഞങ്ങൾ ആചരിക്കുന്നു’ എന്നാണ് ചൊല്ലുന്നത്. നാലാമത്തെ പ്രണാമജപം അവസാനിക്കുമ്പോഴും ‘പീഡാനുഭവത്തിന്റേയും മരണത്തിന്റേയും....രഹസ്യത്തെ സ്മരിക്കുകയും അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു’ എന്നാണ് ചൊല്ലുന്നത്.

നമ്മുടെ അനുസ്മരണത്തിന്റെ വിഷയമായിരിക്കുന്നത് കർത്താവിന്റെ പെസഹാരഹസ്യമാണ്. അതുതന്നെയാണ് നമ്മൾ അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും ആഘോഷിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നത്. വി. കുർബ്ബാന ഒരനുസ്മരണമാണ്. ക്രിസ്തുരഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ അനുസ്മരണം. ഈ ക്രിസ്തുരഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ ഇന്നിന്റെ ആചരണവും ആഘോഷവുമാണ് വി. കുർബ്ബാനയെന്ന സത്യമാണ് ‘അനുസ്മരിക്കുകയും അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും’ എന്ന ഈ പ്രാർത്ഥന നമ്മെ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

‘അനുസ്മരിക്കുക’ എന്ന വാക്കിനെ കഴിഞ്ഞുപോയ സംഭവത്തെ ഓർമ്മയിലേക്കുകൊണ്ട് വരിക എന്ന അർത്ഥത്തിൽ മാത്രമല്ല, മറിച്ച് അവയെ കൗദാശികമായി സന്നിഹിതമാക്കുക എന്ന അർത്ഥത്തിലാണ് മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടത്. യഹൂദരുടെ പെസഹ ആചരണവും കഴിഞ്ഞുപോയ

സംഭവത്തിന്റെ അനുഭവത്തിലേക്കു കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനുള്ള ആചരണമായാണ് കണക്കാക്കിയിരുന്നത്. ഇവിടെ കർത്താവിന്റെ പെസഹാ രഹസ്യത്തെ അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് മാത്രമല്ല അവയുടെ ആചരണത്തിലൂടെ ഈ പെസഹാരഹസ്യങ്ങൾ ഇന്ന് കൗദാശികമായി സന്നിഹിതമാക്കപ്പെടുന്നു എന്ന അർത്ഥത്തിലുമാണ് മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടത്.

സന്നിഹിതമാക്കപ്പെടുന്നു.

കർത്താവിന്റെ രക്ഷാകരപ്രവൃത്തികൾ കാലത്തിനും ദേശത്തിനുമതീതമായി നിത്യയഥാർത്ഥ്യമായി നിലകൊള്ളുകയാണ്. ഒരിക്കൽ എന്നേയ്ക്കുമായി പൂർത്തീകരിക്കപ്പെട്ടവയാണത് (ഹെബ്രാ. 10:10). അതുപോലെ അത് എന്നേയ്ക്കും നിലനില്ക്കുന്ന യഥാർത്ഥ്യവുമാണ്. കർത്താവ് നമുക്ക് നല്കിയ ഈ രഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ അനുസ്മരണവും അനുഷ്ഠാനവും വഴി അനുസ്മരിക്കപ്പെടുന്ന രഹസ്യങ്ങൾ സന്നിഹിതമാക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. കർത്താവിന്റെ നിത്യമായ രക്ഷാകരപ്രവൃത്തികൾ സമയത്തിന്റെ പരിധിയെ ഭേദിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഇന്ന് ഇവിടെ സന്നിഹിതമാകുന്നു എന്ന്. 'അനുസ്മരിക്കുകയും അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു' എന്ന വാക്കുകൾ നമ്മെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. തൻമൂലം 'സന്നിഹിതമാക്കപ്പെടുന്നു' എന്ന അർത്ഥത്തിലാണ് 'അനുസ്മരിക്കുകയും അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും' എന്ന വാക്കുകളെ മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടത്. വിശ്വാസത്തിന്റെ കണ്ണുകളിലൂടെ കാണുമ്പോൾ വി. കുർബ്ബാനയിൽ

സംബന്ധിക്കുന്ന സമൂഹം കർത്താവിന്റെ രക്ഷാകരമായ പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിൽ എന്നും പങ്കാളികളായിത്തീരുകയാണ്. കാരണം സന്നിഹിതമാക്കപ്പെടുന്നതു വഴി അവ ഇന്നും കൗദാശികമായിത്തുടരുന്നു എന്നു പറയാം. ഈ അർത്ഥത്തിലാണ് മഹാനായ വി. ലിയോ പറയുന്നത് "കർത്താവിൽ ദൃശ്യമായതെല്ലാം ഇന്ന് സഭയിൽ കൗദാശികങ്ങളിലൂടെ തുടരുന്നു" എന്ന് (Serm. 74:2).

അനുഷ്ഠാനങ്ങളെ അനുഭവമാക്കുക

നമ്മൾ കണ്ടതുപോലെ, ക്രിസ്തുവിലൂടെ പൂർത്തീകരിക്കപ്പെട്ട രക്ഷാകരരഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ അനുസ്മരണവും ആചരണവുമാണ് വി. കുർബ്ബാന. എന്നാൽ എന്താണ് ബലിപീഠത്തിൽ നടക്കുകയെന്ന് വിശ്വാസത്തിലൂടെ അറിയുകയാണ് അനുസ്മരണം. അനുസ്മരണം ശക്തമായാലെ അനുഷ്ഠാനങ്ങൾക്ക് അർത്ഥമുണ്ടാവുകയുള്ളൂ. ജീവൻ തുടിക്കുന്ന ഓർമ്മകൾക്കേ അനുഷ്ഠാനങ്ങളെ അനുഭവമാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. ഓർമ്മകൾ നഷ്ടമായാൽ അനുഭവം നഷ്ടമാകും. ഓർമ്മകൾ ശൃംഷ്ടകമായാൽ അനുഭവം ദുർബലമാകും. അൾത്താരയിലെ അനുഷ്ഠാനത്തിലൂടെ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ രക്ഷാകരപ്രവർത്തനത്തെയാണ് നമ്മൾ അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നത്. അവ ഇന്നിന്റെ അനുഭവമാക്കിത്തീർക്കാൻ വിശ്വാസം നമ്മെ സഹായിക്കണം.

The Divine Mystery

Here in this prayer we recite: 'we commemorate and celebrate... the divine mystery'. By the word 'mystery' the Eastern fathers of the church mean the sacrament. The sacraments are to be understood in relation to the paschal mystery of Christ. Whenever we participate in the Holy Qurbana, through the commemoration of the paschal mystery, we are made participants in the new covenant ratified in the blood of Christ. Through the new covenant we participate in the paschal mystery especially in the joy of His resurrection.

Rejoining and Glorifying

As we read, when the Risen Lord appeared "the disciples were filled with joy" (Jn. 20:20). Early Christian community used to gather together for the 'breaking of the bread' on the first day of the week as the day of the resurrection of the Lord (Acts 20:7). They participated in it with great joy (Acts 2:46). They praised God in the joy of the resurrection of the Lord. In the Holy Qurbana too the community remembering the salvific actions of Christ praise and thank God with great joy. It

is to this Christian community that St. Paul says “I want you to be happy, be always happy in the Lord” (Phil. 4:4).

Commemorate and Celebrate

When the priest offers up the bread and wine in the Qurbana he makes the prayer “May Christ who... commanded us to celebrate the memory of His passion”. At the beginning of the institution narrative again he prays: “we commemorate the passion of your beloved Son”. Again at the conclusion of the fourth Gehantha prayer” we commemorate and celebrate”. This word ‘commemorate’ has deep meaning and significance. It is to be understood not merely to mean to bring to mind a past event but rather to mean to ‘make present’ sacramentally the events commemorated. For the Jewish people too passover celebration helped to experience and re-live the exodus event. So too, here we not only commemorate the paschal mystery as a past event but it is made sacramentally a present reality.

Made Present

The salvific actions of Christ remain as eternal reality that is beyond the limits of time and space. it is once and for all fulfilled reality (Heb. 10:10) and a reality that will remain for ever. Through the commemoration and celebration this mystery entrusted to us by

Christ, becomes a present reality. So these words’ commemorate and celebrate reminds us that the salvific actions of Christ as they are divine actions, cutting across the limits of time, are made a present reality through the celebration of this mystery. Because of the sacramental and divine efficacy given to this mystery it is ever a reality made present through the celebration. It is in this sense that St. Leo the great has said “that which was visible in Christ was passed over into the sacraments of the Church” (Sermo 74:2). When we see in the light of the faith, the community that participate in the Holy Qurbana not only remember but are always made to participate in the paschal mystery of Christ.

Make the Celebration an experience

Therefore, Eucharist is the commemoration and celebration of the redemptive actions of God. It is commemoration that helps us to understand what is being celebrated on the altar. If only the commemoration is strong the celebration will become meaningful. It is the lively and powerful memories that make the celebration experiential. The loss of the deep meaning of commemoration will result in the loss of the aspect of experience of the celebration. Through the symbolic celebration on the altar we remember the salvific actions of God. It is our faith that helps to make it an experience of today.

BISHOP'S DIARY

AUGUST - 2019

1st	Qurbana - Sakinaka	11th	Qurbana - ARC
4th	Qurbana - Minor Seminary		SSS Annual Meeting - Bishop's House
5th	Minor Seminary Class - Panvel	12th	Minor Seminary Class - Panvel
6th	Recollection and Presbyterium - Bishop's House	14th	Curia Meeting
7th	Curia Meeting - Bishop's House	15th	MPC Resource persons meet
9th	MPC - Panvel		Seminar on Theology of the body
		17th	CRI Superiors Meet
		18th-31st	Synod of Bishops - Kakkanad

Dominicans elect first Asian leader



The Dominicans, one of the most prominent religious orders in the Catholic Church, have elected the first Asian leader in their 800-year history.

Fr Gerard Timoner, who comes from the Philippines, was chosen as the 88th Master of the Order of Preachers on July 13. The election took place during a gathering of the order in Bien Hoa, Vietnam.

The 51-year-old master is a former leader of the Philippine province of Dominicans and up until now has held a senior Rome-based position – a “socius” – advising on Asia Pacific matters.

His election reflects the Church’s growth in Asia, and a new generation of emerging leaders from the continent.

Pope Francis gives away relics of St. Peter to Orthodox patriarch

Following a solemn Mass on June 29, the liturgical feast of the Apostles Sts. Peter and Paul, the Pope gave a delegation representing Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople a bronze reliquary containing nine bone fragments of the first Pope.

The Orthodox Church, while having a valid priesthood and sacraments, is not in full communion with Rome, in part because it does not accept papal primacy. Although a mutual withdrawal of excommunication between Rome and Constantinople was issued at the end of the Second Vatican Council by Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras, Catholics do not pray for the Orthodox patriarchs in their liturgy nor do the Orthodox pray for the Pope. There is no sacramental intercommunion between the Churches.



Pope Francis chooses Marian theme for World Youth Day

The theme of the 2022 World Youth Days in Lisbon will be “Mary rose and went with haste” (Lk 1:39), Pope Francis said June 22 while meeting some 250 youths from more than 100 countries.

The young people were in Rome participating in the XI International Youth Forum, which focused on the theme of “Youth in action in a synodal Church.”

Recalling World Youth Day in Panama, Pope Francis called on young people to prepare for the next World Youth Day by meditating on two scriptural

passages from Lk 7:14: “Young man, I say to you, Arise!” and a re-working of Acts 26:16, “Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen.”



Pope Francis moves NYC Archbishop Sheen one step closer to sainthood

The late Archbishop Fulton Sheen, a charismatic figure of U.S. Roman Catholicism in the 20th century and a pioneer in using media for religious purposes, is one step closer to sainthood.

A Vatican statement on July 6 said the pope had approved a decree recognising a miracle attributed to Sheen's intercession, meaning he will be beatified.



The Vatican-approved miracle relates to the case of a stillborn Illinois baby in 2010, the Catholic Herald reported. The child, James Fulton Engstrom, had no heartbeat for more than an hour after birth — but revived on his own when family members prayed for Sheen's intercession, a panel of doctors found.

Sheen, who was born in Illinois in 1895 and died in New York in 1979, was sometimes called the first “televangelist”.

The church will require documentation of a second miracle before Sheen can be canonized as a saint.

Pope Francis to declare Kerala nun Marian Thresia a saint on October 13



The Blessed Mariam Thresia, founder of the Sisters of the Holy Family Congregation under the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, will be canonised on October 13. She will be canonised along with John Henry Newman from England, Italian Josephine Vannini, Swiss Marguerite Bays and Brazilian Irm Dulce Pontes, said a report.

Thresia, who belongs to the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, was born in the village of Puthenchira in Thrissur district on April 26, 1876. She died in Kuzhikkattussery village on June 8, 1926.

Pope St John Paul II had declared the nun as venerable on June 28, 1999, and she was beatified on April 9, 2000. Thresia was professed in 1914.

“Education of girls was Mariam Thresia's liberation theology in action, without the slogan,” PTI quoted a Church document as saying. “Several young girls were attracted to her by her simplicity, humility and shining sanctity. At the time of her death at the age of 50, there were 55 Sisters in the congregation, 30 boarders and 10 orphans under her care.”

The Vatican had earlier declared three Kerala-born Indian Catholics as Saints. While Fr Kuriakose Elias Chavara and Sister Euphrasia were canonised into the league of saints by Pope Francis in 2014, Sister Alphonsa was declared a saint in 2008.

Answers to Activity-1

1. Jeremiah was a young man when God called him to be a prophet to many nations. God told Jeremiah He knew him before his birth.
2. The two signs God showed were a branch of an almond tree and boiling pot running over
3. Jeremiah thought he wasn't qualified to be a prophet of God as he considered himself to be a child.
4. Jeremiah was born in the kingdom of Judah, in a town called Anathoth, north of Jerusalem.
5. Jeremiah warned the people that the judgement day was near and it is going to be terrible as the people worshipped idols instead of God.

Lucky winners of Activity 1

- GLENNIS JOY, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili (E)
- SELWYN SAJI, Our Lady of Rosary Parish, Katraj, Pune Forane
- LYNN AVILA THOMSON, St. Thomas Cathedral, Kalyan (W)

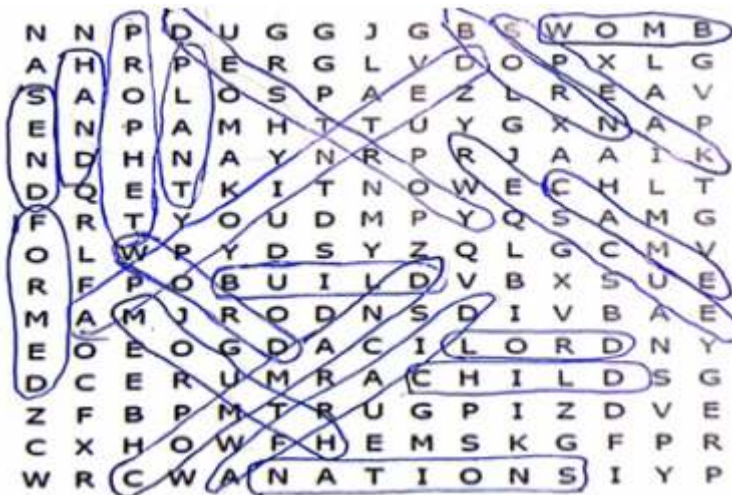
Answers to Activity-2

They worshiped worthless idols

Lucky winners of Activity 2

- DIYA ROY, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bhayander
- IMMANUEL ANTHONY, St. Thomas Cathedral Church, Kalyan (W)
- JULIET TOYSON, St. Mary's Church, Malad East

Answers to Activity-3



Lucky winners of Activity 3

- MARIA PINTO, Mother of Victory Church, Tikujiniwadi
- AMIE GEORGE, St. George Catholic Church, Nalasopara (W)
- ALONA BRITO, St. Alphonsa Church, Mankhurd

Answers to Activity-4



Lucky winners
of Activity 4

- JERRY WILSON
MULAKKAL,
St Bartholomew church
Kalyan (East)
- BENITA SIJO,
Infant Jesus Church,
Koparkhairne
- CHRISTMOL
CHERIAN,
St. Thomas Church Vashi

Answers to Activity-5

Selected entry for Activity 5

Jesus is visiting your home tomorrow. What would you cook for him? Why?

Look! A Whatsapp video call from Angel Gabriel, "Hey Mary and Elizabeth (our baptismal names), this is Angel Gabriel from St. Peter's office in heaven. Jesus would be there for lunch at your place, tomorrow." Who wouldn't be excited with such a precious call. We both are extremely delighted to meet Jesus. It reminds us that thousands of years back, Mary pregnant with Jesus Christ, had visited Elizabeth's home. We rushed to share the good news with our parents. We were not at all nervous because our mother is a Master Chef, she would cook a delicious and mouth watering meal and our father, being acatechist & anevangelist for the past 25 years, would precisely guide us as to what would be the best way to welcome our Lord.

Dad would help us to get to know what Jesus would love to eat with references from the Holy Bible & Mom would support us to gather the ingredients so that we could plan the menu accordingly. We would cook our Savior & Redeemer Jesus, the following food. We hope he loves it.

Welcome Drink: Grape Juice (Jesus the true Vine - John 15)

Starters: Steamed Momos with Quail Meat (Quail - Exodus 16)

Main Course: Broiled Fish Pizza with Olives & Cheese (Bread - John 6:35 + Fish - Luke 24 & John 21 + Olives - Nehemiah 8:15 + Cheese - 1Samuel 17 : 18)

Dessert: Figs Pudding topped with Wild Honey (Figs - Luke 13 : 6-9 + Honey - Mathew 3:4)

SHANELLE & SHAUNNA
PALLIKUNNATH,
St. Joseph's Church, Airoli

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE PROPHET SAMUEL

1. Samuel is a miracle child.

We meet Samuel's parents before we meet him. His mother Hannah cannot have children, but God hears her prayers and opens her womb, blessing her with the child Samuel.

2. Samuel's name means "Name of God."

The translation of Samuel literally means "name of God," or "God has heard."

3. Samuel is from the tribe of Levi.

Not only was Samuel from the tribe of Levi, but he may have had Ephraimite blood, too (1 Sa 1:1). This qualified him to serve in the temple.

4. Samuel is the last judge.

After Joshua dies, the nation of Israel enters the "days of the judges," (Ru 1:1).

During this time, God would raise up individuals to deliver Israel from her enemies. The book of Judges tells us about 12 judges, and First Samuel introduces two more: Eli and Samuel. After Samuel, Israel is led by kings (Ac 13:20).

5. Samuel anoints the first two kings of Israel: Saul and David.

When the people demand a national king, God directs Samuel to anoint Saul, a tall man from the tribe of Benjamin. Saul doesn't turn out so well, and so God has Samuel anoint a young shepherd named David as the future king: not the king Israel needs, but the king they deserve.

6. Samuel is the first of the prophets.

A prophet is someone who speaks on behalf of God. Samuel's prophetic ministry is significant because it begins at a time when words from the Lord are rare and infrequent (1 Sa 3:1).



7. Samuel is a priest.

He begins his ministry serving the chief priest in the tabernacle (1 Sa 3:1). Samuel makes sacrifices on behalf of the people, and offers intercessory prayers to God for them (1 Sa 7:9).

8. Samuel is a Nazarite.

Like the mighty Samson, Samuel is dedicated to the Lord as a child. This dedication was for life, and so he never cuts his hair (Nu 6:1–21).

9. God calls Samuel by name—twice

Samuel is one of 8 people in the Bible that God calls by name, twice. The others are Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Martha, Simon, "My God," and Saul.

KALYAN EPARCHY YOUTH

Rain camp '19 will be held from 26th July to 28th July at ARC, Panvel. The trekking spot is Prabalgad Fort. This camp is a celebration of youthful unity coupled with adventure, while being the perfect stress-buster from their busy work schedules.



FR. SUNNY MEMORIAL CHURCH CHOIR COMPETITION

2019 will be held on 2nd September '19 at Mahakavi Kalidas Nityamandir, Mulund West.

This competition is a musical spectacle, a stupendous platform for church choirs to showcase their talents. Over the years, it has turned out to be one of the finest and most awaited events of our diocese with around 1500 participants showing a wide range of age groups, turning up from Mumbai, Pune and Nashik regions. Last date of registration is 11th August 2019. Contact your respective Dexcos for further details and registrations.

PITHRUVEDI

KAIROS 2019

Kalyan Diocese Pithurvedi is conducting KAIROS 2019 on Sunday 19th August 2019 at ARC Panvel. Registration will start at 8.30am and inauguration of the function will be at 9.30 am.

The following competition will be held

- 1) Bible Quiz
- 2) Extempore speech (Malayalam and English)
- 3) Solo singing (Malayalam devotional songs)
Maximum thirty entries are permitted in

the competition. Only one entry will be allowed from a parish. Karoke and instruments are not allowed.

- 4) Nadan Pattu (Malayalam)
Only one team will be allowed from a parish. Maximum 20 teams are allowed on first come first serve basis.

More details contact General co-ordinators

Vitus Joseph (9867039529)

Gison Jose (9987851858)

Fr Shibu Pulickal - Director, Pithurvedi



*In Loving Memory of our
Dearest Appachan
Still Missing You*

Deeply missed by:

Rosily Thomas
Sheela, Lissy, Joyson, Robinson
Sebastian, Vincent, Leena
Sharon, Joel, Savio, Kevin & Joanna

K O Thomas

June 18, 1931 - August 21, 2003

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*In Loving Memory
1st Death Anniversary*

*"You will forever remain alive
in our hearts and memories"*

Fondly remembered by

Wife : Mrs. Annie Jacob
Son : Mr. Anthony Jacob
Daughters : Mrs. Jenny Joy
Mrs. Jipsy Varghese
Daughter-in-law : Mrs. Jerin Anthony
Son-in-laws : Mr. Joy Reynolds
Mr. Varghese Anthony
Grand Children : Kevin, Vinnisha
Katherine and Sera

C.K. JACOB

Born: 06-06-1952

Died: 02-06-2018



Question:

What does “consubstantial” in the Creed mean?

Answer:

Now where have I heard that term before?

Consubstantial is a word you probably won't hear in any context other than reciting the (Nicene) Creed. After expressing belief in the Father, the Creed goes on to express belief in the “one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God.... consubstantial with the Father;...”. By this, the Church professes her belief that the Father and Jesus, two distinct persons, are one

being/substance/essence/nature (undivided) and are therefore fully and independently God. This came out of a need to defend the divinity of Jesus against certain heresies. The concept of homoousion (homo = ‘the same’, ousia = ‘being’), which is now translated into consubstantial, was first clearly articulated at the Council of Nicea in 325 (which is where the Nicene Creed comes from).

Nirgun-Sargun

Actually it is not only the Father and Jesus who are consubstantial, but the Holy Spirit too. This naturally begs the question as to what is the exact composition of this undivided substance/essence/nature that each of the 3-divine persons fully possesses in his own right? Now that's a tricky question, because at the heart of it, God is “simple”, i.e. there are no parts/layers/degrees in him. Love, omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence etc., these are not qualities



he possesses; rather, he IS all of them perfectly. As such, really, language fails in describing him. Incidentally, when Moses asked God his name, the reply that came from the ‘burning bush’ was “I am who I am”. This further indicates that he is above and beyond description. So if we are attempting to describe God, it is probably safest to say “God IS” and leave the sentence incomplete. The Sikhs’ Nirgun-Sargun concept of God (having no attributes but is all the attributes)

is somewhat similar.

Consubstantial with us

There is one more context in which it is found to occur. The fourth ecumenical council, at Chalcedon, 451, combating the Monophysite heresy that sought to deny Christ's humanity, affirmed that Christ is consubstantial with the Father as to his divinity and consubstantial with us as to his humanity. They said that he simultaneously holds two natures, the divine and the human, “without any confusion, change, division or separation”. Puzzling? Well, that's only to be expected, for “the hidden wisdom of God ... is beyond the mind of man” (1 Cor 2:7-10)!

In Loving Memories of

8th Death Anniversary

4th Death Anniversary



Mrs. Annamma Iyappen



Mrs. Rosy Lonnappan

*Man invited God to see his world
He Send his representative as Mother*

*Memories are like a leaf of Gold. They never tarnish or grow old
You will always be loved and remembered for all eternity*

Love and remembrance from

K.I. Jos-Mary-Jasmine-Family & Friends

St. Sebastian Unit-St.Thomas Church-Borivali

2nd Death Anniversary **10th August, 2019**

*Humble, patient, loving and kind,
your equals on earth are hard to find
Deep in our hearts you'll always stay,
loved and remembered everyday.*

*Deeply missed and fondly remembered by
Wife, Son & Daughter-in-law,
Daughters & Sons-in-law,
Grand Children, Great Grand Children,
Family, Relatives & Friends*

P.K. PAUL

Bandra (East)

Date of Birth: 30.04.1926

Date of eternal abode: 10.08.2017

MATHRUSANGAM

Kalyan Mathrusangam conducted Forane and Parish Executives meet on Sunday 30th June 2019 at Animation and Renewal Centre, Panvel. The meet was presided over by KMS Director Rev. Fr. Benny, KMS Asst. Director Rev. Fr. Joemon Kurisingal, KMS Animator Sr. Joice and KMS Executive members. Around 400 Executives from different parishes attended the function.



Announcements and guidelines by KMS Director Fr. Benny



The meet was presided over by KMS Director Fr. Benny, Asst. Director Fr. Joemon, KMS Animator Sr. Joice and KMS Executives



Message by KMS Animator Sr. Joice



Over 400 members were present for the meet



KMS Anthem by the Executives

ALMANAH MEET

Almanah meet will be held in the five regions of Kalyan Diocese in the month of July 2019 – November 2019. The meetings will be held as per the following schedule:-

DATE	REGION	VENUE
21/07/2019	Pune	St. Thomas Catholic Church, Dapodi
11/08/2019	Central	Amala Matha Church, Mulund
25/08/2019	Harbour	Little flower Forane Church, Nerul
20/10/2019	Western	Sacred heart Church, Bhayander
10/11/2019	Nashik	St. Mary's Church, Nashik



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Demo Center - Kalyan: Shop No.5, Shree Ram Samarth Sankul Chs., Opp. St. Thomas High School,

Vijay Nagar, Kalyan (E), Pincode: 421306. Timing : Monday To Saturday: 11am. To 6pm.

Demo Center - Vile Parle: BS-6, Kamdar Shopping Center, Backside Basement, Opp. Rly. Station,

Vile Parle (E), Mumbai : 400057. Timing : Monday to Saturday - 11am. to 6pm.



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Economics / Presently Working in UBS /
Parents from Ernakulam / Thrissur /
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B/B up in Mumbai / Fair, 25 (March 1994) /
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nancyj94@gmail.com GOC201954979



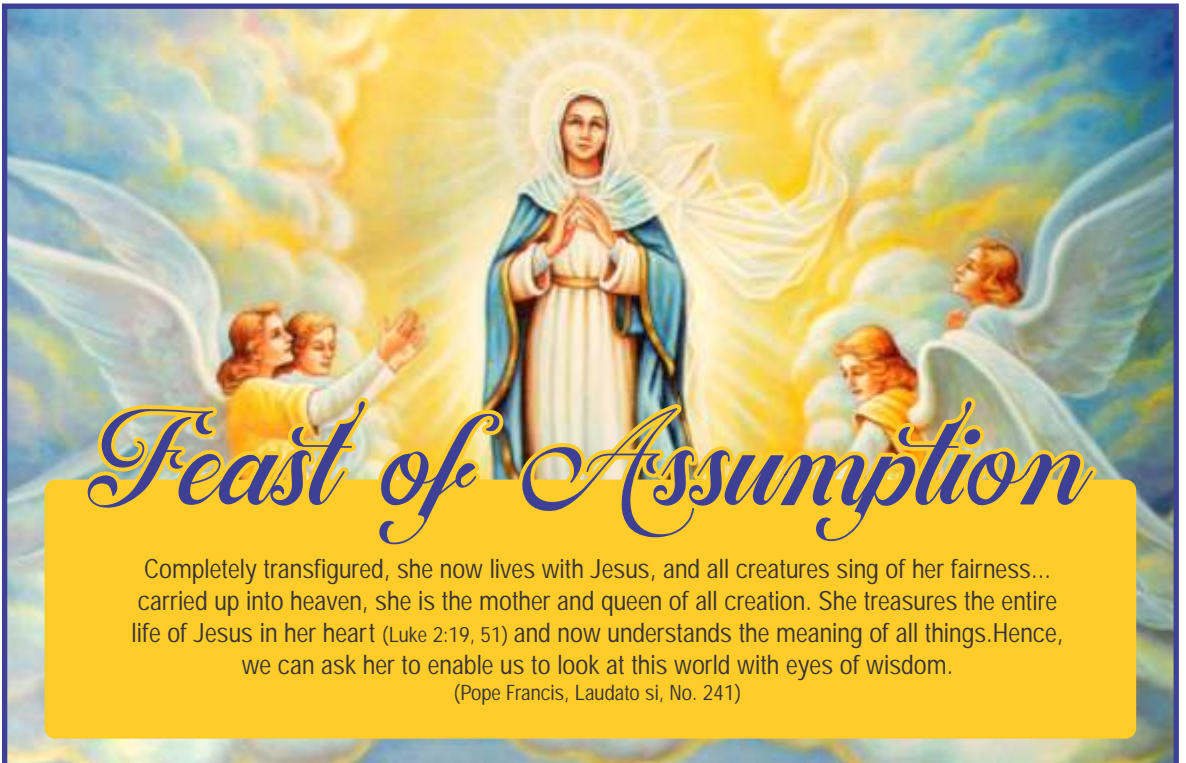
Fair / 32 / 5.4 / 68 / Aircraft Maintenance
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at Emirates Airlines Dubai / Parents from
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Fair, 31 / 5.7 / 90 / M.A. B.Ed. / Presently
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Mumbai / Parents from Kasaragod /
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THANKSGIVING TO ST. JUDE

Veronica Lona — Powai



Feast of Assumption

Completely transfigured, she now lives with Jesus, and all creatures sing of her fairness...
carried up into heaven, she is the mother and queen of all creation. She treasures the entire
life of Jesus in her heart (Luke 2:19, 51) and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence,
we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom.

(Pope Francis, Laudato si, No. 241)

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

SEPTEMBER 01 TO 08, 2019

AT MOTHER OF VICTORY SHRINE, TIKUJINIWADI



FESTAL SERVICES

Sept 1	8:00 AM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)
Sunday	6:00 PM	Novena, Adoration (English)
	6:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena (Malayalam)
Sept 2	6:00 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (English)
Monday	7:00 PM	Rosary at Grotto (Malayalam)
	7:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)
Sept 3	6:00 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (English)
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rosary at Grotto (Malayalam)
	7:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)
Sept 4	3:30 PM	Rosary, Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Marathi)
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (English)
	7:00 PM	Rosary at Grotto (Malayalam)
	7:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)
Sept 5	6:00 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (English)
Thursday	7:00 PM	Rosary at Grotto (Malayalam)
	7:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)
Sept 6	6:00 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (English)
Friday	7:00 PM	Rosary at Grotto (Malayalam)
	7:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)
Sept 7	6:00 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (English)
Saturday	7:00 PM	Rosary at Grotto (Malayalam)
	7:30 PM	Holy Mass, Novena, Adoration (Malayalam)

September 08 (SUNDAY) FEAST DAY

8:00 AM Solemn Holy Mass, Novena, Ledinju (Malayalam)

6:00 PM Novena, Litany, Adoration (English)

6:30 PM Holy Mass, Novena (Malayalam)

We cordially invite you to seek divine intercession and offer our gratitude for the blessings received through our Holy Mother.

There will be Special Prayers & Adoration for Childless Couples everyday. Send us, names of the childless couples at the below given phone numbers. We will be specially praying for them during these days.

Fr. Biju Kollamkunnel
(Rector)
Mob: 7021 083 867

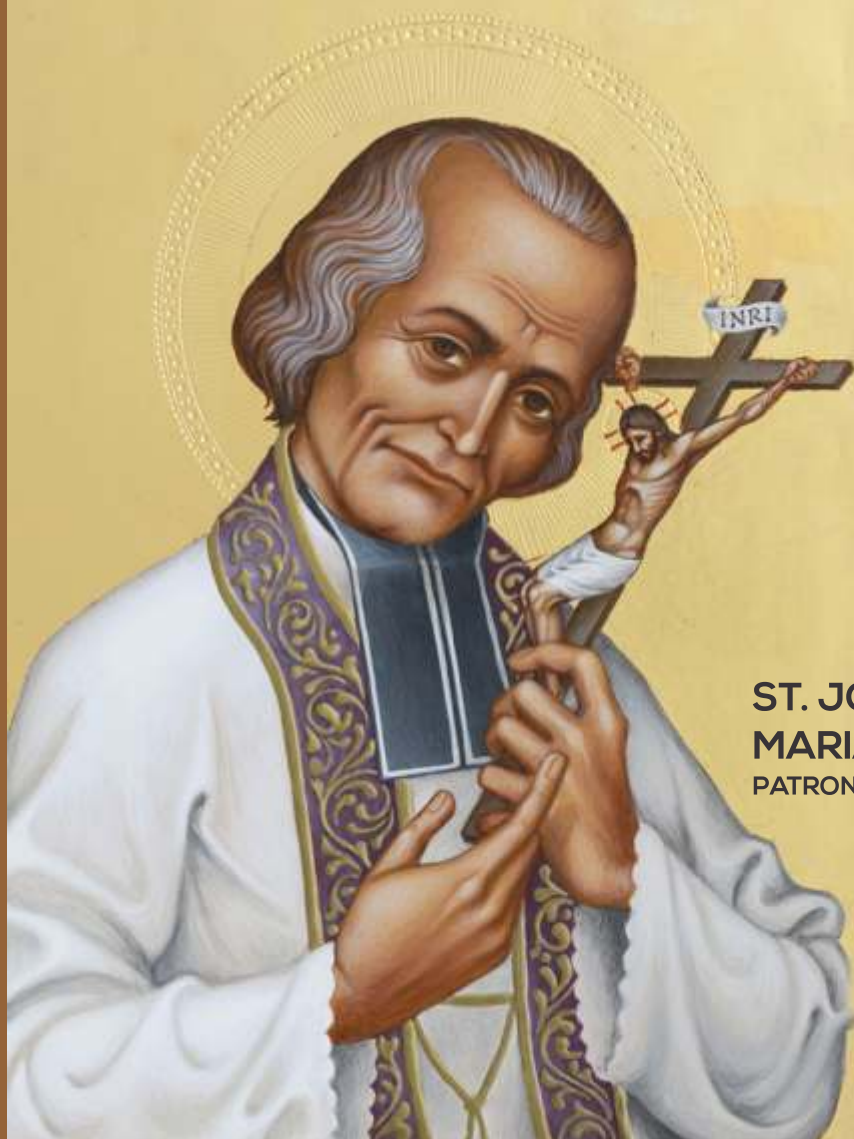
Fr. Fibin Kanjiraparambil
(Asst. Rector)
Mob: 9400812654

Mr. Tomy Thomas
(Trustee)
Mob: 9820 482 788

Mr. James Sebastian
(Trustee)
Mob: 9920 363 839

Festal Greetings

TO ALL OUR
PARISH PRIEST



**ST. JOHN
MARIA VIANNEY**
PATRON OF PARISH PRIESTS

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