

Chilume 2017



Ordinary Yet Extraordinary



Vision:

Called to be Integrated Men for Christ's Mission

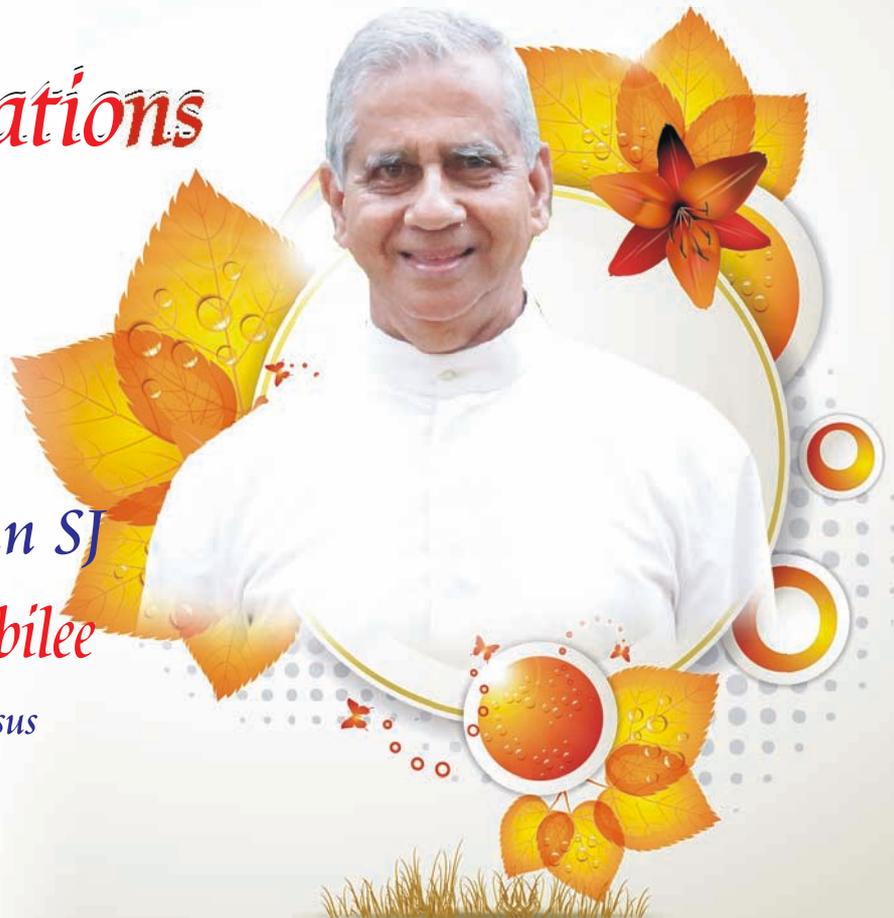
Mission:

As friends in the Lord and formed by the Spiritual Exercises, we strive to equip ourselves with spiritual and intellectual depth enriched by lived experiences and in solidarity with the whole creation, to spread the joy of the Gospel among the people of God.

Congratulations

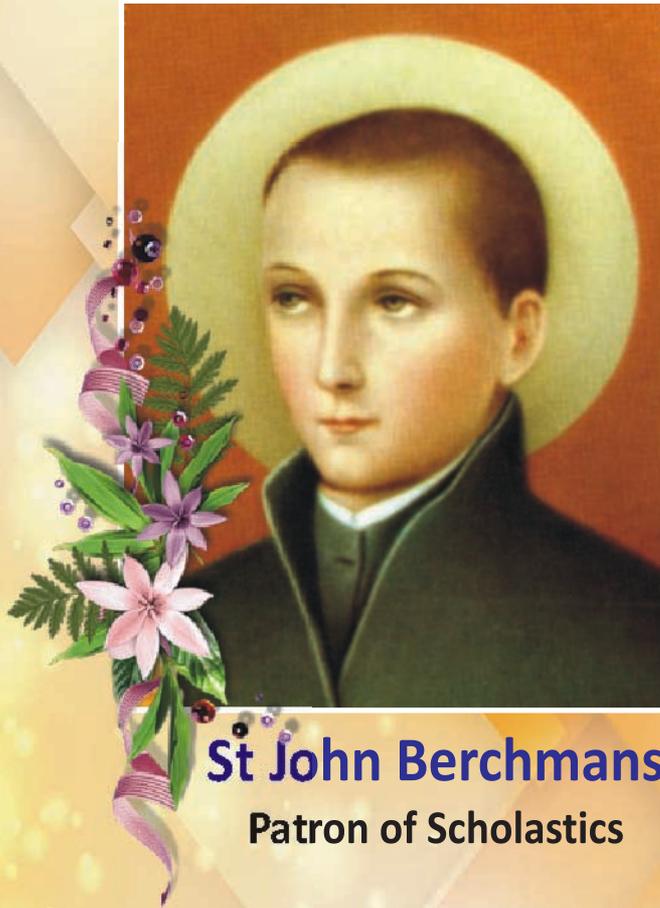
*Fr Michael John SJ
Diamond Jubilee*

*in the Society of Jesus
(July 01, 2017)*



Chilume 2017

ORDINARY YET EXTRAORDINARY



St John Berchmans
Patron of Scholastics

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Asha Kiran Jesuits

From Editors Desk



Ovin & Goldenstar

We often read and hear of people who have done extraordinary things in life and we get inspired. These people may be powerful leaders, selfless activists, successful business persons, hardworking sports persons and so on. We just admire these persons but never dream to become like them. We feel these elite persons are exceptionally gifted and it's really hard to become one like them. But we fail to recognize that they too are simple human beings like us. Only a little extra effort of theirs has made the difference.

One such great person is St John Berchmans, the patron of Jesuit Scholastics. He was not a martyr. He did not perform spectacular miracles nor did he live in extreme poverty that made him receive the honours of the altar. He did not even live long enough to be ordained a priest. Despite his short life, John Berchmans became a saint because he sought to follow the will of God and the example of Christ even in the most ordinary circumstances. He just did ordinary things in an extraordinary way.

The other renowned Jesuit saints namely Sts Aloysius Gonzaga, Stanislaus Kostka, Alphonsus Rodriguez, Francis Garate and so on are revered for the ordinary yet extraordinary life they lived. Even our Pope Francis has been loved by people all over the world for the little deeds he does with extra love and interest. In fact, the Jesuit Charism itself invites us to be men of Magis even in doing the work we deem most insignificant. Some extra hard work, some more love, a little more dedication and interest even in ordinary things can surely make a huge difference. Mother Theresa would put it as - It is more important to be faithful than to be successful.

Chilume 2017 aims at bringing out the literary and artistic skills of Asha Kiran Jesuits. Through our articles, reflections, stories and poems, we strive to do something more in exploring our talents. We are in search of doing ordinary things in an extraordinary manner. Thanks to you for your constant support and prayers. We remember gratefully the encouragement and guidance of our formators, Frs Ivan Mendonca and Michael John. Thanks to Print Designs printers for all the assistance. Have a pleasant reading.



Beauty

Everything that is beautiful may not be always good but, everything that is good is always beautiful. Have you ever wondered about beauty? Have you ever questioned yourself what beauty is for you? It's quite difficult to define what true beauty is. You may have so many answers, don't you? You may say, beauty is very colourful, attractive, fair and handsome, lovely, smooth and soothing but however beauty may not be always attractive as we instinctively think.



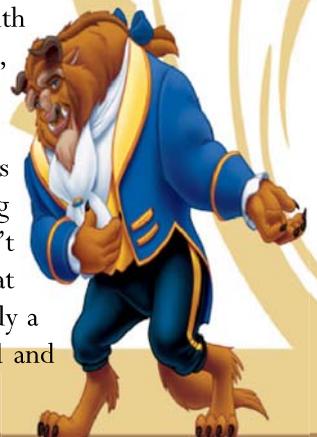
Sabata Nayak
(CCU)

Each one of us has something or the other good in us. Sometimes it is hidden inside, blocked and needs to be brought out to let it shine. Sometimes, we ourselves may not be aware of our own beauty. It needs others' help to shine. All of us might have seen a famous English film, "Beauty and the beast" where the King is cursed by the witch into a beast. The beast is ugly and shabby from the outside, but deep inside the heart, there is something good hidden which no one can see except a young girl, Belle.

Beauty is not something about physical appearance. In fact, physical attractiveness or beauty is only a deception/an illusion; it comes and goes away; what matters really is the nature of the person- Is the person kind-hearted, affectionate, generous, and understanding? This should be our question about beauty.

It is true that beautiful or handsome people are more appealing. But, we can have a reliable relationship with, and long lasting trust in, the people with good personalities. Physical appearance of a person might fade as years pass by; but their character does not. So, we should not judge anyone or anything by the appearance. It is great wisdom to realize that 'Beauty' is in the eyes of the beholder. All that glitters is not gold. What makes a person attractive is the inner beauty which never dies; it never decays nor is eaten by insects or stolen by thieves; it remains forever.

Some of the legends with inner beauty are: Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi and Mother Teresa. Nelson Mandela is a great man known for his sacrifices. He was willing to sacrifice in order to bring equality and get equal rights for the Blacks in South Africa. He is definitely a legend with inner beauty. Mahatma Gandhi, who fought till death to make India free, is a man of inner beauty. If we know what sacrifices Mother Teresa made in her life to serve the poor, we will agree that beauty lies inside and not outside. However, nowadays we are busy with the external beauty of a person or thing. Focusing more on the outer beauty is like judging a book from its cover. We don't even take time to see and know what is within. If we understand what real beauty is then we'll come to know that the external beauty is only a deception. Sometimes, it is like a jackfruit: the outer part is so hard and rough, but there's a sweet and yummy piece of delight inside.





Nature: The Cradle of our Life

In this world no life would be possible if 'Nature' doesn't exist. Life on Earth is very much interconnected with the environment around. Nature is the centre of everything; and even our religious belief is not very far from it. In every religious ritual and belief, nature is the first principle and foundation. According to Christian belief, nature is the beginning of the existence of life in the universe. In the book of Genesis, we read that God first created nature and then humankind. Therefore, literally, nature is the cradle of human life. Christians believe that this oneness of life got destroyed when sin entered and corrupted the world.

Humans differ much from other living beings. If we really make a deep examination of our consciousness, we see life does not depend on humankind itself (basically knowledge and creativity) but, it's in the power of nature. If a person is asked to think how much nature has sacrificed itself for his/her survival, what would be their description? Surely, it would be beyond their thinking. But in reality, nature is weakened by pollution and in turn, human life is also in danger. The effects are: climate change, global warming and pollution which lead to the decay of human development.

Though we are living amidst the worst incurable diseases, we simply neglect the reactions of nature and ourselves. This is the result of human creativity. It leads to dangers, which affect not only human beings but all living beings. For example, an outcome of human knowledge and creativity turns out to be harmful rather than useful by creating things such as the atom bomb and the chemicals. All these pollute all the essential things viz, air, water, and soil that are needed for survival. This creative mind of humans can cause poverty to exist. Poverty here can be of the various kinds: spiritual, physical, and material deficiency. Spiritually, it is the loss of man's trust in God, the Creator. Physically, the sustaining pillars of nature get polluted. Obviously then, the world becomes impoverished when crops and animals die. Ultimately, the victims are the humans themselves. Materially, we will run out of resources and essential things.

Despite the existence of many grave signs, our eyes fail to penetrate and understand the staid reality we are in. Most of us still ask questions like: Why is that the world is changing? Why is there global warming? Why do floods occur? However, we do not question about how much we ourselves have contributed to these occurrences. Our eyes still sink in the rootless beauties. It seems, we live in developed countries, and are healthier than our ancestors. But, in reality we are confronted by malnutrition, obesity and all kinds of diseases. Therefore, Pope Francis raises a fundamental question to all the people of today: "What kind of world are we going to leave for the next generations?" I think this is one of the essentially faith-labour questions which all of us need to ask ourselves.



Domingos Gomes
(ETR)





Human salvation is not only for us, but also for others; our contribution therefore, should not be for us only, but for others too. Our labour is not merely for ourselves but, for others as well. So, if we don't preserve 'Mother Nature' for the next generation, then the very question of ours must be: "What are the results of our faith, contributions and labour? Is what we have done right? Is what we do is for ourselves alone, or for the good of the whole world?"

Literature: A Mirror and Connector

"Literature is the mirror of society, providing a kind of blueprint of human civilization."

William Shakespeare says, "I will call for pen and ink and write my mind." To write, you have to read, really read; you have to think, criticize, doubt, wonder and stand amused by the words on the page. This may eventually well increase one's skills and enhance one's human personality of being compassionate and honest.



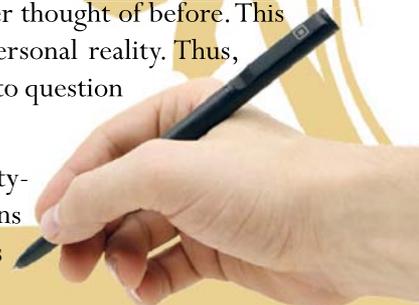
Daud Xalxo
(DUM)

I believe there is power in it, which is an intensely personal as well as communal experience. In fact, to the passionate heart eager to examine words, sentences, characters, plot-lines and tropes, it reveals who we are. Humanity is a complicated thing and requires an infinite amount of words to describe and analyse. There is always a new reality to discover and to be able to talk about literature. It is the great characters, famous stories, I think, that attract most people to literature. Indeed, it is extremely beneficial to know extensively about literature, to arrive at an understanding of human condition and what it really means to be human in all aspects.

There are some aspects which lead us to think deep in the course of understanding literature. Imagination, communication, analysis, empathy, understanding, agility, meaningfulness, travel, inspiration, fun and so on, allow us to cultivate imagination, careful consideration of language, and creative motivation to question, to think in complex ways about literary aspects of literature with profound life-enhancing enrichment.

Literature forces us to ask questions; and when there is a question, there is also a desire to learn and know more. This is what one is forced from within to consider: nagging issues that are relevant to the life one lives which most probably were never thought of before. This is the attitude that one should be taking towards one's own personal reality. Thus, literature urges us to analyse, to compare and most importantly, to question - to be always asking questions.

Literature also contains the most valuable elements about humanity-our beliefs, our self-perception, philosophies, our assumptions and our interactions with the world at large. Literature helps us to observe life's beauty as well as misery and its course in all





circumstances and to benefit from the insights of others.

In the field of culture and belief, each person we meet represents a unique combination of knowledge, belief and experience. Each exposure to other cultures though different from ours, does really expand our mind. We may reject others' belief and assumptions, but we are actually a step closer to understanding them. Similarly, history is not just names and dates and war and power. It is about people who were products of their times. Thus, the study of literature enhances our appreciation of history's complexity.

Literature in all its forms is everywhere in today's society. Whether it is studied in the classroom, read for pleasure or purpose, it is the central part of many lives. It offers not only a chance to enlighten a person but, it also gives a chance to broaden the person's horizons and perspectives. Literature is, therefore, to serve as a gateway to a deeper level of thought. And when deep thoughts are expressed in written words with emotions and maturity, and compared to events, they create an art form. Reading novels, poems, plays, myths etc. are an excellent way of associating oneself with the great authors of history and penetrating into their thoughts. This material can teach us the culture in which the authors lived, the history of the country of their origin and the various intellectual, political and artistic movements of their time. Thus, the readers begin to understand some of the motivations behind the author's own quest for truth. Hence, literature is the reflecting pool into which everyone can look and see both one's own face and the faces of all one's fellow humans. It enables one not only to find the humanity within one's own heart but also to connect to that of generations of other people.

Social Media

What do you think of the world without communication system such as the social media? You may not have to scratch your head to answer the question, because you yourself are connected to social media and you know the importance of it. You may say that the communication system can't be imagined without social media in the contemporary world. It is impossible to exclude the social media from society, and numerous such ideas may spring up in your mind. Indeed social media is one of the most important sectors of the communication system. It is widely spread all over the world like cobwebs. It has encircled all categories of people. It does not spare children, teenagers and not even aged men and women. The world survey shows that the ages between 18 and 19 are addicted to social media the most, and almost 88 percent of US adults use facebook.

Social media has undoubtedly contributed a noble share to the communication system. The leading social networking site in the world is facebook, Whatsapp, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, Google+ and so on. Facebook is the largest social networking site in the world and it has approximately 1.59 billion active users. The number of users is growing rapidly every



Suranjan Baskey
(CCU)



day. In this vast communication system, you can have open access to a large number of people at a time.

Social media is a powerful system to express your ideas, thoughts and opinions. Over the years, social media has both positive and negative impacts on people and it is used and misused according to their choice and interest. Hence, social media has become a play instrument in the hands of people.

Let us have a brief look at the positive aspects of the social media.

Social media enables us to connect with our friends who are overseas and interact with them. Through social media people can get information of news, games and business. It can be used for many other purposes such as education, jobs and economics. Businessmen can easily publicise their business all over the world spending a little amount of money. Government schemes can be sent on the social media to a large number of people within a fraction of a second such as Swachh Bharat, Kanyashri scheme, old age pension and educational loan. People are informed about or warned beforehand against upcoming challenges like war, calamities, contagious and incurable diseases and so on. One of the significant values of the social media is bringing all people under the same roof without distinction of caste, creed, religion and colour.



Having dwelt on the advantages let me focus on the dark area of social media. Today's social media has a number of disadvantages. People use social media to exploit others by spreading rumours, uploading inappropriate photos of others and threatening others online. The users' accounts are hacked and their vital information is stolen in order to make them bankrupt. Social media is used to spread communal violence, and violent propaganda is made by fundamentalists and terrorists. Cybercrime has increased over the period considerably. Nothing is safe on the social media. There are a number of attractive or pleasurable games available online which tremendously have a negative impact on children as well as youth. Many get lost in these things and waste a lot of time and energy. They lose interpersonal skills and finally become lonely and depressed in life.

No doubt, Social media has blessed us in many fields. It has boosted the communication system as well as created several advantages for our life. We have to be mindful of using it for the right purpose. Social media is a channel in which we express our views and thoughts for the betterment of people and for ourselves. If social media does not fulfill the purpose it is created for, it will lose its value in the near future. We make things worse by using it for selfish motives and intentions. Social media is a public sector to which everyone has open access. We should respect the other and not violate their rights by posting, uploading or commenting on controversial issues concerning religion, caste, nationality, etc. May the social media be used to unite people instead of dividing them.



The Silenced Voice

On September 5, 2017, Karnataka mourned the death of Gauri Lankesh while the whole country was celebrating Teachers' Day, Very many people know Gauri Lankesh for her courage, strong initiatives and brave works for the people who are suppressed. She was not a revolutionary but a powerful activist. She did not have any favourites in any political party but rather had a clear intention of seeing 'the world of justice'.



Royster Monis
(KAR)

The political parties are now playing a blame game with the death of Gauri. Gauri was the daughter of P. Lankesh, a very famous journalist. Soon after his death, Gauri started her own Kannada weekly 'Gauri Lankesh Patrike'. Here she penned down the realities of our society. She was not afraid to write about any politician. Most of her controversial articles have ended up in cases and courts. While participating in a protest meeting demanding a ban on communal groups in Mangaluru, she said, "Hinduism was not a religion but a system of hierarchy in society". Indeed the consequences of it were really painful for her to bear. In addition to her



writing work, Gauri headed 'Komu Souharda Vedike', a platform for communal harmony. These were some of the important milestones of high price in her life.

Gauri Lankesh was a strong woman and stood for her words. She was a great example for both men and women to look beyond their imagination about the reality of caste, creed, traditions, practises, discrimination and most of all, corruption. For example: I still remember that Gauri Lankesh headed the team in transforming two Naxalites in my home district, Chikkamagaluru and helped them for a better way of life.

Life is not what we always think it to be. It brings a lot of surprises. I hope the death of Gauri was not at all a surprise to her; it was expected. She was a people's journalist. The more she was famous, the more she had the so-called enemies. A number of times she was imprisoned for her activities, and cases were filed by the political parties. This might have prompted her assassination.

Today in this competitive and corrupt world Gauri should be our model. Very many people are voiceless against the higher authorities. We youth must reflect a lot about it. Obviously, it is not enough to say 'Justice for Gauri', or 'I am Gauri'. It should take us a step forward to think about the reality of today. It is not enough to sit and speak about the death of very many journalists like Gauri; rather we should be able to become like her- fearless. Let us then question ourselves, 'Is it possible for us to be the voices of the voiceless like Gauri Lankesh?'



The Other Side of GST

GST or Goods and Services Tax is an indirect tax which was introduced by the BJP led NDA government in India on 1st July 2017. It is applicable throughout the 29 states and 7 union territories of India. GST has become the talk of every city in India. Every news headline in the magazines and newspapers of the business world reveals the issues or impact of GST. The present government of India promises to bring abundant benefits to the economy of the country through GST. Therefore, trusting the promises of the government there are lots of hopes and expectations from the people. The main hope of the common people is that there will be a rise in the standard of living. However, their hope is actually bleak as well as vague. The promises appear unreal.



Martin Chubathoshi
(KHM)

GST is viewed as a help to build a transparent and corruption-free tax administration. Well, we long to see such an achievement, but there are pains and struggles of the common man on the other side of GST. Through GST the government is actually inviting more problems. The countries that implemented GST have experienced a lot of inconveniences. There are reports of inflation in Malaysia and Canada soon after the introduction of GST. I am afraid, India too may face such a situation sooner or later. Further, there cannot be a Corruption- Free Tax Administration as corruption will never be eliminated by this kind of vague programmes and policies.

The GST is the greatest setback for higher education. It leads to an increase in the cost of education as taxes on higher education services rise. What gain can we bring in our economy by making higher education more expensive? Another greatest lie of GST is that it is being referred to as a single taxation system, but in reality it is a dual tax on a single transaction of sale and services.

There are groups of people who think that GST will yield positive results. The main argument they give for their stand on the GST is that India will be able to promote more exports, create more employment opportunities and boost economic growth. For them it is a wakeup call not to be naïve but accept the ground realities of the common man. GST has already brought untold miseries. There are reports of eateries and drug shops in Chennai threatening to protest against the government. Not only that, the small businesses in India are in trauma as to how to become GST compliant, as the issue of GST-Compliant Invoices have become mandatory. Invoices will need to be GST-Compliant with all details such as GSTIN, the place of supply, HIN code, etc. Additional cost of hiring experts will be required as it is a completely new system.

All these points of GST highlights the other side of GST. Nevertheless, there is hope for the best outcome even from the worst. May this grand alteration in the taxation system be of benefit for all in the years to come!





Br Francisco Garate

Br Francesco Garate is my favourite saint. Living a life of simplicity and humility, he made his life motto: "I give my poor best and the rest is done by God". What inspires me the most in his life is, his unflinching dedication to his mission for 41 years as a door keeper.

Br. Francis Garate was born on February 3, 1857 and died on September 9, 1927 at the age of 72. He joined the Society of Jesus in 1874. His mission consisted in serving as infirmarian in a boarding school for ten years and then for 41 long years as gatekeeper at the Jesuit University of Bilbao, Spain. He would begin his day by serving the Holy Eucharist and end it with the closing of the main door of the College.



Br. Francis Garate was a man of God. During the long years of service as a doorkeeper he treated the students and the visitors with courtesy and generosity. He chose to live a poor life by occupying a small room near the porter's lodge. His life was marked by prayer, mortification, holiness, simplicity and austerity. Br. Francis was also a counsellor to the students. He used to give them advice and encouragement with his loving words. Everyone loved him for his kindness and generosity. That is why he was known as 'Brother Courtesy'. In fact, he did ordinary things extraordinarily well.

The holy life led by Francis Garate is relevant to all the religious in this modern world. It comes down to living one's deepest religious convictions and to succeed in determining one's relations and contacts with others. His life shows us the great commandment of love. It motivates us to be patient and to be committed to any mission entrusted to us.

Though Br Garate lived over a hundred years ago, his life and good qualities are relevant even today. It is quite challenging to be kind, humble and to remain committed in life. May this great saint intercede for us and always inspire us to do ordinary things with passionate love.



Th anreimung Daniel
(KHM)

The Question of Faith

Faith is a precious gift of God, designed in every human being. It exists, but only like a hidden treasure found not outside, but within the person himself. Though faith is a free gift, sadly, today there is a gradual disappearance of its relevance to life.

We Christians generally believe that faith is strengthened when faced with difficulties, struggles or persecution. These are the times when we call on God for strength. Once I read an incident on Kandamal massacre



Prakash Masih
(DEL)



where the Archbishop went to meet the persecuted people. One of the persecuted said to the Archbishop, “Our homes have been destroyed, our churches have been damaged, our loved ones have been massacred, but one thing the persecutors could not do to us- they could not separate Jesus from us.” Yes, no one can take away our faith. It’s in our times of difficulties we completely rely on God.

Experience and some examples, both of individuals in the Bible and of several saints, have shown us the power of faith. Jesus Himself tells us what faith can do. In spiritual life, we can say that faith is an indispensable element for a spiritual transcendence. Jesus saw it as a means that helps us move mountains. An English saying expresses it very well as “when the going gets tough, the tough gets going”. That is to say, we can transcend our own limitations. Perhaps, Saints become saints mainly because of their unflinching and unwavering faith in God. Their trust in God helps them to allow the free-flow of God’s grace into their lives. And, Mother Mary remained ever committed to her ‘fiat’, because she trusted God.

But, are we and the saints different? No, we and the Saints are one and the same. The only difference we have is the difference in the degree and totality of our trust in God. We, as long as we have faith, trust in God. (This is not the case with the Saints.) The moment we are caught up with reasoning, though reasoning is very important to live a free and guided life, we tend to move away from our faith. Our education, discoveries, science etc. are meant to explore the power of our mind. However, we must not forget, that everything on earth has its limits and boundaries like every life has death and every ocean has its boundaries. So, it is with our mind. What can’t be seen, heard or trusted, could be done through faith. When the mind stops, the heart takes over. Both of them are interlinked with each other. Most importantly, we need both to live a full human life.

Perhaps, today what destroys the faith of people is their inability to maintain a balance between the modern progress and faith. Everyone is competent in reasoning. And reasoning has taken over. And progress of science too, has taken an absolute place in society while faith which every religion propagates is sidelined. That’s why there is always a question why people don’t take active part in spiritual activities. But, this can’t be the only reason why people lose their faith. In my perception, people today can’t find anyone to whom they can look up to as their role model. Almost all the parents, teachers, guardians, religious, priests and nuns, send messages to children or believers that they are too busy in beautifying their own life. Worse still, people give priority to science, money, power, technology and jobs, and not to faith. They don’t even talk or discuss such matters. Whoever tries to bring this topic into the conversation, is made to feel an outsider or a ‘saint’.



To bridge this loss of faith there is need for witnesses. If we have witnesses we can show that amidst progress faith is still relevant today. What can therefore, challenge us today is perhaps, to live a vibrant-faith or active faith. I remember once a priest telling the young Scholastics,



“Faith is of no use when you know your neighbour is sick and hungry and you tell him ‘I will pray for you’.” This is a dead faith according to St. James. Therefore, we cannot practice our faith within the four walls of the church. It has to be lived in our daily chores- meeting people, sharing our gifts and responding to others’ needs and sufferings. Only then our faith will bear much fruit.”

To bring the people back into faith is not so difficult. What we need is only people who are highly spiritual and down to earth. The other area which could be taken care of can be the families. Today families are broken and children do not get enough attention from their parents. Uniting the families and creating an atmosphere where they feel the need of spiritual depth would help them to embrace faith again.

Why Prayer is difficult?

“I cannot pray; then should I pray?” This is a pertinent question that keeps ringing in my head. May be, this could also be the case with many others who are in religious life. In the beginning our religious life is oriented towards Jesus. But in the course of time, without our knowing if we introspect we’ll find that the zeal and enthusiasm for love of Jesus we had in the beginning seems to have evaporated without our knowledge. As we continue our formation in religious life, prayer seems to have become monotonous. But, what is the actual cause? Are there reasons why there is tepidity? If we examine carefully, perhaps we may find a few reasons.



Christ Rajan
(DAR)

Prolonged dryness: What really weakens the system of the spirit of prayer may be due to prolonged dryness that we experience in prayer. It appears that when dryness seeps in we lose interest in prayer. What’s worse, its continuity causes frustration and eventually leads us to develop a lethargic attitude in spiritual life. Prayer then, becomes a matter of struggle, a tug of war against a desperate feeling of having no consolation at all. For this reason, it is difficult to pray. I don’t say that our desire to pray fades away but, somewhere unconsciously we keep Jesus no longer as our focus (we concentrate, instead, on the desolation). The feeling of dryness and tepidity is very human. But, trust in God is very essential.

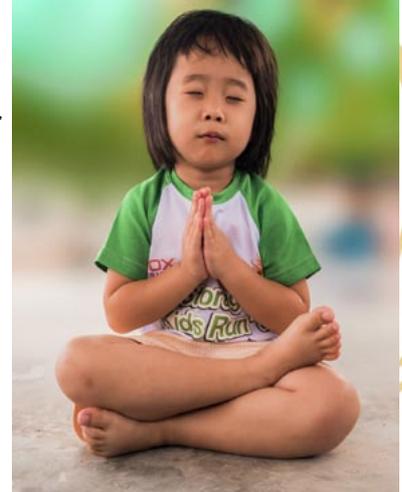
Failing to go back to past experiences: “Going to the past experiences in prayer is said to have the power to rejuvenate our spirit of prayer”. So, going back to the initial experiences of prayer can help us to get back on the track. In this regard, we often hear people speak of their long retreat experience. Going back to those experiences sometimes uplift them in spirit amidst the desolation they go through.

Self-doubt: Another reason is that many a time one doubts whether one prays in the proper manner or not. This creates restlessness in one’s soul. The difficulties or the problems arise when one begins to doubt whether one is praying well or not. The moment these doubts and



thoughts enter in one's mind, the problem begins. In Ignatian terms it can be said that the doubt is the work the of evil force where Satan rejoices when a soul feels weak. St Therese of Child Jesus says, "Satan rejoices when a soul doubts itself."

I remember myself once sharing the same difficulties with my Spiritual Director. As I shared these difficulties, my Spiritual Director listened to me patiently and gave me the imagery of a little school girl and her father to reflect upon- "A little girl who studies in LKG comes back home after the classes get over. Every day she runs to her father after the class and begins to narrate each and everything that happened during the day. Her father listens to everything she tells him. And that is a joy for the father- to listen to her. He does not scold her or restrict her to share on any particular area. Rather he listens to everything." It is the same with our prayers too. If the earthly father of the girl listens happily to her, then how much more our Heavenly Father would be happy to listen to our misery and difficulties? The very difficulties and distractions can become our offerings in prayer. The Heavenly Father in his eternal goodness will surely understand our soul's misery if we do this.



Distractions: At present, distractions is one of the difficulties encountered in prayer. It might be a very simple reason, but it exhausts all the energy of the person in prayer. It can be said that distractions are not bad in themselves. But if one stops or does not take any interest in prayer because of the distractions, he or she will never be able to pray. In spiritual life perseverance has a major role to play. There are many such examples of saints who went through the same experience of feeling abandoned, and dryness in prayer; but, the difference is, they persevered in their prayer. St. Ignatius' Manresa experience, for instance. When he was meditating in Manresa, he encountered scruples, even to the extent of thinking of committing suicide. St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata in her religious life also experienced abandonment and dryness in her prayer. At times she went through the moments of complete darkness. But she did not give up or stop praying. St. Theresa of Avila went through the experience of the dark night in her soul. We all know that even Jesus, though God, went through this state of soul at Gethsemane. Therefore, the assurance we have is that even during our restlessness in prayer "Jesus still accompanies us".

Lastly, love for Jesus is important in prayer. Love is very powerful. Love decides everything if a person is in love with someone. The late Fr. Pedro Arrupe, the former Superior General of the Society of Jesus, says, " Nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. Fall in love, stay in love and it will decide everything."



Inner movement

Ti-Satha- “where are you going?”

I came to Darjeeling and Kalimpong at the age of 20, and spent two full years in Manresa Jesuit Novitiate, Kalimpong. Our homes are in Darjeeling and Kalimpong; and, interestingly in the middle of our homes, there is a river called “Tista”.

One of the striking characteristics of that northern region is the Tista River whose features never fail to take my breath away. The Tista River is often referred to as “The Pure River”, and in the dry season of the monsoon climate, its waters are an exquisite emerald descending rapidly from a source of 17,000 feet above sea level. The Tista River is pure motion. Like all rivers, it keeps moving along, streaming somewhere it wants to go. The Tista’s waters are alive and turbulent. They race their way downward between high banks to the plains, where they flatten and widen and then gently push along to meet the mighty Brahmaputra River in Bangladesh.

Like the ever changing River Tista, human existence is in perpetual motion. Perhaps, each of us can relate in some way to this image of a pulsing river whose fast moving waters never show a sign of a let-up. The incessant force of evolution pushes ever onward, and despite



our best efforts at maintaining the status quo, we never stay the same. In truth, our unfulfilled longings leave us feeling somewhat restless most of the time.

Physical reality undergoes continual change and human consciousness exists in an unstable state of flux. Likewise, human relationships are built on somewhat shifting sands, appearing and then disappearing. As our shared meanings converge and diverge, we find our values undergoing steady revision.

Certainly, life is anything but static. A unique journey awaits each of us. As every river has its own singular mystery, so every human life holds a hidden destiny. Rivers, as they twist and turn create a path of surprise. The Lepcha, a Himalayan tribe, refer to River Tista as Ti-Satha which means “where are you going?” It invites an adventure of self-discovery that requires only my willing consent.



Niroj Minj
(NEP)



What dream can reveal...

It was late in the evening when the world was dark and silent like the quiet of a barren desert. However, as the saying goes, 'The darkest night produces the brightest stars', I could see Mr Moon shining brightly as white as snow. I could see its reflection on the window glass of the room I was standing in. I was not alone. My companion (anonymous) was standing right beside me. He invited me to accompany him to go to the terrace to enjoy some fresh air and admire the quietness of the world. Thus, both of us went to the terrace to relish the pleasant evening. As we were looking at the sky, suddenly we saw the moon increasing its brightness like the flashing light. We both felt terrified and amazed at the sudden alteration in the dark sky. The brightness from the moon fell like the bright rays on the ground where we stood. Then behold! we saw three people descending from the sky. To our surprise, we saw JESUS along with two angels coming close to us. As soon as JESUS and his two angels reached the ground they drew close to us. My companion was so overwhelmed by the presence of the Lord. However, I was hesitating to talk to him and did not even look at Him because deep in my heart, I felt I have done too many mistakes in life. Meanwhile I heard the Lord calling my companion and me to walk with Him on the way to Calvary and be crucified like Him. My companion readily accepted the invitation, but I did not. In fact, I was shocked to listen to this; I felt as if my heart was in my mouth. I just started imagining myself being stripped naked and crowned with thorns. I couldn't bear the pain and the insults of crucifixion. I felt like running away from Jesus' sight. I thought of exchanging my situation with someone else's. But, there were no substitutes available. I began to feel out of place, scared and worried, because I knew the harassment and torture would be too painful for me to bear. While I was still burdened with such a stressful decision, I heard a bell ringing. It was the beadle ringing the bell to wake everyone up. "Phew! That was just a dream", I thought. Indeed, it was a dream that I had recently. Nevertheless, I was very much disturbed and challenged by that DREAM. I wondered why I didn't volunteer to die with Christ, when my companion was really daring. What does this mean? "Is it that my path in future will be rough?", "Or is it that I'm scared to take up the mission entrusted to me?" While these possibilities may be true, the DREAM has deepened my faith in God. I do believe that Jesus wants me to draw closer to him and receive courage from him. Hence, I pray and hope in the Lord that I may be able to face such circumstances in life. Lastly I feel, 'It is hard to do the Will of God; but it is Hell if we don't.'



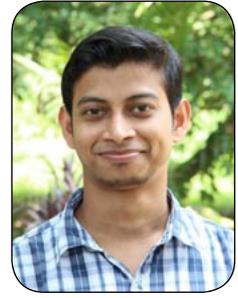
Mark Iawbor
(KHM)





The Filthy Queen

There lived a mighty king with a lot of wealth and possessions. There was nothing lacking in his palace. The king was kind-hearted too, and wanted to share his wealth with the poor people living in his kingdom. Although the king was willing, there was a problem from the side of the queen. The queen did not want the king to lavish his wealth on others. As a result, the king could never share his wealth.



Rintu Mondol
(CCU)

It is always hard to accept our true Self. However, a person may be good but, there is a filthy queen dwelling within the person, blocking every possible way to show goodness to fellow human beings. No one is bad and all want to be good, but the evil desire, hunger for accumulating wealth, jealousy and hatred, turn a person into being bad. The queen within the person blocks him/her to be what he/she wants to be.

A person's ignorance is forgivable, but being naive is condemnable. In the present situation where there are many people starving to death, having no proper clothing, and no roof over their head, "How can the rich people be so unaffected by the misery of the poor? How can a person be so naive when injustice is done to others? Why is a person unable to raise his voice against corruption, bribery, demoralization, exploitation and nepotism?" It is only because of the filthy queen dwelling within the person, preventing him from reaching out to the cry of his fellow human beings.



However, there is a constant fight within a person between two selves; one leads to good and constructive things, and the other leads to bad and destructive ones. A person should be aware of and be able to recognize the filthy queen and throw her out from his own self.



“Can this teacher be replaced?”

It's said, “Home is the first school and a mother is the first teacher.” But do you agree? If yes, then what's the point in going to school? Until recent times, I didn't believe in the above saying, because my mother is uneducated. She never did her schooling. And how can a person who is not educated be a teacher? It's a sensible question and I too, thought that way. But, my experience proved me wrong.

My mummy used to tell me, “Son, study well! Don't spoil your future by roaming with your friends and wasting time.” This was making me terribly angry and I used to scold her saying, “How do you know the difficulty of studying when you never went to school?” This was hurtful to her, but she never said anything. However, I used to see her go to an isolated place and weep.

My friends always loved visiting my home. But I always felt insecure, thinking my mummy would create a nuisance before my friends, as she wasn't educated. So, I always tried to keep my mom busy in the kitchen so that she would not come to talk to my friends. But, my friends always loved talking to my mom because of her simplicity.

I didn't even want to associate myself with my mummy whenever I went to any functions. But, fortunately or unfortunately a day came, when I had to take my parents to the college. I had to take my mummy to the college as dad was no more. I didn't want her to come to the college. But, there wasn't a choice. As she reached the office of the principal, he said, “Madam, your son is no longer worthy to be in our college, please take him away.”

It was a shock to my mummy, for she always thought I was a very good student and my marks were excellent. But then, she came to know the many mischiefs I had done. My mother heard of the complaint against me for ragging a girl. Her face grew pale; tears began rolling down her cheeks. She began pleading with the principal to give me a chance. The way she pleaded,



Larren Menezes
(KAR)



he melted down. I asked why my mummy should beg somebody for me. I felt some positive vibes in me.

When the principal was not ready to accept her request, she fell at his feet, explaining how with difficulty she was working to secure her son's future. I never knew this pathetic situation my mummy was going through for me. With this, the principal gave me a chance. But more than that, this experience transformed me. I felt ashamed of myself for being so rude to my mummy. My friends could realize the goodness in her, but I failed to do so. And I decided that I would study hard, and never allow a tear to roll down. And most importantly, I'd study well and find a job and make my mummy's life comfortable.

Now I know how great a teacher my mummy has been in my life. I've realized that just knowledge of books doesn't make one a teacher. "Hats off to you, mummy!" So don't you think your mummy is your greatest teacher?



Pruning and Manuring

The only child many a time gets a lot of love. But this was not so at Sharma Gardens, a beautiful residence little far from the heart of the city of Pune. Mr Aditya, a successful businessman, had an only son, Pankaj. His associates and workers found in him a generous and kind person. But at home, it was completely the opposite. He was very strict with his son. Even his wife was restrained from being an affectionate mother. When his dad was at home Pankaj could neither watch TV nor play long; he would spend most of his time in studies. During the holidays, his father kept him occupied in tuitions and computer classes. This slowly caused Pankaj to dislike his dad.

Pankaj was good at studies, excelled in extra-curricular activities and tried his best in all these to impress his father. But sadly, Aditya showed hardly any appreciation. Each time Pankaj worked hard to improve on his previous performance, so that someday his father would recognize them and feel proud of him. With lots of efforts and determination Pankaj developed his talents and shined at school. After his pre-university studies, he went on to study medicine. Aditya provided him with all the material things and opportunities needed, except love and appreciation. Pankaj was even bereft of his mother's love as she passed away due to cancer while he was in II PUC.

Pankaj successfully completed his MBBS with eight gold medals. On the graduation day, a surprise was awaiting him. His dad was there seated in the front row looking jubilant. Pankaj was in seventh heaven that day, not just for receiving so many awards but more so, because that very day his father lovingly embraced him, acknowledged his efforts and heaped praises



Ovin Rodrigues
(KAR)



on him. The very next day a grand party was organized at their residence. Pankaj's joy knew no bounds. But at the same time Pankaj was puzzled with the sudden and complete change in his dad's behaviour.

Late at night when the party was over, Pankaj noticed his dad sitting in the garden with a photograph in his hand. Pankaj drew near to have a chat with his father and also to clarify all his doubts. "Oh son! Come, sit close to me", welcomed Aditya on seeing his son coming, and continued, "I feel very happy and relieved today. Your achievements have made me very proud". Pankaj thanked his father for all the love and appreciation. Then immediately thereafter, Pankaj popped up with this question, "Father, I see much change in your behaviour in these two days. I disliked your treatment of me in the past. Now I can't believe this sudden change. Can you please clarify my doubts?" Aditya smiled and said, "Nothing much has changed, my son. I am the same as before. The only change is that, so far I kept all my appreciation and affection in secret and I have expressed them now." Pankaj was still confused.

But before he could ask another question, his father started clarifying all things. "Son, this photograph of your grandfather in my hand has much to do with my behaviour. I was loved so much by my father. He was not at all strict with me and whenever I went wrong he gave me another chance. I took advantage of his kindness and generosity. During my college days I used to miss many classes for the pleasure of enjoying with my friends. My father always trusted me. But I cheated him and manipulated things. The truth had to come out one day. I failed miserably in the end semester exams and my dad came to know about it. As he met my lecturers and enquired about me with my classmates, he understood all that was happening in my life without his notice. He was broken that day. Still, he did not scold me for it. Instead, he accused himself for letting me loose and not monitoring me regularly. After that he didn't speak to me at all and we were never reconciled. I have not overcome this guilt feeling even today. I didn't want such a thing to happen with you, son. I was strict and tough so that you might take everything as a challenge and become successful in life. I enjoyed during my early years and then I was forced to work hard to come to this position. I wanted you to study hard initially so that you could enjoy its fruits in future. I know these things have made you sad and it has been difficult for me, too. I wanted to mend my behaviour but I could not. This time I took a bold step to change myself. I am very sorry for these things, my son. I am sorry...."

Tears were rolling down from the eyes of Pankaj's father. There was complete silence for some time. After a while, Pankaj got up, held his father's hands and said, "Dad, I didn't understand you for so long. Though I am hurt, I know you have done it for my good. Your challenge made me determined to work hard and proceed. All that has happened is past. Now I wish to look forward for a happy future." Then the son wiped his dad's eyes and took him inside.

Pankaj had a very strict father. His grandfather was very lenient. Both of these were extreme kinds of behaviour. Pankaj who was a victim of this, saw to it that he gave a good blend of strictness and leniency to his children.

"Pruning and manuring are both necessary in the form of corrections and appreciation so that one grows healthily to bear abundant fruit."



My neglected neighbours

We were driving up Lum Umtdem Road, Urpih. Parallel to the traffic on the extreme left stood a small little girl, covered with filth that revealed her penury. By her manners, I could visualize that she wanted to enter the bus I was in. Looking at her fixedly, I did not know what to think of. She had just two little stones with which she could produce her own music. She was barefoot, and her sombre, beautiful face reflected a longing that every human being wished for and desired. She walked herself into the bus, looked at the gigantic people who took no notice of her presence. My eyes fixed intently on her, expecting that she would do something.



Goldenstar Dkhar
(KHM)

The traffic lights changed. We moved ahead swiftly. I reclined on my seat, now diverting my attention to my novel "Great Expectations". The little girl went round holding her beloved bowl. A few passengers donated a meagre amount of money. But, I also noticed something bizarre in one of the gentleman's demeanour. Dressed like a prince, dazed and distracted with the latest gadget 'Samsung Galaxy', that man took out a swelling purse and, proudly and shamelessly, dropped a coin of 'valueless price'. I was simply puzzled and surprised too; the girl accepted the charitable man's generous act graciously and proceeded further. "What a miser!" I complained. I did not think whether I was right in my disgust.

When the girl came to me, I simply excused myself- "I have no money." "What a holy lie it was! A few minutes earlier, I had chided over somebody's behaviour. Confounded as I was, I felt myself wedged between heaven and earth. The little girl refused to move until she received a penny. Loyalty to my cousin's statement crippled me- "Never give anything to beggars. They are only pretending..." The girl's pressure burnt me with holy indignation and I felt her almost detestable. Tired of waiting, she advanced towards the exit door. My eyes followed her. She got off the bus and hastily ran to her home that was invisible to me. I saw only a few minuscule pyramid huts close by. It was a dingy and grimy place, but a sweet home for some, which I discovered late in life.

After she was gone, I recollected myself. "I don't know how much she got. Does she have parents?" I asked myself. Though at that moment physically absent, the girl's face haunted me all through the day.

When I left home, the sky was gloomy. But as I got off the bus, rain poured down heavily. It made me wait till it subsided.

The heavy shower had left a lot of big puddles on the road. As I walked towards the Manjhi town, I saw three little urchins. Beside them laid a man. I suspected him to be their father. He was in deep slumber in a pedestrian road. Looking at the children, I murmured to myself, "Are these the siblings of the small girl I encountered?"



I sighed, “oh, God!” “They have no computer games to play with, except the dog-eared toys; no schools to learn at, no real home to go to- they were not even aware of any such desire.” Their pitiable condition filled my heart with sympathy and I concluded that they were the offspring of the pavements- “The natural doom protects them; the trees shelter them; the rough roads and pathways offer them stony beds.” Kind nature bestowed on them momentary entertainment. Their lives seemed to be wasted. Despite the urge I felt within to do something, I just ignored them. I gazed at them, disconsolate, and walked on. I knew I had no power.

Travelling through the town of Manjhi, the hubbub of the town dissipated my previous sorrows. I hired a taxi which carried me off speedily to the Manjhi Railway station where I had to board a train to Thelepe. On reaching, three tiny waifs, forming a little chain as they hanged on to each other, arrested my eyes. They were trying to push themselves into the third class compartment. The people forbade them entry. Their lips quivered as they pleaded, for they must get in to reach their destination. But everyone paid scant attention to them. They missed the train. I stood by and watched the helpless waifs. Tears trickled down their cheeks. Knowing the wrath of my fellow-travellers, I had not the courage to plead the case of these unfortunate waifs. I was tempted to offer help as I knew they were ticketless. My principle forbade me to encourage them. But I did want them to reach their destination. Confronted with the dilemma, I turned away. I did not know whether they got any train that evening.



I sat in the comfort of my home. The sun was at its zenith. The sky was beautiful golden-blue. Endless nagging thoughts brewed in my mind. I dreamed of being like the sun- to light the face of the earth even after departing. I wanted to leave behind footprints like Jawaharlal Nehru and St. Philip Neri - but had no dexterity. The dream in my breast raised its head like a penguin chick. I shed a few tears and hushed it back to sleep.

There were ample things I desired to accomplish, but to my dismay, I failed miserably. I regretted. So many kind acts I could have performed, but frailty drove out my desire. Deep in meditation, I saw the little girl standing idly before me; the three desperate faces, who would always miss their train; and the little ones at play, who would never ache for unknown horizons. Though these turbulent thoughts pressed me hard I dismissed them forcefully. I saw their pain; I wish others also could see their pain. “What power is there for a loner in the crowd?” Thousands have fought and fought. Things would and could not possibly change even after centuries of amendments. The gap will always equal the distance between the Sun and the Earth.



The Inner Conflict

It was in July 2012 that Rony joined the Jesuit Novitiate. He came from a very holy family. He had all the qualities to be a religious. Being prayerful, he inspired his companions; being studious, encouraged and helped his fellow novices in study; being very talented, he used it in the service of others. It was during the month long Spiritual Exercises he learnt the depth of prayer. His mission experiment and ministries made him to get in touch with the realities and difficulties of the people outside.



Pruthvi Rodrigues
(KAR)

When he came to college, he found a new life altogether. He encountered many youth of unique thinking. He really understood the meaning of being a religious. He started living out his prayer life. Constantly he used to question himself, “If Jesus were in my place, what would he do?” He reflected a lot and began to adapt his life to the reality with the values of Jesus. The spiritual mind of the novitiate got new meanings being part of reality. Rony now began to tackle the questions which were put to him and also which came from within. He

questioned many things in life, starting from the existence of God to the liturgical practices of the present day. Would Jesus be happy looking at the present day religious or the church itself? Did he ever think that his followers would be divided into so many denominations? If Jesus is born again will the present generation accept him or put him to death? How would Jesus be if he was born in this modern world? Would Jesus use Whatsapp to communicate with people?

Would Jesus upload his sermons in YouTube? People can give their own interpretations about Jesus. When Rony had strange questions in mind, he heard several comments being passed against him.

“Look at that Brother! Always busy with the mobile.”

“See that Brother’s hairstyle!”

“Look! That Brother is always found with that girl.”

He thought even if a person is having serious conversation or is walking with his best friend, people commented. He thought to himself, “Jesus never cared about the comments, but he stood for truth”. So Rony stood by what he felt was right and remained convinced in his way of going about. He made an impact on many lives. He touched many youth and instilled faith in them. He used modern gadgets for the greater glory of God and now he is well accepted in the society.





The Mother and a Son

During the time when British ruled India, there was, in the coastal area of Gujarat, a couple who did not have children for many years after their marriage. When they got a son, the couple was very happy, and rejoiced over it by giving a big party to the whole village.

Nine years passed by. It was a rainy day when the father of the child sailed for fishing in the sea with other men of the village. Unfortunately, there arose a heavy storm in the sea that capsized the boat. He got drowned along with his companions, except for one who managed to swim back to the shore. Hearing the news, his wife fainted and could not recover from it for many days. Her condition deteriorated and she became physically ill and could hardly do any work. So, she said to the child, "Son, go to the hotel owner and say to him, 'I have nothing to eat in the house and my mother is very sick: therefore please, sir, give me some work so that I can feed my mother and myself'." Hearing the pitiful condition of the boy the owner gave him the work of washing and cleaning the tables and plates in the hotel. The owner was very much impressed by this boy's punctuality and hard work.

After a few months, this boy made friends with some boys of the town and being in their company he learnt to steal and also fell into other bad habits. Initially he resisted the temptation of stealing, but later he gave in. He began to steal anything and everything that fascinated his eyes. Whenever he took anything home, his mother never asked him how he got those things. It started with small things and then, slowly made him long for costly and expensive things, money, etc. He imitated everything that his friends did. This affected his work. He started to come late for work and showed no interest in it. As a result, he was kicked out of the hotel. His mind and heart was never at peace as he always craved for more and more things.

One day, he and his gang went to rob the central bank of East India Company. There they fatally beat the watchmen who were responsible for guarding the bank and leaving them half dead, robbed away bundles of notes. The next morning the police conducted the search operation to nab the robbers. Finally after one month of probe, the police was able to trace and arrest the culprits. They were charged with murder and robbery. The jury awarded them death penalty. Before being executed the boy was asked if he had any last wish, and he said, "I want to meet my mother before I die." His mother was called and he spoke to his mother with great sadness in his heart, saying, "Mom, You never asked me how I brought those expensive things home and never said a word or corrected my wrong doing; your silence was a snare for me; see today, I am going to die for what I have done! Forgive me Mom; from now on, I can no longer be with you." With clouds of tears and pain, she wanted to embrace her son close to her heart, but the police pushed her away and took him back to jail.



Almon Lakra
(MAP)



Oh Heart of Mine



Oh heart of mine! With great grief
Like the season of the dry autumn leaf
Lying cold and decomposed here
Pleading the fragrance of love; envelop me near

Oh heart of mine! With sorrowful silence
Like the winter's naked white ice
Freezing my heart, turning it blue
Imploring the scent of love; show me the clue

Oh heart of mine! With lonely life
Like the husk empty inside
Head raised in pride I disguise
Begging the aroma of love; humble me to rise

Oh heart of mine! Spring sweet with joy
Like the sweet pea in the branches coil
With lovely hue it bloom'
Redeeming the world's gloom

Oh heart of mine! With exultant echoing
Like the melodious nightingale sing
Pulse of serene and soulful love
You fill my heart; O Divine Love!



Richie Rex
(KHM)





A Home Where Fathers Become Our MOTHERS

In the morning of everyday
Pondering on the places one hath stayed
Many and more there I have been
It's hard to treasure one if everything is seen
The gentle language of the morning
With me are the birds chirping
Together feel the soothing feet of the sunrays
It's here where one's day, beauty lies
Neither word nor thought to express that divine sight
It's the peak of my heart's delight
'Cos in these rays lie the root of joy and laughter
It's a home where fathers become our MOTHERS
In these rays lie the ground of challenge,
A holy challenge to deepen one's strength
In the rays lie the treasures of responsibility
Creativity, humility, and simplicity
The Rays just take away my sorrows
Far away to the place where worries won't follow
In these rays are unity and diversity, where
Friends from far and near are embedded with fidelity
Sometimes, miscommunication leads to misunderstanding
Aye blocking the rays smooth functioning
But nevertheless it's a home full of gratitude
Which is LOVE at its altitude
These rays are nothing but ASHA KIRAN
These are what for me a resort DIVINE.



Reginald Kurkalang
(KHM)





Love You

Maybe I'm not the most perfect love,
Just a heart that wants to give you a taste,
Because I love the beauty in your heart
And your love is the perfection of my heart's happiness.

I love you like a flower loves its fragrance,
As rain, its water droplets,
As the moon loves the night sky,
And as the sun its light
This heart will not beat forever but if God permits
As long as my heart beats,
Allow me to love you in sincerity.

I love you not because I want to have what you are having
But I just want to see your smile
Painting the happiness in every walk of your life.

I love you not yesterday or today
But believe me,
Yesterday, now and then
Are the moments where I keep on loving you.

My Dear...

Be the way of love
Like your God above
Day and night always strive
To make your life thrive
My dear Ashakiranites

Be the way of hope
Aspire no big job
Surrender your life
Make your future bright
My dear Ashakiranites



Nelson Marques
(ETR)



Francis Lakra
(MAP)



Be the way of truth
Be exemplary to youth
Trouble no one in life
Let no one trouble you
My dear Ashakiranites

Be the way of joy
Miss no chance to enjoy
Make life special everyday
And keep harpin' despite bay
My dear Ashakiranites

Be the way of peace
Don't break any heart into piece
Become peace maker in your life
By bringing more people to light
My dear Ashakiranites

Wait For Our Eclipse

Shouldn't we ask each other,
A question of our future;
Different lives, different importance,
Are we really meant to be together?

Answer for this question, the universe gives;
That the sun and the moon do never meet;
They are never meant to be together!
So are we!
And there are no ways to try and flee.

You are the sun and I am the moon
Our dreams are almost closed in a room
A room which is under a universe's rule
Where our future is decided
According to this schedule.



Savio Barreto
(GOA)





But must have faith in the
Journey of our love
Let give time the ultimate power
Though our future together is just a glimpse,
Still I would say,
Let's wait for our eclipse
Let's wait for our eclipse
An eclipse where the sun and the moon meet.

Death Do Not Delay

Wish the life to live not long,
Oh beloved death don't prolong,
Should I die at the earliest?
End the journey of distress?

Wore the façade of joy every day,
Whatever the life may be grey.
Smile to smile responded I,
Though not happy, can't give a cry.

Oh the death not the end,
To the other land me send,
Where I would get the lasting joy,
Imperishable smile never fading a day.

Free, free, free,
Would I scream;
Fly so high,
Like the free bird of the sky.

No more sorrow,
No more darkness;
Joy and happiness;
And everlasting life.

Dear death soon you come,
Sans ado, take me into your arm
Free from the body,
Which has incarcerated me.



Natalis Silbirth
(KHM)

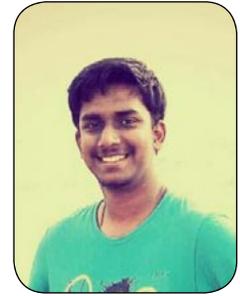




Just for Laughs

Casts:-

- * BBC news (BBC)
- \$ Khana khazana (kk)
- + Advertisement TV (ad)
- # Crime TV (CT)



Avin A
(KAR)

- * Welcome to the BBC News. It's time to
- \$ Eat biryani. The main ingredients in this is
- + Rat poison! Use it because this can kill them instantly because rats are not frightened of
- # AK47 and Bombs. By using this
- * Narendra Modi became the Prime minister of India. He went to USA and decided with Obama to
- \$ Make chapattis. Because this will make you stronger and healthier so that you may not
- + Wear short pants. This will make you fit in every time and you will be able to
- # Get killed. Many terrorists have attacked India
- * To hoist the flag on 15th August along with the Prime minister. After hoisting the flag the prime minister said in his speech
- \$ Don't go to a hotel, you will not find tasty food
- + Because we give 90% discount; from that you will be able to
- # Attack those who are a threat to us. Because they are not
- \$ Eating good food.
- * India ranks 2nd in the world population. To reduce this
- + Buy only which has got ISI mark on it or else
- # The atom bomb will fall on you
- * Said the P.M. after the long meeting. He came to a conclusion that
- \$ There must be nutritious food given to the
- # Terrorists. Because they do not know what to do in the jail.
- + So give them smart phones. This will keep aside all your
- * Office jobs and you will be able to
- \$ Eat the food. Do not eat anything spicy or else you will be
- # Shedding your blood on the ground for the country. To avoid this
- + Buy a good quality of bucket. This will make you carry wherever you go and this can also be used in
- * The parliament. The more you shout
- \$ The more you feel hungry. When you feel hungry
- # Kill those who are before you. From this you can
- + Feel the pleasure of good sleep. The beds you buy are made of
- * Garbage! Everywhere you see it. Know that



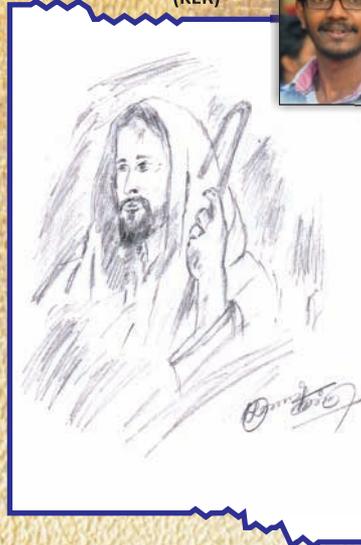


- \$ This will make your stomach full & you will be able to be happy forever. Because
- # The terrorists have planned to put the bomb in
- + Underwear. These kinds of underwear help you to get comfort because
- * The chief ministers in India came for a meeting and decided to release it at a function. After the function
- \$ They found sumptuous food menu which made their mouth watery. When they began to eat the food
- # A bomb fell on them and all died because they were not wearing
- + Rain coats! This will make you not to get wet
- * In the parliament when they shout the slogans.
- \$ You can see so many animals making noise; catch one of them to make nice non-veg meal & from this you will get good energy to
- # Throw the bomb on Pakistan. Because the terrorists are many in their country. When you throw the bomb do not forget to
- + Take selfies. This makes you to see pretty good as
- * The ugliest dog in the world. This was found in
- \$ The meat you ate today. To be healthier and happier do not take glucose all the time but also take some
- # Gun powder. This powder is used in preparing bombs. Once you finish preparing it send it to
- + Online shopping. From this the customers will find it easy to buy fast because
- * There was a big debate on this whether to approve it or not. When it is approved
- \$ Eat varieties of delicious meals. This will give a good taste to your tongue. After some time
- # "Your tongue will be cut off" said the terrorists who told the
- + Shop keepers. These people are undergoing loss because
- * The elections are coming near. All the parties are preparing to
- \$ Eat biryani as much as you want. And you will feel satisfied.
- # And those who do not have any weapons they will be set free. When they leave the place
- + Do not forget to tell them to go for shopping because
- * The economic status of our country is going down. To raise it up
- \$ Do not fast. You will lose your weight. And you will become thin as
- * The chief minister of Tamil Nadu. She gave a resignation letter to
- + Go for shopping & you will be able to see and buy what you need. Once you buy it
- # Do not use in public. Because the police will catch you. If you are caught
- \$ Take them to the hotel & you will get varieties of food; once you finish it go to pay the
- * Lok pal bill. It must be passed soon or else
- + We will close the shop but
- # The crime will not stop. It goes on and on. Finally,
- \$ Eat well and you will be able to
- + Save electricity. Turn off the TV as soon as you finish watching this program.

Budding Artists



Libin Mathew
(KER)



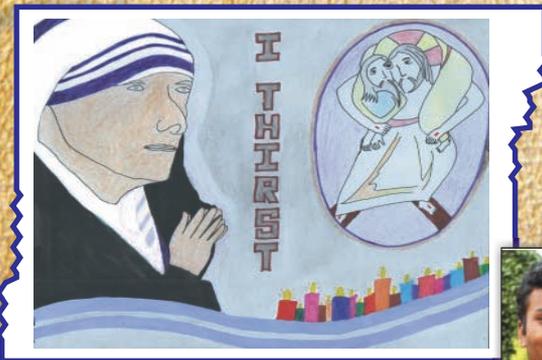
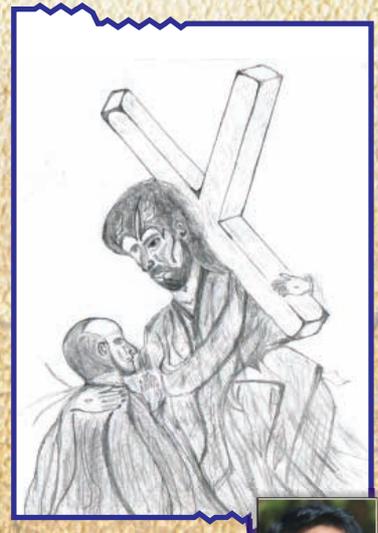
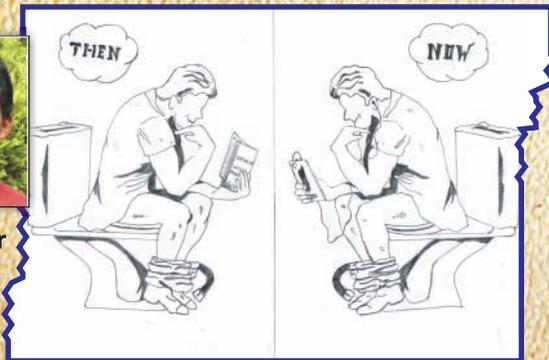
Simon Dhar
(KHM)



Sithum Chinthaka
(SRI)



Mark Jawbor
(KHM)



Francis Xavier
(DAR)



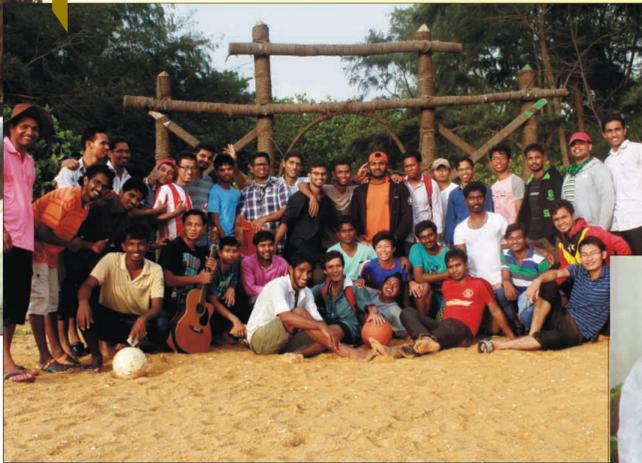
Domigos Gomes
(ETR)



Cherishing Memories



Welcome to New Comers



Mangaluru Darshan



Jubilee Celebration



Feast of Nativity



Pelican - Community Days



Neighbours Get-Together



Cultural Tour

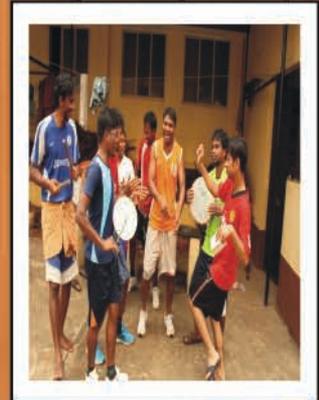
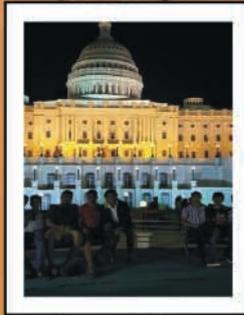


Work Camp



Carol Singing Competition II Place

Wall of Memories



*The Best things in Life are the People you love
the Places you have been, and the Memories
you have made along the Way*





*Wishing you
all the Gift of Faith,
the Blessing of Hope and
the Peace of His Love
at Christmas and always*

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year 2018*

