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Sex & The Synod



BCS Vikhroli Unit Celebrates It's Silver Jubilee



The Vikhroli Unit of the Bombay Catholic Sabha Celebrated its 25th Jubilee on 16th November , 2014. The Celebration commenced with a thanks giving mass with celebrants – Fr. Sanjeev Periera, Fr. Theodore Fernandes, Fr. Philip Falcao & Fr. Simon Lopez followed by an event in the Church Quadrangle.

The 3 hour event had a corporate hi tech satire with a proper balance of speeches, felicitations and entertainment. It included a galaxy of guests from various organizations, institutions and Government officials. The venue was totally packed with guests and well wishers approxi-

mately totally numbering to nearly a 1000.

The founder members of the Bombay Catholic Sabha-Vikhroli Unit, the Office Bearers for the various years and the current Committee Members were felicitated during the grand event. Also felicitated were the Guests of Honour, Government officials, past and current Parish Priests, Senior Dignitaries from the Head Office and the consistent Donors.

In his speech the Chief Guest, a Mumbai based first

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Thought for the week

*When you focus on problems, you'll have more problems.
When you focus on possibilities, you'll have more opportunities.*

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Protect the Western Ghats, And Fast

by Rachita Taneja

The Western Ghats are an important part of India's ecological balance. This is perhaps, why 39 properties have been declared as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. The area of the Western Ghats covers less than 6% of India yet it comprises of more than 30% of the country's entire biodiversity. These are only some of the few reasons why it has become one of only ten areas in the world recognized as a biodiversity hotspot.

People living in this region depend on the ecosystem of the Ghats either directly or indirectly. With annual rainfall ranging from 50 to 700 cm, and several perennial rivers, the Western Ghats provide for farming and livelihood to almost 300 million Indians.

But the Western Ghats are under threat and have been under threat for years now. As the Western Ghats Ecological Expert Panel stated in their report, "...expansion of commercial plantation in Western Ghats has led to fragmentation of forest, soil erosion, degradation of river ecosystems and toxic contamination of the environment"

The threats to the Western Ghats are wide and varied: forest loss in the Western Ghats has been so rapid that out of the original 182,500 km² of primary vegetation, only 12,450 km² (i.e. 6.8%) remains. This means that most of the Ghats have been logged and converted into power plants, mines or agricultural land, threatening local communities, and the rich biodiversity.

With environmental laws being diluted, the future of the Western Ghats hangs in the balance. Right now, we are at a critical turning point: decisive action will be crucial if we are to avert a series of environmental and human rights catastrophes that will affect generations to come.

The government should uphold the recommendations of the Gadgil report which states that 66% of the Western Ghats that have been demarcated as "Ecologically Sensitive" should not be opened up to mining, construction or any other environmentally destructive activities. Furthermore, we encourage the government to ensure that any development plans have high level of participation from local people, Gram Panchayats and village level institutions.

Earth To Experience For 6 Days Of Darkness



NASA has confirmed that the Earth will experience 6 days of almost complete darkness and will happen from December 16-22. The world will remain, during these three days, without sunlight due to a solar storm, which will cause dust and space debris to become plentiful and thus, block 90 percent sunlight, reported delightfulknowledge.com.

This is the head of NASA Charles Bolden who made the announcement and asked everyone to remain calm. This will be the product of a solar storm, the largest in the last 250 years for a period of 216 hours total. Reporters interviewed a few people to hear what they had to say about the situation with Michael Hearn's responding "We gonna be purgin my n*gga, six days of darkness means six days of turnin up fam".

Despite the six days of darkness soon to come, officials say that the earth will not experience any major problems, since six days of darkness is nowhere near enough to cause major damage to anything. "We will solely rely on artificial light for the six days, which is not a problem at all", says NASA scientist Earl Godoy. Visit our website daily for more shocking news!

(Contd.. from p. 2)

generation entrepreneur and head of the Arambhan group - Alfred Arambhan addressed the Vikhroli Unit and acknowledged as proven achievers. He said it is the right time for the unit to have a succession plan and also stressed on the need for them to be mentors for the various Church Associations.

The event concluded with a lavish dinner buffet spread with great food.

The entire event was well managed by the Committee Members with young parish youth volunteers doing a commendable job.

Gordon D'Souza - President - The Bombay Catholic Sabha, HO later commented on the social media "BCS Vikhroli Unit has rocked the night at their Silver Jubilee show which looked like a film awards nite replete with attendance, dance performances and galaxy of guests present. St. Joseph unit sets tough targets for all of us that are difficult to beat"

Raphael D'souza - Vice President The Bombay Catholic Sabha, HO commented on the social media "The Unit deserves all praise for the way the Silver Jubilee was organized. I was particularly happy about the presence of quite a few non catholic dignitaries and well wishers . The public admission of Asst Station Manger that 'when none came forward to help them, in need, the Catholic Community has been there' is a powerful statement of your unit PR. Your unit recognised everyone's contribution, not forgetting even the founder chairperson. It shows respect for their hard work too. All in all we had a great time."

The Four Committee Members who had filed the PIL wherein favourable order was received from the High Court confirmed by the Supreme Court resulting in the demolition of a part of the commercial arcade were felicitated with a loud applause" The Central Railway has installed and commissioned the escalator in the said demolished portion.

The Vikhroli unit of BCS has been recognized and awarded for the last 3 successive years as the Best unit in Civic Activism in the entire Mumbai and

Thane Deanery. Also awarded for the last 3 successive years the 'Sarfarosh award' for frontline activities.

The latest major success of BCS Vikhroli Unit has been the installation of the Escalator by Central Railway on the demolished portion of the shopping mall. This demolition was executed as per Bombay High Court Order and confirmed by the Supreme Court to the PIL filed by the Comm. Members of the Vikhroli unit of The Bombay Catholic Sabha.

A beautiful informative Souvenir is released on the occasion in the hands of the Chief Guest and other dignitaries.

Some of the achievements of BCS Vikhroli Unit are:

- * Free health checkup camps; * Blood Donation Drive; * Felicitation of Students; * Station Foot over bridge; * Arranging Senior Citizen forms and election forms; * Resolving Public issues through the legal forum, * Following up with local N & S ward offices various civic issues; * Co-ordinating with local elected representatives i.e. Corporators, MLA's, & MPs; * Co-ordinating with the railway police and civil police regarding various Public nuisance issues such as unauthorised hawking and parking etc.; * Arranging inter-religious meetings and gatherings; * Organising talent competition for parish youth and also crib and star making competition for the various parish communities.

The present committee of BCS Vikhroli Unit include: Robert N. D'Souza (Chairperson), Joseph Polekad (Vice Chairperson), Terence D'Souza (Secretary), Gretta Saldanha (Jt. Secretary), Joel D'Souza (Treasurer), Rinha D'Souza (Jt. Treasurer), Robert H. D'Souza (Internal Auditor), Agnelo Gois, Cecilia D'Costa, Sylvester D'Souza, George Swamy, S.A.M. Joseph, Eric Vaz, Anto'nette Gonsalves, Francis Ferrao, Brenda Torres, Mario Rodrigues, Josephine Fernandes, John Fernandes, Anup Noronha, Regina M. Fernandes, T. Solomon, Jacinta Pais and Rev. Fr. Simon Lopez as Spiritual Director.

St Francis Xavier: The Greatest Missionary

St. Francis Xavier, born Francisco de Jasso y Azpilicueta, on 7th April 1506 was the sixth and last child born to Dr. Joao de Xavier and Maria d'Aspilcueta at Xavier castle, Navarra(now part of Spain). He was a Roman Catholic missionary who preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of Asia and was the co-founder of the Society of Jesus. Francis Xavier was beatified by Pope Paul V on 25th October 1619, and was canonized by Pope Gregory XV on 22nd March 1622. Pope Pius XI proclaimed him the "Patron of Catholic Missions". His feast is celebrated on 3rd December. The body of St Francis Xavier which miraculously defied the laws of nature, of turning into dust, lies till this day in a silver casket in the Church of Bom Jesus Basilica in Goa, India. Ceremonies to honor his death are performed on December 3rd, all over the World, the day he was buried . The exposition of the sacred relics of St. Francis Xavier which is held every 10



years will be held this November from 22nd of November 2014 till 4th of January 2015, which will be the 17th public Exposition of the Sacred Relics of the Saint. The theme for this Exposition is " Faith Creates Communion, Strengthens Family, Commissions to Renew the Society "

In Goa the body of St. Francis was first buried near the main alter of S. Paulo church, Old Goa.

When this church was demolished in 1560, the body was exhumed and was kept in the rector's room and later in the room of the novice master, in the

chapel of S. Tome, in the sacristy and finally it was taken to Bom Jesus Basilica, Old Goa where it lies today.

- * The coffin has been opened for public and private expositions several times in the past before it was sealed in a silver glass casket.
- * Several stamps have been released over the years in remembrance of various expositions held. Also various exhibitions, such as industrial & agricultural, sacred art, have been held.
- * The number of faithful visiting Old Goa for the exposition of the sacred relics has been increasing double-fold every 10 years.
- * This sacred relics which lies in the Bom Jesus Basilica will be shifted in a solemn procession to the Sé Catedral, which is opposite the Ba-

(Contd.. on p. 23)



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Education in a Globalised World

The situation in the Education sector in our country seems to be frightening. Some time back, a book was withdrawn by the Mumbai University 'mid-way' through the academic year, because of objections from certain quarters. Another situation has arisen a few days ago, with regard to the Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country – the German language was suddenly withdrawn, again 'mid-way' through the current academic year, by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Board. The authorities have suddenly realized that the Memorandum of Understanding which provided for teaching of German as third language was **illegal and unconstitutional** !

Incidentally, right above the report on the Kendriya Vidyalaya Board's decision in The Times of India on another page, is a news report "Allow Foreign Varsities into India" says N. R. Narayana Murthy, the champion of IT. In today's globalised world – rightly said Mr. Murthy. But, here we are, moving in reverse gear. If we are going to limit ourselves to everything '*desi*' in the education sector, then our country cannot progress. We need to set aside our narrow mindedness and vested interests in order to see India progressing in the right direction.

—Melville X. D'Souza

Educate Youth On Harmful Effects of Tobacco

The ever-rising popularity of tobacco products among youngsters is alarming. Young people start on these habits under pressure of popular culture, failing to foresee the consequences of their actions. Simply banning the sale of tobacco and tobacco products is just not going to help. Teenagers need to be counselled about the ill-effects of smoking. Schools and parents should together make efforts to



educate young people about the lasting harm a supposedly 'cool' activity can cause.

— Jubel D'Cruz, Dombivili

'Jesuit Contribution to Nation Building' Conference

'Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus (this is Ahasuerus who reigned from India even unto Ethiopia, over a hundred and seven and twenty provinces)...'- (Esther 1:1-2)

Since circa 425 B.C. India was a nation, where the citizens practised Sanatan dharma, tolerance for all cultures and religions.

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Vaz, Former Principal, St Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai, along with her Faculty, compiled a memorable Manual for the IPP. Today, there appears to be a change in the democratic consensus undermined by ideology and irredentism. The IPP Manual should help preserve and promote the Institutions in our present scenario. The PPCs should also actively support the positive thrust of the Missions, Hospitals and Education Institutions

—Denis Khan

On the Black Money Trail

The amount of black money unearthed last week during the raids conducted by the Income Tax (IT) dept on the premises of a prominent business house in Delhi and Noida, was a mind-boggling Rs 137/ crore in cash, as well as Rs 12 crore in cash from the SUV of the Noida chief engineer, and a further Rs 12 lakh in cash from his bungalow. While it took a staggering 36 hours to count the cash in the first case, even the counting machines were reported to have broken down. On the other hand, much to the disappointment of the general public, the NDA govt was unable to bring back the lakhs of crores of rupees of black money stashed away illegally in foreign accounts, as promised earlier in the BJP's pre-election campaign. This money would hopefully meet the annual budgetary deficits for 5 years, as well as make every Indian richer by Rs 15 lakh. Today the NDA govt has cut a sorry figure, trying to redeem and justify itself for its inability to live up to its promise, even as the opposition parties continue their tirade, and in no mood to relent. However, in view of the recent success of the IT dept to clamp down on black money, money laundering and hawala transactions in the country, it would be wiser to go the whole hog in looking for this hidden treasure within the country, instead of pursuing the elusive MacKenna's gold in foreign countries.

—A. F. Nazareth, Alto Porvorim

Eucharistic Processions

The ongoing Eucharistic Processions across the Archdiocese of Bombay are turning out to be a hair-raising experience! The Monstrance with the sacred host is carried in procession annually on the occasion of the Solemnity of Christ the King in most parishes. And yet, the sight of the same in solemn procession marking the Golden Jubilee of the first ever (and the last) International Eucharistic Congress held on the sub-continent somehow strikes a chord. And why not, the whole event being a significant reminder of the First Communion (to quote the late Cardinal Valerian Gracias) India made 50 golden years ago!

Kudos to Father Warner D'Souza of Saint Jude's, Malad East and his parishioners for the delightfully moving witness they gave to their profound understanding of the Eucharistic Lord. The solemn demeanour of Warner, the cope falling around him Oh so gracefully, was a sight to behold, while the beautiful banners so painstakingly made and carried aloft by the parishioners befittingly proclaimed the greatness of the Eucharistic King they seemed so privileged to accompany to Orlem, a legion of Angel-kids preceding the open vehicle their Parish Priest held the monstrance in!

Not to be outdone, Father Austin Norris, Parish Priest of Saint Anthony's, Malwani, looked resplendent in his gold cope so solemnly accepting the monstrance from the Parish Priest of Orlem, even inviting the latter to give the benediction in conclusion of the brief reception ceremony that consisted of a Reading, a Reflection and a Petitionary Prayer, **ALL three of which were done by lay folk**, i.e. the parishioners. Pope Francis, who not long ago affirmed that he wants his bishops to be shepherds with the smell of sheep, would have been pleased!



[Of course, that he didn't say the same with direct reference to PRIESTLY DIGNITY is a point for debate!] The open float that carried Austin bearing the Monstrance on to Our Lady of the Forsaken was a sight not many will want forget! Way to go, Austin! Now, if only there were a forest of Austins and Warners.....!

—Ladislaus L D'Souza

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Theme for 'Year of Consecrated Life' – “Wake up the World!”- Pope Francis

The Pope has announced that 2015 is the 'Year of Consecrated Life', starting from 1st Sunday of Advent, Nov.30, 2014 to Feb. 2nd 2016, 'Day of Consecrated life!' He has exhorted the religious and laity:

“The Consecrated are those who can 'Awaken the World'! In Consecrated life, God asks us to fly from the nest and go to the frontiers of the world, avoiding the temptation to 'domesticate'! This is the most concrete way of imitating our Lord....Religious life ought to promote growth in the Church by way of attraction. The Church must be attractive. 'Wake up the World'! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living! It is possible to live differently in the world....Today's religious men and women need to be prophetic, capable of 'Waking up the World', of showing they are a special breed who have something to say to the world today...This evangelical radicalism is not only for the religious; it is demanded of all. It is this witness that I expect of you men and who 'Wake up the World'!”

Yes! The 'theme' has a solid Biblical foundation. Let the light of Christ arouse us from spiritual slumber: “'Wake up' sleeper and rise from death; and Christ will shine on you” (*Ephesians*, 5:14). Thus enlightened, proceed to proclaim the Good News to everyone as commanded by Jesus: “Go throughout the 'whole world' and preach the gospel to all mankind” (*Mark*, 16:15).

—Dr Trevor Colaso,
Bandra (W)

SEX & THE SYNOD

Sex & the City” and “Desperate Housewives” are two American serials that come on our Indian TV channels. I haven’t watched either, eventhough their titles are alluring to a normal male like me! Sex workers are sometimes referred to as hookers, who hang out the bait to hook the client.

Some writers also use the hook to catch the attention of their readers. Hopefully I have succeeded in doing so on a topic that otherwise may not have done so – the recently concluded Family Synod (FS) in Rome. Its actual name is “The III Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops: Pastoral Challenges to the Family in the Context of Evangelization (5-19 October 2014)” Phew! Imagine any sane writer using that as his opening line. So I hope to be pardoned for the raised eyebrows for the title. As a seasoned writer, from the hooking, let me go to the “lead in”.

The FS was keenly followed by both the Catholic and secular world. “Compassionate” Pope Francis generated much media hype with his statement on homosexuals, “Who am I to judge?” Expectations of the LGBT community skyrocketed. Other major issues in the minds of most concerned Catholics were: (1) Revocation of the 1967 ban on artificial contraception, after Pope Paul VI’s encyclical “Humanae Vitae” (HV) (2) Communion to Divorced and Remarried Catholics (DARCs) (3) Co-habitation & Civil Unions (4) Expeditious Annulments and, in the case of India and Japan, (5) The increasing phenomenon of Interfaith Marriages.

These contentious issues seem to have split the church down the middle, with the silent majority actually not caring a damn – “Let the church say what it wants, we will do what we want”. In that sense, the entire synodal exercise becomes redundant and infructuous. On the right extreme we have conservatives, who are well-oiled and well-

heeled, especially in the USA. They were screaming themselves hoarse that the Church was in grave danger. At the other end of the spectrum were the liberal activists who expected all those red-livered yellow livered, and bestow a religious sanction on homosexuality and same-sex marriages. In the midst of this I was quite literally reminded of the Latin adage “Virtus stat in medio” (Virtue lies in the middle). It is this middle path that the FS seems to have adopted in its final report termed “Relatio Synodi” (RS).

Before delving into the nitty-gritty of the RS, we need to understand how the Catholic Church functions, whether or not we agree with it. The First Vatican Council (Vatican I) focused on papal infallibility. That was over 150 years ago. Vatican II was held from 1962-65, with over 2000 prelates from across the globe deliberating for, hold your breath, 3 years, split over several sessions. Sixteen documents, collectively referred to as the Documents of Vatican II, emerged.

Ecclesiologists describe them as a watershed in the church’s self-understanding, and its resultant approach to science, other churches, other religions, the laity etc. In the light of the FS, we need to recall the principle of collegiality in the Dogmatic Constitution of the Church (LG). This effectively means that Jesus instituted a college (group) of apostles, each with his own inherent right, derived from Jesus, not Peter. It is on this premise that apostolic churches like the Syro-Malabar Rite in India, claim apostolic succession, and a degree of autonomy. Synods were an offshoot of collegiality. Synod is a Greek word that etymologically means walking together. In Christian parlance it means walking together with Jesus, as on the way to Emmaus. So a synod is not a papal one-man show. It is a collegial experi-



BY CHHOTEBHAI

ence that we need to understand while assessing it. Without understanding these subtleties, we would make the same mistake of some early commentators, that the FS was a comedown for the “liberal” Pope Francis. My reading of the RS, however, leads me to the opposite conclusion, that it has Pope Francis stamped all over it.

What is the RS? In its concluding remarks it refers to itself as “proposed reflections” (No 62) that took place in an atmosphere of “great freedom” and “reciprocal listening” (ibid). If we look at the RS as a “work in progress” then we can evaluate it more fairly. I would give it an all-round rating of 60/100. Now let me rate specific issues that agitated us.

1. FAMILY PLANNING (Rating 5/100):

This issue is addressed in paras 18 and 58. Both paras say nothing new; they merely parrot the teachings of HV and “natural methods of responsible procreation” (No 58). Was there too little sex at the synod? I would have given this issue zero, but for this line, “the need to respect the dignity of the person in morally assessing methods in regulating births”(ibid). So there is a grudging respect for those who dissent. All the surveys that I have had access to have unequivocally stated that the people have either rejected or bypassed the Church’s official teachings on family planning. As I have said hereinbefore, regardless of what the Church tries to teach on this score, the people will resort to what they think best. So there! Fortunately the RS did not commit the earlier fatal error of HV, of declaring all other forms of contraception as sinful or immoral.

2. DARCs (Rating 80/100):

This issue is addressed in the section on “Caring for Broken Families (Persons who are Separated, Divorced, Divorced and Re-

married and Single Parent Families). This section, while referring to the Emmaus experience, also uses a beautiful phrase – “to remove one’s sandals before the sacred ground of the other” (No 46). It admits to instances of maltreatment, saying “to forgive such an injustice is not easy” (ibid). It identifies children as the “innocent victims of the situation” (ibid). Coming specifically to the DARCs it recommends “careful discernment and great respect” (No 50). Discrimination should be avoided (ibid) and this should not be misunderstood as “a weakening of faith” (ibid), but an expression of charity and concern. This is good stuff.

In the next para it goes on to consider the possibility of giving the DARCs “access to the sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist” (No 52). It wants them to be treated on a case-to-case basis (not some kind of general amnesty), referring to “irreversible situations” (ibid) and the Church’s “moral obligation towards children who would have to endure unjust suffering” (ibid), obviously for no fault of their own. It draws from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1735) to boldly aver, “imputability and responsibility for an action can be diminished or even nullified by ignorance, inadvertence, duress, fear, habit, inordinate attachments, and other psychological or social factors” (ibid). It therefore makes bold to state, “access to the sacrament might take place if preceded by a penitential practice determined by the diocesan bishop” (ibid). This is as great an admission as could be expected; going to the extent of saying that the issue is not so grave as to invite pontifical intervention. The diocesan bishop himself could resolve it. This is collegiality at its best. At this stage I don’t think that we could have asked for more, so I rate this section very high.

3. CO-HABITATION AND CIVIL UNIONS (Rating 70/100): To give them religious sanction would be to totally negate the Sixth Commandment, and to open up a Pandora’s Box for free sex. I don’t see that ever happening in the Catholic Church. It would also totally destroy the institution, as also the

sacrament, of marriage; and by consequence, that of the family. The RS makes some legitimate differentiations. At first there are “those who after having lived together for a long period, request the celebration of a marriage in the Church” (No 42). Pope Francis himself celebrated some such unions. It also looks at those who are unable to get married because of job insecurity, wedding expenses and “material poverty that leads people to defacto unions” (ibid). It says that such “situations require a constructive response” (No 43) and that such couples need to be “guided patiently and discreetly” (ibid).

Far from condemning, the RS exhorts the Church to “sensitivity to the positive aspects of civilly celebrated marriages” (No 41). It is even willing to learn from the “constructive elements in these situations” (ibid). Does not this bear the hallmark of Jesus’ compassion, Vatican II ecclesiology, and Pope Francis’ non-judgmental approach? Is this also not proof that the voice of the people is being heard in the corridors of power? I rate this issue as finely balanced.

4. EXPEDITIOUS ANNULMENTS (Rating 60/100): The RS admits to this need and even makes some actionable recommendations, despite opposition from a section of the Synod members. It has recommended “the dispensation of the requirement of second instance for conferring sentences; the possibility of establishing an administrative means under the jurisdiction of the diocesan bishop; and a simple process be used in cases where nullity is clearly evident” (No 48). It is

worth noting that here again the issue is relegated to the level of the diocesan bishop, not meriting higher intervention. I would rate this higher only when these recommendations are implemented on the ground.

5. INTERFAITH MARRIAGES (Rating 50/100): There was a time when these were considered a threat, as evidenced by recent pronouncements by some bishops in Kerala. Using the SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat) analysis the RS approaches this as an opportunity rather than a threat. It states, “such marriages can exhibit great potential in favouring the spirit of ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue in a harmonious living of diverse religions” (No 7). This sounds wonderful from an ecumenical or evangelical point of view. But that is furthest from a couple’s mind when they decide to marry! It doesn’t resolve existential bread and butter issues, especially for women, who may have to compromise their faith, and the ambiguity of where the children stand.

However, the RS again reverts to Vatican II teachings when it refers to “natural marriage and the valid elements present in other religions and cultures ...based on a stable and true relationship of a man and woman” (No 22). Perhaps this is as far as the FS could go. It may have delved deeper if it had more delegates from Asia, where Christians are a miniscule minority and, as stated by the Japanese bishops, 75% of the marriages are interfaith ones.

(Contd.. on p. 16)

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Anna Censures PM On Black Money

NAGPUR: Freedom fighter Kisan Baburao alias Anna Hazare on Monday flayed Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his pre-poll assurances of bringing back black money that is stashed abroad, tersely stating that "he didn't act on what he speaks".

The Gandhian also warned of an agitation if the ill-gotten wealth isn't brought back. He, however, praised Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, albeit indirectly, saying that "If he was not remote-controlled, he could take the state to numero uno position in all respects".

"Our PM delivers impressive speeches and I've also become fan of him. His public addresses in Nepal, Bhutan and other countries were widely appreciated. However, I realized that there is a big difference between what he speaks and what he does. His words don't get converted into actions," the anti-corruption crusader said.

Tearing apart Modi's claims on black money, Anna said that Modi had assured to bring it back within 100 days before the Lok Sabha polls, but even after six months there was no trace of it, as his government took a U-turn.

The veteran social activist questioned the Modi-led government on why they made such false assurances when they knew the reality that names of those who had accounts in foreign banks can't be disclosed due to various international treaties. "I had written a letter to the PM in this regard asking all these queries, but he sent only acknowledgement," Anna said.

Terming the contentious issue of farmers suicides as 'unfortunate', Anna said in the country where majority of population survives on agriculture, such incidents reflect very poor condition of the farming community. "All agriculture universities in state are regularly sending figures of crops production to the government, still no help arrived from them. Whichever party takes charge of the government, none of them are serious about the farmers," he said.

The Padma Bhushan recipient however refused to speak on his former



ally in Jan Lokpal Andolan, Arvind Kejriwal. Even when he was quizzed by a student on why he favoured West Bengal chief minister Mamta Banerjee, when her party was facing accusations regarding Saradha Scam, and not Kejriwal, Anna replied that he supported only her, and not her party due to her simplicity and sacrifice she had made.

"She still lives in her old house and wears slipper. However, if Kejriwal leaves the party and comes back, I will welcome him. I have taken a pledge that I will never join any political party."

The 77-year-old activist, who fought for implementation of six laws, including the revolutionary Right to Information (RTI) Act, has now set sights on 'Right to Reject' and 'Right to Recall' Acts along with 'Rights to Gram Sabha'. "I took up this fight since my youth days, and would continue to fight for the social and legal rights of the citizens till my last breath," he said.

—TOI

Delhi Church Fire Raises Fears Of Communal Aggression

New Delhi: A fire that destroyed the interior of a Catholic church in New Delhi on Monday morning has raised concern that the country's Christian minority is being intentionally targeted.

A guard at Saint Sebastian Catholic Church – empty at the time of the fire – notified the parish priest at about 6am, and the fire brigade was called, lay leader John Dayal told an afternoon press briefing at the church attended by Archbishop Anil Cuto of Delhi.

"The police took their own time to come. They said a forensic team would be arriving soon, but they have not yet reached," Dayal said.

"The police are not serious about this crime, which is communal in nature," he added.

Police officer S Chauhan, under whose area the church falls, said police are investigating all angles, and until their probe is over they cannot speak about details of the investigation.

"The first step is to collect evidence and determine the cause of the fire," he said, adding that the investigation has only just started.



An earlier statement by police suggested that the fire had been the result of faulty electrical wiring.

Archbishop Cuto said the Church had "full faith" in the investigation and it would not be right to pointing accusing fingers at anyone until the facts of the investigation were known.

But Father Thomas Paul, a New Delhi-based priest, questioned why the guard did not notice the fire sooner. "We have so many unanswered questions."

Parishioners had questions as well, along with demands. As news of the fire spread, about 500 people gathered at St Sebastian to demand a judicial inquiry into the fire as an act of intentional aggression against the Christian community.

Source: ucanews

Violence Free Families Day



On 2nd November 2014 most Parishes and Schools of Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane, came together at Sacred Heart School Hall, Santacruz, to celebrate Violence Free Families Day. The program commenced with a Prayer Service which included a song and dance by school children. This was followed by an informative talk and presentation by Advocates Cassandra Fernandes and Joanita Britto from International Justice Mission, on Human Trafficking, and screening of a film on the same created by the United Nations Organization showing examples from India. It was shocking to see several women and children who were unknowingly roped into this big business and then abducted, molested and tortured. The children actively participated in the discussions and the session was interactive.

Bp. Agnelo Gracious – our chief guest for this event, released a book

on ‘Health of the Girl child’ compiled by Sharon Rodrigues and Sister Natty Lopez (DHM) with the help of Health Promotion Trust Team of the Archdiocese of Bombay. This creation was the brain child of Fr. Rocky Banz.

Next the High on Life for Boys and Beautiful Women for Girls program was introduced. This talk and video presentation is given in most Sunday Schools and regular schools to create awareness in our children and instill in them Values for Life. In spite of the holidays, around 300 children attended along with their parents and teachers. The best boys and girls selected by their teachers were awarded certificates by Bp. Agnelo Gracias. Everyone pledged to stand up against violence in any form and take all precautions for their safety. It was a morning well spent and educative too.

—Lorraine D’Souza

**Navi Mumbai Deanery Coordinator
Women’s Commission**

Blessed with son



Riteish and Genelia very happy. A string of adorable photographs of the duo recently went viral — they featured a heavily pregnant and glowing Genelia in some candid moments with Riteish, who is an actor-producer and son of the late former Maharashtra chief minister Vilasrao Deshmukh. The couple’s friends from the Hindi film industry sent out congratulatory messages, welcoming them to the parents’ club of Bollywood.

‘Leaders in the Making and Reaching to the Top’



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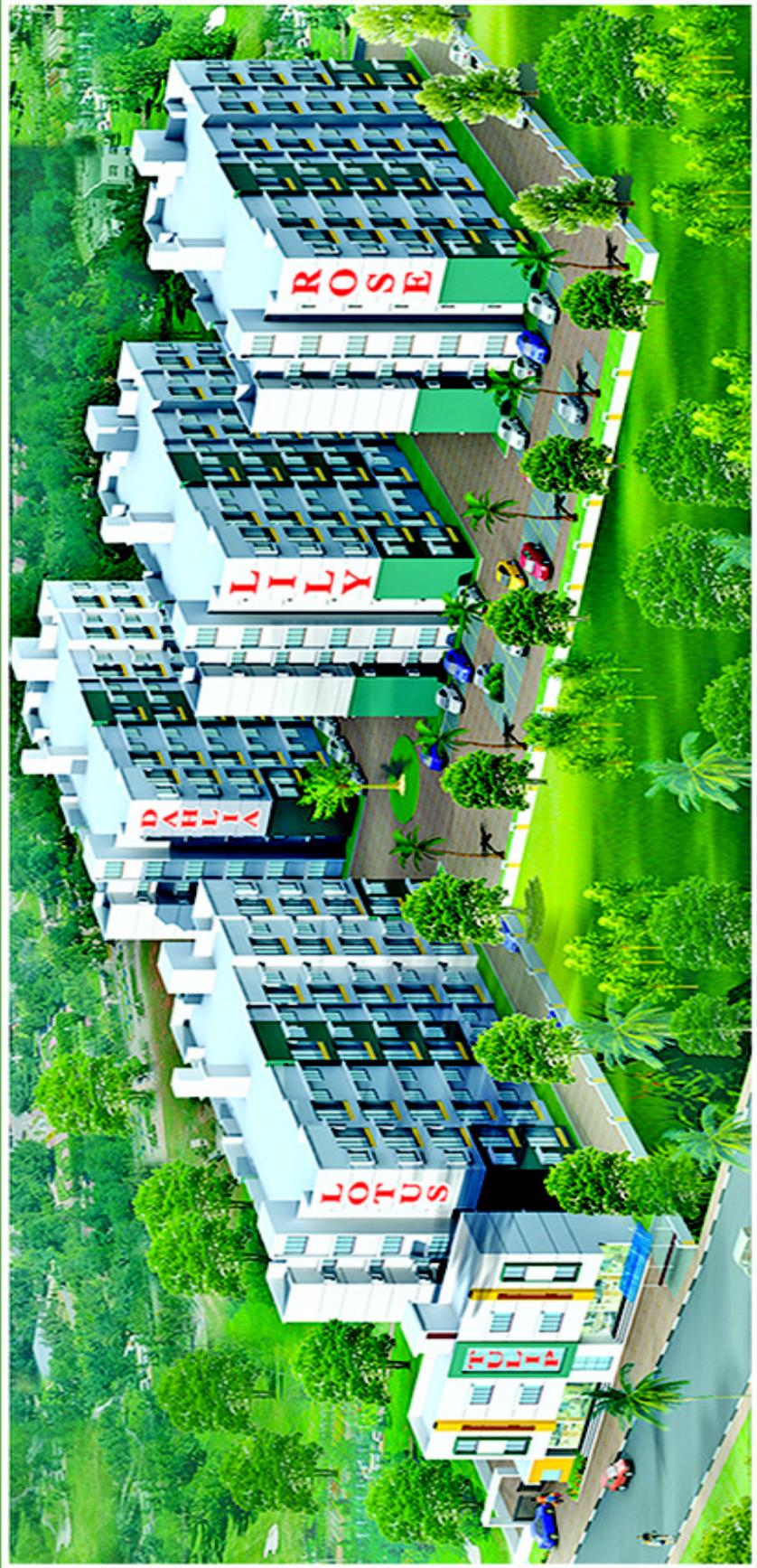
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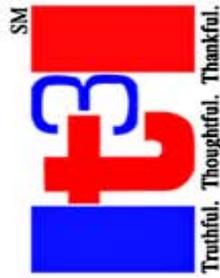
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Thanksgiving for the Greatest Gift of All

 **Capt. Mervin John Lobo**

Though "Thanksgiving" is celebrated in the USA and other parts of the world (and not here in India and other Asian countries) as a separate day of coming together, we however must always give THANKS to God for all that the graces and blessings He showers on us and what better way to do this, to partake in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, everyday if possible

The Eucharist IS the greatest GIFT given to you and me.

Thanksgiving is a national Holiday that brings families together to socialize, communicate, connect emotionally, and to enjoy a good hearty meal! On this day we should never forget the primary reason we should render abundant thanksgiving; this is for God, who He is and all that He has so generously bestowed upon all of us from the moment of our conception until our dying breath.

Indeed what do we have that we have not received from His loving and bountiful Providence? Only one thing: our own sins—these we chose due to our own perverse will. We would like to focus on one crucial gift that should move our hearts to overflow in gratitude not just one day a year but all the days of our lives. This is the sublime gift of the most Holy Eucharist.

Of all the gifts that Jesus left us before He ascended into Heaven where He sits at the right hand of God the Father, this gift, this most sublime gift, this ineffable and celestial gift of the goodness of the most Sacred heart of Jesus merits our constant gratitude. In fact the word itself Eucharist actually means "Thanksgiving." Let us briefly, in a quiet and contemplative fashion, move

through the various moments where we should recognize the gift of the Eucharist, adore this "Real Presence" and render abundant and overflowing thanks.

1. Institution of the Holy Eucharist.

Let us thank Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ because in His loving and providential care He instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper. In fact the Last Supper was the first Holy Mass where Jesus instituted the gift of gifts the Holy Eucharist. When and how? When Jesus took bread and wine, blessed and broke and said: "Take and eat this is my Body; take and drink this is my Blood; do this in memory of me." With these most sacred and profound words Jesus left us until the end of time His "Real Presence" in the Eucharist. For this we wish to thank the good Lord and million times.

2. Holy Orders & the Priesthood.

Furthermore, as an extension to the Institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, Jesus willed to perpetuate the Eucharist through the instrumentality of Holy Orders or the Priesthood. Let us thank the Lord Jesus for being our eternal and High priest, but also thank the Lord Jesus for instituting the Sacrament of Holy Orders or the Priesthood. How important it is that we thank the Lord for the priesthood but also to pray for more vocations to the priesthood, as well as for the sanctification and perseverance of priests in their sacred ministry. Saint Augustine calls the priest "Alter Christus"—another Christ. Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen defines the priest as "The victim who offers the victim."

3. Consecration. In the context of the celebration of Holy Mass by the priest we should be acutely aware of that most sublime moment of the

consecration. When the priest repeats the words that Jesus said at the Last Supper over the bread and wine and elevates both the bread and wine, then Jesus is truly with us. In a certain sense we can even say that this is Christmas—Jesus being born in the hands of the priest. Our attitude should be that of deep gratitude. In silence, during the consecration, our hearts should be lifted on high to praise, adore, worship and thank God for coming down from Heaven to be with us.

4. Holy Communion.

It gets better and better!!! Jesus does not want to stay and remain in the hands of the priest. No! Jesus longs to find his abode in the very core of the human person, that is to say, in the heart and soul of the human person through the worthy reception of Holy Communion. While living on earth, there is no more sublime act that a human person can do than to attend Holy Mass devoutly, participate fully, actively and consciously and then to receive Jesus in Holy Communion. This is when heaven comes down to earth and descends into the human person elevating him on high. Indeed we are sons and daughters of God, tabernacles of the most High, and living Icons of God Himself. This is most true when we receive Jesus into our hearts in Holy Communion. While Jesus lived on earth people could see Jesus only on occasions and sometimes only from a distance. But now we can see Jesus every day in Holy Mass at the moment of consecration and then receive Him into the very depths of our hearts in Holy Communion. This can be done every day of our lives! How great is our God, but how abundant should be our thanksgiving to such a loving God.

(Contd.. on p. 16)

(Contd.. from p. 15)

5. The Tabernacle and Monstrance of the Blessed Sacrament.

Before ascending into heaven Jesus left us the most consoling words: "Behold I will be with you always even until the end of the world." (Mt. 28:20) If Jesus indeed did ascend into heaven where He is seated at the right hand of God the Father then where is He to be found on earth? The response! In every Catholic Church, after the celebration of Holy Mass, the remaining Hosts are reverently deposited in the Tabernacle; this we call "The Blessed Sacrament". What is His purpose in being in that Tabernacle? There is a double purpose. First, Eucharistic ministers can take the Lord Jesus to the sick and home-bound so that they can receive Jesus even in their physical infirmity. Second, the consecrated Hosts—the Eucharistic Lord Jesus, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings—is patiently waiting and longing for His friends to come to pay Him a visit. He rejoices when His friends spend an Hour in His Divine Presence. Archbishop Fulton Sheen calls this "The Hour of Power." Jesus patiently waits for all men and women of good will to come to visit Him, talk to Him, console Him, adore and worship Him but also to thank Him!

In conclusion, Thanksgiving Day, as a civil Holiday comes once a year. However, for followers of Jesus the Lord, thanksgiving can and should be every day. This is expressed in the most profound and sublime manner by our loving reverence of what happened at the Last Supper, in the person of the priest, in the moment of consecration, in the most sublime of all moments when one receive Holy Communion reverently; finally, this is prolonged in our Eucharistic visits. May Our Lady who said "Yes" to the Lord and the Word of God took flesh within her sacred womb attain for us an eternal attitude of gratitude. May our words be the words of the Psalmist: "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever."

(Contd.. from p. 9)

6. LGBTs (Rating 70/100): Pope Francis' off the cuff remark on homosexuality was much hyped before the FS. Those in such situations/ relationships would, but naturally, have experienced a let down. I must here admit that my judgment could be coloured by my personal perceptions, and may not seem politically correct. (Jesus seldom was). I would go along with what the RS says, "There are absolutely no grounds for considering homosexual unions to be in any way similar or even remotely analogous to God's plan for marriage and family" (No 55). This is very much the general feeling in India, and in no way limited to the Catholic Church. At the same time parity is maintained with the philosophical principle that an affirmation of one thing is not a negation of another. So the RS is again non-judgmental. Following the earlier approach of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the RS states, "Nevertheless men and women with a homosexual tendency ought to be received with respect and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in this regard should be avoided" (ibid).

Where the RS really shows some spunk is in its refusal to be coerced into submission calling such acts "totally unacceptable" (No 56). It even stands up to "international organizations that link their financial assistance to poorer countries with the introduction of laws to establish 'marriage' between persons of the same sex" (ibid).

SUMMATION: In conclusion I would

say that Pope Francis has indeed left his stamp on the Synod. The word "mercy" is often used, but I find that a bit condescending. Where I really fault the FS is in treating the family as a means to an end, rather than an end in itself. So we have an introductory statement like "the family needs to be rediscovered as the essential agent in the work of evangelization" (No 2). This is wholly unacceptable. We must address the family for its own sake, and not for the church. Is the family for the church, or the church for the family? Long ago Jesus had asked "Is the Sabbath for man or man for the Sabbath?" (Mk 2:27).

Where I am sorely disappointed is that several issues raised by the Indian laity, that were submitted to the six delegates from India, find scant mention in the RS. Were our Indian delegates mute spectators, or insensitive to our needs? We have sought their response. But we will not keep quiet. If the Extraordinary Synod 2014 scored 60/100 we shall work together to ensure that the Ordinary Synod 2015 goes much further than "proposals" to actionable points on every issue concerning the family, whether or not it concerns the hierarchical church. We want sense, not sex, from the Synod!

** The writer is the Convenor of the Indian Catholic Forum that was formed in response to the demands and expectations of the Family Synod. Interested laypersons may contact him at noronha.kp@gmail.com*

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Indian Electronic Music Producers You Should Know About



2014 is turning out to be one massive year for electronic dance music in India. Major international artists have toured the nation in the last 12 months. Flux Pavilion, Steve Aoki and Afrojack to name a few. However with all this hoopla surrounding the international DJ's, one seems to have put the local artist's at the back burner. We give you a low down on some stellar Indian electronic producers you need to listen to:

Sandunes aka Sanaya Ardheshir's music can be best characterized as crisp and eclectic. The musical influences range from hip-hop to post-dubstep and U.K garage. It's very difficult to box Sandunes into a particular genre yet something about her music sounds Asian.

B.R.E.E.D- their Facebook page describes their music as future exotic and it lives up to its name. The talented duo consists of Tara Mae who has contributed to the vocals and instrumentation over the years and main man Ritesh D'Souza. One can spot influences like glitchhop, dubstep and even soul influences in their music. The pair will be performing at the Supersonic Festival in Goa this December.

Dualist Inquiry- If rock-influenced

electronic music is your thing, be sure to check out this talented artist. Sahej Bakshi is one of those rare artists who plays the guitar live along with mixing his music simultaneously when he is performing live. The result is a sound that's fresh, dreamy and straight away recognizable.

East Stepper aka Abhishek Jha is a bass music producer based out of Delhi. His music is filled with spacey sounds and heavy bass. However he sticks to his roots by also incorporating exotic Indian sounds in his music. He is regularly featured on BBC radio U.K and other famous radio stations. Over the years Dubstep and Drum and Bass have been diluted down to just noise on many occasions. East Stepper changes all of that by continuously delivering top-notch bass music.

Madboy/Mink are a funk and nu-disco duo based out of Mumbai. Having recently performed at the NH7 Weekender festival in Delhi, this relatively unknown duo has brought that 70s disco sound back which seemed all but lost. The best part is they manage to infuse an assorted set of unique sounds and the end result is a track that has influences ranging from disco, funk and some amazing guitar riffs.

The BJP Government – a Hundred days & more

The Hundred days of the BJP-Modi government has long passed by and we find the aspirations, the expectations of the people of this country continue to remain unfulfilled. People continue to feel betrayed by the government. The BJP came to power on the plank of "Clean Governance"; the people of this country expected life to become just a little better than what it was earlier. But, where do we find ourselves today? **On the contrary, one is given the impression that the government is trying to divert attention from the real issues.** There seems to be no serious attempt to address the real issues. The Black Money issue continues to remain unresolved.

The 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' seems to be a mere P.R. exercise. Several celebrities and politicians have also joined the bandwagon and participated in similar exercises across the country – again a 'Photo-op'. **Noble idea it may be – "cleanliness is next to godliness", it is said, but this is NOT what the people of this country had bargained for. We were looking forward to cleaning up the government administration, cleaning the political system from the inside; no need to specify - the meaning is very clear ! Cleanliness on the outside cannot and will not conceal the murkiness inside ! Can the BJP now come down to governance and 'clean' governance at that ? The people of this country have waited for long, it's time they got their due.**

—Melville X. D'Souza

A Guide For All Bosses

When managing employees, sometimes your patience is tested by a lack of motivation. Just because you're the boss does not mean you're perfect.

You don't have the luxury of saying something off the cuff when you're frustrated. The last thing you want is for your verbal missteps to demotivate your staff, causing even bigger problems for your organization. Here are seven phrases to especially avoid, especially in the heat of the moment.

"I'm the boss. Do as I say."

We're all adults here. You can't expect that your employees will take to your hypocrisy. If you are setting different standards for your employees than you have for yourself, you can't expect that they will respect what you ask them to do.

"You're lucky to have a job."

If that's how you really feel about any of your employees, then perhaps you're the one who's lucky to have a job. No one works well in an environment where they are made to feel like somehow they're indebted to their employer. If it's not working out with a particular employee then be a professional and deal with the issues at hand.

"Don't like it?"

I'll find someone who does."

As the manager, you call most of the shots, but that doesn't give you a license to be a jerk. Anyone can call herself a manager or the boss, but a good one will use leadership skills to motivate employees and deliver results. Threatening employees with losing their jobs, as a way to get them to do what you want, is not sustainable.

You always come up with a problem

If we are talking about an employee



who is always resistant or who has performance issues, then address those immediately. If you're talking about an employee who is relatively cooperative, who is giving you a hard time over a particular situation, then perhaps the problem is that you're unwilling to listen to her concerns or alternative ideas. Or maybe she's just having a bad day. Whatever the issue, don't assume she is being obstinate for no reason and definitely don't ask the above question.

"I don't have time for this."

Are you serious? You're the BOSS. It's

your job to make time. Rather than flat-out rejecting your employee's request for your time, block out a few minutes in the near future when you can give your employee your undivided attention.

"Do you see my name on that door?"

Yeah, so what? True that you may have built this business from the ground up or that you've invested your money and time into making this enterprise what it is today. But you're not G-d and throwing your weight around is not a productive way to get employees to buy in.

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Inspiration!

Being Successful & A Winner in Life

In the journey of life what motivates us is the drive to succeed. Success is a subjective interpretation and what is deemed success for one may only be the first rung for another. But what is inalienable to the human psyche is the need for it. Whilst there can be no shortcut in the road to success, certain tips if kept in mind can surely make the ride a lot less bumpy. A winner in life is one who can learn to master.

Goal Oriented Behavior:

You will succeed if you are able to focus, to the exclusion of everything else, on your goal. For this to be true and for one to even begin embarking on the journey to be a winner, one must inculcate the ability to identify goals for themselves and then work towards achieving them bit by bit.

Active Learning Attitude:

Any individual today, with the goal of being a winner, must ensure that he or she never stops learning nor lose the will to constantly learn from his or her surroundings. We should remember that our friends, colleagues and even juniors have something to teach us and all we need to abide by is the need to question.

Learn from your mistakes:

It is human to err, but the characteristic



that differentiates a winner is the ability to accept the mistake and learn from it. A useful English adage to this point is that one should endeavor never to "make the same mistake twice". But being afraid of mistakes will never help you attain success nor will it bode well for your psychological well-being.

Time management:

This precision of time management by Mother Nature is visible in every activity such as the seasonal changes of the Earth, blossoming of buds into flowers, life cycle of every living being from birth till death and even the working of involuntary organs in human body. It therefore, goes without saying that for attaining true success, a winner is one who is able to manage all his or her commitments.

Being Responsible:

It is impossible to identify a single 'winner' who has shirked responsibility in life. The ability to take more responsibility not only in terms of work but also responsibility 'of' others, is something that is key to the characteristic of a leader. And all leaders in their own way have traveled the path of being winners. An even deeper understanding of responsibility is reflected in one's work ethic, where they stick not only by their own word, but also any that might have been made for them by another.

Positive thinking:

It is possible to push one's boundaries only if one is focused on positive thoughts and energies. Self-deprecation can never lead to success and a winner is always self-confident. The importance of thoughts and its effects on one's actions is time and again proved in various psychological studies.

Perseverance:

An aspect that goes hand in hand with achievement is 'perseverance'. Therefore, nothing is ever achieved in a single attempt and this is probably one of the most important tips to be remembered when one is aiming for success.

Problem solving and creativity:

While perseverance is linked to keeping up one's determination, problem solving skills are essential for achieving anything in today's world. The road to success is paved with challenges and honing one's ability to creatively solve them is the only weapon available to us. A winner is therefore one who can think out of the box and thus is able to out run the rest.

Stay healthy:

Conventionally most guides would place this tip on a lower number, but in actuality this tip is a culmination of a number of tips, such as, positive thinking, taking responsibility, time management and learning from one's mistakes. A physically healthy body is a given for the success of any endeavor, but many a times this endeavor is dogged by stress that comes along with any attempt- successful or unsuccessful. Therefore, if one is to combat the stress, one must doubly ensure that they are thinking positively and effectively managing their time to avoid addition stress.

Self actualization: 'Attempt to reach and surpass your potential'

Self actualization is nothing but the ability to integrate the self and reach the pinnacle of one's potential. A winner must arm himself with self-confidence and self-awareness and while he may have tangible goals, his ultimate goal should be to reach his potential and transcend it.

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MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 31 years, Only Child, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SSC., 2 yrs. Dip. in Trade of Fitter + MEC-3 Marine Engineering Course from New Zeland, working for Merchant Navy. Currently in Mumbai contact email : allwynb2011@gmail.com OR 9930225262 / 9930611534 (Regd. No. 6248)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 34 years, Ht. 6' 2", Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B.Com., & HTL Management, Working on Cruise Line as Supervisor, Seeks an educated, simple, Mangalorean girl above 5' 5", Email : marprop111@gmail.com (Regd. No. 6045)

KOLKATA : Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 23 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 57 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. BBA, GNIIT, working as a Management Trainee. Seeks a homely, adjustable, simple, working girl. Contact email : geraldinesawney@gmail.com OR 9331220504 (Regd. No. 6103)

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MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 38 years, Ht. 5' 7", Slim, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.B.A., B.Com., Teacher by profession. Contact email : ryanboscodsouza@gmail.com OR 9869423500 (Regd. No. 6067)

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic

Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 9", Well Built, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., M.A. Position : Vice President. Contact email : rodrigues-johann@hotmail.com OR 9819268548 (Regd. No. 6066)

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MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC., working as a Hotel Manager. Contact email. saherfernandes22@gmail.com OR 9821152347 (Regd. No. 6064)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 36 years, Ht. 6' 1", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a Senior Manager. Contact email : roshan.dsouza28@gmail.com OR 9323149249 (Regd. No. 6061)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion Edn. B.Com., working as a Manager. Only Child. Contact email : loyvaz@gmail.com OR 8806930925 (Regd. No. 6059)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 39 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC + 3 years Diploma in Graphic Designing, working as a Graphic Designer. Contact email : nav_1874@yahoo.co.in OR 9819494541 (Regd. No. 6057)

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 43 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. SSC + 2 years ITI, in Draughtmanship (Mechanical), working as a Cad Draughtsman. Contact email : saviodias10@gmail.com

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

OR 9869619286 (Regd. No. 6056)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 7", Well built, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Asst. Manager. Contact email : ferdinand.furtado@gmail.com OR 9820018233 (Regd. No. 6051)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Team Leader. Contact email : rdsouza_12@yahoo.com OR 9987317544 (Regd. No. 6050)

MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Divorcee, aged 65 years, looks much younger to his age, and good health, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish complexion, Edn. SSC., Retired, well settled No issue. Seeks a suitable match aged below 40 years widow or Divorcee having one child. Contact email : francisfernandes346@yahoo.in OR 9820432560 (Regd. No. 6048)

MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Divorcee, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish complexion, Edn. MBA., in Intl. Business from Newzealand. working as a Manager. Contact : email bnipra@gmail.com OR Mob.: 7738071111 (Regd. No. 6047)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC + 3 yrs Hotel Management working as a Sr. Rest. Manager. Contact email : stanleef77@gmail.com OR 9920047343 (Regd. No. 6044)

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MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 64 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working, Contact email : mariashgo24@gmail.com OR 9819524367 / 9920102623 (**Regd. No. 6246**)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 22 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., working as a HR. Contact email : andrewvds1972@gmail.com OR 9821639989 (**Regd. No. 6245**)

MUMBAI : TAMILIAN Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 46 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 42 kgs, fair and beautiful, Edn. SSC., working as a Beautician. Contact email : pmsmarshall1937@gmail.com OR 9167912492 / 9637129065 (**Regd. No. 6243**)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5'3", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Dip. in 3D animation, working. Contact email : nisha.britto@gmail.com OR 9967366434 (**Regd. No. 6063**)

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MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 38 years, looks much younger to her age, beautiful, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., LLB., working as a Leal Head in American Company. Contact email : polysacks@hotmail.com OR 9930813123 (**Regd. No. 6208**)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 56 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., (IT), MS, working as a Sr. Software Engineer in USA. Contact email : wilfysouza@gmail.com OR 9869036355 (**Regd. No. 6207**)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster 1973 born, 5' 5" tall, fair complexion with qualifications, B.Com. (Mumbai), M.B.A. Finance (Canada), M.B.A., (H.R.) and Diplomas in I.T. (NIIT), Comp. (APTEC), and Cert.Ind Acct. (I.C.A.), working in good position. Graduate / Post Graduate unmarried R.C. Bachelors upto 45 years, employed in good position and well settled in Mumbai or abroad. Contact email : bellwether77@yahoo.com or Mobile No. 9892700617. (**Regd. No. 6166**)

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 5", Fair Complex, Edn. Doctor, working as an Asst. Manager in Pharmaceutical company. Only Child. Contact: email: shrlydsz@yahoo.com OR 9930550318 (**Regd. No. 5786**)

MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, smart, Edn. M.M.S., B.Com., working as a Manager - Marketing. Seeks a handsome, intelligent, well settled bachelor. Contact email : christophersequeira@hotmail.com OR 9167650179 (**Regd. No. 6002**)

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SME, Seeks sober, well settled bachelor. Contact : email : magna.fernandes@gmail.com OR 9820264984 (**Regd. No. 6007**)

MUMBAI : Goan R.C. Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 60 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. B.Sc + PGDQA, working as a QA Personnel in Pharmaceutical, Seeks a good looking, understanding, responsible, well settled bachelor. Contact email : renmail1987@yahoo.co.in OR 9892394604 (**Regd. No. 6006**)

AHMEDABAD : Goan R.C. Spinster, Wheatish, slim, good looking, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 49 kgs, Edn. B.A., PGDMFI, Pursuing MBA, working as a Senior Officer in Bank. Seeks a educated, well settled bachelor from decent and respectable family. Contact email : steffi8138@gmail.com / jerrypeter02@yahoo.com OR 079-22162694 (**Regd. No. 6004**)

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NAVI-MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B. Com., employed as an Admin., Contact Email : sonaldabhi0@gmail.com OR Mob: 9820579253 (**Regd. No. 6011**)

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BY MELVYN BROWN

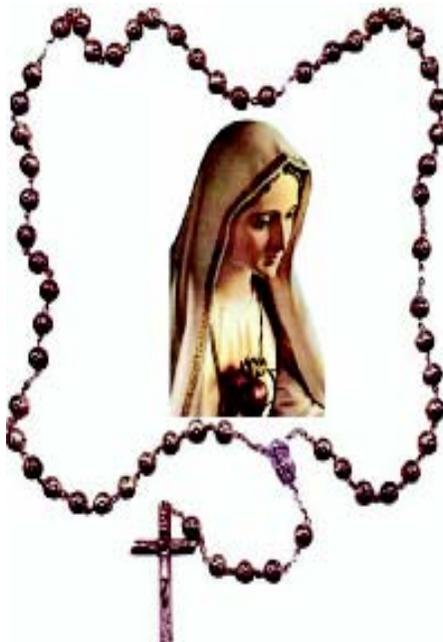
If there's a person who feels a warm glow inside when praying the Rosary it's a Roman Catholic. Probably the most wonderful and powerful gift from Our Lady makes the Rosary "an effective spiritual weapon against the evils afflicting society."

Among Roman Catholics the practice of praying the rosary embraces the faith with encouragement and hope automatically. The sacred beads download a sequence of images in the life, miracles, death, resurrection and the ascension of Jesus Christ, helping devout souls to maintain a better understanding of the Joyful, luminous, sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. The Rosary is a holy devotion.

St. Louis DeMontfort in his book, *The Secret of the Rosary*, writes: "The rosary is a priceless treasure which is inspired by God." Abundant grace is obtained in this holy practice, God's blessed Mother had appeared to Saint Dominic urging him to talk about the Rosary, which Our Lady referred to as her "Angelic Psalter".

The remarkable history of the Rosary had originated in early recorded Christian practice. The people of God would recite the "150 psalms from the Bible... as a way of prayer," says F.M.K. Paul, ssp. In his book, *The Holy Rosary: Some of the faithful would recite the Our Father 150 times, using beads to count the prayers.*

For Roman Catholics the Rosary is a beautiful daily practice and a way of spiritual life. Devotees of Our Holy Mother believe and profess with



confidence the timeless freshness in this prayer, an instrument of victory at times of war, for sinners to repent and to convert lost souls. The perseverance in its recitation works miracles.

The Rosary is a mystical blessing from Almighty God and His Mother. Our Lady of Fatima said, "We must pray the rosary" How can we ignore her words. Mary, our Mother wants us to revive the family Rosary in our homes. We must make each bead a prayer, and a sacrifice. The Crucifix is our hope and strength.

The origin of the name Rosary came from the flower, Rose. The Dominicans it must be noted were the first to promote the rosary in the thirteenth century. St. Dominic, a monk, received the Angelic Salutation from the Mother of God in the form we use it today as a prayer. Saint Dominic became a powerful preacher of the Rosary and tried to kindle a love of devotion in the hearts of his listeners.

Our Lady appeared to the saint and instructed him to urge people to say 'my Rosary, and in this way your words will bear fruits for souls.' (Book of Miracles of the Holy Rosary) in Italian. For Catholic people who practice this devotion much piety and fervor follows.

Many religious associations were dedicated to the Rosary. In the passage of the years the faithful have neglected "to pray" this gift from God and the rage of sin and violence have brought much destruction across the face of the earth.

On October 16, 2002, the Holy Father Pope John Paul II issued a missive titled *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* (The Rosary of the Virgin Mary). In his apostolic letter, the pope added five "Mysteries of Light" to the present fifteen mysteries (to be prayed on Thursdays).

The liturgical feasts dedicated to the Mother of God and Marian prayer, such as the Rosary, an 'epitome of the whole Gospel', express this devotion to the Virgin Mary." (CCC.2678/514). The most holy rosary is predominantly the most popular of Roman Catholic practices. Please say the Rosary in your quiet moments today.

All true devotees of Our Lady, I feel confident, will enrich the specific desire of Mary to 'say' the Rosary and to lead a life of prayer and faith. St. Louis de Montfort called himself the "Slave of Mary". Let us call ourselves the "Faithful of the Most Holy Rosary".

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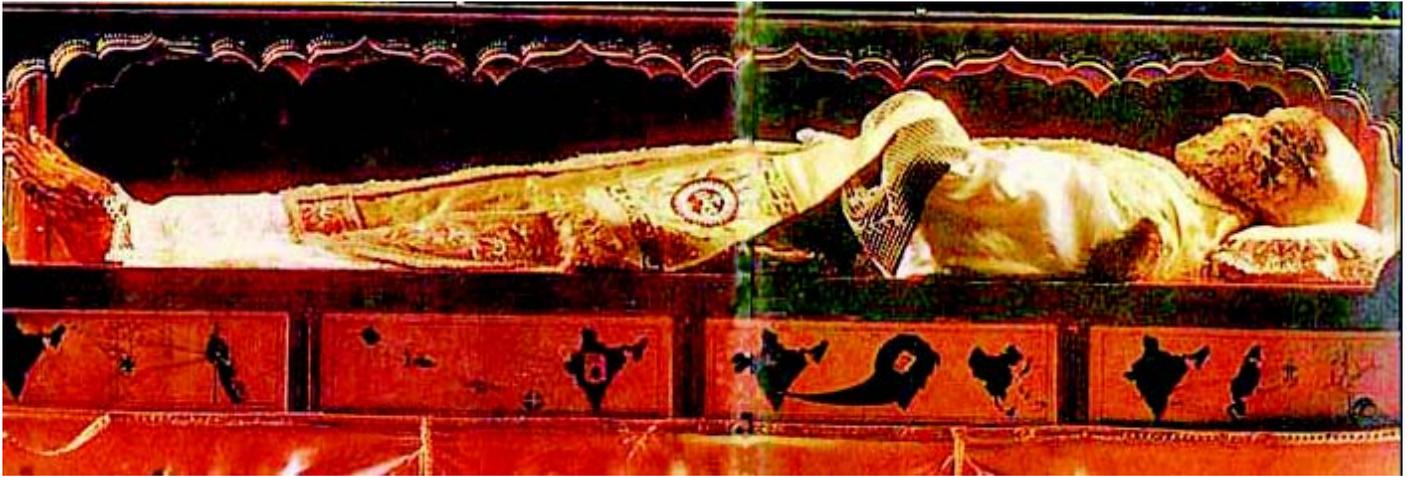
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(Contd.. from p. 5)

silica, for veneration from 22nd of November 2014 till 4th of January 2015.

It is said that he converted over a million people, but the actual figure is closer to 10,000; he is called the 'apostle of

Goa', the 'apostle of Japan', the 'patron saint of the Indies', but he spent only a few months in these places; he is revered in Goa as Goencho Saib, but he was against the recruitment of Goans as priests for the Society of Jesus.

Francis served the sick day and night, distributed his portion of food to them, and also gave his cabin to them for rest on board the 'Santiago' en route to Goa.

Xavier walked the length and breadth of this part of the planet nearly five centuries ago, and yet, even today, in this fast-paced, globalized and consumerist world, millions of devotees from the ends of the earth throng to Old Goa year after year to pay homage to this great person.

The majority of pilgrims who throng the novenas and the feast of Francis belong to the working and poor classes, people with blue-collar jobs, struggling to eke out an existence. Francis, who had special affection for lepers, prisoners, slaves and the poor inhabitants of the fishery coast, has struck a chord with these pilgrims from the lower strata of society.

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