

# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

(Total pages 24)

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

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## Dil Ka Dard

In 2014 (seems so long ago now) you claimed to be different, that you did not believe in vote bank politics, that you would kick start the economy, eradicate corruption, have less Government and more governance, and that you would encourage "make in India". By way of a gentle reminder to your 56" chest (is that where your dil is?) you had also said that within 15 days every Indian would get Rupees 15 lakhs from Swiss bank accounts into their own accounts.

## St. Padre Pio's Annual Feast Celebrated with Grandeur !

Mangaluru: The annual feast of St. Padre Pio was celebrated on September 24, Sunday evening at St. Ann's Friary near Jail Road, Mangaluru. St Padre Pio who is popularly known as "the mirror of mercy" was venerated in a grand manner. For the last 9 days novenas were held as the preparation for this feast in St Ann's Friary Chapel.

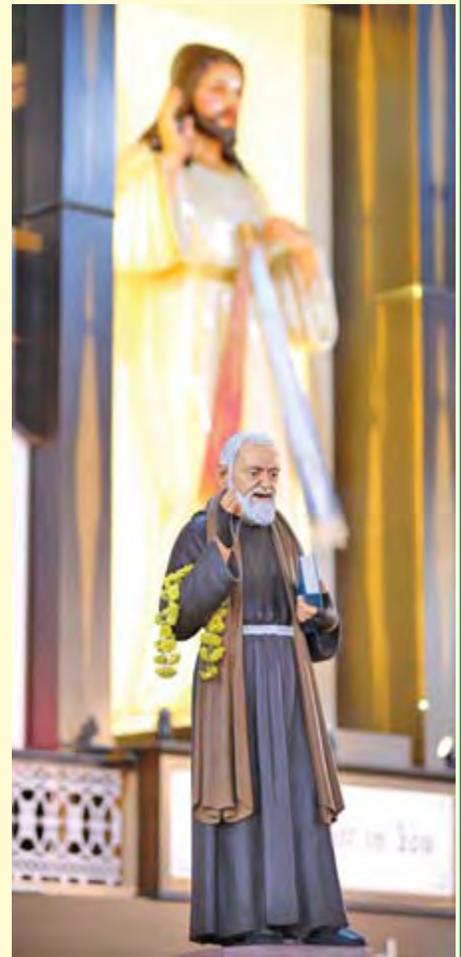


St Padre Pio is a great example for a life of simplicity and prayer. We too should make efforts to attain the holiness in life like that of Pio, he said. The choir was angelic led by Sangeeth Guru Joel Pereira. After the Eucharistic celebration Bishop Francis was honoured after which he released 'a Franciscan Capuchin Diary 2018'. This biblical diary contains the daily word of God reflections for the year 2018 prepared by 12 Capuchins Friars of Mangalore.

The feast was celebrated in the Divine Mercy Retreat Hall (in the campus of St Ann's Friary) with the presence of around 1700 faithful including the priests and nuns. At 5.00 pm the procession of Padre Pio's relic was held.

At 6.00pm the Eucharist was celebrated, which was presided over by Rev Dr Francis Serravo, Bishop of Shivmoga diocese. Bishop Francis in his homily stressed that families should inculcate simple life style and remind the new generation the rich traditions of our families and society.

Fr Paul Melwyn, the Superior of St Ann's Friary and Fr Darick, the Animator of St Pio's Shrine thanked one and all. Sumptuous dinner was served to



all the faithful.

Report : Fr. Jawahar Jerry Cutinho,  
Photos : Studio Aurora, Mangalore

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### Thanksgiving



Our lady of Vailankanni Cured me as I was suffering from a diseases for sometime. I thank her for the favour granted.

—Anthony Rodrigues, Dubai

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**'Thought for the week'**

*Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.*

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(Article on p. 7)

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**WISDOM and PHILOSOPHY**

*by Don Aguiar*

**P**hilosophy, the very word, means love for wisdom, and they have nothing to do with wisdom at all. Wisdom happens only through meditation; it never happens by collecting information. It happens by going through a transformation. Wisdom is the flowering of your consciousness, the opening of the one-thousand-petaled lotus of your being. It is the release of your fragrance, the release of the imprisoned splendor. Real philosophy has nothing to do with thinking; on the contrary it has everything to do with transcending thinking, going beyond and beyond thinking, going beyond mind, reaching to the pure space of no-mind. Out of that space something flowers in you. You can call it Christ-consciousness, or whatsoever you like. That is true philosophy.

It is said that most of the Jew population was wiped out during the Second World War. Thomas, at the end of the war, many decades later, went to the spot where the war took place. He looked around and wondered if the war really happened, if the ground beneath him had soaked all that blood, if the great Hitler stood where he stood.

"You will never know the truth about that!" said an aging voice.

Thomas turned around to find a beautiful woman in white and blue robes appearing out of a column of dust. "I know you are here to find out about the Second World War, but you cannot know that till you know what the real war is about." the woman said enigmatically.

"What do you mean?" The war perhaps a reality, but definitely a philosophy. The woman smiled luring Thomas into more questions.

"Can you tell me what the philosophy is then?" Thomas requested.

The Message of Christ is nothing but your five senses – Sight, hearing, tasting, smelling, and touching in the spirit...

And do you know what Satan and his adversaries are? She asked narrowing her eyes.

They are the hundred vices that attack your senses everyday but you can fight them.... And do you know how?

(Contd.. on p. 4)

(Contd.. from p. 3)

Thomas shook his head again.

“When Jesus rides your chariot!”

The woman smiled brighter and Thomas gasped at that gem of insight. Jesus is your inner voice, your soul, your guiding light and if you let your life in his hands you have nothing to worry.

Thomas was stupefied but came around quickly with another question. “Then why are most humans and in particular the Christians most of the time for Satan and his adversaries, if they are the vices?”

The women nodded sadder for the question.

It just means that as you grow up, your perception of your elders change. The elders who you thought were perfect in your growing up years are not all that perfect. They have faults. And one day you will have to decide if they are for your good or bad. Then you may also realize that you may have to fight them for the good. It is the hardest part of growing up and that is why the Bible is important

Thomas slumped down on the ground, not because he was tired but because he could understand and was stuck by the enormity of it all.

He thought of his younger days when he was a boy and thought of committing suicide, he drank poison, but his father saved him. He tried to hang himself, but his mother saved him. He met with an accident, the doctor saved him. He jumped

into the well, the villagers saved him. At last after getting tired of committing suicide he got married, no one could save him.

What about karma? He whispered.

“Ah!” said the woman. “You have saved the best for the last. Karma is the brother of your senses, he is desire, he is part of you but stands with the vices. He feels wronged and makes excuses for being with the vices as your desire does all the time.

Does your desire not give you excuse to embrace vices?

Thomas thoughts went to the Parish Priest he met recently and the encounter this Parish Priest had with one of his alcoholic parishioners - “If you drink so much you will go to hell.” The priest told the alcoholic. The alcoholic asked “then what about the aunty who makes liquor for me.” Priest replied “she will also go to hell”.

The alcoholic then asked “what about the man opposite Auntie’s liquor shed who sells fish fry, chicken fry, sausage fry and all delicious items to eat along with liquor”. Priest replied “Yes he also will go to hell”. The Alcoholic had a big smile on his face and said “Father, if Daru and Chakna will be in hell then who wants to go to heaven”.

Deep in thought staring in thin air Thomas thought of the story Fr Calistus told him

about the Blessed Virgin Mary also known as Our Lady of Fatima who appeared to the three Shepherd children in 1917. He realized that most people the world over presently are doing just the opposite of the Virgins message..... Just as the beautiful woman with the aging voice had told him.....

BUT With the help of Jesus through Mary, each and every one can take each day the first step toward their brother or sister, and so build together, day by day, peace in love, in justice, and in truth and show by your lives and by your works the passionate and tender love of God for the little ones, the underprivileged, the vulnerable and those whom our world has discarded

Thomas nodded silently. He looked at the ground, consumed with a million thoughts, trying to put everything together and then when he looked up the woman was gone.... Disappeared in the column of dust.... **Leaving behind the great philosophy of life!**

This year 2017 the SHRINE OF OUL LADY OF FATIMA – KARJAT will be celebrating the centenary on 15th October 2017 of the appearance of the Virgin to the three shepherd children and her subsequent message which has been passed on to all of us to reflect on, action and practice.

Wish you all a Happy Feast. May the message of Our Lady of Fatima enlighten one and all to practice and propagate her message which at present, as you look around the world over, is the need of the hour

### MATRIMONIAL

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster (Born in April 1973), 5’ 5” tall, looks much younger to her age, good looking, fair complexion with qualifications, B.Com. (Mumbai), M.B.A. Finance (Canada), M.B.A., (H.R.) and Diplomas in I.T. (NIIT), Comp. (APTEC), and Cert.Ind Acct. (I.C.A.), working in good position. Graduate / Post Graduate unmarried R.C. Bachelors upto 47 years, employed in good position and well settled in Mumbai or abroad. Contact email.: bellwether77@yahoo.com OR Mob.: 9892700617

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## Magnificat in Konkani script

It is indeed a great honour and a matter of pride for the church in Goa to find a place for the Magnificat in Konkani language to be installed among those in other world languages in the church of the Visitation in Jerusalem. It is another matter as to how many of our Goans can read and understand Konkani script. Nevertheless, there are several lessons to be learnt from Luke's Magnificat in which Mary is presented to represent women and the poor who are socially and economically oppressed in society. Mary's gratitude to God in the hymn is not because she was blessed with a child who was to be the Messiah, but because God has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant and humble attitude, and rewarded her with the honour that everyone will henceforth call her "blessed". The Magnificat is also a reminder that God is merciful to those that fear Him but scatters the proud, who like the mighty kings are brought down from their thrones, while those who are humble and fear God are lifted up.

—A. F. Nazareth  
Alto Porvorim)

## The calamity at Elphinstone Station is manmade

The concerned authorities in railways, ministers, politicians and even the railway minister MUST be prosecuted for Murder of 22 innocent citizens! The accident took place due to the apathy of the railway authorities! Will the Mumbai High Court pick up my letter as a PIL? In the mean time they should be punished severely.

—Fr Michael G.  
Apangseva  
Samajshudhdi Abhiyan  
Vianney Ashram, Sandor, Vasai  
401201. Mob.9326433487.

## Mumbaikars' Spirit at breaking point

The proverbial Spirit of Mumbaikars has taken a severe beating and is at breaking point. The Elphinstone station tragedy which killed 22 persons, is just not acceptable. Where in the wide world does one see 10 persons being run over daily by local trains? Or falling off trains with regular frequency? Or falling between train and platform? Where can you see people travelling daily for hours from one end of the city to the other in overcrowded suffocating trains with such stoic resignation?

Not any longer. We demand action and accountability, not audits and boards meetings. We demand Japanese-edge technology for upgradation of the Railways so as to benefit the common man, and not a few rich businessmen. We demand a safe and comfortable commute in Mumbai

— Prof. Robert Castellino

## Green Diwali

Though Diwali is a festival of lights symbolising triumph of good over evil, today like many other festivals, Diwali has become a festival of noise and pollution. Something common to the festival of lights all over the country is fire crackers.

The real meaning of bursting crackers seems to have been lost to a great extent as grand fireworks have become a status symbol for the vulgar display of ill-gotten wealth for the rich and others are either cowed down by their sheer money and muscle power and blindly follow them. For them it has become fashionable to use fireworks in a manner that causes maximum distress and annoyance to people with scant disregard to the impact it has on environment. With pollution levels in most of our cities already in the danger zone little do people realize that fireworks make way for toxic substances that enfold the atmosphere which are deleterious to the health of all living beings.

For an enlightening educational and awareness PowerPoint Presentation on the HAPPY GREEN DIWALI click the link <http://infantjesusjogeshwari.in/gem-ppt-11-happy-green-diwali/>

You can use this PPT to bring awareness on this important issue for various groups like school/college students, church groups, NGOs, Hsg society members etc. Also feel free to forward it to your contacts.

—Fr Felix Rebello  
[www.infantjesusjogeshwari.in](http://www.infantjesusjogeshwari.in)

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## Fr Gilbert de Lima elected vice-president of IDC

**R**ev Fr Gilbert de Lima, parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes' church Orlem, Malad, was recently elected vice-president of the International Diaconate Centre (IDC). The IDC conducts a Study Conference every four years. This year the conference was held in Lourdes, France, from Sep 7-10 .



*Fr Gilbert de Lima received by the Holy Father after the IDC conference*

The conference was attended by over 200 delegates from 30 countries. The election was held during the Study Conference.

Fr Gilbert de Lima has a long association with the diaconate ministry being the Diaconate Director, Mumbai from its very inception till date. At the international level too his role is appreciated by fellow delegates . It is a measure of his popularity that he secured the largest number of votes during the elections in Lourdes

The International Diaconate Centre (IDC) is an association with over 1100 director members from 50 countries. It provides networking for Diaconate Directors worldwide. There are 46,500 permanent deacons worldwide. Interestingly, there are only a dozen odd Permanent Deacons in the arch diocese of Mumbai and even less across the country. In stark contrast dioceses in the west have several hundred permanent deacons. The archdiocese of Chicago currently has over 750 permanent deacons while the number in the archdiocese of Los Angeles is above 450

Deacons, are considered part of the clergy and share some of the faculties of priests. They can independently administer two of the seven Sacraments, namely, Baptism and Matrimony. They can also assist priests and bishops in administering the other five Sacraments and can preside at funerals. They can also deliver homilies during Sundays services. Permanent deacons, as the name suggests, are permanent in nature and are to be distinguished from clerical deacons in the seminary who are known as deacons during the final year prior to the ordination. Thereafter they become priests.

Permanent deacons are married persons who are willing to and have time to take up work assisting priests and the church . Unmarried persons are also admitted to the diaconate, however they are not permitted to marry after their ordination. In both cases the candidates have to be of mature age. The candidates are required to undergo 4 years of training at a seminary.

The institution of Permanent Deacons took shape after Vatican II. However it took some time to see the light of day in India. It was on January 22, 2006, that Bombay became the first and only diocese in India to introduce the permanent Diaconate when, the then Archbishop of Bombay, Cardinal Ivan Dias, ordained two permanent Deacons, Lloyd Dias (78) and Elwyn Dsouza (53) . On April 4, 2009, Cardinal Oswald Gracias ordained eight candidates to the permanent Diaconate. Today there are 15 Permanent Deacons in Mumbai archdiocese while seven candidates are undergoing training and studies at the seminary.

—Prof Robert Castellino. Mumbai

## The Rosary – a chain of Beads ?

**A** few weeks ago, we celebrated the feast of the Nativity of our Mary, celebrated in the city of Mumbai with much fanfare, especially, at the Basilica of Our Lady of the Mount at Bandra. Thousands of devotees, people of all faiths, throng the shrine and the popular Bandra fair that continues for a week. The Velankanni shrines at Bhate Bunder, Uttan, Irla, Mahim are some of the popular shrines which devotees frequent. It is evident that Mary has a special place in the Catholic Church and in the hearts of our catholic brethren. Mary is the mother not only of Jesus but she is the mother of the Church, the mother of All of us. Mary is our intercessor with Jesus, pleading with Jesus on our behalf. We see the devotion the world over – Fatima in Portugal, Lourdes in France, and so many other places around the world. Our faith in Mother Mary is boundless.



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

What do people pray before Mother Mary ? While we have the novena services at St. Michael's and elsewhere, one of the most common and popular prayers people offer to Mother Mary, is the Rosary. Rosaries - beads put together in a chain, in various colours, fluorescent colours, beads of glass, plastic, wood, some scented. Some wear the Rosary around the neck like a chain – a chain of beads ! In many a home, one will find a huge, colourful or fluorescent, radium Rosary hung around the Altar or around the statue of our Lady of Fatima, in decoration. Looks Great, magnificent – absolutely !

A couple of months back, a non-christian colleague of mine who had returned from a tour of Europe, presented me with a Rosary & a Cross key chain, from the Vatican. He said he was wondering what he should take as a gift for his catholic friends and he says the tour guide advised him that a Rosary would be an ideal gift.

The Family Rosary is a daily practice in many a home. It is common to find some praying the Rosary even while the Mass is in progress. It's now the month of October and it's Rosary Time once again. Members of the various communities come together to recite the Rosary in the various sectors/zones, as also in the month of May when the recitation of the Rosary is a Grand affair. Great devotion, one would say.

Praying the rosary in our homes, in our sectors/zones is all very well. The Altar decorated with bright, fluorescent, radium Rosaries presents a very pleasing sight. Wearing the Rosary for some, may make them feel good. But, in the midst of all this aura of holiness, what are we trying to portray ? While we pray the rosary in our sectors/zones alongwith members of the community, we need to ask ourselves, where is all this going to lead me ? Are we being sincere in my intentions ?

(Contd.. on p. 7)

# Dil Ka Dard

**Y**eh mere dil ka dard hai (the pain in my heart). Pradhanmantriji, I have not heard your “Mann ki Baat” on All India Radio, as it comes across as moralising propaganda. Mera dil hai Hindustani, so I want to express to you the anguish of my heart; not some lofty ideals from the mind.

In 2014 (seems so long ago now) you claimed to be different, that you did not believe in vote bank politics, that you would kick start the economy, eradicate corruption, have less Government and more governance, and that you would encourage “make in India”. By way of a gentle reminder to your 56” chest (is that where your dil is?) you had also said that within 15 days every Indian would get Rupees 15 lakhs from Swiss bank accounts into their own accounts.

By all accounts you have failed on your promises. Not really. You have succeeded on one front – elections! With your spin doctors and a pliant media you have won most of the elec-

tions post 2014. Political analysts tell us that this was largely due to the “social engineering” formula of your Man Friday, Amit Shah. This so-called “social engineering” is nothing but re-packaged vote bank politics. You have engineered defections from Manipur in the East, to Gujarat in the West, Uttarakhand in the North, Goa in the South, and Bihar in the middle. In an earlier article I had referred to this as “insipid poached eggs”. Despite having a brute majority in the U.P. Assembly, you “socially engineered” the resignation of 5 opposition MLCs so that the seats vacated by them could now be occupied by Yogi the Chief Minister, and his two deputies – Dinesh Sharma and Keshav Prasad Maurya. So how are you different from the rest of the pack? You differ only in degree; you are worse than the rest.

The same thumb rule applies to vote bank politics. Hindutva was your biggest vote bank, and you did everything possible to enhance that appeal – from the Ayodhya temple issue, cow vigilantism, beef ban, Uniform Civil Code, demonisation of the Muslim community, and choosing a President whose only claim to fame was his dalit background. So your second claim also falls flat on its face.

Your third electoral promise was to kick start the economy which you cleverly described as being in “pol-

icy paralysis”, a term that the media lapped up. In fact it was more a case of political paralysis after the Congress lost Pranabh Mukherjee, its astutest politician, to Rashtrapati Bhawan. The “paralysis” was accentuated by an ideologically fragmented coalition Govt; and a concern for the environment. You don’t suffer such handicaps. You don’t seem to care for the environment either. There was no Minister for Environment for several months. You attended the Art of Living bash on the banks of the Yamuna even though the National Green Tribunal had repeatedly said that it was causing irreparable damage to the river’s fragile eco system. You increased the height of the Narmada dam knowing full well its damage to the environment and adverse impact on poor tribals. After all your voters are in Gujarat, where the dam(n) waters will flow.

Coming to the economy itself, mature and learned economists like Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen and former PM Manmohan Singh had forewarned of the dangers of a reckless 56” economic strike. You cared a damn. Now your very own former Finance Minister, Yashwant Singh, has set the cat among the pigeons, causing more than a flutter. I quote ad verbatim from his article in the Indian Express:

“So, what is the picture of the Indian economy today? Private investment has shrunk as never before in two decades, industrial production has all but collapsed, agriculture is in distress, construction industry, a big employer of the work force, is in the doldrums, the rest of the service sector is also in the slow lane, exports have dwindled, sector after sector of the economy is in distress, demon-



by chhotebhai \*

(Contd.. from p. 6)

**Even as we dedicate the decades of the rosary for the intentions of the community, we may be taking our neighbour to court, or maybe we are wishing ill for those relatives whom we love to hate, for those in society who have more riches than us ? We need to ask ourselves, where is the Rosary leading us ? As I move along from one bead of the Rosary to another, from one decade to another, am I moving closer to Jesus ? Are the youth also moving alongwith us, towards Jesus ? Mary is leading the way, are we following on that way ? Is my rosary leading me towards the greater glory of God ? If not, then I’m afraid, our rosaries, our prayers, novenas, are going to be a waste of time ! That chain of beads on which we pray the Rosary will be just a ‘chain of beads’ - perhaps a piece of decoration !**

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(Contd.. on p. 19)



**‘V**asudhaiva Kutumbakam’ meaning *‘the whole world is one family’*, is an ancient Sanskrit phrase found in the Maha Upanishad, one of the Sacred Texts of Hinduism. This important phrase underlines a basic tenet of Hindu philosophy, which includes welcoming, hospitality, tolerance, harmony, unity and adaptability. For several centuries, India as a country and a large percentage of Indians have been doing their best to live up to this ideal. India has been home to races, nationalities, tribes, religions and cultures from across the world.

India has always been a welcoming home to refugees. During the bloody and painful days of partition, there was a steady influx of refugees into India. Thanks to the statesmanship of India’s first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, several hundreds of thousands of Tibetan refugees (including the Dalai Lama) have made India their home for more than fifty years now. The Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971 saw another major influx into the country; it was estimated that more than ten million East Bengali refugees entered India to escape mass killings and the brutality of that war. Though most returned to Bangladesh after independence, an estimated 1.5 million have continued to stay on in India. The Soviet-Afghan war of 1979, the more than twenty-five years of civil war in Sri Lanka since 1983, the atrocities on minorities in Myanmar, have in their wake brought in huge numbers of Afghans, Sri Lankan Tamils, Chins and Rohingyas into India. The persecuted Rohingya refugees fleeing Myanmar today and inhuman stand of the current Indian Govern-

ment is very much in the news today. The Rohingyas (1.2 million approx.) are an ethnic minority group, mainly Muslim, who are concentrated in Myanmar’s Rakhine State. Despite having roots and living in the Buddhist-majority country for centuries, the Rohingyas since 1982 are denied citizenship, disenfranchised, regarded as illegal immigrants and rendered stateless. Since the late 1970’s, many of them have sought refuge in neighbouring countries, particularly Bangladesh.

In February 2017, a United Nations report had documented numerous instances of gang rape and killings, including of babies and young children, by Myanmar’s security forces. In the past month, because of some insurgency on the part of a small group of Rohingyas, the army’s viciousness, already very ghastly, has escalated even further. The military action triggered Asia’s biggest humanitarian crisis since Cambodia’s Pol Pot. Recently, the United Nations’ top human rights official called Myanmar’s ongoing military campaign against the Rohingya Muslim minority group in that country’s Rakhine state *“a textbook example of ethnic cleansing.”*

In just a little over a month since August 25th, more than 480,000 Rohingyas have sought refuge in Bangladesh. Many were killed by the Myanmar military and other marauding mobs. Those who have survived the onslaught in Myanmar face land mines planted along the border presumably aimed at killing escapees. Others make the treacherous crossing, through inclement weather (tor-

rential rains and floods) of the wide estuary of the Naf River, which separates Myanmar from Bangladesh. It is estimated that several hundreds have died in capsized boats, and boatmen have been charging exploitative rates for a ride that usually costs a pittance. Victim survivors have been sharing horror stories of what they have been going through. The Rohingyas are referred to, as the minority, which is the most persecuted in the world today. The unbelievable and inhuman suffering, which they are being subjected to, has captured the attention: the anguish and anger of a sizeable section of the world community.

The Bangladesh Government, the UN and some local and international NGOs are doing their best; but the conditions are dire, food and drinking water is scarce. The UN Refugee Agency in a communique states, *“there is also an increased risk of communicable diseases, infection, cholera and respiratory infections. It*



BY FR. CEDRIC PRAKASH SJ

*is incredibly difficult to keep warm and dry under these conditions and already weak and exhausted; many refugees will struggle to stay healthy.* Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees visited the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh recently. On September 27th, on his return to Geneva he said, *“They had to flee very sudden and cruel violence, and they have fled with nothing. Their needs are enormous – food, health, shelter. They have absolutely nothing. I have hardly seen in my career people that have come with so little. They need everything,”* Further adding, *“I have spoken to several women who have been raped, or have been wounded because of their resistance to rape. I spoke to many children, shockingly absent of emotion, because they were so traumatized. They told me how they had seen their parents or relatives or friends killed in front of their eyes.”*

Despite the suffering of the Rohingyas

(Contd.. on p. 9)

(Contd.. from p. 8)

,the Government of India is doing all they can to deport about 40,000 Rohingyas who are currently living in India and to prevent other Rohingyas from entering the country. This is a very sad commentary on the moral fibre of the current ruling dispensation, besides the actions by India against the refugees would clearly go against the country's obligations under international and domestic law. The case of the rights of the Rohingya refugees is currently in the Supreme Court of India and the next hearing is scheduled for October 3rd . Some of the country's best-known legal luminaires are defending the Rohingya petitioners and others against the Government of India. Their petition rests on two basic premises, that any deportation would violate their fundamental rights to equality and to life, under Articles 14 and 21 of the Indian Constitution, and, secondly that any action by India in returning them to Myanmar would infringe international law, particularly the principle of non-refoulement (Article 33 of the 1951 Refugee Convention). The Government's key arguments are that terrorists 'might' have infiltrated the Rohingyas, therefore the security of the country is at stake; and that the country is not bound to follow the principle of non-refoulement, since it is not a signatory to the 1951 U.N. Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. No one with a bit of common sense and compassion will buy these arguments.

On September 11th in his Opening Statement to the 36th Session of the Human Rights Council Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said, *"I deplore current measures in India to deport Rohingyas at a time of such violence against them in their country. Some 40,000 Rohingyas have settled in India, and 16,000 of them have received refugee documentation. The Minister of State for Home Affairs has reportedly said that because India is not a signatory to the Refugee Convention the country can dispense with international law on the matter, together with basic hu-*

*man compassion. However, by virtue of customary law, its ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the obligations of due process and the universal principle of non-refoulement, India cannot carry out collective expulsions, or return people to a place where they risk torture or other serious violations".* Strong words indeed but the plain truth. Several other prominent human rights organizations have criticized India's stand.

There has been global condemnation of the atrocities committed by the Myanmar military and of the complicit silence by Nobel Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi who is the State Counsellor of Myanmar – but also rather powerless. On the other hand, Myanmar has the support of some nations like China and very unfortunately, India too!

In two months from now, Pope Francis will be visiting Myanmar (Nov.27th-30th) and Bangladesh (Nov.30th to Dec 2nd). His visit will certainly focus global attention on the plight of the Rohingyas. Pope Francis has consistently taken a stand for all refugees and displaced persons and he has been vocal in his defense of the Rohingyas. On August 27th, just a couple of days after this current onslaught he said, *"Sad news has reached us of the persecution of our Rohingya brothers and sisters, a religious minority. I would like to express my full closeness to them – and let all of us ask the Lord to save them, and to raise up men and women of good will to help them, who shall give them their full rights. Let us pray for our Rohingya brethren."*

The Government and people of Myanmar, the Government of India, and the global community must pay heed to the fact that, *"the whole world is one family"*; that every citizen in a civilized world is endowed with rights; that even refugees have to be treated with compassion, care and the dignity they deserve. Above all, we have to realise that like the rest of us, the Rohingyas are human too!

*\*(Fr. Cedric Prakash sj is a human rights activist.*

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## Catholicism to become the largest religion in Scotland

**T**he Irish heritage of many Scots lies behind a trend that will see Catholicism become the most popular religion in the country by 2024, pre-eminent historian Sir Tom Devine has said.

The renowned academic explained that the Catholic Church in Scotland has seen congregations drop at a slower rate than their counterparts at the Church of Scotland because of a "social identity" connected to Irish migrants.

Figures from the Scottish Household Survey suggest that the number of Scottish Catholics have remained relatively stable over the last decade while the Kirk has seen the number of worshippers trickle away.

The findings, reported in the Scottish Catholic Observer, showed 14 per cent of Scots identify as Catholic – a decrease from 15 per cent in 2009.

However those who claim affiliations to the Church of Scotland have declined by ten per cent to 24 per cent in eight years.

There has also been a corresponding rise in the number of people claiming to have no religion, which now stands at more than half.

Sir Tom – himself a Catholic – said of the religious trend: "Ever since the mass migration of the Irish into Scotland in the 19th and then the 20th centuries, Catholicism has always had if you like a social identity role as well as a spiritual function and that might be a factor which reduces the rate (of decline).

"There is a phenomenon known as cultural Catholicism with people who might be slightly more agnostic than the faithful who adhere to the faith because it is part of their social and cultural identity, and I don't think that factor is relevant to membership of the Church of Scotland."

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# Whether The Total Beef Ban And Promise Of Gaushalas Has Brought Down The GDP Growth & Come To Haunt This Government?

by Eric D'Sa

**M**ore than three years ago, we the people of India were offered a dream of Achee Din' and to achieve it a double digit GDP growth. We dumped an allegedly corrupt government that had ruled us for a decade and voted for a new one. Now that the latest results have shown that the GDP has kept gradually lowering each quarter and has reached 5.7%, the national narrative has suddenly shifted from India first nationalism and being the fastest growing large economy in this world, to an urgent need to do something to revive the economy, which seems to be on a slippery downward slope. The narrative is that BJP led NDA 2 is not delivering on the stunning mandate it got in 2014. The PM has revived the Economic Advisory Council to come up with fresh ideas.

Almost overnight anyone and every one has morphed into an economic analyst. Various causes why this government, which had promised a small government but maximum governance is faltering, is being hotly debated. No one really knows, why when there is macro economic stability and a number of structural reforms are being carried out, the economic growth

is losing steam and the bad bank debt problems are spiralling out of control. Achee Din seems to be going the same way as the India Shinning of NDA 1. What is worrying is the fact, that just before this government took over, the huge God sent advantage of collapse of the worldwide crude oil and metal prices, which the country imports in a big way and enabled the government to bring down the current and fiscal accounts, seems to have been wasted. The middle class has now started bitterly complaining about the high prices of petrol and diesel being charged to them, due to the government hiking regularly the

ernment and will do so increasingly in the coming years is the total beef ban, restrictions on movements of cattle and the promise of gaushalas. This was done in a predominately Hindu nation to win state elections without giving much thought to the economic consequences. This is an act of faith and as such difficult to challenge. As a child I and my three brothers were brought up to eat and enjoy variety of foods without wasting what was on the plate. There was plenty of food and of different variety. However we ate beef occasionally as it was considered a poor people's meat. When I joined the merchant navy and started going round the world, I realised a good beefsteak was the most sort out and expensive food. I quickly learnt to enjoy eating a variety of different beefsteaks and do so even now. At the same time I was aware the local beef was from old slaughtered cattle and as such of poor quality. However a Kerala beef chilly was always welcome.

Hence, when total beef ban was announced in Maharashtra, I was a bit upset because it meant that even on a few occasions, I could not eat an imported beefsteak in a five star hotel. Even something like tinned corn beef which I liked in sandwiches, disappeared from shelves. However one of my agnostic friend with an agricultural background told me over a drink, that this ban is a huge economical mistake of this NDA 2 government and within a few years the growing population of stray cattle will become a ticking time bomb. The problem of stray cattle is not new to India, but in the last few months it has reached alarming proportions. Even poor farmers who love their cattle can not keep them once they become old and not useful to them. Traders do not want to buy

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excise duties on petroleum products.

The following are some of the reasons given by the economists for the present worrying state of affairs. The main reason is the sudden demonetisation of 85% of the currency by withdrawal of Rs.500/- and Rs.1000/- notes, without required preparation. The other reason is the new government initially being highly critical of the MGNERGA rural programme of UPA 1, reduced the financial allocation for the same, which meant reducing the rural sector jobs, especially during two drought years. There is also the growing public sector bank NPA problem, which the government neglected to tackle at an early stage and has now dried up credit to the private sector. To this can be added the growing unrest in Kashmir and the increased expenditure on purchase of expensive armaments to deal with war threats on the Pakistan and Chinese borders.

But what is coming to haunt this gov-

(Contd.. on p. 15)

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## BJP makes it Father v/s Son

Why did the BJP go overboard and field multiple ministers to counter Yeshwant Sinha? When did Raj Nath the Home Minister become an expert on economic affairs? That showed government's nervousness. Yashwant Sinha – a Atal-Advani loyalist wrote an article debunking his own party's tall claims of highly successful initiatives of the government. It hurt Arun Jaitley's ego. Yeshwant joined the likes of Subramanian Swamy but the party chose to ignore it. RSS boss avoided commenting on demo and GST but at the same time had some advice on the economy. Why? A government must be alive to public opinion and views.

What did the veteran politician and an author of seven central budgets say? He was telling the government that all is not well with the economy. Actually you do not need economists or erstwhile finance ministers to tell us that. It is visible all round. You feel it. You see it. When the fiscal deficit target reaches 96% within five months [instead of twelve] it is matter of grave concern. When petrol prices touch Rs 80, it hurts. When LPG gas price rise month after month it is also affecting the poor. The plight of people [especially the old and the working class] during the demonetization exercise is vivid in the minds of the public. People died standing in the queues though all deaths may not be attributed to it but they died all the same. People suffered immensely standing in never ending queues outside cash starved banks and I am sure many bankers themselves must have had stress issues facing public wrath. How many politicians or bureaucrats stood in those long queues to withdraw or exchange? They must have made 'special arrangements' for themselves – home delivery. So they never experienced the hardship.

They used demo in assembly election telling the people how it will be a game changer once the data is available. By constantly delaying publication of the data, the government had accepted that it was a monumental disaster never experienced by the people of this country. The belated declaration of the data showed the government in poor light. Past governors of RBI have slammed the government which thinks only it knows what is good. At best the only take away is a marginal increase in use of digital mode for payments. Small and marginal farmers, small traders went through hell and many of them resorted to suicides which has stopped affecting us. The people were still recovering from the demo effect and you bring the GST – good

## IEWS on NEWS

concept hurriedly introduced. What was so sacrosanct about the deadline of 1st July? Surely you could have fine tuned it before implementation and may be delayed it for another three months till October. The government took it as a prestige issue and the half baked dish was served to the business community. Even after three months if the government has to spend crores on full page ads almost every alternate day, it tells us a story. There is so much of confusion.

These twin exercises hassled the economy no end and now we are facing the music which is not very melodious. You have to ask the common man if he is happy because he is the torch bearer and if he is miserable, the government loses its credibility. To be fair, the government has done commendably well on the international front with some deft diplomacy and making the world take note of the promise India holds for the international comity of nations. His bear hugs have earned him many friends though a few of them may have been a wee bit uncomfortable especially those who are not used to such physical proximity. No doubt, the country is poised for an important role in the world in the next decade. What poor people need is 'our daily bread' not a deferred sumptuous spread in the next decade. They may not survive to enjoy that.

*In trying to shift the focus from what Yeshwant Sinha wrote and said, the BJP came out with a master stroke. They made his son Jayant counter his father which must have been the most embarrassing thing for him. It is like hitting below the belt. They do it often. When Muslims oppose uniform civil code or triple talaq, the party puts Muslim ministers to defend it to show that Muslims in the party are not averse to such progressive changes. BJP excels in brazenness and denials – something which the Congress resorted to in the death overs of their rule or misrule and paid the price. The Elphinstone Road tragedy, BHU mess, Kids dying by the dozens, farmers' suicides and a highly disenchanted middle class will all adversely impact 2019 elections unless BJP opts for course correction.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Tamil Tamasha

Tamil Nadu was the most stable State in the country for a few decades with the two leading parties generally sharing the spoils of office alternately. The State witnessed progress and enjoyed long periods of political stability. The late CM – Amma as she was fondly called, with her dignified disposition in public life, gave a new meaning



by Marshall Sequeira

to governance in the State. Things have reached its nadir after her rather sudden but mysterious demise. Her legacy has been grabbed by her former aide and confidante Sasikala and her nephew TTV as he is known. There was public outcry but by having herself christened as Chinnamma she managed to dilute mass opposition. She got herself appointed as the party supremo and was eying CM's post.

The loyalists naturally took umbrage at her stealing the limelight but compromised for the sake of power. Her incarceration following the adverse court verdict changed the contours of the political spectrum in the State. While EPS benefited from the situation which literally debarred Sasikala from leading the government, another aspirant OPS – blue eyed boy of the late CM was upset at being sidelined and led the revolt with a handful of supporters. That heralded the political instability to the State for the first time. With two stalwarts jostling for Chief Ministership, there was no way the situation could be resolved without one of them blinking first. Alienating TTV was the best way forward since he was getting too big for his shoes in the absence of his aunt who is cooling her heels [ is it really enjoying].

The EPS/OPS duo buried their differences and decided to share the spoils of office by agreeing to work together. The coup of sorts pulled the carpet below TTV's feet but with the money power at his disposal he is able to literally hold a few MLAs in Resorts making the life of the two biggies EPS and OPS uncomfortable. With DMK waiting to grab the opportunity with the help of the dissident MLAs under TTK's possession literally speaking, the political climate there is getting murkier by the day. In the process, governance of the State is suffering. The role of the outgoing governor in this mess, with inputs and even guidance from the BJP leadership, is questionable. By delaying the floor test, the governor has brought a bad name to the high office he holds but Modi is comfortable with it. Change of guard in the Raj Bhavan will hardly make any difference.

# Embracing Non-Violence

by Fr. Cedric Prakash sj\*

Let us embrace non-violence in these times of violence! These times in which one has no qualms of conscience in aborting the unborn child or cheering for the death penalty to be given to the 'hardened' criminal; times in which, child abuse is rampant and one normally looks the other side when women are brutalized in the privacy of their homes and in the full-glare of society; times in which, a simple misunderstanding can lead to a murder or the accidental touch by another vehicle could lead to deadly road rage; times in which, war and bloody conflicts are easily justified by those in power, who control the destinies of ordinary people.

Let us embrace non-violence as an attitude! The attitude by which one looks at or perceives the 'other'; the attitude which is warm, welcoming and inclusive; the attitude which makes it irrelevant whether the nationality, race, religion, colour, gender, caste, ethnicity, ideology or whatever, is different; the attitude which is non-discriminatory and non-xenophobic; the attitude that we all belong to one human family and what matters ultimately, is our common and shared humanity.

Let us embrace non-violence as a right! The right of every person everywhere in this world; the rights which are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the Constitutions of most countries in today's world; the rights of the other-to life, to believe in the religion of one's choice, to freedom of speech and expression; to eat and drink, to read and see what one wishes to- without fear or favour; the rights which are fundamental and inalienable, the denial of them is indeed violence!

Let us embrace non-violence with courage! The courage one needs to

stand up against the fascists, the fanatics and the fundamentalists of today; the courage to take on the killers of Gauri Lankesh, Shantanu Bhowmick, Narendra Dabholkar, M.M. Kalburgi,



Govind Pansare, of other media persons, RTI activists, and human rights defenders; the courage to take on the molesters of the lady students in the Banaras Hindu University and those who suppress the voices of students elsewhere; the courage to expose the Sangh Parivar and those who violently kill and crush others, be it those who eat beef or innocent children in the hospitals of UP. Mahatma Gandhi puts it succinctly, *"nonviolence is not to be used ever as the shield of the coward. It is the weapon of the brave."*

Let us embrace non-violence with compassion! That compassion which is necessary to reach out to the Rohingya, fleeing violence and persecution; the compassion to prevent the landmines, the rubber bullets and the hostilities being unleashed on them; the compassion which will ensure that India willingly opens the doors to them; the compassion to make refugees and other displaced persons feel welcomed and 'at home'; the compassion to build bridges everywhere

Let us embrace non-violence in freedom! The freedom to take on the peddlers of war and violence; the

freedom to confront the power-hungry, crazy so-called 'leaders' of this world who spew hate, venom and divisiveness all the time; the freedom to expose the profiteering, blood-sucking military-industrial complex who care two hoots if violence becomes a way of life for many in this world; the freedom to challenge those countries who spend more on arms and ammunition than on the much-needed social sector.

Let us embrace non-violence with Truth! Truth that is the other side of the coin of 'non-violence' for Gandhi, as he aptly put it *"my religion is based on truth and non-violence. Truth is my God. Non-violence is the means of realising Him"*. Truth as we celebrate his memory on another birth anniversary. Truth in dealing with the 'Godse's' of our times. Truth as a non-negotiable and as the way of living in a more just, peaceful and non-violent world.

Let us embrace **non-violence on October 2nd the International Day of Non-Violence**; a day on which, in keeping with the UN resolution, we all need to reaffirm *"the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the desire "to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence"*; a day on which we must pledge to go beyond tokenism and cosmetics, to make non-violence an integral dimension of our daily lives

Let us embrace non-violence with the realisation in the words of Gandhi that, *"nonviolence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man."* Embracing non-violence today must be our way of proceeding!

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# My Search for the Gundu Mallige!

**W**ake up and smell the coffee, they say.....why only coffee, when Mother Nature abounds in other soothing aromas that rejuvenate drooping spirits? Of rain drops falling on the dry ground, freshly cut hay and grass and the breeze on the surface of salt water! The fragrance of flowers and of fruits too offers a tired soul sanctuary in Mother's nature lap, far from the rotten smells of decaying cities. When the talk turns to fragrances nothing can beat the fragrance of the jasmine flower, that dainty and divine whiff of purity that reminds one of heaven!

Well, jasmines are jasmines, of varying smells, shapes and sizes, from pristine white to a shaded pink. But the jasmine grown on the Konkan coast, in Mangalore and surrounding areas, is world renowned for its beauty and fragrance. Acres of hillsides in the small towns of *Kapu* and *Katapadi* are home to these dainty jasmine bushes, squatting in long rows only to permeate the air at dusk with their heavenly fragrance! No wedding is complete and no bride is fully adorned unless chains of this jasmine with *abolim* garlands hang down her back. The cottage industry of picking the buds, weaving them into chains with banana fiber to rush them to the airport in time to catch the evening flight is a lucrative and thriving one.

'*Mallige*', is a word dear to all Mangalorean hearts, including mine. As a teenager, returning home from school down the lane, my steps used to mechanically slow down as I neared 'Joy Villa'. To smell the jasmine and wake up to the marvels of nature was a personal joy of mine. The creeper with a profusion of thick, dark green leaves used to be dotted with flowers which were white balls of fragrance, mak-

ing it a sight for sore eyes and an experience to treasure. The little round balls were called '*gundu Mallige*' in the local dialect, kannada. 'Gundu' is round or globular and '*mallige*' is jasmine. At dusk, I would remember some forgotten errand to walk past the jasmine at the gate of Joy Villa, which made my parents suspicious of my intentions.....!



I was rewarded with a few blooms that made my heart dance- my own jasmines. During the monsoons the creepers grew clinging to the teak trees that stood close to them. I do not know by what luck they escaped the scythes of the grass-cutters who came to clean the compound at the end of each rainy season. We grew old together- the three '*gundu mallige*' creepers and I. While they began to flower profusely, I too progressed in life and drifted away to another city and a new home. A small balcony garden was no match for half an acre of trees and plants, but I learnt to be content with this soothing greenery. But the jasmine fragrance safely ensconced in my heart, made me discreetly look for the little white blooms at all the nurseries I visited.

Scouring the markets for a sapling of '*gundu mallige*' was a passion my family failed to understand, but they firmly stood by me till I discovered saplings of similar jasmines in my favorite nursery at the nearest hill-station. But it was no match

for my '*gundu mallige*' I had left behind.....



BY VERA ALVARES

I prided myself on possessing a green thumb and the flowering plants around my house stood testimony to my commitment to nature. Growing roses was never my forte, but with great regret I realized there was no '*gundu mallige*' in my garden!

So I decided on remedial measures and approached

the mistress of the manor at 'Joy Villa' to give me a cutting of the plant. As she handed me two-three cuttings, we exchanged smiles - hers was one of approval and mine was of gratitude. So, I was not the only one with a streak of passion for the lovely nature that not many take time to enjoy. Thank you mistress Joy!



So the 3 little cuttings took hold and under my watchful eye began to sprout shoots and sprigs. That very summer

# What is Palliative Care?

**1** 4th October is celebrated as World Palliative Day. Dame Cicely Saunders is said to have been the first person to propagate the humane concept of palliative care in the treatment of debilitating and end stage diseases. Ms Saunders was a nurse who subsequently went on to become a doctor and converted to Christianity. She founded the St. Christopher's Hospice in 1967 in the UK. Hitherto the focus of medicine was to find the cause and treat the disease in order to prolong life. This was the curative approach. Dr. Saunders, in her hospice, shifted the focus to palliative care for cancer patients. She catered to the person's social, psychological and spiritual needs as well. The hospice provides Art Therapy, Music Therapy, Drama Therapy and Community Arts.



by **Monica Fernandes**

ing death. Palliative Care is also given along with treatment for controlling or curing the disease and is not necessarily given to people suffering from an end-stage illness.



tims. With this thought in mind, Minal decided to be a palliative care volunteer.

Interacting with severely ill patients and their families could be a traumatic experience for care givers who could themselves go into a depression. From the sick person's point of view, it is difficult and demeaning for him/her to accept that he was once healthy and independent and now finds himself/herself in a situation where he/she needs constant assistance from others. Minal attended the one week course conducted by Tata Memorial and arranged by RPCC. She opted to work with the Palliative Care unit of Tata Memorial Hospital once a week as a counselor. She says that the job is challenging and requires commitment. One must be empathetic and yet one cannot let emotions get in the way when there is a child dying of the Big C. Else how can one comfort the parents? Sometimes the patient accepts the inevitable but the family is shattered and sometimes it is the other way around. Hence volunteers first go through a screening process at the RPCC and are informed about the situations they may face.

Palliative care is stewardship in action where others take care of a person in need of help. The multiple care providers all play their part in ensuring that the patient gets a better quality of life till the very end. The care providers now assist the family to accept their loss and move on. It is an essential service given the fact that with the increase in life expectancy, there is a corresponding increase in people suf-

Palliative care is a holistic approach to medicine. 'Palliative Care' is derived from the Latin 'palliare' which means to cloak. Just like the cloak covers and gives protection to a large portion of the body of the wearer, palliative care is a multi disciplinary approach to relieve a patient's symptoms such as pain, psychological stress and depression, nausea, among others. It is particularly useful in the treatment of life threatening and debilitating sicknesses such as cancer, chronic heart diseases, renal failure, etc.

Sickness is a sad occurrence and very difficult to accept, not only for the patient but the family members and close friends as well. The sense of helplessness is a severe blow to the ego. Doctors, nurses, psychologists, physiotherapists, pain management expert, relaxation therapists - all play an important part in relieving the angst of the patient and improving his/her quality of life. Religious such as priests and pundits assist the patient and his/her family in the acceptance of the illness and, perhaps, impend-

Palliative Care is a relatively new concept in India and has yet to be accepted. To address this need, Dr. Armida Fernandez, Director of Holy Family Hospital, started the Romilla Palliative Care Center (RPCC), Bandra, Mumbai in memory of her lovely daughter Romilla who tragically succumbed to cancer. This center is doing excellent work in the field of palliative care primarily to cancer patients. It is a day care unit and a part of the renowned NGO SNEHA. It is situated on Somnath Lane, off Hill Road and is a part of the Holy Family Hospital Complex.

The center has a cheerful ambience. The pastel coloured furnishings and painting that adorn the walls are designed to lift up the spirits of patients. Free consultation is imparted and the center is efficiently run by two dedicated doctors one of whom is trained specifically in palliative care and has several years experience in the field, volunteer doctors, trained counselors, a nurse, a social worker and a host of volunteers. Doctors sometimes visit a patient's home and provide inputs to the patient's caregivers and family members. Volunteers read to the patient and spend time with them in order to lift up their spirits. The Center also has a list of hospitals and nursing homes giving free or subsidized treatment in Mumbai. They have a tie-up with some of them for the benefit of poor patients.

After my dear husband, Nelson, succumbed to cancer after a long battle, my daughter and I thought that we should get involved in a NGO that does meaningful work for cancer vic-

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them, as it has become impossible to transport them to another state, where at least male cattle can be slaughtered. The gaushalas are full and cattle kept there are at times starving to death. The result is abandoned cattle roaming on farms and on roads. The photo taken by me of stray cattle on a Mumbai street in Wadala East, is an indication of the worsening situation.

Once a valued resource, cows are now becoming a farmers worst enemy in this country. Until recently farmers followed a regular pattern. They would sell their old and unproductive cattle to traders, who would then transfer them to states where slaughter is allowed. The farmer in turn with the money received, would buy a young and productive cattle from cattle fairs. But this cycle is a thing of the past now. Farmers are simply abandoning their unproductive cattle, because maintaining them is expensive. Governments leave alone buying the cattle from them, are not even in a position to take delivery and move them into safe gaushalas. A government that can only give Rs. 6/- per noon meal to a school going child, has very little money to feed large number of cattle. Hence the stray abandoned cattle have increased dramatically. They are entering unguarded agricultural fields and destroying the crops. Crops worth lakhs of rupees are being devoured by these stray animals. They have become a cattle menace.

The total cattle population in India was 191 million according to the animal census in 2012, out of which stray

cattle was around 59 lakhs only. Estimates are that the number of stray cattle has doubled and will double again next year. Farmers rear cattle for milk or draught. The productive life of cattle is around 5 to 6 years. So a rough calculation will indicate 30 million cattle will on an average become unproductive. No farmer sells a productive animal. It is far more human to sell them for slaughter than let them roam the roads and starve. Now the number of unproductive cattle will gallop and the farmers even at a big loss, will abandon them. They are losing Rs.40,000/- to Rs.50,000/- per cattle. If one takes the number of cattle each year that are becoming unproductive, it adds up to Rs. 1.2 trillion an huge amount. This is adding to the distress of the farmers. The country has to recognise the centrality of slaughter for food in sustaining dairy industry. Failing to do so will have millions of stray cattle foraging the country farms.

Beef ban has reduced cheap protein food for poor Muslims, Christians, Dalits, tribals and even some males from lower Hindu castes. This is a huge population. Meanwhile the lucrative leather processing industry has been affected. The leather hides and goods exports are down. Due to cow vigilantes, skinning dead animals for leather is now fraught with grave risks. Even exports of buffalo meat has been af-

ected due to closing down many abattoirs. Huge number of livelihoods have been lost. Uncertainty of beef meat, leather and other cattle parts availability, has shaken the confidence of international buyers, who are switching to Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Unfortunately this decision of beef ban that the government took due to faith considerations, will be difficult to reverse even for the newly constituted Economic Advisory Council. Farmers over a period will switch from rearing cattle to buffaloes, number of stray cattle will keep increasing, governments will be under pressure to build more unproductive and money draining gaushalas, as number of starving cattle on roads keep increasing. Valuable crops will be lost to roaming herds of stray cattle. You the Citizens will have to decide, if our Governments should spend limited money available to build schools and feed our students better noon meals or build more gaushalas and feed old cattle.

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(Contd.. from p. 14)

fering from debilitating illnesses. On World Palliative Care day, we wish the RPCC success in their laudable initiative to improve the quality of the lives of patients.

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# Art show '4' by artists combine thrills Mumbai

**M**others came along too they wowed! Yes, a most fortunate thing to happen, is to have your mother alongside you, when you take your first professional step, and what can be better for a struggling artist to have his/her first show inaugu-

North and West with four artist from 3 different states and 2 different regions of India.

The show was inaugurated by the mothers of two participating artist –



by Ivan Saldanha-Shet

cess from J.J in Mumbai.

Paintings of Ashwan, an alumnus from University of Jammu and Wood prints of Attri – a pass out of Ballasore art and crafts college, Odisha. This show has been curated by Mr. Attri Chetan along with Dr Alexander Martin, the founder of Talents on Display. It will be a culture enlightening experience to see this art shelter and enjoy the ambience. Contacts : talentsondisplay@gmail.com, www.talentsondisplay.com



Ashwan Jamwal



Title - Santhal Villege , Medium - Acrylic on Canvas

Ms. Motan Sankalpna Uday and Ms. Prachi Sahasrabudhe both from Mumbai. The other two artists are Attri Chetan from hills of Rishikesh, Uttarakhand and Ashwan Jamwal from Jammu and Kashmir. The show hosted at "The Art Vestibule" of Talents on Display at Sector 15 of

rated at the hands of his/her mother. Support from 'Talents on display' was a factor that cheered all.

Meet the four youngsters from across India, trying to carve out a name for themselves in the world of art. It was the first show of their professional career, and they chose their mothers and teacher to be the beacon of their journey and hence the journey started by the mothers cutting the ribbon to usher in the guests. The show titled "4" combines

CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai, was a big success and many more are to follow. On display the Ceramic Art of Ms. Motan, a gold medallist - 2015 from Sir J.J. School of fine art, Etching and lino prints of Ms Prachi – also a suc-



Prachi Sahasrabudhe



Title - Reflections , Medium Etching on Paper

## Thanksgiving







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

—A. M. F., Mahim

# The best flower in the garden

**A**s summer came to an end, all of the flowers in the garden wanted to know which flower was the best:

The pink roses said, "We are the best because we were the first flowers to bloom in the spring."

The white daisies said, "Oh no, we are the best because we have pretty flowers all summer long."

The big yellow mums said, "Don't be silly, we are the best because we are the last flowers to bloom in the autumn."

Each flower argued that they were the best. But when people came to see the garden, they stopped. All the flowers were quiet and looked very proud so people would say that they were the best.

One day the gardener came into the garden. The pink roses fluffed their petals so that they would look best. All of the white daisies stood up tall so they would look the best. The yellow mums beamed in the sunlight so that they would look the best. All the flowers were sure that the gardener would say they were the best. But the gardener only smiled and said, "Look at all of my pretty flowers!"

The gardener took a basket and began to put the pink roses into it. The roses were sure they were special because they were picked first. But the daisies just laughed at the roses, "Haha! You are not pretty enough to stay in the garden."

Next the gardener put some daisies in the basket and the mums began to laugh, "Told you! We are the best because we are the only flowers left in the garden."

Finally the gardener put the mums into the basket. Again, all the flowers began to fight over who was the best.

When the gardener got to the house, he began to put all of the beautiful flowers into a vase. First he put the pink roses into the vase, remembering that they were the first flowers to bloom in the spring. Next he put the yellow daisies into the vase and thought how wonderful to see them every day when he walked in the gar-

den. Finally he put the mums into the vase; he was very excited to finally see the autumn flowers. He had been waiting all summer to see them.

The gardener put the vase on the table and said, "I have the prettiest bouquet of flowers. Alone each flower is the best, but together they look perfect!"

Suddenly the flowers realized that all along each one was the best that

they could be. But it wasn't until the gardener made a bouquet of all of the flowers together that they became something special. At last all the flowers were happy.



BY JUBEL D'CRUZ

## Three Days Retreat in Konkani

*Praise the Lord Jesus! Alleluia*



The word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. (John 1:14)

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**& Br. Rony**

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# WITH LOVE FROM GALILEE

31 Meditations on Jesus By Dr Paul Mathulla

Meditation is an activity of the mind that is led by the Holy Spirit along paths that make for a God experience. To meditate is to allow the Spirit to speak to our hearts, illumine us with his insight and lead us into the presence of the Godhead. Another activity or perhaps non-activity, where there are no words or concepts involved, is 'contemplation' which is simply being in the presence of God and enjoying His loving company! WITH LOVE FROM GALILEE [published by ST PAULS] is a book that purports to do precisely that for every reader! And how! There is much to meditate on the Lord and his Word and, quite literally, tomes of such reflections can be written. But the author has chosen to offer 31 specific pointers concerning Jesus and the Faith, each discussing some nuance or other of Christian living that makes for deep meditation quite unlike any other.

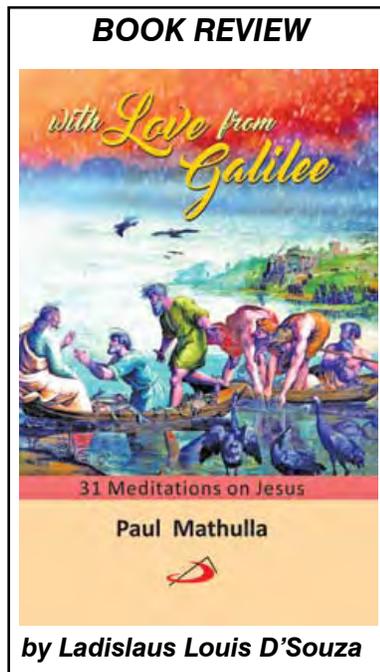
The public life of Jesus was surprisingly short from a historical perspective. Yet the kind of interest that brief life, which may be compared to the proverbial mustard tree in the Gospel has evoked down the ages, has simply no parallel to say the least. The highly challenging way of life he bequeathed to his disciples centred on his 'love for the enemy' teaching. Jesus wants us to be a sign of hope in a world riddled with hopelessness. On the one hand he gives us a love experience that we cannot afford to keep to ourselves, and on the other, numerous

are those who have an unquenchable thirst to know him. In penning WITH LOVE FROM GALILEE as a means to meeting that need in a small yet concrete way, Dr Paul Mathulla, who has a BA and an MA in Mechanical Engineering [Bangalore University] and a PhD in Educational Philosophy [Christ University] follows a very simple principle: he shares and suggests, persuades and encourages; this once done, he retreats into the background letting the Spirit take over and lead

the reader along the way the Spirit himself chooses, the way of love that the Lord lived!

What makes WITH LOVE FROM GALILEE interesting is that its contents, whose chief premise is the "true humanity" of Jesus and his "true divinity", are appropriate for the people of today, each essay neither too long nor too short – to the point and meaningful enough to give a fillip to the humdrum of everyday life that is our

lot. Mathulla should know, for a staggering experience of the cross in his life, coupled with personal tribulations bringing about a deep conversion in him, is what led him to the ministry of the written word. It is not for nothing that he prays in this book: "My joy is to serve you, Abba. May the pure wine of the Holy Spirit reach your people; may they drink deep and relish your goodness." As Father (Dr) B. Joseph Francis, one time Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Saint Peter's, Bangalore and a former Spiritual Director of the author, says, "Thirty one writings: One for each day - let your meditation flourish in God's presence!



May these thoughts inspire you to go further than the author could" (p 7)!

A word of caution, though - let not the thoughts in these 31 Meditations on Jesus remain mere mental exercises but be assimilated in real life. Saint James in his Letter [3:14-17] tells us that faith without corresponding deeds is pointless. However, for this, we need God's grace. That grace is freely given and readily available if you but keep an open mind and heart to the idea of every baptized believer being both a disciple and an apostle, Mary being the foremost example of such a combined role-player, treasuring as she did the Word in her heart and partaking of the Lord's life more fully than anyone else in Church history.

Now, why 'Galilee' of all places in Scripture? Well, it was on the shores of Galilee that it all began - the place where Jesus called his first apostles, Andrew, Peter, James and John, where a good part of his ministry occurred, and not far from which were the mountains from where he ascended into Heaven. Any wonder then why the cover of WITH LOVE FROM GALILEE [ISBN 978-93-5015-299-7 / Pp 144 / Rs 150] depicts a representation of Jesus and the miraculous catch of fish in the Sea of Galilee, by the Renaissance painter, Raphael!

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## The Secular Citizen

Mail your articles, news, and other creations to:  
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seculardivo@gmail.com

(Contd.. from p. 7)

etisation has proved to be an unmitigated economic disaster, a badly conceived and poorly implemented GST has played havoc with businesses and sunk many of them and countless millions have lost their jobs with hardly any new opportunities coming the way of the new entrants to the labour market. For quarter after quarter, the growth rate of the economy has been declining until it reached the low of 5.7 per cent in the first quarter of the current fiscal, the lowest in three years. The spokespersons of the government say that demonetisation is not responsible for this deceleration. They are right. The deceleration had started much earlier. Demonetisation only added fuel to fire.”

Can there be a more damning indictment, coming as it does from one of your own senior partymen?

Your fourth mega pixel attack was on corruption. Some of your colleagues proudly assert that there is not a single case of corruption against them. What about the Vyapam scam in M.P. which has claimed the lives of many embroiled in it? Why no action against Yeddurappa, your CM candidate in Karnataka? Why nothing against the Bellary brothers and their multi-crore wedding bash during the note-bandhi? Why no prosecution of Jagan Reddy whose party in Andhra supports you, and reportedly deposited the maximum amount of cash during the note-bandhi? Pradhanmantriji, you have much to answer for. It is all very well to set the Income Tax and Enforcement Directorate against political rivals like the Chidambarams. Please show the same enthusiasm against your own partymen.

Lest I, or the country forget, people like Sonia and Rahul Gandhi, Robert Vadra and Shiela Dikshit should have been in jail by now, for all their alleged misdemeanours. Why no FIRs against them? Are you bidding your time, or were you just making wild allega-

tions? The nation wants to know. So does my dil.

Isn't it amazing how Udhoyi Ramdev's Patanjali has gross sales of Rs 10,000 crores, and his colleague Balkrishna has become the 8th richest man in India? How have the fortunes of Adani (Fortune oil is his brand) and Ambani (topping the Fortune 500 list) grown exponentially? Is your Govt playing Godfather to them? In a quid pro quo are these fortunate beings financing your elections and mega events? Is it true that senior bureaucrats have been "advised" to arrange funds for your various projects? My dil wants to know.

Your fifth claim was to give less government and more governance. Arrey bhai, you want to govern what we eat, what we wear, or whom we sleep with; and through the Aadhar linkage you want to put all the dots together to make cartoon integers of all us hapless citizens. You told the Supreme Court that privacy was not a fundamental right. Thank God that the nine wise men (navratnas) unanimously decreed that we ordinary citizens had the right to privacy. Through your now infamous note-bandhi you even tried to govern our petty savings and filled your incompetent banks with our cash. Every other day you came out with new rules. What manner of governance was that? The GST is the last nail in the coffin. It is going to be the death knell for petty traders and small businesses. But the fortunes of Ramdev, Adani and Ambani will swell. This is not good governance. It is clever posturing to channelise the benefits of

Govt policies to those who are chummy with you.

Your sixth big ticket claim was to "Make in India". This is a cruel joke. Is your proposed 100,000,000,000,000 Rupee Bullet Train made in India? Are the millions of smart phones that Flipkart sold during Navratri made in India? Isn't the proposed Nagpur Metro getting its coaches from China? Are you not buying expensive, and possibly obsolete, defence equipment from the USA, Israel, France etc? Has not the Indian Army rejected the newly designed rifles made in our lackadaisical Ordnance factories? Did not the under trial American Howitzer's barrel explode because of defective shells made in those same factories? Isn't the highest in the world Sardar Patel statue being constructed in your home State by China? Pray tell me what are you now making in India that wasn't being made before you assumed office?

Yes, there is one thing – making tall claims and false promises. Make in India could better be termed Fake in India. What about your foreign guests? What can you show them that is made in India and world class? Till now we showcased the Taj Mahal, though the Yogi has now declared that it is not part of Indian culture! So what do we showcase? I suggest what has made India the world's greatest milk producer – Amul; a co-operative of milkmaids, not a corporate of man made! You could also showcase ISRO. We have been to the moon and Mars, and successfully launched satellites of several countries. Unfortunately for you, these Made in India success stories predate your tenure as PM. May you have the humility to accept that, just as Sushma Swaraj did in her recent speech at the U.N. General Assembly. Till then my dil aches for my country and its acche din.

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**6660 NASHIK :** Goan R.C. Bachelor (Born in November 1984) Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduation in perfusion technology, working as a Clinical perfusionist. Contact email : dan2mills@gmail.com

**6666 MUMBAI :** Mangalorean R.C. Bachelor (Born in February 1988) Ht. 6', Wt. 72 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. BMS/PGDM, working as a Customer Executive. Contact email: lilydsouza50@gmail.com OR 9869158197

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**6662 MUMBAI :** Goan R.C. Bachelor (Born in September 1972) Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Edn. HSC., Selfemployed, Contact email: antferns72@gmail.com

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

**6641. MUMBAI :** Goan RC 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 RC 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 RC 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

**6626 GOA :** Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in March 1970), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BL/LLB., Self Employed. Contact email : gdsouza07@yahoo.com

**6625 MUMBAI :** Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in November 1979), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 61 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., B.ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : martin.007.2010@gmail.com OR Mob.: 9892657905

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**6621 MUMBAI :** Tamilian RC Bachelor, (Born in September 1970), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Event Manager. Seeks good looking fair girl. Contact email: rosario.thefernanndoco@gmail.com

**6619 MUMBAI :** Goan RC Bachelor,

(Born in September 1985), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 82 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA Finance, woking in MNC. Contact email : josh99.joshva@gmail.com

**6544. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Bachelor, (Born in June 1986), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., + Diploma, working on Cruise Ship. Contact email : roshand-souza412@yahoo.com

**6541. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC, (Born in January 1969), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SSC, having own business. Contact email : allwynsequeira@gmail.com

**6534. MANGALORE :** Mangalorean RC Bachelor, (Born in March 1980), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 69 kgs, Handsome, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.A., Having own business and accommodation. Contact email : proposal564@gmail.com

**6533. MUMBAI :** Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in April 1983), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 69 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Wheatish Complexion, Working with Disney Cruise line, Well settled. Contact email : j o - seph\_almeida15@yahoo.in

**6616 MUMBAI :** Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in October 1980), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 80 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. SSC, working as a Graphic Designer, hardworking, smart. Contact email : velgomes3@gmail.com

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**6770. MANGALORE :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in October 1987), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 52 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBBS, Senior Residential Doctor. Contact email: myname2487@gmail.com

**6758. MANGALORE :** Mangalorean RC spinster, (Born in December 1987), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 48 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA in Finance, working for Bank in Bangalore. Contact email : cyrilv27@gmail.com

**6754. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC spinster, (Born in July 1991), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 48 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. Mechanical, working as an Officer in PSU. Contact email : mel.6513@yahoo.com

**6753. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Parents seeks alliance for spinster daughter aged 26, Ht. 5' 1", CA (Chartered Account), presently working in Mumbai in an MNC. Looking for a professionally qualified well settled Mangalorean RC boy with good family background age upto 29 years, BE/CA working in India or abroad (Not from middle East). Contact email : stanley\_ds118@yahoo.com

**6739. MUMBAI :** Anglo Indian Keralite Spinster (Born in February 1995), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 62 kgs, Fair, goodlooking, Edn. 5th Std., slow learner, handicap, able to do house work, very much interested in handicraft. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : mercyserroa@gmail.com

**6738. MANGALORE :** Mangalorean RC spinster, (Born in November

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1986), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA, PGDM., working as a Finance Executive. Contact email : vinishaleena@gmail.com

**6737. MUMBAI :** Goan RC spinster, (Born in November 1988), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., Working as an Accountant. Contact email : jocelyn\_rod15@yahoo.in

**6736. BANGALORE :** Goan RC spinster, (Born in February 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters in Library & Information Science, working as a Librarian, seeks a suitable match. Contact email : gracefreitas@rediffmail.com

**6733. MUMBAI :** East Indian RC Spinster, (Born in October 1989), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A. (Hons), & CS (Company Secretary) working as a Company Secretary in Financial Company. Contact email : suzettepereira@rediffmail.Com

**6732. MUMBAI :** TAMILIAN RC Spinster, (Born in June 1990), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 52 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., B.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : adnadar@gmail.com

**6702. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Spinster, (Born in April 1989), 5' 7", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA Finance, working in a Finance Co., Ready to settle abroad. Seeks a groom above Ht. 5' 8". Settled in Mumbai / Abroad. Contact - 9867152211 Email: whiterosegarden@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, having own accommodation email details to : rchldsilva@gmail.com

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

**6448 MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Spinster, (Born in October 1985), 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

**6516. MANGALORE :** Mangalorean R.C. Spinster, (Born in November 1989), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. in Comp. Sc., working as a Software Engineer in Bangalore. Contact email : dsouza.sharli@gmail.com

**6514. PANVEL :** Goan R.C. Spinster, (Born in March 1988), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc. Life Science & PGD, working as a Research Officer in well known Pharmaceutical company. Contact email : jcl376@rediffmail.com

**6501. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Spinster, (Born in September 1979), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a Secretarial Officer. Contact email : asklavina@gmail.com

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**6771 CANADA :** Bombay born, broughtup and educated Kerlaite Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1987), Ht. 180 cms, Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B. Tech Computer Engineering, working as a Software Engineer. Permanent Resident Canada. Seeks a well educated girl from Canada, U.S. Or Mumbai. Good looking, ready to settle in Canada. Keralite / Mangalorean / South Indian. Contact email : anthony99ignatius@gmail.com.

**6750 AUSTRALIA :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1985), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Bachelor in Communication, working as a Media Analyst. Contact email artemiamaria@gmail.com

**6463. USA :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in November 1986), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. (I.T.), working as a Software Consultant. Contact Email : rahul.ferns@gmail.com

**6693. U.K. :** Mangalorean RC bachelor, (Born in September 1988), Ht. 6', Wt. 85 kgs, Edn. Graduate Degree, Merchant Navy Captain in U.K., working as a Merchant Navy Officer. Contact email : kennethlazrado@yahoo.com.

**6669 NEWYORK :** Goan R.C. Bachelor, M.Sc., in Telecom, MBA, (Born in February 1978) Ht. 5' 5", Fair, good natured. Working as a Finan-

cial Analyst in New York. Contact email: zennon.fernandes@gmail.com

**6571. USA :** Goan Roman Catholic Divorcee (Marriage Annuled), (Born in December 1969), Ht. 6' 1", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Eng., Engineer by profession. Seeks a girl below 35 years, preferably working in USA. Contact email : divinegrams@gmail.com

**6553. GERMANY :** German Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1980), Ht. 175 cms, Well built, Fair Complexion, Edn. Normal School Cheff. Working as a Cheff. Contact email : evascherrmann@yahoo.de



**6749. AUSTRALIA :** Goan RC spinster, (Born in October 1985), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 57 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) working as a Psychologist. Contact email : artemiamaria@yahoo.com

**6742. AUSTRALIA :** Goan Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in December 1989), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 57 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A. working as a Project Manager. Contact email : mark.alvares16@gmail.com

**6568. NEWYORK :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1990), Ht. 157 cms, Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.S. in Computer Science (USA), working as a Software Engineer. Seeks a similiar qualification, having HIB Visa and working in USA below 30 years. Contact email : joymachado312@gmail.com

**6557. CALIFORNIA :** 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

**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

**6513. USA :** Mangalorean R.C. Spinster, (Born in May 1985) Parents invite alliance from well educated Mangalorean R.C. Boy under 37 yrs., working in USA., for their spinster daughter 32 years, 5 Ft., Fair Complexion, Edn. : B.E. Working as a Software Engineer. Contact : Email dsouzadoreena@gmail.com

**6473. LONDON :** Mangalorean RC Spinster, (Born in June 1982), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 68 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working in Bank as AVP in LONDON. Contact email : rati27@gmail.com

**6431. SYDNEY :** Protestant Christian Spinster, (Born in June 1986), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Computer), working in SYDNEY (Australia), as a Software Engineer. She has a P.R. Contact email : wilson.pandit@gmail.com

**6377 USA :** Parents of RC spinster (Born in June 1984) / 5'4", Slim, Fair, MBA working for a reputed company in USA, invites alliance from RC bachelors, qualified professionals well settled from good Catholic family background upto 37 years. working in US only. Kindly reply with profile and a recent photograph to divineord121@gmail.com

**6755. U.K. :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in July 1991), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 62 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Nurse, working as a Nurse in U.K. Contact email : alm716349@gmail.com

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## Unfailing Prayer to St. Anthony



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 Lalitha Noronha, Bandra

## 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)

—Mrs. Clara D'Souza, Miraroad

## Thanksgiving



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

—A Devotee

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