

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

(Total pages 24)

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Provoking Nature

Global warming which is today, a common term - excessive heat waves, rise in sea levels, extreme cold weather, melting of glaciers, severe droughts, fires, unexplainable diseases, unfamiliar animal behaviour, fluctuating weather; what else? The signs are there for us to see, but are we waking up from our slumber? Our eyes are open certainly, but can we actually see, can we look a little deeper?

Madam Grace Pinto Honoured by Media



Madam Grace Pinto was once again recognized for her immeasurable contribution to education when MidDay newspaper conferred the “Lifetime Achievement in Education” Award on her.

She was felicitated for her singular achievements on May 9, 2017, in a glittering ceremony organized in Mumbai for the 1st Edition of the Excellence in Education Awards by MidDay. The award was presented to her by Ms. Shaina NC, BNP National executive member, Treasurer BNP Maharashtra & Spokesperson from Mumbai.

The award recognizes her untiring efforts and noteworthy contributions to the education sector. She is a well-recognized visionary in education and has pioneered many initiatives in making education more accessible and engaging.

On receiving the award, Madam Grace Pinto said, “I thank our Lord Jesus Christ for this recognition. This award is for the hard work of the entire Ryan fraternity who have remained consistent and committed to excellence in education. I am also grateful to the MidDay group for this recognition and greatly appreciate their initiative in recognizing the efforts of educationists.” This is yet again another feather in the cap of Madam Pinto, who has been recognized nationally and internationally for her path breaking work in education.

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India's Best Lawyer



Fighting in Jadhav's corner is senior advocate Harish Salve, who has been arguing the case in favour of Jadhav at the International Court of Justice in the Hague, the Netherlands. Salve is one of the most expensive lawyers in the world.

Harish Salve is Christian and son of N. K. P. Salve who was union minister in congress government as well as cricket administrator who was responsible to bring world cup to India in 1987. Yes. It is a matter of pride for all christians. He was born in the city of Nagpur in Maharashtra in 1956. He did his graduation in commerce, and later became a chartered accountant.

He charged only Re. ` to fight Kulbhushan Jadhav's case at the International court against Pakistan. His arguments were too strong for Pakistan to counter.

The case of Kulbhushan Jadhav has been causing a furore across both India and Pakistan over the past few weeks. Jadhav, who was running a business in Iran, was accused of being a spy by Pakistan, and was recently sentenced to death by a Pakistani military court.

He began his legal career in the year 1980, and went on to fight many high profile cases. Salve had earlier fought on the behalf of Mukesh Ambani in the Krishna Godavari gas basin case between the Ambani brothers. Apart from Ambani, Salve has also fought for other high profile clients like ITC Limited, the Tata Group, and the former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa.

His noble gesture in taking up this case at a negligible fee to ensure that the life of an Indian citizen is saved therefore definitely deserves a salute.

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'Thought for the week'

The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather lack of will.

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The difficult fight for children's rights

by Father Shay Culleno

Manila: They were only 14 years old and intrigued with that teenage urge to know and experience everything.

They fell for the bait of the trafficker. He gave them money and gifts, and one by one he had them join a "fraternity," a group of girls he abused in his house.

He gave them a taste for drugs and they became dependent on him.

He later invited his friends over and they too sexually abused the girls and gave them drugs and money.

It was not anymore an experimental teenage romp. The girls were sexually exploited. They soon depended on the money and frequented the house of the trafficker. He made money out of them by turning his house into a brothel.

The police were alerted and discovered the trafficking operation. The town's social worker was called in during the raid and six girls were rescued and referred to the Preda Home for Girls.

A medico-legal check up revealed that all the girls had been sexually abused. The trafficker landed in jail and his customers were placed under investigation.

We expect a "counter-attack" from the suspected abusers. They have already vilified Preda online.

They may even file counter-charges and false allegations against us as happened in the past. This is normal for human rights defenders of abused children.

In the Philippines, foreigners who are arrested or charged with child abuse are the most revengeful. They are filled with anger, hatred, and desire to get revenge against us.

One American who was suspected of trafficking came to a point of falsely charging a prosecutor. The man was convicted in court for making false allegations and was sentenced to two years in jail. But by some legal maneuvering, he has not yet served his sentence.

When we at Preda rescue an abused child from an abuser's home or from a sex bar, foreign nationals who are accused or put on trial would usually file charges.

As human rights advocates, we have been charged with libel and slander. When we campaigned to end the Davao Death Squad in 1999, the mayor, now president of the country, charged us with libel.

All the charges were eventually dismissed, and proven false. This is the risk we take in defending the exploited and abused victims of human trafficking.

(Contd.. on p. 4)

(Contd.. from p. 3)

Even some of the children rescued from the traffickers are not happy to be rescued. They are dependent and have been "bonded" by debts, gifts, and drugs to the trafficker. They see him or her as their "best friend," even as their sex partner.

At first, they don't want to admit they were abused and would not file a complaint. They usually don't see that they need help. They want to get drugs to deal with the trauma of having been found and rescued as sexually exploited children. They need to cover up their shame from their parents, brothers, sisters, friends, and relatives.

Social workers have to counsel them and take them through the reality of their lives in an emotional expression therapy. There in the padded therapy room, they release a lot of anger and pent-up emotions. They are angry at their parents for abandoning them or misunderstanding them or scolding them.

Day after day, they release their anger at themselves, their abusers, and their parents. They move from the feelings stage to the thinking stage and only later change their attitude and realize their worth as persons with rights and dignity.

This is a profound shift in a human person — from a willing victim to an empowered youth looking for justice. They become children again who look forward to a brighter future.

The fight for justice for the children goes on. Those vilifying people working for the children will, one day, be brought to justice. And may it be soon.

Irish Father Shay Cullen, SSC, established the Pre-da Foundation in Olongapo City in 1974 to promote human rights and the rights of children, especially victims of sex abuse..

Source: UCAN

7 Innocents of Kandhamal



Gornath Chalauseth



Munda Badmaji



Sanatan Badamajhi



Bhaskar Sunamajhi



Bijay Kumar Sanseth



Budhadeb Nayak



Durjo Sunamajhi

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(Monsoon Period from 10.6.2017 to 31.10.2017– 3 days a week)

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Problems faced at ATMs

Even after the easing of cash withdrawals at banks and ATMs –post demonetisation, there are still numerous problems faced by the common man at ATMs, which are apparently facing a shortage of Rs 500/ and Rs 100/ denomination notes . Since most of the cash dispensed at these machines is of Rs 2000/ note denomination , it is difficult to change these notes for small purchases. Some ATMs also insist on cash withdrawals in even numbers so as to get rid of their Rs 2000/ notes. On the other hand banks also refuse to change these notes unless these are deposited in one’s savings bank account and later withdrawn. It is therefore high time for the govt to withdraw these Rs 2000/ notes from circulation and replace them with Rs 1000/ notes .

—A. F. Nazareth
Alto Porvorim

Immaculate Mother of Grace

The year 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to the three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal, where the Blessed Mother appeared once each month from May 13th until October 13th, 1917.

The message of Our Lady who appeared at Fatima highlights many central truths and devotions of the Catholic faith: the Trinity, the Eucharist, penance, the Rosary and sacrifices for the conversion of sinners. There is special emphasis on the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which is a refuge of maternal love for us all and a sure

path that leads us to God. In the end, Mary’s Immaculate Heart will triumph because Mary is full of God’s grace and is all pure. She has the heart of a mother who cares for her children and wishes them to be saved by her divine Son, Jesus Christ.

Although 2017 marks the centenary year, the Fatima apparitions began with the three apparitions of the Angel of Peace (also called the Angel of Portugal) in 1916 and extended beyond 1917 with subsequent apparitions given to Sister Lucia dos Santos in Pontevedra, Spain (1925-1927) and Tuy, Spain (1929).

Fatima is one of the most significant places of all Marian apparitions. Along with Guadalupe (December 12th) and Lourdes (February 11th), it is one of three Marian apparitions honored with a feast day. In the year, 2002, Pope Saint John Paul II added the May 13th feast of Our Lady of Fatima to the general Roman calendar. May 13th was the day of the first Fatima apparition of 1917, and May 13, 1981, was the day when St. John Paul II survived an attempt on his life at St. Peter’s Square. Pope John Paul II credited his survival to the intervention of Our Lady of Fatima. The assassin’s bullet that narrowly missed killing the Pope now is inserted in a crown of Our Blessed Mother housed at the Fatima shrine. Fatima is also linked with the collapse of Russian communism more than 25 years ago.

It is estimated that some 4-5 million people visit Fatima each year, and more are expected for the centennial year, including a visit by Pope Francis, who plans to travel to Portugal to celebrate the 100-year anniversary.

—Jubel D’Cruz,
Mumbai

Ten Pro-Life Questions!

In a pastoral letter dated 14 May 2017, to the Churches in the Diocese of Portsmouth, Bishop Philip Egan posed ten questions that Catholics might consider in UK general elections. These 10 queries could be used to “evaluate a manifesto, or could be put to prospective candidates.” In fact, these strategies could be guidelines for Catholics electing their representatives.

1. First and foremost, Catholics must ensure the sanctity and dignity of human life, right from conception to natural death.
2. Oppose moves to liberalize abortion laws.
3. Reject embryo experimentation.
4. Combat assisted suicide and euthanasia.
5. Care better for the environment, promoting an integral ecology with a simpler lifestyle.
6. Consider whether candidates support family values.
7. Efforts to help the homeless, and care for the mentally ill.
8. Foster peace, justice and development aboard, especially for persecuted Christians.
9. Enhance roles as missionary disciples, and pray for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life.
10. Promote and work for the welfare of the country.

In particular, the Bishop pointed to the Sunday Gospel of 14 May 2017, wherein Jesus consoled them: (And this refers to the motto of the ‘Divine Mercy’)! “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in Me” (John 14:1).

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

Are We The Inadvertent Transmitters Of False-Truths?

by Eric D'Sa

The most common question asked about this new word False-Truth, that is being branded around the world these days is, how can truth be false? Anything seems to be possible in today's topsy turvy world in which we live. But now as we seem to be getting instant news on the social media from unknown sources which appear authentic and in many cases we pass them on to others at no cost to us, it is time for us to sit back and seriously consider whether we are part of the problem. A few even ask the question, what is truth? Is it necessary to check with a magnifying glass whether a forward is true or false before we pass it on? You got to be the judge.

So what is False-Truth? It is as per Collins English Dictionary, a noun ; a false, often sensational, information dissipated under the guise of news reporting. So False-Truth is fake news, a new term used to refer to deliberately fabricated news to be passed on to others. Fake news originated in traditional news media but has now rapidly spread to online social media. This type of news found in traditional news, social media or some fake news websites have no basis in fact, but are presented as being factually accurate. False-Truth can be considered as fake news made up as stories that are provably false, have enormous popular appeal in the culture, and are consumed by millions of people and passed on to others. What we are talking about are stories that are fabricated out of thin air. By most measures, deliberately, and by any definition, that's a lie. The intention and purpose behind fake news is important. In some cases, what appears to be fake news may in fact be news satire, which uses exaggeration and introduces non-factual elements, and is intended to amuse or make a point, rather than to deceive.

We humans often claim to be search-

ing for the Truth: We want the right questions to be asked. The honest answer to the question given. But while searching the world around us, what we tend to settle for is something comfortable, something that looks like the Truth, circumventing real Truth for a comfortable facade of Truth. A false truth is something believed by many average people to be factual but is not. It is usually something that cannot be backed up and is backed up with hard evidence. For exam-

You The Citizens Decide:

ple many people in developing countries share a common false truth that women are not as mentally capable as men. We are also told that the demographic dividend in the country is an automatic blessing something we need to celebrate. The absolute GDP is now more than that of China. Most Indians are pure vegetarians.

India had over 50 million accounts on the What App in 2016 and they love to spend enormous time browsing through the forwards received and passing them on to their own circle of friends. On November 8, 2016, India put into circulation new Rs.2000/- currency bills, on the same day as the old Indian high value notes were demonetised. Fake news went viral over Whatsapp that the note came equipped with spying technology which tracked bills 120 meters below the earth. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley refuted the falsities, but not before they had spread to the country's mainstream news outlets. There are still people who believe about the spy notes.

During the 2016 United States presidential election, the fabrication and coverage of fake news increased substantially. This resulted in a widespread response to combat the

spread of fake news. The volume and reluctance of fake news websites to respond to fact-checking organizations has posed a problem to inhibiting the spread of fake news through fact checking alone. In an effort to reduce the effects of fake news, fact-checking websites in a few countries have posted guides to spotting and avoiding fake news websites. New Social media sites and search engines, such as Face Book and Google, have received criticism for facilitating the spread of fake news. Both of these corporations have taken measures to explicitly prevent the spread of fake news; critics, however, believe more action is needed.

India is hit harder by false-truths because the country lacks media policy for quick verification. At times Law enforcement officers in India arrest individuals with charges of creating fictitious articles, specifically if there is a good likelihood of the article has caused social conflict. In India we need urgently set up independent fact checking units that are free of any political or socio religious connections, that could may be with the use artificial intelligence and algorithm gathering of information of forwards being put on the internet, come to a quick independent decision whether the news is true or false. Such fact checking units will have to be funded by citizens themselves. It could be attached to the Judiciary, but be set up to act swiftly.

Meanwhile, we the Citizens should be sceptical in what we are receiving on the internet and more importantly what we pass on to others. If we have any doubts about the authenticity of the forward we have received, best is to put it into the trash. The trust of the innocent is the deliberate liars most useful tool. No matter how big the False-Truth is, the one who is the author of it knows, that if it is repeated often enough through different sources, the masses will regard it as truth.

No Poor Catholic Family Need Suffer Privation, Hunger Or Insecurity

by **Louis Menezes IAS (Retd)**
&
Dr Premila Menezes

It is a matter of anguish that with all the resources available to the Church, there should be a sizable number of Catholic families in want, in distress, in a state of insecurity. Many of them live in very sub-standard dwellings and struggle for basic services like water. Our first question is, is the Pastor even aware of this?

Most large parishes in Chennai are fairly prosperous. There is enough money and more to be able to come to the rescue of such families. No special collections are needed. The Sunday collections and even the Dumb Boxes yield enough.

But there are preconditions. Transparency, meticulous maintenance of accounts, and close collaboration with such organisations like Saint Vincent da Paul Society (where it exists) etc.,.

There is another fundamental requirement which is a challenge to the Pastor. He must rope in professionals (especially retirees, always available in large parishes) who are ever willing to offer their services free. Our experience is that Pastors not only decline such help but, in some cases, have dispensed with such an arrangement that was working very well!

The solution may be painful to the Pastors. As followed in all Syrian Churches, including Syro-Malabar, all money matters are handled by a committee of lay people. They provide for all the needs of the Pastor, including TV, car etc., but the pastor never handles the cash. What is more, figures of how much is collected, how much spent etc., is announced at Sunday Masses. Detailed audited Accounts are available for parishioners to peruse.

In the USA, after setting aside cash for the Pastor's needs, the Commit-

tee pays for the maintenance of the Church building and grounds, salaries of staff etc. The surplus cash is then used exclusively for the poor, education for children, meals for the elderly, groceries for poor families.

The existence of poor Catholic families in want is a sinful contrast to the lavish and wasteful spending of pastors in some churches on garish lighting (offensive to our eyes), expensive flower arrangements, and proliferation of statues inside and outside the church and totally unnecessary feeding of the whole congregation with Biryani on some occasion or another.

We cannot help citing two extremely sad instances in our Anna Nagar churches. An elderly woman parishioner was thrown out of her house by the family late one night. She went to the church (where else could she go?) and begged for a place to just lie down for the night. The priest refused. So she slept on the porch of the church. She was protected by Jesus, whose statue stood next to the porch, looking down on her with mercy.

The other tale is from the other church. A poor woman parishioner was trying to get a concession in the school fees, as she had three sons in the school in Don Bosco's, Aynavaram. They told her that she came from a very rich parish, so could she not get the money from the Parish Priest? The PP made her run up and down 5-6 times asking for more information from the school. Finally, a parishioner gave her the money.

We are talking of a church which is disdainfully described by parishioners as "Kalyanamandapam with shrine attached". The fact that they charge around 1 to 1.5 lacs for a wedding reception, with no concession to poor Catholics, and includes donation to some Paulist Trust and lot of cash payment (???) is another scandal. No accounts are given. Money that rightfully belongs to the Parish has been transferred in crores to the Provincial

in Mumbai. This is robbery. A good share of this money as also surpluses from other prosperous parishes can be transferred to smaller parishes where money is in short supply. However, it is very important that the Parish Priest receiving this money should set up a credible Committee of parish members of good standing to oversee the assistance given to poor families. Accounts must be maintained and available for scrutiny of parishioners.

We must all ask ourselves with our heads bowed, "What are we all getting from the Bible, the Liturgies, the sermons, the unshakeable call of our Christian vocation?? What examples do the Pastors set? Do the poor Catholics see their church as their Refuge and their Hope and their Help?"

No amount of explanation in defence of these accusations can be remotely convincing in the face of the lavish spending on garish lighting, needless paving and repaving of parking spaces, expensive massive Flag Posts (seen only in temples). We have millions which we should be spending on poor Catholic Families. It is high time!

All parishioners put money in the Sunday collection and Dumb boxes, in the genuine belief that they are giving money to God. Therefore let that money be used for God's poor and not to endlessly decorate and embellish churches. After all, it is our money, so let us have a say in how it is to be spent.

Thus, real community fellowship may be fostered as the whole Parish gets involved in helping the poor and knowing that their money is well spent. If we are truly Christian, no Christian person in our Parish should be in want

• *Menezes, a retired bureaucrat, was earlier posted in the Prime Minister's Office, and his wife is a doctor by profession. They are now settled in Chennai*

Pentecost- the Rise of the Black Balloon

by Denis Khan

It was a warm sunny day at the beach. Holiday crowds thronged the seashore as they frolicked in the sea, shared the joy of the dancing waves and relaxed on the silver sands.

Hardly anyone noticed the balloon seller as he made his way along the beach. He spotted a vantage point and unloaded his wares.

He filled a red balloon with gas and watched as it majestically rose up and sailed away. This was followed by a blue balloon, and another colorful balloon. It was not long before a large group of children gathered around him and insisted on buying his magical balloons.

While he was busy selling his wares, a little boy tugged at his shirt and asked him, "Will a black balloon also rise up?" He replied, "It's not the color of the balloon, but the power inside the balloon that causes the balloon to rise."

In The Old Testament, the Promise of the Black Balloon was made to Jacob. 'Fear not, you worm Jacob, you insect Israel! I Will Help you.' – (Isaiah 41:14).

The Holy Blood of Jesus, His Passion and Death on the Cross opened the Way for the Holy Spirit to Raise us up to our Eternal Home. This was experienced by St. Dismas, the Good Thief on the Cross.

In our dark nights, we can look forward to the Spirit who Raised Jesus from the Dead, to help us rise above our sicknesses, financial breakdowns, all the darkness in our lives.



Every day we are gifted with 86400 balloons-86400 seconds of glorious Life to use as we would like to, and release the balloons back to our Creator through our breath. A balloon is like a feather.

Replace these balloons with a Banner of victory. Jehovah Nissi. – "Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel." – (Isaiah 41 v 16).

As Dr. Prateep Philip says, "Our lives are like that of a balloon seller holding different balloons, each

marked with the common aspirations of mankind- health, wealth, fame, immortality, pleasure. Each of these balloons will sooner or later burst as the balloon weakens or receives a tiny pin prick. The balloon seller left with all these burst balloons will realize that he too like a balloon one day would give up the air or breathe his last. He then decides that all he has that will last is his inner being or soul. It will last provided he finds a way to connect that soul while he is still breathing with the One who breathed that soul into him. Jesus said, "I am the way to connect your soul with the Creator. Even if the whole world is lost, you have gained eternity."

Thanksgiving



May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Praised Adored, Glorified and Loved today and everyday throughout the world, now and forever. Amen!!

Ask St. Clare for three favours two impossible and say nine Hail Mary's and the above prayer for 9 days with a lighted candle and publish on the 9th day your request will be granted no matter how impossible it is

—Leena

VACATION'S

by Ninette Dsouza

It's that time of the year again (though there's nothing geographic about it). The Holiday Season. Oxford dictionary defines holidays as extended periods of leisure and recreation especially ones spent away from home or in travelling. On rbrault.blogspot.com I read 'a vacation trip is 1/3rd the pleasure fondly remembered and 2/3rd aggravation entirely forgotten'. Sam Ewing a former baseball player writes, 'a vacation – 2 weeks on the sunny sands and the rest of the year on the financial rocks'. Funny but come to think of it the rainy days a man usually struggles to save for somehow seem to arrive at his vacation. My personal favourite – 'a vacation is like love anticipated with pleasure, experienced with discomfort and remembered with nostalgia'. I've saved the best for the last. Erma Bombeck who found the humour in her everyday experience of being a wife and mother and shared it through her column shares that, 'during a vacation we hit the sunny beaches where we occupy ourselves keeping the sun off our skins, the salt water off our bodies and the sand out of our belongings'. Her words helped me appreciate the idea that long holidays are the perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us.

So what does one do during a vacation besides cleaning, and rearranging rooms, cupboards and lofts? Let's start at the very beginning. If you are someone like me who for a professional reason is unable to make it for daily mass during most of the year, then the vacations are the best time to develop a closer relationship with God. Sit in his awesome presence, spend extra time in prayer and meditation, invest in books based on the faith, the reading of which turns into

internal reflection, and growth. Let me assure you that this will become the fulcrum of the load you will be called to bear the rest of the year. Add to this community building exercises and you are set.

At vacation time most parents are at their wits end not knowing how to keep their children fruitfully engaged. Now begins the search for expensive theatre, dance and art workshops, or summer clubs. Here's where you and I step in. Together with the core group and the SCC single out persons who play the guitar, and the keyboard and involve them (at their convenience) in giving interested youngsters basic lessons. An hour's session daily for a month, helps one master both instruments quite a bit. Don't forget to charge a minimal fee though. Uncles and aunties can put their culinary skills to good use by teaching children to make simple food items like sandwiches (ribbon, tricolour, signal), salads (veg/ fruit), pizza toppings, fillings for burgers and subs. Those in the community with twinkle toes can share their talent with those wanting to learn anything from waltz and jive to hip hop and jazz funk. Look out for senior coaches as well as boys and girls who play various games for schools and colleges and together shape up the couch potatoes among the community kids with training in athletics, hockey, football, throw ball, volleyball and the like. There may also be persons trained in Judo, Taekwondo, Karate. Utilize their expertise and knowledge in self-defence. Find a CHESS nut in the community and let the kids hone their concentration and mathematical acumen by developing an interest in this highly engaging hobby. Token fee for all activities must not be forgotten

Organize a collection drive of post cards, old cards, magazines, story books, comics and other reading ma-

terial people are wanting to do away with, remembering once a teacher always a teacher, even in the holidays. Thus this group of professionals are best suited to teach the kids action songs, recitation of poems, readings of books with correct pronunciation, voice modulation and style. I wonder how many kids today are familiar with the fairy tales our generation grew up with like the Aesop Fables we gathered values from. Our children need to be exposed to them today before it's too late. Introduce them to mathematical puzzles, Sudoku, Mensa puzzles, to ensure those brain cells get working, and Math later on doesn't become a taboo subject. If you look around you will find artists and designers that can work with the kids to paint meaningful graffiti on available surfaces (after necessary permission has been obtained). There will be many other people knowledgeable in the aesthetic arts of knitting, crochet, pot painting, making beaded necklaces and bracelets, doing M-seal work on tiles, making paper / cloth flowers, making useful articles from waste and many other activities. Believe you me, there will be a line of kids and adults waiting to sign up for these. Vacation time can also be used to get ready for parents day, for making simple handmade cards for those celebrating silver or golden anniversaries, for couples welcoming a new born into the family, for those planning a wedding, birthday cards for those touching 75, 80, 90 and above. Any and every occasion you can think of. The cards need not be extravagant. A couple of pretty pictures, a sticker or two and a handwritten couplet with heartfelt wishes make it more than meaningful. Screen children's films and those on fairy tales in Hindi, Marathi or English in order to break their dependence on violence and unacceptable behaviour patterns

(Contd.. on p. 10)

(Contd.. from p. 9)

we are constantly exposing them too even under parental guidance. Give up your siesta time and use the afternoons which are best suited for these activities.

Every community has doctors, paediatricians and dentists. Get them to be involved in community service by organizing general & dental check-ups. You can organize a community rosary to be conducted at the homes of the sick and homebound. Form a beat group and invite yourself over to a sing along of those good old fashioned medleys and mandos. Entertain them with a dance or two performed by the kids and agile senior citizens who enjoy line dancing. Organize news paper, bottle and tetra pack drives. Use the funds to take children to places they would not go visiting otherwise. On the religious side take them to visit at leisure Mount Mary-Basilica, Don Bosco Shrine, Holy Name Cathedral, Clergy Home, Gloria Church, Prathnalaya, an old age home, Shishu Bhavan, an orphanage, even a remand home, (tread with caution here). With permission and coordination, visits and interactive sessions can also be organized with the help of the DPC and the Seminary. Let them know that Mumbai isn't only about the malls but that it has a heart as well.

Let them ride the metro and the monorail, visit BNHS, National Park, the newly opened museum and the renovated Taraporewala aquarium. Don't forget to spend time at Chowpatty beach. Let them travel by train and BEST bus and experience Mumbai in all its avataars, north to south, east to west so that we can say with

true pride, we are Mumbaikars. A trip to Mahim Nature Park, is a first-hand experience of converting a dump yard into a fertile agricultural land. One can buy organic food stuff at the various stalls and at the same time learn to make compost. Each one can set up a mini compost pit on their own window sill and one for the community as well. Nothing like proving that we are indeed stewards of God's creation.

Ask all the participants to maintain a book recording all their experiences and making it decorative with photographs. Organize a concert towards the end of the holidays where the kids and the youth can display all they have learnt through the vacations. Invite the community to be present in large numbers. If possible gift a special prize to every participant on some pretext or the other. Funds for all of this??? Sponsors off course! who can be found aplenty in any community. If you feel I'm stressing you out with what seems like a lot to plan or that it's a pipe dream, relax. I've organized many such activities in my community with a dedicated and committed group of youth and a very supportive core group, excited kids and willing parents with a fair amount of success. The list of things to do is endless. Activities will obviously differ from community to community. Find those that could make this vacation meaningful, one that sees you making that difference everyone is always talking about but not stepping out of their comfort zones to do anything about. Some might comment that this is a little too much, a little too late. I would say just go ahead, try it. The experience will be worth all the trouble. If not this Vacation, maybe it will help you plan well and execute perfectly for the next.



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ADMA joins in centennial celebrations of Fatima apparition

On the 13th of May, 2017, when Pope Francis was leading the centenary celebrations of the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the members of the Association of Mary Help of Christians (ADMA), joined in the centennial jubilee by going on a pilgrimage to Asia's first Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima, located at Karjat is 40 miles southeast of Mumbai in Maharashtra.

The group left from Don Bosco, Matunga, by bus, at 7am, to reach the Fatima Shrine at Karjat, in time for the ceremony of the unfurling of the flag of our Lady of Fatima. The entire place was well decorated for the occasion, with the scene of the apparition creatively recreated at the new altar extension. There were around 3,000 other pilgrims, Catholics and of other religious confessions, at the Shrine, to witness this important historic landmark.

Marking the occasion, Card. Oswald Gracias, Archbishop of Mumbai, consecrated and blessed the new altar of the church. The cardinal also renewed the act of consecration of the archdiocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He told the crowd: "Let us live the message of Fatima. Pray for peace and make sacrifices emphasizing the power of prayer. At Fatima the Blessed Virgin spoke of World War. Wars continue today, with different forms and dangers, turmoil, upheaval and violence all over the world. Wars are also in our personal



lives, in the struggle between good and evil." For this, he stressed, "It is important to pray, pray for peace in our homes, in family relationships and in the world."

During the liturgy, the Archbishop of Mumbai blessed the new altar of the sanctuary, sprinkling holy water and crism oil. Thereafter, he blessed the pilgrims with the relics of the two little shepherds Francisco and Jacinta Marto who had just been canonized in Fatima, Portugal, by the Holy Father, around the same time. The parishioners and wellwishers had organized a Fellowship meal, where all pilgrims lunched together. In the afternoon, Eucharistic adoration and family consecration followed. The entire celebrations were bilingual, in English and Marathi, which is a popular local language.

"The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima

at Karjat was built in the year 1935, and houses the statue of Our Lady of Fatima brought from Portugal in the year 1920, years before the approval [of the Fatima apparitions] in 1930 by the Holy See "recalls Fr. Callistus Fernandes, rector of the sanctuary, He further added that "The distinguishing characteristic of a shrine is that it is a place of pilgrimage," and that a proposal to give the shrine a more official status, naming it the 'Archdiocesan Shrine of Fatima.' has been presented to the Archbishop.

The ADMA members left the shrine around 4pm, only after collecting some mementos to mark the centennial celebration, with their hearts content of having the opportunity to spend this historic day in prayers and devotion to our Blessed Mother, which is one of the primary objectives of this Marian Association.



Provoking Nature

On December 12 2016, a very severe cyclonic storm named 'Vardah', hit the shores of the southern state of Tamil Nadu. The impact :

- several people dead, including women & children
- thousands of people evacuated from low-lying areas
- large number of houses, shops ripped apart
- more than 250 trees uprooted across several places in Chennai,
- several vehicles damaged or thrown out by the waves
- traffic snarls in many parts of the city
- airport shut down

Needless to say, normal life was thrown out of gear. Do we need to imagine the trauma the affected people had to go through ? Of course, we do understand.

Just a year earlier, Chennai experienced the heaviest rainfall in over a century, causing widespread damage to life & property. As one would expect, normal life was thrown out of gear; affected people shifted to relief camps, establishments shut, etc., etc. **That is Nature's way of hitting back. Or, would you like to call it Nature's fury – or Nature at it's best ? Or perhaps the best is yet to come !**

What happens when everything settles down ? People pick up the pieces and life goes on ! And then, another tragedy will strike. Is that what we expect from life ? Is that the way we would want it to be ? We, in the city of Mumbai, have also experienced the impact of heavy rainfall, the worst being the deluge of 26 July 2005 - clogged drains due to dumping of plastic & other waste and garbage, overflowing of the so-called (Mithi) river (filled with industrial & other waste material) leading to widespread floods in the locality. But, no lessons learnt, and that's the way we

prefer to live.

Are we looking at the signs which point to a larger picture - a bigger disaster to come ? **Global warming which is today, a common term - excessive heat waves, rise in sea levels, extreme cold weather, melting of glaciers, severe droughts, fires, unexplainable diseases, unfamiliar animal behaviour, fluctuating weather; what else ? The signs are there for us to see, but are we waking up from our slumber ? Our eyes are open certainly, but can we actually see, can we look a little deeper ?**

Incidentally, the cyclone which hit Tamil Nadu recently, named 'Vardah', means 'red rose'. I began to wonder, why 'red rose' ? It beats my imagination as to why a (red) rose would be associated with the destruction that we witnessed in Tamil Nadu. A rose after all, brings good fragrance to the surroundings, then why is it portrayed in bad light ? **Well, the cyclone has done the damage it came to do, but can we look at it as a warning ? It is a 'Red' rose – isn't red associated with danger ? So can we read the warning ? Do we understand that a rose flower comes with 'Thorns' attached ? And we know how thorns prick ! That's the other side of Nature - if we like the beauty of Nature, then, we also need to understand Nature's fury.**

How are we going to face up to Nature's fury, rather we need to think as to how to prevent nature from striking in the first place. Thousands of ideas, suggestions guidelines, have been put forward over the years with regard to saving this Earth and the environment. **But, what has that meant to us ? It has been water over duck's back !** The reference is especially the



by Melville X. D'Souza
- Orlem, Malad West

'educated', but 'illiterate' section of people in society. Try to talk them into carrying along with them a jute or a paper bag or even a reusable plastic bag to the market, and they will give you a thousand reasons as to why they cannot do so ! They may even think you are mad ! **Water over duck's back ?** Of course why should they heed your suggestions, when convenience is right there at the market place ? And then we complain of flooding, even with half an hour of rain ? You call that Nature's fury ?

When Nature strikes, it strikes with all it's might. It is upto us not to provoke Nature because that will be to our peril ! Can we do that ? The choice is ours – act now or perish in Nature's fury !

Prayer to **St. Expedite** for solving a financial crisis



I call forth the Power and the presence of **St. Expedite** in my time of financial trouble. I offer my body, heart, mind and soul upon your altar of light. I have faith and trust and complete confidence that you will be my strength in this time of need. Quickly come to my assistance.

(State Your Petition) _____
My financial need is urgent. Be my Light and Guide in this situation so that I may live with peace, love, prosperity and abundance and in the Praise of God.
Amen. (Promise Publication)

—J, D'Lima

Who took my place ?

Recently, I came across a WhatsApp message which goes like this.

One day, a man went to visit a church. He parked his car at the church and as he was stepping out, another car pulled up next to him and the driver got out and said angrily, **"I always park there, you took my place !"**

The visitor entered the church and found an empty seat and sat down. There comes a young lady with a frown on her face, and said, **"That's my seat! You took my place !"**. The visitor was somewhat disturbed at such rude behaviour, but said nothing. He moved over to another seat. Within no time, another man walked up to him and said, **"That's where I always sit, you took my place !"**. The man was even more disturbed.

Later as the prayer service progressed, while the congregation was **praying for Christ to dwell among them**, the visitor stood up and his appearance began to change. Horrible

scars became visible on his hands and on his feet. Someone around him noticed it, feeling quite disturbed, asked him, **"What happened to you ?"** The visitor replied, **as his hat became a crown of thorns and a tear dropped from eyes, "I took your place"**.

Pentecost is fast approaching and I said to myself, this is something to think about. God sent the Holy Spirit to **descend** upon the disciples of Jesus Christ gathered together in one place, in the form of rushing wind and tongues of fire, which separated to settle on each of them present. God



had come to **dwell** among them, causing them to go out to the world to proclaim the Gospels, speaking in different languages. **Jesus took our place on the cross on Good Friday, at Calvary. Can we take the place of those disciples at the Pentecost ?**

—Melville X. D'Souza
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O holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and Charity for his creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought, I implore of you to obtain for me (request). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle, even so, you are the Saint of Miracles. O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the Sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours.

—Mrs P. G. Fernandes, Wadala

Thanksgiving



May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Praised Adored, Glorified and Loved today and everyday throughout the world, now and forever.Amen!!

Ask St. Clare for three favours two impossible and say nine Hail Mary's and the above prayer for 9 days with a lighted candle and publish on the 9th day your request will be granted no matter how impossible it is

—Mrs. V. Mascarenhas, Bandra (W)

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Galileens Witnessed The Ascension Of Jesus



BY MELVYN BROWN

Theologians, researchers and scholars are often expert at dismantling historical camouflage and flaws if any. Their legal status and background makes them the authority for a true or false statement; and their verdict is often the final source for approving any claim or discrepancy.

In investigation on the Ascension of the Christ there was no evidence of falsehood or bluff to be found. The Ascension was a galvanizing moment in the history of the Christian faith: Jesus did rise in visible glory before many “men of Galilee” (Acts.1:11) who were witnesses to the reality found in Christianity.

The feast of the Ascension reflects the authority of the Church, and the Church constitutes the people of God, the laity. The lay Catholic person needs a priest in his life for the priest is a man of God. By his mere presence a priest represents the kingdom of God. The priest exists for God and does not live for any other purpose. He is present to comfort and guide the laity as is the will of God.

It is interesting to note that ‘forty days’ played a dynamic and important part in the ministry of Jesus’ mission on earth. Jesus Fasted for forty days in the wilderness (Mat.4:2). The Ascension happened Forty days after the Resurrection. During the Forty days after his Resurrection Christ appeared to his disciples (Acts.1:1-11).

Jesus taught them many things. He instructed his followers to remain in Jerusalem to be baptized and to receive the Holy Spirit, that they would obtain the power to be brave as witnesses in Samaria, Judea and Jerusalem.

One morning while the apostles were praying in the upper room with the

Virgin Mother of God, the Holy Spirit appeared in tongues of fire over the heads of those assembled and all of them could speak in different languages. The apostles came to understand about the spiritual soul which is created by God and is immortal. They learnt of the central mystery of the Christian faith, of the Holy Trinity, of love and forgiveness.

The apostle Paul in a letter to the Ephesians made a spiritual prayer for wisdom and revelation “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him....”(Eph.1:17-23).

In all that Jesus taught us has become a true Catholic heritage to be preserved, especially when he said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life.”(Jn.5:24). The ultimate reward for a believer in Christ is the gift of eternal life. We are called to defend the faith and the Word through the passage of our human weakness, declaring faithfulness to Jesus, Holy Mother the Church and the Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus had left behind a special prayer for the Apostles: “ They are not of the world even as I am not of the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth.” (Jn.17:16-17). St. Paul once said, a Christian is one who does not live for the world’s happiness, but for the happiness of God.

This week we celebrate the message for World Communication Day: called to a spiritual mission to propagate the Christian and Catholic faith, which is a generous and hard doctrine, nevertheless a teaching of the divine founder of the Catholic Church. The mass media of the Catholic Church must unite in heroic humility to promote,

preserve and protect the true medium of the faith in faithfulness to Christ, the Messiah; for Christ was not simply the lamb of God, but the “Bridegroom” (Jn.3:29).

The Church has chosen to promote World Communications Day on the feast of Our Lord’s Ascension. Remember to seal the words of Jesus on this day, for it is a divine and spiritual evaluation of compassion to “set the world on fire” through the media, telecommunications and cinema.

Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age” (Mt.28:20).

The Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus is the Mother of all wonders the world will ever know.

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1000 & More Animal Quiz

'1000 & More Animal Quiz' is a new quiz book brought to you by Jubel D'Cruz. The book contains over 1,400 questions with answers of different species of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures that are found in the sea. The book is priced at Rs 180/- per copy and has been published by St. Paul's Publications, Bandra, Mumbai in the 'Better Yourself Book Series'. This book is a 'must' for every school-going child right from Std I to Std X. Some of the questions with answers from this book are given below:

"Which bird from the sword-billed species has the longest bill of any bird relative to its body length?"

The answer is: "The hummingbird".

"Barn, spectacled and snowy are different species of which bird?"

The answer is: "Owl".

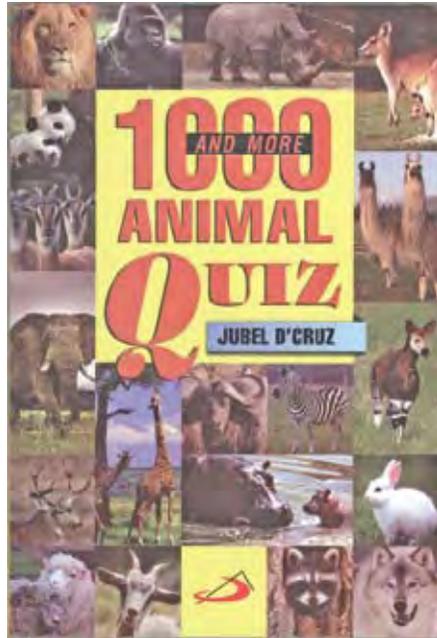
"How many eggs does a peacock lay every year?"

The answer is: "None. Peacocks do not lay eggs. It is the peahen that lays eggs."

"If the cheetah is the fastest animal on four legs, which animal or creature is the fastest on two legs?"

The answer is: "The ostrich".

"Which part of the enemy's body



does the spitting cobra of Africa aim at?"

The answer is: "The eyes".

"Is the Bombay Duck, a bird, a fish or an animal?"

The answer is: "A fish".

"Which is the only bird to have its nose at the end of its bill?"

The answer is: "The kiwi".

—Jubel D'Cruz

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PRAYER & THANKSGIVING



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

(If you are in difficulty, you can say this prayer)

Holy Spirit, You who makes me see everything and shows me the way to reach my ideal. You who gives me the Divine Gift to forgive and forget all that is done to me and you who are in all the instance of my life with me. I in this short dialogue want to thank you for everything affirm once more that I never want to be separated from you to matter how great the material desires of this life may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory to the end and submitting to God's Holy Will I ask you (mention your request here,)

This prayer should be said for three consecutive days and after the third day the request will be granted no matter how difficult it may be.

While making your request one must either; promise to publish this prayer on granting your request or promise to circulate copies of the prayer to as many People as possible,

—T. Y. M.

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Thanksgiving



Thanks to Divine Mercy, Our Lady of Vailankani, Our Lady of perpetual Succor and St. Anthony

—Gerald Vaz, Karwar



Cuba's first Catholic church in 60 years being built

Tampa: Funded by a parish in Florida, a new Catholic church is being built in Cuba and is the first the island nation has seen in 60 years.

Father Ramon Hernandez, pastor of St. Lawrence church in Tampa, said he and his parishioners are happy to see how their funds have financed the project, and said he looks forward to the inauguration Mass taking place early next year.

Saint Lawrence provided \$95,000 in donations for the church's construction in Sandino, Cuba, located in the western corner of the country, Catholic News Agency reported.

The new church, alongside a refurbished synagogue in Havana, shows Cuba's progress in religious freedom since Fidel Castro ushered in communism during his revolution in the 1960s. Atheism was established as the belief system for the entire state, and many religious leaders were faced with persecution. In 1992, however, Cuba was made a secular state.

"Cuba is changing," Fr. Hernandez said, according to the Tampa Bay Times. The priest is a native Cuban who celebrated Mass in churches hidden in the homes of faithful families. He left the country in the 1980s.

The new church will be called the Parish of Divine Mercy of Sandino, and will be led by Father Cirilo Castro. The 800 square foot building will have a maximum capacity of 200 people. An estimated 40,000 people live in the coastal town. The town's main industries involve citrus fruits, coffee, and fish.

Seminary professor appointed new bishop of Kottar

New Delhi: Pope Francis on May 20 appointed Father Nazarene Soosai as the new bishop of Kottar diocese that covers the southernmost region of mainland India.

The 54-year-old priest replaces Bishop Peter Remigius, who turned 78 on the same day.

This was announced at noon in Rome and its corresponding time in India, said a press note from Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, secretary general of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India.

The bishop-elect is currently the secretary of the Council of Priest of Kottar diocese as well as a member of the diocesan college of consulters.

He was born at Rajakkalamangalamthurai, a village in Kanyakumari district, on April 13, 1963, and joined St. Aloysius' Minor Seminary in Nagercoil after matriculation. He did his philosophical and theological studies from Sacred Heart Seminary in Poonamallee, Chennai and was ordained a priest for Kottar on April 2, 1989.

Pope surprises Rome's suburban homes

Rome : Pope Francis surprised a neighborhood in suburban Rome on Friday, May 20 afternoon by going door-to-door to bless houses.

The pope began doing monthly works of mercy during the 2015-2016 Jubilee Year of Mercy, and decided to continue the "Mercy Friday" practice even after the jubilee ended.

It is traditional in Italy during the sea-

son of Easter for the parish priest to individually bless each house in the parish – a process which can take weeks – so it was no surprise two days ago when Father Plinio Poncina, pastor of the parish of Stella Maris (Star of the Sea), posted a notice at a public housing complex that the apartments were going to be blessed.

It was a surprise when Francis knocked on the door.

Wearing a stole and holding a aspergillum to sprinkle holy water, the pope greeted the families in the apartment building, and blessed about a dozen homes.

86 Indians to attend Asian Youth Day in Indonesia

New Delhi: An 86-member Indian delegation is set to attend the 7th Asian Youth Day (AYD) in Indonesia.

"We have one archbishop, two bishops, 12 priests, two religious sisters and 69 youth from various parts of India to attend the AYD," Father Deepak KJ Thomas, secretary of Catholic Bishops' Conference of India-Office for Youth, told Matters India.

The Archdiocese of Semarang in Java region will host the July 30-August 6 meet.

Theme of the event at Jogjakarta is "Joyful Asian Youth! Living the Gospel in Multicultural Asia" with the Bible verse "Speaking in our own languages the mighty deeds of God" (Acts 2:1-12).

It was chosen as part of the Church's efforts to blend into the Asian culture and bring hope and joy of the Gospel to the poor and those marginalized groups.

AYD aims to provide an opportunity for young Catholics in Asia to renew and deepen their faith in multicultural Asia and acquaint with the efforts of the Indonesian Church to care for creation in its socio-cultural-religious diversity.

Connecting to Nature

by Dr. TREVOR COLASO

Finding silence and peace in the global vacuum of competitiveness, haste and strain, and in this urban jungle and chaos is challenging! We go to doctors to treat depression, insomnia and anxiety. Instead, we should be connecting to nature!

World Environment Day or Earth Day: For many of us, that moment of connection was, when we first started to understand the endless delights of nature when we held that first flower or leaf in childhood! The United Nations through its *Natural Lands Trust* is committed to fostering moments of connection to nature - through exploration of our preserves, for pure fun through hiking, informative programs, volunteerism, and event strategies; which indeed provide opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to be inspired and to learn from nature.

Thus was established 'World Environment Day or Earth Day' celebrated annually on 05 June, in order to create awareness and action for the protection and preservation of our environment and earth!

It was first held in 1974, with the theme: "Only One Earth"! The theme for 2017 is: "Connecting People to Nature - in the city and on land from pole to the equator"!

Ten Reasons for Connecting to Nature: 1. *The more high-tech our lives become, the more nature we need* - It improves our memory and even our sense of smell. So turn off your computer and get outside. 2. *Humans are hard-wired to love - and need exposure to the natural world.* Researchers have found that regardless of culture, people gravitate towards images of nature, especially the savannah, forests and lakes. 3. *We suffer physically, emotionally and spiritually when we withdraw from nature.* Australian professor Eleen Albrecht has coined the word, "solastalgia": solace and algia (pain), which she defines as the pain experienced when one recognizes that

the place where one resides and lives is under immediate assault! 4. *Nature brings our senses alive.* Scientists have determined that humans have the ability to track by scent and sight, which rival bats in smell and biosonar abilities. 5. *Businesses become smart:* At the University of Michigan, researchers have demonstrated that in workplaces designed with nature in mind, workers are more productive and take less sick leave. Even Attention spans improved by 20%. 6. *Nature Heals:* Researchers have found that patient with nature visions especially of trees had shorter hospitalization, and less need for pain medication! 7. *Nature can thus reduce depression and improve psychological wellbeing.* Other valid reasons are self explanatory ; 8. *Nature builds community bonds;* 9. *Bonds families and friends.* 10. *Benefits our future generations!*

Trees and Nature: There are at least ten blessings derived from trees. 1. Trees create an ecosystem to provide habitat and food for birds and animals. 2. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and harmful gases such as sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide, and release life-giving oxygen! 3. Trees reduce air temperature by blocking sunlight. The evaporation from a single large tree can produce the cooling effect of 10 room size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. 4. Trees absorb and block noise as much as 40%. Prolonged exposure to sound can cause high BP, cholesterol, irritability and aggressive behavior. 5. Decaying tree

leaves promote soil microorganisms and provide nutrients for growth. 5. Dust levels can reduce as much as 75% 7. Trees reduce soil erosion . 8. They increase ground water recharge, and reduce the potentially harmful chemicals transported to our streams. 9. A tree can add music to your life by attracting birds. They soften the harsh outline of masonry, metal, asphalt, steel and glass. 10. A study at Salt Lake City revealed that tree canopy reduced surface runoff by 11.3 million gallons following one inch of rain!

Mumbai's Lung (SGNP): Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) with an area of 104 sq.km. or 40 sq miles is Mumbai's lung! The Kanheri caves was an ancient Buddhist learning center. Its catchment areas of Vihar, Tulsi and Povai lakes provide some of Mumbai's drinking needs, as well as recreations avenues. It is home to over 1,000 plant species, 251 migratory birds, 50,000 insects, 40 species of mammals, 150 types of butterflies, 47 species of reptiles and amphibians, and a large variety of fish. Besides it provides much needed tourist income. In Nov. 2004 it collected Rs. 9.8 billion!

Bible Ecology: "The Lord God placed man in the 'garden of Eden' to cultivate it and to guard it" (Genesis2:15). Even in times of war and conflict we have to protect trees, for they are our friends! "When you are trying to capture a city, do not cut down its fruit trees, even though the siege lasts a long time. Eat the fruit, but do not destroy the trees: the trees are not your enemies" (Deut 20: 19). be all the more sure to clothe you? O men of little faith! (Matthew 6: 28-30).

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Towards Your Bright Future

High school is a beautiful place. You explore your personality in ways you never imagined. Believe it or not, this is one of the best times of your life. Your entire future lies ahead of you, you can shape it exactly the way you want to. And now is a great time to start thinking about it. Do remember that nothing in life is constant, it might as well happen, and that your career plans change too. As a matter of fact, experts have the opinion that the average person will change careers, more than five times in his or her lifetime. There are several interesting and lucrative career options in India apart from the clichéd ones like doctors, engineers, or civil services. You don't have to necessarily follow the crowd. Do what you're good at.

'Automation' disaster is yet to show its massacre. In the next 5 years 60% of the IT workforce will be automated (meaning 60% of the employees will be fired)

But it is high time that Indian youngsters should give up their 'Information Technology' orgasms and start to accustom to a new revolution. The IT revolution is almost done. It started withering off with the mass laying off by the corporate giants. India, which has always been a 'vendor' nation for the IT requirements of the world loses its grip as the outsourcing has been robbed by the insourcing to newly blossomed sect of European and American engineers. Even the start ups are going to crumble as they have already reached a saturation point. This doesn't mean we are left jobless. We just haven't explored an ocean of possibilities and opportunities because the IT gave us a sophisticated dungeon with centralised air conditioning and free cappuccino. We are a nation of engineers and technicians. Till the earth rotates on that imaginary axis, it will always need these guys



with tools to engineer and maintain new things. Computers and their evolution are just 2-3 decades old.

Also, Medicine field is becoming more stressful and does not have the returns. Law is already overcrowded.

There is a whole planet outside your IT corridors. Come build things on it.

There are a whole new list of unexplored needs of this planet and its survival. I will list a few rarely touched fields but there are thousands more. Concentrate on them. Especially, the students, who have just completed their school education and waiting for their college admissions in India must look out for these options and set their career towards them. I can vouch for these fields because the coming years will need a lot of human resource to tackle the needs of these fields. Be smart, be vigilant, train yourselves and embrace the future opportunities.

- * Climatic analysis and management
- * Ocean studies
- * Geology and disaster management
- * Water reservoirs planning and creation, Flood & Drought management
- * Meteorological studies
- * Aquatic life studies
- * Material studies and management
- * Fuel, power and energy management
- * Textile studies and management
- * Linguistics (Language expertise) & translations
- * Marketing Management in unex-

plored sectors like politics, science, films & social media

- * International law and political studies
 - * Psychology and Psychoanalysis
 - * Artistry, Digital art and designing
 - * Teaching
 - * Educational studies and management
 - * Analytical studies in all fields
 - * Astronomy and other studies of Space technology
 - * Waste management and recycling studies
 - * Survival studies
 - * Demography & Culture studies
 - * History and archaeological studies
 - * Film Production and associated expertise
 - * Fashion engineering
 - * Nutrition and Healthcare management
 - * Cyber security
 - * Travel management and writing
 - * Mapping and related studies
 - * Martial arts and techniques for defence fields
 - * Sports studies (for both players and referee/umpiring) and training
 - * Content creation and analysis
 - * Genetics and Genomics
 - * Bio engineering
- And a lot more.

These not so vibrant but variant fields are least likely to get affected by any recession too. Choose your best possible field and never worry about being jobless in the future.

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- ♦ Team Work Building

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6407. KOLAPUR : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in January 1985), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn., M.B.B.S., M.D. Medicine and now studing for Super Speciality Cardiology at Manipal Hospital Old Airport Bangalore. Contact No. - 9273337666 , 9422628636 OR email : boom_anup_41@yahoo.com

6695. MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC bachelor, (Born in Auguat 1972), Ht. 5'9", Wt. 77 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. F.Y. B.Com., + IATA, working as a C.S. Associate in MNC., Contact email : binatone55@gmail.com OR Phone : 25441116 / 9619742315 / 9619032564

6667 MUMBAI : Goan R.C. Bachelor, B.Com., (Born in January 1983) Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair, smart and good natured. Non alcoholic and non smoker. Seeks a fair, good looking, good natured slim Goan RC girl. Contact Mob: 9930466725

6652 MUMBAI : Mangalorean R.C. Bachelor, (Born in November 1988) Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.B.A. Marketing, working as an Executive in well known Private Company. Contact email : menezesajit@yahoo.com

6648. MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor (Born in June 1970) Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 60kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. 12th Std., working as a AC Mechanic in Abroad. Contact email : vivinacardoza18@gmail.com OR 9987433677

6647. MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor (Born in January 1982) Ht. 164 cms, Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Engineering, working as a Sr. Executive. Contact

email : pereirapraveen@gmail.com OR 9833379899

6641. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in July 1982), Ht. 6' 1", Wt. 100 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, working as an Engineer, Contact email : melvinsaldanha20@gmail.com or 9820477618

6637. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1987), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. T.Y. B.Com., Hardware & Networking Diploma, working as a Technical Team Leader & Coordinator. Contact email : bipinsw52@gmail.com

6636. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in September 1983), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E., working as a Technical Lead. Contact email : joy.dominic@gmail.com

6613 MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in May 1984), Ht. 5' 11", Wt.80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MCA, working in Leading IT firm. Contact email : bardeskar.agnel11@gmail.com

6605. MUMBAI : Gujarati RC Divorcee, (Born in June 1963), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Sr. Accountant. Contact email : parmar777@gmail.com

6598. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in September 1984), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Post Grad. Diploma , working as a GM-Marketing. Contact email : gomes.gavin@gmail.com

6597. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in April 1978),

Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion,Edn. B.Com., working as a Customer Support. Contact email : augustinelobo_78@yahoo.com

6587. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1984), Ht. 6', Wt. 95 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn.B.E. working as a Civil Engineer. Contact email : matrimonial.2312@gmail.com

6586. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in January 1985), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., LL.B., M.S.W., Working as HR Executive. Contact email : advocatecastelino@yahoo.in

6585. MUMBAI : Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in June 1988), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. EXTC Engineering, working as a Networking Engineer. Contact email : 18.elaine@gmail.com

6584. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in October 1978), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 79 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Electrical Engineering), MBA (Marketing), working as a Manager with an IT Technology Company. Contact email : austin.alva@gmail.com

6583. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in June 1987), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA Finance, Working as an Asst. Manager in reputed private bank. Contact email : alliancesralph@gmail.com

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6300. GOA : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1982), Ht. 5', Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, Edn. SSC., self employed. Contact email : 4.saviola@gmail.com OR 9769598323

6536. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1991), Ht. 168cms, Wt. 64 kgs, Beautiful, Fair Complexion, Edn. Master in Dental, studing PG in Doctorate, Dactor by profession. Contact email : kcmesm@gmail.com

6697. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1979), 5' 2", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate / PGDHM, working as a Administor. Contact email : jmjcapri-con@rediffmail.com

6696. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1991), 5' 1", Wt. 49 kgs, Fair, Edn. MBA - Finance, working as a Finance Executive in **DUBAI**. Contact email : moraes.cheryl@gmail.com

6694. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1991), 5' 4", Wt. 57 kgs, Wheatish, Edn. MBA - Finance, working as a Trade Finance Assistant in **DUBAI**. Contact email : rochellemoraes91@gmail.com

6692. MUMBAI : Matrimonial alliance is invited for Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in February 1990), 5' 3", fair, goodlooking, Lecturer, seeks alliance from Catholic bachelors, around 30, sober, good family values, financially sound, well qualified, havings own accommodation email details to : rchldsilva@gmail.com

6691. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Widow, (Born in December 1965), Ht. 5', Wt. 59 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., B.Ed., working as a Teacher in **BAHRAIN**. Contact email : noellachristine64@

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

6689. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1990), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc. B.Ed., M.A. M.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : sspasware@gmail.com

6548. MUMBAI : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1986), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 66 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. PGDBM NMIMS, working as a Manager. Contact email : prabha.nadar@hotmail.com

6545. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1989), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA Finance, working as a Financial analysisist. Contact email : elveera.26@gmail.com

6543. MUMBAI : Maharashtrian Prot-estant Spinster, (Born in August 1977), looks much younger to her age, Ht. 5', Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. T.Y. B.Com., working as an Account Assistant. Contact email : sonali_wagh-choure@yahoo.com

6542. AUSTRALIA : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1988), Ht. 159 cms, Wt. 57 kgs, Fair, good looking, Edn. Masters in Biotechnology from University of Queensland, Australia, working as Scientist (Research) in Australia, Seeks qualified and godfearing boy

settled in Australia, US and Canada. Contact email : patsynazareth123@gmail.com

6538. MUMBAI : God fearing Mangalorean RC Spinster, (Born in January 1980), 5' 6", from good family working for a MNC seeks groom. Reply with recent photo to innlo@hotmail.com

6632. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1989), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Travel Counsellor in MNC. Contact email : denverr89@gmail.com

6628. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1992) Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Electronics), working as an Asst. Engineer. Contact email : dsz.roshan@gmail.com

6617. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1992), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 ks, Fair Complexion, Edn. MMS / MBA working as a HR in MNC. Only Child. Seeks a groom below 28 years, preferably Mangalorean. Contact email : amd19901992@gmail.com

6604. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in 29-11-1981), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.Y. B.Com., wokring in Dubai. Contact Mob.: 9820733952

6603. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in 26-5-1975), Ht. 167 cms, Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., & Diploma in Export, working as an Export Admin. Secretary, Contact email: sindhupatil75@gmail.com

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6602. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July -1981), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Trainer. Contact email : charlottesimpleindian@hotmail.com

6601. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in 29-3-1989), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 62 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. ICWA, Working for Finance Industry. Contact email : jenniferabreo29@gmail.com

6600. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1989), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a HR Executive. Contact email : britto_leena@hotmail.com

6687. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1989), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A., B.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : snlpinto@gmail.com

6686. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1979), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Sr. Customer Service Associate. Contact email : springwater1948@gmail.com

6679. MUMBAI: RC Goan parents seeks matrimonial alliance for their daughter, (Born in November 1989), Ht. 5' 3", slim, attractive personality, B.Tech, MBA from India's premier institutions, senior manager in renowned US based MNC from highly educated, professionally qualified and well-settled Roman Catholic bachelors in India/abroad with good family background and values. Kindly email profile and picture to tsm8759@gmail.com

6671. MUMBAI: Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1965), Ht. 5', Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SSC, working as a Co-ordinator, Seeks a suitable match. Contact : 9619392879

6670. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1984), Ht. 5' 4", Wheatish Complexion,

Edn. B.A., working as a Flight supervisor, Air Hostess. Contact email : carnations984@gmail.com

6661. GUJARAT : Goan / Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1983), Ht. 5' 6", Fair Complexion, Edn. D'ed, B.A., B'ed, from Mumbai University, working as a teacher in Convent School. Contact email : juhaina.2015@rediffmail.com

6653. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1990), Ht. 5' 2", Fair Complexion, Edn. M.B.B.S., Doctor & pursuing M.D. Seeks M.D. / M.S., Doctors. Contact email : selwynhenriques13@gmail.com

6651. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1984), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Customer Support in **DUBAI**. Contact email : dsilva.seema@gmail.com

6645. ABU DHABI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster from Mumbai (Born October 1992), Ht. 5' 5" (166 cms), 62 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, B. Com, MBA (Finance) U.K. working for a Bank in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Family U.A.E. based for past 25 years. Seeks a Professionally qualified bachelor, below 30 years working or settled overseas / On Board with sober habits, good family values, from a respectful family. Contact email : leteciaprisca@gmail.com

6599. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September -1980), Ht. 5' 5", slim, young and good looking, Edn. B.A. + Music Exams, Teacher by profession. Seeks a well settled tall bachelor. Contact email : septsmile3@gmail.com

6582. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1990), 5' 1", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as Coordinator, Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : btorres756@gmail.com

6580. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1982), 5' 2", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M. Pharm, Ph.D., Seeks a

well settled qualified bachelor. Contact : email : apoline_ubi@yahoo.co.in

6578. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1985), Ht. 5' 5", Fair Complexion, Edn. Under graduate, working as a Customer Support staff. Contact email : jasgemini2011@hotmail.com

6577. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in April 1989), Ht. 4' 10", Fair Complexion, Beautiful, Edn. Dip. in HM & Bakery, working as a Cashier / Ordertaker. Contact email : nshksp@gmail.com OR 9833845074

6557. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1989), Ht. 5' 1", Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., M.S. in California, working in **CALIFORNIA**, Seeks a Post graduate working in **U.S.** below 31 years. Contact email : jwanita@gmail.com OR helen_monis@rediffmail.com

6535. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1988), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Beautiful, Very Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., IT., Masters in Media Art & Animation & Editin. Working as an Editor. Contact email : simonsjl@vsnl.com

6532. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, Only Child, (Born in December 1976), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.A. Communication, working as an Assistant. Contact email : ashajob@hotmail.com

6560. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1986), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 79 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., MBA in HR, working in a Reputed MNC in Mumbai. Contact email : jfran1302@gmail.com

6527. DUBAI : Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1987), Ht. 5' 3", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A. in Mass Media, working as a Senior Executive in Govt. in Dubai. Staying with parents. Seeks a well settled and educated East Indian or Goan Bachelor. Contact email : axferns@gmail.com

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Skill Learning Courses
(over 200 courses to make your personality more smarter)
www.limrt.com

Christian Marriage Proposals
(for marriageable family members)
from
Royal Christian Family

Advertisement Space:
Wish your loved ones on good occasions in the weekly
The Secular Citizen

THE SECULAR CITIZEN
weekly for 5 years
A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY
Published since 26 years
and much more

Progressive minded Christian Families are participating and enjoying the benefits and advantages of this Scheme.

We invite you too to be one among them

Skill Learning Courses are ideal for school-college students, Professionals and Businessmen and all those who want to reach next level in their life: www.limrt.com

A five year period package at Rs. 5000 brings you whole lot of important rare to get benefits and facilities several times more than the worth

The benefits:

1. Subscription to **the Secular Citizen** for five years
2. Advertisement space in **the Secular Citizen** (every year worth Rs. 1000) for five years **Rs. 5000**
3. Opportunity to learn over 200 Skill Learning Courses of your choice at www.limrt.com for five years (normally Rs. 500 is charged to learn each course) (Under **Family Package** you can learn courses of your choice)(eLearning)
4. Membership in **Royal Christian Family** for choosing the Life Partner for marriageable family members (Normally Rs. 2000 is charged for individual member for one year period) (Royal Christian Family offers services since 36 years in providing wide choice of Proposals for marriageable aged boys and girls) (www.royalchristianfamily.com)
6. And several other offers - opportunities throughout the 5year period.

For this scheme 'Family' includes: Father, Mother and Children

Confidentiality will be maintained

Contact :

The Secular Citizen

99, Perin Nariman Street, 1st Floor, Fort, Mumbai 400001

Tel.: 022 - 22693578, 22654924 Email: secular@sezariworld.com

Royal Christian Family and The Secular Citizen has been serving the community for over 36/26 years

The amount can be paid by NEFT, Cheque, DD, MO or by Cash (in the office)

Bank details for making NEFT :

Bank: HDFC Bank
Branch : CST - Mumbai VT
Account Name: The Secular Citizen
Account No. 03552000006744
ISFC code: HDFC0000355