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**4 Key Elements Without Which The
"Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" Will Be A Failure**

Vasai Social Reformers



On 29th September 2014 Richard Rodrigues and Sonali were felicitated at Abhang Bhavan, Vasai for their special contribution to social reforms. Richard is a handicapped person working as an asst. manager in Bassein Catholic Bank. On 21st September he married Sonali who is a widow with a child, Swinal. "Both Richard and Sonali are great social reformers! Sonali has done the work 'uplift of the handicapped' and Richard has supported the cause of widows' re-marriage," said Fr. Michael G. as he wrapped a shawl around both at the function.

The function was organized by Apang Seva, Vasai since Richard is an active member of it. Dominic D'Mello, the chairman of Catholic Bank was a special guest. Fr. Don John D'Souza of Kandivali who presided over the function in his speech highlighted the role 'family' in society in the light of the forthcoming Synod of Bishops on 'Family.' On the occasion Cynthia Baptista too was felicitated for her achievement of the Christian Chamber of Commerce Excellence award for social service. The website and the brochure of Apang Seva too were released on the occasion.

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Kerala Becomes First State To Provide Free Cancer Treatment



Thiruvananthapuram : Kerala on Friday became the first state in India to launch a project providing free cancer treatment to the poor.

The project called 'Sukrutham' was launched by Chief Minister Oommen Chandy here in the evening. Modeled on the lines of 'Karunya Benevolent Fund' implemented with income from a lottery, the cancer programme will draw on voluntary contributions from mobile phone subscribers, corporates, public sector undertakings and rich individuals, reported freepressjournal.in.

The lottery-linked 'Karunya Benevolent Fund' introduced soon after the assumption of office by the United Democratic Front (UDF) government in May 2011 has provided financial assistance worth Rs.228 crores to 27,275 people till December 2013.

Under 'Sukrutham', cancer patients below the poverty line will be given free treatment at Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram; Malabar Cancer Centre; medical college hospitals in Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Kottayam and Kozhikode and Ernakulam General Hospital.

The Chief Minister said that the government had conceived the project as many people could not afford the escalating cost of cancer treatment. There is ceiling to the financial assistance provided through various state and central schemes. Those who are not getting the benefit through these projects will come under the Sukrutham project.

A Cancer Care Society had been formed with the Chief Minister as the chairman and Health Minister as vice-chairman to monitor the programme. The number of new cancer cases in Kerala is estimated at 50,000. The number of people seeking cancer treatment annually in the state is estimated at 100, 000.

Free treatment to these people will cost the exchequer about Rs.320 crores every year. Experts are doubtful whether the revenue model proposed by the government will generate enough funds to carry the programme forward.

Thought for the week

It is not so much what you believe in that matters, as the way in which you believe it and proceed to translate that belief into action.

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A dead language does not work for a living Church

A Latin teacher at the seminary I attended described Italian and the other modern Romance languages as "corrupt provincial dialects of Latin".

Pope Francis has decided that the working language of the Extraordinary Synod for the Family being held at the Vatican should not be Latin, but one of those modern descendants, Italian.

That decision has not been greeted with joy among some traditionalists, though the number of participants at the Synod who can actually understand Latin, let alone speak it, is small. De facto, the working language of the Vatican is Italian already.

Partisans of Latin say it is unchanging and therefore dependable. But that is only true because it is dead, though new words must be added from time to time because ancient Romans and medieval Europeans had no words for such things as popcorn (m?izae grana tosta), snack bar (thermop?lium pot?rium et gustat?rium) or karate (oppugn?tio inermis lap?nica). All those Latin neologisms come, by the way, from the Vatican website.

In fact, there is not one Latin, because when it was a living language, it changed as much as any living language does. "Calix," or chalice, was originally used by Church fathers to describe the tantalizing but poisoned temptation of heresy. Later, it became the word used for the cup that Jesus used at the Last Supper and that we use in the liturgy.

Which Latin do its partisans want? The classical language of Cicero? The later varieties that were evolving into French, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish etc? Ecclesiastical Latin, so-called, is actually one product of that evolution along the road from classical Latin to Italian.

So, whether Latin or a modern language be the lingua franca of the Church, choices must be made, and a move from Latin to its modern Italian iteration is a step in the right direction, but too small a step.

The pope has joined those who decry careerism among clergy. The Extraordinary Synod for Asia in 1998 called for broader membership and influence in the Roman bureaucracy. Both problems are linked at least in part to the fact that the Vatican's actual language for conducting business is Italian, the



BY FR MICHAEL KELLY

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language of a mere 64 million people, the overwhelming majority of whom are native speakers.

In other words, in order to work in the central administration of the Catholic Church, one must be either an Italian, a non-Italian raised by Italian speakers (like the pope) or someone who has intentionally studied the language as an adult, too often with an eye to ecclesiastical career advancement. Since the number of those linguistically qualified to work at the Vatican is small, once someone is ensconced in a job, he probably has a lifetime sinecure.

Because bishops are ultimately chosen by the Italian speakers, some facility with that language becomes either explicitly or unconsciously a job requirement for leadership even in Churches geographically and culturally remote from Rome.

In a Church with some 1.2 billion members, the talent pool from which leaders are chosen is, in reality, no more than a parking lot puddle.

The United Nations functions with six languages that represent the majority of people in the world – Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The working languages of the UN Secretariat are two, English and French. While all six of those languages are spoken by Catholics, of course not all of them are used by large numbers of us.

Should not the Church imitate the UN in broadening the population from which it can draw talent and allow spiritual and intellectual input from languages and cultures that are too often alien to Church bureaucrats — languages and cultures that in fact shape the world in which we are to proclaim the Gospel?

There are two languages that should be the working languages of the Church today. One of them is among those "corrupt provincial dialects" my teacher pooh-poohed, the native tongue of the pope.

It is estimated that there are more than half a billion speakers of Spanish as either a first or second language. The majority of them are Catholics, and it is probably the most common first language in the Church.

Three Ways To Streamline The Annulment Procedure



One of the Vatican's top canon lawyers at the Synod of Bishops on the Family says the current process for the annulment of marriages in the Catholic Church could be streamlined and expanded to the benefit of very many people whose marriages have broken down. This could be one of the positive fruits of the synod, he said, but it would not be approved until the second synod in 2015.

Cardinal Francis Coccopalmerio (Italy) said this at a Vatican press briefing for the media on Thursday, and outlined three ways in which the annulments process can be streamlined and improved.

The first way is by removing the appeal process and requiring only one judicial decision in the church's tribunal. The current code of canon law requires the double confirming sentence by church tribunals before the marriage can be declared null. Today, after the first judicial sentence has been issued declaring the mar-

riage is null, there is an automatic judicial appeal. The church cannot declare the annulment of a marriage until the appeal process has confirmed the first decision.

A second way is by not requiring a collegial judicial decision in cases of annulment. Today it is necessary to have three judges to declare the nullity of a marriage, whereas it would be sufficient to have only one judge for this purpose.

The third way is what many synod fathers described as "an administrative procedure" by which the local bishop can declare the annulment of a marriage "for grave and urgent reasons." This could happen even in the absence of external evidence or witnesses, when the bishop considers the couple as "credible witnesses" to what was the actual situation in their marriage.

"I am very favorable to this third solution; it is often the only way forward," Cardinal Coccopalmerio stated.

The other language that should be used as an official language of the Church has sometimes been disparaged in Rome as "Protestant," though it is, for example, the working language of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences.

That is English, spoken by at least one billion people with varying degrees of fluency from basic to native. It is the language of the internet and other information technology, science, business, diplomacy and most other elements of the globalization of communication and culture. When the pope flies into Rome

from an overseas trip, his Italian pilot receives landing instructions from an Italian flight controller in English.

Pope Francis has taken a step forward in admitting that the language of the Church's leadership is not Latin, but Italian. The next step is to change that language and leadership to better reflect the reality of a Church that lives, worships and proclaims in a world better represented by Spanish and English.

Maryknoll Father William Grimm is the publisher of ucanews.com.
Source: ucanews.com

Is 'Make in India' A Failed Product That Is Merely Being Rebranded?

Hard selling throughout the PM's US visit, an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal and a glitzy launch event, 'Make in India' campaign has made the right noises so far. The launch of the campaign to position India as a manufacturing and export hub was a huge success. It had catchphrases from the Prime Minister in "FDI – First Develop India" and "Look East and Link West"; business leaders and ministers talked up labour-intensive manufacturing; brochures and a website with a lion made up of cog-wheels were released. Make in India is an unapologetic PR campaign with the PM as its Chief Marketing Officer.

What really to make of 'Make in India'? It is an old product which hit rock bottom in sales due to product failures in the last 10 years that is being rebranded and sold again. The company's new CEO who was rather popular given his management of a similar medium scale company as the Chief Minister of Gujarat has now been promoted by the country's voters. It is this credibility that he capitalises on to promise quality to potential customers. The product's inherent design flaws still remain. An unfair land acquisition act, a complex taxation regime, under developed infrastructure to support manufacturing, electricity shortage and shortage of fresh water resources for industries have contributed to our 134th position in the ease of doing business survey.

The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act- which is UPA's landmark land acquisition act, mandates payment of four times the market value in rural areas, and twice the price for land close to urban settlements. Land prices have soared up since, and a Business Line report on 4th August indicates that the "cost of land now accounts for 20-25 percent of project cost." The report also echoes problems such as long delays and

by Sabarathinam Selvaraj

hurdles in acquiring land in India. While Minister Nitin Gadkari has spoken of the NDA's intentions to amend the act, it may face the same roadblocks as the Insurance Laws amendment bill in the Rajya Sabha with significant opposition from the Congress.

High direct and indirect taxes and myriad local taxes add to the cost of doing business in India. For example, there is a central tax on manufacturing, state level tax on sales with some states imposing VAT and an additional OC-TROI levied by local municipal corporations. The implementation of GST is still being negotiated with the states.

The product has not gone through any effective updates yet either. Very little has been achieved on the FDI front- FDI in insurance has been sent to the select committee and 49% in defence without control is not incentive enough for anyone to set shop. Single window clearance still remains 'soon to be launched'. While it is too early to be critical and patience needs to be exercised, it is the government's impatience to launch the campaign that mandates this criticism.

India's economy has seen a remarkable turnaround since the new regime assumed power and the markets have been bullish. Positive sentiment has contributed largely to these developments; little has changed on the policy front. Modi, as the chief minister of Gujarat might have been able to see investments through to the last mile and clear of red tape. One cannot be sure that he will be able to do the same at a national level, with the NDA in power only in 7 states and given the adversarial centre- state dynamic.

Would it have been wiser to push the campaign after removing the impediments or at least after adding the necessary updates to the failed product?

Will strong leadership and positive sentiment, the only significant changes, be enough to woo investments into manufacturing? While cronyism eroded trust in the system at various levels and affected investor confidence in the last ten years, is a mere trust building exercise enough now? Verdict remains on 'Make in India'.

Among various other reasons, it is the promise to create jobs in an economy that will grow again that gave Mr. Modi the huge mandate in the first place. This vote bank with over 70% of its population under 45 is set to grow, with around 20% of the population between the age group 11-19 (2011 census) soon to become voters. An astute politician, Mr. Modi is likely to have realised that he needs to deliver on this count if he is to stay in power until 2024, a desire he has spoken of time and again. It is in this context that the recent 'Make in India' campaign garners more importance. The collective hope of more than half a billion young people rests on it.

'Make in India' is a necessary push to revitalize a long ignored sector, but it is not adequate yet. When history looks back at Modi's report card as the Prime Minister of India, 'Make in India' will certainly be an important cog. Whether it will be one as majestic and powerful as the lion that is its mascot, only time will tell.

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“Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan”

The “Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan” launched by the Prime Minister on Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October, represents a much-needed challenge and welcome opportunity for all our educational institutions to give the lead in instilling an attitude of respect for menial work and readiness to do humble tasks like sweeping, washing and disposing of waste in all future citizens of the country, on a war-footing. It should be an integral part of value education, environmental awareness and social service. Adequate sanitation and cleanliness is a major problem facing the whole country. Anyone who has travelled widely, will testify that India is one of the filthiest countries in the world. Our highly negative attitude to all kinds of menial tasks is largely responsible for this sorry state of affairs, which gives a very bad reputation to the country in the eyes of foreigners. To remedy the situation, every school, college, industry, hospital, public establishment and household in the country ought to respond to this clarion-call given by the PM to strive, every day and always, to keep our cities, towns and villages spotlessly clean.

Our scientists, technologists and industrialists, in particular, need to go all out to devise new, modern, scientific and practical methods of clearing up our highly congested cities of the mountains of garbage that keep rising sky-high, day after day, all over. The construction of millions of toilets for the poor, treatment of tons and tons of sewage, proper disposal of non-biodegradable plastics, of poisonous effluents discharged from industries and nuclear waste from reactors; eliminating the use of harmful pesticides and insecticides in agriculture and of hazardous hospital wastes, pose a mammoth challenge indeed; but which modern science is quite capable of handling successfully. The splendour of our rivers, lakes and fresh-water bodies, which have been nurturing life and civilization for millennia, must also be restored to their pristine glory on a



priority basis. The new resurgent India would be failing in a major duty to the motherland, if it cannot muster the will to accept this seemingly insurmountable challenge head-on, especially after the spectacular success of ISRO's maiden Mars Mission very recently.

— Joseph M. Dias, S.J.,
Andheri (E), Mumbai.

Cremation Controversy

Uma Bharti, water resources minister has racked up a controversy by suggesting that electric crematoriums should not be used, and instead bodies should be burnt in the traditional way – *The Times of India*, Oct 8, 2014, pg. 13. However, *Times View* took a contra-position revealing that electric crematoriums and now CNG ones were set up precisely because they were found to be environmental friendly. They ensure bodies are burnt faster, hygienically and completely.

Conventional open cremation takes about six hours and consumes 500-600 kgs of wood. Every year 50-60 million trees are hacked for cremation in India. This results in the emissions of 8 million tonnes of CO₂ and greenhouse gases. This atrocious and colossal deforestation and atmospheric pollution can be effectively solved by employing electric or CNG crematoria. For Christians, ashes can be deposited in cemetery niches.

Sentiment within the Catholic Church hardened when free-masons, atheists and communists advocated cremation as a means of rejecting the Christian belief in the Resurrection. Regular burials occupy a great deal of space. Many cemeteries have run out of permanent graves. In London, a 'space' crisis has led to a proposal of reopening old graves for 'double-decker' burials with vertical tombstones.

The disposal of the dead is a corporal act of mercy. The Church permits cremation provided that it does not demonstrate a denial of faith in the Resurrection (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* : 2301). Jesus ominously concludes: “Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell” (*Matthew 10:28*).

—Dr Trevor Colaso,
Bandra (W),

True Happiness

Deep within us there is a longing for true happiness. We wish one another a happy birthday, a happy feast (Christmas, Diwali, Dussehra, New Year, Eid, etc) or a happy wedding anniversary. When we wish happiness to others, we experience happiness and true joy. It is said that the time to be happy is now and the place to be happy is here and the way to be happy is to make others happy. God has created us to be happy here and now and ever after.

— Jubel D'Cruz, Dombivili

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Prop. B. D'Souza

4 Key Elements Without Which The “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” Will Be A Failure

by Urvashi Prasad

Nearly 100 million people in India lack access to safe drinking water and over 700 million continue to defecate in the open. Over 600,000 children under 5 years lose their lives to water and sanitation related diseases like diarrhoea and pneumonia every year. In this context, the recent launch of the “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” (Clean India Campaign) by the Prime Minister can be seen as a welcome and much needed step. However, if the campaign is to go beyond symbolism and actually achieve the goal of making India open defecation free by 2019, it needs a multi-pronged strategy that encompasses the following key elements:

1) Sustained involvement of multiple stakeholders: While it was heartening to see celebrities and Government officials sweeping the streets on 2nd October, it is important to ensure that the interest of all stakeholders (politicians, bureaucrats, NGOs, private enterprises, funders and communities) is sustained and they work towards this goal in a concerted fashion.

While the Government has brought on board, major organisations like Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and USAID, they need to ensure that all stakeholder voices are heard and various efforts are coordinated in order to avoid duplication or gaps in implementation. For instance, there is a UNICEF led coalition on Water, Sanitation & Hygiene in Schools which has produced a roadmap for ensuring access to basic services in schools in India. The document was released by the Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Government of India in August 2014, but the initiatives highlighted in that need to be integrated with this campaign so that it does not remain just another publication.

2) Focus on changing behaviours:

This is perhaps the biggest roadblock to achieving the desired goal of clean India. Several families are habituated to defecating in the open and this is perhaps why large numbers of toilets that have been constructed are lying unused or in a dysfunctional state. In fact, I have spoken to many people who find toilets claustrophobic and have a clear preference for going out into fields. Even though it has hardly been a week since the launch of the campaign, we saw photographs of people leaving litter behind after the Prime Minister’s rally in Mumbai.

Changing behaviours is therefore going to be far from straightforward and this is where the engagement of community-based organisations and community leaders will be critical. While involvement of celebrities can help (Mr Amitabh Bachchan has successfully been the Goodwill Ambassador for polio eradication), it will be imperative to understand local cultures, motivations and belief systems. Not everyone wants a toilet for better health. Some want it for convenience or because it is safer for women. Until there is a strong understanding of these aspects, it will be impossible to change behaviours.

More importantly, hygiene education needs to be made a compulsory part of the school curriculum, as opposed to leaving it to the discretion of State Education Boards to decide whether or not they want to include it. Once good hygiene habits have been inculcated into children, they can champion the cause of sanitation in their communities. Children are known to be important change agents and can make a significant contribution to the success of this campaign by spreading the message of cleanliness to their fami-

lies and communities.

3) Going beyond toilet construction:

Previous governments have also allocated a lot of money to sanitation through initiatives like Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan. It is extremely important that the Government realises that merely constructing more toilets is not going to be worthwhile. The toilets need to be usable and for that quality of construction as well as operation and maintenance needs to be robust. The latter needs ownership from people but also innovative models like involving private sector enterprises to maintain community/public toilets on a fee basis. Water availability in toilets also needs to be ensured. Moreover, solutions for collecting and recycling waste are also essential. Thus, a comprehensive package of interventions is the need of the hour, as opposed to focusing primarily on toilet construction.

4) Going beyond fund allocation: The

(Contd.. on p. 15)

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Briefly Speaking

-by Bernie Tellis

Brevity is the soul of wit. It's a great boredom buster. You've probably heard it said : If you don't strike oil in 5 minutes, stop boring ; and the more contemporaneous : less is more; smses have done wonders for brevity , though blunders for language.

We Indians, are a garrulous lot. We love the sound of our own voice , even if it isn't particularly mellifluous. Indian politicians are prime examples of this. They put the gathering to sleep with their long – winded , unprepared speeches and some of them are half-asleep while delivering theirs ! The print and electronic media have often shown them snoozing on stage ,in parliament, during speeches and discussions.

Many women ,too, tend to go on and on , round and round the subject ,never coming to the point.(Do we even know what it is ?) Is it because our men-folk are driving us around in circles or perhaps, up the wall ?

Sunday homilies also suffer from the same infirmity of inordinate length , not to mention vacuity of thought. Sometimes one wonders if the preacher himself knows what he is talking about ,more so when he reads from a prepared script. If he can't remember what he's saying , how can he reasonably expect us to ? We all need to say what we mean and mean what we say and do it briefly, to make sense .

The Sunday sermon is a truly God-given opportunity to impact the spiritual life of the flock. The shepherd should

seize it with heart and mind, and strike – but only till the iron is hot. The story is told of a novice preacher in Dean Inge's time, who excitedly informed the Dean that he had been chosen to preach at the service of the Lord's Supper. " And what will be the theme of your discourse ? " queried the Dean. "I shall be speaking on the milk of human kindness ", answered the junior pastor, pompously. "Condensed , I trust ", said the Dean, dryly. That, ofcourse, is the ideal because few members of any congregation have been saved after the first 10 minutes of a sermon, but alas ,many have been lost – in more senses than one.

The best sermon of all time-a classic- is the Sermon on the Mount: a synthesis of substance and style, depth of meaning wedded to choice words ,which leave no room for doubt or confusion; and not long at all. Indeed, one could well say that the Sermon on the Mount , is the Bible in brief.

I once heard an excellent sermon at a nuptial service. The celebrant ,very wisely, did not let himself or the bridal couple become the focus of attention, as he made just 2 general points. (Every good speaker does that). He said that Matrimony is last in the list of Sacraments, and does not come after Baptism, because it isn't administered to the immature, in order to have a greater chance of success. Next, he said that to practice a profession- which has a retirement age – one has to go through years of education, training

and preparation. This should apply much more to marriage which is a vocation for life and a life-long commitment. He made these 2 points in about 2 minutes flat. His sermon was easy for him to remember and difficult for the congregation to forget. That's what brevity does – it hits the nail on the head without splitting the wood !

Be brief or be damned. No one today has the time/energy/interest / inclination to listen to long stories, to sit – much less stand- through long sermons and speeches. So be it homilies, speeches, toasts, thank yous or introductions, make them short, sweet and memorable. Let your effort be greeted with a smile not a snore or a yawn, because a yawn is a silent scream to you to shut up .

Those who have much to say, use the fewest words and expend less time. Dynamite comes in small packages. So too, the best oratory is clothed in a few , simple words which must reveal rather than conceal. Some speakers raising the toast at weddings, tend to trace family history to the Garden of Eden and others, even farther ! Perhaps that's one reason why wrist-watches show the time and the date.

The shortest sentence in the Bible is found in John 11 : 35 which says : Jesus wept. This was at the death of Lazarus . Saying so little, it says so much. One of the best recorded speeches in history is Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address delivered on November 19, 1863 , at the height of the American Civil War. The polished aristocrat Edward Everett spoke for 2 hours and the homespun President for 2 minutes and the latter speech became immortal not the least for its classic definition of Democracy as government "of the people, for the people, by the people " The most apt and touching epitaph I ever read was taken from the tombstone of a babe : " Came in ; looked around ; didn't like it ; went out.

Brevity is, indeed, the soul of wit. There's MUCH that can be said in praise of it. Guess , I've said enough !

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The Unsung Heroes Who Have Been Working Towards A Swachh Bharat Even Before PM Narendra Modi

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi kick-started India's biggest cleanliness drive on October 2, 2014, in memory of Mahatma Gandhi, everyone came together to make this campaign a big success. We take this opportunity to talk about some laudable models we can replicate and salute some of the unsung heroes who have been doing extremely good work for quite some time for a cleaner India.

On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the country's biggest ever cleanliness drive. The five year long Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (Clean India campaign) has a mission of a "clean India" by 2019 when the country will celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The PM took a cleanliness pledge at India Gate along with 30 lakh government employees. Modi invited nine people to join the drive and requested each one of them to engage nine more people into the initiative to make it a success. The total cost of the project is expected to be Rs.2 lakh crores. A Swachh Bharat Kosh has been set up to attract funds from corporates and individuals for better execution of the plan and facilities.

October 2, a public holiday, was a working day for government employees this year as they were instructed to lead and engage in the cleanliness initiatives in their respective offices. Prominent personalities including cricketers and actors also joined Modi in his cleanliness drive.

626 million people in India — the highest in the world — defecate in the open as they do not have a toilet. While most Indians look upon such initiatives as short-lived and (the most cynical among us) view them as photo ops for ministers, we do hope the latest Clean India campaign will be an important step in changing this alarming situation.

The Unsung Heroes

As the whole nation is now coming together for this crucial cause, we would like to salute some of the unsung heroes who have been working towards a cleaner India for much longer.

One of them is Vikas Chandra who has dedicated his entire life to cleaning the river Ganges. For the last 20 years, he has been working with a group of volunteers to clean the holiest and also the dirtiest river of India. Fondly called "Guddu Baba", Chandra filed a PIL in Patna High Court to make the river pollution-free. Not only this, he manually pulls out the dead bodies from the river and cremates them.

Another inspiring personality is a 102-year-old lady on a mission to clean up the country. Ahmedabad-based Rama Mali has proved that there is no age to start something good. On her 100th birthday she started a cleanliness drive in Kalupur. Inspired by Gandhi, Mali spreads awareness about cleanliness in her locality, distributes pamphlets and makes sure that people use dustbins.

In June this year, Vistaap Kharas, a Mumbai-based interior designer took a bold step when he saw someone in a BMW throw an empty can of coke on the road and stopped them from doing so. He was beaten up by the guys in the BMW for this act but he stood up against those who believe they can get away with littering and breaking the law because they are rich. He also endorsed and led BMC's cleanliness campaign after the incident.

A remarkable group of anonymous changemakers who call themselves The Ugly Indian have been quietly transforming dirty corners in cities into bright, attractive public spaces. A completely citizen-run initiative, it sees groups of people come together and take mat-

ters into their own hands instead of waiting for a government body to come and clean up their localities, as they "believe that there is no magic wand, or silver bullet, to solve India's civic problems. We are realists, and accept that many of India's problems are hard to solve even if the government and public work closely together and money was freely available." Watch a video on one of their amazing stories of change here and join their facebook page today to "be the change that you want to see in the world" as our beloved Bapu would say.

Apart from Indians, UK-born Jodie Underhill, along with her group of volunteers, has been cleaning up some of the most visited pilgrimage trails of India in the Himalayan belt. Underhill and the volunteers of 'The Mountain Cleaners' pick up the trash, segregate it and also manage it responsibly. You can know more about their work here. Models we can replicate

If more people like these come forward then we surely can see a cleaner and healthier India in the near future. Citizens' initiatives never go unrewarded and a great example of this is Mawlynnong village in Meghalaya which is tagged "The Cleanest Village in Asia".

There are stylish bamboo dustbins everywhere and separate compost pits in various pockets of the village for organic and inorganic wastes. Not only this, smoking and use of polythene is strictly banned here. Villagers maintain the public toilets and make sure they take care of the regular sweeping, weeding and watering of the gardens. You can read the complete story about this village here.

If modern cities replicate this village's model, with better technology and resources, the mission of "garbage-free" India can be achieved in a very short

(Contd.. on p. 16)

Has the Ideology Changed?

by Don Aguiar

Soon Maharashtra will elect a State Government, which will affect all of us. In most constituencies we face a five cornered contest and hence the dilemma. We have received directions from our Archbishop of Bombay Oswald Cardinal Gracias urging us (Catholics) to vote for “good governance” rather than “secular parties” as reported in the TOI on September 24, 2014 as well as in announcements in Churches urging parishioners at weekend mass to vote for “good governance” over “secular parties”. The Protestants too echo similar thoughts.

Incidentally, good governance is the BJP's vote plank; because together with good governance they also promote their hidden communal agenda which is the process to marginalize, convert and harass the minorities, while secularism is the Congress calling card. Many Christians are long time supporters of secular parties and may be reluctant to switch loyalties. It is said that - Corruption has flourished under the garb of secularism but can it get any better with the party promoting good governance.

Various kinds of corruption have incessantly prevailed from time immemorial in one form or the other because corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. It hurts everyone who depends on the integrity of people in a position of authority. Political corruption is worst in India. The major cause of concern is that corruption is weakening the political body and damaging the supreme importance of the law governing the society.

It is widely known and acknowledged that the party promoting good governance has failed to find candidates and had to “import” candidates from the secular parties who are facing graft or criminal charges and who this party had criticized for many years. Also it has been acknowledged that the party promoting good governance at the center has nothing much to offer EXCEPT promote the schemes and projects of the previous parties pro-

moting secularism due to obtaining absolute majority. Had any of the parties promoting secularism at the center have an absolute majority they sure would have performed well but due to being a coalition government their performance was limited due to the requirement of pleasing the coalition partner least the coalition partner withdraws support and their government falls.

It is well known from our daily newspaper that more than half of the candidates put up by all the parties are facing graft or criminal charges because - Corruption in India is a result of the connection between bureaucrats, politicians and criminals. Earlier, bribes were paid for getting wrong things done, but now bribe is paid for getting right things done at right time. Further, corruption has become something respectable in India, because respectable people are involved in it. The basic inception of corruption started with our opportunistic leaders who have already done great damage to our nation. People who work on right principles are unrecognized and considered to be foolish in today's society. It is a very rare instance that one will find a candidate who is clean and secular

While most Christians are long time supporters of secular parties the urge of the Archbishop of Bombay Oswald Cardinal Gracias to vote for “good governance” over “secular parties” is a huge leap from the traditional stand which has now identifies itself with the party for good governance vote plank.

Most Christians and in particular Catholics are confused and ask - “Has the ideology of the Church changed?” “Why the Archbishop of Bombay Oswald Cardinal Gracias has identified himself with the vote plank of the party that also promotes a communal agenda and is in the process of marginalizing the minorities?” “Have we not seen what the party that promotes good governance plank has done in Goa in regards to the minorities

or even governance?” “Have we not experienced the party that promotes good governance that has been installed at the center unable to control price rise and achieve their promised “achaa din..” or for that matter has seen the increase of communal harassment.” “Why then is the Archbishop of Bombay Oswald Cardinal Gracias engineering the Christian vote to be fragmented more than any time in the community history?”

In Jayalalita's case it is said that - When you create a situation where no one can question you it leads you to do reckless things resulting in getting trapped in the net and into trouble. A similar thing could happen to anyone else holding the reins of power.

Fr Cedric Prakash and other Christian leaders in their own right have been regularly pointing out the hidden agenda of the good governance party that while they say they are promoting good governance they are at the same time also promoting their hidden agenda of promoting communal strife between the many religions in India. Their good governance record till date too is nothing to talk about.

The one thing that the Archbishop of Bombay Oswald Cardinal Gracias could have done was to take note of what our Christian leaders have been pointing out about the party promoting good governance rather than identifying himself with their vote plank and creating confusion in the Christian vote.

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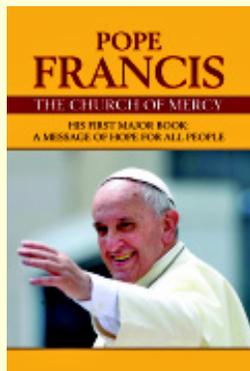
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Indian Editions of Pope Francis and Mother Teresa Books Released

BANGALORE : Low-priced editions of books *The Church of Mercy: His First Major Book – A Message of Hope for All People* by Pope Francis and *Jesus is My All in All: A Novena to Blessed Teresa of Calcutta* were released today by Most Rev. Bernard Moras, Archbishop of Bangalore, at a programme organised by the city unit of the Conference of Religious of India (CRI).



Pope Francis, who heads the 1.2 billion member Catholic Church, has been widely acclaimed for his spiritual leadership. As part of his revolutionary new vision for the Church, Francis calls on all believers to be 'full-time Christians' and not 'living-room Christians', and to struggle against the trappings of power, and the worship of money and careerism. The *Church of Mercy* collects for the first time, with full Vatican approval, his words and writings on these themes during his first year as Pope.



Jesus is My All in All collates some of Mother Teresa's most stirring words into a powerful book that anyone will treasure. It follows the Roman Catholic novena format, a nine-day rhythm of prayer and reflection.

The first copies were presented by the Archbishop to Sr. Margaret Lourdanathan SSpS, President - CRI Bangalore Unit, Sr. Sundari Singareddy JMJ, Provincial - Society of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Bangalore, Fr. George Chathnatt SSP, Superior - Society of St. Paul, Bangalore, Sr. Kusumam MC, Superior - Missionaries of Charity, Nirmala Shishu Bhavan, Bangalore.

The books have been published by Bangalore-based Asian Trading Corporation (ATC), a 69-year old Chris-

tian literature publishing and distribution house.

Last month, ATC also made available affordable Indian editions of two books by Mother Teresa - *Come Be My Light: The Private Writings of the "Saint of Calcutta"* and *Where There is Love,*

There is God: A Path to Closer Union with God and Greater Love for Others. These were released at the Mother House in Kolkata on 5th September, the death anniversary of Mother Teresa, by Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Kolkata and Sr. Prema MC, Mother Teresa's successor.

Come Be My Light collects the letters Mother Teresa wrote to her spiritual advisors over decades,

almost all of which have never been made public before. They shed light on Mother Teresa's interior life in a way that reveals the depth and intensity of her holiness for the first time.

In *Where There is Love There is God* Mother Teresa's relationship with God and her commitment to those she served – the poorest of the poor – is powerfully explored in her own words taken largely from her private lessons to her Sisters.

Other best-sellers published by ATC include *The Holy Bible RSV-Catholic Edition* and *RSV-Second Catholic Edition*, *YOUCAT* and titles by Fulton Sheen. In April 2010, Pope Benedict XVI issued a personally signed letter recommending that ATC publish a special edition of his book, *The Spirit of the Liturgy for Asia*. Since then ATC has also published his other best-selling books including *Jesus of Nazareth*, *Light of the World*, *Introduction to Christianity*.

Buttons

Indian inventions and discoveries have been instrumental in shaping the face of the current modern world. Buttons were first used in Mohenjo-daro for ornamental purpose rather than for fastening. They were first used in the Indus Valley Civilization by 2000 BCE.



Testing Times

The Government of Maharashtra is initiating some tough measures to arrest the growing indiscipline on the road resulting in some of the most gruesome accidents. While not all the accidents are avoidable, there are quite a few which could have been avoided if the man or woman at the wheels was trained well. The major problem lies with the numerous driving schools which dish out licences to persons who do not have the requisite skills thanks to the 'cooperative' officials who look the other way when the candidate goes through the driving test. Licences are given even without tests.

I remember when I went for my test for the first time there was some talk about 'special licence'. I did not really understand the meaning about this term then but some time later it transpired that those who opted for it [by paying some extra fees to the driving school] were guaranteed licences. That something extra or at least a major portion of it went to the official who decided whether the candidate passed or failed. It was also possible that those who did not opt for this category of licence generally failed at the first attempt. It was at this point that the driving school put forward the proposal of the 'special licence'.

The new procedure has been put in place where a candidate is subjected to online test first before being considered fit to take the field test. Reports suggest that as many as 40% fail the theory test. This new procedure ensures that the intending candidates are first well versed with the theory part of it. With this, the job is half done leaving the field test to show the driving skills. Hopefully, we will have better drivers on the road but whether the connivance between the driving schools and the officials will allow the system to succeed is something that needs to be monitored.

As a deterrent, the government has proposed some really tough fines and it has gone overboard in doing so. Imagine paying Rs 15000 for jumping the signal. That, I feel, is mighty stiff. Sometimes you may just think you have made it but the cop may think otherwise. Such a step needs that each and every traffic signal is equipped with digital timing that shows the time left for change-over. Similarly there are huge

IEWS on NEWS

fines for other offences which include among others, suspension and cancellation of driving licences. While everybody agrees that the fines should be reasonable [not the old Rs 100] but to increase it hundred fold, is not the right thing to do. Surely, the fines can be revised upwards at periodic intervals. Reports suggest there is a 're-think' on the quantum.

Will these fines also be collected from police officials and VIPs who brazenly violate traffic rules? I remember having complained about the towing vans regularly entering the one way lane from the wrong side. This was immediately stopped. Will such vans also be fined? What about those vehicles not fitted with safety belts? After more than a decade, surely all vehicles should have been equipped with such belts. When you make the rules, you must ensure that they are applicable universally. Will the authorities accept Credit and Debit cards on the spot since no one is likely to carry Rs 15000 in his pocket. It could be a gold mine for the traffic policemen who could demand a few thousand to settle issues. Whose interests are being served?

There's A Lot To Clean

The Prime Minister must be complimented for the initiative [not necessarily unique] of trying to inculcate civic sense in the heads of the public. We must accept that we are not the cleanest of people on this planet and therefore such initiatives are needed to remind us periodically of our civic responsibility. Despite being a religious country [at least so we believe] we do not subscribe to the age old adage 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness'. It is simply not in our DNA. Cleanliness drive must be a sustained effort – just not for publicity. Well, the PM has made a cleanliness statement and it is for all of us to take it forward. There is no denying the fact that most of our ills [especially in areas where there is no proper sanitation and cleanliness] can be controlled if not eliminated if the message of clean environment sinks into our heads which are clogged.

Television channels must be asked



by Marshall Sequeira

to screen social messages regularly before each serial or programme. Similarly, print media should also carry such messages on their front pages. Every school can take a pledge during the assembly. This effort can be supplemented by regular cleanliness drives say once a month. Clean classrooms can be rewarded to encourage others to follow suit. Colleges can also play an important role. Ward officer should be made accountable for the cleanliness in his ward. There are ALMs in every locality. All ALMs within the ward can work in tandem to ensure that in the final analysis the entire ward is litter-free. Contractors who undertake repair work do a shoddy job and leave the residue. Their job should be monitored by ALMs who should ensure that all rubble is removed once the job is done. Only when the ALM certifies to that effect should be authorities settle the bills of the contractors.

Politicians want to be photographed with 'brand new' brooms in their hands. The real test will be for politicians to agree to take the brooms in their hands and sweep the roads when there are no television or print media photographers around. Swachhata is stopping people from eating pan and spitting. It means getting rid of posters and banners with photographs of leaders including the PM. Let him issue a diktat to stop his photographs as well. Else we will have to live with a-swachhata. Impose very stiff fines. If you want to fine Rs 15000 for breaking traffic signal, you should fine Rs20000 for illegal posters. Finally, Shiv Sena claims that their cadres swept the Race Course grounds after the PM held an election rally there. The BJP said sainiks first littered and then swept the area – a very poor response. A few days later, the Sainiks repeated it elsewhere. The BJP workers did not take the PM's message seriously, it appears.

Enterprising Spirit Display the Power Of Youth

The youth of our country represents the growing cloud of entrepreneurship which is also the trend in global scenario. As per our Indian economy is concerned, enterprising would be as good as the display of the power of youth in the growing economies to help steering the growth engine through various models. There are multiple advantages to the younger generation and our country in a large way as these enterprises represent the sense of free economy which has no boundaries and restrictions. Apart from the advantages to the young entrepreneurs, these ventures help the respective governments reduce their burden of employment for our youth.

When our youth find their own means of living, the government has no trouble in providing opportunities; rather they need to create a regularity that maintains the terms of engagement. The economy has a great advantage in terms of the taxes provided by these businesses. Enterprises in aggregate will collect huge sales and services taxes through their product sales and commercial services offered. The more number of enterprises would mean more tax collection benefit to the governments, state or central. Taxes contribute to the economy and good economic deal with taxes in a very proactive manner. Taxes can be best put to use for public welfare projects.



It's high time that our youth consider themselves as private partners to the governments by using innovative methods to stay in businesses that are profitable and progressive. Enterprising would mean the best in class work with greater efficiency, which may not be as enthusiastic in the case of professional jobs. It's a matter of pride for our generation youth to set up their own businesses with products and services that are in demand. They can definitely depend on the government and corporate run provi-

sions for initial investments to make the most out of their talents. There are many young professionals who totally depend on their talents to set up their businesses too.

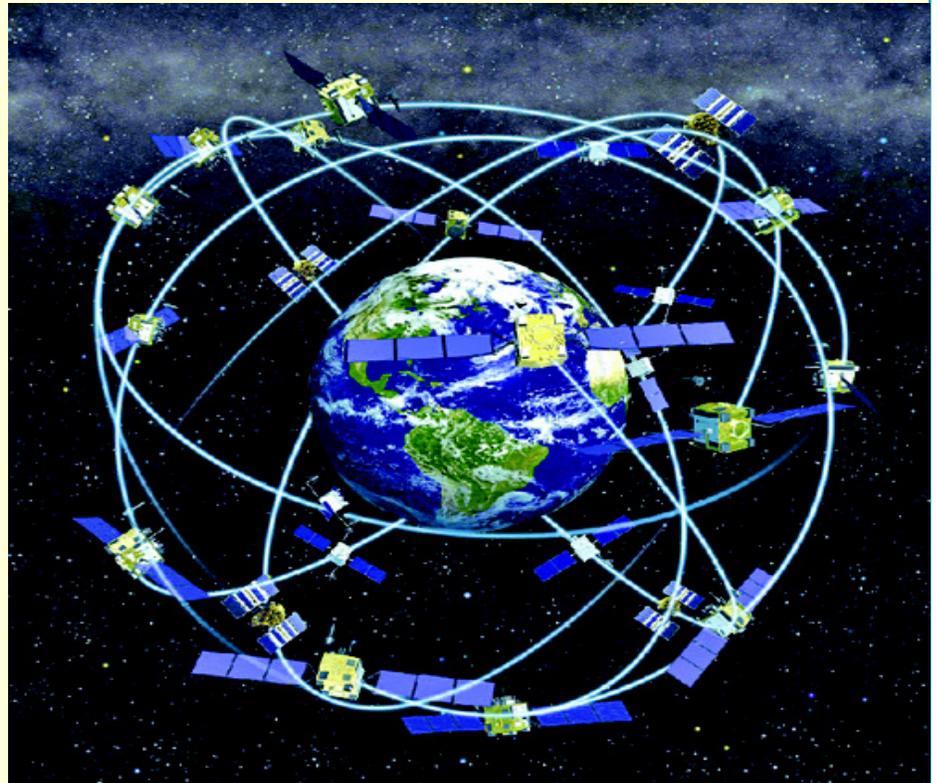
Virtually, every single idea can be transformed into a new industry segment and every professional can become an entrepreneur with some service and quality distinction. There are many models of enterprising in an environment that supports good economics. Propriety is the basic and the preferred way of starting off with any business. Once they make their mark as proprietors, they can look for bigger partnerships and establishing standard corporate houses. The corporate India today is completely made of such models that have believed in being innovative. The interdependency of the governments and the corporate world balances the economic policies that are often driven by the political agendas.

The power of youth has to be displayed through the density of enterprises that are created and run by the postmodern youth. They can proudly be part of the greater Indian story that thrives on growth and development. We can take pride in being part of the process that makes our country a standard and stable economy amidst the global crisis and economic meltdown. India can soon be part of the major economies in the world that are highly recognized and hold the key for global affairs

ISRO To Launch Its Third Navigation Satellite

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch the Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS) 1C satellite- third of the seven satellites that are to be shot into the space- as a part of its efforts to develop a regional navigation system that is at par with the Global Positioning System (GPS) of the United States of America. The launch is scheduled at 1:56 am on October 10 this year from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota.

The GPS system was developed during the Cold War in 1960s in response to Russia's launch of Sputnik in 1957. Initially conceived and developed for military purposes, it consisted of a network of satellites orbiting the earth that would send signals to anyone with a GPS receiver. It was only in 1983, when the USSR had shot down a Korean passenger aircraft that the US thought of extending the GPS system to civilian applications in order to help organize the shipping, aircraft and transport routes and positions by ensuring that trespassing foreign territory is checked. With repeated



launches and gradual progress, the GPS today is a network of 30 satellites that is used for navigation applications, route finding, map-making, earthquake research and climate research.

India had launched first of its satellites, IRNSS-1A-, from Sriharikota on July 1, 2013 and then the second one, IRNSS-1B, in April this year. The IRNSS is supposed to be operational once four out of its seven satellites are launched into the space by 2015. It could be used for military as well as civilian purpose like terrestrial, aerial and marine Navigation; disaster management, vehicle tracking and fleet management; integration with mobile phones; precise timing, mapping and geodetic data capture; terrestrial navigation aid for hikers and travelers; and visual and voice navigation for drivers.

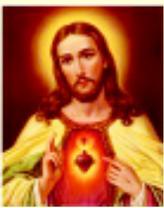
However, one of the crucial contributions of this system is its utility in managing air traffic that is currently dependent on the instrument landing system (ILS). The IRNSS can be used in place of GPS by GAGAN, which is a satellite-based navigation system that manages

air traffic. By making this switch from ILS, costs will also reduce apart from acquiring a positional accuracy of 1.5 metres for aircraft in flight. This in turn makes the entire process efficient and less exhaustive of India's finances.

This is the second instance when the world has turned its gaze towards ISRO. While mangalyaan- the Indian Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is still underway as it keeps streaming more pictures and information to the headquarters in Bangalore, the announced launch of IRNSS 1c will help India foreground its reputation in the realm of world space research. So far a handful of countries have been able to establish positioning systems. These include Russia's Glonass and Europe's Galileo. China and Japan also have similar systems, 'Beidou' and 'Quasi Zenith'. The IRNSS, as stated by an ISRO official, is similar to these existing systems. However, unlike these systems that have eventually scaled up from regional to global, IRNSS is regional system with a range that extends up to 1500 kilometers beyond country borders.

—Pallavi Ghosh

Thanksgiving



Thanks to Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for the favours granted

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, loved, glorified & praised throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy kingdom come. St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude helper of the hopeless pray for us. Amen, Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days.

— Ms Rita Mascarenhas, Dadar

Why I Hate To Go To Mass On Sunday

by: Luellen Hoffman

First of all let me say that I do not hate going to Mass, in fact I love going to holy Mass, receiving Jesus in the Eucharist and attending Mass every day. But Sunday is a different story, dramatically different. On Sunday the church is turned into a zoo with people acting and dressing inappropriately, causing much dismay to their fellow parishioners. It has gotten so bad that I need to speak out, so they hear and understand how their actions are negatively affecting others during Mass.

1. Do not talk in church.

So many people, (especially women) see a familiar face and start chatting it up as if they were sitting in a conference center. This is understandable but you need to take your chatter outside the church, because you are disturbing others in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Get up and move away to a place where you can talk and freely get caught up. Go to the vestibule or outside, or wait until Mass is over and go outside to talk.

There should be silence inside the church because people are praying to the Lord.

Don't think just because you are a senior citizen that you have the right to sit there and talk. In fact because of your age, many of you are hard of hearing and the conversation is much louder and more disrupting than you realize. Please go outside and do not talk in church. There should be a three word whisper rule. That is, only three words should be spoken in a whisper at Mass, if you need to speak to a friend or family member.

2. Turn off your cell phones and stop texting during holy Mass.

Leave your cell phones in the car or at home on Sunday, because you can live for one hour without them.

Suggestions On The Proper Behavior During The Liturgy

There should be a rule in every church that for each cell phone that goes off during Mass, the person must put five dollars in the poor box.

3. Dress appropriately for Sunday Mass.

There should be a sign outside the church stating there is a dress code. What? A dress code? No one tells me how to dress! Well yes they do, and in many places you comply and think nothing of it. For example if you go to the Army Navy Club, or Congressional Country Club, or any other established country club, there is a strict dress code and men must wear jackets, or collared (golf) shirts, no jeans or sandals allowed. If you do not comply with these dress rules, then you are often turned away. Many restaurants, especially at beach, post signs that shirts and shoes are required to enter. Same goes for night clubs, there is a dress code and the youth dress up before going out at night. They know they can be turned away for not being in appropriate attire to enter the night club. This is a commonly accepted practice.

Parents keep in mind on Sunday morning that you and your family are not stopping by church (for Mass) on your way to a soccer game. Your kids should not have their soccer clothes on at Mass and this is very important for you as a parent, to stop and think about what message you are sending to your kids.

At all Catholic churches around the world there is an unstated dress code and we all need to abide by it because dressing in a dignified man-

ner shows respect to the Lord who is present in the Blessed Sacrament.

This dress code means men should not wear t-shirts that advertise their favorite bar, college or football team. You know what I mean. All females, including little girls, should dress modestly for Mass. Always remember to cover your shoulders with a shawl when wearing halter tops, and

(Contd.. on p. 16)

(Contd.. from p. 7)

Swachh Bharat Kosh which has been set up to attract funds for the campaign from corporates and individuals is another potentially good idea. However, the fund needs to be managed and monitored to ensure that the money is spent appropriately. Among the several government officials I have interacted with during the course of my work, no one has ever said that the biggest hurdle is shortage of funds. The challenge has always been spending money in the right manner and that needs systems to be put in place. It also needs roles and responsibilities to be defined in a manner such that there is clear accountability for how the money is spent and what it is spent on.

The targets set out by Government schemes also need to be broadened to assess toilet functionality and usage as opposed to merely the physical presence of infrastructure.

Ultimately, I believe that the success or failure of this campaign depends on each one of us. We can choose to be sceptical and not participate or we can ensure that we begin the change with ourselves and our surroundings. The Government also needs to have a clear plan for achieving the 2019 target, taking into account some of the issues highlighted above, so that the campaign does not get reduced to a one-off popu-

(Contd.. from p. 15)

don't wear mini shorts or play clothes to church.

Again, parents it is okay to review your children's outfit for Mass, especially for teenagers. Stop and ask yourself, would you want them to wear this outfit to the most important meeting of their life? Would you have your kids dress this way for an important meeting with a person in a very high place? Be honest and take a good look in the mirror, before you or your kids step out that door, and think how you are presenting yourself to God. If it isn't a modest, respectful appearance, then take five minutes to iron that shirt or comb your hair before leaving home. After all this is God's house you are entering and it is a holy place, so always dress appropriately on Sundays.

4. Behavior of children.

Most little kids have a difficult time sitting quietly for a whole hour and that

is understandable, however they can do it, if their parents' guide them.

Explain to your children where they are going and what is expected of them at Mass. Kids usually do very well if they know what is expected of them. If your children have a hard time sitting still then please do not sit in the front rows of the church, because their constant movements are a big distraction to others who attend Sunday Mass and who are trying to focus on what is going on at the altar. Kids should never be allowed to run around inside the church, this is very disrespectful to our Lord and to everyone who is there.

Parents with babies or small children need to sit in the back of the church, so they can get up quickly and leave church to attend to their child, when they start crying in the middle of Mass. Some churches have "cry rooms" but most parents don't even like going in there because of the distractions they experience from multiple babies and infants in the same place. Remember there is a high probability that your baby will cry sometime during Mass, and a crying baby inside the church is very loud and distracting for everyone, so you need to immediately address this.

If your baby is fussy don't pace back and forth inside the church during Mass, in hope of calming them down. Go outside or to the back of the church and calm your baby down there. Once quieted, bring them back inside the church. We know having babies at Mass isn't easy, and we all understand this, but it is your responsibility to do what is best for the baby, and to keep them calm and quiet, while being mindful of others around you who are trying to pray.

Mothers, do not breast feed your baby during Mass inside the church. If you need to breast feed please go to a quiet private room and come back after you are finished. We realize babies are on a schedule so look at the schedule of Masses and pick the time that best fits you and your baby's needs.

Mango Seed Treatment

Don't throw away the seed of a mango after you eat the fruit. The nut inside the seed has a rare medicinal quality to heal stomach problems.

Are you troubled by ulcer? Take the nut after removing the shell of the seed and powder it. Take the juice of black nightshade (Manathakkali Keerai), mix the power with it, and dry it in the sun. Once dried, preserve this in a jar. If two grams of this powder is consumed twice a daily with buttermilk or warm water, ulcer and other stomach ailments will be cured.

—Jubel D'Cruz, Dombivili

(Contd.. from p. 9)

span of time.

Apart from this village, India's first and only recycling plant for construction and demolition waste has been effectively working for over five years to make better use of this waste. They have saved the severely polluted river Yamuna and the overflowing landfills of Delhi from 15.4 lakh tonnes of debris. Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), along with Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS), collects the waste and segregates it into various categories which is later transported to the waste-to-energy plant in Okhla.

With the launch of the Clean India campaign, we see a silver lining and a new hope that India will look different after five years. But this will be possible only if each one of us becomes a part of this huge initiative and does not let it die.

From government officials to citizens and even leaders of the opposition political parties have joined hands to make this campaign a big success. So, what are you waiting for? Pick up your broom and join the effort for a clean India.

Thanksgiving



May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, loved, glorified & praised throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy kingdom come. St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude helper of the hopeless pray for us. St. Anthony of Padua pray for us Amen

—Francis, Mumbai

Become a self-validator

Self-validation is the recognition and acknowledgement of your own internal experience. If right now you're feeling like you are not getting validation from the people around you, here are ways to become a self-validator and boost your self confidence.



Let's face it, family members and friends can be a tough crowd to please and can often times be pretty critical on life decisions. I've made some decisions recently that haven't exactly gotten validation so I've come up with ways to become a self validator and I'm here to empower you to do the same so you, too, can feel unstuck.

Compliment Yourself

One of the most important ways to become a self validator is to compliment yourself. Every single day. Self love and self validation is the first step towards feeling whole again. Don't feel bad or feel selfish because if you can't be your own cheerleader, you will be too afraid to chase after your own dreams and you will ultimately only be hurting yourself.

Smile at Yourself in the Mirror

I'm serious. Before you turn away from the mirror each time you glance at one, SMILE. Your brain and your subconscious will hold on the feeling of happiness, even if you're not feeling happy at the present moment. Simply seeing the image of a person smiling will give the hurting part of you the feeling of hope. It also helps that this person is your own reflection.

Celebrate the Little Things

Life isn't meant to go through as depressed and lonely. We all have the power to create our own reality. If all you focus on is the fact that mom doesn't approve of your career choice, or grandma doesn't support your lifestyle choices etc., then you'll be drowning in other people's negativity and you'll be missing out on the simple pleasures of

Importance of self-validation

There could never be a more beautiful you. Live your beautiful life the way you want to and become a self validator because sometimes that is all you have. Sometimes that is all you need to get yourself back up and believe in something again. Sometimes it's the snowball effect that will lead to people seeing things the way you do. You just have to believe in yourself first.

life. By celebrating the little things, you will give yourself the validation that you are living the life that you want to live and that you are finding ways to make yourself happy.

Recite Mantras Every Day

Your subconscious reacts to repetition. If all you do and think and say is something negative, then you will feel more depressed, more alone, and more like a failure. I challenge you to change your 'mantra' from "I can't do anything right" or "I'm a mistake" or "my decisions are mistakes" to "I can do anything I set my mind to", "I am loved and I attract love", and "I will be successful and happy in all that I do".

Do Things That Make You Happy

If you are currently feeling like 'the odd

How To Validate Yourself

- * In order to validate yourself, you need to start to notice two things:**
- * You need to start to notice how much you judge yourself rather than value yourself.**
- * You need to start to notice your feelings, your inner knowing, and your acts of kindness to others, and consciously value them.**

ball out' in your family or in your circle of friends because your idea of fun is different than their idea of fun, just stick to your own personal idea of fun. Do what makes you happy. Find out what makes you feel more in your skin and go after it.

Don't Worry about Anyone else

This is key: do not worry about what anyone else thinks about you and especially do not worry about what anyone else says about you. Let them talk. Let them try their hardest to dedicate their sorry lives to being a bully. If this world didn't have weird, crazy, loud, different, out of the box thinkers, our world would be boring and we wouldn't have 99% of the things we have today. Don't pay attention to people's arrows.

Indian Jesuits Urge Govt To Curb Anti-minorities Campaign



Indian Jesuits of the Jesa (Jesuits in Social Action) network has appealed to the central government and the governments of several Indian states to adopt urgent measures to put an end to the orchestrated campaign against religious minorities.

Motivated by hatred and violence, the anti-minorities campaign has a "negative impact on the social harmony in many towns and villages in the country," said Jesa.

The statement recalled that the media reported more than 600 cases of violence against minorities between May and September, the period the new government led by BJP has been in power.

"The overt support from political leaders to radical groups and extremist Hindus has triggered violence in many places," said Jesa, and also pointed out that the perpetrators go unpunished.

"Impunity further encourages the extremists who are acting outside the law," said the Indian Jesuits.

The civil society has long called to the highest political authorities to stop "those who create disharmony and polarize society". More than 30 organizations that defend human rights have reiterated their request to protect the rights of minorities, especially the right to live with dignity as citizens of India, with equal dignity and equality.

The situation has become so critical that even a well-known jurist – Fali Nariman – had openly expressed his concern a few weeks ago.

"The first 100 days of the new government have seen a crescendo of hate speeches against Muslims and Christians. Their identity is mocked, their citizenship questioned, their faith ridiculed. Coercion, divisions and suspicions multiply. Attacks against religious minorities have assumed alarming proportions in various parts of the country," said the Jesuits.

Jesu stated that the hatred, violence campaign and threats "have left not only religious minorities speechless, but also civil society, lawyers and academics, while the government remains silent."

"The Christian community has been the target of mob violence in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh." According to the Jesuits there is a change in the strategy of the extremist organisations: "A few deaths, but daily low-intensity violence that is becoming routine," has taken the place of earlier concerted pogroms.

The Jesuits asked for immediate action against those who created tension in society and invited the Home Minister to "issue a directive so that the police are not conditioned by extremist groups".

Source: Agenzia Fides

How To Overcome Stage Fright?

Public speaking anxiety in presentations can be challenging even for the best speakers due to the fear commonly called "stage fright." But overcoming stage fright is possible if you can focus your fear with some before-performance rituals that are easy to master.

Stage fright is natural.

Stage fright demonstrates you care about your audience and should not be a fear but rather an opportunity. If you did not feel some public speaking anxiety, you'd be overconfident and not care about a successful outcome. So, just see this as part of the process and develop some before-performance rituals to calm your nerves. Eat a banana before you perform. It will lover that empty or nauseous feeling in your stomach.

Practice

But there is always a grain of truth in all jokes, and practice or before-performance rituals are the key to alleviating public speaking anxiety.

Engage the audience?

In putting your presentation together, be sure to find a way to engage your audience. At the very least, ask for a show of hands about a basic premise of the topic. Fear of presenting is reduced when we feel a connection to our audience, reducing anxiety-rousing emotion.

Arrive early?

There is nothing worse than rushing into a room directly to the podium to make a presentation! A key before-performance ritual is to have enough time to sit for a moment.

Inspiration!

Want to come out of Boring Life?

If you feel like your life is becoming dull, unhappy and unexciting then it's time for a change! Don't sit there thinking about how boring your life is, that will only throw you into a downwards spiral to an even more depressing life. Instead, do something about it, jump into action and make your life more enjoyable, no matter how old you are,

Here are a few ideas to help you brighten up your day and make sure that you get the most out of every single precious second of this life:

Get up an hour earlier than usual.

Use the time to do some gentle yoga poses, take a walk, or slowly ease into the day instead of frantically running into the shower, driving, or walking to the office, and sitting at your desk before your body has even had enough time to adjust to the new day. It sets the tone for a mellower, happier day.

Make a to-do list in the morning.

Make it attainable and realistic and you'll feel good at the end of the day seeing all those check marks every day.

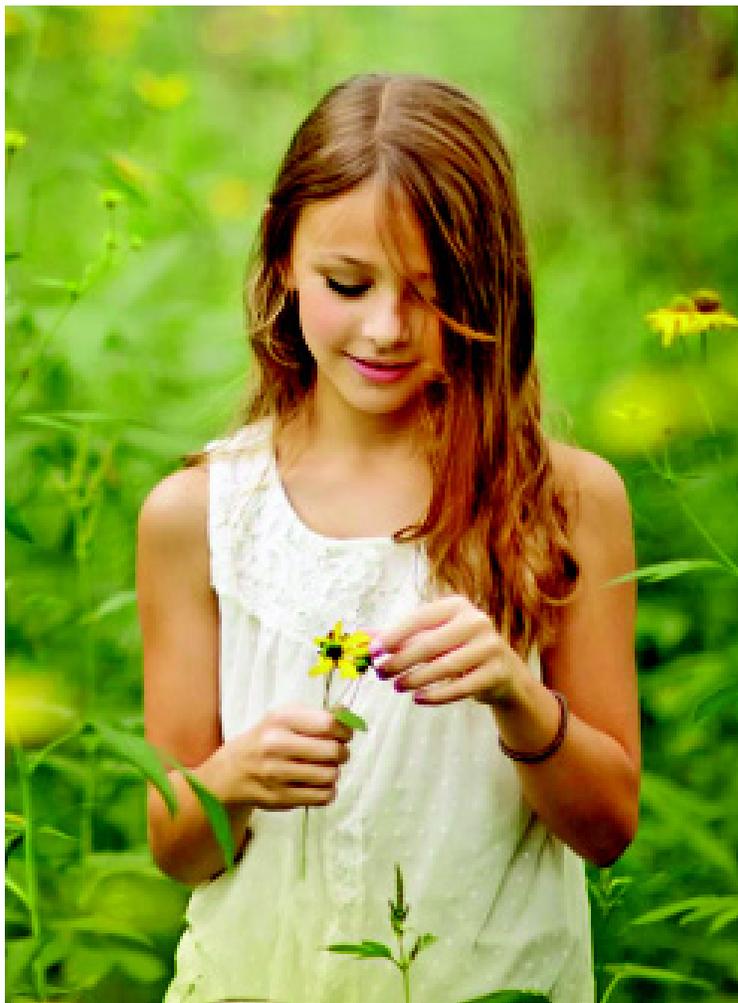
At lunch, turn away from your computer and focus on your food.

Be in the moment. Get outside if you have time and walk, read a book, or just take in the day for whatever amount of

time you have.

Do something different each evening after work.

Don't make a routine out of coming home, eating dinner, and sitting on the



couch. My husband and I like to mix things up by going on hikes with our dogs, visiting the beach, going to the movies, out with friends, or having bonfires in the backyard.

Before you go to bed, rehash your day and find gratitude for everything that happened to you that day.

Be thankful.

The most important part of all of this is to practice mindfulness throughout your day. Even on your way to work, which may seem like the most mundane thing ever, take in the weather, the sounds, the sights. At work, notice the people around you, and make the best of whatever your job might be. You're there, so may as well make the best of it and take pride in your accomplishments. Our world is always changing, every second of every hour, so make sure you witness as much of it as you can.

Stop focusing on the negatives.

So next time you get invited out somewhere, or you have an assignment due in, don't let your brain fill up with bad things about it, focus on the positives and you'll find yourself enjoying even the smallest things. For example, if you think, "This is so difficult..", then just think, ".. but I'll feel good once I've got it done!".

Get a new hobby.

People have probably said this to you a hundred times and you probably just agreed with them but did nothing about it. There are thousands of different things you can do with any size of budget. By keeping yourself occupied with something you enjoy, will make you a more interesting person to be around.

Grooms



MATRIMONIALS

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. PGDRM, working as a Manager. Contact email : laron316@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 6213)**

RAJKOT : Anglican Protestant Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 63 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., MBA working as a Manager. Contact email : evie100984@gmail.com OR 9662671103 **(Regd. No. 6211)**

MUMBAI : Goan Widower, aged 45 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SSC., HSC, Working Mechanical Technician in Abroad, having 9 years daughter. Currently in Mumbai. Contact email : cola_mick@yahoo.com OR 9702148869 **(Regd. No. 6210)**

MUMBAI : "I am a fun loving 38 years Goan R.C. Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., C.A., who believes in having a balance between work and personal life. Fond of music, travelling and the best way for me to unwind is through dance (Latin Style). I am currently working for a reputed MNC for last 5 years. Though I drink socially and occasionally, smoking is a strict-no. Seeking alliance with a simple, god-fearing girl with a good family background. Eventually, I hope to see myself not just as my partner's partner but my partner's Best Friend forever!" Contact email : goansearch@yahoo.com OR 9833761339 **(Regd. No. 5994)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 69 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Mech.) working as a Mechanical Engineer. Contact email.: avalon.inbox@yahoo.co.in OR 9890892847 **(Regd. No. 5985)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 59 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., D.C.A., working as

an Accountant. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : fern_sunil@rediffmail.com OR 9029694973 **(Regd. No. 5984)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 11", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., I.T., & Dip. in Elect. Engg., working as an Assistant Manager (Technical) Only Child. Contact email : noel.pereira83@gmail.com OR 9820561856 **(Regd. No. 5983)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., + Dip. in Management, working as a Manager in Private Sector. Contact email : noelpinto@hotmail.com OR 9029462583 **(Regd. No. 5969)**

MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 43 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., M.A., (Diploma in Journalism from UK); working as a Freelance Journalist. Seeks a suitable & compatible match from India/Abroad, He might travel abroad for work. Contact email : basitfaith2013@rediffmail.com / faithbasit8@rediffmail.com OR 9221394374 **(Regd. No. 5968)**

MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. (I.T.), working as a Net Work Engineer abroad. Seeks a slim, fair, beautiful, educated girl below 26 years. Contact email : pjswamy@gmail.com OR 9324312605 **(Regd. No. 5963)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, age 31 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 82 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC., working as a Cargo handling assistant in Airline in Dubai.

Members are requested to inform us when they are settled, so that publication of their details can be discontinued.

Contact email : julmich_2001@yahoo.co.in **(Regd. No. 5957)**

MUMBAI : Karware Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, age 38 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 54 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. 10th Std., working on Rigs as a Cruise Member. Contact Mob. 8879137735 **(Regd. No. 5952)**

MUMBAI : Parents of Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, DOB 1974, 5' 9", P.hD (U.S.A.), working in US, seeks alliance from R.C. spinster. Send details and recent full size photograph to : dfr472121@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 5950)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, age 39 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. XII Std., Working as a Gen. Steward in Ship. Seeks a Goan girl below 32 years. Contact email : fatima16jones@gmail.com OR 26671289 / 9969488673 **(Regd. No. 5949)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 11", Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., MBA, Sales Director, Only Child. Seeks a humble, god fearing, kind, Ht. above 5' 2", age below 26 years. Contact email : natashadevelopers@aol.in OR 9820092761 **(Regd. No. 5981)**

U.S.A. : Universtiy Professor, USA, Fair Complexion, 5' 7", age 46 years, Protestant Bachelor, Seeks a well educated, fair complexioned girl below 40 years, Contact email mddav2009@yahoo.com OR 9769061597. **(Regd. No. 5978)**

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MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 48 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., MBA Marketing, working as a Sr. Manager. Contact email : dnavin@gmail.com OR 9820104238 **(Regd. No. 6212)**

MANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 24 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., Student. Contact email : bridec14@gmail.com OR 0824-2218794 **(Regd. No. 6209)**

MUMBAI : East Indian R.C. Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5', Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Post Graduate HR, working as HR Executive for MNC. Contact Email : simikien@gmail.com OR 9819040031 **(Regd. No. 6046)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean R.C. Spinster, aged 31 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 54 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.A., B.Ed., ADCSSAA, Teacher by profession. Contact Email: mathias.reshma@gmail.com / reshma_mathias@rediffmail.com OR 9757289026 **(Regd. No. 6043)**

MUMBAI : East Indian R.C. Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., working as a Asst. Manager. Contact email : riajoanna6008@gmail.com OR 9987632755 **(Regd. No. 6042)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 52 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A. English, working as a education counsellor. Seeks a Goan or East Indian bachelor, below 33 years. Contact email : sraddha1411@gmail.com OR 9819336282 **(Regd. No. 6038)**

ABU-DHABI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 34 years, 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 9821467722 **(Regd. No. 6033)**

DUBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 41 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Secretary. Contact email : track_1976@yahoo.com OR 9821467722 **(Regd. No. 6032)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 36 years, Ht. 5' 2", slim, Wheatish Complexion, Education Associate Degree in Business Administration from USA. Presently in Mumbai. Seeks a educated well-placed Bachelor upto 42 years from India/Abroad. Contact email : perpetual4u2012@yahoo.in OR 28933931 **(Regd. No. 6031)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E., (Electronics), working as a Technology Lead. in IT Company in USA. Contact : laetitia.viegas@gmail.com OR 25886316 **(Regd. NO. 6030)**

MUMBAI : Karnataka Protestant Spinster, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Clerk. Contact : neetahdas@gmail.com OR 9768919470 **(Regd. No. 6029)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years. Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. Computer, working as a I.T. Consultant. Seeks an educated Mangalorean boy from good family background. Contact : 8879179796 or Email : ajd19@yahoo.co.in **(Regd. No. 6018)**

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years. Ht. 5' 3", medium built, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC, working as a Receptionist. Contact email : lumira_rodrigues@rediffmail.com OR 9821025069 **(Regd. No. 6016)**

MUMBAI : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 7", Average built, Tan Complexion, Edn. Dip. in Hotel Management, Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : salexander172@gmail.com OR

9158622614 **(Regd. No. 6013)**

NAVI-MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B. Com., employed as an Admin., Contact Email : sonaldabhi0@gmail.com OR Mob: 9820579253 **(Regd. No. 6011)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Executive Admin & Finance. Seeks a well settled bachelor. Contact email : vvndsouza@gmail.com OR 23826915 **(Regd. No. 5946)**

MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 45 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, good looking, Edn. B. Com., working ad as Deputy Manager, Seeks a suitable match. Contact email: candita.patel@gmail.com or 28950832 **(Regd. No. 5945)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic parents seek alliance for their daughter 29 years, 5' 4', fair, good looking smart Chartered Accountant working for a reputed company in Mumbai from well settled Professionally Qualified CA or MBA or Engineers RC bachelors below 33 years good family background and values preferably from Mumbai. We would appreciate if your response includes a full-length latest photo, contact number, relevant personal and family details. Email : gjl1505@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 5944)**

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The Spiritual Circle Of Canonized Saints

SAINTS, according to the classic elucidation in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, states: "By canonizing some of the faithful... the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her. The saints have always been the source and origin of renewal in the most difficult moments in the Church's history." (CCC 828).

John O'Connell Editor of The Catholic Faith once declared: "Especially in matters of the interior life, we would be wise to follow the counsel of the saints. Go to Mary. Consequently, most of the saints when in prayerful reflection know of their blessings and the presence of God and His Mother. In meditation and deep spiritual conversation the saints set examples of humility, love, patience, charity and sacrifice."

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of saints in the true spiritual sense. Our natural tendency is to observe, learn and do the things we decide to be in our best interests. Saints help us to grow in holiness and to anticipate God's Will.

"The saints have been traditionally honored in the Church and their authentic relics and images held in veneration. The feasts of the saints proclaim the wonderful works of Christ in his servants and offer to the faithful fitting examples for their imitation...." Chapter V (111). (Vatican Council II).

It should not be surprising; making saints is a difficult process. Frankly, the concerned person should have been either selfless, forgiving, charitable, sometimes making an instant or dedicated sacrifice of ones life, even in certain cases stubbornly refusing to foster evil or violence even under pain of death, though not necessarily in that order.

Many saints are found among peace-keepers, brave hearts, uncomplicated folk, innocent persons of prayer and forgiveness, and surprisingly among the more unexpected: sinners, disbelievers, persecutors and debauchers. Incidentally, saints often remind us that we must try to help others as we journey through life.

Each believer in his own field of human endeavor can always reach out to the 'sinner' or those with 'lack of faith' in their social circles. "Not to be served

but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mat.20:28).

Saints do this, each in a special way, fulfilling a sacred duty as God wills it. Many are not aware of the power they weave through their actions and prayers. To saints, it is a divine obligation to serve. "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth," said St. Therese of Lisieux.

Douglas Bushman, S.T.L. once wrote an article about St. Paul which has left me in awe of the Apostle. Bushman stated, " St. Paul forged a spiritual synthesis according to which he understood that in order to be faithful to God he had to be faithful to the grace of being called to be an apostle and herald of the Gospel ... St. Paul understood that his relationship with God would be measured by his fidelity to the Word of God and to his mission to bring the Gospel to others."

The intercession of the saints: "being more closely united to Christ...they do not cease to intercede with the Father for us..." (CCC 956). Beneath these messages lie intricate issues of trust, faith and belief. The people of God turn to saints for intercessions, confident that a solution will be found. "Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light." (Col.1:12).

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church 828, it is mentioned: By Canonizing "some of the faithful...the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her. The saints have always been the source and origin of renewal in the most difficult moments in the Church's history."

St. Anthony of Padua, born in 1195 at Lisbon is a saint who is "universal", in the sense that his devotees are found in several corners of the world. In Italy, after his death, an endless number of miracles and special graces were heard of. His relics are venerated at Padua in a beautiful church. He is known for many things, the saint for Lost and Found, for Young Couples and so on.

St. Agnes, St. Joan of Arc, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Augustine, St. Francis Xavier, St. Ignatius, St. Peter, St. Marie



BY MELVYN BROWN

Goretti and a host of others who are household names. Many Catholics grow up with faith and devotion to the saints of their choice.

Praying always for their intercession: "we seek from the saints examples in their way of life, fellowship in their communion, and the help of their intercession." Vatican Council 11; Chapter VII(51).

The Circle of Saints is primarily a collection of spiritual jewels of the Faith. Saints are exclusive and precious to our hopes, and give us that inner strength which we crave for at moments of failure, depression, fear and mistrust.

St. Paul in his letter to the Romans said, " And he who searches the hearts of men knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." (Rom.8:27).

St. Therese, the little flower, was a Carmelite nun. Her hidden life of prayers in the convent is known through her autobiography, 'The Story of a Soul'. She had an unshakeable trust in God. She said, what matters in life is "not great deeds, but great love". St. Therese of Lisieux has a shrine dedicated to her and many gather to venerate this saint. She died at the age of twenty-four on 30th September 1897. St. Therese is acclaimed the " greatest Saint in modern times"

Pope Saint John Paul II, who had been awaiting canonization is today a saint. A host of others, like Mother Teresa and Cardinal John Newman are 'Blessed' and await their moment of sainthood.

The bellowing storm of war and violence is still racing across the world as we hear the news in the shelter of our homes. "...our community with the saints joins us to Christ....Vatican Council II. Ch. VII (50).

Pope John Paul in an address to the European Bishops in October 1984 stated : " We need heralds of the Gospel who are experts in humanity, who know the depth of the human heart, who can share the joys and hopes, the agonies and distress of people but who are at the same time contemplatives who have fallen in love with God. For this we need SAINTS today."

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