

# CSJ RIPPLES

Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambéry - Indian Provinces

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## Editorial



S. Sadhana Mary Dacruz

.....  
Province of Nagpur

**M**onth of September, as we know, is dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary, whose birth we celebrated on the 8th. In Mary, we find a readiness and total surrender to the Will of God. All that is written in Sacred Scripture, speaks of her unconditional faith and intercessory power with her Son.

Mary was God's chosen one, even before her birth. She asked for nothing, refused nothing to her God. Her whole life was one continual act of total surrender to the Divine Will. Her works, her words, her interventions, her love, in fact, her entire life was one prolonged YES. She was entirely dedicated to God and to God

alone, keeping nothing for herself.

In the Gospel of St. Luke: 1:38 her submission and utter humility in the words: "**Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word,**" are evidence of her total YES to God's Divine Will. Every step of hers was a YES - her Yes to accept God's own Son in her virginal womb; her Yes to be accepted by Joseph and accompany him to Bethlehem. It may seem that Mary knew just one word - YES which she uttered at all times and in all circumstances.

Her yes to live without Joseph after his death, her yes to give her only Son to the world.....Mary never turned back once she said Yes to

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every divine desire.

Mary's daring yes, in accordance with God's Will, has wrought salvation to the whole world. Angels and Saints bow before her. The sun, moon and stars adore her. She is the Queen of

Heaven and Earth. God Almighty loved his beloved daughter and bestowed on her the crown of glory and honour. She becomes the Mother of all humankind.

Mary, the Model for us Religious, intercedes for us continuously

so that we in turn may LIVE our YES. May our Blessed Mother obtain for us the passion, zeal and dynamism to always bow in readiness and acceptance of God's Divine Will, not half-heartedly as Pope Francis tells us, but whole-heartedly.



S. Anjana

Province of Pachmarhi

In the context of unprecedented social and political challenges faced by various parts of India, the Church in Odisha encountered a Paradigm Shift in its Mission and Ministry during the Covid-19 Pandemic. A Google Meet was organized for the Leaders of the Church and the selected laity with a brain storming session to seek ways and means to revitalize the local Church. The outcome of the Google Meet was the realization that the Church can move forward and would make a difference only through Unity, Cooperation and Collaboration.

The objectives of the Google Meet were as follows:

- \* To bring about new enthusiasm, dedication, and a sense of mission and absolute focus.
- \* To develop unity, fellowship, collaboration and co-operation among the religious congregations with the respective dioceses.
- \* To inform, conscientize and awaken the Tribals and the Dalits with regard to all that is happening in our country and

their impact on our people.

It is heartening to note that in the month of March, all those who were involved in the Youth Ministry had a meeting with a group of selected leaders on different dates and places in order to discuss in detail and chalk out various programmes.

The Education Ministry conducted a programme in St. Joseph's convent Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur. All of us participated in it. The theme was "From Result-Oriented to Transformation-Oriented Education". The resource person firmly confirmed that India, the emerging superpower is marching in high speed with deteriorating moral standards. He also stressed on the importance of providing and cultivating Ecological education and values in students to avoid future pandemics. It was the felt need of the hour to promote a non-discriminatory, inclusive and caring school and to inculcate inclusive pluralistic spirituality in students, a scientific and technological understanding and learning.

Creation of a corpus fund for the education of the marginalized, Rejuvenation of Odia medium schools in the diocese took the second priority. Also an urgent need for the formation of the Association of Minority schools in Odisha was discussed. Four principals were asked to share their personal experiences as to how they were responding to the educational needs of our

people? They were also asked to respond to the following queries: Are we successful in achieving our objectives in the way we are running our schools? What are our challenges? What needs to be done? The response was how to tackle the apathy, arrogance and too much interference of parents' and governments in the school. To take a stand together in order to express our voice; and to articulate a fitting response to all the issues and problems was found necessary. The socio-political commotion of our society demands it.

We need to capitalize on digital tools to improve the students' learning in this technological era to deal with the millennium kids of Alpha generation. It is said that when schools have good leaders, they become leading schools. The gathering agreed that the above issues are the urgent needs and priorities. Based on these discussions, we formulated some concrete time bound action plans for self, communities, Institutions and the Church at large.

This meeting was one of the best and well-arranged programmes. In the same way, all ministries were also renewed. Groups were formed to carry out the outcome of this meeting and various persons were asked to send circular and disseminate the entire action plans for a fruitful renewal and revitalization of the Church in Odisha.

## Our Challenges during Pandemic

# Salute to Teachers

*“Teachers are Head and Heart of the Educational Enterprise.”*



S. Maya Victor

Province of Tanmaya

When Teachers' Day is in the air, positive vibes and fragrance fill the atmosphere. What springs forth from my heart is that "Jesus, the Eternal Guru," the perfect Model and Exemplar for all Teachers; being well acquainted with the situation of His time, He dealt with all accordingly.

Now, when the entire education system is crippled due to Covid-19 pandemic, we can yet say, all is not destroyed. At this juncture,

teachers have emerged creative to sustain the right to Education for the children. They work harder than ever with their modern teaching skills and great is their effort to keep students in town. Urban areas victoriously achieve the purpose of education to a great extent; however, teachers in rural area are not far behind. Families and students do have their share of challenge in this new normal, some of whom have struggled to adapt to a virtual learning environment.

As an educator, one experiences a unique set of challenges. These challenges include a decrease in attendance and student engagement in proper learning efficacy. There are fewer opportunities to build a classroom community, to manage students' behaviour from behind a screen or

a combination and more. Teachers must reinvent what learning means and looks like today. A teacher's journey is not without hardship and frustration along the way. In addition to increasing challenges, teachers need to balance their personal life with their work life.

In general, teachers brighten the lives of students through their dedicated service and strive to use various means to maintain the process of "teaching-learning." We see their zeal and enthusiasm for the students and appreciate their noble profession of teaching. Hats off and a big salute to all Teachers. We wish them blessings as they celebrate Teachers' Day, each year. □ □ □



S. Nirmala Soreng and Vijaya Kumari

Province of Nagpur

Life is like a game of Chess. To win, you have to make a move. Knowing which move to make comes with INSIGHT and knowledge and by learning those lessons which are accumulated along the way. We thus become each and every piece within the game, called LIFE.

We are aware of the present pandemic situation where people continue to live in fear and anxiety within their four walls; where students miss school life, their friends and teachers. Many have lost jobs and loved ones. Despite these moments of confusion, chaos and anxiety we were offered this golden opportunity of

attending the ICJ course within our own communities. It is a ray of hope for us to move one step closer towards Jesus, with faith and trust and the opportunity to energize oneself. "The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession."

## ICJ Learnings

We commenced our ICJ programme (Inter Congregational Juniorate) on 10th July 2021 with an orientation by Sr. Julie who introduced the Staff of ICJ and presented a short reflection on the motto of ICJ which is a Transformative process of a God-oriented journey. She also introduced us to the online classes, daily schedule and assignments. This was followed by a self-introduction of the participants.

**Introduction to Scripture:-** The first class was an Introduction to the Scriptures by Fr. Siby Mathew, who explained to us the meaning of the BIBLE and general Introduction to each book. BIBLE = GOD IN CHRIST. The Bible has 73 Books. It is also referred to as the Divine Library. One Divine author is the HOLY SPIRIT but written by several humans. The Bible, written for one chosen people and open to all, contains various themes like Love, Peace, Joy, Forgiveness, Compassion, Mercy, Truth, Justice, Faithfulness, Judgement, Deliverance, Hope etc. .. We are also inspired by the words of St. Jerome “Ignorance of Scripture is Ignorance of CHRIST.” This helps us to read the Scripture and know CHRIST more closely.

**Liturgy:-** We learned the meaning and importance of Liturgy, Sacraments and Liturgical guidelines. The word ‘Liturgy’ is derived from Greek LEITOURGIEA which means ‘work of people.’ Liturgy is a sacred action carried out on behalf of the people of God. The importance of Liturgy is related to the past, present and future. We recall the saving action of God (Past); we relive that salvific action in our lives here and now (Present); we look with hope for a glorious life (Future). We also learned the two dimensions of liturgy,  
 -Ascending- Human aspect (Prayers, Hymns, Acclamations, Silence)  
 -Descending:- Divine aspect

(Blessings, Graces)

**Mariology:-** This class teaches the life of Mary and her role in the Church. We came to know more about Mary’s characteristic traits which helped to increase our devotion to her. We were also inspired to know that where Jesus is present, Mary also is present; they cannot be separated. This motivated us to imitate Mary and look on her as a role model for our religious life.

**Islam:-** We were happy to learn about other religions, especially



Islam. This course helped us to gain wider knowledge of Islam and to change our negative attitude, feelings and prejudices towards Muslims. We learned to appreciate the good principles and teachings from another religion. The study of Islam inspires us to have dialogue and a friendly way of relating, appreciating and respecting the other. It helped us to be open, respectful, kind in our ministry in dealing with other religions. We were impressed by their faith in Allah and the importance of spiritual life and faithfulness to prayer. It inspired us to deepen our faith in Jesus and to live in the awareness of God’s presence. Through this we learned the similarities between the Bible and Quran and references to Jesus and to the prophets in the Quran.

**Synoptic Gospels:-** In order to understand the Scriptural contexts better, the Professor explained the geography and background of Hebrew and Jewish society and the people who lived at the time

of Jesus: Pharisees, Tax collectors, Saducees, Zealots, Scribes, etc. We were also enlightened by the three terms ‘world’ behind the text; ‘world’ before the text; ‘world’ within the text and connecting these terms we could understand and apply it in our daily living. Some of the examples were closely connected to religious life.

**Pentateuch:-** Once again, we were happy to go back to the journey of our ancestors beginning with the Creation story and moving on to the journey of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron and Joshua. We learned of God’s unconditional love and fidelity towards the People of Israel. Though the Israelites were stubborn and unfaithful, God continued to send leaders to bring them back to Him. The covenant “You are my people and I am your God” strengthened us immensely.

**Prophets:** This topic, dealing with each of the Prophets, was interesting and inspiring. We were awed by their courage and challenging mission. The professor systematically explained step by step, the call narratives, visions, and the main theme or the message of each prophet, condemnation of burnt offerings and sacrifices, caution to the false prophets, and God’s assurance and hope to live a new life (Ezekiel 34:16) “ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.”

The similarities we find in the call narratives of each prophet are:

- God indicates the call.
- The person resists.
- God shows signs and symbols (vision)
- God assures the person.
- God sends the person on mission.



S. Sheeba

Province of Nirmala

# St. Joseph – A Man of Head, Heart and Hand



St. Joseph was an ordinary man on whom God relied to do great things. He did precisely what the Lord required him to do. When we think of St Joseph, patron of the universal Church, positive words come to mind: faithful, just, obedient, silent. There is little information in the Scripture about him, but these words always seem pertinent to describe his character.

Joseph was a man who broke the patriarchal logic, prioritized the care for life and distanced himself from the legacy of Jewish law. He discovered the uniqueness which was in the heart of God and by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit got transformed and walked on the way of faith. The path of Joseph was paved with surprises and obstacles which made him feel weak and vulnerable from the very early age.

He loved the Lord and his Mother with all his heart and strength. He worked long hours with his hands to provide for his wife and Son, and no task was too trivial for him. He poured his body and soul into his daily duties, and he served God faithfully and silently in them. **He lived to protect -**

never lost the sight of others, judged from time to time when to step back and when to draw close, but always maintained a vigilant, attentive and prayerful heart.

look for explanations for the unexpected and mysterious truth he found himself facing, but embraced it with faith, loved it just as it was.



Head

Joseph looked ahead of his tasks as a father and, preferred to believe in God rather than in his own doubts, he presented himself to him as a tool for the realization of a better plan, in unseen, generous and diligent service, until the quiet end of his life.



Hand

In the Song of Songs, we read “I slept, but my heart was vigilant.” The external senses are at rest, but the depths of the soul are open and receptive.... St Joseph was a man whose heart was open enough to receive what the living God and His angel told him....

Setting aside his lawful personal plans, he accepted and loved Mary and Jesus, a wife and son who were very diverse from the dream of family life that he could have wished for. Joseph did not



Heart

He was someone who united the inner memory and velocity”. This is God’s world, the work of His hands, the fruit of His love. O glorious St Joseph, make us live our lives in God — loving, working, using all things in Him and for Him.



S. Archana Kanakunnel

Province of Nagpur

# Community Life in the Post Pandemic Period



It has been repeatedly stated, here and there and all over, by Presidents and Prime Ministers, politicians and common man and woman, that the Pandemic took the world by surprise.

This is an undeniable truth and it does not deserve any repetition. Corona has now become an unforgettable part of World History.

What is of significance to note and never forget is that the virus was "impartial"; it spared no one. Those who had the vision and wherewithal to protect themselves against the onslaught of the Virus can take credit for the way they fought the fight and came out successful.

My reflections here will be pertaining to that section of the people, all over the world, called clerics, secular and religious, and religious women.

Clerics and Religious are known as and seen as people who have dedicated themselves for the Service of all those in need. "Need" is a tricky word, because all humans are in need of something or the other, most of the time. No human is absolutely, and forever, needless. The religious, men and women, are no exception! Nevertheless, in times

of calamities which are beyond human control, any assistance/help/service can and usually would go a long way in relieving the anxiety, fear, danger to life, and hunger of the helpless. It was and still is, from this perspective that the services of the Religious, men and women and also of the Priests must be acknowledged and lauded. No doubt, very many nuns and many nurses offered their lives for the cause of the corona affected patients all over India. "May they rest in peace" will be the one prayer people of all walks of life and of all religious denominations would have prayed these days and all too often.

The visible and experienced effect of the Pandemic, from the point of view of Religious men and women was the breakdown of the time-table and punctuality which governed the lives in Convents and in the communities of men and even among the diocesan priests. Even the secular world is both aware and respectful of the strict rules and norms which govern the lives of those in the convents, seminaries, religious houses of men and women, and the diocesan priests. "Necessity being the mother of invention", most religious communities adapted their life and ministries to suit the needs of the Virus time.

Religious celebrations like Holy

Eucharist, even on Sundays, and weddings, professions, Jubilees could not be held, thanks to the strict norms promulgated by the Government, Central and States! In spite of it all, many have succeeded in maintaining a modicum of "religiosity" in the Communities. They certainly deserve our "thanks"!

Now, although the "third wave" of the virus is fearfully anticipated, it is more than likely, with the wholehearted cooperation of Governments and public, we shall be able to return to our "pre-pandemic" life style, standing by the time table and following the "routine" duties and having regular celebration of the Holy Mass and all other religious celebrations.

However, now that all of us have lived through the "Virus Time-table", there is every reason to imagine that most of us would prefer to continue with Pandemic period time table and do away with the traditional lifestyle of the Religious.

We had been living an artificial religious life, bereft of substance, value and purpose; just going through the motions of "Religious Life"! What's your take on it?

# Trust in Him



S. Molly Manicatt

Province of Tanmaya



**T**he journey from certainty to trust defines our Christian life. Hence, the tenacity of our natural human desire to be certain, secure, know, control, often makes this journey a via crucis. For, to live life without the certainty of our destination or the fruits of our labour, is to walk in the dark with a lamp that shows only one step ahead. Such is the journey of trust. Such is the path that is drawn by God for those who wish to follow his will – a path that has for its light, neither the knowledge of the goal nor the understanding of the purpose, but only trust in a God who loves us and does everything for our good.

People are preoccupied and anxious about accumulating material wealth, amassing more resources and achieving greater heights, so much so, that God is pushed out of their lives. The Source and Sustainer of all that is good, God, finds no place in the hearts and minds of such people. In such situations we have St. Joseph as a model to help us realize, that we need to maintain and hold on to the Lord as the Supreme Treasure of our life, considering all other riches, talents, achievements and blessings as flowing from the ocean of His great mercy.

Only a person with tremendous trust in God, a generous heart and a heroic commitment to something bigger than oneself

is capable of such a wonderful thing, of using one's freedom to participate and bring to completion God's plan. St. Joseph must have been confused and scared, when he was entrusted with the responsibility of taking care of the second person of the Trinity. Joseph may have wondered and conversed with God saying, 'Lord, I'm incapable of doing such a thing. I need your help. I cannot do it on my own.' And it was then that the angel tells him, "Do not be afraid." Joseph's dream led him to enter into dialogue with God which gave him peace and security.

Pope Francis in his letter 'Patris Corde' writes: Often in life, things happen the meaning of which we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and mysterious, as they seemed, to embrace them. Joseph accepted the mystery, and accepted responsibility. He did not obey a blind destiny that comes from God, but embraced it

with freedom. He then became a person excited about his destiny. He faced the problems, dealt with difficult situations, and exhibited great responsibility and initiative in all he was asked to do. All the talents that he had were put to action. Do you and I have the courage to learn from Saint Joseph? This is what makes St. Joseph a model for all of us.

If at times God seems not to help us, surely this does not mean that we have been forsaken but instead are being trusted to plan, to be creative and innovative, and to find solutions ourselves. In every situation, Joseph acknowledged his own fiat, let it be done. Let us also inculcate in ourselves courage and confidence that St. Joseph had and say 'Yes' to the Will of God no matter how demanding the situation may be. In the journey of life, even though we may attain great knowledge, great understanding, great wisdom, there is only one sure light that guides us on the path of God's Will and Plan - Trust in Him.





# The Ocean of God's Love

S. Agatha Tirkey

Province of Pachmarhi



*To find love I must enter into the sanctuary where it is hidden, which is the mystery of God.*

-Thomas Merton

The 30 days of our Ignatian retreat at Allahabad has enriched us and created in us the reverence, admiration and total love for our beloved Master. We lift our hearts with gratitude to our Almighty God who was very tangibly working in and through us while we spent our 30 precious days very meaningfully. All of us, in our sharing brought out the incredible experiences of God's unconditional love we experienced and had grown in-depth knowledge of Him. It enabled us to deepen profound faith and love in Christ alone. The moments spent in silence and solitude with the Lord made us to find ourselves absolutely soaked in the love of Him. Being in the presence of the Lord we were able to discover and know ourselves better and we experienced the tremendous graces and blessings of God in every walk of our lives.

God has been constantly walking with us, guiding, protecting

and nurturing us to grow in His vineyard of love to reach to this stage of life. We are energized and strengthened by the Love of God to swim in the deep ocean of God's mission. During our retreat we discovered the concealed worth of ourselves as well as the joy of being in love with Jesus.

Jesus always stands at the door of each one's heart and knocks, waits patiently for our invitation to allow Him to enter into our hearts.

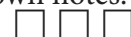
At times he had to wait for long years yet, He is never tired. Finally we were able to listen to the knock at the door of our hearts and unlocked the door for Him to enter in. we felt sorry for the times we failed to listen to His voice calling us for a greater purpose. That was the moment we felt the need of saying with Saint Augustine of Hippo "Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you!" With this reflection there came up a poem within my heart which goes thus...

You were within me, but I was outside,  
It was there that I searched for you.  
In my unloveliness I plunged into loveliness of things you created.  
You were with me, but I was not with you.  
Created things kept me away from you;  
Yet, if they had not been in you

they would have not been at all. You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness. You breathed your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for you. I have tasted you, now I hunger and thirst for more. You touched me, and I burned for your peace."

Now we have realized the value of God's call and make a strong decision never again to make Him wait, instead we will make sure that we remain alert to His knocking and calling because His call is more precious than silver and gold. Each experience with the Lord enhanced to commit our entire being for His love and service in the world. The thirty days of the spiritual journey with our beloved Lord enriched us to place ourselves completely, totally and gladly in His hands and joyously walk with Him and Him alone.

Thus, all we can say is: here we are as your specially chosen daughters. Send us where you please that we may spread your love and compassion in every nook and corner of the world. We give thanks to you O, Lord for you are so good to us and your everlasting love endures forever! mortality," as Kevin Brown notes.



# St. Joseph - The Hero



S. Gloria Clarence

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Province of Tanmaya



St. Joseph the Blessed Saint of heaven  
A skillful carpenter by profession  
Indeed, an undaunted hero to Jesus  
The Universe embraces the genius.

You fondly accompanied your Boy  
Your presence filled the family with joy  
God dreamed a foster father in you  
At your loving gaze the Holy Boy grew.

Best, warm-hearted spouse of Mary  
Life's daily struggles and difficulties within, bury  
Yet proved brave and victorious in everything  
To you, litanies of praise every generation sing.

You are an exemplary model for all ages  
Your heroic deeds could be filled in all pages  
Prominent and powerful is your intercession  
'The Year of St. Joseph' is a sign of our admiration.



S. Jaya Meda

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Province of Tanmaya

## Listen... He's Calling...

Listen! Heed the voice calling  
the Spirit of Abba Father, Your God  
bestowed through the Son, your Lord  
inviting us to re-discover the true 'Image.'

Listen! The words of eternal wisdom  
return: Come again to my holy path;  
change your ways of worldliness  
to re-discover your image of 'Temple.'

Listen! I am the Lord your ever-loving God  
come again to my path of eternal love;  
break the walls of every division  
to rediscover your image of my 'Love.'

Listen! All, children, young or old  
come back to me in faith and humility  
make every family a better home  
to rediscover the image of 'Heaven.'

Listen! You Leaders of the world  
come back to me in true righteousness  
become channels of justice and mercy  
to establish on Earth, 'the Kingdom of God.'





# Technology and The New Media

S. Maurice

Province of Pachmarhi

**A**lice in wonderland was a Novel written by Lewis Carroll in 1865. Here she falls in a rabbit's burrow and thought that she was reaching a new world. Today we too are in a wonder world, in a dilemma, a new world of technology and New Communication media, a world that is fast changing where the Education has become virtual, e commerce, Virtual meeting, Virtual consultation, online Shopping, use of new technology and new communication medium. With all these our life style has changed today. Things that took weeks, months, and years to change now changes speedily, Exponential change, we are unable to cope up with the changing times. The technology changes so quickly. Linear thinking gives way to exponential change. Covid-19 brought in the New Normal, an accelerating speed. We need to make quick decisions and need to move into it.

Today Covid – 19 and its derivatives laid bare a “New Normal” of change, marked by 3 dimensions:

- 1) It's perpetual= occurring all the time in an ongoing way
- 2) It's pervasive= unfolding in multiple areas of life at once.
- 3) It's exponential= accelerating at an increasingly rapid rate

In this era we come into a digital divide and a digital language of three types: The **Digital illiterate**= the ones living in the village set up unaware of the changes taking place so rapidly; **Digital Migrants**= the ones trying to catch up with these changes and are moving with it and **Digital Natives**, are those who are born now. There is a digital language. Today we see these three types of divide among us in religious life, in family and in the entire world. This divide is affecting the entire world. These divide brings the people to the following categories: Those born during the year 1965-80 known as **ex generation**. In their time many changes took place but at a lesser speed. Those born between the year 1981-97 known as millenniums and those born in 1998-2015 called **generation Z**. Then comes the next generation called **Alpha**. So the way of looking at life is so different.

**TO BE HUMAN:** The Realities of today's existence: The Physical / Material Reality, The Augmented Reality, The Virtual Reality. Today to be human means 50 years old life experiences are not applicable. For

a villager, his environment is all that mattered to him then. Today without Technology the present generation cannot live, as much as the air is important for life, so too, is the Cell phone important for their existence. We need to realize the Virtual reality, and be conscious, in formation today... They are born into this Technology. That is their world we need to understand this especially when it concerns our religious life; and the ones coming to us are the products of this change.

**The Future is fast:** change is fast and everything is converging whether it is communication or Technology. Today the technology has advanced that many mediums are converging. Like print, we can get all information on the mobile phone... New Communications, mediums eg. Radio broadcasting, Integrated telephone= just a chip on the hand. Speed is extreme. Computational power with right minded knowledge Convergence is fast. Morris's theory, artificial intelligence, Money is accessible. Knowledge: No need of university because Knowledge is available on mobile phone.

Never before in human history have individuals had as much access to capital, Computational power and knowledge with the right minded passion, anyone can solve

## THE FOCUS OF THE FUTURE

AWARENESS	FORMATION	NETWORKING	MINISTRY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial Formation</li> <li>- Ongoing Formation</li> <li>- Bridge the digital divide in our congregation</li> <li>- Connect the members directly or indirectly to the digital world</li> <li>- Give awareness about the pros and cons.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Curriculum</li> <li>- Training</li> <li>- Higher Education</li> <li>- Give sufficient access to the Internet and Social Media</li> <li>- Begin Media Ministry Basics in the Formation Period</li> </ul>	<p>Use the media for -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internal Networks</li> <li>- Inter-Community Networks</li> <li>- Inter-Provincial Networks</li> <li>- Inter Congregational Networks</li> <li>- Other church entities and organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be courageous to begin</li> <li>- Form a team</li> <li>- Need to be Professional</li> <li>- Creative</li> <li>- Quality Content</li> <li>- Avoid sensationalism</li> <li>- Share Resources</li> <li>- Lay collaboration</li> </ul>

anything they put their minds to. Computational power is what is changing, Artificial intelligence etc. Money, Our journey into this fast changing world is a challenge to us. *We need to change, change with speed. And act in time. Take timely decision. If not we will be soon outdated.*

- ✿ We need to keep pace with the change and act in time as did Jesus.
- ✿ Jesus lived in a world steeped in

tradition where the phrase “But we’ve always done it this way” would have been the way of life.

- ✿ He enters the scene in a most non-traditional way... a virgin birth, born in a manger.
- ✿ The methodology used in His teaching, healings, and miracles varied. He did not serve people the same way each time but rather tailored what He did to the moment.
- ✿ Some of the activities of Jesus and His disciples went so much against

status quo that it disturbed, even angered, the religious leaders. Do not be afraid. New wineskins. Exponential thinking and leadership. Net working. Change formation styles. Evaluate our life and mission in the light of the world today. God is leading us through a new way.

Concrete disciple= following Jesus in a digital age. It's time: to cast our nets deeper.



S. Annu John  
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Province of Pachmarhi

## Called by Jesus to Embrace the Broken World

**O**n Saturday 29th May 2021, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery, Pachmarhi province, gathered in the Provincial House for the Eucharistic celebration officiated by Most Rev. Dr. Leo Cornelio, the Archbishop of Bhopal diocese. It was indeed an auspicious and joyful day for us as seven of us namely Srs. Annu, Jyoti, Deepika, Agatha, Nisha, Belvin Sujatha and Agatha Tirkey said our Final YES to the Lord, whereas two of the novices Mamta and Karmela who pronounced their First Vows to the Lord.

The solemn high Mass commenced with an inspiring introduction and an entrance procession in which we, the sisters making their First and Final profession carried a plant each in our hands to the sweet sounding melody of the choir. As we marched towards the altar, the sister Provincial put manure in our plant pots and the councilor poured water as a reminder that it is god who has given us life, chosen us and has formed us. The

plants were placed in front of the portrait of our founder Fr. John Peter Medaille. Then the liturgical celebration continued with great devotion.

The Holy Bible was carried to the altar in procession, with music and dance and enthroned with great respect. After the breaking of the word, the Archbishop most Rev. Dr. Leo Cornelio so eloquently spoke on ‘God’s Faithfulness’. The most powerful words he used was “I am yours Jesus” pointing out that words would be meaningless unless they are expressed through the witnessing of life.

Following the gospel we the seven of us were invited to take a step forward and individually pronounce the perpetual vows of chastity, poverty and obedience to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. This was a very solemn and stirring moment, which was followed by a self-offering. It was most joyful and memorable experience of affirmation and warmth, as the Archbishop, the concelebrants, and the Provincial team congratulated each of us.

After the prayer of faithful the sisters brought in the offertory gifts to the altar, a symbol of our gratefulness. After the communion service was over, Srs. Agatha and Nisha on behalf of

us, expressed their gratitude and thanks, to the lord who gave us life and called us; then to our dear parents who nurtured and showed their love, trust and faith in God through their lives. They thanked our main celebrant of the day, most Rev. Dr. Leo Cornelio and the many who directly contributed in making this occasion a memorable event through their valuable presence, support and availability.

A word of appreciation and special thanks were accorded to Sr. Navya, who made the live telecast possible for our parents to see the live profession ceremony from their respective places, and states. Due to pandemic our parents were unable to be present physically with us but this blessing made it possible, as they participated from distance giving us spiritual blessings. Thereafter the celebration climaxed with photo sessions and a group of sisters dancing ushered us in to a sumptuous meal.

We are extremely grateful to God and our Congregation, all our dear sisters through whom we could be and hope to be an instrument of love to humanity. This is the most significant event of our lives. Yes we Commit ourselves to your way Lord; trust in you and are confident that you will act.



Dr. L. Christopher Coutinho, Ph D.  
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Nagpur

# Twelve Hours Only



It gives me great joy to share the experience of our recent visit to Hyderabad for the House blessing ceremony of the Residence of our two Sisters of St. Joseph. Sr Celine Kalathoor, Provincial, together with several members from neighbouring communities were present for this occasion.

On Tuesday Sept 14, Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we assembled for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at a beautifully decorated altar in the living room. Having warmly welcomed us, Sr. Lorraine Marie introduced the celebrants, one of whom was Fr. David Francis who delivered a very inspiring and thought provoking homily at the Mass, which itself was spiritually elevating.

The Eucharistic celebration was

followed by the Prayer for a Home and its Blessing, culminating in the traditional cutting of a cake and tinkling of glasses. A toast was proposed and the cake was cut! What followed was most delightful - a friendly bon-homie by one and all, who enjoyed a delicious Hyderabad Dum Biryani...the aroma, the flavour, the lamb and rice, reminded us that we were back on earth. The delectable Italian dessert - 'Tiramisu' confirmed we were on terra firma!

We recessed with some rest - awhile, before the last mile, as we were transported for yet another treat - a guided tour of Sr Lorraine's Office, which is just 5 minutes away, on the 8th floor of "THE SKYVIEW."

I could write pages on the ambient environment of this USA based

office of Providence Global Centre in Hyderabad, India. But I shall describe it as an amazing configuration of space and use of ideas that IS the future here and NOW.

We are sure that dear Sr Lorraine Marie, with her abilities, will help to lead it to greater heights and new frontiers - knowing this, we wish her and Sr Rashmi - all the very best with our sincere support and prayers.

Alas, a very eventful day came to a close, as we bid fond farewell to each other. We are grateful to our hosts for inviting us to be part of this experience - even as we are left with delightful & living memories of a very auspicious day - the Exaltation of the Cross.



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