

Chilume 2020



The Servant Leader

SUPERIOR'S MESSAGE



Two IAS officers, Kannan Gopinathan, serving in Kashmir region and S. Sasikanth Senthil, serving in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka, have recently resigned from the Indian Administrative Service. A large number of Muslim women and men have come out in Shaheen Bagh for the sit-in peaceful protest that has been going on for over seventy days. They have taken this step to protest against the discrimination and injustice done by certain sections of people in our Indian society. These two examples clearly demonstrate the courage of these people, risking their lives for the truth. The truth may at first make them feel miserable, but the truth will set them free. A deeply convinced person can risk one's life, without being fearful of the consequences. In fact, we notice, when there are attempts to silence the dissenting voices, many dare to be different.

Servant of God Fr Pedro Arrupe SJ, the well known and beloved Superior General of the Society of Jesus, dared to be different in his time. All through his life, God had unique plans for Fr Pedro Arrupe. The miracle at Lourdes was a turning point in his life. As Arrupe rightly put it "That experience dragged me to the Lord". From the very beginning of his life in the Society, the young Arrupe was sent to unknown lands and people, such as Belgium, Holland, USA and finally to serve in Japan as a missionary. He welcomed every challenge with open arms, at times risking his own life. While holding various positions, such as Novice Master, Provincial and General of the Society of Jesus, he took up noble initiatives, much against the wishes of conservative priests in the Society, as well as in the Church. His heart heard the cry of the poor which was concretely seen in his new venture-Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) – and in his struggle for the cause of justice. Fr Arrupe led the Society of Jesus along a new path that put it in much closer contact with the world, especially, the world of the poor. It redefined the mission of the Society of Jesus in the famous Decree 4 of the General Congregation: "The Mission of the Society of Jesus today is the service of faith, of which the promotion of justice is an absolute requirement". Hence, some rightly call him, 'the founder of the Modern Society'.

The Society of Jesus has taken up the cause for the beatification of Servant of God Fr Pedro Arrupe. Fr Antoine Kerhuel, the Secretary of the Society, in his letter in May 2019, asked the entire Jesuit fraternity to promote the devotion to Pedro Arrupe. Since then there is renewed enthusiasm among the Jesuit fraternity to make him known to all. The Asha Kiran Scholastics, besides celebrating Arrupe Week, have decided to dedicate this year's Chilume annual magazine to Fr Arrupe.

I wish them well in their initiative. May Servant of God Fr Pedro Arrupe be a great model of inspiration and motivation. May Fr Arrupe enthuse and energize people to be courageous witnesses in our times.

-Fr Alphonse Fernandes SJ



Chilume 2020



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Guest Editorial



From Plato up to our present times, leadership pervades society (and many have tried to understand what leadership is), which is in constant flux, negotiation and compromise. Plato in his time developed his political ideas in his Republic propagating “philosopher-king” as the perfect leader to lead.

Jesus also propagates “servant leadership”, a philosophy that denotes condescending one before others humbly, washing their feet; and, Jesus Himself is the epitome of the model. While many have tried to incorporate one or the other form of leadership, many have struggled to grapple the complexity of the phenomenon or a tinge of twist is added in the process.

As a direct reference, the phrase ‘Servant Leadership’ is found in Robert K. Greenleaf’s ‘The Servant as Leader’, an essay that he first published in 1970. His basic idea of leadership can be summarized as: Servant-leaders are those who focus primarily on the growth and wellbeing of people or who shares powers or puts the needs of others first and helps people develop and perform as highly as possible. In this regard, it means that a servant-leader demonstrates humane qualities of empathy, listening and commitment, and not attachment to power and command.

Today, the idea of leadership is synonymous with power or “will to power” or “desire for power”. So, this transition we witness in the idea of leadership is rather a misconception and crisis. Beyond the traditional way of choosing leaders, today with money, leaders can be elected as well as bought. If one has money, power and knowledge, control also belongs to oneself or a group. This phenomenon is a diversion, a termination of social





life and national integrity. Contrary to this reality, we find no counter position; only a few individuals may dare to be a different leader like Pope Francis.

When we are at the crossroads of leadership crisis, perhaps, we can raise questions and look for various possibilities or rethink as to what is really the cause for it. We can ask, perhaps, 'Can we have a perfect model of leadership? Can we have leaders who are ideology-free? Can we have leaders who can prioritize the needs instead of fighting to lead purely out of selfish interest?' These are important questions that we must find answers to. The time has come to revamp or redefine what it means to lead. If the society is to be in harmony, then there is no alternative to "servant-leadership" for it surpasses creed, nation, race and belief.

This year as we dedicate the Chilume issue to Arrupe's life and the cause for his canonization, let us recall the servant-leadership qualities he displayed in his life, shouldered in various capacities from being a simple parish priest (yamaguchi) to becoming the Superior General of the Society of Jesus. As General of the Society, the most important aspect in Fr Arrupe's life is his commitment to justice that led him to the establishment of the Jesuit Refugee Service. Today, it has become an important apostolate in the Society, synonymous with walking with the poor and the marginalized. His 1973 address to the Jesuit educators and students, "**Men for Others**" has become a central guiding document for Jesuit education.

Indeed, by virtue, we can say Fr Arrupe was a great leader who walked in the footsteps of Jesus. In fact, the most remembered event of his life is the Hiroshima tragedy where Fr. Arrupe intuitively converted the quarter into a hospital treating the victims of atomic bomb. Despite living during the harsh and trying times, under various capacities as the provincial of Japan and Superior General of the Society of Jesus, he served "under the banner of the cross" unswervingly bearing the joys and pains as offering to his Master.

In 1971, while visiting Quito in Ecuador, Pedro Arrupe encountered a shoe shiner Juventus, a young boy, and got his shoes polished. After he was done, he made the young boy sit on the chair and Arrupe himself bent down and polished the boy's shoe and this left the little boy in tears. This is the kind of leadership that is self explanatory- "one should be willing to bend down and dirty one's hand".

If we are to summarize Arrupe's leadership we can describe it simply as 'an embodiment of Christian leadership which is deeply focused on service, love and justice and not of positions'.

As you go through this magazine Arrupe may inspire you to become a servant-leader modeled after our Master, Jesus.

Have a happy reading!

- **Dominic SJ**



Which Road Did Arrupe Take?

Every person comes to this planet 'Earth' with a purpose. Some realize their purpose quickly. Others discover it later in life. Pedro Arrupe was like of any of us. A man born with simple dreams, a family, friends and other objectives to continue his medical career. However, life has plenty of surprises in store for everyone. Every person experiences a calling. Yes, a calling to do something, which nobody else might be able to do. This is where Pedro Arrupe comes into spotlight.

Arrupe's vocation saw daylight, as distinctly as possible, when he witnessed 3 miracles at Lourdes. These became an indelible memory for Arrupe. It is always said: "A student of science goes by proof and not by assumptions". The drama unfolded in his life at this point. It was indeed a wonderful thing that had ever happened to Arrupe. He reasoned beyond Science. He found God in the simplest of things in life. He also realized faith can do miracles. A gamut of such thoughts might have flooded his interior being. This is called the birth of one's identity. Arrupe was fully born this day. He left behind all that he had ever dreamed of. He found the road he wanted the most. Nothing else, yes, nothing else could give him satisfaction at this juncture. God became his director and he was a pilgrim who

decided to trust his director. Thereafter, several people and experiences formed him. The bombing of Hiroshima, the short trial in Japan and the implementation of the discussions of the Vatican Council II were some of the major events for him. He became the Superior General of The Society of Jesus. It's true that some Jesuits opposed him for certain changes he wished to bring for the greater glory of God. Nevertheless, he took it as his cross and continued to flow against the currents. His life was a life of determination; love for the poor and for the refugees. He saw pain in the hearts of those who were exiled and he helped them. Let me ask you a question: "Why do we as Jesuits need to help others?" Plenty of answers can be at our disposal. We, as Jesuits, need to help others because others are not aliens to us. We serve everyone when we serve Christ. Jesus, being the Son of God, did not wish to be served. Jesus was a man on the move. He never got attached to a particular place. Similarly, Fr. Arrupe wanted to imbibe the qualities of Jesus. To do this, he had to put it into practice first. Challenges and personal



Vivian SJ



struggles barred his path. He was determined to follow Christ all the way. So, he gave himself as Jesus did. This won him great admiration from many people. People, today, do not admire him for his achievements. He is not even remembered because he was the Superior General. He is dear because of his compassion and the values that he practised. He shaped the future of The Society of Jesus by laying a fresh foundation in the twentieth century. He is called the Second Founder of the Society of Jesus after St Ignatius of Loyola!

What have I learnt from Arrupe?

Arrupe has taught me to be a person of discernment. A large variety of activities and events happens in the course of our lifetime. I have always been fascinated by the way Arrupe faced challenges and addressed people who were inhumanly discriminated against by the

fundamentalists of those times. It is never easy to lead. When you lead, you take the group with you and it requires selfless responsibility on one's part. That is what Arrupe did. Till the end, he marched forward wanting to heal the world and the people in it of all the interior wounds. To conclude, I wish to write thus:???"A Jesuit like Arrupe is remembered because he made time for others despite his busy schedule. Arrupe embraced the ideas and the people who were rejected by the world. He felt one with the refugees even if he had no personal relationship with them. Dear friends, this is where we make a difference. We Jesuits should not build walls of our likes and dislikes and make barriers. Everyone becomes dear to us when we accept them as our own. Let Arrupe help us as we journey forward to live a life just as he did for Christ alone.

Omnipresent God

Under and over, I see God everywhere.
Life is not known to all because we do not understand God Almighty.
I am grateful to God because now I see God.

I see God in the face of everyone I loved in the past,
In the face of everyone I love in the present.
I see God in the shy faces and smiling faces of everyone.
Sometimes in the dark clouds, sometimes in the morning light,
That opens my eye to see God everywhere.

I see God in the paddy fields, in the autumn season,
Travelling from one life to another; the morning song that
woke me to show God,
I see God in my sorrows and despair, joys and ecstasy,
He always walks with me to show the right way.
I see God everywhere.



- Naresh SJ



Fr Pedro Arrupe's journey to Sainthood

"The quality and divinity of a man's life is in direct proportion to his commitment to excellence, regardless of his chosen field of Endeavour..."

- Vincent Lombardi

Pedro Arrupe, whose name, hereafter, will be cradled in the hearts of the members of the Society of Jesus and carved in the hearts of the faithful, is going to become a Saint in the Society of Jesus. It is often said that, a saint is not born but becomes one. This saying has found its completion in the personality of Pedro Arrupe. An exemplary Jesuit, a magnificent leader, a contemporary reformer and above all an ardent lover of humanity — these words would not suffice to describe Arrupe, but they do justice when we look at him journeying to the state of sainthood. The commonalities he shares with the Founder, our Father Ignatius, and the unending courage and never ceasing optimism of St. Francis Xavier, made him the favorite of all Jesuits and Catholics. Hence, he is worthy to be acknowledged as the second Founder of the Society of Jesus.

We must acknowledge the fact that the Society of Jesus never ran out of the spiritual fuel provided by the valiant Saints and the Blessed at each point of time in history. Pedro Arrupe, being a contemporary of our age, continues to impart the same spirit and innate wisdom given by our founding fathers. His life was an exemplary

marvel and inspiring story which still gives enthusiasm to Jesuits as well as the people in God's vineyard to strive harder and to move higher.

The vocation to follow Christ closely came to him when he was at a juncture of his fruitful youth, tangled with the desire to excel in medicine. The moment he found his vocation to follow Jesus, he offered himself completely. His journey in the Society of Jesus was not smooth sailing up until his deathbed. It evoked his own commitment, challenged his determination and rooted him with a faith that was unshakable. While leading the Society of Jesus at turbulent times, he was charged with false allegations, cornered by the Church and by some of his own fellow-Jesuits. Yet he kept the cross of Christ in front — a cross that delivers one from all pains.

A saint is never an extraordinary human being or a super-human, about whom we learn from movies at times and



Ajay George SJ



even hear from the hours-long sermons of preachers alone. A saint, born ordinary, grows up ordinarily and lives extraordinarily. Such is a person who sheds light on to the darkest sides of the society, and who works toward the goodness of society. Pedro Arrupe was never a man who held on to customary and traditional views. He widened the horizons of the Society of Jesus through overseas missions. That which once proved impossible became an opportunity for him to offer greater commitment to his Master.

I would view the life of Pedro Arrupe outside the highly institutionalized and hierarchical Church and the Society of Jesus. He was a man for all ages. He would look at the people and creation as God would likely do. He labored for human beings as God would labor for them. The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is a visible and promising example. Pedro Arrupe always epitomized a person of genuine simplicity, high qualification, and above all, he was rooted in prayer – the perfect connection with God.

One of his marvelous and fruitful years as he mentioned in interviews include the years he spent in prison — experiencing the same agony as that of the founder and a spark of the love of God which he experienced at Lourdes that by then had become a fire that would enkindle in him enthusiasm, zeal, courage and commitment towards building God's kingdom. Pedro Arrupe was also a loving brother and a good companion to all Jesuits. Whenever

he visited communities, parishes and formation houses, Jesuits enjoyed his presence and guidance. His mission in Japan, his accompaniment of fellow-Jesuits and his excellent leadership during turbulent times make him a man irreplaceable and worthy of praise.

Many Jesuits mentioned during his life time, that Pedro Arrupe was a living saint. The radiance of his good works and his transparency before God made him more lovable, and the Society of Jesus still carries that legacy in accordance with the Spiritual Exercises and the Constitutions.

To understand the life of Pedro Arrupe, we must look at him through the eyes of optimism, grace and relentless hope. He teaches us lessons of God's great Love; humanity's striving for a better life and one's own purpose in life. And with that symphony of God's Love pouring in, he is set to be raised to the altar of the Lord as a Saint, who was never born a saint but gradually became one! The Servant of God Pedro Arrupe, pray for us! ■

THE MONKEY

One day the zoo-keeper noticed that the monkey was reading two books - the Bible and Darwin's *The Origin of Species*. In surprise he asked the ape, "Why are you reading both those books?" "Well," said the monkey, "I just wanted to know if I was my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother."



Agnes: The face of Arrupe in India

The Society of Jesus has given many Saints to the Church. I mean not just from the Society of Jesus but also those from other religious congregations who were Spiritual children of the Jesuit Fathers. One of those inspiring persons is Agnes, who is St Mother Theresa of Kolkata now.

Agnes was born in Albania but most of her life was spent in India. She was a nun in the Loreto Congregation, but her Master, Jesus, wanted her to start a new congregation to help those people who were struggling to get even a piece of bread. She used to draw spiritual water from the Jesuit Fathers, but today Agnes stands as a model to the Jesuits in living the Ignatian way of life. That Agnes is none other than St. Teresa of Calcutta.



She was a woman, whose deeds followed her words, who lived Ignatius' prayer for generosity.

1."Lord, teach me to be generous."

Agnes, who later changed her name to Teresa, was a nun in the Loreto Congregation. Though she was from Albania, she did not look back while serving the Lord. Her vision was clear and her conviction was strong like that Fr Pedro Arrupe. Hence, we know that she became an Indian, leaving behind all her

possessions. Are we not reminded of Arrupe here leaving his motherland and moving to Japan?

2." Teach me to Love and Serve You 'as You deserve'."

Teresa's heart began to melt when she saw a man in a gutter, fighting for his life. Her ship changed its direction. She left the Congregation and started 'The Missionaries of Charity', a new Congregation. She loved and served the lepers, the orphan children and very many others. She served them as if she was serving her Master Jesus. In this context again we are reminded of Fr Arrupe who gave no second thought to stretch his helping hand to the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bomb blast.

3. "To give and not to count the cost."

She lived her vow of poverty. All her so-called 'possessions' then were the people, who were very poor and those who had no idea of how to continue living. She gave not only her belongings but herself to their service. However, she never sought for any name or fame. Where are we today? "How is our desire to choose Poverty with Christ poor rather than wealth?" (Sp.Ex-167)



Royster Monis SJ



4. "To fight and not to heed the wounds."

Once a man asked Mother Teresa whether she was involved in conversion works. The answer was something unusual and unexpected. "Yes," she said, "I do convert people-Hindus to be better Hindus, Christians to be better Christians and Muslims to be better Muslims." By this she founded the religion of love under the inspiration of her Master, Jesus. She respected each human person, no matter to which religion he or she belonged. She fought and did not heed the wounds.

5. "To toil and not to seek for rest."

"She rose, she prayed, she served." Everyday Jesus began His daily ministry only after He finished speaking with the Father. So it was with Mother Teresa. Her spiritual strength made her work and serve all day long. For her service was first; rest was least. Jesuits are known to be Contemplatives (even) in action. Wherever we are, our mission is first, rest is next. We are in the 'Society of Jesus' to serve with LOVE and "Love ought to manifest itself more in deeds than words."(Sp.Ex-230)

6. "To labour and look for no reward."

Her works were tremendous. She is one among those women who showed that even a woman can be a model for men. Rightly she received many awards and honours for her selfless work. When awards came and honours increased, she continued doing the routine selfless work for the left-out people. We pledged ourselves to choose Poverty, Contempt and Humility and, most of all, to be the servants

of all. It is nice for us to learn something from Mother Teresa's life.

7. "Except that of knowing, that I do Your holy will."

'They should be frequently urged to seek God in all things, transcending the attraction of all creatures, to set their heart wholly on the Creator, loving Him in all creatures and those all in Him, according to His most holy and divine will.'(Const: 288)Mother Teresa sought or desired just to know God's will and to work for it. She pleased God first, then his creatures. Discerning God's will for us, sometimes seems difficult to us, but the happiness behind that only persons like Mother Teresa knew. She tasted the Lord and said that He was good. More than 200 times the words 'God's will' are repeated in the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus, so that we may become aware that all our intentions, actions and operations (Sp. Ex. 46) are for His will.

Mother Teresa's life teaches us that we can as Jesuits, militants of the Society of Jesus, are not called to sail along the sea shore but to row into the deep sea. The zeal for God's service should tempt or inspire us to keep one foot raised always. All that matters is not what we were or what we are, but having a strong conviction of our vocation to the universal Society of Jesus. Once upon a time, Jesuits were the spiritual Fathers for Mother Teresa, but today she stands as a model for us to lead a better Jesuit life. Why cannot we ask: If simple Agnes could become like that, why not I?



Some Reflections on my Ministry

The old age home of the Little Sisters of the Poor is one of the most beautiful places to spend the golden days of life for the aging people who are abandoned by their children and relatives. The Sisters provide the best facilities for the well-being of the inmates in keeping with the special vow that they make in terms of Hospitality. Each inmate is given an individual room with all possible comforts. They are treated with delicious and nutritious food. Their health is well taken care of. There is a beautiful chapel at the centre of the house for the spiritual nourishment of the inmates. Regular spiritual activities are conducted for the people since they have a resident priest there. The cleanliness of the house is well maintained. For an outsider, it seems, the whole house appears as a 5-star hotel due to its beautiful ambiance. Indeed it's all possible, thanks the hard work and the dedication of the Sisters. I'm really privileged to have my weekly ministry in this place along with 3 other brothers.

Encounters with those old people remind me of my novitiate's Sunday ministry when we used to go to an old age home which is being run by MC Sisters. I receive the same consolations when I help these old people in my present ministry.

This ministry helps me to understand and reflect on the law of nature of this world. When we are young, we give much priority to our external appearance. We do a lot of exercises to look fit and slim. We go for various hairstyles. We also take good

care of our health. Whereas, when people grow old, they are least bothered about these things. The reason is that they are not capable of doing such things by themselves. They always have to wait for

someone. They have no demands when they come for haircuts as the youngsters do when they go to a saloon. Rather, they gracefully accept whatever cut we give them. In fact, they are grateful for the little help we render by cutting their nails and hair or by shaving their beard. Isn't this gratefulness a sign of complete maturity in understanding one's own strengths and weaknesses?

On the other hand, we also find people who behave as children. They do not know what they are really supposed to do. Some are on wheelchairs and unable to do anything for themselves. They are fully depending on others. I often reflect that one day I will also be in their shoes. A time may dawn when I will have to depend on others. This experience helps me to be more humble and to live a simple life with minimum demands.

Finally, I will say that this ministry helps me to live my religious life joyfully. Towards the end of every week I feel happy and I receive lot of satisfaction for what I have rendered to those old people. These inner joys of consolations encourage me to walk in the path of Jesus fearlessly.



Udara SJ



To walk with the poor

“The best way to find you is to lose yourself in the service of others”

–Mahatma Gandhi

Hoigebazar is one of the ministry places where we the scholastics encounter Jesus amidst the poor, excluded and marginalized. Hoigebazar is a new mission which was undertaken by the Asha Kiran scholastics, since June 2019. Let me explain the place briefly: Hoigebazar is situated near the Arabian Sea. It is a fisherfolk colony. Hoigebazar belongs to Bolar, Mangaluru, Dakshina Kannada. It comes under the Mysore Division. Tulu is the local language in Hoigebazar. Besides Tulu, Kannada, Konkani, Beary, Bashe and Tamil are also spoken by the people of the locality.

In the city of Mangalore, Hoigebazar is facing for a long time some issues concerning migrants from Tamil Nadu. We are serving among the migrant workers residing in this locality who are mostly from Tamil Nadu. The migrant workers migrated to the city of Mangalore to earn their livelihood. Due to various reasons, they had abandoned their traditional agricultural farming and migrated to Mangalore. They work with local fishermen, contractors and other traders.

The migrant workers are residing in the place which lacks basic amenities like water, toilets and other facilities. They are deprived of their very essential right to live with dignity. We the scholastics have taken



Pradeep SJ

up this mission to work under the Universal Apostolic Preference, **“to walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice”**. We want to promote justice and reconciliation between migrant workers and the people of the locality. We are collaborating with the School of Social work, Roshni Nilaya, Mangalore.

Our contribution to these downtrodden men, women and children is to accompany them when they need, and to listen to them when they unburden themselves. We are teaching their children basic values and English. By doing so, we are trying to empower them, specially the women and the vulnerable children. Finally, I would like to conclude by saying,

“Through others we become ourselves”.



White Doves, Kulshekhar – A home of inspiration

“We do not remember days; we remember moments,” Says Ceasare Pavese. I still remember and cherish those sweet nostalgic moments I spent with the children of White Doves in Kulshekhar. Every Saturday afternoon is a long-awaited moment as we four Jesuits move merrily to Kulshekhar, traveling by bus and planning what we could do that day to make the children happy and joyful. Also we make sure that we will give them some life lessons to carry home. The very first encounter with them is still fresh in my heart, when they welcomed me and my companions with their cheerful faces.

It’s now almost one year I have been going there for ministry with my Jesuit companions. Initially I found it difficult to interact with them because of the language barrier. But I was happy that they understood Hindi and so I could interact with them. Among us, only one knew to speak Kannada which was a great help for all the three non- Kannada speakers. White Doves Children’s home is a wonderful place with wonderful children studying from primary to high school, who live in mutual brotherly and sisterly love. Every Saturday afternoon happens to be a long- awaited moment for me because I love being with those small children, some of them

teenagers, who fill my day with beautiful memories. Whenever I went there for ministry, I would always keep in mind that through my teaching they should benefit for their growth.

Also, I made sure that through our activities they should feel relaxed and happy. Along with my companions, we would try our best to be creative in our teaching and group activities. We conducted games, quizzes, dances, singing, and many such competitions, to help them to grow in different aspects of life. Coming from a completely different culture, language and set-up, we found it a challenge to cope with the new place, culture and people. It was a challenge even for me. Not knowing Kannada was a little challenge for me, but the saying that every dark cloud has its silver lining was true for me. I was surprised that they all understood Hindi and some could even speak it, which took away half of my worries, and my ministry became more efficient and fruitful. I could conduct activities and even teach them in Hindi. Henceforth, every week I enjoy my ministry and give myself fully to (in) teaching and



Vikas SJ



conducting activities. I would always say to my companions: “let’s try our best to make them happy and that would make us happy”.

Life is always beautiful if we are able to radiate love and peace with whoever we come in contact. Life is a short span of time. If we sow love and charity, we will reap the same in return. We teach them what we have and they also teach us good lessons in return. Through their life example we learn how to live with peace and love, to be content and happy with what we have, which is simplicity and

poverty. This is how I learnt that we can learn a lot by giving what we have. It can be our precious time, our talents, knowledge, insights, skills and other God-given gifts that we have. It’s not always our money through which we help people. If we are able to spend our precious time wholeheartedly with the less fortunate ones, that is enough. Hence life is all about how much we contribute for the welfare of the needy persons and for their common good. That’s why the Bible says: “God loves a cheerful giver”.



Thomas SJ

The experience I had pushed me with aid
I look forward but I am afraid
I want to taste the real joy and love
But the resilient spirit is not in me.

Everything I see seems to be changing:
The garden I work in the evenings,
The beautiful flowers wither,
Those I admired most and wondered at.

The plan I had yesterday has gone;
The step I take may? Lead me to the corner stone;
I look at my work and smile,
Yet I have to? Cover a mile

New opportunities await me;
I keep faith in my heart.
They come with each new day;
So look ahead with faith and hope



Birthday Celebration



Foundation Day





Welcoming First Years



Community Days





Cultural Tour



On going formation Talks





Christmas with neighbours



Community Picnic





Benevolence in giving things when you are alive

Once up on a time, a very rich man lived in a village. He was very stingy. The villagers hated him. One day the man said to the villagers that whether they hated him or whether they did not understand the love he had towards wealth; it did not really matter to him. What mattered was that God knows everything. The man knew why the people hated him. He was mad after his wealth, as well as very stingy in giving things. He often told them that, when he would die, he would not take his wealth with him. He would leave all his wealth for the welfare of the people and they would be happy then. The people laughed at him and they did not believe him. Next he told them that he was an ordinary person and that surely he would die one day. Then all his wealth would be for others.

One evening, the rich man went for a walk. Suddenly it began to rain. The man went under a tree and waited for the rain to stop. Under the tree he found a pig and a cow having a conversation. The man stood quietly and listened to their conversation. The pig asked the cow why people love cows and hate pigs. It added that when pigs die, their hair, flesh and other things are useful for the people. The pig finally said that cows give only milk and they get more love and respect from the people. Then the cow replied that they give milk to the people when they are alive.

Therefore, people consider them as generous animals. On the other hand, pigs are useful for the people only when they die. Further the cow said that people believe in the present. "Therefore, if you give things when you are alive, people will love and appreciate your generosity. It is understood that after our death our belongings will be surely for others." The rich man was listening to the conversation attentively and his eyes were opened.

Therefore, let us try to help people as much as possible in the present and then we will get more love, respect, appreciation and honour from the people.



Francis Lakra SJ

Going Down!!

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward. "Aye, Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain, "you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets - we're one short."



All that I have learnt...

Sacred Heart School is the temple of wisdom and home of love where unprivileged children from across Karnataka come to study. The school gives quality education and moral values, which help students to build a good foundation for life. From the beginning, it has been a blessing to the unprivileged students.

It is located in Kulshekar, which is about 20 minutes by bus from Asha Kiran. This is our ministry place, where I have gone during the last six months with Sabata and Marconi, our ministry leader. We had a wonderful time and we always felt great pleasure and honoured to be with the children. We learnt a lot from the children, especially from their simplicity, innocence, and childlike heart. The little we contributed

was very insignificant, like English language learning skills, and handwriting skills. Apart from these, very often we made them happy by teaching them action songs and by conducting fun games.



Sawan Rai SJ

After six months, due to some inconvenience, we were constrained to discontinue our ministry there. Although there is a deep longing to re-start, now we are just waiting for a call from the Sister. The sweet memories of Kulshekar will remain in our heart for ever, and the sweet smiles of the children still add colour in my life everyday. ■

Little Angel!

Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. Johnny asked his mom, "Where'd he come from?"
"He came from heaven, Johnny."
Johnny responded: "Wow! I can see why they threw him out!"





Not just the Smell, but the Sweet Memories

It was a great privilege for me to visit Sindagi (Loyola School), one of the beautiful mission stations of Karnataka Province. I am very happy and thankful to the Lord Who has given me this year a wide variety of apostolates, most of them unforeseen. Soon after our first semester examination, a bigger opportunity came inviting us to go for a work camp at Sindagi. We left on 24th October by the night bus and travelled the whole night. After our long journey, the next morning we got down at the entrance of Loyola School, Sindagi. I was surprised when I saw greenery everywhere. It is really a beautiful place, surrounded by trees, flowers and birds.

The first day we went around the campus and relaxed in the afternoon. From the next day we were privileged to teach in the school and sometimes to work in the garden. I had the feeling of joy, happiness and thanksgiving for being with the students. Certainly, I had a wonderful time with the students throughout the day. Besides, I was also inspired by the Fathers who are engaged in Sindagi. Their way of life in Sindagi taught me a great lesson. Our company with them was something I cherished. I learnt many valuable things which are always encouraging. Community life there was full of unforgettable experiences. Of the seven days, each day commenced with new things to learn; new knowledge to acquire; new ideas to innovate, and new subjects to begin.

- Ruben Hembrom SJ



Teaching, Field work and Spiritual activities could not be in abeyance, but they continued day after day. Various courses in different fields were added to colour my life.

One day we had opportunity to go for Slum ministry. I visited a slum for the first time with my friends. Many children and a few parents came to see us. With them and with some other people, we went around the village. For a moment I felt handicapped concerning the language. But, people understood us well. I managed to communicate with them in my broken Hindi and Kannada. Afterwards we conducted some games which most of the children attended. This was indeed an enjoyable and unforgettable experience.

Being seven days in Sindagi, I learned several new things. My short stay in Sindagi has helped me to recognize my own strengths, abilities and limitations as well. It was a perfect platform for me to acclimatize to new people and new situations. This experience enlivened me with a variety of thrilling activities and kept me on my toes. All this contributed to what I am today and I will keep the same spirit of living in the years to come. ■



More joy in giving than in receiving

“To give and not to count the cost” are the very words of St. Ignatius, our Founder.

‘Giving’ many a time is misunderstood. People generally tend to relate ‘giving’ with material things. It’s true and that’s absolutely normal and human.

As Jesuits, I think we can go beyond this materialistic mindset. For instance, we can be giving our talents, abilities, skills, time, resources, knowledge and so on and so forth.

We say there is more joy in giving because it indeed doubles our joy. A sense of joy and satisfaction fills our hearts. Think of the moments you and I have helped our friends.

More joy, also because our life is to be lived for others. If we have not been giving our best to give a helping hand in our own communities, we will never be doing it outside or later. Even if we occasionally find ourselves doing so, it can be very superficial and there will be no depth.

Most of us have either discovered or built on our talents after we joined the Society of Jesus. This is really the rarest gift and a priceless treasure to us from God. **“We have received freely and we ought to give freely.”** Why do we develop our skills and talents...? Are we to keep them for ourselves?

If so, we are no different from those ministers whom the king entrusted with different talents... each one according to his capabilities. If we don’t make use of our talents and multiply them ... even the little that we have will

be snatched away from us. Therefore, we have this choice laid before us, i.e., to bury our talents, and keep and allow them to rot for our own glory, name, fame and gratification, or to use them and multiply them to enhance our chosen way of life in and through our act of ‘giving’.

If we are still burying our talents, there is still time for us to begin anew. “Better late than never” lest we face the consequences. What consequences?... of pain, loneliness, emptiness, self-pity and meaninglessness in leading our life. This is just so because there is more joy in giving than in receiving.

Giving blends well with service; receiving with accumulation. By accumulating we gain. Then our wants and desires begin to spread their tentacles. The more we hoard or receive, the bigger will be our sorrow. Think of the parable in the Gospel that speaks of a rich young man. On the contrary, consider Ignatius and his



Augustine SJ



companions who had nothing left with them but still gave and rendered their service to the poor, the sick and the oppressed. We are to expect no return or reward for our giving. Then only will our joy be doubled and be complete.

Can we then start 'giving' today and practice what we preach? If this aspect of our life is neglected, we may be missing the most important aspect of our life. It calls for sacrifice after sacrifice. More is demanded from those who have had more. It is the only way to attain peace, joy, satisfaction and fulfillment in life...! It may seem that we are wasting a lot of time. Yes,

no doubt, but have we ever considered or examined the amount of joy we experience and the learning we inculcate? Each time we grab an opportunity, we are taking a step toward equipping ourselves with those skills and talents we need most to be the fitting and efficient instruments in God's hand.

If you want to experience that deepest sense of joy in your life, start '**giving**' today. Here lies the mystery of our joyful life as religious. We don't want to be sad religious but religious bubbling with joy, ever proclaiming the Gospel by our lives. '**Give**' and be a joyful religious.

What Beauties?

All beauties that eyes can see,
All pleasures the world can give,
What is life? If no liberty!! What is life if there's no liberty?
All freedom it takes – it never forgives.
How can I escape from 'ME'?
This 'ME' that binds when I want to flee.

All beauties humans describe - they rot and die.
What Beauty? - If only in competition we race.
My friend, you asked: "Where does true beauty lie?
Your eyes can't see what your heart truly embraces.
Beauty! - A mother and child gaze at each other's eyes?
Isn't true beauty when the world is ruled with love and justice?



- Marconi Wahlang SJ



Becoming the Beloved

“No sooner had Jesus come up out of the water than he saw the heaven torn apart and the Spirit like a dove descending on him. And a voice came from heaven: ‘you are my Son, the beloved; my favour rests on you’ “(Mt 3:16-17, Mk 1:10-11, Lk 3:21-22).”You are my beloved” is the foundation of every human being. By birth, we are already beloved children of God. As we grow, that becomes a hidden truth. We need to make real the truth that is hidden. After making it a reality, we need to become what we are. Becoming beloved means showing the belovedness in our thoughts, words and actions, yes, in our day-to-day life!

As Jesuits, we are all called to become the beloved. The Society of Jesus gives us enough opportunities to become beloved. Ministry is one such opportunity that the Society has given us. My three companions and I go to Paschim Rehab. It was founded by Mr. Rohit Sanctus. He started this in memory of his beloved mother. In the world that is becoming more individualistic and consumeristic, it is really encouraging to see a man without any religious

background coming forward and reaching out to the hitherto unreached. It is a home for destitutes. We find all kinds of people, like the elderly, mentally challenged, homeless and others. They are all treated with great love and dignity. We go there to conduct simple



Chethan Kumar SJ

exercises, games and action songs. These generally lonely persons long to meet us and to spend time with us. It gives me a sense of fulfillment when I see them longing for our coming.

In this one year of my experience with them, I have grown to become sensitive to the people’s needs. I have also grown in my love for the elderly and I appreciate God’s gift of life. This exposure has contributed a lot in my journey to become the beloved. When we become the beloved, then everyone we meet, as well as everything that happens to us, becomes a source of true joy, happiness and inner peace.





'Our Lady of sorrow'

Here is a true story of a widow. Her husband died in a car accident. She had a new born baby. After that her life was full of pain. But she had to give up teaching to do her husband's jobs, and look after the baby. She did not think about herself, but did all for the sake of her baby.

Much more than that baby, mother Mary has had her own sorrows. Mother Mary also took a risk to conceive Jesus in her womb. According to Jewish law they had to get married privately, and then have a public celebration. If a woman got pregnant before this, she would be stoned to death. Mary knew everything, yet she said, "Yes." she was a young girl about 15 years old.

Then again we see the reaction of Mother Mary at Cana. When the wine got over, all the family members panicked. Mary understood their feelings at that moment. She saw the needs of the people. She told Jesus to help them. Jesus performed his first miracle at Cana and brought joy there.

Like Mary today it is challenging for you widows to say yes because you could get attached to worldly things, such as cars, mobiles, laptops and the like. Those things can get hold of your hearts. Thus we keep God aside. When we are sick or in difficulty only then we remember God. But after getting well, we forget the pain of widowhood by becoming worldly.

To avoid all this worldly attachment we have to experience the real love of God. We need to carry lovingly the cross of our widowhood. The cross for us will be the great loss we have

experienced, but still to look after our children and the family. We could also help the poor sick and suffering and teach our children to do the same.

Are we doing all this out of love or only out of duty? Look at Mary similarly experiencing love and pain, as Jesus grew up, in the temple, on the way to Calvary and at His death. Our sinfulness made Jesus suffer and pierced his mother's heart. Physically she could not hold her son on the way to Calvary. She could only accompany him. Whenever you are helpless or depressed, do not give up. Walk with Mary who walked with the Lord. Pray as Mary did, and Jesus will give you the strength and courage to move forward.

Today, the world is changing. We need to change our lives from within. Our united joy could be the joy shared by all of us. By imitating the Virgin Mary in our widowhood, we can bring joy to our own family and to others. Amen. ■



Niroj Minj SJ



AM I NEXT? One step leads another

Am I next? It's not just a question; it's a fear of death and shame that is provoking each girl child to ask this question. Today the world is changing minute to minute. We are also changing every day.

It's almost 72 years India is standing as independent country. We have been seeing drastic change in our country, areas like developments, projects, tread, social and economical. India attracts world towards its bosom. ALAS! The glory of achievements of our country what we speak today it is despicable. In one hand Indian constitution gives freedom and rights, perhaps equality is fragmented from the constitution. On the other hand it also gives freedom for ravishers. Today they are the heroes in the print and social media. They have grown like a giant tree which can't be shaken. These are dark clouds of our society not letting women to shine beyond their horizon.

The story of rape and murder as become customary. Every day, every hour, every moment and second there is abuse of woman. The recent incident of rape and murder took place in Hyderabad on 27, 2019. A brutal crime on 26 year old Priyanka Reddy a Veterinary doctor. This merciless crime on woman struck pain in everyone's

heart. Why Indians didn't get up from there slumbers still? When times are easy on our way we don't burn incense, but when trouble comes we embrace the feet of God. This is what happening in India today.



- Prathap SJ

Child Protection services substantiate reports "Every 9 minutes in the world a child is sexually abused. Every 73 seconds a girl is sexually assaulted. According to NCRB reports says that 3, 59,849 cases of crime against woman were reported in the country. Uttar Pradesh is top most in the list, followed by Maharashtra. In terms of speaking crime Delhi holds first place and followed by Kerala.

When this atrocity took place people responded by silently marched and protest with candle in Kolkata. Bengaluru people protested for justice for a student who was raped in Delhi. After Nirbhaya case people got up from the slumber. They brought new anti rape laws to constitution. However the crime is still continuing to aggravate.

Once Gautama Buddha said "WHEN YOU LIKE A FLOWER, YOU JUST PLUCK IT,



BUT WHEN YOU LOVE A FLOWER YOU WATER IT DAILY. LOVE IS NOT ABOUT POSSESSING, LOVE IS ABOUT APPRECIATION. Every abuser should sternly think about what will happen after the act of rape to the girl? A Muslim, Christian and Hindu will not become a righteous man by reading Quran, Bible and Bhagavad-Gita; rather people should live life of virtues. We live short period of time no one is stable on this earth. Everyone has to die one or the other day. No one can decide to take others life or once own life, we are not the alpha and omega.

As Gandhi said "THE DAY A WOMAN CAN WALK FREELY ON THE ROADS AT NIGHT THAT DAY WE CAN SAY THAT INDIA

HAS ACHIVED INDEPENDENCE " hence until we realize every girl child and women is part of life, the inequality will continue in the society. We compare our land, country, home and goddess to a mother. Then how can you think of raping a mother? We have to take first step to stop these atrocities of rape. Then others will lead another step. We have to transform and then only we can transform others. Today's trend is love people and use things. We should become an instrument of peace; only then peace will prevail in the country. Simple question can be asked, why do you rape? Is it because of lips sticks, cloths, pleasure or gratification? This is not the reason why one is indulge in act of rape. Then how to end rape? ■

Amen!

Q: Why do they say 'Amen' at the end of a prayer instead of 'Awomen'?

A: The same reason they sing Hymns instead of Hers!

A Woman at the Post Office

A Woman went to the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards.

"What Denomination?" Asked the clerk.

"Oh, my goodness! Have we come to this?" said the woman.

"Well give me 50 Baptist and 50 Catholic!"

God's Creation

In the beginning, God created the earth and rested.

Then God created Man and rested.

Then God created Woman.

Since then, neither God nor Man has rested.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

June

- 15 first year brothers and Fr. Kevin were welcomed to Asha Kiran community this academic year.
- We had a welcome and farewell programme for the new Superior, Fr. Alphonse Fernandes SJ and outgoing superior, Fr. Ivan Mendonca SJ.
- Mangalore Darshan was organised for the first year scholastics to be familiar with some of the important places in Mangalore city.



– Thanreimung Daniel SJ

July

- There was an ongoing formation talk by Fr. Dionysius Vas about emotional maturity.
- We had novena in honour of St. Ignatius of Loyola for nine days in preparation for the feast. It was done creatively and meaningfully.

August

- There was an official visitation of Karnataka Provincial, Fr. Stanislaus D'souza SJ to the community.
- We had the foundation day celebration of Asha Kiran combined with Independence Day. There was also a friendly football match between Asha Kiran brothers and Jeppu seminarians on the same day.

September

- There was a community celebration of Monti fest.
- Sch. Joseph Jerald SJ of Karnataka province gave an ongoing formation talk on the responsible use of mobile and the adverse effect of it.

October

- After the semester exam, two groups of scholastics went for work experiment in Bijapur and Mundgod which are located in North Karnataka. The work experiment was mainly for first year and second year brothers. It was a kind of village exposure. Some of the third year brothers went for study tour to Goa, Mumbai and Hyderabad. Some of them had gone for vocation promotion on different institutions of Jesuits.



November

- We had community days for three days and it was a time of enjoyment and coming together as one family.
- We went for cultural tour to different places in and around Udupi and Shimogga.
- The vocation promoters and Pre Novitiate directors from different provinces visited our community.

December

- There was an intercultural fest organized by North East scholastics.
- This year we had St. John Berchmans feast celebration in the house. Fathers, sisters and benefactors were invited for the celebration and we, scholastics put up some cultural programme for them.
- We had Christmas get together with our neighbors and we put up varieties of programme to entertain them.

2020

January

- There was a Sri Lanka province fest as part of intercultural programme. They also displayed their unique culture and tradition.
- The whole community members of Asha Kiran had gone for pilgrimage to St. Lawrence Basilica, Attur, Karkala

February

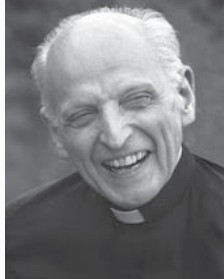
- There was a talk arranged in the community on CAA given by Dr. Rose Veera, dept of political science of St. Aloysius college.
- We had community picnic of this academic year to Tiny waves resort, Udupi.
- Fr Jossie D'mello SJ of Karnataka province gave us a talk on the legacy of Pedro Arrupe.
- There was also a intercultural fest of Southern zone-Kerala and Karnataka province

March

- There was an evaluation of the swhole academic year programme 2019-2020.
- There was also an outing for third year brothers as they would leave the community for next stage formation soon.
- There was also farewell programme for third years organized by the community.

April

Scholastics left for their respective provinces as and when they finished their semester examination.



PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF PEDRO ARRUPE SJ

O God, loving Father: in baptism you clothed with Christ your servant Pedro Arrupe and you called him to follow you in spiritual poverty in the Society of Jesus, listen to our prayer benevolently.

He delivered himself to you completely, in missionary activity, and in the guidance of his brothers; in time of health, as in the hour of infirmity.

Moved by the Holy Spirit, you placed him at the service of faith, making him a master of discernment and meek servant of the justice of the Kingdom.

With trust we pray, in imitation of Jesus Christ, poor and humble, whom he loved deeply, that Father Arrupe be recognized as a model of evangelical life and prophetic witness in the world, encouraging us to become in every culture “men and women for others”.

By his intercession, and for your greater glory, I ask you now for this particular grace [...] that you grant to me, as long as it is for your service and praise.

Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



IIIrd Year



IIInd Year



Ist Year



ASHA KIRAN COMMUNITY 2019-20