

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

(Total pages 24)

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How To Save Your Failing Marriage?



Indian Salesian Priest Crucified on Good Friday?

A Salesian priest from India abducted by Islamic terrorists in Yemen was crucified on March 25, Good Friday, Austrian media reported.



Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna confirmed during the Easter Vigil at Stephansdom that Salesian Father Thomas Uzhunnalil was crucified by ISIS on Good Friday. Polonia Christiana is also carrying the news, based on the Austrian reports.

The news also appeared in The Washington Times and Catholic News World on March 27.

“The Islamic State committed a grisly Good Friday commemoration, crucifying a Catholic priest,” The Washington Times report says.

Church groups in India sounded skeptical about the crucifixion news. According to them, the Vienna cardinal might have based his statement on a rumor circulating in WhatsApp social media network. The message that began circulating early Saturday gave the “sad news” that the ISIS terrorists had crucified Fr Uzhunnalil on Friday.

The Salesians’ Bangalore province has denied the rumors of crucifixion.

The news about crucifixion came as a delegation from the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India (CBCI) was planning to meet India’s External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on March 28 to seek government help to release the 56-year-old priest.

Fr Uzhunnalil was abducted by the Islamic State militants on March 4 from a Missionaries of Charity center in Aden, southern Yemen. The priest

belonged to the Bangalore province of the Salesians.

Another WhatsApp message a week before Good Friday had indicated ISIS would crucify Fr Uzhunnalil on Good Friday, when Christians all over the world commemorated Jesus’s suffering and death on the cross.

Fr Uzhunnalil was taken by ISIS militants from a Missionaries of Charity center in Aden, Yemen, after gunning down 16 people, including four Mother Teresa nuns, who helped in a home for the elderly.

Global efforts to free the priest included attempts by the Vatican and the Federal Bureau of Investigation working with Church groups in the Persian Gulf region for the priest’s rescue. The Indian embassy officials in Djibouti, a North African nation, were also working hard to free Fr Uzhunnalil.

Courtesy: Matters India

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'Thought for the week'

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When 'cultural sensitivity' becomes 'cultural accommodation'

The decision by parts of the Catholic Church in India to differ with Pope Francis' decision to allow women to have their feet washed in the ceremony on Holy Thursday is puzzling to say the least.



BY FR MICHAEL KELLY

Their reason given is simple. The inclusion of women in a ceremony where a man (the celebrant) washes the feet of a woman as one of the 12 people who participate in the re-enactment of Jesus actions on the first Holy Thursday would offend against "cultural sensitivities."

Do these church leaders appreciate that this was just the point Jesus was making? He was precisely directing his action on a feature of behavior that offended the sensitivities of the people he was with.

Have they read the story of the Last Supper where the exact point that Jesus is making is that Christian leadership is the complete inversion of cultural practices in his time? Jesus found the "cultural sensitivities" offensive.

Peter is upset that Jesus should seek to upturn "the right order." And Jesus says to Peter in no uncertain terms that he doesn't understand the very message Jesus had been spending the whole time with him and the other disciples explaining.

Being a follower of Jesus is not about status, hierarchy, power, distinction of race or caste, or just about anything else as the culture of Jesus' time told everyone was important. It's about service and service to all, especially the lowliest and the marginal.

To invoke "cultural sensitivity" is really saying, "we're special in India and if you really want the Gospel to live among us, then you have to respect our customs and practices."

That of course was the clarion call of Vatican II and issued in endless studies and experiments in what went by the awkward word "inculturation," meaning the adaptation of church's ceremonies and liturgical celebrations, its catechesis, self-understanding and the lifestyle of its officials to local customs and practices.

That theme hasn't been very visible as a topic across Asia in the last 35 years. Centralism in decision making and administration, the concentration of power in the hands of male clerics and the Romanization of the church in style, clothing and sacramental practice has had all the emphasis.

(Contd.. on p. 4)

(Contd.. from p. 3)

And there's a point to this. Putting some boundaries around inculturation is needed because it can become the accommodation of the church's life, teaching and practice to whatever the prevailing and popular emphasis in a specific place is at a particular time.

But that cuts both ways of course. The Gospel can be domesticated and its edge completely blunted by the way in which Catholics take on the colors and behaviors of local non-Christian cultures. National churches in Southeast Asia take on the clericalism of Buddhism. Churches in East Asia adopt the hierarchies of importance that structure Confucian societies.

And in South Asia, the person and message of Jesus gets submerged in the practices and beliefs that owe more to the Hindu caste system than the freedom that Christian faith brings.

As a Westerner living in Asia but seeing a lot of many regions, it's a source of endless fascination to me just what Asian political and church leaders do to their own people that the loathed colonizers — including those in colonial churches — were justly condemned.

Even today, some leaders mindlessly impose military and economic structures that have their origins in Europe. Marxism in China and Vietnam are just a few examples.

Some countries are burdened with religiously authorized political regimes that have their origins in the Middle East. Malaysia and Pakistan, for example. And some countries endure military dictatorships that would make the Soviets blush — North Korea now and Myanmar until recently, for example.

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Sometimes until the mid-20th century, colonially authorized missionaries to places like China and India imposed their own cultures on locals and presumed that the same people were inferior unless they fully embraced and completely accommodated the "superior" European version.

One of the worst instances of this was effected by my own religious order in Thailand in the 17th century, a time about which Jesuits today are justly proud for the achievements of their forbears — Matteo Ricci in China and Roberto de Nobili in India.

Not so in Thailand. The first Jesuits came to what was then called Siam as agents of the French King Louis XIV, with one purpose: to be agents of the king of France, convert the local monarch and absorb the kingdom into the French colonial matrix.

No respect for locals by these early Jesuits at the court in Ayyuthaya, the capital of Siam. They had so absorbed the "superior" culture of France and considered themselves to be part of a superior type of Catholicism that they managed to distance themselves from the rest of the community, including other Catholic missionaries.

That's how culture can overwhelm the church and its message. And as often with the church, she herself becomes submerged in forms and titles, structures and behaviors that have been left behind by everyone else in the world — a monarchical leadership, the exclusion of women from positions of leadership and a blindness to the context where the Gospel is neutralized by the way the faith is lived.

The only message our contemporaries pick up is how presumptuous and ultimately irrelevant our faith is to their lives. It's just another ideology and another political structure.

There's only one antidote to that condition: the person and message of Jesus as conveyed to us in the Gospel. From that vantage point, it's very clear that a lot of what we are doing today — from bolstering hierarchies to excluding women even from the supreme celebration of the church as a community of service — has us way out of kilter.

Father Michael Kelly SJ is executive director of ucanews.com and based in Thailand.

Source: UCAN

Divine Mercy through Encounter and Forgiveness!

In his homily during the Chrism Mass (Maundy Thursday), 24 March, 2016, Pope Francis once again spoke on the 'Theme of Mercy'; especially of two areas in which the Lord shows "an excess of mercy"! (Brief extracts):

1. "Encounter: Here God gives Himself completely, and in such a way that every 'encounter' leads to a rejoicing! In the parable of the 'Merciful Father', we are astounded by the father who runs and throws his arms around his 'prodigal son' and embraces him (Luke 15:11-32). In contemplating with awe this superabundance of the father's joy that is freely and boundlessly expressed, we should not be fearful of exaggerating our gratitude; because mercy restores dignity to each person."
2. "Forgiveness: Here God does not only forgive incalculable debts, but He also enables us to move directly from the most shameful disgrace, to the highest dignity. The Lord allows the sinful women to bathe His feet with her tears (Luke 7:36-50). And as soon as Peter confesses his sinfulness, the Lord raises him to be a fisher of men (Luke 5:1-11). Our response to God's extravagant forgiveness should always be to preserve that healthy tension of a dignified shame, rather than a shamed dignity."

"In this Jubilee Year with 'Divine Mercy' revealed in the wounded flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, commit ourselves anew to bringing God's mercy through merciful works. And to find courage to ask the Lord to reveal more of His mercy — 'Show us Lord Your steadfast mercy' (Psalm 85:7)".

—Dr. Trevor Colaso,
Bandra (West)



' Address Environ- mental Concerns Effectively '

There is a saying which says do not fool around with the environment or mother nature will unleash her wrath on you.

Although Bombay has a dense population we must learn from other cities both in India and abroad when we or our politicians read about them or visit them about how to address the garbage and other environmental issues by using only tried and practical methods to solve these problems besides also making conscription compulsory to instill discipline and environmental education at all levels of the education system and ethics and etiquette courses and finishing courses for even better results.

Many more Deonar fires will reoccur till alternative disposal methods are introduced and manufacturers must recycle packagings and other forms of waste like electronic waste etc in an environmentally friendly manner or incinerate them but banning plastic totally is impractical as it is needed for packing airfreshners and other products and will also result in plastic being used on the sly besides creating a big black market for it.

Convert organic waste into compost and use it as an environmentally fertiliser or convert it into gobar gas which can be supplied through an underground piped gas system for cooking purposes and laboratory use- thus the city can have more trees and look and feel more natural.

The water shortage can be solved by rainwater harvesting, by manufacturing artificial water, by distilling sea-water, by inter-linking all sweet water rivers throughout India, by re-cycling polluted water through waste water re-cycling plants and by cloud seeding etc rather than depend on an un-

predictable and unreliable monsoon.

Cut air pollution by using hybrid vehicles that use solar power with a back up battery system or hydrogen as a fuel and encourage a very good and modern public transport system as back up system by making all public buses and trains airconditioned as is done in other countries to encourage them to use them more often rather than cheat people by unnecessary charging more for good and comfortable transport services which are our rights.

Excellent toilets can become a reality through a very good education in hygiene and by promoting western style toilets along with Indian style toilets as the latter can never be kept clean and also introduce chemical disposal methods and automatic flushing systems but do ensure that they are well maintained by an efficient and honest staff.

Regarding noise pollution it can be curbed when fireworks are burst at only fixed locations in the city and sound proof glass is enclosed in concrete and placed on either side of roads, highways, flyovers, underpasses etc and even at airports.

Regarding flooding of railways and roads a very good water pumping system is necessary.

Whenever fines are to be imposed as a penalty for the abuse of the environment the fine must be used for a good purpose instead of being wasted.

Last but not the least do lend a ear and protect the fauna and flora as there is much we can learn from them besides the fact that they share the environment.

Thus we see that environmental protection is a very vast and vital field which must be given the utmost priority for a better and more enjoyable and pleasant life.

—Peter Castellino

Many Mass Medias of the Pope

Pope Francis has set a sort of records in his 'mass media' contacts and popularity!

1. Twitter: His hashtag @Pontifex has some 30 million followers. He sent his first 'tweet' on 17 March, 2013: "Dear friends, I thank you from my heart, and I ask you to pray for me."
2. Instagram: This photo-cum-video sharing platform with over 400 million users, has the Pope on 19 March, 2016, kneeling down praying on his third anniversary as Pope: "I want to walk with you along the way of God's mercy and tenderness." Under the name @Franciscus, photos from the Vatican daily, L' Osservatore Romano will be posted, as well as brief videos, showing aspects of his intimacy which Pope Francis lives every day. Because he visualizes, the power of images unites people across different cultures and languages.
3. "Dear Pope Francis": He inscribed the first copy of this book and donated it to the Vatican's Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, along with the publisher who gifted 500 copies. It contains answers to questions sent by 'children around the world'. A 7-year-old, William Marken, a cancer victim from Chicago, in his letter asked the Pontiff: "Dear Pope Francis, if you could do one miracle, what could it be?" The Pope replied, "I would heal every child."
4. Harvard's World Model United Nations: on 17 March, 2016, Pope Francis awakened delegates to the fact that the world's problems always have a human face; and concluded by reminding his audience to the commitment of the Catholic Church to those most in need. They must take Jesus as their Model of service. And if I may pointedly reveal Jesus! "Just as you did it to the least of these members of my family, you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40).

—Dr. Trevor Colaso, Bandra

Easy to remember lyrics instead of lessons

Do we all know that remembering lyrics of songs are easier than our lessons? The brain retains rhyming patterns, rhythm and melody with ease. On the other hand, prose and dry facts do not capture our interest nor remain in our memory unless we put in a lot of effort. We all enjoy learning the lyrics of a song because as we are doing so, we at once connect it — the magic of the background music and the sound of the instruments. Unfortunately, our academic lessons do not have such delightful connections to make them easy to learn and remember.

—Jubel D'Cruz,
Dombivili, Mumbai

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Inauguration Of “Clean Water Project”

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Navjeet Community Health Center, an outreach of the Bandra Holy Family Hospital Society, empowers the poor and the needy since 1978. Over the last 35 years, Navjeet has worked primarily in the Mumbai slums and lately, with the primitive tribals of Shahapur Taluka for the last 9 years, in its quest to equal the playing field for the lesser privileged, through initiatives in health, education, women empowerment, community and village development programmes. With the support of the tribals, Navjeet has also been doing its part to try to restore the environment through Environmental Awareness, and undertake activities like agro-forestry, soil and water conservation, sustainable agriculture development, watershed management, provide support for implementation of new renewable energy sources and related economic and employment activities.

It has been observed for quite some time now, that the tribals of Shahapur whose main occupation is farming and who depend on water for drinking and livelihood purpose have been facing acute shortage of the same due to scanty rainfall, and wells drying up by early February. Some of them have to travel as far as 3 kms to fetch water, and the women spend most part of the day in fetching water and firewood.

The need for borewells in these areas was felt, and Operation Blessing India, located in Secunderabad, Telangana have been kind enough to partner with Navjeet right from August 2015 by first surveying the place, taking active initiation in the planning, selection of sites, financial assistance upto final commissioning in this project.

With the help of their staff Frederick,

Timothy and Suman, the drilling work started in January 2016 and we have been successful in drilling 23 borewells (of which dedication done for 20 nos) in Awale, Shirol, Dahigaon, Tembha and Mokhwane (Kasara) Grampanchayats in Shahapur. The efforts of OBI in assisting Navjeet and the concerned villagers of Shahapur with the drilling work, construction of the platform, and excellent training and demonstration on installation of handpump and the kit given by OBI to 2 youth - Dinesh Hubale and Lahanu Bendkoli were commendable.

An inauguration ceremony was held on 18th, 19th and 20th March 2016 in the above villages which began at 8 am with invoking God's blessings and love, and reading of various passages from the Bible. Present at the inauguration ceremony were Fr John-son from Asangaon, the team from OBI Frederick, Timothy and Suman, Sr Bindhu, Director of Navjeet Community Health Centre and the tribals of Shahpur.

Conserving the environment is our social responsibility and the need of the hour, and as part of our mission to grow the Earth's canopy, the team from OBI alongwith Sr Bindhu planted 4 jambul trees in Ambyachapada where the programme ended with a small concluding ceremony with the local Gavdevi Yuva Mandal. In doing so many benefits can accrue such as combating climate change, conserving energy and creating economic opportunities. 2 biogas plants were also inaugurated there by Sr Bindhu.

The Vote of Thanks was proposed by our staff Mr Madhav Waghmare.

The success of this project will go a long way in providing water for all the villagers which can make a remarkable difference in so many lives.

Childless-ness - a Call to service with greater Christian zeal...



by Adv. Aileen Marques

Family in all its derivations and meanings is said to mean a collective of a man who is the father, the woman who is the mother and their children. All family days celebrated in the Church and in the world at large, celebrate this entity known as a family. The prayers are generally aimed at parents and children. That makes me wonder... where do the childless fit in this concept of family!

Recalling the nuptial rite, I remember being asked "Will you accept children lovingly from God and bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?" I realise that children are gifts from God and a couple is called to receive this gift when God the Father gives this gift to us.

Hence, just because we have not yet received this gift of children, does that disqualify us from being considered family? Just because we do not have children, should we be denied basic human dignity?

As a promoter of human rights, I agree that bearing children is the right of every woman but as a Christian, I believe that children are God's gifts and a couple may or may not receive these gifts in accordance to God's plan and will. A Christian is taught to surrender to God's Will and Plan. But when it comes to children, God's will and Plan is conveniently forgotten and people get judgmental; they say it's a curse that you don't have a child, they say you are a sinner so God didn't bless you with a child and so on and so forth. The Christian couple and especially the woman is made to feel terrible and considered as damned.

As a childless woman myself, I encounter many who belittle me, ridicule

me and mock me. I tell them "I have surrendered to God's plan and Will for me and my marriage". I live in Hope.

At a session I attended which dealt with the Holy Father's Bull of Indiction on the Year of Mercy; we reflected on five symbols presented by Pope Francis for reflection. I couldn't help but connect the same (indicated in bold) to the given situation.

It is important that we do not allow such



degrading words by people to create walls within us and between ourselves and our spouses. Very often, the ridicule and negativity created lead to disagreements between the couple even leading to unnecessary fights. Some couples avoid the church and associated activities due to embarrassment and thus create walls between themselves and the church. Some couples avoid social gatherings and thereby create walls between themselves and friends. Isolation is the only result of all these walls.

Break these walls and build bridges. Bridge your relationship with your spouse, let your childlessness not affect this relationship. As a couple living according to God's plan, you can serve God with greater zeal and enthusiasm, look at the positive side of life. Look at how you can reach out to many more and so consciously build

bridges, reaching out to the community, the parish, the vulnerable, the marginalised and the unwanted. Get going... While you live in hope, serve the Lord with greater love.

Some suggestions for us:

First of all... stop calling yourself childless. Only because you do not have a biological child does not make you childless. There are millions of children in this world, who need you, reach out to them, I'm sure you will not feel childless anymore. God created you in His own image and likeness, love yourself.

Secondly, remember that you are family as per God's plan. The CCC (2203) states that "In creating man and woman, God instituted the human family and endowed it with its fundamental constitution. Its members are persons equal in dignity. For the common good of its members and of society, the family necessarily has manifold responsibilities, rights, and duties". So remember you are a family and you have many responsibilities, rights and duties and you are called to be a wellspring of God's love to all around you.

Thirdly, reach out to couples like you. The CCC (2204 and 2205) says that our family is a domestic church. It is a community of faith, hope, and charity; it assumes singular importance in the Church, as is evident in the New Testament. The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. The Chris-

(Contd.. on p. 10)

A Tribute : Rev. Fr. Edward J. D'Souza

As a Parishioner of Our Lady of Salvation Church, Dadar. I was deeply saddened at the news of the demise of Rev. Fr. Edward J. D'Souza the Parish Priest, St. John the Evangelist, Marol who rendered holy service for 43 years of his Priestly life in various parishes.

Rev. Fr. Edward as a loving priest and of great encouragement to all who approached him. As a perfect example of a true christian, the richness and fullness of Christ was embodied in his personality, soft spoken and humble to the core which excuded fullness of spirituality. Many will carry loving memories of him.

He was a true of God's choice. His hardwork his self sacrifice his generosity during his ministry in various parishes will not go unrewarded he did full justice to his vocation as a priest till the end of his last breath.

"Oh Happy Soul be thankful now and rest
Heaven is a godly land
And God is love, and those he loves are Blest."

May God Bless him every Heavenly Blessings which he richly deserves and grant him eternal peace and joy.

—JOHN ANDREW LOBO

A Unique Achievement!...

It was hearting to know, and it gladdened my mind, that The Secular Citizen, the National Family Weekly from Mumbai was accorded the ICPA (Indian Catholic Press Association) Award of Honor, for its special recognition / meritorious service – for completing 25 years of Journalism. It was given at an Award and Felicitation function during the 21st National Convention of Christian Journalists held at Ishvani Kendra, Pune, on March 12, 2016. This was also reported in the 'News National' of The Examiner, March 19-25, 2016. Congratulations for this 'Unique Achievement', for which I am inspired to write a 'Poem' on the acronym –

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T – (T)rophy of a Journalism par excellence
H – (H)and of the Almighty for true appliance
E – (E)xample for politicians for apt governance

S – (S)ecularism at its eminently best
E – (E)xpression of truth at its very crest
C – (C)ornerstone its foundation to cherish
U – (U)nique magazine for readers to relish
L – (L)amp for our journey to march onward
A – (A)rt and culture to enrich us forward
R – (R)efreshment and hope is always offered

C – (C)itizen of every city, town and village
I – (I)ntimacy to build a real Bharat heritage
T – (T)rust in JESUS for a 'Divine Mercy' within
I – (I)ntestment for clean politics to now begin
Z – (Z)one for genuine 'Inspiration' at prosperity
E – (E)ntrance for healthy virtues of integrity
N – (N)est to hatch authentic eggs of sincerity.

Conclusion: Let me conclude with some Biblical verses as a 'Divine Mercy' gift for the "good works" of 'The Secular Citizen'; and especially for the continued goodwill and health of its "citizens", the Editor and the Staff.

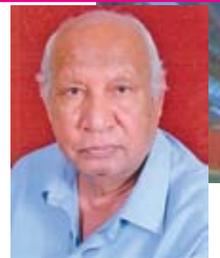
On Secular Humanism: "For we are what GOD made us, created in CHRIST JESUS for 'good works' which GOD has prepared beforehand to be our way of life" (Ephesians 2:10).

On Citizen: "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are 'citizens' with the saints and also members of the household of GOD, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with CHRIST JESUS Himself as the Cornerstone" (Ephesians 2:19-20).

—Dr. Trevor Colaso, Bandra, Mumbai

Are We Indians Fit For Democracy?

Ever since we became independent, we have proved before us and before the entire world that we, Indians are absolutely unfit for democracy. We are not fit for that system of government. Bitter as it may sound, but it is the only truth. Our kids are taught that democracy to succeed, the people have to be educated. And in these last 67 years we have amply proved that we are a bunch of uneducated lot ! Many of my readers may not like this, but then, they should come and witness now our elected representatives behave in the highest temple of democracy - the parliament. Shouts and counter - shouts, deafening slogan shouting, jeering, mocking and grossly misbehaving because you are on the treasury benches.... Witness the proceedings or both the Houses and you will lose your faith in democracy.... I Was often asked by foreign journalists and students : 'It is surprising that democracy survives in India...



by Ignatius Dabhi
Sr. Journalist

House. But our members have specialized in hooliganism, slogan-shouting and belittling each other. The present

prime Minister, although present in Delhi, often prefers to be absent from the proceedings of the Houses. If present in the House, he leaves no opportunity to lash at the Nehru-Gandhi families... Why is he so sensitive and touchy about Rahul-Sonia?

March 7th, 2016, Time is 11a.m and we are in the press Gallery of Rajya Sabha... The Speaker is uneasy in his hot chair... The entire opposition is on his feet... the issue is Smriti Irani ! The ruling BJP - allies are happy or restless ! In the melee, it was impossible to hear anything.... This goes on for hours and hours. The Speaker adjourns and House once, twice, thrice... If you carefully see, most of the benches are empty. More than 3/4th of the Members of Rajya Sabha are absent... The Speaker fails to control congress Members... The climax of the drama continues... We see the power-drunk BJP Members and helpless opposition Members... The scene in the Lok Sabha was none the better.

The U.S. Senate and the British parliament often witness the angry exchanges between members in the

Every ruling party member has learnt the scams done by Congress ! Often it is free for all ! There are skeletons in every cupboard. Some and corruptions amounting thousands of crores of rupees. Everything was corrupt. Mr. Shashi Tharoor on Saturday, March 10th said in the Parliament : 'Modi talks of "man ki baat", Arun Jaitely talks of "dhan ki baat" and unhappily nobody talks of "jan ki baath". Rightly so, the ordinary man is totally forgotten in our parliament. His unquenched hunger, his unending quest for food and work, his relentless struggle to survive are totally forgotten in our parliament. He is heard by no one and he is cared by no one. Our parliament has become a battle-ground for the power-hungry politicians where the cries of common man is unheard. Had Congress cared enough, the present government would not have been here and if the modi government fails the poor, the hungry and the marginalized, our experiment with democracy should end...

Look At These Disturbing Facts

- 1. Elections** : The success of democracy depends on elections. Candidates are selected on caste and creed basis by all parties. This creates friction and frictions in our societies.
- 2. Fair n Free Election** : Elections in our country have never been fair and free. Man-power, money-power and muscle-power play a vital role in our elections.
- 3. Role of Election Commission** : E.C. has always been under the pressure of the ruling party. Recently Gujarat High Court had to issue a notice to Gujarat E.C. not to be a party' to the BJP government !
- 4. Elected candidates are faithful** to their party, in fact they should be faithful to the people at large. After elected, every member conveniently forgets the people ! Study your elected candidate's days of presence in the House. Most of the film-actors never attend the Parliament.
- 5. Once in power**, study the income growth of your candidate. Politics in India is a prosperous business!

Citizens Join Ganga Cleaning



KANPUR (21st March): Any talk of cleaning the Ganga at Kanpur brings a sneer on the face of the listener. For the last 20 years there have been several attempts by the Japanese and Dutch Govts, as also our own, to clean up the Ganga in the 12 kms stretch that touches the city. But all in vain.

Yet hope springs eternal in the human breast. When the District administration mooted the idea of a special drive on 21st March the Kanpur Nagrik Manch (KNM) readily agreed to co-operate. It offered to clean the Satichauraha Ghat in the Cantonment area. It gathered together a team of 50 volunteers from likeminded organizations, including 25 local women and youth led by Elizabeth Singh. Prominent KNM members who participated were Chhotebhai Noronha, Suresh Gupta, Madanlal Bhatia, Jagdambabhai and Athar Naeem. Two loaders full of solid waste were collected and removed by the Nagar Nigam sanitation workers.

Addressing the volunteers Padamshree Dr Giriraj Kishore said that the Ganga was the backbone and lifeline of both the agrarian and urban area through which it flowed. It needed to be respected and nurtured. The KNM provided the volunteers with rubber latex gloves for picking up the rubbish, especially plastic in all forms, despite

the ban declared by the State Govt 2 months ago. A lack of implements like spades and shovels hampered the work, as also no proper equipment to transport the solid waste to the loaders that were stationed about 100 metres away. Among those, other than the KNM members, that actively participated in the cleanliness drive were Swapan Bagchi and D.D. Pal of the Krishnanagar Nagrik Samiti, Emmanuel Premchand and C. Kujur of the Kanpur Catholic Association, Swami Amodanand from the Mahila Bal Kalyan Parivar, Seema Pande from Shramik Bhartri and Manoj Sengar of the Vishwa Gayatri Parivar.

As a result of the drive the local women have decided to form a Mohalla Samiti. They have two specific demands – that the Cantonment Board allow them to construct a sewer line in the area, to curb open defecation, and to reopen the water channel upstream that has been obstructed due to the construction of the new bridge at Gola Ghat.

The KNM members assured the local residents that they would take up their cause with the concerned authorities. The drive at Satichauraha was monitored by Sri Bhanu Pratap Shukla, ACM II, and Sri R.C. Gangwar, Zonal Sanitary Officer.

**Chhotebhai Noronha
Suresh Gupta**

(Contd.. from p. 7)

tian family has an evangelizing and missionary task. You are called to be an oasis where couples hoping for a child, will find recognition and comfort in you.

Fourthly, be a balm of mercy and love. The CCC (2208) invites families to live in such a way that its members learn to care and take responsibility for the young, the old, the sick, the handicapped, and the poor, to visit orphans and widows, to reach out to those in prisons and to those in need. As a couple, the balm of mercy and love that you provide will surely bring an outpouring of God's love to others in need.

Don't look down upon yourself 'coz you are childless. Look up, 'coz you are God's Creation; created in His likeness and image to "reach out" with greater Christian zeal. Recognise the wellspring in you of immense blessings and resources to be shared with others and feel blessed to belong to the Christian family- a community of faith, hope and charity.

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Perverse Nationalism

In the last few months nomenclatures like nationalist, nationalism, sedition, traitor, patriot, patriotism etc have been used rather generously and irresponsibly. Never before such terms have been exploited for narrow political gains by parties across the board and the so called guardians of nationalism who have arrogated to themselves the right to decide who is a patriot and who is not. The fringe elements, with nothing better to do, have been manufacturing reasons to bring about a divide of sorts amongst the otherwise peace loving society. The last two years of NDA rule has given these elements a tacit cover to enforce their views on the nation and in the process try and corner the minorities into believing that they have to prove their patriotism.

The RSS and its various arms and off-shoots are behaving like headmasters in municipal schools and anything they say or demand has to be done. While the BJP does not start the fire, they are always there to defend the fringe elements and this is what is emboldening these people. The party favours hoisting flags in colleges etc but they have never demanded that the national flag be hoisted in Nagpur. It is ironical that the organization which did not actively support the freedom movement should preach patriotism now. Where was nationalism then? Who conferred the nationalist tag on them and when?

A. Owaisi was downright wrong in saying what he did. The BJP rightly said nobody actually held a knife on his throat. By the way, Najma Heptullah said that even if someone holds a gun at her head she would still say 'Bharat Mata ki Jai'. Who was pointing a gun at her? The BJP did not find it odd but that is politics. Expelling MIM MLA from the Maharashtra Assembly was undoubtedly wrong. That was stretching things too far. It would be nice if the huge RSS cadre descends on Kashmir and make the people there shout 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' or 'Vande Mataram'. Will the BJP MLAs shout these slogans in the Kashmir assembly? Will they move a resolution that all legislators there should say 'Bharat Mata ki Jai'? That will test the nationalism of PDP as well. If J&K is an integral part of the country, which we like to repeat ad nauseam, then why not? Else admit publicly that there is a dispute over

VIEWS on NEWS

Kashmir. Let us hear it from the BJP.

Somebody shouting Azadi is not sedition. Somebody disputing death sentence to Afzal Guru, though undesirable, also is not sedition. On Pakistan National Day, Asiya Andrabi of Dukhtaran-e-Milat hoisted Pak flags in Kashmir / sang Pak national anthem. This undoubtedly is sedition but the BJP is quiet for they cannot take them on. Helpless! They want to look the other way at this odious provocation. They prefer to hound the softer targets like Kanhaiya to divert public attention. Will the BJP make Andrabi's arrest and prosecution for sedition a precondition to join the coalition government in Kashmir? They can offer outside support .

Commissions of inquiry

We have been reading from time to time that numerous Commissions of Inquiry are instituted for various reasons. The intentions behind such inquiries are always noble and well meaning at least so they say. Most of these inquiries are announced under the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952 which spells out the parameters. This Act is based on the English Tribunals of Inquiry [Evidence] Act of 1921 though certain norms are modified to suit the Indian Federal set-up. The Centre can suo moto set up an inquiry on matters relating to the schedules I, II or III while the State can do so in respect of subjects falling under II and III only. Where the issue is common, either the Centre or a State can act. But once either one sets up an inquiry, the other cannot set up another inquiry for the same matter. Of course the Centre can still do so under certain conditions.

Unlike in the British system, if a resolution is passed by the Lower House asking for Commission of Inquiry, the government has no option but to set up such a Commission. Setting up such an inquiry, ensures that unfounded rumours are scorched and the real guilty ones are exposed to face the rule of law. More often than not, governments set up such Commissions for a variety of reasons. Sometimes, there is too much of pressure from the public and the opposition. Tempers run high and to get out of such situations, the government sets up a Commission which takes a long time to give its findings. This way, the government can get out of a tricky



by Marshall Sequeira

situations saying the matter is being looked into by the Commission set up for the purpose. It can be misused as well to settle scores with the opposition. So there is a good side and a not so good side.

These Commissions are set up to ascertain the facts – inquisitorial rather than accusatorial in nature. Such Commissions are headed by either a sitting judge or a retired judge. If we go by the experience over the years, reports by sitting judges are considered unbiased and the findings are generally accepted across the board. Unfortunately, this cannot be said in case of findings by a retired judge. More often than not, the findings are on expected lines – 'exonerating the government in power'. This makes a mockery of the system. Only recently, the Bhagalpur riots in UP were inquired into by the Commission set up by the government but no blame is apportioned to them. Similarly, the Delhi government set up an inquiry into the JNU episode and the findings were not very convincing. The opposition parties have criticized the findings.

Considering the futility of Commissions by persons other than the sitting judges of the judiciary, it is time the law is revisited to make it compulsory only for sitting judges to head such Commissions of inquiry. At least there will be credibility to their findings and both sides of political divide will by and large be satisfied that the inquiry was fair and unbiased. Of course the already stretched judiciary will be stretched further. For this all existing vacancies in all courts should be filled up expeditiously. If necessary, the sanctioned strength could be increased which will affect the exchequer but, anyway we are wasting huge amounts. Unpleasant findings are shoved under the carpet which defeats the very purpose. It must be made incumbent to publish the findings say within three months. That would be fair.

How To Save Your Failing Marriage?



Everyone is talking on their own but not listening to their better half. At this juncture, it is only the mutual understanding and trust that can save you from breaking up. Here's more

Today, people are getting so restless. Work pressure, career, fast lifestyle, etc, all make them always get stressed out in life. The husband doesn't have time to listen to his wife and vice versa. In such situations it becomes a must to save your marriage. Here are a few tips to save your marriage.



Communicate well: When was the last time you had dinner together and talked your heart out as you did in your initial days of marriage? Don't let the silence of your dining table enter into your married life. A Whatsapp kissing emoji in between works can break the ice.

Arrange dates: You must have forgotten when you two dated. You attend parties together but not a night of togetherness. Plan a date night and make it compulsory at every week. Don't change the plan un-

til it is really required. This will make your spouse realize how important he/she is to you.

Do things together: Do you really want to save your marriage? Then share your spouse's interest and join him or her for doing so. Maybe your husband loves gardening. Give hands to help him. Why not surprise your wife by cooking something?

She won't feel the taste; she'll only feel your heart.

Complement each other: This is one of the most important among few things that can save a failing marriage. Complement your wife by

saying how beautiful she is looking today. Write something it is the old wine that tastes the best. Anything written can melt your spouse's heart easily. Just write ' I Love you' and present the card with a rose to your wife. See the magic.

Remind old memories: Are you looking for few things that can save a failing marriage? Walk down memory lane and relive your old days once again. How you shared one ice cream; how you walk down the rain; how you laughed without reason. Turn over the yellow pages of albums.

Prayer For Troubled Marriage

O St. Rita, Make us understand that a vocation is not only a matter of attraction.



Enable us to see clearly that it is also a matter of finding, in ordinary events, God's will for us and then accepting it even if it seems to be baffling and contrary to our wishes.

Teach those called to the marriage state by the Lord to reflect deeply on the delicate choice that will influence their destiny.

Let them not be deceived by their feelings; instead, let them look for the solid qualities that keep a home united in the joy of the Lord.

Teach unhappy spouses the power of patience and mildness. Let them not give way to discouragement but, like you, let them save both the happiness of their home and the soul of their spouse.

O St. Rita, we pray this Prayer for Troubled Marriage through your name and in the name of Jesus Christ, - AMEN

Marriage relationship suffers due to:

Infidelity
Broken Trust
Emotional Neglect
Addictive Behaviors
Emotional Abuse
the Brink of Divorce

Boredom
Separation
A Stubborn Spouse
Emotional Infidelity
Silent Treatments
No Sex

Poor Communication
No Affection
Lack of Appreciation
Midlife Crisis

Steps to Fix a Broken Marriage on Brink of Divorce

I made it clear to Chuck that I was not an attorney, and would not offer legal advice. However, I had a few thoughts about how to do everything in his power to save his marriage. Filing for a divorce, in the face of his wife's threats, would probably not help his cause.

In a climate where divorce is common, and marriages stand only a 50/50 chance of survival, many find themselves in an adversarial mode even before reaching divorce court. By the time one mate leaves the home, the adversarial fires are often burning very hot, often propelling the marriage into Divorce Court. The very adversarial, combative atmosphere that may have led to the separation is the one that can put the final nail in the marital coffin.

But, things don't need to be this way. Here are seven steps I encouraged Chuck to take on how to fix a marriage headed for divorce—none of them easy, and none guaranteed to solve all his marriage problems. All, however, could enhance the possibility of saving his marriage.

First, don't panic.

Anxiety rarely helps us think clearly. Often, when feeling anxious, we react instead of respond thoughtfully. Our best decisions occur after rest, Godly counsel, and reflection. The wisest man on Earth said, "When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider; God has made the one as well as the other." (Ecclesiastes 7:14)

Second, do nothing to harm or injure your mate.

While things don't look good, sometimes the best action is no action. Stop doing the things that aggravate the situation. Cancel the appointment with the attorney. Don't do anything that places you in an adversarial role with your mate. Stop doing those things you know irritate your mate.



Stopping the hemorrhage saves many lives. Make the decision to do no harm.

Third, listen to your mate.

Your wife left because of things you've been doing that hurt her. It is unlikely she came to this decision easily. What has your mate been trying to get across to you? What changes is she desperate for? Seek opportunities to listen to her. Even if you don't have a formal conversation with her, I suspect there are subtle ways she makes her message known. Listen carefully. Make a list of those things she needs

Try This

Every marriage goes through periods of highs and lows. It just the natural progression of things to have times when it is hot and spicy and other times when things are bland and boring. The key is to learn to keep things in balance and find ways to keep things exciting before your relationship disintegrates completely. If you have found yourself drifting apart from your spouse, try this to save a failing marriage.

Start Talking

One of the main reasons couples find themselves drifting apart is the lack of communication. Even on the busiest days, you need to take time to talk and connect verbally. Talk about your day, your dreams, your plans, or just the weather. Just start talking!

Serve Each Other

Small acts of service go a long way in making your marriage stronger. Look for everyday opportunities to serve each other.

to set out to make the necessary changes.

Fourth, meet your mate at their point of need.

Consider what your mate needs. Some of the things she may be making perfectly clear to you, such as a need for space. Some of her needs may be unspoken, and you'll need to figure those out for yourself. Perhaps she has a need for respect. Give it to her, even in the midst of being separated. Perhaps she has a need to be valued and treasured. Give it to her, in small but significant ways.

Fifth, become the best version of yourself you can be.

This tragedy is an opportunity for you to remember why your wife fell in love with you. What are the characteristics that made you irresistible twenty years ago? Reflect and resurrect those old qualities. It's time to again become daring, adventurous, caring and charming. These qualities won her heart once before; they may do so again.

Sixth, be patient.

Even though you are separated, and fear you will never get a chance to prove you are different, that is not the case. You will have ample opportunities—perhaps in small ways—to show her you are dedicated to change. Letting her know you will wait, and are dedicated to a change process, can be powerfully attracting. Show her, over time, that you are committed to change.

Finally, commit everything to prayer.

The Scripture is clear: "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain." (Psalms 127:1) You must seek the Lord's guidance and follow his lead. Prayer is your pathway to peace. Prayer not only can change her heart, but yours. Then you can feel the peace of God in your heart and life.

Right Age To Get Married

There is no right age to get married. Whether you are young and starry-eyed or mature and wise, it brings two souls together and it cannot work unless you are ready for adjustments

Young, immature and married. Is it the combination for disaster? No, not necessarily. On the other hand, being older and wiser is not guaranteed that you will live happily ever after either. So, what is the perfect age for marriage? There is no specific answer - it differs from person to person

Age matters

In your 20s: The younger you are, the easier it is to adjust to new situations. You are more open to learning new things and accepting people in your life. And marriage is all about adjustment. It is hard enough for two individuals to adjust to a new life together and wish the added pressure of living with the in-laws, it can be a Herculean task. This is where age can come to your rescue.

In your 30s: If your 20s change you, your 30s define you. When you are 30, you are more likely to be set in your ways. You are sure of who you are and what you want, which is a very big advantage.

Financial affairs

In your 20s. Money issues can test even a rock-solid marriage. And when you are in your 20s, still finding your feet career-wise, having to take care of a family can be taxing. But, this can be handled with careful planning. With age on your side, you and your partner can set financial goals and chart a course to achieve them.

In your 30s: By our 30s, most of us have completed our education and put in a couple of years in our careers. With a stable income in place, it is far easier to envision the future. With marriage comes the huge responsibility of caring for another person. And financial security is a must if you want to plan a family. Besides,



The legal age for men and women to marry in India may be 21 and 18 respectively, but not many people seem to be using that as a yardstick anymore. So, a man of 26 marrying a girl of 23 or a man of 28 marrying a girl aged 25 seems like the ideal thing to do. This will give them at least a couple of years of time together after marriage, before they think of starting a family. Marrying at a higher age may result in fewer choices available in the society, more over expectation too increases from both sides as age advances.

in today's world, ridden with debts, recession and lay-offs, being financially secure is particularly crucial. And this is possible only in the 30s.

Pick and choose

In your 20s: With Indian society

predisposed to arranging marriages for those in their 20s, there is a huge option for people on the lookout for prospective grooms or brides in their 20s. Whether it is matrimonial sites or your local pandit, chances are you will find a plethora of options to choose from. Also, with a huge number of your classmates and friends from your age-group settling down in their 20s, you will have people to hang out with and discuss life with, if you too settle in your 20s.

In your 30s: The longer you wait, the more difficult it gets. This is especially true, if you are trying to get married via the arranged marriage route. A lot of things have to match when it comes to arranged marriage, from the family background and caste, to horoscope and finance. And it is difficult to find a suitable match if you add the criteria of age to this.

Why is it important to marry?

- When a person starts ageing, he needs support, something he cannot do alone.
- It's must for further generation. If mango tree stops growing new trees, one can make out result.
- It helps us to transmit our values from one generation to another and influences the way we interact with the natural environment. It teaches us how to see ourselves in light of the universe and gives purpose and meaning to life.
- No doubt one can live without marriage but it would not make a complete person.

PAUSE.....

by Rtn. Edwin JF DSouza

There is a general feeling that philosophy is not everyone's cup of tea. Many think that philosophers are brooding grouches who stare through rimless glasses and mumble every word they utter. They bury their heads in bulky books, scorn at everything around them.

But surprisingly, this is not true.

It wouldn't be an overstatement if I say that we human beings are philosophers throughout of lives.

Have you not paused at one time or the other during the day to ask that simple question "why?" And when you did not get a satisfactory answer, have you stopped or proceeded to probe and pry?

If you have thrown up your arms in desperation, I do not know how you could be classified (pessimist, cynic) but if you have proceeded to probe, then you are an undeclared philosopher, at least for yourself.

Hence, I have titled this series of writings as "pause."

There is a built in pause facility in us which we usually ignore due to the pace at which we lead our lives. This facility warns us many a times, pause, take it easy, slow down.

It is a fact that the modern day education has stopped us and our generation from learning in life. Every year our educational institutions churn out thousands of graduates, post-graduates in almost all the educational disciplines existing in this world. A career guidance specialist once told me that he has in his index about 140 different courses of study. The students just have to pass an aptitude test and then select a course of study from his index.



Sounds fine and systematized. But there are, at home, specialists par excellence existing and dominating. The parents! They have only one benchmark (call it an aptitude test) to decide their ward's career: What is my neighbor's, relative's, brother's, sister's ward doing? Ah, this, this and this. My ward should be one-up. And so, one is pushed in to be a doctor, an engineer, an IT specialist and so on and so forth.

It is estimated that by the time a non-merit-seat candidate finishes his MD a cool 50 lacs would have gone down. The merit-seat chap does not lag very much behind in the listing of expenditure as the colleges now have an allocation of less number of merit-seats than before.

And when our doctor comes out of the college with an MD, he will have to use the stethoscope first on himself to check his heartbeat rate. Over the past five years, I have seen near my place of residence, five MDs open up clinics and close them down within a year. No patients!

In the same tune, I have heard some doctors/engineers/professionals who couldn't make it say that they were forced into these lines. Perhaps they would have become successful writers (like A.J.Cronin, Robin Cook who are doctors by profession) or artistes, painters, musicians.

However, for such of these there is no

"pause" switch in there lives. It could be frustration all through the remainder of there living.

I met a very well placed young man in the IT sector; of course, he is the man cut for this line and his success shows. Said he, all of a sudden. "Edwin, in another 15 to 20 years down the line, the most paying and most in demand profession will be that of a counselor!"

"How so?" I asked him.

"In some highly industrialized and polluted countries, there are oxygen cafés," he said. "Whenever you need a breath of pure fresh air, you walk into these cafés and take whiffs of pure oxygen for a few minutes. Days will soon come that our minds will need a pause button and we will run to a counselor and beg him to show us a couch to lie down and pour heart and soul to him. This will be a short break of about 10 to 15 minutes but will be an expensive one!"

If this is the shape of the things to come, then it is really frightening. We must admit that the writing is already on the wall. Look at the way our students are cramming down stuff for exams and CET ratings; their day starts with tuitions and ends with tuitions; soon, they will not understand the meaning of the words "childhood" and "youth" and even if they have a "pause" button, they will have no time to press it.

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It is a system of computerised book-entry of securities. This arrangement enables a transfer of shares through a mere book-entry rather than the physical movement of certificates. A depository performs the functions of holding, transferring and allowing withdrawal of securities through its agents (depository participants). The system of maintaining ownership records in the form of electronic holdings will help to eliminate problems that are associated with physical certificates such as fake or torn certificates and loss in transit.

Benefits of Watching Cartoons



Believe it or not there is a health benefit to watching cartoons. Cartoons make us laugh and laughing produce endorphin which makes us feel better physically and mentally. Watching your favourite is good to unwind from hard work or you just need to relieve some stress. Studies have proven that adults, who watch cartoons have lower percentage risk of succumbing to stress-related diseases such as heart attack since cartoons are humorous and could be a remedy for stress. Adults who love watching cartoons have a healthy rapport with kids and are in a better position of understanding them hence solve their problems effectively. Apart from these, cartoons can also be a good activity for passing time instead of idling out which of course makes your mind a workshop for the devil as they say.

Knowledge



Page

Soa Loaves

Soap makers often sell handcrafted soap in one of two ways: as individual bars or soap loaves. The loaves are sold wholesale to individuals who want to cut the bars and package them for resale under a private label. Some consumers also enjoy cutting their own soap and prefer buying entire soap loaves to cut themselves. A soap loaf is bulk soap that is often sold by the weight. The soap is made by the soap maker and cured and sold as a rectangular block using a variety of scents, oils and ingredients.

Latte Frother



A latte frother is a device for creating foam or froth for drinks. They are usually found as a built-in accessory to espresso machines or as a handheld device for easy use. Some also can pump steam into the liquid, heating it to perfection while it creates dense and fluffy foam. On an espresso machine, you will often find a frother as a wand that sticks out from the machine at an angle. It usually has a removable rubber tip and is controlled by a dial or switch.

What is a Server Migration?

Server migration is a process in which data is moved from one server to another. Data may be moved between servers for security reasons, because equipment is being replaced and for any number of other reasons. This process is often performed by a team of specialists who work specifically with servers, although it is also possible for people with some computer skills to migrate their own data between servers. During the migration process, data may be temporarily inaccessible.

All About KYC

Know your customer (KYC) is the process of a business verifying the identity of its clients. The term is also used to refer to the bank regulation which governs these activities. Know your customer processes are also employed by companies of all sizes for the purpose of ensuring their proposed agents', consultants or distributors anti-bribery compliant. Banks, insurers and export credit agencies are increasingly demanding that customers provide detailed anti-corruption due diligence information. KYC policies are becoming important globally to prevent identity theft, financial fraud, money laundering and terrorist financing.

Bridge Loan

Bridge loan is a type of gap financing arrangement wherein the borrower can get access to short-term liquidity requirements. These loans are normally extended for a period of 12 months. These loans are provided at exorbitant rate of interest and are normally backed by asset collateral used in one loan be used as collateral for a different loan. They help in estimating the loan to asset value ratio can be low depending on the risk propensity of the lender.



I Was Struck By The Glaring Gender Inequality In My Church's 'Women's Day' Service

by Bendangrenla Longkumer

I am a Christian woman and go to a fairly, or rather, seemingly liberal church in New Delhi. It is oriented to community building, very warm and people-friendly with mutual respect for one another and there is no denying the fact that I love being a part of the community. As much as I love the warmth of the family and everything it represents, it would be rather unfair if, as a member of the church, I bottle up our blind spots and turn my eyes away from them. As much as the church celebrates gender equality, there is also a glass ceiling that divides the church along gender lines, which goes against what the church stands for.

I am not writing this to point fingers at anyone, neither is my intention to portray anyone, or for that matter any denomination, in a bad light. I simply want to bring to light certain practices of the church which I find to be discriminatory and unfair to women. If you feel that the church, despite its claims, is ridden with gender inequalities, I sincerely pray that reading this will provoke you to start searching for solutions.

When Women Aren't Seen As Individuals

I remember celebrating International Women's Day in church in 2015 and feeling elated that our church celebrated its women when so many women in across the country were deprived of even human status. Stories of mothers and wives were being told by men. Stories of sisters were being told. All these stories had a common thread running through them and

... why would the biological factor of being a woman or a man hinder anyone from preaching? Prohibiting women from preaching implies that women are intellectually inferior ...

these stories were about how these mothers, wives and sisters have supported them in becoming who they are. Sadly, there were no stories that recognised them as 'individuals' who had their own dreams, desires and aspirations; as humans whose ambitions had been thwarted because of the sacrifices they have to make. I am not claiming that these sacrifices are unnecessary or that women should stop being good wives, mothers and sisters. Yet seeing women as just wives, mothers and sisters is not enough.

All humans have the right to be recognised as individuals — individuals with stories, individuals with distinct characteristics and personalities that go well beyond the ambit of socially ascribed roles. Also, another very disappointing aspect of that day was that no woman was ever asked to share her story. The irony lies in the fact that while advocating for women to raise their voices, no one seemed to bother much about asking for 'her side of the story'. Instead of talking with a patronising attitude about what ought to be done to uplift women, isn't it simpler and more effective to just ask women what they really want? Isn't knowing her side of the story and allowing her

to assert her individuality the first step towards addressing gender inequality? We want to be heard. We want to be a part of the larger community. We want to be made visible.

When Women Have No Claim To The Pulpit

My next concern, of which I am quite aware will stir some controversies if not some murmurs of dissent, is the prohibition of women from preaching in some denominations. I am also aware of the fact that the practice is due to certain theological understandings of which I do not claim to have any expertise. But why would the biological factor of being a woman or a man hinder anyone from preaching? I believe that God created both man and woman equally and endowed them with wisdom to be equal partners in His mission. Prohibiting women from preaching implies that women are intellectually inferior, which is simply not true. There are differences in our physical abilities but the same cannot be said about our intellectual abilities. All other reasons, to me, seem to be insufficient in barring women from preaching. Given that a woman is capable and possesses the gift of preaching, which I believe is not a gift solely reserved for men, I find no reason why women cannot share the pulpit with men.

I have never seen any woman serve the communion but the church does not seem to mind much when women serve coffee and snacks after the church service is over! Is it to say that women can do the 'mediocre' tasks

(Contd.. on p. 18)

(Contd.. from p. 17)

while men do the 'important' ones? Forget about women serving communion. How about men serving tea and snacks sometimes? Is it too lowly or is it because it is culturally and traditionally the women's task to make tea and serve snacks? I think it is safe to say that the Bible does not assign the task of serving food solely to women. In fact, when Jesus fed the five thousand, his twelve male disciples were the ones who distributed the fish and loaves among the crowd.

The church so often claims to offer the space where all humans are treated equally but with practices like this, it clearly undercuts the ideal of equality. But how can we insist that all humans are created in the image of God when such deep divides exist?

When Women Are Spoken Of As Vices

I was quite taken aback when a pastor in his sermon once mentioned (with a certain sense of surety) that the three things that corrupt men are women, wine and wealth. What can be more enraging and humiliating for more than half of the congregation who were women listening to the sermon? When non-Christians come and attend our church services, expecting a difference, a sermon like the one I mentioned earlier would throw them off. If they are given the impression that the church is no different in condemning its women that would indeed be a big tragedy.

The archetypal stereotyping of the woman as the seductress/temptress is something that the church really needs to introspect.

I, being a woman, am aware of the potent sexuality that a woman's body can possess. It is innate in us and I see it as something to be celebrated, this feminine aspect that forms the essence of being for many women. However, it is very often mistaken to be the source of temptation for men and a curse for women. Feminine beauty and attraction need not be fa-

tal nor does it have to lead any man to mortal sin. I consider my femininity to be a gift from my Creator and I do not have to be branded a seductress for possessing it.

Despite the presumptuous claims of women being conniving and laden with potential sources of temptation, it is the beholder that really has to decide whether to be tempted or not and whether to appreciate the woman as another being created by God or reduce her to an object of lust. Men should learn to see a woman beyond her body and see her as another individual who has to be respected and admired for her inner beauty and the virtues that she embodies.

Faith And Equality Are Not Contradictions

Across literature, Christianity has often been viewed with suspicion for its misogynistic ideals. I firmly believe that the Scriptures in no way talk about women being lesser or subordinate to men, that they grant equal fundamental rights to both men and women. I have always been uncomfortable with the idea of women 'submitting' to men; not that I have any less regard for the apostle Paul but when 'submission' is used by patriarchal men as their license to dominate, suppress and 'command' women, how can one remain silent? The current culture of inequality in the church has only given the critics of the institution of Christianity a chance to further and prove their claim that the church is indeed unfair towards its women.

The men in our church gave the women really beautiful bookmarks on International Women's Day that carried a very thoughtful message: "It is you who is making the difference in so many lives." It felt good to know. But I also wish the men would say, "Let us be the ones that make a difference in your lives."

The very foundation of the church is built on the love of Christ, but moments like these shake the idea of all being equal. Jesus never condemned the adulteress who was brought be-

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fore him but instead forgave her and sent her away telling her to sin no more. Even the adulteress found respect and freedom in Jesus. The church should rid itself of its prejudices towards women. We are not here to tempt men. We want to be co-workers in building the body of Christ.

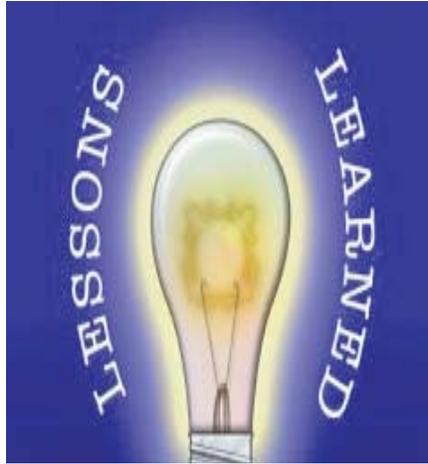
This article was originally published on Cake.

Inspiration!

Lessons to learn from your enemies

the time to think about the conversation not only helps you become better at arguing but you learn how to debate instead of just fight.

In modern culture, potential enemies lurk around every corner. While none of us might want enemies, we'll all have to deal with them at some point in our lives. Instead of thinking of them as something to avoid, here's what you can learn from them



If you pay close attention, you'll discover numerous lessons to learn from your enemies. Believe it or not, your enemies aren't all bad. They actually have a lot to teach you. While it might not seem to wonderful at the time, these lessons to learn from your enemies just might make your enemies not seem so bad after all. At the very last, you'll know you benefited and grew from the experience.

Respect others

One of the best lessons to learn from your enemies is to respect others. Your enemies have no respect for you. They treat you badly because of it. Do you really want to follow their lead? Instead, respect other people, even if you don't necessarily like them. Simply being respectful will show others you're a decent human being and they're more likely to be respectful in return.

Have an open mind

Many of us have enemies who don't like us because they can't accept something about us. You'll always encounter people who are different than you. Instead of thinking of them as enemies or brushing them aside, have an open mind. You never know what you might learn when you do.

Calm thinking

Your enemies constantly challenge your patience. They hardly ever agree with anything you say or do. You could let out all your anger and explode every time they're around. Or, you could learn how to think more calmly. Enemies teach you the value of taking a moment to breathe and think about what you say. After all, you don't really want to sound like them, do you?

How to change

Sometimes our enemies are a reflection of ourselves. You'll start to complain about them only to realise you share many of the same traits. For many, this is a wake up call to change. By studying your enemies, you see the flaws in yourself and learn how to change. Thanks to them, you're able to become a better person. It's great lesson and wonderful gift from someone who doesn't even realise what they're giving you.

Better ways to argue

For many of us, an argument isn't some nice little debate. You say a lot without really saying anything or listening to what the opposition has to say. Think about the last argument you had with your enemy. What did they say? How should you have responded? Taking

How to say strong

Adversity is all around us. Everyone isn't going to like you. Some will even turn into bitter enemies. The lesson to take from this is to stay strong. Enemies help you learn how to strengthen your mind, emotions and even spirit. You could let them bring you down or you could treat them like exercise—something that makes you stronger. It's a hard lesson but well worth it.

To withhold judgment

Why does your enemy dislike you? Do they really understand you? Many enemies judge a person and decide to hate them without taking the time to get to know the person. An enemy teaches you to learn more about a person before you judge. You could be missing out on great friendships when you decide to be an enemy first. You might even learn to understand your enemy better if you withhold judgement until you fully understand who they are and why they do what they do.

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MUMBAI : Goan RC Widower, aged 55 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 77 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. High School, Government employee in Bahrain. Contact email : alwyn60rodrigues@ gmail.com OR 9733830968 **(Regd. No. 6490)**

MUMBAI: North Indian R.C. Bachelor, aged 41 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for an MNC in Mumbai as Back Office Executive. Contact email : awr88@rediffmail.com (M) 8976459088 (6 p.m. to 9 p.m) **(Regd. No. 6485)**

MUMBAI: Mangalorean R.C. Bachelor, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. Mechanical, working in Merchant Navy Vessel as 3rd Engineer. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : ryan2421986@gmail.com OR 9833755448 **(Regd. No. 6483)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Physics, working as a Editor in Private Company. Contact email : josephdiniz187@yahoo.com OR 9920845539. **(Regd. No. 6477)**

MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 63 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., working for MNC. Contact email : j.31784@ gmail.com OR 26120397 / 9920074467 **(Regd. No. 6458)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 45 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., having own business. Well settled. Contact email : listv21@ yahoo.co.in OR 9821656739 **(Regd. No. 6455)**

MUMBAI : Mumbai born, Mangalorean RC Bachelor 40, handsome, Post Graduate, good family background.

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MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC + Profession in Hotel Management. Professional in Food & Beverages. Only Child. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : agnesd85@yahoo.co.in OR 9833283285 **(Regd. No. 6415)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 74 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BE Computer Engineering, working as a Sr. Software Engineer in Mumbai. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : marysalvation@gmail.com OR 9221079494. **(Regd. No. 6413)**

MUMBAI : RC Mangalorean, 30 years, 5' 8", MBA working in a financial firm, Mumbai Resident seeks alliance from RC girls, with pleasant personality, decent education and from a respected family. Contact with recent snaps & profile on alliancesjason@ gmail.com OR 9619370997 **(Regd. No. 6412)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Divorcee, Australian Citizen, 47 yrs, Ht 5'11, Wheatish, BCom, Govt. job, seeks suitable march. Reply with photo to chris-norbert@outlook.com / sharlet1968@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 6411)**

KOLAPUR : RC, Goan, 31 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Studing M.D., General Medicine. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : boom_anup_41@ yahoo.com OR 9422628636 / 9273337666 **(Regd. No.6407)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 33

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

years, Ht. 5' 5", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC / Diploma in Optometry, working as a Sales Professional. Contact email : picardosimon@gmail.com OR 9819403252 **(Regd. No. 6404)**

MUMBAI : RC Goan Bachelor, fair, 40, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 74 kgs, B.Sc., Post Graduation in Chemistry from St. Xavier's Mumbai, having own accommodation, working for a reputed company in Mumbai as a section Head, seeks alliance from RC Goan graduate spinsters upto 36 years with good family background and christian values. Pls. reply with details and latest photo to monty_017@rediffmail.com OR 9930904563 / 9619925304 **(Regd. No. 6401)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 38 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BBA, working as an Asst. Manager. Contact email : johnpereira.pereira@ gmail.com OR 9820304069 **(Regd. No. 6399)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 39 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Senior Clerical in well known Hospital. Contact email : ajw2512@gmail.com OR 9920611659 **(Regd. No. 6398)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 9", Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B.Com., working as CEO in Family Business. Seeks a good looking, smart, stylish girl. Contact email : mail2marg@gmail.com OR 9821556409 **(Regd. No. 6398)**

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MUMBAI: Mumbai based Mangalorean Roman Catholic parents invite alliance for their Beautiful daughter, 27 years, fair, smart, M.B.A., working as an Executive. Boy should be well educated, God fearing having good family background. Please contact with photograph & all details to Tel.: 7506319407 Email: richard.dsouza17@gmail.com (Regd. No. 6505)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged Date of birth 14-5-1983, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 63 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc. Nursing, working as a ICU Nurse in Abudhabi - UAE. Seeks a well educated Mangalorean Bachelor with good family values. Visting india 1 week of April 2016 contact immediately. email: janydz_1484@yahoo.com OR 9930076741 / 28918871. (Regd. No. 6502)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 25 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 75 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. MMS - HR, working as a Jr. Officer HR. Contact email : michelledsouza1990@gmail.com OR 9820476543 (Regd. No. 6511)

MUMBAI: Parents invite alliance for their daughter RC, 1985 born, Fair, Pretty, BE, MBA, 5', 45 kgs, working for a reputed MNC in Mumbai from a suitable RC bachelor up to 35 years well educated, caring, understanding, well settled in India or abroad. Kindly email complete details with recent photograph to : elilierica7@gmail.com. (Regd. No. 6509)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., PG in Finance, working as a Project Manager.

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MUMBAI: RC Spinster 30 / 5'2", MBA (F) working as Manager HR seeks alliance from Qualified Bachelors having a good family background. Reply with details and photo to maryline.sebastian7@gmail.com (Regd. No. 6464)

MUMBAI: East Indian Roman Catholic spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 49 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. BMS., MMS (Mum. Uni.) working as a Data Analyst. Seeks well educated and working and settled abroad, preferably dubai. Girl willing to relocate any city in the world. Contact email : melwyn_dsilva@hotmail.com OR 9224258001 (Regd. No. 6462)

MUMBAI: Parents of R.C. Mangalorean Spinster, 27/5' 1", Only daughter, very fair, B.Com., seeks professionally qualified, well settled bachelors of good character and family background, preferably working and living abroad. Contact email : pashana72@gmail.com OR 91- 6759 7766 (Regd. No. 6461)

BANGALORE: Goan Roman Catholic spinster, aged 28 years, Only child, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters in Library & Information Science, working as an Asst., Librarian, seeks a boy preferably working in Bangalore. Contact email : gracefreitas@rediffmail.com OR 9731866341 (Regd. No. 6460)

AURANGABAD: Parents invites alliance for their Roman Catholic spinster daughter aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 2", slim, fair and good looking, B.E. (I.T.), seeks well settled and well educated bachelor. Contact email : timothy.anthony@ymail.com OR 9823891561 (Regd. No. 6457)

MUMBAI: Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 4', Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A., B.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : valerie.fds@gmail.com OR 9819714445 (Regd. No. 6456)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 23 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. T.Y. B.Com., currently pursuing Travel & Tourism Course from Thomas Cook. Contact email : daisy.

diana92@yahoo.com OR 9768964704 (Regd. No. 6453)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., PG in Banking, working in a Private Bank. Contact email : paisaspascal@gmail.com OR 9892921564 (Regd. No. 6452)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 54 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Financial Analyst in MNC. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : serraoolinda@gmail.com / natasha_serraolinda@yahoo.com OR 9619522154 / 9969114346 (Regd. No. 6451)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, beautiful, Edn. B.Com., working as an Asst. HR Officer. Contact email : genesalis@yahoo.com OR 9324515797 (Regd. No. 6448)

MUMBAI: Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 23 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.M.S., working in Visa Department. Seeks a suitable match. Contact Email : josephinevf@gmail.com OR Mob : 9930466725 (Regd. No. 6447)

MUMBAI: Born and broughtup in Mumbai Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Working as a Sales Executive in a reputed diamond jewelry firm. Caste No Bar. Contact email : achari@yahoo.co.in OR 9833838392 (Regd. No. 6445)

MUMBAI: Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., Science & Politics, working as a Jr. Officer. Contact email : merlin.dalmeida@gmail.com OR 9820687734 (Regd. No. 6443)

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BY MELVYN BROWN

Three Attractive Women Answer His Call

In the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, he said: "Consider your own Call, brothers and sisters." (1Co.1:26). The Call to serve God in His Church and for His Church is becoming increasingly volatile today as vocations to the priesthood and religious life is slashed down to unimaginable figures.

We must, at this stage acknowledge the wisdom of God, not often understood by most of His followers. His Call can reach out to the common man as well: the laity, men and women in secular lives; the poor, middle class, even the uneducated can receive His Call. Three contemporary women chose the religious life.

Dolores Hart had been a celebrity in Hollywood from the age of 17, and became an international personality when she was given a role in Hollywood next to Elvis Presley as his love interest in 1957. The film was called "Loving you". Dolores was 18 years old. She was born 20 October 1938. The young actress was credited with having given Elvis his first on-screen kiss. Miss Hart made ten films over the passage of 5 years, acting opposite Stephen Boyd, Montgomery Clift, George Hamilton and Robert Wagner.

Dolores Hart was engaged to be married and at 24 she threw it all up and decided to be a Roman Catholic nun. Fr. Doody, a priest told her, "you're crazy. This is absolutely insane to do this."

Dolores replied, "If you heard what I hear you would come, too." She has remained a nun from 1963 to the present day.

Next

Olalla Oliveros was a well-known Spanish model, a top actress and the perfect choice for advertisements, and television commercials

In 1947 Olalla visited the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal. This was the place known as the site of the famous Marian apparitions. It became the turning point of her life.

It was at this holy landmark when she said, "I had an earthquake experience in my soul. In her mind she had seen the image of herself dressed as a nun. Jesus was calling her. "The Lord is never wrong, he asked if I will follow him, and I could not refuse."

Olalla Oliveros is a member of the semi-cloistered Order of Saint Michael.

Third

Amada Rosa Perez, an attractive model and one of Colombia's successful rich woman, had been considered an icon for the country. People boasted of her generous heart for the poor and her love for the common women around her.

Amada always tried to promote the dignity of women and their being used for commercial purposes. In an unexpected move for 10 years Amada vanished from the public eye. No one knew of her whereabouts.

5 years ago Amada Rosa Perez was discovered working with a Marian re-

ligious community. She prays the Divine Mercy Chaplet, says the Rosary, attends Holy Mass daily and goes to confession. "The world does not appeal to me. I enjoy every moment the Lord gives me", she smiled. Amada heard His call. "Now I live in peace." She said.

"Consider your own call, brothers and sisters" Saint Paul the apostle had said. To work in the Lord's vineyard is an open invitation to all. Whatever work you have chosen in your field of labour is to also worship God. When He calls, listen, you could find a corner in your soul to serve him without having to leave what you are already working at. The Holy Spirit can help you at times like this.

A young Catholic couple having fled from the Middle East, returned dispirited to their home town in Pune. The money they had saved was divided into four lots: a flat, a fixed deposit, food and welfare, and a small sum for finding fresh employment.

Months went by and the couple could not find a proper job.

One afternoon they visited a church which stood close to the bus-stop. On leaving the shrine an elderly man came up to them and enquired if they knew of a shop selling religious items as no such shop existed for miles around.

That evening while at the dining table a strange thing happen: a small statue in the hall room fell on the floor unbroken. They picked it up and put it back in its proper place. Next morning the same statue was laying on the floor unbroken. Mysteriously, both, husband and wife had the same idea sent to them: today, they have a beautiful and successful shop selling religious goods.

"Consider your own call" (1 Co. 1:26).

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Flat Cost - 1 BHK - 14,00,000. 2 BHK - 20,00,000 (All Inclusive)

For More Details & Booking : V P Lobo :9321292899 Stany: 9900995720 Panduranga: 9740824691



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Head Office : 201, Corporate Arena, Near Railway Station, Goregaon West, Mumbai - 400104.

Mangalore : 2nd Floor, Harmain Complex, B.C. Road, Mangalore, Karnataka. Pin Code- 574219.

Website : www.t3urbandevelopers.com Email : cmd@t3urbandevelopers.com