

# Kalyan Lantern

JUNE 2019

MAHBIL/2015/63218 | MNE/353/2018-20 | MR/Tech/WPP-323/NE/2018

Vol. 05 | Issue 02 | MUMBAI | 36 Pages | Price: ₹10/-

## Redefining Education





# ST. THOMAS CATHEDRAL & PILGRIM CENTRE

Near Roshan Petrol Pump & KDMC Bus Depot, Ganeshghat, Murbad Road, Kalyan West. 0251-2323946

## ST. THOMAS FEAST 2019



With immense joy we, the members of St. Thomas Cathedral & Pilgrim Centre, invite you for the feast celebrations of St. Thomas, The Apostle, our Patron Saint from 24th June 2019 to 03rd July 2019.

DAY-WISE PLAN		CELEBRANTS
<b>24 June, 2019</b> <b>Monday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Diocese & Families	<b>His Excellency Mar Thomas Elavanal</b>  Flag Hoisting
<b>25 June, 2019</b> <b>Tuesday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Priests, Religious & Vocation	Fr. Sheen C, Fr. Lijo M, Fr. Davis C, Fr. Soji P, Fr. Jitto T, Fr. Jestho M., Fr. Bibin M., Fr. Antony T., Fr. Anil, Fr. Alby  Vehicle Blessing
<b>26 June, 2019</b> <b>Wednesday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Pithruvedi	Rev. Fr. Sinto Enanickal
<b>27 June, 2019</b> <b>Thursday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Homeless, Jobless & People facing Financial Crisis	Rev. Fr. Manoj Varghese OIC (Syro- Malankara Rite) Sermon - Rev. Fr. Thomas Bijili OIC
<b>28 June, 2019</b> <b>Friday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Young Spouses	Rev. Fr. James D'costa (Latin Rite- English)
<b>29 June, 2019</b> <b>Saturday</b>	02.30 pm - <b>Healing &amp; Deliverance Retreat, Novena, Adoration, Holy Mass - English</b> 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Sick & Working Youth	Fr. Zacharias Neelankavil Rev. Fr. Francis Komban
<b>30 June, 2019</b> <b>Sunday</b>	10.45 am - Holy Mass & Adoration (Marathi) 04.15 pm - Novena & Adoration- English 05.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Youth & Children	Rev. Fr. Paul Painadath MST Rev. Fr. Jomet Vazhayil
<b>01 July, 2019</b> <b>Monday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Infants & Childless Couples	Rev. Fr. Siju Kizhakkepillivathukkal
<b>02 July, 2019</b> <b>Tuesday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - Holy Mass, Novena- Malayalam  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> Mathrusangam	Fr. Bibin M. Fr. Dhanoop C. Fr. Bibin K., Fr. John K. Fr. Jojit K.
<b>03 July, 2019</b> <b>Wednesday</b>	06.00 pm - Novena, Holy Mass & Adoration-English 07.00 pm - <b>Solemn Holy Mass, Novena - Malayalam</b>  <b>INTENTIONS:</b> For the Parish & Pilgrims	Rev. Fr. Biju Mannancheril Sermon : Rev. Fr. Tenny Paracka CMI

**NB. Pilgrim Centre will be kept open for all Pilgrims from 06.30am to 10.00pm during the Feast Days**

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YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO  
MY FEET AND A LIGHT TO MY PATH

**JUNE 2019**

**Vol. 05 | Issue 02**

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» EDITORIAL

# വിജയത്തിലേക്കുള്ള പടവുകൾ

കത്തുന്ന വേനലിന്റെയും  
പരീക്ഷയുടേയും ഇടവേള  
ക്കുശേഷം കൂട്ടുകാർ വിദ്യാ  
ഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ പടവുകളി  
ലേക്ക് പ്രയാണം തുടങ്ങി.

സ്റ്റീഫൻ ഹോക്കിംഗ് പറയുന്നു.  
“എന്ത് നഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തി  
എന്നതിലല്ല എന്ത് ബാക്കി യുണ്ട്  
എന്നതിലാണ് കാര്യം.”

ഒരു മനുഷ്യന്റെ ചുരുങ്ങിയ കാല  
യളവിൽ ഒത്തിരിയേറെ കാര്യങ്ങൾ  
ചെയ്തു തീർക്കാനുണ്ട്. അറിവ്  
മനുഷ്യനെ വളർത്തുന്നു. വളർച്ചയു  
ടെ പടവിലേക്കുള്ള ഒരോ  
കാൽവയ്പും വളരെയേറെ  
പ്രാധാന്യമർഹിക്കുന്നു. ഇനിയുള്ള  
ഓരോ നിമിഷവും നിങ്ങൾക്ക്  
വിലപ്പെട്ടതാണ് എന്ന ബോധ്യത്തോടെ  
മുന്നേറാം. നല്ല തീരുമാനങ്ങൾ നിങ്ങളെ  
നയിക്കട്ടെ.

കൊളോണൽ ഹർലാന്റ് സാൻഡ്രസ് കെ.  
എഫ്. സി. യുടെ സ്മാപകൻ പറഞ്ഞതു  
പോലെ “Do all you can, And do it the Best  
you can, It is the only way you ever get that  
feeling of accomplishing something.”

ഈ ലക്കത്തിൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യക  
തയെക്കുറിച്ചും, അതിൽ മാതാപിതാക്കളുടെ  
പങ്കാളിത്തത്തെക്കുറിച്ചും പ്രതിപാദിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു.

ചിലപ്പോൾ ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഇടർച്ചകളും, തോൽവി  
കളും സംഭവിക്കാം. എന്നാൽ അതെല്ലാം ജീവിതത്തെ  
വിജയത്തിലേക്ക് നയിക്കുന്ന ഘടകങ്ങളായി മാറാം.  
അതാണ് പല മഹാമാരുടെയും ജീവിതം നമ്മെ  
പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

കൂടുതൽ ആത്മവിശ്വാസത്തോടെ, ലക്ഷ്യബോധ  
ത്തോടെ, ദൈവാശ്രയത്തോടെ ഉയരങ്ങളിലേക്ക്  
നടന്നുകയറാം.

“നിങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഇതുവരെ അത്ഭുതങ്ങളൊന്നും  
സംഭവിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ കാത്തിരുന്നോളൂ... നിങ്ങൾ തന്നെ ഒരു  
അത്ഭുതമാകാൻ പോവുകയാണ്.” - Nick Vujicic



# ദൈവത്തിന്റെ സ്വന്തം



പരീക്ഷാച്ചൂടിന്റെയും, വിജയാഘോഷത്തിന്റെയും പരാജയഭീതിയുടെ യുമൊക്കെ സമ്മിശ്രവികാരങ്ങളിലൂടെയാണല്ലോ മിക്ക മാതാപിതാക്കളും മക്കളും ഈ നാളുകളിൽ കടന്നു പോയ്ക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. വിജയങ്ങൾ ആഘോഷിക്കപ്പെടേണ്ടതാണ്. പക്ഷെ അത് ഒരിക്കലും അപരനെ ഇടിച്ചുതാഴ്ത്തിക്കൊണ്ടാവരുത്. ഒരു തോൽവിയും അന്തിമമല്ല. ഒരു വിജയവും അനശ്വരവുമല്ല. നമ്മുടെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ തോറ്റു ജയിച്ച് കരുത്തരാവട്ടെ!! പ്രശ്നങ്ങളിൽ അവരെ ചേർത്തു നിർത്താൻ നമുക്ക് നെഞ്ചും, തെറ്റിപ്പോകുമ്പോൾ അവർക്കു ഏങ്ങലടിക്കാൻ നമ്മുടെ ചുമലുകളും ഉള്ളപ്പോൾ അവർക്കു എങ്ങനെ ജയിക്കാതിരിക്കാനാവും!!

“എനിക്ക് നിന്നെക്കുറിച്ചൊരു പദ്ധതിയുണ്ട്. അതു നിന്റെ നാശത്തിനല്ല. ക്ഷേമത്തിനാണ്” (ജെറെമിയ 29:11).

എന്നെ ആഴത്തിൽ സ്വാധീനിച്ച ദൈവവചനമാണിത്. അത് അക്ഷരാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ഞങ്ങളുടെ കുടുംബത്തിൽ നിറവേറിയ ഒരു



അനുഭവം നിങ്ങളുമായി പങ്കുവെയ്ക്കാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു.

കേരളത്തിലെ ഒരു പ്രൈവറ്റ് എഞ്ചിനീയറിംഗ് കോളേജിലെ, ബി.ടെക് ബയോടെക്നോളജി ക്ലാസ്സാണ് രംഗം. “എല്ലാവരും നന്നായി പഠിച്ച് ഗേറ്റ് പാസ്സായി. ഏതെങ്കിലും നല്ല ഐ.ഐ.ടി., എൻ.ഐ.ടി. കളിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റ് സ്കോളർഷിപ്പോടെ എം. ടെക് ചെയ്യണമെന്നതാണ് എന്റെ ആഗ്രഹം”; ക്ലാസ്സ് ഇൻ ചാർജ് മിസ്സിന്റെ കൂടെക്കൂടെയുള്ള ഈ ഓർമ്മപ്പെടുത്തൽ. മുൻനിര ബഞ്ചുകളിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന പഠിപ്പികൾക്ക് മാത്രം ബാധകമാണെന്ന ഭാവത്തിൽ പിന്നിലെ ബഞ്ചിലിരുന്ന് ഊറി ചിരിച്ചു ഞങ്ങളുടെ പൊന്നുമോൾ.

പപ്പയുടെ കടുത്ത നിർബന്ധത്തിന് വഴങ്ങി, ഗേറ്റ് പരീക്ഷക്ക് അവൾ അപേക്ഷിച്ചത് ഏറെ മുറുമുറുപ്പോടെ ആയിരുന്നു. “പഠിച്ചു പഠിച്ചു മടുത്തു, ഇനി എനിക്ക് ജോലിക്ക് പോയാൽ മതി”. എന്ന അവളുടെ നീരസത്തിനു പുറകിൽ, ആ വർഷം തന്നെ ബി.ടെക്നു ചേരാൻ നിൽക്കുന്ന അനുജനെക്കുറിച്ചും, രണ്ടു പേരുടെയും ഫീസടവുകൾ ഒരു സർക്കാർ ജീവനക്കാരനായ പപ്പക്ക് സമ്മാനിക്കാൻ പോകുന്ന അധിക ചിലവിനെക്കുറിച്ചുമുള്ള കരുതലാണെന്ന് മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ, അവളുടെ ഉറ്റസുഹൃത്തുകുടിയായ എനിക്കു ഒട്ടും സമയം വേണ്ടി വന്നില്ല. ഗേറ്റിനു വേണ്ടി ഒരു ഗൈഡ് വാങ്ങാൻ പോലും അവൾ വിസമ്മതിച്ചു. പരീക്ഷ കഴിഞ്ഞ്, പതിവു ചിരിയോടെ കൂളായി ഇറങ്ങി വരുന്ന അവളെ നോക്കി നിൽക്കുമ്പോൾ, പരീക്ഷയുടെ കാഠിന്യവും, എട്ടുനിലയിൽ പൊട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള പതം പറച്ചിലുകളുമായിരുന്നു ചുറ്റുപാടു നിന്നും മുഴങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നത്.

റിസൾട്ട് വന്നപ്പോൾ, അവരുടെ കോളേജിൽ നിന്ന് ഗേറ്റ് പാസ്സായ വിരലിൽ എണ്ണാവുന്നവരുടെയിടയിൽ അവളുടെ പേരും!!! ടീച്ചർമാരുടെ നിർബന്ധത്തിനു വഴങ്ങി, ഇന്ത്യയിലെ പ്രശസ്തമായ സിമാപനങ്ങളിലൊക്കെ എം. ടെക്സിനു ഓൺലൈനിൽ അപേക്ഷിച്ചത് കോമഡി ഷോ കാണുന്ന സരസമനോഭാവത്തോടെയായിരുന്നു. ഗേറ്റിൽ പാസ്സ് മാർക്ക് മാത്രം ലഭിച്ച ഒരു ജനറൽ കാറ്റഗറി വിദ്യാർത്ഥിക്ക് മുന്നിൽ. ഒരു ഐ.ഐ. ടി, എൻ.ഐ.ടി.യുടെയും വാതിലുകൾ തുറക്കപ്പെടില്ലെന്നു ഉറപ്പായിരുന്നു. പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചതുപോലെ തന്നെ ആകെ നടന്ന അഞ്ച് അലോട്ട്മെന്റുകളും അവൾ കടന്നു കൂടിയില്ല. പിന്നീട് ആകെ ഒഴിവു വന്ന അഞ്ച് സീറ്റുകളിലേക്കായി അവർ നടത്തിയ സ്പോട്ട് അലോട്ട്മെന്റിൽ പങ്കെടുക്കാനായി. അവളുടെ എതിർപ്പ് വകവെയ്ക്കാതെ ഫീസ്

അടയ്ക്കുമ്പോഴും, ലവലേശം പ്രതീക്ഷ ഇല്ലായിരുന്നു. ബയോടെക്നോളജി എഞ്ചിനീയറിങ്ങിന്റെ തന്നെ ഭാഗമായ എൻജി എഞ്ചിനീയറിങ്ങിൽ ഒരു ഒഴിവ് എൻ.ഐ.ടി. ടിപ്പിയിൽ ഉണ്ടെന്ന് കണ്ടപ്പോൾ വീണ്ടും

അസാധ്യമെന്ന് നമ്മൾ വിധി പ്രസ്താവിക്കുന്ന ചില മേഖലകളിലെ തീർത്തും അത്ഭുതകരമായ ദൈവിക ഇടപെടലുകൾ അപ്പോൾ നാം ദർശിക്കും.



ആഗ്രഹങ്ങൾ ചിറകു വിരിച്ചു. സ്പോട്ട് അലോട്ട്മെന്റിൽ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്ന എല്ലാവരുടെയും കണ്ണ് ആ വിഷയത്തെക്കാളുപരി, ആ പ്രശസ്തമായ സിമാപനത്തിൽ പതിയുമെന്ന് ഉറപ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്നത് കൊണ്ടും, അവളെക്കാൾ മാർക്ക് കൂടുതലുള്ള കുട്ടികൾ ഇനിയും അഡ്മിഷൻ കിട്ടാതെ അലയുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു ഉറപ്പുള്ളതിനാലും എല്ലാ സ്വപ്നങ്ങൾക്കും കടിഞ്ഞാണിട്ടു.

ദൈവത്തിന്റെ അനന്തകൃപയാൽ ആ ഒരേ ഒരു സീറ്റിലേക്ക് അവൾക്കു അഡ്മിഷൻ ലഭിച്ചു. ബയോടെക്നോളജിക്കാർക്കായി മാറ്റി വച്ചിരുന്നതായിരുന്നു ആ സീറ്റിനും, ആ സീറ്റിനു വേണ്ടി ഇന്ത്യയിലൊട്ടാകെ നിന്ന് അപേക്ഷിച്ച ഏക ബയോടെക്നോളജിക്കാരി അവളായിരുന്നെന്നും പിന്നീടാണറിഞ്ഞത്. ബയോടെക്നോളജി എഞ്ചിനീയറിംഗ് ചെയ്യാനായി, മുംബൈയിൽ ജനിച്ചു വളർന്ന അവളെ എന്തിനാണ് കേരളത്തിലേക്ക് അയച്ചു തെന്ന്, കാലകാലങ്ങളായി പലരും ചോദിച്ചു വന്ന, ഞങ്ങൾക്കുപോലും ഉത്തരമില്ലാതിരുന്ന ചോദ്യത്തിന്റെ ഉത്തരമാണ് ദൈവം ആ അഡ്മി ഷനിലൂടെ തന്നത്.

അങ്ങനെയിരിക്കെ, അവളുടെ ഇഷ്ടവിഷയമായ പരിസ്ഥിതി എഞ്ചിനീയറിംഗിന്റെ (Environmental Engineering) ആ കോളേജിൽ തന്നെ ഒരു ഒഴിവുണ്ടെന്ന അറിയിപ്പ് വന്നത് വളരെ ആകസ്മികമായിട്ടാണ്. 'എനർജി'യിൽ നിന്ന് പരിസ്ഥിതിയിലേക്ക് ചാടാനായി വേറെ രണ്ടു പേർ കൂടി. അതിൽ ഒരു കുട്ടിക്ക് മോളേക്കാളും ഗേറ്റ് സ്കോർ കൂടുതൽ ഉള്ളത് കൊണ്ട് ആ കുട്ടി ഏതാണ്ട് സീറ്റ് ഉറപ്പിച്ചു. എങ്കിലും അപേക്ഷ നൽകി. പ്രാർത്ഥനാപൂർവ്വം കാത്തിരുന്നു. അവിടെയും ഈശോയുടെ കരം അവളോടൊപ്പമായിരുന്നു. എനർജി ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിലെ സുഹൃത്തുക്കളെ വിട്ടുപോരാൻ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടാണെന്നതു കാരണമായി പറഞ്ഞ്, ശരിക്കും യോഗ്യത ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന കുട്ടി അൽപ്പസമയം മുൻ വന്നു അപേക്ഷ പിൻവലിച്ചെന്ന് പിന്നീട് സാറിൽ നിന്നും അറിയാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞു. ശരിക്കും പറഞ്ഞാൽ അത്ഭുതങ്ങളുടെ ഒരു പെരുമഴക്കാലം.

“അവിടുത്തെ പ്രവൃത്തികൾ എത്ര അഗ്രാഹ്യം!!” നമ്മുടെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങളുടെ ഭാവി ഓർത്തു നാം മസിലു പിടിച്ചത് കൊണ്ടോ, തല പുണ്ണാക്കിയത് കൊണ്ടോ ഒരു മാറ്റവും സംഭവിക്കാൻ പോകുന്നില്ല. ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കുഞ്ഞുമാലാഖകളെയാണ് വളർത്താനായി നമ്മുടെ മടിയിലേക്ക് ഇട്ടു തന്നിരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന ഉറച്ചബോധം ഓരോ മാതാവിനും പിതാവിനും ഉണ്ടാകണം. നമ്മുടെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ അവിടുത്തെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങളാണ്. “അവിടുന്ന് തക്ക സമയത്തു അവരെ ഉയർത്തിക്കൊള്ളും!!” (1 പത്രോസ് 5:6).

വിശ്വാസം പ്രഘോഷിക്കുക മാത്രം ചെയ്യുന്ന പ്രാസംഗികരെയല്ല, മറിച്ച് വിശ്വാസം ജീവിക്കുന്ന ഉത്തമ മാതാപിതാക്കളാണ് ഇന്നിന്റെ ആവശ്യം. “ശൈശവത്തിൽ തന്നെ

നടക്കേണ്ട വഴി അവനെ പരിശീലിപ്പിക്കുക. വാർദ്ധക്യത്തിലും അവൻ അതിൽ നിന്നും വ്യതിചലിക്കുകയില്ല” (സുഭാഷിതങ്ങൾ 22:6) എന്ന വചനമാണ് മാതാപിതാക്കളെന്ന നിലയിൽ ഇന്നു വരെ ഞങ്ങളെ വഴി നടത്തിയത്. എത്ര ത്യാഗം സഹിച്ചാണെങ്കിലും ദൈവത്തോടും ദേവാലയത്തോടും ചേർത്ത് നിർത്തി മക്കളെ വളർത്താൻ ഏറെ ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഒരു ഞായറാഴ്ച ക്രിസ്ത്യാനി മാത്രമായി ഞങ്ങളുടെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ വളരരുതെന്നു ഏറെ നിർബന്ധമുണ്ടായിരുന്നതു കൊണ്ട്, കഴിയുന്ന ദിവസങ്ങളിലെല്ലാം കൂടുംബം മുഴുവനും ദിവ്യബലിയിൽ സംബന്ധിക്കുക പതിവായിരുന്നു. ദേവാലയവുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടുള്ള എല്ലാ സംഘടനപ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്കും എല്ലാവരും മുൻനിരയിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു.’

ഒക്ടോബർ മാസങ്ങളിലെ സ്കൂൾ സെമസ്റ്റർ പരീക്ഷയോടൊപ്പം, Kerygma Quiz-നായി ഒരുങ്ങിരുന്നതും, വർഷാവസാന പരീക്ഷകൾക്കൊപ്പം, വേദപാഠസ്കോളർഷിപ്പ് പരീക്ഷയ്ക്കായി കഠിന പ്രയത്നം ചെയ്തിരുന്നതുമെല്ലാം ഞങ്ങൾ ഒരുമിച്ചായിരുന്നു. വചന പഠനത്തിലൂടെ പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവ് ബുദ്ധിയെ ഉജ്ജ്വലിപ്പിക്കുമെന്നതിന്റെ ഉത്തമോദാഹരണങ്ങളായിരുന്നു എല്ലാ കാലയളവുകളിലും ഭൗതിക മേഖലകളിലും ആത്മീയമേഖലകളിലും അവർ വാരികൂട്ടിയ സമ്മാനങ്ങൾ.

“ഈശോയാകുന്ന തായ്ത്തണ്ടിനോട് ചേർന്നു നിൽക്കുമ്പോൾ നമ്മൾ ഏറെ ഫലം പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കും” (യോഹ 15). എന്ന വചന സാക്ഷാത്കാരത്തിന്റെ ആകെത്തുകയാവണം നമ്മുടെ ജീവിതങ്ങൾ. അസാധ്യമെന്ന് നമ്മൾ വിധി പ്രസ്താവിക്കുന്ന ചില മേഖലകളിലെ തീർത്തും അത്ഭുതകരമായ ദൈവീക ഇടപെടലുകൾ അപ്പോൾ നാം ദർശിക്കും. ദൈവത്തിന് അസാധ്യമായി ഈ ലോകത്തിൽ യാതൊന്നുമില്ലെന്നും, അവിടുന്നുനന്നിയാതെ നമ്മുടെ ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഒന്നും സംഭവിക്കുന്നില്ലായെന്നുമുള്ള ഉത്തമബോധം, നമ്മുടെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങളുടെ വളർച്ചയുടെ ഓരോ പടവുകളിലും നാം അവരിൽ ഊട്ടിയുറപ്പിക്കണം. അപ്പോൾ വിജയപരാജയങ്ങളെ ആത്മവിശ്വാസത്തോടെ നേരിടാൻ അവർക്കാകും.’

**Mini Joseph**  
is a parishioner of  
Little Flower Church, Nerul



# THE EDUCATOR *Speaks...*

Kalyan Lantern interviewed renowned educator,  
**MRS. SUNITA GEORGE,**  
Principal, Bombay Scottish School, Mahim, Mumbai  
and herewith shares excerpts from the interview.



**You have been associated with many prestigious schools. Could you share your experience with parents in terms of handling their expectations from the school and their children?**

## **Handling parental expectations from school:**

It is important that parents set realistic expectations from the school keeping in mind various factors like class sizes, school facilities and policies. In the best interest of the child, the parents and school should share a positive relationship based on mutual respect, trust and accountability. They should seek clarity on important queries and concerns related to the child's education from the school directly rather than depending on social media discussions. They should value the time of the school authorities and teachers, read all school circulars, attend meetings and other school events regularly, and also follow a constructive approach while receiving and sharing feedback.

## **Handling parental expectations from children:**

When it comes to the children, I think we sometimes try hard to make them what we want them to be rather let them be what they really are and want to become. While it is good to set higher benchmarks for the child, parents need to ensure that they do reality-checks from time to time. Unrealistic expectations suppress the child's individuality and create stress in the parent-child relationship. It is important that parents place themselves in their child's shoes while setting academic goals and behaviour expectations. Hence if we want our children to follow certain rules related to gadgets and screen-time or if we want them to develop positive reading habits, we need to walk the talk.

## **How can we work better at building 21st Century skills in our children?**

*(Question by Mrs. Gloria Frijio)*

Some of these 21st century skills are collaboration, creative thinking, communication, technological skills and adaptability. Both parents and teachers can work together to develop these skills in children. Developing these skills is not a distraction but complementary to, and also enhances, core academic skills. At home, parents can encourage collaboration and conflict resolution by encouraging them to play team games and also by providing them unstructured play time so they can design their own games or devise new rules for some of the existing games. Children should be provided opportunities to identify, research, brain-storm and design creative solutions to some of the real world problems.

**The partnership  
between the home  
and the school  
is significant for  
a child's success.**

**What are the factors to be considered while finalizing a school for a child?***(Question by Mr. Jimmy George)*

There are three aspects one needs to keep in mind while finalizing a school for your child.

**A. Understand your child's interest, aptitude and attitude:**

What kind of learning environment suits your child - structured or less structured, challenging or friendly? How does your child learn best - in a group or enjoys working alone, learns by doing, is a visual learner or auditory learner, etc?

**B. Collect information about the shortlisted school:**

This could include - class strength, facilities, discipline policies, expected academic rigour, expected parental time and effort, parent profile of the school, distance from residence, etc.

**C. Parent expectations from the school:**

List down your priority-wise expectations from the school. Based on the answer to the above questions try and choose the option that best meets your expectations, your child's personality, your family values and beliefs as opposed to the school's culture.

**We do not agree on having a common syllabus for the country but believe in evaluating them on the basis of one entrance exam - Isn't that unfair to the student population at large?***(Question by Dr. Jasmin Johnson)*

Educationists today are divided in their views on common syllabus or common board for the country. India is a diverse country in terms of language, lifestyle and culture. It is difficult to implement the one-nation, one-syllabus model. Different boards only provide more options to the students to choose the approach that best suits them. As far as evaluating them on the basis of one education system, it is the question of demand for quality and supply. The need today is more options for higher education programs in India. Students are also required to choose options based on their aptitude and interest rather than just following the herd mentality.

**Do you think the unrealistic scores obtained in board exams these days will affect our students' morale when the system doesn't award them similarly going ahead?***(Question by Mrs. Linu Albert)*

The students always assess themselves in comparison to the others who are pursuing the same programme. Hence, I do not feel it will dishearten them to see that they have scored less, because in comparison to the others pursuing the course they would still be at the same level.

**Are CBSE and ICSE boards superior to the SSC board?***(Question by Mr. Jimmy George)*

One cannot rate any board as superior or inferior. Each board has a different approach with respect to the layout of the curriculum, rigour and assessment patterns. The board does not matter today more than ever before. Unlike the Before-

Google era, the focus of learning today is developing the ability to sift through information and use the relevant data effectively rather than remembering facts and reproducing them. The development of these skills is not dependent on the 'what' of learning but on the 'how' of learning. All the boards provide freedom to the school to adopt innovative classroom practices. The different national boards only outline the content; it is up to the school to design the delivery to meet requirements.

**What would be your advice to today's parents and children?**

The fifth generation technology is changing the labour landscape rapidly. We are moving into an era that belongs to the creative thinkers, problem solvers and entrepreneurs. We need to help our children to not only develop technical skills but also life-coping skills to deal with the challenges of the VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity & ambiguity) world. As parents, we want to see our children thriving and may be driven by love, or paranoia and we try to micromanage our kids left, right and centre. We want to help our child at the first sign of them struggling. But may be that struggle is okay, and may be not every kid is going to be good at everything. Let them work hard and learn the art of working, strategizing and coping.

To the children, my message would be - 'Reflect within, understand yourself, take charge, set goals, allow yourself to experience different emotions and enrich yourself from different experiences. Be self-assured, authentic and free from judgement. Don't doubt your worth or the beauty of your truth. Bring out your unique colours and paint the world.'

Interview compiled by

**Dr. C P Johnson,**

Associate Director, C-DAC Mumbai



# മൂല്യനിർണ്ണയം

കാറ്റ് അതിന് ഇഷ്ടമുള്ളിടത്തേക്ക് വീശുന്നു. കുട്ടികളും അങ്ങനെ തന്നെ. അവർ സ്വതന്ത്രരായി വളരട്ടെ. നിർബാധം വീശുന്ന കാറ്റും, നിർഭയം വളരുന്ന കുട്ടിയും പ്രതിസന്ധികളെ മറികടക്കും.

പരീക്ഷാക്കാലം കഴിഞ്ഞു. ഫലം അറിയാനുള്ള കാത്തിരിപ്പിലാണ് മാതാപിതാക്കളും കുട്ടികളും. ചിലരുടെയൊക്കെ റിസൾട്ട് അറിഞ്ഞു. ചിലർ ഇനിയും കാത്തിരിക്കുന്നു. നല്ല മാർക്ക് കിട്ടിയവർക്ക് സന്തോഷം. അല്ലാത്തവർക്ക് നിരാശ. കുട്ടികളുടെ മാർക്കും സ്കോറുമൊക്കെ നോക്കിയാണല്ലോ നമ്മൾ അവരുടെ മൂല്യം നിർണ്ണയിക്കുന്നത്. ഇതിൽ നിന്നുമൊക്കെ ഒന്നു മാറി ചിന്തിക്കേണ്ട കാലം അതിക്രമിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞില്ലേ. പരീക്ഷയ്ക്ക് മാർക്ക് കുറഞ്ഞ കുട്ടിയെ ഒന്നു ചേർത്ത് നിർത്തി സാരമില്ല മക്കളെ. അടുത്ത പരീക്ഷക്ക് ഇതിലും നല്ലതു പോലെ പരിശ്രമിക്കണമെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞ് അവരെ ആശ്വസിപ്പിക്കുമ്പോൾ സ്വാഭാവികമായും അവരുടെ ആത്മവിശ്വാസം വർദ്ധിക്കുകയും അവർ അടുത്ത തവണ ഇതിലും മെച്ചപ്പെടുവാൻ പരിശ്രമിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും.





കാറ്റ് അതിന് ഇഷ്ടമുള്ളിടത്തേക്ക് വീശുന്നു. കുട്ടികളും അങ്ങനെ തന്നെ. അവർ സ്വതന്ത്രരായി വളരട്ടെ. നിർബാധം വീശുന്ന കാറ്റും, നിർഭയം വളരുന്ന കുട്ടിയും പ്രതിസന്ധികളെ മറികടക്കും. ഉയർന്ന മാർക്ക് വാങ്ങിയ പല കുട്ടികളും ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ പരുപരുത്ത യാഥാർത്ഥ്യങ്ങളുമായി പൊരുത്തപ്പെടാൻ സാധിക്കാതെ ജീവിതത്തിൽ നിന്ന് തന്നെ ഒളിച്ചോടാൻ തുനിയുന്നത് നമ്മൾ പലപ്പോഴും കാണുന്നില്ലേ? ദൈവം ഓരോരുത്തർക്കും ഓരോ താലന്തുകളാണ് നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്നത്. അതിനെ കണ്ടെത്തി പരിപോഷിപ്പിക്കുക എന്നതാണ് മാതാപിതാക്കളായ നമ്മുടെ കടമയും, കർത്തവ്യവും. അവരുടെ കഴിവുകളെ കണ്ടെത്തി പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുക, അവരെ സ്നേഹിക്കുക. സ്നേഹം അവരിൽ നിന്നും ഏറ്റവും നല്ല ഫലം പുറത്തു കൊണ്ടു വരിക തന്നെ ചെയ്യും. അവരുടെ കുറവുകളെയും, പരിമിതികളെയും കൂടെ അവരെ അംഗീകരിക്കുക.

ജീവിതമാകുന്ന ക്യാൻവാസിൽ ഏവർക്കും ഓരോ ചിത്രങ്ങൾ വരച്ചു തീർക്കാനുണ്ട്. പരസ്പരം സ്നേഹിക്കാനും, മനസ്സിലാക്കാനും, സഹായിക്കാനും, കൂഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ മത്സരിക്കട്ടെ. അല്ലാതെ ഏറ്റവും കൂടുതൽ മാർക്ക് മാത്രമായിരിക്കരുത് നമ്മുടെ ലക്ഷ്യം എന്നു കരുതി അലസരാകാനും പാടില്ല. ഈ ലോകത്തെ മുഴുവൻ ഉൾക്കൊള്ളുവാൻ തക്കവിധം അവരുടെ മനസ്സ് വികസിക്കണം. അതാണ് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലൂടെ നേടിയെടുക്കേണ്ടത്. കുട്ടികൾക്ക് വലിയ

ലക്ഷ്യങ്ങൾ നൽകുക. അത് അവർ നേടുക തന്നെ ചെയ്യും. ഉയർന്ന മാർക്ക് കിട്ടിയതുകൊണ്ട് മാത്രം പലപ്പോഴും ജീവിതത്തിൽ വിജയിക്കണമെന്നില്ല. കുട്ടികളുടെ മേൽ അമിതപ്രതീക്ഷകളുടെ ഭാരം വച്ചു കൊടുക്കാതെ അവർക്ക് പ്രത്യാശയുടെയും കരുതലിന്റെയും ചിറകുകൾ നമുക്ക് സമ്മാനിക്കാം. അവർ ജീവിക്കുവാൻ പഠിക്കട്ടെ. പണവും, പദവിയും ആണ് എല്ലാറ്റിലും ഉപരിയെന്ന് നമ്മൾ കുട്ടികളെ വിശ്വസിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. എത്ര ഉയർന്നവരായാലും സ്വന്തം മാതാപിതാക്കൾക്കും, നാടിനും ഉപകരിക്കാതെ മക്കളെ കൊണ്ട് എന്ത് പ്രയോജനം? വിജയത്തോടൊപ്പം പരാജയങ്ങളെയും നേരിടുവാൻ കുട്ടികളെ പ്രാപ്തരാക്കുക. പരാജയത്തിൽ അടി പതറാതെ വിജയത്തിൽ അടിവച്ച് നീങ്ങുവാൻ കുട്ടികളെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുക. ജീവിതമാകുന്ന സത്രത്തിലെ സന്ദർശകരാണ് സന്തോഷവും ദുഃഖവും. രണ്ടിലും സംയലനം പാലിക്കാൻ അവർ പഠിക്കട്ടെ. ലക്ഷ്യം സാധത്തിലൂന്നി കഠിനാധ്വാനത്തിലൂടെ ഏവർക്കും ജീവിതവിജയം കൈവരിക്കാം. സർവ്വോപരി ദൈവാശ്രയബോധമുള്ള നല്ല മക്കളായി അവർ വളരട്ടെ. അങ്ങനെ ലോകത്തിന്റെ പ്രകാശവും, ഭൂമിയുടെ ഉപ്പുമായി അവർ മാറട്ടെ.

**Daisy George**  
belongs to St. Kuriakose Chavara  
Church, Kandivli East.



# THE UNIQUE MISSION OF A TEACHER



It is said that the world of tomorrow is born from the schools of today. Teaching is a calling and it is not everyone who has the patience to mould the character of a student like a committed teacher. Bill Gates once said “If you want your child to get the best education possible it is more important to get him assigned to a great teacher than a great school”. The role a teacher plays is multi-faceted one comprising many academic and social roles. In the academic role, she is a teacher, counselor, supervisor and a facilitator; a facilitator because she is involved in motivating pupils in

knowledge acquisition and moral development. She is a counselor too and often assumes a parent surrogate, and most importantly, a confidante and a guiding light. A teacher prepares the students for their life outside the classroom. A teacher's job therefore cannot be equated with any other profession and is said to be a calling or mission and in Christian perspective, it amounts to evangelization.

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam says “Teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, caliber and future of an individual. If people

remember me as a good teacher that will be the biggest honor for me". The mission of a teacher is to make a real and lasting impact in the hearts and lives of students in such a way that they are finally fit to lead a blissful life. "A good man out of the treasure of his heart brings forth good.... For out of abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." (Luke 6:45). Love is the most powerful force on earth. It is the unconditional love of a teacher that moves students' hearts. Carl Jung tells us "One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teacher, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child". As teachers, we need to ponder over as to whether our words and actions make our students more determined to do their best, more hopeful about their own growth and more confident to achieve their destined purpose. This is how the teaching profession can be seen as evangelization.

To be an effective and efficient teacher one needs to bear in mind the following aspects: The students respect and appreciate a teacher who has in-depth knowledge in his subject area. Good teachers need to be researchers who constantly update their knowledge and remain creative, innovative and effective in their teaching strategies. Technologies have developed to the extent where pupils have access to information on the internet and everything given to them can be cross-referred instantly. Today teaching is activity oriented and learner oriented. The traditional "chalk and talk" method of teaching that has persisted for hundreds of years is now acquiring inferior results when compared with the more modern and revolutionary teaching methods. Greater student interaction is encouraged, the boundaries of authority are being broken down, and a focus on enjoyment over grades is emphasized.

In spite of all these, teachers have to deal with various challenges which in turn can distract

and demotivate teachers. Some of the challenges include: the different styles of learning by different students, character development issues through the influence of media and misuse of technologies in the classrooms. In these situations, the teacher has to make active efforts to solve issues by correcting the individual privately without humiliating him publicly, closely monitoring them and identifying their interest and directing them to a passion in achieving that goal by the right judgment and encouragement. Such a teacher makes conscious decisions to inspire the next generation of leaders. Teachers therefore must exhibit energy, enthusiasm and cheerfulness, and never cease to learn.

### **Jesus: A Role Model for Teachers**

Jesus was a teacher par excellence who exhibited a high rank of brilliance in explaining the most profound truths and complex issues in simple language to his listeners. He used story telling method with the help of parables. As an ideal teacher, He accepted the people as they are, loved them unconditionally, believed in their individuality and avoided difficult, philosophical terminologies while addressing the central issues that challenged His audience. It was not only the content of His teaching that attracted the crowd, but even more His personality. He had special concern, compassion and love for his listeners as that of an ideal teacher. His teachings shaped the core values of His audience. Regardless of our area of expertise, Jesus' example in teaching stands as an inspiring model in relating to students, as well as helping them grow and see the world in a different light! His aim was to transform behavior by transforming the inner man. That exactly is the ultimate mission of a teacher.

In Henry Adams words, "A teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops".

#### **Dr. Rosily Thomas**

belongs to St. Thomas Forane Church, Borivli,  
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# Focus on Learning, Scoring will Always Pass By

It was always easier for a parent in the 80's and 90's to find a good school for their children. Now, with the progress of education, all schools are in the run for competing with one another with claims of offering 'high tech-facilities', 'better resources' and 'highly qualified teachers'. With such schools coming up, it gets difficult for parents to select the most appropriate school for their child; other than having to manage the aspect of high fees. They term such schools to be 'contemporary' or 'flexible'. But what might be more important to note is 'Are we raising our kids to be highly tech savvy and qualified, or courageous to face any difficulty that comes in their way?'

Being a young professor to degree college students since five years has enabled me to understand both sides of the story- the case of the teacher and the student. I have come across teachers who are highly qualified, well versed with the knowledge of their subject, but who fail to Deliver rightly. They would be flashing presentations one after the other, talking endlessly, giving enough notes and assigning various assignments. In response, the students strive endlessly to compete with fellow mates to achieve targets; the target being a "GOOD SCORE, CLASS AND RANK!". The end result of all this kind of imparting education would be producing 'tech savvy', 'information storing' robots.

Very rarely in the education process is there a stress on reviewing students as per the application of their lessons learnt. The entire education system is like an open stage- where students compete with each other for marks. Anything and everything they do is about the marks, including their attendance records. Everything seems to run smoothly until the day it is time to step into the field. The struggle begins right from the selection



process, the process might appear as a major blow to many as one is hardly asked about any subject content in interviews; it is always about the Application of the lessons learnt and the values one has

gained. One might even get lucky to get away with this struggle through institution driven placements; but are bound to be fired if they lack the necessary flexibility to deal with colleagues or multiple tasks that comes their way. I have heard about multiple cases of students who appeared to be bright in college with really good marks but are struggling hard to make a position for themselves at work. They are often heard complaining about 'the type of work allotted', majorly stressing on 'not able to produce in methods that they have been asked to'; whereas other cases where 'work life is hectic, but we are learning new things and managing tasks sensibly'. The difference is clear!

Reflecting on the past, being a ranker all throughout, not once in my working career have I had anyone asking me about my scores. All that we are judged on is our performance and deliverance. All that matters is to DELIVER smart, showcase your skills with the right attitude and a mind that strives to learn more every single day. Believe me, nothing more can be more satisfactory than being appreciated for your work than being appreciated for your results! Focus your best on learning, scoring will always pass by.

## Mildred Tinto

is an Assistant Professor of Architecture  
at LS Raheja School of Architecture

## TESTIMONIAL

# THE ONLY WAY AROUND A CHALLENGE SOMETIMES IS THROUGH IT

There is no doubt that the way we educate our children and the education system of our country is in dire need of reform. However, by the very nature of it, any reform that is sudden, is disruptive. Given that no one is sure of what method or system can replace the existing one, it is best to see reforms that are tested and then integrated into the existing system. However, we can foresee the process as lasting for a long time. What then of the students currently in school?

For anyone familiar with Darwin's theory of evolution, the idea of survival and environment being similar to that of a school is obvious. The environment, that is the school, rewards a certain type of temperament. Currently, students who are good at memorising thrive here. The ones that are creatively, athletically or intellectually inclined find it difficult to survive in schools.

As a teacher to my students and a student of the same flawed system, here is a little insight that I have from my personal experience. I have been an average student during my school days. I was fairly interested in art and terrible at Math. My grades were dire and I was least interested in my education. However, I was justified in my stance as it wasn't my fault that I was failing. It was the system that was faulty. It has always been inviting to the human mind to escape responsibility for one's own self or to shift the blame of misfortune to another. I see a lot of children today using the same excuse to justify their bad grades. And while it is true, it is important to realise that the justification is embraced not because it's true but because it is convenient. Well, what does that mean?

It means that if you blame the education system for your failure today and do nothing about it, you will become a complacent individual who will have the society, the government, their religion or God to blame for every failure you face in the future. It is difficult to take personal responsibility. Even more so today, where being a victim of something is considered a merit. If I fail, it is because I am a victim and if someone points out what I could have done instead, I can tell them they lack empathy and moral integrity. This attitude, if

cultivated at school, transcends into life with disastrous effect.

Well, not everyone has the means to overcome and thrive. Not everyone can benefit from blaming themselves.

Absolutely. Life is unfair and we are forced to play the hand that we are dealt. Some people have it worse than others. And while they might be right, some force is trying to drag them to misery, the alternative to personal responsibility is complacency. In an environment like a school, we start with a single F in math. We do nothing about it because we think that is the fault of the system. The next time, we find multiple F grades in the report card and in no time we find ourselves out of school, on the couch while everyone else is in school. We fail to find any fulfillment in life and readily turn to drugs and end up in the fringes of society as an outcast. This is the story of many a people who have refused to accept responsibility for their own lives.

## What do we do then?

We must understand that even though we might not be to blame for our failure, it is only appropriate that we work towards picking ourselves up where we find we are lagging. The idea is to cultivate a temperament where we take on the challenges that life throws at us and take responsibility for the situation at hand be it a financial crisis or a Math examination. While the system reforms itself to make subjects interesting the students will do well to use their talents and develop techniques to clear examinations, thus making them the very persons who survive the challenging environment and later work to change it.



## Joseph Francis

is a Jesus Youth full timer and is teaching at St. Mary's School, Longo, Arunachal Pradesh

# WILL THE DADS STAND UP, PLEASE?

Anyone can father a child, but being a dad takes a lifetime. Dads play a role in every child's life that cannot be filled by others. This role can have a large impact on a child and help shape him or her into the person they become.

## Dads and their daughters

Young girls depend on their fathers for security and emotional support. A father shows his daughter what a good relationship with a man is like. If a father is loving and gentle, his daughter will look for those qualities in men when she's of marriageable age. If a father is strong and valiant, she will relate closely to men of the same character.

## Dads and their sons

Unlike girls, whose experience of their father's character shapes their expectations of men in general, boys model themselves after their father's character. For example, the young boy will develop attitudes towards women from the way his father interacts with the female members of the family and society. When a father is absent, young boys look to other male figures to set the "rules" for how to behave and survive in the world.

## Dads and spiritual leadership

Many fathers unfortunately don't realize that God has ordained the father to be the spiritual leader of the family, while others simply don't understand how they should lead; still others simply refuse to lead. Actually this is an area in which they will be held accountable and here's the





'bad news' for them: it simply can't be delegated. The leader-father gives the children their space and freedom, yet sets reasonable boundaries within which they operate. Fathers who give due importance to the children's catechism, church attendance, family prayers



and community involvement get rewarded by seeing the spiritual gifts sprout in their children, viz. charity, piety, obedience, fear of the Lord, wisdom, modesty, etc. The values of the father rub off onto the children and they learn to be honest, disciplined, respectful towards all and accountable for their actions.

## Dads and Education

In traditional families, more so in our Malayalee culture, the husband tends to see the education of the children as the woman's job, no matter that she may be simultaneously holding down a full time job. In some cases he distances himself from the whole affair just so that he may not be blamed in case anything 'goes wrong' with the children's career. The worst case is where the father doesn't even know in which grade his child is studying! If the child requires extra tuitions, the man will fund it, but don't ask him to get involved in the choice of board or school or subjects or tuition teacher! As the child reaches the higher standards, a lot of decision making comes up, in terms of the stream to be opted for, the coaching class to be enrolled in and such like. These situations can become quite stressful for the mother if the father's involvement is not there.

Being an 'involved father' doesn't necessarily mean sitting down with the child's studies every evening like a subject tutor (though there are fathers who do that also). It simply means taking interest in their school work, guiding them with their homework, lending a helping hand with their projects, obtaining feedback from their teachers, attending the school open days, exhibitions, fun fairs, annual days and convocations. It also means just 'being there', by cutting down on meetings and parties outside office hours. It could also involve sacrifice in terms of giving up smoking or alcohol or sports shows in order to create a congenial study atmosphere at home. Social media addiction affects parents as much as kids and so the father should set a strong example in self-regulation. All of this means that in addition to all the hard work that the father has to put in the office, he also has to put a very different kind of hard work at home, for after all, parenting is not child's play!



## He loves the bow that is stable

Kahlil Gibran's advice on parenting is ever relevant: "For even as He (i.e. the archer/God) loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable". The involved father is like the handle of this bow, providing the pull, while the mother is like the bow string, providing the push. When both are stretched, the arrow (i.e. the child) goes swift and far and hits its target!

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## TESTIMONIAL



# Testimony of a Pro-Active and Involved Dad

"For me, being a father means much more than just passing on my genes and wealth to my child. I believe in being a very 'hands on' dad. Even though my job demands that I leave home as early as 6.00 am and return only at 7.30 pm, I'm determined not to be just an ATM to my daughter. Wanting her to develop the reading habit, I started reading story books and biographies to her at a very young age. As she grows up, I try to make her understand the practical applications of textbook knowledge. She is steadily progressing to the higher standards and the academic work load is increasing, so it is

becoming increasingly difficult for me to tutor her as I used to. I try my best to cope by cutting down on my personal time and social life. I do not spare the rod either, though that kind of parenting has almost gone out of fashion! I'm blessed to have a supportive home maker wife. The road ahead is long and there are many pitfalls in between (such as over involvement), but I keep my focus on the ultimate goal, viz. to make my daughter the best individual she can possibly be!"

 Anonymous

# “GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE” “REJOICE AND BE GLAD”

## CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY’S WORLD

### - An Overview -

Pope Francis, in his Apostolic Exhortation, is trying to bring to the forefront a ‘to-the-context’ notion of sanctity and he exhorts all the faithful, to pursue the path of sanctity, notwithstanding all threats placed by the evil one on the way to holiness. He intends to evoke in every believer a new desire for holiness in a practical way.

### MAIN THEMES AND THOUGHTS OF POPE FRANCIS ON HOLINESS

#### 1. The Universal Call to Holiness

The saints who were never canonized as such are the ones who encourage us and accompany us in our weak moments. Our prayers must be raised to them as well. They are called the “saints next door”. The canonized saints become for us, models of heroic virtues. It is the Lord who calls us to holiness. This call is for us too. Everyone who is called to holiness has a special mission to fulfil in life – a mission in Christ. The multifaceted activities within the Church and the Christian families taken up by the individuals can sanctify themselves and others. Sanctity demands that we be more alive in the Spirit and more human in character.

#### 2. Two Subtle Enemies of Holiness

There are enemies who snatch holiness from those who are aspiring for it. The first enemy is the ‘*contemporary gnosticism*’ which consists in an intellectual pursuit without God and without giving

importance to human sanctity. They exaggerate human perfection without grace. Gnostics fail to realize that our perfection is measured by the depth of our charity, not by information or knowledge alone. This is a doctrine without mystery. ‘*Gaudete et Exsultate*’ warns us that reason has its limits and that we should not totally depend on reason for answers to what pertains to God and humanity. The second enemy is ‘*contemporary pelagianism*’. It emphasized the power of the human will. The same power that gnosticism attributed to the intellect, pelagianism attributed to the human will, to one’s personal effort. Though modern pelagians speak of God’s grace, they suggest that the human will is something pure, perfect, all-powerful, to which grace is then added. They fail to realize that ‘Grace builds on nature’.

#### 3. The Beatitudes as Signs of Holiness

The Beatitudes are Jesus’ portrayal of what it means to be holy in our daily lives. Here “happy” and “blessed” become synonymous with “holy”. According to the Beatitudes, holiness consists in going



against the current. Instead of being rich, be poor so that you seek the fullness of the Spirit and you will attain the Kingdom. Instead of trying to be strong rulers who capture the earth by power, be meek, because by being meek you will inherit the Kingdom of God. Instead of being exuberant always, be mournful sometimes so that you will seek consolation in the Lord and you will attain the Kingdom of God. Instead of executing justice by violence, just hunger and thirst for justice and cry before the Lord and He will satisfy you fully. Enjoy the mercy of the Kingdom of God by being merciful and do away with all arrogance which destroys the Kingdom in oneself. Instead of fulfilling all the desires of the flesh, mortify every aspect of the body, mind and soul, so that you remain pure in heart and enjoy the Kingdom of God which is purity itself and you shall see God. Instead of being warmongers, be peacemakers, so that becoming children of God they shall enjoy the privileges of earthly life as well as those of the Kingdom of God. Instead of siding with an unjust system, be ready to be persecuted for righteousness' sake so that one can find a place at the right hand of the Father in His Kingdom.

The great criterion that is to be followed in attaining sanctity is total fidelity to the Master, developing ideologies striking at the heart of the Gospel and entering into a style of worship most acceptable to God.

#### 4. Signs of Holiness in Today's World

There are five great signs of holiness to be lived in today's world. They are: (a) Perseverance, patience and meekness in facing difficulties and hostilities, (b) Joy and a sense of humour, which make us positive, hopeful and optimistic © Boldness and passion, in carrying out Christ's

mission and to evangelize(d) Life in community, leading to communion of heart that "all may be one", and (e) A life supported by constant prayer, which raises us to the treasury of God's holiness.

#### 5. Spiritual Combat, Vigilance and Discernment

Evil is present from the very first stage of creation. We should not dismiss the devil as a myth, lest we end up more vulnerable. Our path towards holiness is a constant battle for which the Lord equips us with prayer, the word of God, the celebration of Mass, Eucharistic adoration, sacramental Reconciliation, works of charity, etc. The path of holiness is a source of peace and joy, given to us by the Spirit.

The document speaks of discernment, which is all the more necessary today because contemporary life proclaims so many distractions as equally valid and good. Discernment is a grace. It requires listening to the Lord and to others, and to reality itself, which always challenge us in new ways. Discernment also entails listening to the Gospel and to the Magisterium that guards it. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us a fervent longing to be saints for God's greater glory and let us encourage one another in this effort. In this way, we will share a happiness that the world will not be able to take away from us.

#### Conclusion

Pope Francis concludes by placing before us Mother Mary as the perfect model of sainthood and exhorts us to whisper time and again the humble prayer, 'Hail Mary'.

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**മാർ തോമസ് ഇലവനാൽ**  
കലാൺ രൂപതയുടെ മെത്രാൻ

# അങ്ങയുടെ നാമത്തിൽ ഒരുമിച്ചുകൂടി

‘അങ്ങയുടെ നാമത്തിൽ ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടി’ എന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥനാഭാഗം “നിങ്ങൾ എന്റെ നാമത്തിൽ ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടുമ്പോൾ” എന്ന കല്പനയെ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. വി. കുർബ്ബാനയെക്കുറിച്ച് പ്രതിപാദിക്കുമ്പോൾ വി. പൗലോസ് പറയുന്നത്; “നിങ്ങൾ സഭയായി ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടുമ്പോൾ” (1 കൊറി. 11 : 18) എന്നാണ്. ആദിമ ക്രൈസ്തവ സമൂഹം അപ്പം മുറിക്കലിനായി ആഴ്ചയുടെ ആദ്യദിവസം “ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടി” എന്ന് നമ്മൾ വായിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. (നട. 20:7). ‘അങ്ങയുടെ നാമത്തിൽ ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടി’ എന്നു പറയുമ്പോൾ ആരാധനയ്ക്കായി ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടുന്ന സഭാകൂട്ടായ്മയെയാണ് അർത്ഥമാക്കുന്നത്. കർത്താവിന്റെ നാമത്തിൽ രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ പേർ ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടുന്നിടത്ത് അവിടുത്തെ സാന്നിദ്ധ്യം വാഗ്ദാനം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. (മത്താ. 18:20). ‘അങ്ങയുടെ നാമത്തിൽ’ എന്നത്, ‘ദൈവനാമത്തിൽ’ നമ്മൾ എന്തു ചോദിച്ചാലും അതു നമുക്ക് ലഭിക്കും എന്ന കർത്താവിന്റെ വാക്കുകളേയും (യോഹ. 16:23-24) അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ദൈവാരാധനയ്ക്കായി കർത്താവിന്റെ നാമത്തിൽ ഒന്നിച്ചു കൂട്ടപ്പെട്ട ദൈവജനമാണ് സഭയെന്ന് “അങ്ങയുടെ നാമത്തിൽ ഒരുമിച്ചു കൂടി” എന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥന നമ്മെ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

## തിരുസ്സന്നിധിയിൽ നില്ക്കുന്നു.

“ഇപ്പോൾ തിരുസ്സന്നിധിയിൽ നില്ക്കുന്നു” എന്നത് “ദൈവസന്നിധിയിൽ നില്ക്കുന്ന” മാലാഖമാരെ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. (ലൂക്കാ. 1:13). വെളിപാടു പുസ്തകത്തിൽ കാണുന്നതുപോലെ സ്വർഗ്ഗീയഗണം കുഞ്ഞാടിനു ചുറ്റും നിന്നുകൊണ്ടാണ് അവിടുത്തെ പാടിസ്തുതിക്കുന്നത്. (വെളി. 7:9-12; 8:23). “നിങ്ങൾ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കാനായി നില്ക്കുമ്പോൾ” (മക്കോ. 11:25) എന്ന് ഈശോ പറയുന്നുണ്ട്.

സഭാപാരമ്പര്യത്തിൽ ദൈവത്തെ വാഴ്ത്തി സ്തുതിച്ച് പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുമ്പോൾ സമൂഹം നില്ക്കുന്ന പതിവാണുണ്ടായിരുന്നത്. നില്ക്കുന്നത് സ്തുതിയുടേയും സന്തോഷത്തിന്റേയും അടയാളമാണ്. ആരാധനാസമൂഹവും മാലാഖമാരോടൊപ്പം ദൈവത്തെ സ്തുതിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് അവിടുത്തെ സന്നിധിയിൽ നില്ക്കുന്നു. ഈ പ്രണാമജപത്തിന്റെ സമയത്ത് സമൂഹം നില്ക്കുകയാണ് വേണ്ടതെന്ന് ഈ പ്രാർത്ഥന വ്യക്തമാക്കുന്നു.

## പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ അനുസ്മരണം

“ഞങ്ങളുടെ നാമവും രക്ഷകനുമായ ഈശോമിശിഹായുടെ പീഡാനുഭവത്തിന്റേയും മരണത്തിന്റേയും സംസ്കാരത്തിന്റേയും ഉത്ഥാനത്തിന്റേയും... ഈ രഹസ്യത്തെ സന്തോഷത്തോടെ സ്മരിക്കുകയും” എന്നാണ് പ്രാർത്ഥനയിൽ ചൊല്ലുന്നത്. പീഡാനുഭവത്തേയും മരണത്തേയും ഉത്ഥാനത്തേയുമാണ് പെസഹാരഹസ്യമെന്ന് വിശേഷിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്. പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിന് അഞ്ചു വിശേഷണങ്ങളാണ് നല്കിയിരിക്കുന്നത്. മഹനീയം, ഭയഭക്തിജനകം, പരിശുദ്ധം, ജീവദായകം, ദൈവികം. സഭയുടെ ആരാധന മിശിഹായുടെ പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിൽ കേന്ദ്രീകൃതമാണ്. അതുതന്നെയാണ് എല്ലാ ക്രൈസ്തവ വിശ്വാസത്തിന്റേയും കേന്ദ്രബിന്ദു. വി. കുർബ്ബാന മിശിഹായുടെ പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തിന്റെ അനുസ്മരണമാണ് (ccc. 1337, ccc. 1403). അതുകൊണ്ട് പൗരസ്ത്യസഭാപിതാക്കന്മാർ കുർബ്ബാനയുടെ വിവിധ ഭാഗങ്ങൾ ഈശോയുടെ രക്ഷാകരസംഭവങ്ങളോടു ബന്ധപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ് വിശദീകരിക്കുന്നത്. അപ്പവും വീഞ്ഞും അൾത്താരയിലേക്കു കൊണ്ടു വരുമ്പോൾ ഈശോ മരണത്തിലേക്ക് നയിക്കപ്പെടുന്നതും കുരിശാകൃതിയിൽ ഉയർത്തപ്പെടുമ്പോൾ അവിടുത്തെ മരണത്തേയും അൾത്താരയിൽ വച്ച് ശോശപ്പുകൊണ്ടു മൂടുമ്പോൾ അവിടുത്തെ സംസ്കാരത്തേയും കുദാശ വചനങ്ങളുടെ സമയത്ത് വീണ്ടും ഈശോയുടെ മരണത്തെയും

അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. പ. ആത്മാവിന്റെ ആഗമനത്തിൽ അവിടുത്തെ ഉത്ഥാനത്തെ അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നു. വിഭജനശുശ്രൂഷയിൽ വീണ്ടും പെസഹാരഹസ്യത്തെ ഒരിക്കൽക്കൂടി

അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ പെസഹാരഹസ്യമാണ് വീണ്ടും വീണ്ടും നമ്മൾ അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ പെസഹാരഹസ്യം ജീവിക്കുവാൻ വിളിക്കപ്പെട്ടവരാണ് നമ്മൾ.

## Have come together in your Name

This prayer; ‘have come together in your name’ reminds us of the command of Christ ‘Whenever you gather together in my name’. With reference to Eucharistic assembly St. Paul reminds; ‘when you all gather together as a community’ (1 Cor. 11:18). As we read in the acts of the apostles the early Christian community ‘gathered together’ on the first day of the week for the breaking of the bread’ (20:7). Here ‘have come together in your name’ refers to the worshipping community. Jesus has promised His presence where two or three are ‘gathered together’ in His name (Mt. 18:20). The prayer ‘in your name’ also reminds us of the promise of Christ ‘anything you ask for from the Father He will grant in my name’ (Jn. 16:23-24). It also reminds us that Church is the community gathered together in the name of Christ to worship God.

### Stand in your holy presence

This phrase ‘stand in your holy presence’ reminds us of the angels who ‘stand in God’s presence’ (Lk. 1:19). As we see in the book of Revelation the heavenly group ‘stand in front of the throne of the Lamb’ while singing the praise of God (7:9-12; 8:23). Jesus says ‘And when you stand in prayer’ (Mk. 11:25). The oriental church has the tradition of the community standing while praying, praising and thanking God. Standing is the sign of joy and praise. So in our liturgy, the community stand in the presence of God together with the angels and praise God. In this prayer, ‘stand in your holy presence’ denotes that

during this Gehanta prayer, the community is supposed to stand and pray.

### Commemorate the Paschal Mystery

This prayer reminds us that in the Qurbana ‘we commemorate ... the divine mystery of the passion, death, burial and resurrection of our Lord’. This means Qurbana is the commemoration of the Paschal Mystery. This mystery is given five qualifications they are great, awesome, holy, life giving and divine. Liturgy of the Church is centered on the paschal mystery of Christ (ccc 1337; 1409) and that is the foundation of all Christian faith. Our Qurbana is the commemoration of the paschal mystery, hence oriental fathers of the church explain the different parts of the celebration of Qurbana in relation to the Paschal Mystery of Christ. As the bread and wine prepared on the Beth Gaza are brought to the altar we remember Jesus being led to His passion and as they are offered in the form of the cross, we remember His death, and as they are placed on the altar and covered with the ‘Sosappa’ His burial and at the time of the words of institution again His death is remembered. At the time of Epiclesis, Prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit, we remember Jesus’ resurrection. At the time of the rite of fraction the Paschal mystery is again commemorated. So the death and resurrection of Christ is commemorated again and again. As Christians we are called to live the Paschal Mystery of Christ.



# PROPHET ELIJAH

Israel was having a really bad time. King Ahab, not only hated God, he also forced the people in his kingdom to worship false Gods. One day, a prophet, named Elijah walked into the king's palace. Elijah warned the king that if he did not stop his idolatry, there would be famine all over the kingdom. The king did not pay heed to this warning.

After this warning, God sent Elijah to a quiet place in the country. God sent ravens to get food for the prophet. They brought him bread and meat, and Elijah drank water from the brook. Meanwhile, the entire country dried up as there was no rain at all. Elijah's words were coming true. The whole country was thirsty. The crops did not grow as there was no water. The scarcity of water went to an extent that even the brook from which Elijah got water, dried up. The prophet asked God, "O Lord, there is no water. How am I to survive in this famine?" To this, God replied, "You shall now go to Zarephath and live there in a widow's house." Elijah obeyed God and went to Zarephath to meet the widow. On reaching the village, he saw the widow gathering sticks.

Elijah: Please bring me a little water in a cup and a morsel of bread.

Widow: I only have a handful of flour and a little oil. Once this was finished, I and my son would starve to death.

Elijah: Make me a small cake and then make some for you and your son. The flour and oil would last until the day the Lord sends rain on earth.

The widow trusted Elijah and did as he said. For several days, neither did the flour diminish nor did the jar of oil run dry. One day, something unpleasant happened. The widow's son died. Elijah carried the boy to the upper room and cried out, "O Lord, please bring this child back to life." Sounds impossible? But, for the good Lord, nothing is impossible. The Lord heard Elijah's prayer and the child was alive again. The widow was overjoyed. She thanked Elijah and said, "By this I know that the word of the Lord in

## Activity 1

Parents are requested to explain the story of Prophet Elijah and then, ask them to complete the activity sheet. Help the raven find the path to Elijah.



## Winners of Activity: Easter Crossword Puzzle

1. Christymol Cherian, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Vashi
2. Glennis Joy, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
3. JenittaBiju, Sacred Heart Church, Goregaon West
4. Ivan Preman, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
5. Irene Preman, St. Kuriakose Elias Chava Church, Kandivili East
6. John Jacob, St George Catholic Forane Church, Panvel
7. Thomas Jacob, St George Catholic Forane Church, Panvel
8. Josh Jimmy, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Vashi
9. Jisha Jimmy, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Vashi
10. Irene Solomon, St. Thomas Cathedral Church Kalyan West
11. AnnmariaKuruville, St. George Forane Catholic Church, Panvel
12. Ashly Shayil, St. George Forane Catholic Church, Panvel
13. SanittaBinoy, St. George Forane Catholic Church, Panvel
14. VezhaparambilRinoshaPrakahs, St. George Forane Church, Panvel
15. Edwin Pious, Mother of Victory Church, Tikujiniwadi, Thane West
16. Cris Mathew Valliara, AmalaMatha church, Mulund
17. Roshan Ruby, Little Flower Church, Dahisar
18. Julia Jossy, St. Theresa's Church, Kandivili West
19. AngeleeSijo, St. Thomas Cathedral Church, Kalyan West.
20. Sibil Sebastian, Infant Jesus Church, Tilak Nagar
21. ShanellaPallikunnath, St. Joseph's Church, Airoli
22. ShaunnaPallikunnath, St. Joseph's Church, Airoli
23. Amala K Joseph, Mother of Jesus Forane Church, Antophill
24. Rose Thoppil, Mother of Victory Forane Church, Tikujiniwadi

## Activity 2

The above story was one instance of God's miracle through Elijah. Read the remaining story from the Bible [1 King Chapters 17 and 19, 2 Kings 2], write it in your own words (not more than 500 words) and send it to lanternkidroom@gmail.com. We will be publishing the names of the participants and also, the best story will be featured in the next issue of Lantern. Lantern young readers, please note that we would be conducting a quiz competition based on the Lantern issue from June to February.



25. Blessy Joy, Immaculate Conception Church, Dombivli
26. Jojo Joseph, Infant Jesus Church, Kharghar
27. Laya Xavier, Infant Jesus Church, Kharghar
28. RoselyneBinuPolackal, Little Flower church, Chakala
29. Rose Joseph, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
30. Joshua Komban, Mother of Victory Church, Tikujiniwadi
31. Kiara Anthony Pulikottil, Sacred Heart Church, Malad West
32. Ashna Brito, St. Alphonsa Church, Mankhurd
33. Maria Pinto, Mother of Victory Forane Church, Tikujiniwadi
34. Jessica Toyson, St. Mary's Church, Malad East
35. Lloyd Jose, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bhayander East
36. Juan John Shyju, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Dapodi, Pune
37. Joanna Mathew, St. Thomas Catholic Forane Church, Kalina
38. Alvin Paulson, St. Mary's Church, Dehu Road, Pune
39. Angela Sebastian, St. Alphonsa Forane Church, Vasai west
40. Angelo John Chiramal, St. Mary's Community Centre, Badlapur
41. Ananya Biju, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Dapodi, Pune
42. Vismay Sajjan George, St. Antony's Church, Kurla West
43. Marylene Francis, St. Alphonsa Church, Mankhurd
44. Tia Vincent, Sacred Heart Church, Goregaon West
45. Ryan Antony, Immaculate Conception Church, Dombivili
46. Celia Sunil Valayathil, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Dapodi, Pune
47. Rini Babu, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Vashi
48. Lena Denny, Holy Trinity Syro-Malabar Church, Thane
49. Vincent Kannamkunnu, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Vashi.
50. Anumol Mathew, St. Thomas Church, Varthak Nagar, Thane(W)
51. Alan Gomes, St. Bartholomew Church, Kalyan East
52. Faustina Salin Yarathingal, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Virar West.

## Selected entries for Activity on Periodic Table of the Bible

1. Tia Vincent, Sacred Heart Church, Goregaon West
2. Tom Jacob, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
3. Shanelle and Shauna Pallikunnath, St. Joseph's Church, Airoli
4. Ira Denver, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
5. Norita Sabu, St. Joseph Forane Church, Powai
6. Joel and John Joseph, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
7. Roselyne Binu Polackal, Little Flower Church, Chakala
8. Irene Preman, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East
9. Ashna Brito, St. Alphonsa Church, Mankhurd
10. Jessica Mathew, Amala Matha Church, Mulund
11. Anusha Shibu, St. Alphonsa Church, Mankhurd
12. Marylene Francis, St. Alphonsa Church, Mankhurd
13. Ivan Preman, St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Church, Kandivili East

## Burkina Faso church attack: Priest among six killed

Gunmen have killed six people including a priest as Mass was being celebrated in a church in Dablo in northern Burkina Faso. It began on May 12, 2019 at about 09:00 (GMT and local time), during Mass. The attackers, said to number between 20 and 30, then burned down the church. The town's mayor, Ousmane Zongo, said that there was panic as other buildings were burned down and a health centre looted. Jihadist violence has flared in Burkina Faso since 2016, and this is the third attack on a church in five weeks.

The landlocked country in northwest Africa has been beset by extremist violence in recent months as Islamist terror groups expand their reach. The number of violent incidents in the country linked to the local affiliates of al Qaeda and ISIS rose from 24 in 2017 to 136 in 2018, according to a report by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies.



## Pope condemns Sri Lanka attacks as acts of 'cruel violence'

Pope Francis condemned the attacks in Sri Lanka that killed hundreds of people as acts "of cruel violence" as he celebrated Easter mass at St Peter's Square at the Vatican.

"I learned with sadness and pain of the news of the grave attacks, that precisely today, Easter, brought mourning and pain to churches and other places where people were gathered in Sri Lanka," the pontiff said.

"I wish to express my heartfelt closeness to the Christian community [of Sri Lanka], wounded as it was gathered in prayer, and to all the victims of such cruel violence."

"I entrust to the Lord all those who have tragically perished," he said. "And I pray for the injured and all those who suffer as a result of this tragic event."



## Update: Pro-life leaders applaud passage of abortion bill in Alabama

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (CNS) -- By passing a bill to ban abortion in nearly all circumstances, the Alabama Legislature has recognized that abortion is "the extinguishing of a unique human life," said the president and CEO of Americans United for Life. "From conception to natural death, every single human life deserves to be protected by law. The violence of abortion is never the answer to the violence of rape," said Catherine Glenn Foster in a May 15 statement. "Like other states that have passed laws concerning when life begins, Alabama has relied upon scientific and medical facts."



The state Senate passed the measure late May 14 in a 25-6 vote. The state House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved it in early May. It includes exceptions for when the life or health of the mother is seriously threatened and when the child has a fatal disease. It bans abortion in all other circumstances, including rape and incest, and makes performing an abortion at any stage of pregnancy a felony punishable by up to 99 years in prison.





## Question:

**IF GOD HAS MADE US TO BECOME SAINTS,  
HOW CAN WE DO SO?**

## Answer:

### Be 'canonisable':

God undoubtedly wants us to spend eternity with him, but it's not a free pass. A good test is that other people should be able to look at my life and exclaim "that is how I should live my life!"

So if I am a spouse or a student or a priest or a clerk, people should be able to look at my life as a great witness to how a married life should be, how a student life should be, how a priestly life should be, how a working life should be, according to holiness. Even Pope Francis, in general audience on June 21, 2017, said that saintliness does not consist in praying all day, but rather in doing your ordinary duties, whether it be going to work or taking care of the home, with a heart always open to God.

### Practical tips for getting in:

A church document called Lumen Gentium (LG50) says that the (canonized) saints are the sure and safe guides to get us to heaven. All of them teach us at least two things:

- (a) Be Eucharistic centric, i.e. believe that Jesus is really, truly and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. This could be demonstrated by Eucharistic adoration, participating in Holy Qurbana, receiving Holy Communion reverently and worthily and making spiritual communion at other times.

- (b) Be Marian, i.e. rely very especially on Mary's intercession. Develop a filial bond with her by bringing her flowers and joyfully celebrating all her feasts, and above all by praying the full rosary every day, and encouraging others to do so.

### Obstacles:

- a) A culture of instant gratification: We don't want to follow the process laid out above. We want everything to happen NOW. That won't do. We must come to love the process, with all its dryness, distractions and difficulties.
- b) An unwillingness to commit: We always want to keep our options open. We hesitate to say a total YES to God, because that means closing all our other options, but God wants our total commitment.

Lack of fighting spirit: We don't want to discipline ourselves. We are unable to say NO to ourselves. We want to believe that Satan has made a truce with us, when in reality the spiritual battle is fiercely raging!

# KARUNYA 2 KERALA

Dear Supporters in Christ,

As Mumbai opened its purses and hearts to those affected severely in the Kerala floods, it opened a new ray of hope in the flood damaged villages of Kerala. There was a generous contribution of support through donations in Cash (Monetary Donation) and Kind (Relief Materials). Most of the contribution came from our Parishes, Associations and also other Secular section. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of all the priests, sisters, committee members, associations, Karunya staff and every member of the parish in this regard.

The Kerala Flood Relief collection funds were utilised mainly for Building houses and Rehabilitation work of those severely affected in the floods in Kerala. These funds not only built houses, it built lives and hopes of those who lost everything.

Thank you for your heartfelt contribution and generosity in building lives of those severely affected.

God bless you for your great support in building lives.



Sr.	Categories	Quantity in Tonnes	No. Boxes
1	Food	21.5	1042
2	Appliances	11.7	416
3	Clothing	10.1	683
4	Personal Care	5.7	463
5	Stationary	3.1	166
<b>Total</b>		<b>52.1</b>	<b>2770</b>

Approximately 52 Lakhs worth materials





## KERALA FLOOD RELIEF ACCOUNT SUMMARY

INCOME 2018-19		EXPENSE 2018-19		REMARKS
POWAI FORANE	41,29,651.00	DIOCESE OF IDUKKI (HIGH RANGE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY, (HDS))	75,00,000.00	SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 75 NEW HOUSES.
PUNE FORANE	29,71,917.00	DIOCESE OF MANANTHAVADY (WAYANAD SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY (WSSS))	75,00,000.00	SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 75 NEW HOUSES.
KALYAN FORANE	28,11,215.00	DIOCESE OF PALAKKAD (PEOPLE'S SERVICE SOCIETY, (PSS))	47,00,000.00	SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 47 NEW HOUSES
THANE FORANE	27,15,327.00	CARITAS INDIA	39,00,000.00	CONTRIBUTION FOR KERALA FLOOD RELIEF 2018
ANTOP HILL FORANE	23,45,020.00	DIOCESE OF IRINJALAKUDA (SOCIAL ACTION FORUM IRINJALAKUDA, (SAFI))	36,00,000.00	SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 36 NEW HOUSES
BORIVLI FORANE	21,59,674.00	DIOCESE OF CHANGANASSERY (THE ARCHDIOCESAN EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE TRUST, KUTTANAD)	35,00,000.00	SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 35 NEW HOUSES
NAVI MUMBAI FORANE	15,79,878.00	SPANDAN (SYRO-MALABAR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK)	15,00,000.00	CONTRIBUTION FOR KERALA FLOOD RELIEF 2018
KALINA FORANE	15,12,991.00	TRANSPORTATION ,PACKING MATERIALS AND COURIER CHARGES	1,16,280.00	RELIEF MATERIAL TRANSPORTATION TO KERALA
MALAD FORANE	13,82,934.00	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,23,16,280.00</b>	
PANVEL FORANE	13,52,600.00	BALANCE	1230.00	
VASAI FORANE	13,50,704.00	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,23,17,510.00</b>	
ANDHERI FORANE	10,19,185.00			
NASHIK FORANE	7,20,550.00			
SOUTH MUMBAI FORANE	3,77,500.00			
INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS	25,45,957.00			
KALYAN EPARCHY YOUTH	25,81,262.00			
INSTITUTION (SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, COMPANY)	3,47,019.00			
BANK INTEREST	4,14,126.00			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,23,17,510.00</b>			



## Appointments of the Priests in the Eparchy of Kalyan

Given on 15 April, 2019 w.e.f. 2 May, 2019

Rev. Fr. Joshy V A OFM Cap	Relieved from the Eparchy	Rev. Fr. Jobymon Vayalil	Pro Vicar: Amboli + Villeparle;
Rev. Fr. Binu Painumkal	Relieved from the Eparchy	Muringayil	APP: Andheri West; Asst. Director: KEY
Rev. Fr. Antony	Relieved from the Eparchy	Rev. Fr. Shijo Koothoor	Pro Vicar: Boisar + Dahanu + Palghar; Chaplain: FCC Convent – Boisar; Relieved: Asst. Director: FA
Vynthalakaran CMI		Rev. Fr. Danny Chittilappilly	Pro Vicar: Bandra East + Worli; Asst. Director: Catechism; Relieved: Notary – Eparchial Tribunal
Rev. Fr. Siby Kulangara	Granted leave for higher studies	Rev. Fr. Francis Komban	APP: Borivali + Dahisar; APP: Mar Thoma Personal Parish
Rev. Fr. Anoop Poyyanyil	Granted leave for service at Anakkara Retreat Centre	Rev. Fr. Jestomenachery	Director: Ashraya + Anugraha Homes; Chaplain: SND + FCC Convents – Malang Ghat
Rev. Fr. Shijo Parayil	Granted leave for service at St. Ephrem Seminary - Satna	Rev. Fr. Liju Irattakkuzhakkal	Relieved: In-charge- Roha property
Rev. Fr. Davis Chalisery	Protopresbyter: South Mumbai Forane; PP: Mahim + Sion; Chaplain: SND Convent – Dharavi	Rev. Fr. Liju Keetikkal	In-charge: Roha property
Rev. Fr. Thomas Kalapurackal MST	Protopresbyter: Nashik Forane; PP: Nashik City + Nashik Road + Devlali + Ojhar Township; Chaplain: SH Convent – Nashik City	Rev. Fr. Bibil	Asst. Director: ARC – Panvel; Asst. Director: FA
Rev. Fr. Cyriac Kumbatt	Also PP: Dahisar	Punnakkathadathil	APP: Tikunjiniwadi
Rev. Fr. Bibin	PP: Bhayander; Chaplain: DDP Convent – Bhayander	Rev. Fr. Fabin Kanjiraparambil	APP: Nerul
Cheenothuvattukulam	PP: Ambernath; Chaplain: SH Convent – Ambernath	Rev. Fr. Dhanoop Chungath	APP: Kalina; Notary to Eparchial Tribunal
Rev. Fr. Jitto Thengumpallil	PP: Vasai East + Naigaon; Chaplain: CHF Convent – Vasai East	Rev. Fr. Jojit Koottungal	APP: Kalyan Cathedral Parish + Mar Thoma Personal Parish
Rev. Fr. Joemon Kurishingal	PP: Jerimery + Kurla West	Rev. Fr. Jithin Kottarathil	APP: Nashik City + Nashik Road + Davlali + Ojhar Township
Rev. Fr. Jomon Thekkumthala	PP: Vartaknagar + Thane	Rev. Fr. John Kochuveetil	APP: Dombivli
Rev. Fr. Martin Kombara	PP: Airoli + Mumbra	Rev. Fr. Bibin Mattaparambil	Msgr. Emmanuel Kadankavil,
Rev. Fr. Zacharias Neelankavil	PP: Sakinaka + Sahar; Chaplain: LSMS Convent – Sakinaka	College of Eparchial Consulters	Rev. Frs. Justin Kallely, Sebastian Mudakkalil, Jacob Porathur, Joju Arackal, Benny T., Sheen Chittattukkara, Biju Kollamkunnel.
Rev. Fr. Tomy Nelliyan	PP: Bhandup; Chaplain: SABS Convent - Bhandup		
Rev. Fr. Shaiju Kattayath	PP: Bhiwandi; Administrator: Kalyan East School		
Rev. Fr. Soji Pezhathingal	Relieved: PP - Talegaon		
Rev. Fr. Davis Tharakan	Also PP: Talegaon		
Rev. Fr. Francis John Mundappillil	Pro Vicar: Mankhurd; Asst. Director: KDSA; Relieved: Asst. Director - KEY		
Rev. Fr. Sinto Pulikkottil	Pro Vicar: Mahatmanagar + Pavan Nagar + Satpur		
Rev. Fr. Franklin Cheruvathoor			

Given on 15 April, 2019 w.e.f. 14 June, 2019

Rev. Fr. Lijo Velliymkandathil	PP: Colaba + Byculla
Rev. Fr. Antony Thekkiniyath OFM Cap	Priest-in-charge: Ulhasnagar + Badlapur; Chaplain: CHF Convent + ASI Convent – Ulhasnagar
Rev. Fr. Jenson Porathur	Administrator: Shirur School; Chaplain: DST Convent - Shirur
	Mar Thomas Elavanal Bishop of Kalyan

**BISHOP'S**  
**D I A R Y**  
JUNE - 2019

5th	Mumbai Bishop's CCT Meeting - Vashi	17th	School Blessing - Barsi
	Curia Meeting - Bishop's House	18th	Inauguration of Academic Year - Panvel
7th	MPC Class - Panvel	19th-21st	CLC Meeting - Kakkanad
9th	Qurbana - Kalyan (West)	23rd	Trustees Meeting - ARC
12th	Curia Meeting - Bishop's House	24th	Qurbana - Kalyan (West)
13th	Blessing of School - Shirur	26th	Finance Council - Bishop's House
	Holy Communion - Bhosari	27th	Consultors Meeting - Bishop's House
15th	Marriage Blessing - Nerul	29th	Presbyteral Council - Bishop's House
16th	Church Blessing - Bedlapur		Pastoral Council - Bishop's House
	Blessing of Family Counselling Centre	30th	Mathrusangam Patron's Day Celebration

## Pithurvedi

### ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

Annual general body meeting of the Pithurvedi was held at St. Joseph Forane Church, Powai on 28th April 2019. Mother Superior Sister Ancy conducted a seminar about the topic - How to make a successful family life. Chancellor Rev. Fr. Justin Kallely launched the Pithurvedi website. Pithurvedi Newsletter 2018-2019 was released by Pithurvedi Director Rev. Fr. Shibu Pulickal. Annual report was presented by Secretary Thomas Mathew and annual account was read by Treasurer Jomy Thomas. Upcoming program schedule was presented by President Jose Mathew.

### PITHURVEDI BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

Pithurvedi, Kalyan Diocese conducted Badminton Tournament on 1st May 2019 at Fr Agnel Engineering College, Vashi. The details of the Badminton category and prize winners are as follows:

#### CATEGORY A : BELOW 40 YEARS OF AGE

1st prize :- Holy Trinity Church , Thane West  
2nd prize :- St Alphonsa Church , Vasai West  
3rd prize :- St Sebastian Church, Kalamboli

#### CATEGORY B : 40 TO 55 YEARS OF AGE

1st prize :- Amala Matha Church, Mulund  
2nd prize :- Sacred Heart Church, Bhayandar  
3rd prize :- St Sebastian Church, Kalamboli

#### CATEGORY C : 55 YEARS AND ABOVE

1st prize :- Amala Matha Church, Mulund  
2nd prize :- St Thomas Church, Dapodi  
3rd prize :- St Thomas Cathedral, Kalyan West

Inauguration of the tournament was done by Fr. Almeda; Managing director of Fr. Agnel Engineering College. Prize distribution was solemnised by Fr Shibu Pulickal Director, Pithurvedi, Fr Paul Kunduparambil, vicar Panvel Parish, Mrs Saly Anthony, Principal, Fr Agnel Engineering College.



## Kalyan Eparchy Youth

### Koinonia 2019

Koinonia Camp 2019 for HSC students was held from 22nd to 24th March and for SSC students was held from 5th to 7th April, at Animation and Renewal Centre (ARC), Panvel. Interactive sessions on faith, relationship and failure helped the youth to know each other and also taught them how to cope up with difficult situations in life. Sessions on threats of media influence helped them learn the practical exposure of Internet and its threats. The different games, activities and koinonia night added a lot of fun and frolic, making the camp even more enjoyable. This year the camp witnessed the highest participation. We, the Kalyan Eparchy Youth, would like to thank the parents and catechism teachers for encouraging their children for such camps. Truly it was an overwhelming and joyful experience for all.

### Mahatheerthadanam 2019

Mahatheerthadanam, a walking pilgrimage organised by KEY on the 40th day of lent was held on 14th April, 2019 from Mother of Victory Shrine, Tikujiniwadi to St. Thomas Cathedral, Kalyan (West). The pilgrim walk which was led by His Excellency Bishop Mar Thomas Elavanal, witnessed a participation of more than 950 pilgrims. The pilgrimage had the lenten cause of fighting the social evil of drug abuse prevalent in our country associated with it. It was a theerthadanam in its true sense as it helped the pilgrims experience and prepare themselves for the salvific passion, death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## *For your birthday in heaven*



Your life was blessing,  
Your memory a treasure,  
you are loved beyond words  
and  
missed beyond measure  
Always loved Never forgotten ...  
Forever missed by

**Mom, Dad, Jola, Manoj,  
Emmanuel, Abigail**

**Jotish George**

**Blossomed: 28.06.1983**

**Withered: 25.06.2006**

## *15th Death anniversary*



**Mr. Kollanoor Lazar Ittoop**

**Born:-26/04/1934**

**Died:-22/06/2004**

**FONDLY REMEMBERED BY**

**Wife:** Anna Ittoop

**Son:** Micheal, Thomas, Paul

**Daughter:** Milly

**Son-in-law:** Vivek

**Daughter-in-law:**

Sheela, Late Sherly & Jessie.

**Great Grandchildren:**

Aiden and Liam

**Grand Children:**

Tony, Michelle, Saji, Steffy,

Tito, Sybil, Sean, Eric,

Kevin & Kris

**Chembur**



# 60th Wedding Anniversary

## 8th June 2019

In the name of our Lord  
JESUS CHRIST, always give  
thanks to God the Father.

Submit yourselves to one  
another because of your  
Reverence For Christ.

**Ephesians 5:20 & 21**

*With love & prayers:*

Zacharias, Mary, Zubin & Reuben  
Rani, Johnson, Neil, Neha, Paul,  
Claire (Great grand daughter)  
Leena, Johny, Rhea & Rahul  
Reena, Sunil, Sanya & Smriti

**I.C. Antony & Mary Antony (Inchodykaran)**



## MANGALA CARGO CORPN.

**HOUSEHOLD PACKERS & MOVERS**

**മംഗള കാർഗോ കോർപ്പറേഷൻ**

നിങ്ങളുടെ വീട്ടുസാധനങ്ങളും കച്ചവട സാമഗ്രികളും പായ്ക്ക് ചെയ്ത് പൂർണ്ണ ഉത്തരവാദിത്വത്തോടും ഇൻഷുറൻസോടും കൂടി ഇന്ത്യയിൽ എവിടെയും എത്തിക്കുന്നതിനും തിരികെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനും ഞങ്ങളെ സമീപിക്കുക.

**Own Vehicle**



**Contact:**

**C. L. DAVID VALAPPILA**  
**9323196882 / 9821222065**

**Dombivali**  
**8879229738**

**Thane**  
**9167534571**

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Kottayam, Kollam and Trivandrum**

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Fair/27/162/50/right hand amputated above elbow in an accident / M.Com Passed in 1st class / Presently Working in CMA CGM Shared Service Centre (I) Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai. / Parents from Kottayam / 9137699338 / 7738539664 / kjoosejoseph1957@gmail.com / GOC201851835



Fair / 25 / 163 / 58 / M. Com. in Accountancy / Presently working Associate in MAERSK GSC Indai Pvt. Ltd., Airoli / Parents from TCR/9820178712/9820745146 / nancyj94@gmail.com / GOC201954979

Fair, 27 / 5.4 / 52 / B.Com. / Presently working as Accountant / Parents from TCR / 9152736891 / 8898852188 / ricsyanthony@gmail.com / GOC201850981



B/B up in Mumbai / Fair, 24 (May 1995) / 5.1 / 54 / MBA from Symbiosis Inter / Presently working with Infosys / Parents from EKM / KTM / 022-27703926 / 9969207473 / joyabraham1255@gmail.com / GOC201955236



Medium / 26 / 154 / 54 / M.Sc. Mathematics / Presently working Lecturer / Parents from TCR/9930114836 / alphonsachathely@gmail.com / GOC201742351



B/B up in Mumbai / Fair / 25 / 157 / 56 / MBA, working as Sr. Business Analyst in Accenture, Bangalore, Looking for qualified professionals working in Bangalore / Parents from TCR / 9820849055 / 022-2552 7118 / hans46k@yahoo.com / GOC201955355

Fair Girl, 26 / 5.3 / 56 / BE Electronics Engineer + PGDM pursuing / Presently working with Accenture / Born and brought up in Mumbai / Parents from EKM, settled in Mumbai / 9869281266 / 9969979725 / jalappatt@gmail.com / GOC201955209



Fair, 25 / 164 / 58 / B. Pharm / Presently Working as Sr. Clinical Data Analyst with IQVIA / Parents from TCR / 9821598420 / ajanujohnson@gmail.com / GOC201955423



Fair, 32 / 168 / 68 / BE / Working as Network Engineering / Parents from Thrissur / 0251 - 2485423 / 9819052268 / edwin.david08@gmail.com / GOC201955345



Wheatish 31 / 173 / 70 / Bachelors in Economics / Presently Working in UBS / Parents from Ernakulam / Thrissur / 9769661336 / agnel\_512@yahoo.com / GOC201853143



## 1st Death Anniversary

*Fondly remembered by*

Thankamma  
Sheji & John  
Shaji & Siphy  
Kevin, Siyona & Shaun

**St. Bartholomew Church,  
Kalyan (East)**

**Mr. V.A. Rajan Paul**

**Date of Birth: 22-03-1938**

**Date of Eternal Abode: 18-06-2018**





# *Golden Jubilee Wedding Anniversary*

9th June, 2019

"And over all these virtues put on love,  
which binds them all together in perfect unity."  
*Colossians 3:14*



**Mr K. J. John & Mrs. Elsy John**

*With Best Compliments From*

**Josy & Bindu  
Joby & Roseline  
Rose & Nelson  
Joyce & Rimus**

**Grand Children  
Jeslyn, Emmanuel,  
Seanne, Melanie & Ashley**

**St. Sebastian Church,  
Goregaon (East)**

# *Golden Anniversary*

09th June 2019



But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.  
Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,  
and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh.  
What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

**Mark 10:6-9**



**Mr. A. P. Johnny & Mrs. Rose Johnny**

*Happiest Wedding Anniversary wishes  
from Family and Friends*

**Vartak Nagar, Thane**



**HOLY SPIRIT CHARISM RETREAT**  
**(Malayalam Residential Retreat)**  
**at ARC Panvel**

Led by

**Rev. Fr. Francis Karthanam VC**

**2019, June 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday 4 pm to**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 4 pm**



**ANIMATION & RENEWAL CENTRE**

Santhome Nagar, Kolke Village, Opp. Kolke Petrol Pump, ONGC P.O, Panvel.

For Registration & More Information Please Contact:

9987386968 / 8779880361



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[elohimkccrs@gmail.com](mailto:elohimkccrs@gmail.com)



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Rev. Fr. Jinto Edattukunnel (Director, KCCRS -9820730569)



**One-Day Malayalam**  
**Holy Spirit Charism Retreat**  
**at ARC Panvel**

Led by

**Rev. Fr Johny Panamthanam SSP**

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm**

❖ **Preaching**  
❖ **Holy Qurbana**

❖ **Adoration**  
❖ **Healing Service**



**ANIMATION & RENEWAL CENTRE**

Santhome Nagar, Kolke Village, Opp. Kolke Petrol Pump, ONGC P.O, Panvel.

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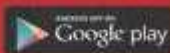
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