

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

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A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

The Abortion Debate - Pro-Life or Pro-Choice?

by Don Aguiar

Free thinking is good but right thinking is better. There is God. It is not just I who say that to you. The whole universe says it if you will but hear its voice. Just listen now and if you are really a free thinker, that is, free from bias and prejudice, you must surely allow yourself to be convinced by the following facts.

There is no master piece without a master, and from the work we know the master, as the tree is known to its fruit and children known to their parents.

The existence of a statue presupposes the existence of a sculptor. Here is a watch. There must, therefore, be a clever watchmaker somewhere, who has fashioned it. Before us is a dainty meal, that means a good cook has been here, who prepared it. These things are self-evident.

Since we find, then, that a watch, an engine, a motor, a vase, or any other object points to the existence of an artist or an artisan, who has made it, **how much more does that wonderful thing, which we call the world, demand the existence of a Creator.**

The greater the work, the greater the artist. We must, therefore, conclude that the Creator of these masterpieces must be a very great Master indeed!

We think ourselves very wise and clever because we have invented the aeroplane, the camera, or the violin. **But we quite forget that is all these inventions, we have only thought out and copied what the great Creator and Thinker first thought out and made, one of which is reproducing life which needs to be respected and protected from the moment of conception.** All inventions, wonderful as they admittedly are, are yet merely close copies of something in Nature and can never surpass Nature. No flying "ace" will ever fly as safely and unerringly as a bird.

No violin will ever sound so sweetly as the nightingale. Photography, even, is the exact copying of nature.

I have a simple question for Pro-Choice people: When do you believe life begins?

When you say you're **pro-choice** you're telling people that you believe it's OK for them to have the ability to choose abortion as an option for an unplanned pregnancy — even if you wouldn't choose abortion for yourself. People who oppose abortion often call themselves pro-life.

The official teachings of the Catholic Church oppose all forms of abortion procedures whose direct purpose is to destroy a zygote, blastocyst, embryo or fetus, since it holds that "human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception.

The abortion debate in the Catholic Church has largely coalesced around two main issues: the Church's preference for chastity and the question of when human life begins.

The Church and pro-life people position on abortion is based on a fundamental belief that life begins at conception. It's a conclusion grounded in faith and values, but also in science.

We know that unborn babies can feel pain very early. We know that after six weeks a baby's heartbeat can be heard in the womb. Modern sonograms show unborn babies smiling, yawning and sucking their thumbs.

Put simply, science has revealed that an unborn baby is a human being, and many agree. According to recent polling, 73% of voters agree that an unborn baby is a human being.

So that raises the question: When do Pro-Choice

(Contd.. on p. 3)



Mumbai/M'lore/Goa origin Bishop in the US

The first Indian-American, Catholic Bishop's Consecration on May 31, 2022 in the US was a historic event. What is of interest to people connected to the Indian subcontinent is the fact that the new Bishop Earl K Fernandes hails from Konkani Mangalore roots on his paternal side and Goa from his maternal side. Further, his parents lived long in Mumbai / Bombay and both grandparents too having migrated from Goa and Mangalore to Mumbai. There would be many in Mumbai, past and present who might have known the family and even connect with them.

The ordination/Installation :

Applause and hymns filled the huge church of Saint Paul the Apostle Church in Westerville, as the 13th bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio USA. The solemn, joyful and happy ceremony, with approximately 1,500 people in attendance for the ceremonial event. Rev. Fernandes, 49, Born in Toledo to Indian immigrants, is the first Indian-American Catholic bishop.

During the homily and remarks from the Pope's representative to the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Bishop Fernandes was appreciated and praised. The bishop-elect sat in a gold and maroon robe, a zucchetto (a Bishop's skull cap) already on his head when he entered the church. Archbishop Pierre noted Fernandes' broad smile and said that he'll need it for his new position, it's "not at all a bad start." Indeed, Fernandes was seen grinning, often widely, throughout the ceremony and the media labelled him the "Smiling Bishop".

The new Bishop Earl, was earlier an official at the Apostolic Nunciature, the offices of the Pope's representative to the United States, in Washington, D.C. Bishop Fernandes' brother, Trevor Fernandes, a deacon in north-west Ohio, proclaimed the gospel and was by his brother's side for much of the ceremony. Bishop Fernandes'

parents received praise, his late father Sydney and his mother, Thelma, who was watching the live stream from Toledo as she was too frail to travel for the ceremony.

Among the attendees were Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and his wife Fran; Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, who was a classmate of Earl Fernandes' at St. Francis de Sales High School in Toledo; interfaith leaders; about 35 bishops and more than 200 priests. Pope Francis, in a letter translated from Latin to English, described Fernandes as being "of strong faith and good character." After Pierre read the letter, he and Fernandes shook hands and embraced before Fernandes walked the aisle of the large church, holding the Pope's decree above his head to show those in the pews. They gave him a standing ovation.

It must be noted :

Mangalore & Goa parentage : Rev Fr Earl's father is Dr. Sidney Oswald Fernandes (1936-2019) was born in Bombay, graduated from Saint Xavier College in Mumbai and Topiwala Medical School and Nair Hospital in 1965. Dr. Fernandes' parents originally hail from Mangalore city, and can trace his roots to Goa about 4-5 generations back. Earl's mother (Thelma nee Noronha) is originally from Aldona, Goa and was a teacher in Bombay's Catholic schools, after updating her qualifications went on to a rewarding teaching career in the USA.

Dr. Sidney Fernandes with his wife Thelma and two oldest sons moved to Toledo, Ohio in 1970, a time many professionals enjoyed this privilege. He did medical residencies at the Medical College of Ohio in family practice and internal medicine. He maintained a solo medical practice in Oregon, Ohio, for 40 years until retirement.

The Mangalore Mumbai Roots :



Information from various sources proves that Fr Earl's dad Dr. Sidney is of Mangalore roots (grew up in Bombay) after his parents moved there from Mangalore. He married Thelma Noronha a Goan whose parents moved from Goa - a common matter in those times. Fr Earl Fernandes' paternal grandfather was Ligoury Fernandes (1906-77) of Canara Coffee Works, Fort Mumbai, hailed from Mangalore. Ligoury's

wife Mary Magdalene hailed from a Coelho family of Bolar, ancient heart of Mangalore, They had six children, Joyce (Sr Hilda), Terence, Sidney, Joan, Brian and Vernon. One of her relatives (a cousin of her father) was Isidore Coelho (1878-1968), author of the classic work on Mangalorean culinary art "The Chef".

Referring to Mangalore genealogical information the names of Dr. Sidney and Mrs Thelma's appear in a Directory of Mangalore folks based in the US. Also, Grandfather Ligoury Fernandes is seen under Mangalore origin 'Coffee Marketeers' of Mumbai in a detailed directory. Well known Mangalore based genealogist and researcher in publications, has assigned this family to be of "Fernandes-Shenoy" origin with roots in Nantoor in the city. Further information proves that Ligoury Fernandes's parents (Bp Earnest's Great Grandparents) Lawrence & Joanna nee' Machado, lived in Nantoor in Mangalore. Great Grandmother Joanna hails from a Machado family of suburban Omzoor. The Mangalore connection may not be too significant for the present generation proper as the perceptions are different; 'Konkani Mangalore folk' from all over Kanara are today found in almost every nation of the 196 or so nations of the world and contributing in a big way, their renown and integrity has been recognised for centuries. Here in Mumbai (in Mangalore and Goa) the community has every reason to appreciate and rejoice.



by Ivan Saldanha-Shet

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(Contd.. from p. 1)

people believe life begins? At conception? At viability? At birth? After birth? They won't say. Even more disconcerting, reporters won't ask them. It's a dereliction of duty by the mainstream media not to push the question, and it's an abdication of their responsibility to inform the people and spur legitimate debate.

Since the debate on abortion and various opinion, pro-Choice people have come out as the abortion extremists we've always known they are. They've staked out a position that is simply outside the mainstream of where average pro-life people are.

Pro-Choice people are swing nations and states embraced legalizing abortion up until the moment of birth. Some, are refusing to say if there should be any restrictions on abortion whatever.

It is easy for Americans to forget that illegal abortion was common before the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decisions that legalized the procedure across the nation—and that denying women access to legal abortion does not prevent them from having abortions, but just increases the likelihood that they will resort to an illegal ...

Since taking majorities in both houses of the American Congress, pro-choice people (Democrats) have also rejected the longstanding bipartisan tradition of prohibiting of U.S. federal aid from funding both internationally and nationally and by doing so create an economic injustice for low income women (the Hyde and Helms amendments) in spending bills, which prevent taxpayer funding of abortions, including abortions overseas.

Fifty-seven percent of Americans would be less likely to support abortion laws if the U.S. allows for abortion to be performed for any reason up until the moment of birth, which is the new Pro- Choice (Democratic Party) line.

All of these positions are well outside the mainstream of where American voters are. According to recent National Republican Senatorial Committee polling, 65% of Americans agree that taxpayer money shouldn't be used to pay for abortions, while only 30% disagree. Only 30% of Americans agree that abortion should be legal any time, on demand and without apology, while 61% disagree.

It's a commonly held belief that being "pro-choice" is incompatible with being Catholic. That's not surprising, given the Catholic Church's

stance on abortion seems pretty clear cut: abortion is a murder. The Catechism of the Catholic Church even says, "Since the first century, the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable."

Meanwhile, Pro-Life people are happy to answer the question of when life begins: They believe life begins at conception because they believe in science and place value in every life, born and unborn.

Once Pro- Choice people have an answer, a legitimate debate on the issue can be had.

Meanwhile presently in times of rising inflation - People care more about inflation than abortion.

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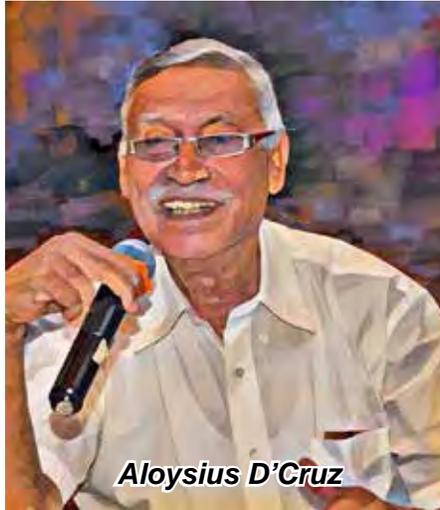
An Entrepreneur's Tale

(Contd... from last issue)

2

By A. D' Cruz

Our survival depended on outwitting the competition, second guessing their next move and surprising them with ours. We had substantial technically capability, an excellent track record, but lacked international recognition. And our competitor was using this last fact to the hilt. So I chose to make a bold move. In 1983, we participated in the international 'Hannover Industrial Fair' in Germany. It was the first time a small Indian cooling tower company like ours had dared to place themselves in an elite engineering forum. We struck deals with an Australian and Malaysian Company for transfer of cooling tower technology and know-how, and then proceeded to publicise the news in all the leading English and regional language newspapers at home with the title, 'Thermopack Engineers Sells Cooling Tower Know-How to Australia and Malaysia'. This shocked our competitor, whose unique selling proposition at the time was 'superior technical know-how from a leading US company'. The fact that a small Indian competitor had reverse-sold cooling



Aloysius D'Cruz

towers on their list of approved manufacturers. Many even offered to partner with us on technology or buy us out. We politely refused. We had all the technology required in the field of cooling towers and we were strong enough to go it alone. We had arrived.

However, as in the lives of most small businesses, we didn't have surplus funds. We didn't even have a respectable enough office or workspace that we could show our clients at the time. We were running on the knowledge and skills our young sales and execution teams had learnt along the way from me and my immediate directs. This was a team of executives handpicked and trained by me over the years driven by raw talent, street-smartness and pure grit to perform to the best of their ability in the most adverse circumstances.

The sales team was particularly empowered. I taught all of them the basics of cooling tower design so that they understood the technology they were selling from scratch and could present themselves better in sales pitches. I also connected them with component manufacture so that they could address after sales and refurbishing requirements accurately. While this was a great advantage for the company, it also came with some negatives. Some of our employees left, floated their own companies and

became competitors. But most of these offshoots had to wind up or sell out due to lack of finances over the years. They found it hard to match our production, installation and after sales capabilities. Turns out, it takes more than just knowing design and sales to run a successful business after all. Tough luck.

I savoured some wonderful moments with my company 'Thermopack Engineers'. Some of the best remain the most hard-fought bids that we won. One such prestigious order came from a large power generation company. It was a final stage discussion and our competitor's owner had also come down for the same. I was in discussion with the client's technical manager who insisted that my design was inferior to my larger competitor. He referred to both our drawings and showed me that the loading on our vertical posts of the cooling tower were 6 feet long, while our competitors was 4 feet long, implying a more compact and efficient design. I asked him to look at the drawings more closely and explained that our post dimensions were 6 x 4 feet while our competitors was 4 x 6 feet. Being a technical expert he immediately understood the load application. I also explained how our design was able to bear higher wind velocities of up to 120 km/hr. as against 100 km/hr. as quoted by my competitor. He smiled, folded his file and told me to collect the order from Purchase Dept. There had been a ton of preparation that went into ensuring we were serious contenders for this job, and it was supremely satisfying to pull the rug out from under my competitor's feet and walk away with an order worth Rs. 4 crores.

As I stepped outside, my competitor was waiting for me. Gracious in defeat, he congratulated me on our win and lauded our technical superi-

(Contd.. on p. 5)



Shining Diamond - 1

tower know-how to global companies in Asia-Pac came as a huge embarrassment to them and put a dent in their armour.

The buzz generated a spurt of new orders and business from prestigious clients across India and abroad. Consultants, technical experts and OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) sought to have our brand of cooling

(Contd.. from p. 4)

ority. To be honest, I'm not a technical guy. To me, it was common sense and some quick thinking that saved the day!

Here's a little secret. Life actually improves with every decade. My 40s turned out to be my best years yet. Business was good and the family was settled in familiar routines. My wife and I had moved to a new place in the heart of Bandra West, very close to where we once lived on rent as a newly married couple. It was a familiarity she had always craved, close to the kids' school, close to the church and close to her extended family.

I was content with what I had achieved so far. Now, I wanted something else. I wanted to give back to my community. My roots were in Kerala, but I had made my home amongst the Christian community in Mumbai. At the time, this group was close knit. Every family (understandably) wanted the breadwinner of the house to get the best job available, and stay put till retirement. Job security was paramount. Opportunities were few and career ladders to climb, even fewer. I was lucky to have had some help and guidance from my boss when I was starting out on my entrepreneurial journey. I felt it was time for me to help

the Christian youth in my community achieve their entrepreneurial dreams too.

Being a risk-averse community made this a little challenging. Several other communities already had established family businesses, their second and third generation kids growing up with entrepreneurship being part of the conversation at home. We needed forums that could facilitate similar conversations about entrepreneurship in our own community. A platform to promote the business mindset and debunk myths and fears that were holding our kids back from making it on their own.

I started scouting for organisations already registered and functioning in Mumbai doing this kind of work and



found one called the Indian Christian Economic and Entrepreneurial Development Association (ICEEDA). I joined them and quickly became their President.

A series of seminars were organised by ICEEDA, including one that I personally created and delivered, called "Think Business". It was held at the Xavier institute of Management (Now XIMR) in Mumbai and in attendance was Fr. Anthony D'Souza, then Director of XIM. Fr. Anthony was a powerful speaker who had been invited to the United Nations General Assembly to speak on developments in India. He was also a close associate of the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Archbishop Desmond Tutu. To have Fr. Anthony appreciate my seminar and

then offer me a position as Director at XIM was humbling, and a moment of incredible pride. I also made it a point to deliver seminars on entrepreneurship at various colleges across Mumbai whenever possible. Many who attended my seminars approached me personally for assistance and advice in their businesses. I was more than happy to oblige.

I've always considered education to be a lifelong quest. Somewhere along the way, I craved for a Master's Degree. Mysore University, under the Manasa Gangotri scheme, offered an M. A. Degree on various subjects at the time. I signed up for M. A. Social Sciences and quickly found that studying for a degree while running a business was a nightmare. My work left me with very little time to catch up on study material. The only time I seemed to have to myself was the 45-60 minute drive from home to office and back. So, I installed a stereo system in my car and played a recorded cassette of my classes to brush up my study portions. It was one of the few times that I looked forward to traffic jams. And yes, I received my M. A. Degree at the age of 45. Remember that saying I mentioned earlier about the universe conspiring to make things happen? Well it really does.

Our businesses forged ahead for 25 years. We won some, lost some. Fell on some very tough years, rode the highs and ploughed through the lows. I was reminded of something an English friend of mine once told me. He said, "If you look at the balance sheets of all the cooling tower companies in the world, you will find the last line so disappointing that you'll eventually end up closing shop. Unless you are lucky enough find a new lifeline." It was 1996. Two of my sons were settled in the US and the third was still in college. The industry was changing and we need a lifeline to keep pace in a new era. I decided it was time to sell my company.

Lady Luck was on our side again. One of the largest Cooling Systems manufacturers in the world based in Europe came looking for a joint ven-

(Contd.. on p. 6)

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(Contd.. from p. 5)

ture in India. They were interested in proceeding with us but had one condition. We needed to reduce our on-site installation workforce strength by half. We had 50 technicians on company payroll at the time, so that would mean laying off 25 of them. This was an unthinkable task for a small business like ours. My workforce had been content for 25 years with absolutely no labour issues. There had been no labour union activity and no need for involvement from an external union leader. This was the worst possible time to involve one. I knew that if I outright asked my technicians to quit, they would refuse, or demand a compensation which would most likely be unaffordable by me at the time. The only thing to do under the circumstances was to engage a union leader directly, take him into confidence and have him sketch out a fair deal for my workforce.

I knew a union leader who I had dealt with briefly for my other company some years ago. Called him up and explained my problem in detail. We met a few times. The venue was always Juhu Beach, 9:00 a.m. We stood by the numerous vending stalls and discussed his plan. He didn't speak much, but was an extremely sharp local leader who grasped the pulse of my workers quickly. A few meetings in, he showed me a figure. I said, "That payout is too big!" We went back and forth a few times. He argued that he had to be fair to the workforce. "They are probably willing to take less, because they genuinely love working for you. I'm finding it difficult to make them feel angry enough to demand more" he mused.

Over the coming weeks he drew out a plan that we followed strictly. He advised me that there might be some possibility of a strike, gheraoing, etc. and I would have to go with the flow. But he delivered on his promise and the layoff was completed successfully.

Negotiations with our European buyer now began, and we went through several rounds of discussions with their Board of Directors. I don't think I had cause to visit as many

Five Star Hotel lobbies and conference rooms in my life as I did during the summer of 1996. We were a small team of just four. My brother and I were of course there. It was like the old days all over again. And joining us was my youngest son and my accountant of many years. There were several interesting moments, which I think could make for a great book of joint venture anecdotes. But that's for another day.

Finally, in June, we signed on the dotted line. As part of the deal I agreed to stay on as Managing Director of our new joint venture company for the first five years. Life is a path made up of several small journeys along the way. And just like that, a new journey had begun.

I would like to leave you with five takeaways from my days in L&T and beyond, which have stood the test of time for me in my personal and professional life. You would have heard or read these several times in the last 45 years. But back then—in a world without internet, social media and online education—they were seldom

SHINING DIAMONDS

Our community has many gifted individuals, who deserve to be called **Shining Diamonds!** But not many of us know about them and their good works.

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

takes pleasure in making an effort to reflect their glow on to our readers by way of introducing some of them in a new series titled '**Shining Diamonds**'. This article is first in the series, more of which may be looked for in the coming issues. With the contents of these representations proving to be a source of inspiration to our youth who are the future of society and our country, it is sincerely hoped that readers would help identify more such individuals to add to the galaxy of **Shining Diamonds** being featured in

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

—Editor

articulated. They were hard coded by experience.

1. Give your employees a ladder. Everyone has aspirations, but not everyone knows how to achieve them. Your job as an employer is not just to make your people more efficient and useful to the company, but also to help them climb their individual ladder of aspiration. The years they spend with you should be the ones they cherish and speak fondly about for the rest of their lives.
2. When someone approaches you for help, never refuse. Give them what you can or show them how to get what they need from another source. I always remember the quote, "Dene wala hath lene wala hath se behter hai" ("The hand that gives is better off than the hand that receives"). Your wealth is better defined by what you give freely to others, rather than what you take.
3. When you sell goods or services, never leave a customer dissatisfied. His opinion about you can be an asset or liability, and it will most likely determine the success or failure of your next sale. When things go wrong, don't take it personally. Focus on your goal and work towards a resolution.
4. Keep learning and upskilling. Be forever curious. It is the only thing that will keep you relevant and thriving in an ever-changing world. This is a lifelong process. Find new things to learn even after you hang up your boots. Keeping your brain active is a vital ingredient to an interesting and engaging life.
5. Find opportunities in everything, especially obstacles, and don't let them go. You only live once, so find the courage to reach out and grab them. My executive assistant of many years once told my wife, "Your husband is an eternal optimist. Give him a sack full of sand and he will sell it as a sack of gold."

May you always find your sack of gold.

*Edited by Mark D'Cruz
Painting by Mark D'Cruz*





What about important pending cases

Where Supreme Court? Today one sees religious and matters concerning the cast, Mandir-Masjid are promptly taken and decided upon by the supreme court. But Let's take a look at the list of pending cases dealing with vital questions of National life before the Supreme Court. For example, the scraping of the article 370, CAA law passed hurriedly, the misuse of the UAPA, the the Pegasus mischief, election bonds, Rafel deal, etc. All cases have involving the BJP and in particular the Prime Minister Modi. Prime minister Modi never refers to them nor has a public interview on these issues. On the contrary on the occasion of completing 8 years in office Modiji declare, "There is not a single matter that makes is put our heads in shame!" What an Audacity! Such an Audacity can City shine only in the context of Hindutv! Will Purushotam Ram be proud of it, I wonder! No other religion will accept this kind of dishonesty and sheer lies!

Is that not enough for us to think that the Supreme Court is bias! God save our democracy!

—Fr. Michael G.
Vasai

Homework for Primary school kids - is it helpful?

Schools are scheduled to re-open in the second week of June for a new academic year. Among other issues, there is this issue of homework for primary children. Recently a

newspaper in Goa carried a report on the impact of Homework on primary & secondary school students.

There may not be any data available however, on whether homework is useful for school students. According to the news report, in 2018 a parents panel in U.K., carried out a survey of around 1000 parents and found that 36 percent of the parents felt that homework was not helpful to primary students. Further, they felt that homework was a significant source of stress and negatively affected family life. There seems to be an element of truth in these findings, especially, in today's world which is already stressed out due to the pandemic.

The news report gives a balanced view on the usefulness of Homework for students. Homework may be good to build up your foundation in education, building a bond between the parents & the school, helping them to be part of their children's schooling. At the same time, it may seem unfair to subject children to the drudgery of homework after spending several stressful hours in the school classroom. It is indeed no easy task to sit in a classroom and pay full attention to the lessons being taught. One has to see the glee on the faces of the children when the Recess or the Closing bell rings. They simply break forth, out of their classrooms as if they have been released from prison. They just want to break free, into the outside world. Be that as it may, we need to take a balanced approach to the subject of homework especially for primacy students taking into account the mind set of the children and the parents who return home after a hard day at the office.

— Melville X. D'Souza,
Orlem, Malad West

On Modi govt's 8-year stint in power

I wonder how many of us will agree with the rosy picture painted and accolades heaped upon prime minister Modi by his cronies and well-wishers, on the completion of 8 years in power at the centre. To be fair, no assessment can be said to be realistic and unbiased, without taking into consideration the plus and minus points on all fronts, which are sadly found missing in the above assessments.

Starting with the failed exercise of de-monetisation of high denomination currency notes in circulation in November 2016, which made the rich richer and the poor poorer and miserable, poor planning and mismanagement during the pandemic saw the snuffing out of millions of lives for want of hospital beds and basic hospitalization facilities. The overnight declaration of a national lockdown added to the woes of the people, rendering some more millions jobless and homeless. Migrant workers were the worst hit, having to return on foot to their native place, several kilometres away.

Then came the turn of the farmers who were on a collision course with the centre, agitating over the new farm laws for more than a year, at the cost of losing several of their colleagues, because of an insensitive govt at the centre, that refused to relent. Today, the minorities feel threatened and insecure, as their places of worship are targeted and their religious laws and customs challenged and over-turned. Churches and mosques are at the risk of being demolished to correct the wrongs of history. The freedom of speech and to practice one's faith freely are in danger because of the free-hand given to bigoted elements. Journalists and university students are being targeted and booked under the pernicious sedition law on false charges. In short it

(Contd.. on p. 8)

Vaulting Ambition and The Family

William Shakespeare writes in his play 'Macbeth' about 'Vaulting Ambition' - over-reaching ambition that eventually leads to the downfall of Lord and Lady Macbeth. 'Vaulting Ambition' is having a deleterious effect on the basic unit of society, viz. the family. If the building blocks are dysfunctional, it stands to reason that the smooth functioning of society is jeopardized.

Ambition has been defined as 'an ardent desire for distinction'. It is the force that keeps the wheels of civilization turning. If it were not for the collective ambition of countless individuals, both famous and lesser known mortals, we would not have enjoyed the conveniences we take so much for granted. However, ambition driven parents with self-glorification as their *raison d'être*, could spell disaster to relationships within the family.

We are jet setting the way of the West where individualism, instant gratification and consumerism are the be all and end all of life. The irresistible neon lights display advertisements which tempt us to endlessly buy for which we have to endlessly work. Where is the time to fulfill the basic function of parenthood, viz. to nurture the emotional, spiritual, mental and physical dimensions of our children? We are stifling their growth in confidence and integrity to enable them to become happy, well adjusted and contributing members of society.

Rohan is a workaholic in order to acquire the status symbols of a larger car, a bigger house and membership in a fancy club. Never mind if he has barely any time to spend either at home or at the club. His wife likewise is very busy with her career and in socializing. Of course we have to work to enjoy a better lifestyle but we should set limits. Also we should bear in mind that the air is pretty rarefied on the peak of the treacherous mountain called 'Success'. It's a dog-eat-dog

existence.

It is pertinent to mention that domestic help are paid to do their job. There is often no emotional bonds with their employees, added to which they often come from maladjusted homes themselves. In the age of instant coffee, we harbor the wrong assumption that rapport could be instantaneous. We tout the new fangled concept of 'quality time'. Is it possible for a child to fall sick or have his/her exams during 'quality time' that does not interfere with the business trip we must attend in order to go up the ladder of success?



by Monica Fernandes

There is no set timetable we can adhere to. Different kids require varying attention. The same child requires varying attention at different stages of his or her life. For instance, a teenager requires parental time so that he/she does not fall into the wrong

company and does not get unduly influenced by the social media.

No matter what the media says, it is not possible to be Superman or Supergirl. Alice leads a hectic life. She works in a bank during the day and is a soloist in a choir in the evenings. Her husband works abroad. Hence the children are neglected. Alice could make some compromises such as choosing a less remunerative job nearer home or joining a less demanding choir.

I have always worked in a 9 to 5 job. But my parents and in-laws pitched in by keeping an eye on the maid when the children were young. Like Alice, I too joined a choir but did so only when the kids were fairly grown up and for part of the year. I also had the support of my late husband, Nelson, who took up the children's studies while I went for singing practice.

Togetherness is of paramount importance for fostering relationships within the family. Family dinner at the table without the TV on was a must at our

home as this activity was a chance for parents and children to draw support from one another. Youngster may have a teacher who picks on her for no rhyme or reason and Dad may be the victim of politics in the jungle euphemistically called the 'workplace'. Dinner time is a time for sharing and caring and so are family outings such as picnics, going out for dinner, a movie, a play, a dance recital.

One comes across people who have no physical disability but man-made psychological handicaps such as lack of self esteem, because of childhood neglect. Do we want our kids to be a part of this group or do we want to bring out the best in them?

Parenthood is not an easy vocation in times of the mass media. Despite our best intentions, we parents do make Himalayan blunders such as pushing our children too hard academically or not allowing them to choose a career they are interested in. Kids of devoted and law abiding citizens do sometimes go astray. But the chances of such an occurrence are less when parents are around for their kids. If we single mindedly pursue will-o-wisps of status symbols that will be buried with us, we may have to pay the heavy price of children going astray and lose their love as well.

(Contd.. from p. 7)

is virtual autocracy in force ,and the death of democracy as new laws are passed in both the houses of Parliament without proper debate.

On the economic front, the country's GDP rate has slumped further, putting the country's economy further in jeopardy. With the rise in inflation, prices of foodstuff, essentials, petro, diesel, and cooking gas have become unaffordable and beyond the control of the centre and means of the common man. In short there is a feeling of unhappiness and uncertainty all around, having to wait indefinitely for 'Acche Din'. Is this the much touted 'New India' of today that we are so proud of?

—A. F. Nazareth,
Alto Porvorim, Goa.

Omnipresent, Omnipotent, Omniscient

Feast: 12 June

Today, we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday at a time when the light of God seems distant; when war, death and destruction compels the faithful witness the truth of salvation as destined. This is a time to better understand the Doctrine of the Trinity in an intimate God-inspired way.

The Gospel of Matthew in a significant manner draws our attention to indulge in the first open declaration to the Doctrine, revealed in the new Covenant:

“And when Jesus had been baptized just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” (Mat.3:16-17).

The Gospel reading alerts us to the motivational character of the doctrine: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...” (Mat.28:19). This is the primary command of Jesus, to “make disciples”.

To preach requires the faculty of preaching and demands no special appointment. “For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.” (Rom.8:14).

In fact, Holy scripture proves that the doctrine of the Trinity is a divine and monumental gift given to Holy Mother the Church; both theologically correct and scholarly in content and wisdom.

Reading Scripture is a mystical experience. “It is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” (Rom.8:14).

The words of Scripture is the real font of spirituality the Church treasures for divine veneration and revelation.

Nevertheless, the set of beliefs held and taught by the Church, on the trinity is absolutely the foundation of another kind of sacramental reality.

Paul, in his letter to the Romans, wrote: “But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.” (Rom.8:9).

Without doubt, the Trinity nourishes the Church, the faithful, our trust in Christ, works of mercy and unity among Christians: “since there is but one bread, we form but one body”. (1 Cor.11:17).

In the content of that same letter to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul, said: “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord.” (1 Cor. 12:4-5).

In yet, another moment of refreshing insight we discover a passage in Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. “One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” (Eph.4:5-6).

It is evident that the Holy Trinity is Omnipresent, Omnipotent and Omniscient. The Trinity is creator, teacher, source of eternal life and sanctifier. Baptism is administered in the name of the Trinity. Benediction is given in the name of three persons in one God.

The Trinity is the author of all spiritual operations: “Make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever

and ever. Amen.” (Heb.13:21).

Divine life flows through us. Ultimately, however, we turn to the Father, or to the Son, or to the supernatural reality of the Holy Spirit: our need is often purely human, yet, the grace and the gift of the Trinity, One God, often assists us in bringing about solutions to our wants.

The Doctrine of the Trinity guides us to the assurance of trust, faith and belief. Chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood...(Peter 1:2).

One remembered lesson is that of the sign of the Cross which our early formative years absorbed in simple prayers, with belief in the Holy Trinity.

The Cross became the root and source for our initiation to the concept of the Trinity. Sacred Scripture seals the proof that there is only One God in three persons. Undeniable.



BY MELVYN BROWN

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Environment Matters: 'Only One Earth!'

Come 5 June, the world will once again be 'celebrating' 'World Environment Day'! There will be the usual plethora of events, plenty of fanfare and with many competing for 'photo-ops' to show how much they are doing for the environment! There will be the 'mad rush' to plant saplings, for politicians to take to the broom, on streets which have already been sanitized and cleaned earlier and above all, a slew of speeches on the environment! Plenty of cosmetic activity and tokenism! This is in no way to denigrate the significance of the day. If there is one clear message of this annual observance, it is the powerful reminder that unless we show unflinching courage to address endemic issues and take on the powerful vested interests who are destroying the environment- we will not be doing enough to save our common home!



World Environment Day is the biggest international day for the environment.

BY FR. CEDRIC PRAKASH

Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and held annually since 1974, it has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach. It is 'celebrated' by millions of people across the world. The theme for World Environment Day 2022 is 'Only One Earth', and focuses on living sustainably in harmony with nature. This theme actually was the slogan for the 1972 Stockholm Conference. Fifty years down the road, this truth still holds – this planet is our only home. With nature in an emergency mode, the #OnlyOneEarth campaign advocates for transformative environmental change on a global scale. The campaign shines a spotlight on climate action, nature action and pollution action while encouraging everyone, everywhere to live sustainably. While our individual consumption choices do make a difference, it is collective action that will create the transformative environmental change we need, to advance to a more sustainable and just Earth,

where everyone can flourish. Thirty years ago in 1992, the Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development) in Rio de Janeiro sounded the alarm bells! But is anyone listening?

On May 24, 2015, Pope Francis gave to the world his path-breaking and incisive Encyclical Letter '*Laudato Si' - On Care for Our Common Home*'. It was the first major Papal teaching on a subject of critical importance namely 'the environment'. '*Laudato Si*' meaning "*Praise be to you*" are the first words of the celebrated 'Canticle of the Creatures' of St Francis of Assisi. The Encyclical which came months before the landmark 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, (COP 21) which was held in Paris, in fact set the tone for world leaders, to come to grips with real causes which were responsible for environmental degradation and which ultimately caused climatic changes with disastrous results everywhere.

SJ Those who take the encyclical seriously are aware of its significance in addressing key issues which destroy the environment today.

Pope Francis sets the tone of the Encyclical in his opening statement, which is "*to address every person living on this planet*". He says "*this sister (mother earth) now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life*"

He states, in the first Chapter that "*we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation*"; he deals here with several 'aspects of the present ecological

crisis': pollution, waste and the throw-away culture; climate as a common good; displacement and migration caused by environmental degradation; access to safe drinking water as a basic and universal human right; loss of bio-diversity; decline in the quality of human life and break down of society; global inequality. He also denounces unequivocally the use of pesticides and the production of genetically engineered (GE) crops.

Pope Francis strongly notes that "*the earth's resources are also being plundered because of short-sighted approaches to the economy, commerce and production*". In making such statements, in taking a stand for the 'care of our common home', Pope Francis has indeed created several enemies among the rich and powerful-who are bent on profiteering; those engaged in the extractive industry by plundering very precious and scarce natural resources. Pope Francis has been in consistent in his love for the poor and his commitment to the protection of the environment. Throughout the Encyclical, insists that we have been called to be stewards of the creation which God has entrusted to us. He ensures that '*Laudato Si*' focuses on human rights violations and injustices. He does not mince words when he says "*in the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, committing oneself to the common good means to make choices in solidarity based on a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters*"

What is paramount in the final analysis, says Pope Francis, is a radical commitment to ensure positive change, which is the need of the hour. For this he says, every section of society must play a definite role in a collaborative and concerted manner. The Pope does not spare the priests of the Catholic Church and he calls upon them to en-

(Contd.. on p. 11)

gage with the faithful on environmental issues. Further, he challenges international and national Governments and mechanisms saying, *“the same mindset which stands in the way of making radical decisions to reverse the trend of global warming also stands in the way of achieving the goal of eliminating poverty. A more responsible overall approach is needed to deal with both problems: the reduction of pollution and the development of poorer countries and regions”*

‘Laudato Si’ does make one uncomfortable! Therefore, there is always the danger that many would like to cosmetize this powerful document: to tinker with bits and parts, to be selective and comfortable in its reading; to do non-threatening acts like growing trees, propagating alternative technologies, not using plastics, to indulge in acts of tokenism like environmental ‘education’, or project work. Whilst all these acts are surely good and could lead to something more sustainable, ‘Laudato Si’ is path-breaking, radical in nature, it shakes one out of one’s complacency by touching every single dimension of our human existence. The Pope invites all to an ecological conversion, to change directions so that we can truly care for our common home; not to pay heed to Pope Francis’ prophetic words; to rubbish this timely and important message or to relegate it to mere tree-planting and other ‘feel-good’ acts would certainly be a great disservice not to the Pope, but to Planet Earth!

On 22 April 2020, Earth Day Pope Francis praised the environmental movement, saying it was necessary for young people to *“take to the streets to teach us what is obvious, that is, that there will be no future for us if we destroy the environment that sustains us”*. Recounting a Spanish proverb that God always forgives, man sometimes forgives but nature never forgives, Francis said, *“If we have deteriorated the Earth, the response will be very ugly. We see these natural tragedies, which are the Earth’s response to our maltreatment. I think that if I ask the Lord now what he thinks about this, I don’t think he would say it is a very*

good thing. It is we who have ruined the work of God.” Saying the Earth was not an endless deposit of resources to exploit, he said, *“We have sinned against the Earth, against our neighbour and, in the end, against the Creator.”*

Even a cursory survey of the State of India’s environment will make one realise how serious the situation is. Climatic changes have played havoc on the lives and livelihood of millions of people – particularly the poor and the marginalised. Heat waves have scorched parts of North India and unseasonal rains and floods have destroyed other parts. Destruction has been wanton. Then there is nexus among vested interests: the builders lobby, the mining barons, the timber merchants, corrupt politicians, sections of the corporate sector who have no qualms of conscience. They are only interested in their profits, plundering natural resources at will, as we witness in Jharkhand, Orissa and elsewhere; destroying virgin lands rich in biodiversity as we witness in the Talegaon and Panaji areas of Goa (not to forget the Mollem episode). NOIDA has lost almost all its water bodies including its 200-odd ponds. In Bangalore, there were once 412 waterbodies; today the number has been reduced to a scandalous 12! The Aravalli Mountain range in Gurugram harbours a rich variety of biodiversity which is being systematically being destroyed. The Niti Aayog’s 2018 report says that Indians might not have access to drinking water by 2030. The Coal sector is making a windfall of profits in India (Modi’s crony Adani is reaping mind boggling amounts) – so naturally, the Government of India has no intention of reducing the use of fossil fuels till 2070!

In the context and mandate of ‘Laudato Si’ and as Church in India, it is important to reflect and do some serious soul-searching and to respond urgently to some key questions, which include:

- have we internalised the document, individually and collectively: made it our own?
- are we proactive in communicating to others the radical content of this document?
- do we take a stand on human rights violations and injustices (#158)?
- are we truly concerned about the ‘jal,

jungle aur jameen’ of the adivasis? do we take a stand on the way the Government and the powerful are trying to deprive them of the forest lands? do we truly identify them, accompany them in their struggles?

- do we identify/collaborate with important movements like the National Alliance of Peoples Movement (NAPM) and/or with other environmental groups in the country?
- do we have the courage to be visible and vocal in taking on the powerful vested interests: be it the Government or even some of our ‘benefactors’ who have no qualms of destroying the environment?

Not being able to say an unequivocal ‘yes’ to any of the above is a clear indicator that we have not (individually and collectively) mainstreamed the spirit, the mandate and the directives of ‘Laudato Si’; in short, we are betraying it! (Pope Francis talks about ‘ecological sins!’)

On 10 January 2022, in an address to the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See, Pope Francis said, *“in this regard, in recent years we have seen a growing collective awareness of the urgent need to care for our common home, which is suffering from the constant and indiscriminate exploitation of its resources. Here I think especially of the Philippines, struck in these last weeks by a devastating typhoon, and of other nations in the Pacific, made vulnerable by the negative effects of climate change, which endanger the lives of their inhabitants, most of whom are dependent on agriculture, fishing and natural resources. Precisely this realization should impel the international community as a whole to discover and implement common solutions. None may consider themselves exempt from this effort, since all of us are involved and affected in equal measure. At the recent COP26 in Glasgow, several steps were made in the right direction, even though they were rather weak in light of the gravity of the problem to be faced. The road to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement is complex and appears to be long, while the time at our disposal is shorter and shorter. Much still remains to be done, and so 2022 will be another fundamental year*

Where to find happiness

A professor gave a balloon to every student, who had to inflate it, write their name on it and throw it in the hallway. The professor then mixed all the balloons. The students were then given 5 minutes to find their own balloon. Despite a hectic search, no one found their balloon.

At that point, the professor told the students to take the first balloon that they found and hand it to the person whose name was written on it. Within 5 minutes, everyone had their own balloon.

The professor said to the students: "These balloons are like happiness. We will never find it if everyone is looking for their own. But if we care about other people's happiness, we'll find ours too."

Six ethics of life

Before you pray, (believe).

Before you speak, (listen).

Before you spend, (earn).

Before you write, (think).

Before you quit, (try).

Before you die, (live).

--- Jubel D'Cruz,
Dombivili, Mumbai

WHY MEN ARE SO HONEST

One day, while a woodcutter was cutting a branch of a tree above a river, his axe fell into the river'.

When he cried out, the Angel appeared & asked, "Why are you crying?"

The woodcutter replied that his axe has fallen into water & he needed it to make a living.

The Angel went down into the water & reappeared with a *Golden Axe*. "Is this your axe?" the Angel asked. The woodcutter replied: "No."

The Angel again went down & came up with a *Silver Axe.* "Is this your axe?" the Angel asked. Again, the



woodcutter replied: "No."

The Angel went down again & came up with an *Iron Axe*. "Is this your axe?" the Angel asked. The woodcutter replied: "Yes."

The Angel was pleased with the man's honesty & gave him all 3 Axes to keep, & the woodcutter went home happy.

Some time later the woodcutter was walking with his wife along the riverbank, & his wife fell into the river.

When he cried out, the Angel again appeared & asked him: "Why are you crying?"

"Oh, my wife has fallen into the water!"

The Angel went down into the water & came up with *Pamela Anderson*

"Is this your wife?" the Angel asked. "Yes," cried the woodcutter.

The Angel was furious. "You lied! That is an untruth!" The woodcutter replied, "Oh, forgive me, It is a misunderstanding. You see, if I had said *NO* to *Pamela*, you would have come up with *Angelina Jolie*. Then if I said *NO* to her, you would have come up with *MY WIFE*. Had I then said *YES,' you would have given me all 3.*

I'm a poor man, & not able to take care of 3 wives, so *THAT'S* why I said YES to Pamela. "

The moral of this story is: Whenever a man lies, it is for a *good & honorable reason & for the benefit of others.*

That's our story, & we're sticking to it!

MEN ARE TRULY HONORABLE!

Principle of

JUST LEAVE IT

(Worth Practicing)

Try convincing a person once or twice. If he or she refuses to get convinced

Just Leave it

When the children grow up and take their own decisions, do not impose

Just Leave it

Your frequency doesn't match with everyone in life. If you can't connect with someone

Just Leave it

After a certain age if someone criticises you don't get upset

Just Leave it

When you realise that nothing is in your hands, stop worrying about others and the future

Just Leave it

When the gap between your wish list and your capabilities increases, stop self expectations

Just Leave it

Everyone's path of life, size of life, quality of life is different, so stop comparing

Just Leave it

When life has given you such a wonderful treasure of experience, stop counting your daily earnings, but

Just Leave it

If this does NOT Appeal or Apply to You....

Just Leave it

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HAT – TRICK

The just concluded Indian Premier League (IPL) would be fresh in people's minds. Hence one cannot be faulted for presuming that this piece is about cricket! It isn't. It's not about red balls but about red hats, the red Berettas given to Cardinals.

They are the flavour of the season thanks to the announcement of 21 new Cardinals last week by Pope Francis, including two from India. The appointments have caused a flurry of opinions. Let us study some of them.

Noted Indian theologian Felix Wilfred, writing for UCAN (31st May), cautioned that the Asian Cardinals should become the genuine voice of Asia, and not an echo chamber for the Roman Curia. Breaking from tradition Pope Francis has not given red hats to prominent Sees like Milan, Venice, Krakow, Paris, Los Angeles and San Francisco. For the first time Paraguay, Timor-Leste, Singapore and even remote Mongolia (that has hardly 1400 Catholics) have made the list.



by **chhotebhai ***

Wilfred further observes that Asia already had 15 Cardinal Electors (CEs); those eligible to elect or be elected as the next pope. With six more added now Asia has 21 CEs, a significant "bloc" that could sway the next papal election. Wilfred is all praise for brave Asian Cardinals like Charles Bo of Myanmar and Joseph Zen of Hong Kong. He could also have added Cardinal Ranjeet of Sri Lanka. But he is ominously silent on the existing four Indian Cardinals!

La Croix International, based in Rome, states that the forthcoming August consistory will be the 8th by Pope Francis. After that there will be 132 CEs, of whom 2/3rds would be Francis' appointees. Of the 21 new faces 8 are from Europe, 6 from Asia, 2 from Africa, 1 from the USA and 4 from Latin America. The CEs will now be from Europe – 54, the Americas – 38, Asia – 20, Africa – 17 and Oceania – 3.

La Croix draws special attention to three appointments – Abp Jean-Marc Aveline of Marseilles (France), Abp Arthur Roche of England and Bp Robert McElroy from the USA; all of whom share Francis' ecclesiastical vision.

A contrarian opinion is espoused by Raymond J de Souza, probably an Indian priest, writing in the National Catholic Register, USA (30th May). His article is titled "What's Unsaid Speaks Volumes". He singles out what he feels are Francis' hits and misses. He questions why Major Abp Sviatoslav Shevchuk, patriarch of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, didn't get the red hat. He alleges that this was done to placate Patriarch Krill of the Russian Orthodox Church, even though Francis had recently referred to him as Putin's altar boy. If smaller Oriental Rite Churches like the Syro-Malabar, Syro-Malankara, Maronite, Chaldean, Romanian and Ethiopian ones could get Cardinals, then why not Ukraine, asks de Souza.

He further laments that Abp Jose Gomez of Los Angeles missed the boat, even though he is the President of the US Catholic Bishops' Conference. What de Souza left "unsaid" is that Gomez is a staunch Trump supporter who was denying Holy Communion to pro-choice Catholic leaders like Joe Biden, the President of the USA. Instead his junior, Bp McElroy of San Diego, got the red hat. The latter is described as "one of the staunchest liberals in the US Bishops' Conference".

Similarly, Abp Leonardo Steiner of Manaus, Brazil was chosen because he is a proponent of married priesthood and woman's diaconate! So Francis' unsaid message is clear.

Next de Souza disparagingly says that Bp Peter Eberre Okpaleke of the newly erected diocese of Ekwulobia, Nigeria, was given a consolation prize as he was earlier rejected by the people of Ahiara diocese as he was not of the same ethnicity.

Writing in the same issue of the conservative American magazine Andrea Gagliarducci claims that Bp Oscar Cantoni of Como, Italy, got the red hat because he had granted Holy Communion to Divorced and Remarried Catholics (DARCs) in special circumstances.

So, as in cricket, we must await the verdict of the Third Umpire, the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit. The conservative lobby, led by the bishops of the USA, are disappointed with Francis' "liberal" choices. The rest of us players on the field may feel that Francis is playing to win the match.

Gagliarducci makes another startling claim, that after the consistory and meeting of the Cardinals in August, Pope Francis will resign! This is indeed wishful thinking on the part of the conservative lobby. There are several reasons why this will not happen, despite Francis' knee problem.

Firstly, he has just initiated the Curial reforms and will probably affect a ma-

(Contd.. from p. 11)

for verifying to what extent and in what ways the decisions taken in Glasgow can and should be further consolidated in view of COP27, planned for Egypt next November".

In 'Laudato Si', Pope Francis asks an uncomfortable question "what kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" If we are serious about ensuring 'Only One Earth' then we need to muster the courage to answer this question and act responsibly now! Our future, the future of the earth: our common home: is in our hands!

**(Fr Cedric Prakash SJ is a human rights, reconciliation and peace activist/writer. Contact: cedricprakash@gmail.com)*

(Contd.. on p. 14)

(Contd.. from p. 13)

major change in the Curia (church governance or administration) after meeting with all the Cardinals. He may even announce the convening of Vatican III, 57 years after Vatican II ended. He is in the midst of the largest exercise ever conducted by the Catholic Church, the Synod on Synodality, that culminates (not ends) in October 2023. I don't see him leaving a job half done.

Besides, Pope Benedict XVI is still alive. If Francis were to also resign and another pope were elected there would technically be three popes at one time. That could lead to a piquant situation. Francis will be aware of the events of 1046 CE. Benedict IX, the 145th pope was a notorious person who had three breaks in his papacy. As a result there were four popes at one time – that included Sylvester III, Gregory VI and Clement II. Surely Pope Francis would not want a repeat of 1046.

What is the “match” that Francis is playing? Vatican observers say that his choice of Cardinals is to ensure that his successor continues his reform and renewal agenda. That is a perfectly legitimate aspiration. Did not Jesus himself choose his apostles with the future in mind, to continue his mission?

Those who have not studied church history are accustomed to TV images of throngs waiting in St Peter's Square to see white smoke emerging from the chimney of the Sistine Chapel, followed by the dramatic appearance of the Chamberlain on the balcony to announce “Habemus Papam”, we have a pope.

It was not always this way. Papal history is replete with instances of subterfuge, simony, murder, nepotism and external influence by kings and emperors. Interestingly, there was no pope for 4 years from 304-308, when Marcellus I became the 30th pope. St Gregory the Great, the 64th pope, evaded his own consecration for 7 months as he considered himself unworthy.

Because of the chaos in papal elections it was only in 1059 that Nicholas

II, the 150th pope, framed rules for them. This was at the Lateran Synod where 113 bishops were present. Even then the choice was limited to the Roman clergy, subject to approval by the German emperor. Later the General Council of Lyon (1274) decreed that the pope should be elected in three days, or else the CEs would not be given food or water!

Rules apart, Julius II, the 212nd pope, known as the terrible pope because of his worldly lifestyle, several mistresses and three children, purchased the papacy. He bribed 37 of the 38 CEs to get elected in the shortest ever conclave.

It was left to Pope Paul VI to frame strict rules through his order “Romano Pontifici eligendo”. This was superseded by Pope John Paul II's “Universi Dominici Gregis” in 1996, again amended by Pope Benedict XVI in 2007.

So we see that papal elections have come a long way from the time Jesus simply said “You are Peter and on this rock I will build my community” (Mat 16:18). Note that the Hebrew word used was qahal, translated in Greek to ekklesia, that literally means “an assembly called together”, and not “church” as commonly understood.

So instead of casting aspersions or conspiratorial stones on Pope Francis' choice of red hats, let us work and pray for the qahal of Jesus. That would be a match winning Hatrick.

• *The writer has expounded these ideas in his latest book “The Jerusalem Code”.*

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Matrimonials

GROOMS

7313. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in November 1984) Ht. 5' 11", Wt.85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn.M.Sc., in Petroleum Technology, working as a Drilling fluids Engineer. Contact email : braganzakyle@yahoo.in

7285. MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC bachelor, (Born in February 1975) Ht. 5' 5", Wt.55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com.,Businessman, Trainer, Singer. Contact email : yeslincacademy@gmail.com

7185. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1984) Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for Bank. Contact email : shaun.neo00@oulook.com

7226. CANADA : Canadian Citizen Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1990), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 59 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., in Environmental Science and in Energy Management postgraduate degrees from the University of Toronto. Working for a reputed company as Energy Management Analyst in Totonto. Contact email : francisper@gmail.com

Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, 33 years Ht. 184 cms, Wt. 85 kgs, Handsome, B.E. (Mechanical Engineering) Professional, Managing Family Business, Only Child. (P 2390)

ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

MATRIMONIALS

BRIDES

7245 BANGALURU : Gujrathi Catholic Spinster aged 36 years, Ht. 5' Wt. 45 Kg, Fair complexioned good looking., Edn : BE/M. Tech., (Bits Pillani) Architect by profession holding high post in a German MNC at Bangalore. Only child residing with parents. Seeks a suitable match (any Catholic) who is willing to relocate in Bangalore. Contact : 9820485389 or royalchristianfamily@gmail.com giving code/ref. 7245 (Those who wish to see the profile/photo on our website, we will provide ID link on request)

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.

The Feast of the Pentecost event happened after Easter or the Resurrection, when the other followers of Jesus Christ were celebrating the Feast of Weeks in Jerusalem. It happened like this. Firstly, the Apostles were all with one accord in one place. Secondly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind and it filled all the house where they were sitting. Thirdly there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. The day commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit the third person of the Blessed Trinity, upon the Apostles and Mary, the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. We learn about it in the Acts of the Apostles, leading to the beginning of the Christian Church.

The Feast of the Pentecost is of great spiritual importance to all in the Catholic church and indeed all of Christendom. It reminds them of how Jesus promised that God would send the Holy Spirit and that was fulfilled. Does this mean that the Holy Spirit came into active play only after Pentecost? What about the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament? Was the Holy Spirit known

only to people of the New Testament?

Let us acquaint ourselves with the Spirit's activity in scripture in the Old Testament. What the Hebrew Bible calls "Spirit of God" and "Spirit of Elohim" is called in the Talmud and Midrash "Holy Spirit" (ruach ha-kodesh). The Holy Spirit's powerful role can be found in Isaiah's prophecy of the servant of the Lord (42:1-9). It tells of the intimate interworking of the Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The expression of the "Holy Spirit" also occurs in Ps 51:10 where in the psalmist says, 'Create a pure heart in me, O God; and put a new and loyal spirit in me'.



by:
**Dr Jeanette
Pinto**

The Holy Spirit participated in creation, see Gen.1:2, '..... when everything was engulfed in total darkness, and the Spirit of God was moving over the water.' Genesis also tells us that the Spirit gives life to humanity and other creatures. God endows man with life by breathing into his nostrils the "**breath of life**" (Gen 2:7) The word for "breath" is the same word translated as "Spirit". The Spirit also inspired holiness in Old Testament believers, like David when he prayed to do the will of God; (Ps. 143:10) and scripture promised that someday God would put His Spirit into His people in a way that would cause them to live according to His statutes (Ezek. 36:27)

How about the gifts of the Spirit? Are they mentioned in the Old Testament? Indeed, they are, the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are enumerated in Isaiah 11:2-3. It tells of a new king who will arise from among David's descendants, and mentions the gifts he will receive from 'the Spirit of the Lord'. These gifts are present in their fulness in Jesus Christ but are found in all Christians who are in a state of grace. We receive them when we are infused with sanctifying grace, the life of God within us – as for example, when we receive a sacrament worthily. In the Old Testament, the Spirit

came upon certain judges, warriors, and prophets in a way that gave them extraordinary power; for example, Joshua (Num.27:18) and Samson (13:25; 14:6) and many others. There are several other similar examples of the power and workings of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.

What does the Holy Spirit do? Firstly, the works of redemption is done by all three Persons of the Holy Trinity in the salvation of souls. It touches the lives of Christians who all share in one common goal; to make us more like Jesus Christ. He convicts us of sin, leads us to repentance and renews our minds to be Christ like. Is it not the Holy Spirit that inspired Isaiah to prophesy: "The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him" (Is. 12-2), inspiring God's Chosen One with wisdom understanding and counsel, might, knowledge, fear of the Lord, righteousness, and faithfulness? We come full circle to the New Testament where Jesus claimed to be the fulfillment of this prophesy. (Is. 61:1,2; Luke 4:18-19) So there are ample examples to indicate that the Spirit was active in the Old Testament.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) became the largest movement in the United States founded in February 1967 by two Theology professors William G. Storey and Ralph W. The CCR emphasised the work of the Holy Spirit, claimed spiritual and physical healings associated with the power of the Holy Spirit working through believers, gifts and modern-day miracles as an everyday part of a believer's life. The prayer services are enthusiastic and involve energetic singing, hand clapping and praying with outstretched arms. Pentecostalism emphasises the work of the Holy Spirit and the direct experience of the presence of God by the believer. Importantly, the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost emphasized the tripersonal relationship of Love – it is truly an inexhaustible mystery.

Proposals invited

7352 : CANADA : Keralite Roman Catholic spinster born in Mumbai July 1994, Ht 5.5", Wt. 70 Kgs, wheatish complexion, completed Engineering in Dubai and MS in Business Analytic and Data Science from USA, working as Cyber Security Expert in an MNC in USA. Relocating to Canada shortly. Seeks well settled, educated, Family oriented professional bridegroom from Medical/Engineering IT/Finance background from India / Canada. Pls contact
Watsapp number **971505093382**.
email at
propinfo2018@gmail .com

Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - GROOMS

7049. CANADA : Goan Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in June 1986), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BE (Computer), working in CANADA in a Non IT Field Seeks a working girl in Canada and holding a PR Visa. Contact email : anniedrz@gmail.com

7297. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in September 1990) Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish complexion, Edn. B.Sc., working as a Senior Manager Business Development. Contact email : pressy36@hotmail.com

7299. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in February 1991) Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BBA/BMS, Master in IT working as a Data Engineer. Contact email : austind1991@rediffmail.com

7296. VADODARA : Goan Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in July 1993) Ht. 6' 1", Wt. 82 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. H.Sc., + ITI in Computers from Xavier's Technical, working in Private Firm. Contact email : priyaathalye14@gmail.com

7291. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in April 1988) Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.Y. B.Com., & NCVT - Mechanical, working as a Executive - NL Operations. Contact email : melwin.tms@gmail.com

7288. UAE : Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in July 1990) Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 76 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. B.E. working as a Mechanical Engineer. Contact email : seekingallianceforhim@gmail.com

7284. MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC bachelor, (Born in December 1992) Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 90 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E., working as a Lead Software Developer. Contact email : allan.ray92@gmail.com

7283. MUMBAI : Alliance sought for RC bachelor, good family background, (Born in March 1988) Ht. 5' 11", working for a reputed MNC, financially very strong - for RC Spinster born between 1991 - 93 coming from a reputable RC

family preferably working for Bank / Insurance / MNC who has good family values. Kindly respond with full details and recent photo. Contact email : stephniejoseph@gmail.com

7282. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in January 1980), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Graduate with a Post-graduation MBA in Finance, worked in Managerial Cadre for a Multinational Insurance Company, currently working for a finance company in Mumbai as a Customer Support Associate. Contact email : nihaldsa123@gmail.com

7281. NAGPUR : Anglo Indian Roman Catholic Handsome Bachelor, (Born in September 1968), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Supervisor. Contact email : renedennis149@gmail.com

7280. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in November 1972), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 72 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Manager. Contact email : fernsjohn100@gmail.com

7277. USA : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1989), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, MS (ECE), Engineer, Research and Development, working as a Engineer Research and Development. Contact email : xm4304@gmail.com

7265. MUMBAI : Mumbai born and broughtup Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in March 1993), Ht. 6', Wt. 85 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. ME MTech., Construction Management, currently working as an Asst. Manager L&T in Ahmedabad. Contact email : jovelpicardo@gmail.com

7263. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1989), Ht. 6', Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA - Human Resource Development Management, working at a Mutual Company. Contact email : joulem15@gmail.com

7257. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in September 1991), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 74 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. PGDM Marketing, Occupation : Marketing Professional.

Contact email : craig_v@hotmail.com

7249. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in November 1956), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.Y.B.A., Retired and well settled. Contact Mob.: 9221792354 or Email : collinmonteiro58@yahoo.com

7232. GOA : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in July 1980), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. Diploma in Automobile Technology, Self employed. Contact email : darwindsouza28@gmail.com

7231. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in August 1970), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Diploma Holder, working as a Manager with a Cruise liner based in USA . Work entails 6 months work and 2/3 months vacation. Contact email : raisaraisa1212@yahoo.in

7212. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1991), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Bachelor of Arts, B.H.M.S., Luzern, Switzerland, working as a Restaurant Supervisor. Contact email : noellyn_p@hotmail.com

7112. MUMBAI : Converted Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1970), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., & Masters in International Journalism (UK). Looking for a bride below the age of 42 years (below 40 - 42 years) who is willing to raise a family. Contact by email : decemberwedding08@yahoo.com

7144. POONA : Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in October 1985) Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Hotel Management Graduate, working as an Executive. Contact email : merrolmenezes@gmail.com

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

Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - BRIDES

7081 MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1993), 5' 3", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters of Dentistry (MDS), Dental Surgeon, Doctor by profession. Contact email : carlferns93@gmail.com

7014. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1992), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MMS (Finance) working as a Finance Executive in Limited Company. Contact email : eva_hpereira@rediffmail.com

6860 MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1991), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.M.M. (Mass Media), working for IT in MNC. Contact email : lgp1891@gmail.com

6642 MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in September 1979), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Customer Service professional. Contact email : sav_mon@yahoo.com Tel.No. 8291001606

7095. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1992), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com + Import Export Certificate Course, working as a Billing Assistant in Well known Hospital. Contact email : perpetuadidas7@gmail.com

6831. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1991), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 54 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Senior Associate in Insurance Company. Contact email : denidsouza854@gmail.com

7070. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in March 1992), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 48 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., CS., working as a Company Secretary in Private Firm. Contact email : smile9920@outlook.com

7064. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1988), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, working for Private Company as an Accounts Executive. Contact email : cecrc19@gmail.com

7105 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman

Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1991), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 62 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., Microbiology, (Pursuing Ph.D.,) Assistant Professor. Contact email : 1991divine@gmail.com

6871 MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1989), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A. Teacher by profession. Contact email :

andreaandrade310@gmail.com

7109 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1986), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a Associate Consultant. Contact email : helendsz27@gmail.com

7145 MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1992), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., Lecturer by profession. Contact email :

andrea210358@gmail.com

7268. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1991), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 54 kgs, Fair, good looking, smart. Edn. MBA., working as an Senior Manager - Human Resources. Contact email : ashitadalmeida22@gmail.com

7267. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1993), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as an Admin. Contact email : jovita.rodrigues79@gmail.com

7266. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1994), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 52 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., Handling documentation and business development. Contact email : rohana16@yahoo.com

7245. BANGALORE : Gujarati Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1985), Only Child, Ht. 5', Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, Edn. B.E / M.Tech., (Bit Pillani) Architect by Profession holding high post in a German Company. Well settled. Seeks a match willing to settle in Bangalore. Contact email :

pmcandy1957@gmail.com

7264. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Ticketing, GNW (Nurse), working as a General Regis-

tered Nurse. Contact email : sds333@gmail.com

7166 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Christian Parents seek alliance for their daughter, (Born in May 1992), Ht. 5' 4", having completed her BCA, presently working with MNC in Mumbai. Contact email : ste004ffy@yahoo.in

7053. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1987), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 63 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Home Science, working as a Jr. Officer in Bank. Contact email : ayesha18j@gmail.com

6032 DUBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1976), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 41 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Secretary. Contact email : track_1976@yahoo.com OR 9730454857

7335. USA : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1990), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Master of Science, working as a Technology Manager. Contact email : vazraylina@gmail.com

7292. MANIPAL : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1993), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Software Engineer + MBA., working as Marketing. Contact email : gretta.premilla@gmail.com

7286. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in March 1995), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A., Private service. Contact email : jessjoeph27@gmail.com

7279. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1991), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Post Graduate in Mass Media, working for Media. Contact email : julietdsouza2001@gmail.com

7269. CANADA : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1974), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair, good looking, smart. Edn. B.Sc., working as a IT Officer. Well settled. Contact email : clotty.dsouza@gmail.com

7278. MUMBAI : TAMILIAN Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1996), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA & ranked 1st in the University. Working as a Manager in Private Sector. Contact email : c.m.florence.j@gmail.com

Matrimonials

BRIDES

7315. MUMBAI : Mumbai born and broughtup Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1992), Ht. 152 cms, Wt. 48 kgs, Fair Complexion, Beautiful, smart, coming from decent well educated family, Edn. Graduate, working as a Art Director in reputed Designing Company in Mumbai. Contact email : jackraj1668@gmail.com

7314. DUBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1991), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, Edn. Graduate, working well established organisation in **Dubai**. Contact email : greenfieldyard@gmail.com

7306. MUMBAI : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May August 1989), Ht. 5'.11", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.B.B.S., M.S. General Surgery, Doctor by profession. Working well known Hospital. Contact email : bianca.william4@gmail.com

7015 MUMBAI : 38 years, Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in February 1983), B.Com., LL.M., working in a MNC in Mumbai, seeks alliance from well educated and well settled bachelor. Kindly reply with profile and photograph on the email ID : 7alliance25@gmail.com

7307. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1993), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, Edn. B.E. (Biotech), MHA., Working as a Manager in well known Hospital. Belongings to an affluent business family. Contact email : dsouza889@gmail.com

7289. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1994), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 46 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B. Arch., B. Arch VNIT, Nagur, Masters Interior Design, NABA, Student, doing Internship. Contact email : aanjali426@gmail.com

7210. AURANGABAD : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1994), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, beautiful, Coming from business family, Edn. Chartered Accountant, C.A. by Profession. Contact email : putturaurangabad@gmail.com

7271. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1991), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 69 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, smart, active. Edn. B.Sc., in Hospitality Administration and Management, working as a Manager - Administration Facilities. Contact email : allyrocks91@gmail.com

7259. USA : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1994), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, working. Contact email : sevu.sequeira@gmail.com

7128. MUMBAI : Affluent business family R.C. East Indian Spinster, (Born in 12-04-1988), Ht. 5' 2", very beautiful and pretty. Edn.

MS General Surgeon, Doctor by profession. Contact email : drvd2019@gmail.com

7126. U.S.A. : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1992) from Mumbai, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Computers) from Mumbai, M.S. (Information Systems) from US. Possesses H1B visa and is working as a Technical Analyst with an MNC in USA. Contact email : wilfyjoy1315@gmail.com or call +91 98603 02527 / + 91 9970172527

7258. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1993), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Post Graduate, Content Professional in a reputed MNC and freelancing as a copywriter ad social media Professional. Contact email : forheralliance@gmail.com

7244. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1992), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 54 kgs, Edn. Chartered Accountant and M.Com., Employed in one of the Top reputed companies in Mumbai. Well cultured, affluent and well educated family background. Only Child. Contact email : fionadesouza18@gmail.com

7199. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1990), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 53 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Master's in Mass Communications (NTU, Singapore) working as a Senior Manager of Corporate Communications in **SINGAPORE**. Contact email : mafern.2121@gmail.com

7066. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 78 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., (EXTC) M.S. (International Business Management), working as a Consulting Manager. Contact email : l2018anselm@yahoo.com

7240. PUNE : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1987), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Very Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a Finance Executive. Contact email : angelina0134@gmail.com

7234. MANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1993), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBBS, MD (ongoing), Doctor by profession. Contact email : samaddy2013@gmail.com

7230. MUMBAI : Silm, Smart, Beautiful Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1995), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working in Pharmaceutical Company. Contact email : alex1947@rediffmail.com

7065. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1989), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 69 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., & Dip. in Clinical Research, working as Business Process Lead in TCS. Contact email : mendonca_luke@yahoo.co.in

7214. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1986), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. CA CFA Ms Finance M.Com., working as a Senior

Manager. Contact email :

frfernandes020@gmail.com

7160. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1988), Ht. 5' 7", Fair Complexion, Edn. BMS, working as a Senior Merchandiser in a Global Retail Company in Dubai. Contact email : prislobo10@gmail.com

7312. MUMBAI : Mumbai born and broughtup Tamilian RC Spinster, (Born in March 1991), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.M.S., MBA., working as a Project Manager. Contact email : xchettiar@gmail.com

MUMBAI born and brought up Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, beautiful, smart, coming from God Fearing and traditional Mangalorean family. 31 years, B.Com., working as an Accountant. Talented in dancing, compeering. (**Box FLR-23, Royal Christian Family**)

7354. LONDON : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1993), Ht. 5' 3", Silm, Fair Complexion, Edn. BPT., MPT., M.Sc. (U.K.), woking as a Physiotherapist in U.K. Contact Email : nerycornelio@gmail.com

7352. USA : Keralite Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in Mumbai, July 1994), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Completed Engineering in Dubai and MS in Business Analytic and Data Science from USA, working as Cyber Security Expert in an MNC in USA. Relocating to Canada shortly. Seeks well settled, educated Family oriented professional bridegroom from Medical / Engineering IT / Finance background from India / Canada. Please Contact email : propinfo2018@gmail.com OR Watsapp No 971505093382

7324. ABU DHABI : UAE based Financially well off and well educated family from Mumbai RC East Indian Spinster (Born October 1992), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 62 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, MBA (studied U.K.) raised up with good catholic values, working in Abu Dhabi for a MNC seeks professionally qualified RC bachelor upto 33 years with good moral values working overseas. Contact email : leteciaprisca@gmail.com

7332. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1983), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., (Part-II), Working as an Asst. Manager Accounts. Contact email : slobo2283@yahoo.co.in

7348. CANADA : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1997), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a Associate. Contact email : linjude21@gmail.com

Growing up with the first Cardinal (designate) of Goa

Philomena Lawrence
Gilbert Lawrence

Authors: Insights into Colonial Goa
For details about the book and authors click: Insights into Colonial Goa.

A reader might understandably consider this article to be a resurrected publication of some 16th or 17th century Italian city, where every village and small town had one or more cardinals of the Catholic faith. In noble Italian families such as the Medicis or Borgias, the prestigious designation of cardinal was sometimes assigned at birth. Our narrative is based in Aldona, one of the larger Goan villages and relates to cardinal-designate Filipe Neri Antonio Sebastao di Rosario Ferrao, a son of the village. On August 27, 2022, Pope Francis will install Ferrao in this high position at a consistory in Rome. On the same occasion, the Archbishop of Hyderabad, Anthony Poola of Kurnool, will become the first Dalit ("lower caste") and the first Telugu person to be elevated to the rank of Cardinal (Prince of the Church).

This is a historic event, and like many remarkable events, will probably be unappreciated, even ignored by the natives, when it occurs. To appreciate its significance one needs to dig back to the beginning of colonialism to understand the magnitude of the achievement. For those unaware of Goan history, in 1510, Iberian admiral Afonso de Albuquerque acquired a toehold in Goa, laid the foundation of the Lusitania Empire and established a link through this small island and its port between Portugal and India; and between Europe and Asia. Later, in a naval blitzkrieg, he succeeded in securing more than 40 toeholds along the shores of the Indian Ocean -- from Africa and the Mideast to the far-eastern Spice Islands. Goa was the capital of the Portuguese Eastern Empire



between the 16th and 19th centuries, an era when Lisbon ruled the waves.

In addition to serving as the military and administrative headquarters of the eastern empire, Goa, ultimately 3,700 sq. km (1,430 sq. miles) also was the religious capital for the entire region. The archbishop of Goa, who oversaw this expansion, was jointly appointed by the Pope, the king of Portugal, and the religious authorities in Lisbon. Over the centuries, the titular Archbishop "Patriarch of the East Indies" invariably Iberian, appointed bishops at the various dioceses in Africa and Asia. Now for the first time in world history, the imminent appointment of a native born Goan to the position of Cardinal Patriarch represents an upgrading of the "Patriarch of the East Indies" to be one of the five patriarchs of the Latin Church.

Cardinal-designate Ferrao was born on January 20, 1953, in the village of Aldona and baptized Filipe Neri Antonio Sebastao di Rosario Ferrao. He was one of three siblings. In 1960,

the final year of Goa's colonization, Filipe was seven years old and I was 12. Filipe grew up in the village of his birth; at the age of 10, he joined the junior seminary in the neighboring village of Saligao, and in due course, was ordained a priest. He is fluent in eight languages -- Indian (3) and international (5). In 1994, Pope John Paul II appointed Filipe Neri to the position of auxiliary bishop of Goa and Daman. A decade later, he was installed Archbishop and Patriarch "ad honorem" of the East Indies. With the appointment of Archbishop Filipe Neri Ferrao of Goa as India's first Cardinal Patriarch -- one of five worldwide -- India joins the exclusive club of countries with this religious dignity of the Latin Church -Jerusalem, Italy (Venice) and Portugal (Lisbon). The Patriarchate of Constantinople was abolished in 1964.

Setting the Native Scene

Aldona is largest of Goa's villages, and like all villages, the neighborhood is referred to as vado. Surely, the cardinal-designate does not remember encounters between him and me when we were growing up, and truth be told, I do not remember them either, though we both from the same vado of Santarxette, and hung around the same soccer field by the boy's school. Yet every village Tom, Dick, and Harry, as we used to refer to fellow villagers, will fondly recall summer vacations spent without a radio, TV, or swimming pool for entertainment. Instead, the boys would gather at the village square for friendly competitions between the vados.

Our two favorite sports were soccer a.k.a. football, and gilli-dandoo, an indigenous game, which is a modified version of baseball. The bat (dandoo) was a tree branch one foot long and two inches in diameter. The ball (gilli) was a six-inch piece of wood

(Contd.. on p. 20)

(Contd.. from p. 19)

(two inches in diameter) shaped like a spindle (think American football or British rugby ball). Striking one end of the gilli would cause it to jump in the air and twirl in the process. The ingenious native game required the player to pitch his own ball and strike it far into the horizon. The points were scored by the distance struck, measured by the number of (actual) steps it took to cover the distance. The vado's teams were made up of boys aged five to 25. The real 'MVPs' (most valuable players) in soccer or gilli-dandoo were between 15 and 25 years old because they were the "big scorers." Younger boys served as the cheer-leaders and members of the "peanut gallery."

It appears that yesterday's "peanuts" have become the next generation of "big scorers." Cardinal-designate Ferrao is certainly a prime example of those who rose to the pinnacle of their vocation. Like many folks from the villages across Goa, many Aldonkars, as the villagers are called, migrated to other places in India or abroad for college or to work. Some of them scored big, too. One became a high official in East Africa and highly quoted author of a book on Goans in East Africa. Other Aldonkars became doctors in Bombay. One became a top healthcare official in New York City; another studied in France and became a leading radiation oncologist in the city of Chicago, USA. Their contemporary, after graduating from Bombay studied in London was awarded the Rohan Williams medal by the Royal College of Radiology for standing first at the 1976 FRCR exam. He, too, became a leading radiation oncologist in New York State. The field of treating cancer with radiation is a comparatively rare subspecialty in medicine, and Aldona graduated two leaders in the field. We look forward to communicating with other Goan radiation oncologists. By a strange coincidence, on May 31, 2022

the United States had its first South Asian Bishop installed in the city of Columbus, Ohio. Bishop Earl K Fernandes' mother hails from Aldona and father from Mangalore. There must be something in the Aldona water!

We congratulate you, Filipe Neri Ferrao, for your historic and prestigious appointment. May the Good Lord bless your endeavors. Aldonkars, Goans, and Indians throughout the world are proud of you! With the installation, India will have six cardinals of which five will have the honor and duty of voting to elect the next Pope (those older than 80 years are ineligible to vote).

We hope you enjoyed reading this aspect of history, which includes a lot of "food for thought." Please forward these articles to your relatives, friends, peers, as well as Indian and Iberian chat sites. Sharing history is sharing our cultural heritage. Thank you for allowing us to share this with you.

MATRIMONIAL

Mumbai based Respected, affluent family Mangalorean Catholic parents invite alliance for their handsome son 42 years, fair, tall, well built, well placed & highly qualified (PhD, etc.) Director and managing in family owned group of businesses. (Innocent Divorcee) 1st marriage annulled by the church. Girl should be slim, fair, well educated, God fearing having good values and of a good family background and status. To connect with this proposal contact :
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Matrimonials

GROOMS

7313. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic bachelor, (Born in November 1984) Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., in Petroleum Technology, working as a Drilling fluids Engineer. Contact email : braganzakyle@yahoo.in

7285. MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC bachelor, (Born in February 1975) Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Businessman, Trainer, Singer. Contact email : yeslincacademy@gmail.com

7185. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1984) Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for Bank. Contact email : shaun.neo00@outlook.com

7226. CANADA : Canadian Citizen Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1990), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 59 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., in Environmental Science and in Energy Management postgraduate degrees from the University of Toronto. Working for a reputed company as Energy Management Analyst in Toronto. Contact email : francisper@gmail.com

Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, 33 years Ht. 184 cms, Wt. 85 kgs, Handsome, B.E. (Mechanical Engineering) Professional, Managing Family Business, Only Child. (P 2390)

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