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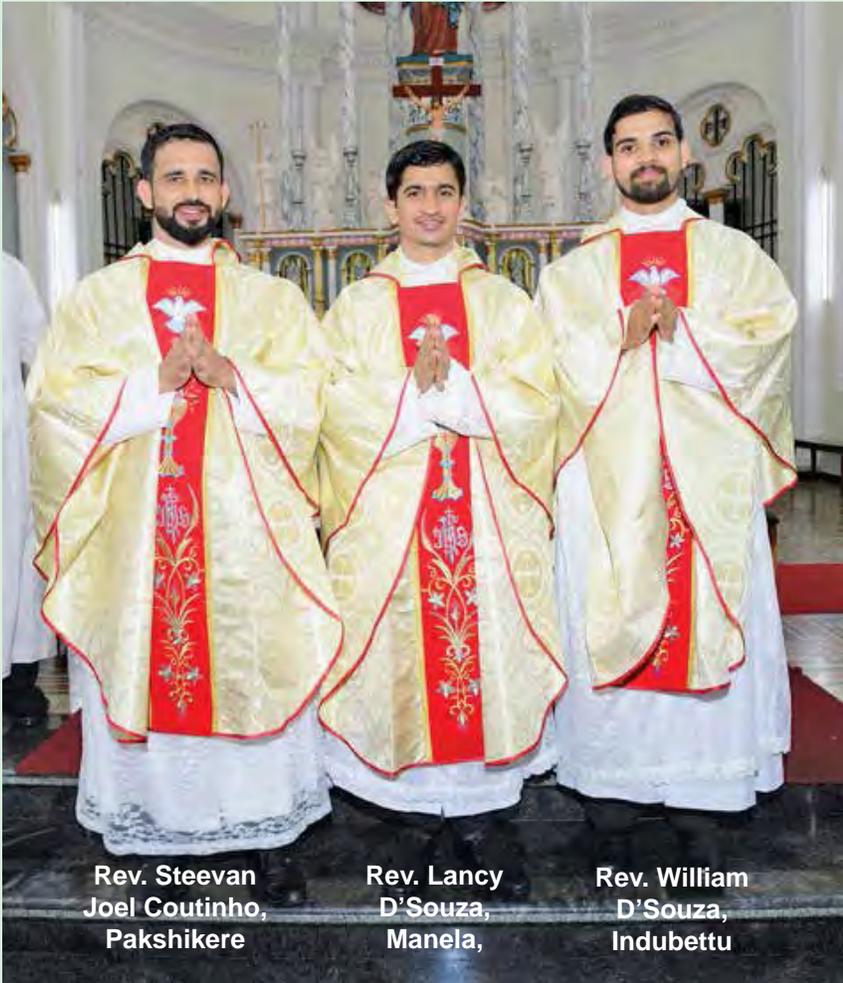
Rs. 10

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

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Three Deacons Ordained to Priesthood in Mangalore



Rev. Steevan
Joel Coutinho,
Pakshikere

Rev. Lancy
D'Souza,
Manela,

Rev. William
D'Souza,
Indubettu

Most Rev. Dr Peter Paul Saldanha, the bishop of Mangalore ordained three deacons to the order of priesthood on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at St Joseph Church, Jeppu observing all safety precautions for the entire congregation.

Rev. Lancy D'Souza, Manela, Rev. Steevan Joel Coutinho, Pakshikere and Rev. William D'Souza, Indubettu were the newly ordained priests for the diocese of Mangalore.

New Priests:

Fr. Lancy Dsouza hails from Christ the King Church, Manela, Vittal. He is the son of Daniel Dsouza and ErmisCutinha. He completed a year of regency at St Philomena College, Puttur.

Fr. William D Souza hails from St Francis Xavier Church, Indubettu, Belthangady. He is the son of Joseph D'Souza and Emiliyana D'Souza. He did his regency at St Antony church, Naravi.

Both of them completed their theological studies at St Joseph Interocean seminary, Jeppu, Mangaluru.

Fr. Steevan Joel Coutinho hails from St Jude Church, Pakshikere. He is the son of Mark and Stella Coutinho. He did his regency in Same, Tanzania (Africa). He completed his theological studies at Pius X Seminary, Mumbai.

_ Ronida

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A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

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Where is your Outrage?

by Don Aguiar.

It never ceases to amaze me how more people aren't outraged, shocked and disgusted by Narendra Modi's cruelty and malfeasance with dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic by the hastily called and ill thought-out lockdown that has been devastating. Not just for the poor, for the middle class too. Including the Hindutva Brigade. Can you imagine giving a nation of 1.38 billion people just four hours' notice (from 8 pm to midnight) before announcing a nation-wide curfew-like lockdown that is going on for months?

Literally everything had to stop in its tracks, people, goods, machines, markets, factories, schools, universities. Smoke in chimneys, trucks on the roads, guests at weddings, treatment in hospitals. With absolutely no notice. This huge country was shut off like a clockwork toy whose spoilt rich kid owner just pulled out the key. Why? Because he could.

Covid-19 has turned out to be a kind of X-Ray that made visible the massive institutionalised injustices – of caste, class, religion and gender – that plague our society. Thanks to the disastrously planned lockdown, the economy has nearly collapsed, although the virus has travelled and thrived. It feels as though we're living through a frozen explosion. The shattered pieces of the world as we knew it are all suspended in the air... we still don't know where they will land and the real extent of the damage.

Thousands of Indians are now dead because of the Covid-19 pandemic and many more have contracted the disease. Furthermore, our outlook in this country is dire: Cases are surging and the number of dead continues to climb.

Instead of demonstrating leadership and doing the simplest and most effective things he could do — insisting on a nationwide mask order as well as ramping up testing and contact tracing — Modi appears to be doing the opposite.

BJP lawmakers for their part offer only the mildest contradictions to Modi's deadly leadership, if they offer any at all.

Modi has so completely politicized the pandemic and continuing to tell the lie that the reason we have more cases is because we have more tests that people now routinely refuse to wear masks in public places, insisting that being compelled to wear them is an infringement on their rights.

During the lockdown so many middle-class people have complained that they felt like they were in prison as well as with millions of workers stranded in cities with no shelter, no food, no money and no transport walked for hundreds and sometimes thousands of miles home to their villages. As they walked they were beaten and humiliated by the police and appears to be an almost complete absence of anger and outrage among the people here in India.

Yes, there has been the occasional angry outburst, but nothing that couldn't be managed. It's almost chilling how everybody accepts their lot. How obedient people are. It must be such a comfort to the ruling class (and caste) – this seemingly endless capacity of 'the masses' to suffer and obey. But is this quality – this ability to accept suffering a blessing or a curse?

Modi in recent weeks has been committing less of his time and energy to managing the pandemic, according to advisers, and has only occasionally spoken in detail about the topic in his

public appearances. One of these advisers said the prime minister is 'not really working this anymore. He doesn't want to be distracted by it as utmost attention is now on getting the Ram Temple in Ayodhya started.

Modi is simply putting his head in the sand and attempting to wish the virus away, or lie it away, or let it take its victims until there are no more to be had. And he doesn't seem to want to know the true impact of the virus, nor does he want the public to know.

While millions of working-class people embarked on their long march home, the TV channels and the mainstream media suddenly discovered the phenomenon of the "migrant worker". Many corporate-sponsored crocodile tears were shed at their plight, as reporters thrust microphones into peoples' faces as they walked: "Where are you going? How much money do you have? How many days will you walk?"

Even through those tears the applause in the media for every move this government makes never dies down. Occasionally it swells into a standing ovation. But in India there's no help on the horizon. The Opposition is crumbling. Leaders are quiet, cowed down. Elected state governments are blown away like froth on a cup of coffee. Treachery and defections are the subject of gleefully reported daily news. MLAs continue to be herded together and locked up in holiday resorts to prevent them from being bribed and bought over. I think that those that are up for sale should be publicly auctioned to the highest bidder. What do you say? Of what use are they to anybody? Let them go. And let's face up to the real thing: we are, in effect, a One-Party Democracy ruled by two men. I don't think many even realise that that's

(Contd.. on p. 6)



Ram-rajya?

The Journalist Vikram Joshi was killed by mafia on last Monday in Ghaaziabad, U.P. for opposing the molestation of his niece.

TOI comments, "What the attack on Joshi underlines is how emboldened criminals are in parts of Uttar Pradesh. The more fearless they are, the more fearful citizens become!"

Reminding people of the promise made by Adityanath at the time of his taking the reins of Uttar Pradesh as the CM and citing many other recent events of atrocity on innocent citizen and killing of 8 policemen by the gunda Vikas Dubey in the state, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday attacked the Yogi Adityanath-led government and said, people were promised 'Ram Raj' but got 'Gundaraj' instead."

Rahul Gandhi to Twitter, he posted in Hindi he offered condolences to the bereaved family. Will the coming up Ram temple fulfill the promise of ending the Gundaraj and giving 'Ram Raj'? The Opposition party leaders have to raise questions. But who in fact does?

Those citizens who have a thought for the nation's future will realise that these days may it be any subject, the pitiable condition of the migrant labourers returned in their villages, the Pakistani terrorist attacks, Kashmiri rebels, Chinese aggression, it is Mr. Rahul only who is taking Modi Sarkar headlong! Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is the only one who has the thorough study of the problems and the courage to fight tooth and knell with the BJP in the country and with Aditya Nath Sarkar in UP. Where are the other opposition party leaders?

It is clear that following the teaching of Golwalkar Guruji of the RSS in his book "We and our nation

hood" (1939), the BJP Sarkar wants to reduce this country to a miserable state economically, culturally and even educationally. Following the Manusmriti their aim is: only a few top cast rich will survive and the rest will be eliminated! Note-bandi GST, destroying the banks and disinvestment of Government assets, are all aimed at impoverishing the country. Ignoring the poor in coronavirus days the the government is in a way helped by Corona to achieve the same satanic purpose in the country. The RSS has officially disowned the book by Golwalkar "We and our nationhood" in 2006 as reported in The Times of India but its ideology seems to be carried on!

When the whole country is at loss searching for a substitute to disastrous BJP government, the sensible people should decide on Rahul Gandhi as the Prime ministerial candidate of all the opposition parties combined. Forgetting for a while our differences let's enhance the stature of Mr. Rahul Gandhi and save the country!

Inqlaab jindabad!!

—Father Michael G
Samaj Shuddhi Abhiyan, Vasai.

PMC bank depositors in dire distress.

It is very sad and distressing to note that the RBI has not yet done any impact assessment of the challenges and distress faced by lakhs of depositors of the Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative bank (PMC) due to the extended moratorium imposed

on bank withdrawals to December 22. On the other hand the RBI has gone soft on borrowers from banks, by extending the moratorium for repayment of loans by 6 months. and even considering a further extension. It is a shame that even in these hard times of the pandemic, the RBI has shown little sensitivity to the plight and woes of the depositors of PMC bank who have no access to their life savings even after 10 months of the imposed restrictions. Thirty five of these depositors have already ended their life. The Delhi High court has now asked the RBI, and the Centre to respond to the urgent plea seeking release of up to Rs 5 lakh without conditions to the depositors of PMC bank, to help them in these times of distress. It is also strange that no solution has yet been arrived by the RBI and the Centre to restart the PMC bank even after several banks have come forward with proposals of a merger. This is in sharp contrast to how the 'Yes bank' was revived with the nod from the centre in a short span of just 12 days.

— A. F. Nazareth
- Alto Porvorim

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Prop. B. D'Souza

(Contd.. from p. 4)
an oxymoron.

If the three-month Covid-19 lockdown has been such a huge blow to the economy in India, think of Kashmiris who have had to endure a military lockdown along with an internet siege that has lasted for the most part of a year. Businesses are collapsing, doctors are hard pressed to treat their patients, and students are unable to attend online classes. Also, thousands of Kashmiris were jailed before August 5 last year. It was preemptive – preventive detention. Now those prisons full of people who have committed no crime, are becoming Covid-19 incubators. How about that?

The abrogation of Section 370 was an act of hubris. Instead of settling the matter “once and for all” which was the boast, it has unleashed a sort of rumbling earthquake in the whole region. Big plates are moving and realigning themselves. According to those in the know, the Chinese PLA has crossed the border, the LAC, at several points in Ladakh, and occupied strategic positions. War with China is a whole different ballgame from war with Pakistan. So, the usual chest-thumping is little nuanced – more like gentle patting than thumping. Talks are on. So far of course, India is winning. On Indian TV. But off TV, a new world order is making itself known.

So again I must ask, where is your outrage? How is this happening? How is it being allowed to happen? Real people, Indians, are being allowed to get sick, and die, Covid-19 & defending the India’s borders, while Modi plays a political game. How long can this continue?

I guess we have reached a stage where optimism is kept alive via a reasonable dose of irony and sarcasm.

Kerala archdiocese turns Church institutions into Covid centers



Thiruvalla, July 26, 2020: A Syro-Malankara archdiocese has allowed the district administration to use several of its institutions as Covid care centers as coronavirus infection continues to rattle the southern Indian state of Kerala.

Archbishop Thomas Mar Koorilos of Thiruvalla says the archdiocese has allowed the administration of Pathanamthitta district to set up such centers in its institutions.

They include the Santhi Nilayam complex in Thiruvalla town, boy’s hostel of Mar Athanasius College for Advanced Studies, Thiruvalla, at Thukalassery, Bodhana Buildings on Pushpagiri Road, and the Medicity Campus at Perunthuruthy.

The archdiocese also permitted the administration to convert the St. Mary’s Catholic Church auditorium at Thirumoolapuram into a first-line Covid treatment center as and when needed, the archbishop told reporters.

At the end of July 26, Kerala report-

ed 19,026 positive cases with 62 deaths. At the same time, the figures of the entire country were 1,436,019 positive cases and 32,810 deaths. The country saw 48,931 new cases and 702 deaths in the past 24 hours.

In Kerala, Pathanamthitta diocese, covered by the Archdiocese of Thiruvalla, reported 1,112 cases (91 new) and 1 death on July 26.

Source: The Hindu Matters India

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Seniors Need Additional Care During Corona



Jayanthy Subramaniam

There was a time when senior citizens were respected by all, preference was given for rail bookings, temple, entries, voting etc. The Corona has spoiled everything and senior citizens are asked to stay at home. There are several people like me who stay alone at home. Even DMart sometimes stops senior citizens. You tell how we can manage our things without moving out.

Online buying is very painful as most of the time all items are not delivered. It is a cumbersome procedure to get back the money once paid. Thank God banks are allowing us for cash withdrawal. The reason for my writing is to take up this problem through print media and thereby give some preference to seniors. They should allow senior citizens in the malls specially for buying provisions. In any case they are taking the temperature and permitting only those with no fever.

If we go to the mall like DMart if a particular provision is not available a senior citizen can visualise the closest

to that one and purchase it. Even his family members and younger siblings may not be able to pick the closest one. It is just like Toor Dal can be substituted to Masoor dal (the pink dal) to certain extent. But the online guy may substitute it with Chana dal. Similarly most vegetables can be substituted with other ones but only experienced senior men can decide it and not the seller. If seniors are not allowed in places like DMart he had to buy the written or pests infested items like Rava, whole Urad, Chana etc from local Banya stores. Quality products are sold by DMart.

Another point which is noteworthy these days is submission of Form H15/H16 to avoid cutting tax at source. HDFC says download the form by following the link, sign it and upload. To be frank it can be down loaded but where to get it printed as very few homes got printers. None of the cyber cafe is open to take a printout. Most seniors computer knowledge is basic and in doing the downloading and uploading act he will lose all links and finally the data too will go. Why can't they send the form as in the past. Why they put seniors into trouble for no fault of theirs.

With people living and working longer, it is increasingly important that we recognize the importance of supporting senior citizens and aged within our society. Senior Citizens Day is an opportunity to acknowledge the long-term contribution and dedication of older people, and to ensure that we are doing our best to give something back to older people.

Older persons make wide-ranging contributions to economic and social development. However, discrimination and social exclusion persist. We must overcome this bias in order to ensure a socially and economically active, secure and healthy aging population. Sustainability and age inclusiveness for Senior Citizens in the urban environment is causing concern. The main purpose of life is that we should 'live and let others also live' and this has a great impact on seniors. For them simple living and high thinking make them survive. Anyway, it is the survival of the fittest in this competitive world.

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WHETHER THE NEWLY POPULAR MODERN MONETARY THEORY (MMT) COULD HELP INDIA GET OVER THE ECONOMIC RECESSION CAUSED BY THE EXTENDED COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

by Eric D'Sa

We after a very strict total national lockdown for nearly 2 months and then a slow gradual loosening with limited lockdowns in what are termed red zone areas, have not been able to control the Covid Pandemic. This has led the country like in other parts of the world into a deep recession. India's economy was slowing down for around 3 years even before the arrival of Covid 19 virus into our country. Things have worsened now.

As Covid-19 pushes the world economy into recession, key developed markets are throwing between 5 percent to 20 percent of GDP of additional fiscal spend at the problem. India's policymakers, however, are in a bind. Our economy and fiscal balance was far weaker than we cared to admit before Covid-19 hit us. We must spend more now, just to stave off a humanitarian and economic crisis. But should our rallying cry be to "do whatever it takes", or a more constrained "do whatever minimum we can survive with"?

Nearly 50 years ago, the Keynesian theory held fort. The next decade witnessed the downfall of Keynesian ideas amid soaring inflation. At present, the flavour of the day is Modern Monetary Theory (MMT), which essentially argues that a fixation with government deficits is misguided and that in the absence of rising inflation and real resource constraints, the government should just print money, if necessary, to revive the economy and create jobs. MMT would apply to any economy that imposes obligations (like taxes) and issues obligations (like government debt) largely in its own sovereign currency like we do in India.

MMT postulates that such an economy does not face a budgetary financing constraint the way a household does, because it "cannot run out of money". MMT's key policy goal is full employment. As long as there is unemployment, MMT calls for government spending on job cre-

ation, without worrying about persistent fiscal deficits. At near full employment, MMT prescribes taxes and government borrowing to counter inflation. In MMT, therefore, taxes and government borrowing are instruments to contain inflation, rather than to fund government spending.

Governments the world over are paying scant regard to their fiscal deficits and central banks are playing handmaiden by buying up government and private paper. Just as in 1970, many analysts worry that the utter disregard for the purported inflationary consequences of deficits will come to haunt us sooner or later. Indian

**YOU THE CITIZENS
DECIDE:**

policymakers seem to hew toward the latter camp because the inflationary episode earlier in the past decade is still fresh in their minds. Yet, the time has come for Indian policymakers to throw off the shackles imposed by misguided fears of high inflation at least for the time being.

Long before "MMT" was coined, from around the 1980s, India has effectively adopted the MMT framework with Indian characteristics. While much of the discussion on India's growth take-off since 1980 has been about supply-side reforms, equally important were the bigger deficits we have sustained since 1980. These deficits arguably helped propel an economy that was demand-constrained towards one that was growing closer to its full potential. As a result, India was one of the few countries to sustain a 7% average annual growth for 25 years. While the 2008-09 global crisis and India's subsequent banking problems dealt the country a major blow, the importance of the quasi-MMT framework is more relevant now than ever before.

Even before covid-19, India's economy was struggling with sluggish demand and falling inflation. Covid-19 has exacerbated the problems. While the initial im-

pact of this is a shutdown in supply, the destruction of income and an increase in indebtedness means that private demand will be impaired well after covid is behind us. Thus, the relevant constraint on growth now is demand rather than supply. Paradoxically, persistent weak demand and economic growth will worsen India's deficit and debt problem, leading to the feared inflationary consequences. They will eventually attenuate supply by destroying capacity. Also, because of weak growth, debt and deficit ratios would be higher, setting up a temptation to inflate them away.

Given the inevitability of large deficits, should India be monetizing part of its deficit and would this release the genie of inflation? The answer is yes to the first question, and no to the second. India used to routinely monetize a part of its deficit prior to 1997. In fact, what used to be called the budget deficit was the monetized portion of the overall fiscal deficit. Today, oil is about a third of its peak in July 2008, food prices domestically and globally are subdued, and India's monsoon seems normal. The current account is in surplus, in contrast to the yawning deficit earlier in the decade. The real exchange rate of the rupee has declined over the past year and is largely trendless. The danger of a sudden devaluation of the rupee, which could stoke inflation, is low.

Once the extraordinary conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown are behind us, the MMT policy prescription would be as follows. The government should spend to increase employment, without worrying about persistent fiscal deficits. In fact we should be spending more money on employment guarantee such as MGNREGA. But there is a catch. Domestic output growth has to keep pace and meet the aggregate demand fostered by such spending. If it doesn't, we'll have too much Rupees chasing too few goods. This will fan inflation and increase net imports. Financial instability — of the kind we saw in 2012-13 — could then be just a short step away. More than any thing else our government should keep a close watch on our economy.

Corona Call For Consensus

The coronavirus outbreak came to light on December 31, 2019 when China informed the World Health Organisation of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of an unknown cause in Wuhan City in Hubei Province. Subsequently the disease spread to more Provinces in China, and to the rest of the world. The WHO has now declared it a pandemic. The virus has been named SARS-CoV-2 and the disease is now called COVID-19.

People are hungry for information, hungry for certitude, and when there is a lack of consensus-oriented information and when everything is being contested in public, that creates confusion among people. What I have found is a remarkable degree of consensus among people who understand the science of this disease around what the fundamental issues are and then disagreements about trade-offs and policies. The idea of covering science in a two-sided way in areas where there really is not any disagreement has struck me as very, very odd, and it keeps coming up over and over again.

In order to be effective, especially during a crisis, public health communicators have to be seen as credible, transparent, and trustworthy. And there, officials are falling short. When a disease outbreak grabs the public's attention, formal recommendations from medical experts are often muffled by a barrage of half-baked advice, sketchy remedies, and misguided theories that circulate as anxious people rush to understand a new health risk. Half knowledge is always dangerous and discussing a virus, which is not seen to the public eye, is a cause of great concern in a society bound by social media.

The sheer volume of COVID-19 mis-

information and disinformation online is crowding out the accurate public health guidance, making medical fraternity work a bit more difficult, and people are generally confused and run from pillar to post. India says it won't hide the truth from its public if it enters what's called the community transmission stage, or Stage 3, of the coronavirus outbreak. But what exactly does that mean? Misinformation could be an honest mistake or the intentions are not to blatantly mislead people in case of advising others to eat garlic or gargle with salt water as protection against COVID-19. Disinformation campaigns, usually propagated for political gain by state actors, party operatives, or activists, deliberately spread falsehoods or create fake content is really useless.



C.K. Subramaniam

Mainstream media coverage has added to the problem. At many major news outlets, reporters and editors with no medical or public health training were reassigned to cover the unfolding pandemic and are scrambling to get up to speed with complex scientific terminology, methodologies, and research, and then identify, as well as vet, a roster of credible sources. Because many are not yet knowledgeable enough to report critically and authoritatively on the science, they can sometimes lean too heavily on traditional journalism values like balance, novelty, and conflict. In doing so, they lift up outlier and inaccurate counter arguments and hypotheses, unnecessarily muddying the water.

In order to be effective, especially during a crisis, public health communicators have to be seen as credible, transparent, and trustworthy. And there, officials are falling short. People are hungry for information, hungry for certitude, and when there is a lack of consensus-oriented information and

when everything is being contested in public, that creates confusion among people and causes more worries. An anti-malaria drugs are one way to treat COVID-19, and other people say, no, that's not the case, then the public is hard-pressed to start wondering, If the authorities cannot agree and cannot make up their minds, why should we trust anybody in this regard.

The crucial missing information right now is how many antibodies that stop the virus are needed to get a pretty good immune response. There are reports that people who have mild infections don't generate many antibodies naturally. The other really good news is that recovering patients generate T cells: these cells can be thought of as the conductors of the immune response orchestra. It's early days but there are promising signs about vaccines to tackle covid-19. India with its learned, proficient professionals can crack the vaccine first. Corona calls for a consensus report, care from the doctors and a self confidence that can carry to a great extent curing Corona in the days to come.

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This Is About God, Not Religion

Coronavirus Attacks Humanity

The four bricks of faith are an answer to battling the Covid-19 pandemic. The spiritual bricks are Prayer, Penance and Trust in God. The Lord God created man and man created religion. God is one, almighty and powerful.

A mood of doubt hangs over our heads, or perhaps it is more accurate to say a mood of disbelief in God. The most anxiety in people are moods of threat to their life, wealth and beliefs in the Almighty.

Fear worldwide has gripped peoples psyche and even long before the pandemic arrived from China. The world's climate of fear, in other words is a fever of fear, and the power of belief in God is a theological truism that God projects a shield to win.

First is the appeal to know God. Those who wish to discover God must read the Old Testament. Within the 39 books, the history, prophecy and people are introduced as no different to those around us today living with the horrible virus.

In the core of everything is the infinite and trusting God – a God to believe and to know...Through the Old Testament God had revealed himself to us. The Old Testament began before time; it starts before the creation of man, before stars and planets, before air and water, before light and sound, animals, trees and flowers. It starts with God. The Old Testament tells us about God. How life began, how Satan came into the world, about creation and about the prophecies of the Messiah who would be mankind's redeemer. It teaches us to live a holy life.



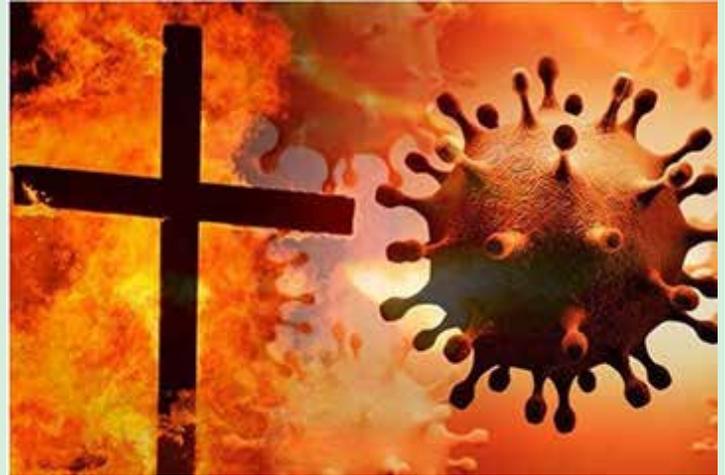
BY MELVYN BROWN

It fills our being with praise and gratitude. Today, many have yet to discover God. To many Christian families the old Testament is simply "another book" in the Bible.

In today's chaotic world the Old Testament is relevant. The language may seem obscure, but the message is powerful. It is perhaps not surprising to learn that what seems like myths and legends can be proven through science. It is never dull reading, but a dramatic and realistic expose, easily as close to us now as it was then.

The lack of trust we have in God is a one-horned specter of fear in our hearts. To make sense of irrational thoughts, we must spend some time to know God through the Old Testament and to realize that it lays a foundation for the whole Bible. The foundation being that of truth for the super-structure of the New Testament. To know God is to know Christ better.

Our Christian faith is held together on the firm foundation of the Old Testament. It is the book of sacred history showing the power and the majesty of almighty God. Those who believed in God won his favor. God made and kept his promises, helped those who called out to him and had the power to change the course of man's history.



"Believe, and all things are possible." This is one of the most awesome of all statements made in man's history. Believe in God and you will be a success in all that you do. In the Old Testament God sent his prophets with a message paving the way for His coming. Many prophets came with messages of the Messiah who would redeem the world.

Suddenly, the Christ arrived, born of a virgin. The time had come and the Word was made flesh and dwelled among us. The truth was being revealed, and Jesus said: "Do not think that I have come to destroy the law or the prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill." (Mat. 5:17 – 20).

Jesus wants us to believe the Old Testament as he did. Christ regarded the Old Testament as truth itself. He confirmed the existence of Abraham, Able, Noah, Lot, Elijah, Elisha and Jonah. Above all Jesus acknowledged the authority of the leaders of Israel, the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

Finally, Christ turned to the Old Testament for His appeal. When you believe in God the power of your belief will radiate Christ.

Inhuman Police brutality

We do understand that most of the time, the policemen are at the receiving end especially when they have to face stones, petrol bombs and other missiles at protest rallies which occasionally turn violent. There are also instances of policemen being attacked and killed as we saw in Uttar Pradesh when a team went to apprehend a dreaded gangster –Vikas Dubey. Eight of them were brutally killed in cold blood. The UP incident is one of the many that we hear from time to time. Such incidents naturally anger the police force and it is only natural especially when they are attacked doing their duty. They too are human beings and we need to be sensitive and view each situation in the right context.

However, police excesses have been coming in the open from all corners of the country and the latest being atrocities on a dalit couple in Guna – M.P. There are two types of excesses – one on those who have history behind them and have misbehaved with the police when confronted either during the commission of crime or when their hideouts are raided. In such cases the police tend to take revenge on such anti-social elements and even if such cases come to light, there is not much public sympathy unless the excesses have been inhuman. But on the other hand, if an innocent person is subjected to such brutality, there is widespread anger among the people which goes viral so much so that the senior police officials as well as the government find it hard to justify such actions.

In the recent case innocent men in Tamil Nadu, Jayraj and his son Benicks were brutally killed due to excess force used by the blood thirsty policemen in Thoothukudi. This has shocked not only the nation but even globally. It now transpires that Jayraj did not even resist his detention and willingly went to the Police station while his son followed to check why his father was being hauled. What the Police said was totally different. All the excuses put forward by the authorities about them rolling on the ground and resisting arrest have fallen flat if CC TV footage is any proof. Following the unrelenting public outcry, the government handed over the case to the CID-CBI and with the judiciary coming hard on the government. The ruling party has faced se-

VIEWS on NEWS

vere flak from the courts. Acting quickly, the government, in response to the court directives, gave the charge of the police station to the Collector to preserve the vital evidence. A lot of others like the doctor and jail authorities will also face the music for negligence/complicity.

People, familiar with the Tamil Nadu Police functioning, say that such cases of highhandedness are regular. Only a few come to the fore unless the matter is very serious. There have been many custodial deaths in that State but not a single case has resulted in conviction and that tells us how the evidence is presented in courts. When the police, who are the culprits, investigate themselves one can imagine how the culprits are shielded deliberately. This evil needs to be corrected comprehensively through Police reforms. The Central government can no longer take public protests lightly especially in the face of the worldwide protests in the George Floyd case for over two months.

Police reforms must come quickly. In the case of custodial deaths, the investigation must be immediately entrusted to an independent body like the NIA since the culprits are invariably the law enforcing personnel. Any delay can adversely affect the outcome. Custodial death is a very serious crime and cannot be compared with a normal murder. When Police raid anti social elements, especially the powerful, such an exercise must be carried out by another police station or by the ACP /DCP. The place to be raided must be a closely guarded secret. The authorities can take a cue from the Tax authorities whose raids remain a very closely guarded secret. The raiding party is asked to assemble at a particular point from where they are taken to the place to conduct the raid. In such a fool-proof practice, the role of any mole in the police force will be severely restricted.

Role of Presiding Officers

The role of Presiding Officers in State assemblies or even Parliament have become increasingly suspect so much so that most of them blatantly tend to parrot the party line when it comes to the interest of the political party to which s/



by Marshall Sequeira

he belonged prior to being appointed to that august office. In recent years the Speakers in the assemblies have acted in a manner which, by no means, can be categorized as independent or fair verdicts. To see a decision as fair [free from party politics], is a rarity at least in the past couple of decades and that undermines the very edifice of democracy which we all cherish. Actually, a Speaker is like a judge in the Court of Law. When a judge gives a verdict, it is very seldom doubted by the people. Verdicts by Speakers invariably raise legitimate doubts; which is sad.

Similarly, the Governors [who are political appointees] also play partisan politics serving their masters. Though they are appointed technically by the President of the country, their loyalties lie with the Home Ministry or the PMO and therefore cannot afford to displease them. If they take an independent line, they could be shunted elsewhere as a punitive action or even sacked. No Governor would want to sacrifice his or her comforts for the sake of a principled stand – independent of his/her master.

The present position suits all the parties which have their own governments in some state or the other. It will be nice if the posts of Speakers are filled by eminent personalities like retired judges of the High Courts. Posts of Governors can be filled by retired Supreme Court Judges - both on the recommendations of the Chief Justices concerned. This will give a semblance of credibility and also respectability. It may not be a bad idea if the views of the main opposition party [however small] are taken into consideration. If this is done, people of the country will feel comfortable because as of now there is trust deficit between the people and the politicians. People do not believe politicians because they say – 'Do as we say not as we do'; social distancing is one such glaring example, among others.

Good Samaritans of Our Times

Wounded Healers, Peace Makers & Warriors

Lucid Interval between Dad & Son:

"Dad, what's an alcoholic?"

"Son, do you see those 4 trees?"

An alcoholic would have seen 8 of them."

"But Dad, there are only 2 trees!"

Absolutely there is no connection between this lucid interval and the theme of this article. It is just start with a lighter to vein to reflect on serious theme: Good Samaritans of our times. In Jesus' Parable Good Samaritan is a Unique Single Person without any credentials – without a name or address – from nowhere he arrives and after the solemn act of helping – he disappears from the scene. In fact Jesus himself resembles that Good Samaritan in the Gospel scenes.

Through the ages good Samaritans have revisited our planet as wounded healers, peace makers and warriors. They are the God's messengers to our humanity. During this covid-19 pandemics of global proportion – it just a ruminative exercise to reflect on the Wounded Healers, Peace Makers and Warriors of our times. It is tribute to their great mite to our Planet.

Reflecting on the Good Samaritan:

The most dangerous liars are those who think they are telling the truth! According to Dalai Lama: Our prime purpose in this life is to help others. And if you can't help them, at least don't hurt them. Elizabeth Kuebler Ross says: people are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.

Jo Bonner articulates the spirituality of the Good Samaritan: It is at times as this that we show our true spirit of giving and of brotherhood of revealing

the good Samaritan in all of us.

Reflecting on the parable Martin Luther King says: the first question which the priest and Levite asked was: "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?" But the good Samaritan reversed the question: "If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?" Wilfred Greenfell remarks I have always believed that the good Samaritan went across the road to the wounded man just because he wanted to. Pope Francis says: Like the Good Samaritan, may we not be ashamed of touching the wounds of those who suffer, but try to heal them with concrete acts of love. We are reminded to seek refuge in the good Samaritan who came all



**Fr. George
Olivera OFM
Cap, Mysore**

way to love us and giving his promise and expect nothing but love.

Wounded Healers – Reflections

Someone said: the world is full of healers, helpers and lovers. If you can't find one, be one. Angeline Love says: Only the wounded healer is able to heal. As long as we think that spiritual leaders need to be perfect, we live in poverty. I have a perfect teacher inside; there is no perfect teacher outside. As for the facts of life Amy Larson sums up: The greatest Magicians distract you from the Truth. The greatest healers distract you pain and the greatest lovers distract you from fiction.

According to NGO credo: Wounded healers are not born and they are not made. They create themselves through conquering adversity, trial and error and extreme pain and suffering. They conquer fear and find a way to speak their truth even they afraid. In doing so they shine light for others who are lost and feeling alone, and in return their inner light ignites with renewed purpose. A purpose greater

than they ever could have imagined. Henri Nouwen says: Nobody escapes being wounded. We are all wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually. The main question is not, "how can we hide our wounds?" so we don't have to be embarrassed, but, "how can we put our woundedness in the service of others?" when our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers. Veronika Tugaleva-words says: A healer is someone who seeks to be the light that she wishes she had in her darkest moments. Berwick Augustin beautifully summarizes wounded healer as Love: Love us a wounded healer. It arrives with good intentions, unadulterated Agape, Phileo, and Eros – packed into one until an adulterer or abuser trample. Love like grass on a football field forgiving love gets up brushes off the hurt re-engages on the field of love like it has never been bruised before. For Melanie Koulouris: Healers are spiritual warriors who have found the courage to defeat the darkness of their souls. Awakening and rising from the depths of their deepest fears, like a Phoenix rising from the ashes. Reborn with a wisdom and strength that creates a light that shines bright enough to help, encourage, and inspire others out of their won darkness.

Called to Peacemakers

Billy Graham says: Christ alone can bring lasting peace – peace with God – peace among men and nations – peace within our hearts. Our basic commitment to our humanity is to be peacemakers. For Jeffrey Holland reminds us: I urge you to be peacemakers. To love peace. To seek peace. To cherish peace and to create peace. American President John F. Kennedy said: Peace is a daily, a weekly, a



(Contd.. from p. 12)

monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures. Hafsat Abiola refers Peace as our contribution to our society: "Peace comes from being able to contribute the best that we have, and all that we are, toward creating a world that supports everyone. But it is also securing the space for others to contribute the best that they have and all that they are." Nelson Mandela gives us a tip how befriend an enemy: "If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner." Young Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai gives a youthful hint for peacemaking and peacekeeping: "If you want to end the war then Instead of sending guns, send books. Instead of sending tanks, send pens. Instead of sending soldiers, send teachers." Dalai Lama another Nobel Peace Prize says: "Peace does not mean an absence of conflicts; differences will always be there. Peace means solving these differences through peaceful means; through dialogue, education, knowledge; and through humane ways." Dwight D. Eisenhower Former President of USA says - "We seek peace, knowing that peace is the climate of freedom."

Peace makers are the non-violent people for Martin Luther King reminds us: "Nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time; the need for mankind to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to oppression and violence. Mankind must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love." John F. Kennedy had challenged the fellow Americans as he questioned: "What kind of peace do we seek? Not a Pax Americana enforced on the world by American weapons of war. Not the peace of the grave or the security of the slave. I am talking about genuine peace, the kind of peace that makes life on earth worth living, the kind that enables

men and nations to grow and to hope and to build a better life for their children . . . not merely peace in our time but peace for all time." Nelson Mandela says we are born to love and not to hate: "No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." Someone said: "Sanskrit has 108 words for love. Islam has 99 names for God. Japanese has 14 words for beauty." Shalom, Pax, Shanti and Peace all mean the same thing that we are called to peacemakers to the troubled world in which we live. Hafez the Sufi mystic records a soliloquy of the Sun: "One day the sun admitted I am just a shadow. I wish I could show you The Infinite Incandescence That has cast my brilliant image! I wish I could show you When you are lonely or in darkness The Astonishing Light Of your own Being!"

These are the prophetic voice of Martin Luther King which was heard sixty years ago but still valid to our times: " I still believe that one day mankind will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land. Most of these people will never make the headlines and their names will not appear in Who's Who. Yet when years have rolled past and when the blazing light of truth is focused on this marvelous age in which we live—men and women will know and children will be taught that we have a finer land, a better people, a more noble civilization—because these humble children of God were willing to suffer for righteousness' sake."

Warriors of our troubled times:

Who is a warrior:-

Corona warrior is the much circulated term in recent day to day conversation in the covid-19 pandemics. Hence the normal question that is disturbing our minds: who is a warrior. A warrior is

the protector of his family and those in need. A warrior is the guardian of the ways of honor and courage. A warrior will not put his own desires above what is right. Above all, a warrior is always motivated by his utmost duty. The credo of the warrior is thus: I choose to live by choice, not by chance, to be motivated, not manipulated, to be useful, not used, to make changes, not excuses, to excel, not compete. I choose self-esteem, not self-pity, I choose to listen to my inner voice, not to the random opinions of others. I choose to do the things that won't so I can continue to do the things you can't. The manifesto of the Warriors is Make no mistakes: I will defend the weak. I will defend freedom. I will sacrifice so that others may live free. I will defend my family to death. I love peace. I live by a special code. I live with honor. I was born to be the Warrior. Biblical Image of Job is very inspiring for our times: God's not done with you yet. Your latter days shall be better than your former. Where you are now is only the beginning. God is about launch you into the next dimension. Don't let your present circumstances discourage you because where you start will not be where you finish! The greatness that you've experienced on this level is only a small glimpse into greatness to come. Get ready for your latter days. Keep moving forward – it will only get better! " And though you started with little, you will end with much." (Job 8:7). These are testimonies of people matter during the Covid-19 crisis times. Matthew McConaughey articulates: Let's take care of each other, and ourselves. Let's not go to the lowest denominator and get paranoid. Let's do the due diligence and take precautions that we need to. No matter your Religion 'its time for the world to unite in payer to overcome Covid-19. Here is the sentiment of someone who had compassionate listening: "Thank you from the bottom of my heart for serving on the front-line of this pandemic. Nurses, physicians, cafeteria workers, respiratory therapists, and housekeepers are the heart and soul of the war against COVID – 19."

20 Bracelets – Embrace & Let-Live!

Church Choirs Struggle!

1. A smoker whose mind was clouded due to constant smoking, said that he had a COLD – Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease! //2. A person who wants a pretty nurse must be a patient! //3. A person who leaps off a cliff, jumps to conclusions //4. War does not demand who is right. It determines who is left! //5. Toilets are an ideal place to think. No wonder they are called “Sochalayas”! //6. Dear Olive Oli! You are either a virgin or you are not. There is never an “Extra Virgin” Oil! //7. Introducing the “Triki-ni” – Mask, Bra, & Panty! //8. Mother asked her child, “Did you pass?” The child, “Whole class passed” – “What, how?” she asked. Child, “Teacher is still teaching the same class!” //9. Coffee never knew it would taste so nice before it met milk and sugar. Moral – We are good as individuals; but we become better when we meet and blend with right people! //10. Prayer is not a ‘spare wheel’! It is the ‘steering wheel’, which directs the right path to life! //11. The ‘windshield’ is larger than the rear view mirror, because our future is more important than our past! So look ahead and move on! //12. ‘Friendship’ is like a book! It takes a few hours to read; but many months and years to write! //13. Often we lose hope and think it is the end. But God smiles and says, “Relax, sweetheart, it’s just a bend, not the end!” //14.

When God solves your problems, you have faith in God’s Abilities! But when God doesn’t solve your problems, God has faith in your abilities! //15. A blind person asked God, “Can there be anything worse than losing eyesight? God replied, “Yes! Losing your vision! //16. Worrying does not solve tomorrow’s troubles! It in fact, takes away today’s peace that doubles! //17. What is the difference between in-laws and outlaws? Outlaws are wanted inside! 18//. Alcohol is a perfect solvent! It dissolves marriages, families and careers! //19. Someone who drives like hell, is bound to get there. So Never drink and drive! // 20. An archeologist is one whose career is in ruins!

—Dr. Trevor Colaso,
Bandra (W), Mumbai.

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Charles Cole, director of two UK Catholic Choirs - London Oratory Junior Choir, and the London Oratory Schola, reported on 14 July 2020:

“The situation is truly dreadful for all singers; professional, as their livelihood is at risk, and for amateurs (like myself), where there will be an acute sense of loss. Choirs are absolutely integral to the Liturgy which they adorn and beautify. They draw in the faithful, and lead them to prayer and meditation!”

“However, nowhere will the impact be felt more than in children’s choirs. In boys’ choirs in particular, the situation is exacerbated by the process of changing voices. Boys only get to sing in their prime as trebles for a couple of years at most. What many are losing under lockdown is irrecoverable.

“The lockdown measures were eased no doubt, but the authorities continued to impose strict limitations on singing, based on disputed scientific advice that the activity posed a high risk of transmitting the coronavirus. Its like failing to tend a lawn which takes years to cultivate, but a relatively short time to ruin.”

In a meeting with over 8,000 singers and musicians from around the world who were attending at the Vatican on 23-25 November 2018, Pope Francis encouraged them: “Your music and your song are a true instrument of evangelization, insofar as you witness to the profoundness of the Word of God! It touches the hearts of people, and allows the celebration of the Sacraments, especially of the Most Holy Eucharist, which makes one to sense the beauty of Paradise!”

—Dr. Trevor Colaso,
Bandra (W), Mumbai.

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2 Sacred Testaments Mirrored In One Frame

By Melvyn Brown

Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple, the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.” - Mal. 7: 1.

The Gospel according to St. Luke informs us of the prophet Malachi’s prophesy, the oracle of the Word of the Lord to Israel, came to pass:

“Now the time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son.” (Lk.1:57). On being asked what the name of the child should be, Elizabeth said, “he shall be called John.” (Lk.1:60). And so, John the Baptist was the chosen messenger to prepare the way of the Lord.

Two Covenants (the Old and the New Testaments) prove repeatedly the fulfillment of the prophet’s Word of God. The two holy books of Scripture are not confined only to the Jewish people but it is also open to the Gentiles. The Son of God, Jesus, was a Jew sent to the world that all who believe in him will receive eternal life.

The Jews, during their exile from Egypt had called for the visit of God, for this visit would be the signal of national restoration. The Lord God answered: “For thus says the Lord; when seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.” - Jeremiah 29:10.

The intervention of God in the history of Israel was the establishment of the messianic Kingdom.

“Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

You will seek me and find me; when you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.” – Jeremiah 29.12-14.

This article is about prophecy. What the prophets relayed from the Word of God was fulfilled through the advent of the New Covenant.

Yahweh spoke...He then said: “Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying human patience that you should try my God’s patience too? The Lord will give you a sign in any case: It is thus: the young woman is with child and will give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means “God is with us”. (Isaiah 7: 10 – 14).

In the Gospel of John, the apostle writes: “He was in the world that had come into being through him and the world did not recognize him. He came to his own and his own people did not recognize him. He came to his own and his own people did not accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believed in his name who were born not free from human stock or human desire or human will but from God himself. The Word became flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that he had from the Father as only Son of the Father, full of grace and trust.” (John 1:1-18).

In the Old Testament the prophet Isaiah made a prophecy about the coming of the Christ in the words of God. He said: Ours was the suffering he

was bearing, ours the sorrows he was carrying while we thought of him as someone being punished and struck with affliction by God whereas he was being hounded for our rebellions, crushed because of our guilt; the punishment reconciling us fell on him, and we have been healed by his bruises”. (Is.52:13-53).

By reason of sacrifice the Son of God entered heaven, as the Jewish high priest entered the sanctuary with the blood of the victim; it is in the heavenly sanctuary that he exercises His office of priest interceding for us with the Father (Heb. 9: 11-24), there is then, an act of offering done “once for all”.

Saint Paul, apostle of Christ, in his letter to the Hebrews stated the sufferings of Christ at the celebration of the Lord’s Passion:

“During his life on earth, he offered up prayer and entreaty, with loud cries and with tears, to the one who had the power to save him from death, and winning a hearing by his reverence, he learnt obedience, Son though he was, through his suffering; when he had been perfected he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation”. Heb. 4:14-16.



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The nurse handed over the new born to the mother and said, "Congratulations, it is a baby boy!"

The mother silently handed over the kid to her husband.

The husband placed the boy in his sister's hands. She gave the kid to her husband. He handed over the kid to his parents.. They in turn gave to the kid's grandparents. The grandparents handed over the kid to a visitor there. The visitor returned the child back to the mother in bed.

The new born child was worried.. "What is happening, mama?", he enquired.

"What to do, they all are addicted to this WhatsApp habit. Forwarding as soon as they receive", mother said.

Manmohan Singh went to buy vegetables.

Manmohan Singh: Bhindi kya Bhaav hai?

Sabjiwala: Ab rulayega kya pagle? Muft me leja, 'pehali baar awwaz suni hain teri.'

Modi went to buy vegetables.

Narendra Modi: Bhindi kya Bhaav hai?

Sabjiwala: Ab rulayega ka pagle? Muft me leja, *akele intne pangey (Corona.. Pakistan.. China.. Deshdrohi.. Liberandu) jhel raha hai*

Rahul Gandhi to buy vegetables |

Rahul Gandhi: Bhindi kya Bhaav hai? Vegetablewalla: Ab rulayega ka pagle? Muft me leja, *ye bhindi nahi mutter hai.*

Question- Sabjiwala kaun tha? ??

.
. .

Ab rulayega kya yeh pooch ke?

"Itna sab muft me Kejriwal ke alaava kaun de sakta hain."

A police officer came upon a terrible wreck where the driver and passen-



gers had been killed. As he looked upon the wreckage a little monkey came out of the brush and hopped around the crashed car. The officer looked down at the monkey and said "I wish you could talk: The monkey looked up at the officer and shook his head up and down. "You can understand what I'm saying?" asked the officer. Again, the monkey shook his head up and down. "Well, did you see this?" "Yes", motioned the monkey pretended to have a can in his hand and turned it up by his mouth. They were drinking?" asked the officer.

"Yes". "What else?" The monkey pinched his fingers together and held them to his mouth. They were smoking marijuana?" "Yes". "Now wait, you're saying owners were drinking and smoking marijuana before they wrecked." "Yes". "What were you doing during all this? "Driving." motioned the monkey.

Three kinds of men

There are three kinds of men in the world. Some remain single and make wonders happen, some have girlfriends and see wonders happen. The rest get married and wonder what happened?

The visa

Johnny decided to travel to the US. At the embassy for the visa interview Officer : Where to in the US?

Me : San Jose.

Officer : It's pronounced as San Hosey. J is pronounced as H in the US.

Johnny : Oh I see!

Officer : So how long do you plan to be in the US?

Johnny : From Hanuary to Hune or Huly.

Officer yelling on top of his voice : Visa Rejected!

Catch me if you can

Several years ago we headed to a

nearby town to visit some relatives. I had a new car and was having fun driving fast on the twisty country roads. As we zoomed along, I noticed a three legged chicken keeping pace with me. I slowed to get a better look at the speed ster when it turned and went down a dirt road. I stopped, turned around and followed it. After a short ride, we came upon a house with an older couple sitting on the porch and dozens of three-legged chickens in the yard. I asked them, "Are these your chickens? They're the fastest I've ever seen." The old man said, "Yes." So I asked him where did they come from and he replied, "When the kids were younger, they always fought over the chicken legs, so we decided to breed a three-legged chicken." I nodded and said, "Well, they are fast but what do they taste like?" He admitted, "Not rightly sure; we never could catch one."

One day a secretary is leaving on her lunch break and she notices her boss standing in front of a shredder with a clueless look on his face. The secretary walks up to him and asks if he needs help. "Yes!" he says looking and sounding relieved, "This is very important." Glad to help, she turns the shredder on and inserts the paper. Then her boss says: "Thanks, I only need one copy."

Teacher : I told you to write this poem out 10 times to improve your handwriting and you've only done it 7 times?

Little johnny : Looks like my counting isn't too good either!

The job interview

Santa was at a job interview when the manager handed his laptop and said, "I want you to try to sell this to me." Santa looked at the manager, put the laptop under his arms and walked out of the building and went home. Eventually, a few hours later the manager called him and yelled, "Bring back my laptop right now! Santa laughed hysterically and replied I would love to sell it for Rs 50,000. The manager is still recovering from the shock.

Bankers Benefitted

IBA, Bank unions agree on 15% wage hike

A 15 per cent hike in wage cost will mean a yearly burden of Rs 7900 crore for the banking industry. Indian Bank Association (IBA), the industry lobby of Indian banks, and United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) have agreed on a 15 percent wage bill hike for the five year period between 2017 and 2022. This was decided after a marathon meeting at State Bank of India (SBI) headquarters in Mumbai between the two. A 15 percent hike in wage cost will mean a yearly burden of Rs 7,900 crore for the banking industry. The meeting was held between IBA representatives led by Raj Kiran Rai and bank employee union representatives led by UFBU Conve-ner, C H Venkatachalam.



C.K. Subramaniam

employees across 35 banks. The IBA and trade unions negotiate wages for over 8 lakh bank employees in member banks once in every five years. The two reached a consensus on the revision that was originally due in November of 2017 after a long delay. In the 2012 round, IBA had awarded a 15 percent hike to employees. This time (2017-2022), unions had originally demanded a 20 percent hike while the IBA initially offered 12.25 percent.

Trade unions and bank management, government have had longstanding friction on the wage issue. For several years, unions have complained about wages for PSU bankers being far below government servants, forget the private sector counterparts. With wage disparity between the public and private

sector bank employees being a long-standing problem, this has triggered debates among top central bankers.

But, the government has not acted to reform the pay structure so far except for minor tweaks. In August 2016, former RBI governor, Raghuram Rajan kicked off a debate on the subject when he said salaries of top-level employees of PSBs, including the RBI, are way short of global standards. One of the problems, of course, is that public sectors overpay at the bottom but underpaid at the top. I also feel underpaid compared to Raghuram Rajan. In one section people think that Bankers are white collared workers but on the other hand there is paucity in pay packs in Banks. During the demonetisation period and the current Corona pandemic, Bankers struggled hard to keep up their schedule and hence they deserve more at this hour.

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The revision in wages will impact

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St John Paul II Museum M'lore, in the making

- Ivan Saldanha-Shet.

The world over museums housing old antiquities, have a very high interest value. In India the love and value for old things is not much, Mumbai has very great museums as a few metros. Mangalore, often called the "Rome of the East" with many churches is indeed packed with history which may not be evident. It is all worth sharing and caring though the Corona Pandemic is causing changes, things will work out as God wills. Some years back, Bethany sisters (BS) developed the residence of their founder and first candidate from the Konkani community for the sainthood in the church, and created a 'memorial museum". Recently, the Ursuline Sisters (UFS), have developed their Foundation House, adjacent to the Rosario Cathedral into a museum with the history of their congregation. St. Aloysius college too has moved it's 'Aloysium"



from the old Red building to a modern premises and updated it. Secular citizen readers would have read about these.



Museum in Mangalore Seminary : In

pressed ideas to have a museum of phased out church materials and historic memorabilia, at Rosario Cathedral; however plans in such projects change. Recently it has come to light, though not officially, that "The Muse-

um" has taken shape at St. Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary, Jeppu, Mangalore. Rev Fr. Ronald Serrao, who had interest in several museums in Europe and Rome, earlier when he was a professor here at the seminary took initiative, now as the present rector this grand idea seems to be seeing light. In the last decade several old churches have been renovated and refurbished and very valuable keepsakes are discarded and need to be preserved. Secondly, post Vatican II, major changes have come about in several aspects and the old needs to be preserved and displayed.

This new museum is the God sent, primarily two rooms are allotted to this, definitely a more dedicated space and structure will be needed. Many parishes, convents, institutions and people, it is said, have given many antiques to the seminary and a few seminarians volunteered to clean and arrange temporarily the many items received. The 135th anniversary of the Seminary in 2014-15 was a landmark year for this idea and things took shape and in 2019 some progress was made, also visited and appreciated on social media. But, the Corona Pandemic and lockdown is a damper, personnel and facilities are needed, and people will contribute



more surely.

Present status : It is said to be a voluntary part time leisure effort now, the displayed materials are superb and stimulate the mind and imagination to learn and understand more about the traditions, culture and rituals of the church. The fact that many curios and antiques highlight the church culture and practices prior to Vatican II, when up to early 1960s Latin, then official language of the church was used; then local languages came into vogue. Further, if the enigmatic relevance of the exhibits are made available, the value of these exhibits can surge higher.

One can now see, old version of church/chapel altars when the priest used not to face the people, it is indeed a curiosity. The figures of Jesus and Mary, his mother which were used in an elaborate crucifixion scene depicted right in the sanctuary of churches at the end of the Good Friday liturgy can be seen, it is now done away in most churches. Tabernacles, Bishops Mitres, Mass vestments and sacred linen, Candle sticks, statues of all sizes and kinds, Monstrances, Crucifixes, thuribles and incense boats of various types and sizes, relic holders, Copes and humeral veils, pixes, chalices, patters and ciboriums for the hosts, sanctuary bells, cruettes for wine and water, used in olden times.



Pictures, paintings, Missals, Brevaries and Books in latin, english and other languages too, further scope is vast.

Brief History of this Seminary : The institution hosting JP2 Museum now is St Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary, Jeppu, Mangalore; a Seminary first recorded in 1763 was at Monte Mariano, Farangipete, a Franciscan Capuchin house for long now. During the 15 year captivity of Kanara Catholics under Tippu Sultan 1784-99, it was closed down and reopened later. In 1845, when the Carmelites took over the care of the Church in Mangalore regions,

Later a plot of land at Jeppu, was acquired, in 1854, where a large house with a chapel was built as a residence of the Bishop and also for the seminarians. The Jesuits took over from the

Carmelites in 1878, and the present St Joseph's Seminary came into being on 11th January 1879.

The Seminary celebrated its centenary, of its reorganisation under the Jesuits in 1980. The Seminary was transferred from the Society of Jesus to the Interdiocesan (Mangalore & Calicut) Board of Administration with effect from 1st June 1995. Adding Kannur Diocese in the year 1999, and Udupi Diocese in 2012, the respective Bishops are Members of the Board of Administration. This seminary has the honour of having formed over 2000 priests and several Bishops as well. Another milestone in the history of the Seminary was the completion of 125 years of its existence on the 11th January 2004. The sights now focus on the 150 years anniversary.

Indeed this effort for a Museum is great, no doubt that this effort must be taken forward and all interested must come forward to procure, donate and work for this worthy cause. It will greatly move forward to find a more suitable place and set up in the most wonderful way this museum, to preserve and promote church history for posterity. The Seminary Rector, Rev Fr. Ronald Serrao said that for now matters are awaiting the withdrawal of the Corona Pandemic and the Seminary to reopen. Until then let us all be aware that a great blessing through this museum is in sight and needs good support.



Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - GROOMS

7133. MUMBAI : Goan RC Handsome Bachelor, (Born in February 1977) Ht. 5'9", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., PG, MBA, working as a Sr. Manager in US IT Company. Contact email : trinidad.franco@gmail.com

7077. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in March 1987), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Manager. Contact email : leroy2266@gmail.com OR Mob: 9503282306

7132. MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in January 1987) Ht. 5'8", Wt. 72 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.A., PG in Advy./Graphics & Animation, working as a Graphic Designer. Contact email : dcostastephen03@gmail.com

7011. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in September 1983), Ht. 6', Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA Electronics and Finance, working as Research Electronics. Contact email : canute.serrao@gmail.com

7119. KUWAIT: Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in November 1989), Ht. 6', Wt.78 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. F.Y. B.Com. + 2 yrs

7034. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in June 1988), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.C.A., Software Engineer, working as an Software Engineer, Asst. Manager (IT), Only Son. seeks alliance from Mangalorean RC Spinster, educated, working in Mumbai. Reply with full details & photofraph to email : ID : vivian1548@gmail.com
Mobile : 9096141335

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Email : royalchristianfamily@gmail.com

Hotel Management Diploma. working in Kuwait. Contact email :

fernandes.clayton@rocketmail.com

7010. BAHRAIN : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee (with in three months of marriage), (Born in June 1985), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 76 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC Diploma in food & beverage, working in 4 Star Hotel Bahrain. Contact Mob: 8806129309

7118. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in January 1981), Ht. 5' 5", Wt.87 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, working in Dhoha Metro, in Doha Qatar. Contact email :

josephfernandes10@yahoo.com

6198. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic (Born in October 1969), Ht. 5' 10", Edn. B.Com., good personality, hailing from God fearing, cultured family, issueless, divorcee by mutual consent, working for Cruise Liner in U.S.A., as Security Supervisor, well settled in Mumbai, Seeks suitable match. Contact email : dsouzamalcolmneil@gmail.com. Phone/SMS 09480157258.

7113. POONA : Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in December 1982), Ht. 5' 6", Wt.65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working in Logistic Co. in **DUBAI**. Contact email : shantasam1955@gmail.com

6228. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor (Born in December 1972). Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 65 kgs., Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.S.C. A/C Tech. Course, working as a A/C. Technician in Voltas. Contact email : lawrencedias321@gmail.com / Mob: 8291056939

6531. POONA : Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in May 1975), Ht. 6', Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. M.Com., Having well established business. Contact email :

\tony137@rediffmail.com

6707 MUMBAI : Goan RC bachelor, (Born in June 1975), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., having own business. Seeks a Family oriented girl. Contact email : maxabreo@yahoo.com / maxabreo@vsnl.net

6250. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in January 1974), Ht.5' 8", Wt. 76 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Manager. **Contact email : cardoz.clint@gmail.com OR 9833563182**

7135. U.S.A. : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, (Born in June 1990) Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. in Electronics & Telecommunication (EXTC), working as a Senior Software Engineer. Contact email : ryandcunha01@gmail.com

6862. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1983), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 72 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., well settled working in Mumbai. Contact email : keith_peter1983@yahoo.co.in

7112. MUMBAI : Converted Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1970), Ht. 5' 7", Wt.80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., & Masters in International Journalism (UK). Looking for a bride below the age of 42 years willing to raise a family. Contact email : decemberwedding08@yahoo.com

7136. HYDERABAD : Anglo Indian RC Bachelor, (Born in July 1988) Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Post Graduate, having own business. Contact email : phillipctoher@gmail.com

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6825 MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1986), Ht. 5' 5", Fair Complexion, Edn. Graduate + Masters working as a HR. Contact email : shobhna_dsa@ymail.com

7156 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1993), Ht. 5'1", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA., working in an IT Company as an Executive Assistant. Contact email : mumbai.lavi@gmail.com

6033 ABU-DHABI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1979), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A. Eng., Literature, working as a Copy Editor. **Contact email : barretto.lorraine@gmail.com OR 9730454857**

7066. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 78 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., (EXTC) M.S. (International Business Management), working as a Consulting Manager. Contact email : l2018anselm@yahoo.com

6497. POONA : Tamilian RC Spinster, (Born in January 1982), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a Sr. Manager. Contact email : harryanthony.7@gmail.com

7128. MUMBAI : Affluent business family R.C. East Indian Spinster, (Born in 12-04-1988), Ht. 5' 2", very beautiful and pretty. Edn. MS General Surgeon, Doctor by profession. Contact email : drvd2019@gmail.com

7126. U.S.A. : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1992) from Mumbai, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Computers) from Mumbai, M.S. (Information Systems) from US. Possesses H1B visa and is working as a Technical Analyst with a MNC in USA. Contact email : wilfyjoy1315@gmail.com or call +91 98603 02527 / + 91 9970172527

6690. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1986), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 54 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, smart, intelligent, Edn. CS., LL.B., working as a Asst. Company Secretary. Seeks a suitable educated and well settled bachelor. Caste no bar. Contact email : joylinafaroz@gmail.com

6958. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Biotech), working as a Business Analyst. Contact email : rodrigues.kavin@gmail.com

6645. ABU DHABI : Roman Catholic East Indian Spinster Mumbai orgin, (Born October 1992), Ht. 5' 5", 59 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, pleasing personality MBA (Finance) U.K. working for a UK based MNC in Abu Dhabi, as Sales Executive. Family based in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Seek a RC bachelor, well qualified professional with good moral values and good family background settled/working abroad. Email : leteciaprisca@gmail.com

7138. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1984), Ht. 4' 11", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as an Executive Assistant (Secretary). Contact email : labinajena@gmail.com

6970 MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1987),

Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 48 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. CS & LLB., working as a Company Secretary. Contact email : mendonsajacinta@gmail.com

7125. CANADA : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in February 1983), Ht. 5' 8", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A., working as a Consultant. Contact email : llmendonca@shaw.ca

7142. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1981), Ht. 5'3", Wt. 62 kgs, Very Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA (HR) working as a HR Associate. Contact email : sunrays1227@gmail.com

7124. CANADA : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1993), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.M.S., M.B.A. Operation, working as a Coordinator in Shipping Company. Contact email : carrel.dsouza@gmail.com

7137. MUMBAI : Karnataka Protestant Spinster, (Born in January 1996), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 54 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Accountant. Contact email : sujatareddy209@gmail.com

7134. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1992), Ht. 5', Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Modification and Writer. Contact email :

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JOHN LEWIS: The World Will Miss Him

A personal tribute to a LEGEND!

-*Fr. Cedric Prakash SJ

John Lewis is no more and the world will miss him! When he died on 17 July 2020, he left a great void which will never be filled! He was one of a kind who roamed this earth, impacted on the lives of many and has left us all a rich and unforgettable legacy. He was truly a wonderful human and a great hero! Beginning Saturday 25 July his funeral ceremonies will last for full six days until his burial on Thursday 30 July

Ever since he died, rich and glowing tributes have been pouring in from every corner of the world; editorials and op-eds have been written on him: all remember and highlight the many causes he espoused and championed as a civil rights leader. The Congressional Black Caucus in a statement said. *"The world has lost a legend; the civil rights movement has lost an icon."* John fought against against every form of discrimination and divisiveness: be it racism, casteism and attacks on the minorities in India. His convictions and stand for justice -were always based on nonviolence, peace and unity.

Much is being written about John Lewis. He was truly someone who contributed in many in promoting and protecting all that is right and just. Many of the eulogies that are written are by people who knew him at close quarters: were connected with him, worked with him or for that were able to follow him at least a good part of his eighty years. I make no claim to belong to any of these special groups. I have had however, the joy and privilege of meeting with him on three different occasions: once in Ahmedabad and on two different occasions in Washington DC; two of these meetings were very brief but one lasted for almost a couple of hours!

Ever since I heard of the death of John Lewis, I have been revisiting my meet-



Fr. Cedric Prakash SJ

John Lewis

ings with him and feel it is important to put down some of my personal glimpses of this great soul, as a small way of paying my tribute to him, these include:

John Lewis was very human

I cherish my meetings with him; he gave me value time; he was such a warm, affable, available and unassuming person despite the power he had and the influence he could wield! He was definitely a busy person, but when I spoke, he gave me his total undivided attention, listening intently! His questions were based on what I had said; areas which needed more clarification or substantiation. Right from the word 'go' one felt that he trusted you; believed in what you were saying, was on the same page as you were and was determined to do all he could to address the concern

John Lewis was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi

There has never been any doubt about this: he was convinced of the non-violent approach of Mahatma Gandhi. I first met John in the Gandhi Ashram here in Ahmedabad; he was accompanying Martin Luther King III (the son of MLK Jr). *"I have always wanted to come here; to experience the sacred-*

ness of this place", he said to me. In one of my visits to his office in the Capitol, he insisted that his political assistant takes a picture of the two of us, in front of the displayed photos of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. which adorned his shelves. It is a vintage picture which I will always treasure. In December 2019, to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, John Lewis introduced a Bill (HR 5517) in the US House of Representatives that aimed to promote the legacy and contributions of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King. Through the bill, he hoped to affirm the friendships of the two largest democracies of the world: India and the US and establish a bilateral partnership, *"for collaboration to advance development and shared values, and for other purposes"*. He had earlier proposed a similar bill, called the "Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative Act of 2011", which aimed to use peaceful and non-violent methods for global conflict resolution.

John Lewis took a stand against injustice and for freedom

He was always concerned against any injustice, any discrimination that



(Contd.. from p. 22)

took place anywhere. His public fight against injustice began in the summer of 1961, when he and other students protested at segregated lunch counters and later joined the famous Freedom Rides. By his early twenties, Lewis was head of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. In March 1963, he joined Martin Luther King and others at the 'March on Washington'. He elevated his fight for freedom and equality with a passionate speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial'. He spoke on voting rights and the future of the Democratic Party. His speech was brief, lasting less than eight minutes, but his words influenced a generation of activists. "To those who have said, 'Be patient and wait,' he said, "we must say that we must not be patient. We do not want our freedom gradually, but we want to be free now." His own resolve for justice and freedom was tested, as he and other peaceful protesters were violently beaten in 1965 while crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. He never looked back since then! He was anguished and angry at what was happening to the minorities (particularly to the Christians and Muslims), the Dalits, the Adivasis and other vulnerable groups, in India, particularly since 2002. He never hesitated in sponsoring any Congressional resolution or endorsing any Congressional statement to address these matters.

John Lewis loved Mother Teresa

He simply loved Mother Teresa; her love for the poor; the peace and joy which she radiated. On 29 December 1975, TIME magazine brought out a special issue entitled 'LIVING SAINTS' (Messengers of Love and Hope). Mother Teresa was on the Cover Page and figured prominently in the detailed cover story, 'Saints Among Us: The Work of Mother Teresa'. The story however, was not only about Mother Teresa but also about other 'living saints' who were making their mark on society with the much needed love and hope. This is what TIME Magazine said almost forty-five years ago, "The U.S. has its own civil rights heroes. John Lewis, 35, the young apostle of

nonviolence in the '60s, was arrested more than 40 times in civil rights demonstrations, and his skull was fractured at Selma in 1965. Since 1970 he has headed the Voter Education Project in Atlanta and helped register some 3.5 million blacks. As a Baptist seminarian, Lewis was kidded for talking up the Social Gospel, but he insists that some "immutable principles" must be at the base of the "Beloved Society" he envisions, and nonviolence is one of them. If a compassionate world is the end, he argues, "then the means we use must be consistent with it." John was the youngest of the 'living saints' who found a place in the article. No small achievement! I had never seen that issue of TIME magazine; but in one of my meetings with him, in a very bashful manner he took out a copy of that issue and showed it to me. "You know Father, he said, one of the happiest moments of my life was to be honoured in the same article which featured Mother Teresa. I know that I am not deserving of that 'title' but it has spurred me all these years to love the poorest of the poor just as she did!" Today I believe that John is with Mother Teresa in heaven celebrating their sainthood together there!

John Lewis admired Pope Francis

He genuinely admired Pope Francis. In September 2015, Pope Francis gave a historic speech to a joint session of the US Congress in Washington. That speech touched the hearts of many who were listening; many were teary-eyed. He returned to his Office and released a powerful statement which went viral and was covered extensively by the mainstream media. He wrote:

"The Holy Father, Pope Francis of the Holy See, delivered a powerful message to Congress and the American people today. In his humble, gentle way he used his authority to encourage us all to simply do what is right to protect the dignity of all humankind.

"He said, 'All political activity must serve and promote the good of the human person and be based on respect for his or her dignity....Politics is...an expression of our compelling need to live as one, in order to build as one the greatest common good...'

"These words and ideas speak to the

center of our work as members of Congress and to the importance and vitality of our roles as individual citizens. Pope Francis delivered one of the most moving speeches I have ever heard in all my years in Congress. I loved the way he used the life and work of President Abraham Lincoln, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton as the basis of his lesson for all of us.

"Though I was reluctant to openly shed tears, I cried within to hear his words. I was deeply moved to realize I had a connection in some way with some of those he mentioned. When TIME magazine, years ago, did a story on "living saints," they actually included Dorothy Day and I in the story. Also Thomas Merton was a monk whose words I studied during non-violence training in the Civil Rights Movement. It was amazing that the Pope mentioned the Selma-to-Montgomery march because during the first attempt to march to Montgomery, now known as Bloody Sunday, I carried one of Thomas Merton's books in my backpack.

"Pope Francis spoke to the heart and soul of Congress and America. It is my hope and prayer that members of Congress will heed his simple call to respect the dignity and divinity of every human being then we would be better servants of the American people, this would be a better country, and a better world." It was a direct 'release' from the heart of John: he meant every word! A genuine outburst!

In his lifetime, John tried to emulate MLK Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa and Pope Francis. He has left us at a crucial and critical time of our lives. The only real tribute we can pay this great soul is to have the courage to try to live concretely and substantially the rich legacy he has left us: by taking a stand against every form of discrimination and injustice around us!

**Rest in peace Dear John!
The world will miss you!
We are poorer without you!**

**(Fr Cedric Prakash SJ is a human rights and peace activist/writer.*

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