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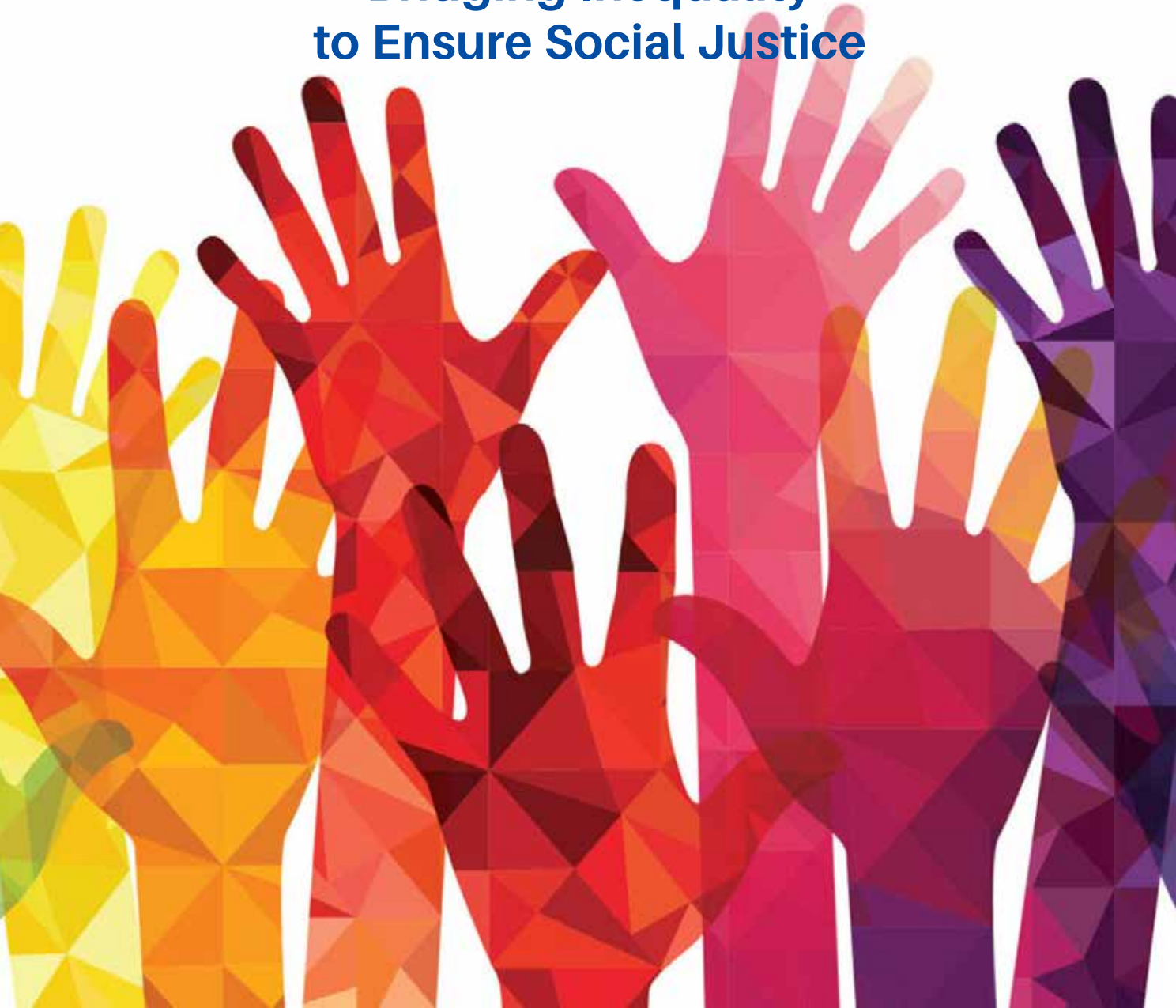
February 2021

AGNEL

SHRAM NEWS

World Day for
Social Justice

**Bridging Inequality
to Ensure Social Justice**



FR. AGNEL
ASHRAM

NEWS

February 2021

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GOD'S BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN NEED YOUR SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

The Scheme offers the Benefactors/Well-wishers an opportunity to share in the noble work of bringing up over 600 poor children sheltered in our Homes (Balbhavan) at different parts of the country (BANDRA, VASHI, PUNE, GOA & GREATER NOIDA) People have the option to choose Full Sponsorship or Mini Sponsorship. The sponsorship amount may be paid lump sum or on installment basis at their convenience.

- Full Sponsorship 10,500/- per year. Rs.875/- per month.
- Mini Sponsorship (Co-sponsorship) Rs. 2000/- for one year.
- NB :- Apart from this, people have the facility to sponsor Lunch/Dinner/ Snacks/Groceries/Stationery etc. please contact the Ashram Office for further details.



The poor children are provided with free accommodation, food, education, medication and moreover with Technical Training and the right direction according to their flair and talent. They are enabled to settle down in a life of their own with a decent earning and status.

Of all the activities, initiated by Agnel Ashram Fathers, Balbhavan a Home for the destitute children stands apart with great pride. It runs on donations received from kind-hearted people. Through our dedicated service, rendered for the last 61 years, thousands of poor children, who could have been, otherwise, a burden on the society or even anti-social elements, have become respectable citizens of the country and are well settled down in their life.

Please contact : Rev. Fr. Superior,
Fr. Agnel Ashram, Bandstand,
Bandra (W), Mumbai - 400 050.
Tel.: 022-67114000.

Covid Resilience The Power of You!

We are eagerly waiting for the pall of fear and uncertainty, that has kept us under its spell for a whole year to fade, and give way to normalcy. The pandemic, something that we wish we never had, taught us some unlikely lessons. The two most important: the limitedness of our human mind and the power of resilience. Both in their own right, imply some of the fundamental factors that define human life and its challenging nature that sometimes defies our understanding, yet shows us that there is always, a winning way out.

Covid – 19, was the unlikeliest of an uninvited alien who gate crashed into our homes, schools, factories, streets, offices and the world around us. Normally alien invasions are fought with weapons of war or scientific weapons, medicines. In this however, both were powerless therefore useless. There was only one weapon that worked – RESILIENCE.

Resilience is the power you have inside you to constantly adapt to new and challenging situations, to resist the assault or to build your own offense mechanism, and continue to go on. This is the only verifiable element in the Universe that has led to the survival of life in it. Without it, this world as it is today, would not have survived at all. From the Amoeba to the Titanosaurus (huge dinosaur that could have weighed upto 100 tons), from the tiniest of lichens to the biggest Baobab tree (with trunks upto to 30 feet), the history of survival only speaks of resilience. Each of them is a story of resilience or the lack of it.

For any tree to survive, it needs to remain grounded, have the capacity of store enough water to survive, and be stiff enough to withstand raging winds and sand storms or be flexible enough to trick the same. For any animal to survive, it must be able to brave the weather, ensure its food supply and defend itself against attacks. Resilience is the art of survival, to stay standing, hold your ground and go ahead in spite of odds. People often describe this as courage, but courage is infact the stuff of resilience. Even when you are confronted with an enemy or a

situation where you either fight or take flight, the choice is the result of your inner resilience.

Resilience requires that one is rooted, grounded – which in other words, means that one carves for himself (herself) a sum total of beliefs, personal strengths (ego), relationships and knowledge that allow him or her to keep going in spite of odds to the contrary, however seemingly unsurmountable. When one is struck with tragedy, irreparable loss, human or of means, such that it is humanly impossible for an observer to understand, there is a variety of response types: some give up, others fight their way out in poverty and deprivation, pain and being alone (not lonely), and still live apparently decent lives or even others who come out even more glorious.

The essential reason for this mysterious variety of outcomes, is resilience or lack of it. Being grounded also means being anchored in a belief system (set of convictions) that internally make a person, struck with tragedy or seemingly unbearable situation - stay standing, as by a force that is holding him there in a space of his (her) own, however small it may be. This anchoring implies a real, or understood as real Someone/ Something, whose power is considered higher than the sum total of the elements that pull him (her) down, drown him (her) or render him (her) helpless. Any 'other' may not understand how that individual apparently frail, uneducated, helpless, is still holding on. Obviously everything that humanly could help him (her) do so, either is lost or does not exist – so how does it happen?

Superhuman Resilience is the power of connectedness with Someone/Something beyond the visible and the tangible – the Power of you, that one's belief in the Divine Power provides and sustains him, with the sense of calm in the midst of storm, the sense of unattachment in spite of the all the material losses; this in fact is the true experience of oneself, of minus all the paraphernalia or wealth or wellbeing, companionship and social security. Ultimate resilience, and the ability to stand up against all odds – is the triumph of the human spirit, one that cannot be simply described by the sum

total of elements of our intellectual, emotional and social strengths – but rather beyond all those.

One of the most important challenges of the parents and teachers today, in a fast fluid world is to provide the kids the anchor they need – the pivot where their life’s dreams and pursuits can be duly anchored which at the same time will provide the kids the wings to fly and the wind beneath their wings! This indeed can turn every child’s dream into a reality, because it will allow your children and yourselves to be always on the top, since you are anchored on a Pivot that

will keep you safely tethered where you want to belong!

The power inside us, almost to unlimited proportions is directly linked to our connectedness to the Divine, because that is the ultimate reality of which we are an image – man’s (and woman’s) life journey is to grow more and more connected with the ultimate reality and that requires the highest level of Resilience – to be, live, enjoy and grow – yet telescope to what you are called to be!

- Fr. Jose Alarico Carvalho



There is no Joy Greater than the Joy of **GIVING**

Kalpana Patel, U.K.

I am enclosing Sum of ₹.6,000 towards the orphan boys in your Balbhuvan. Kindly pray for us.

Rosy K. Nazareth, Bangalore

I enclose a cheque of ₹.5000 as my contribution towards the charitable works that you do, especially taking care of orphan and destitute children. Please pray for me and my family

Phyllis D’Abreo, Mumbai

Enclosed is a cheque for ₹.3,000. Kindly use this amount for the maintenance and education of the orphans under your care. Please remember us in your prayers.

Rebecca D’Souza, Kerala

I am enclosing a cheque for ₹.2,000 towards your sponsorship scheme for the orphan boys in your Balbhuvan. Kindly pray for us. Thank you.

Samta Pandya, Mumbai

I enclose a cheque of ₹.1,000 as my contribution towards the charitable works that you do, especially taking care of orphan and destitute children. Please pray for me and my family.

C. P. Mathew, Kerala

Enclosed is a cheque of ₹.300 to be utilized for the welfare of the poor children in your Ashram. Please pray for us.

1. Donations to Society of St.Francis Xavier, Pilar, are exempted from Income Tax.
2. Please issue CHEQUE/Draft/M.O. in favour of “SOCIETY OF ST.FRANCIS XAVIER, PILAR” and send to the address below or through NEFT and email us details of donation to fragnelashrambandra@gmail.com For donation above ₹.2,000 it is mandatory to quote your PAN No.

Farmer's Pitched Battle

- Fr. Joseph Octavius De Souza

The world has suddenly woken up to see the farmers protest on a scale it has never seen before. This protest is the world's largest protest, with hundreds and thousands of farmers protesting on the streets. The farmer's of the country have sounded the call "Chalo Delhi" and have camped along with their tractors on the borders of the National capital. What has provoked this sudden farmer's protest? The reason is the passing of three farm bills by the parliament of India. This has stirred the hornets' nest and the plight of the farmers is once again brought to the forefront.

The first Act: The Farmer (empowerment and protection) agreement of price assurance and farm services act. With this act the government stresses the security of farmers, saying that the farmers can enter into a legal contract with the buyer and prices prefixed. To this the Farmers reply that big corporate houses will enslave them and the interest of the farmers with small land holdings will be compromised.

The second Act: Farmer's produce trade and commerce (promotion and facilitation) Act. The government claims that with this act the produce of the farmers could be sold anywhere in India and that no tax would be levied on it. However the Farmers are apprehensive as it would be the end of MSPs.

The third is an amendment: The essential commodities (amendment) Act. The laws allow for certain food supplies to be marked essential. And states that this could be done only during extra ordinary circumstances like famine, wars, natural disaster and not otherwise. The farmers maintain that they would then be forced to sell their produce at a much reduced price to the corporates.

These were the Acts which led the farmers proceed towards Delhi. The Farmers feel that these laws are a clever maneuver of the government to satisfy its corporate friends especially the Adani-Ambani nexus without giving a hearing ear to the farmers.

Till now Agricultural produce and market committee (APMC) system functioned, wherein the farmers would get their produce to the

mandis and sell it to traders. With this act the government wants to get rid of the mandi system and want farmers to have deals outside the mandis. They propose the free market system and claim that the produce could be sold anywhere in the country. This will be detrimental for the small farmers as they do not have the means and recourses to transport their crops elsewhere. How will the poor farmer with small land holding bear the transportation costs? In the 3 acts there is no mention of Minimum Support price (MSP).

The government intends to get in private players, the big corporates. And in the process sideline the vast majority of Indian farmers. When the private players enter the market they give a lot of incentives, but later on dominate the whole market. Thus, can dictate prices for their products and services. The glaring example is that of the Jio telecom company. At first it offered free services, then when it had subscribers, they began to fix prices by whims and fancies. Jio, kind of got a monopoly over the entire telecom sector. This is also seen in other sectors like the healthcare and education world over. Having had these experiences the farmers of India are very concerned at the arrival of private players, as it would result in a complete takeover of the agricultural sector. Traders can create cartels and force the farmers to lower their prices. Where will the farmers then go to sell their produce which are perishable in nature? There are way too many loopholes in the acts and the farmers believe that these laws will destroy them.

As one can see, the farmers are actually facing hardships. There is the unreliable climatic conditions, the compensation system is flawed, the middle man are fleecing the farmers. The farmers unable to pay the debt are left to the mercy of the loan givers. The number of farmer suicide is also on the rise. Most of the farmers cannot even get the benefits of the MSPs. Yet on top of this the government comes with laws that favour the corporates!

It's time that 'We the people of India' (as the preamble of the constitution puts it) take a serious look at the difficulties the farmers face. It's not easy for them, farming being their only means

Contd. on pg 6

Bridging the (G)ender Gap

-Joanita DSouza (Santamaria)

So let's start with the title, why was the word "Gender" distorted? Why it was made to look like an "Ender"? Is this a new word? No. It isn't a new word, it was rather a very suggestive way of how the millennial generation looks or rather should look at this gap. Across ages and times, we have come across the "Gender Gap" and the practice that widens the "gap" is what we call "Gender Discrimination".

By and large, the victims or rather the receiving end of this phenomenon is the Female Gender, the Woman - the mother, the sister, the lady, the girl, the infant (both born and unborn).

The Mother, who is denied rights to take active participation in her child's upbringing and has to make do with being only her own offspring's "care-taker".

The sister who always is made to believe that her brother is entitled to better and bigger things in life. The lady, who is told that she'll have to sell her dignity for promotion, because well obviously that's the only way women get to the top! The little girl, who since school is taught to get used to being objectified and Eve teased and told to "ignore" or "avoid" such instances as they are "harmless" and that's how "good girls behave". The little infant who is either killed in the womb or is simply unwelcomed by her parents and has just entered her life of being continually being

treated as a burden or curse.

Well the surprising fact here also is the victimizers are also usually other women, the torch bearers of the "Patriarchal society" are also Women. The "kindred- against- the kindred" is the phenomenon which is why the Gender Discrimination is still a persistent problem in our society. And sometimes even the very modern or educated women at times have this fleeting thought or careless gossips about judging other women, somewhere more than the other generation, who although not completely blameless are still far less at fault than us women ourselves! There are social guidelines for jobs women can do, activities that women can do, the way they can (should) laugh/ walk/ run, and they are so largely imprinted on our minds that we become judgmental the moment we spot any "unconventional woman" or any "woman in an unconventional situation".

The solution is simple but will it be effective in the long run. It's just that we need to treat any task/job/action as it is, and not classify it into gender and stop using phrases like - she works like a man, he is as patient as a woman etc etc. Regardless of the gender we have to put this to practice and thus we will bridge the "Gender Gap" and put an end to Gender Discrimination.

Contd. from pg 5 - Farmer's Pitched Battle

of livelihood are totally dependent on it for their survival. The government should realize that it's for the good of the people that they are elected. India is a welfare state and therefore its citizens have to be protected. But we see the government favoring and is all out to give benefits for the rich multinational companies who support them and finance them during elections. If the government was really thinking of the good of the farmers as it claims to, then it should have dealt with the many laws which are against them, like the Land accusation act, Land sealing act, etc. Whereas in various parts of the country the tribals are harassed and brute force of the police is used to silence the protesters.

The people of India are not dumb, and this farmers protest is just a beginning. It enjoys the support of the masses of India. At this point the government is playing with the farmers. They

claim that the laws will benefit farmers, that they have got the consent of the farmers. But it's not true; these laws were passed when the country was going through the Corona pandemic. Worst still the bills were passed in the upper house of the parliament not through proper voting but through popular acclaim.

Yes, we need a mechanism to see that the farmers are not exploited. The existing laws are not perfect, they have become the reason for monopoly and exploitation, and it's in need of reforms. The government has to protect the small farmers. The small farmers cannot withstand the mighty Multinational companies (MNC's). This is a really good time for the government to take stalk of the situation, responds to the requests of the farmers and work with them, so that all sections of India can move together on the path of progress.

Choosing to Love

World Marriage Day is an observance sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, which is observed on the second Sunday of February each year. Its purpose: “World Marriage Day honours husband and wife as the foundation of the family; the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of spousal faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.”

The first step is the Wedding Mass and the accompanying Vows. However, a Wedding is for a day, but marriage is for a lifetime. It is the solemn commitment on the part of a couple to ongoing growth that makes a matrimonial relationship resonate with deep and committed, irrevocable, lifelong, fidelity.

Generally marriage is overrated. All a modern couple seeks is seeing brilliant stars in the other’s eyes, tinsel and twinkling lights at the Reception, the unending trill of romance on Cloud 9, and a lifelong “Fairy Tale” wedded relationship. But, soon the bubble of ecstatic moments and peak experiences begin to fade away, sometimes, nay often, never to return again.

However, Tom and Jenny had a “gut feeling” that they could enjoy a rewarding relationship; they chose to make this possible. Despite this firm, mutual decision they were constantly frustrated. It all looked like a hopeless task against impossible odds. Yet, they were convinced time alone as a couple was what they desperately needed. Both decided to give their marriage top priority.

The vowed twosome opened their inner selves progressively to one another, on the feeling level. They shunned criticism and blaming the other partner, like the plague. This process was sometimes exhilarating, often painful, but always healing. Intimate sharing sheds light on the realms of mundane, bumpy daily life. It is no mere psychological exercise, because divine inspiration

and human will, concur. Daily Dialogue is an exchange of sensitive vulnerabilities, verbalizing of feelings, wordless touches, awed awareness, the height of belonging, and exquisite delight.

Tom and Jenny made the Marriage Encounter Weekend, which makes a good marriage better and a better marriage great! They, in turn, received an unsought reward. The couple in question could not keep their new-found richness to themselves. They were empowered to work for better marriages, beginning with their own.

Tom and Jenny poured their hearts into many “Love Letters” that comprises Dialogue. It helps consecrated lovers to live in the urgency of the moment. It involves Self-Disclosure, Listening with the Third Ear or the Heart, and offering life-giving Feedback.

The still small voice of the Holy Spirit speaks in their hearts. This leads the Dialoguing partners to melt into the softness of communion.

The twenty minutes shared in tender-loving-care every day, between “Lovers,” not only makes a world of difference to a love-relationship, but also transforms the world. Couple love is couple power. It can change the world! What a miracle!

Dialogue allows us to confront our “Shadow World” and the “Bizarre” imagery of the unconscious. It enables us to “unmask” ourselves and rewrite our personal “Script.”

We can, indeed, have better marriages if we really want this prized possession. All we need do is devote time, effort and perseverance to the effort, or seek professional help. We will soon move from silent hostility, buried resentment and covert low-intensity warfare, to open conflict. Often what looks like a fight is only the fierceness of love which leads to honest struggle. Fierceness is an expression of inner strength and intense love.

We can, indeed, have better marriages if we really want this prized possession. All we need do is devote time, effort and perseverance to the effort, or seek professional help.

For most couples “really knowing” the other, means having heart-to-heart conversations about feelings – preferably by candlelight or besides an open fire with soft music playing in the background. This is more than sharing of feelings. We reveal ourselves by what we do. Shared activities result in a reciprocal sense of accomplishment, a mutual satisfaction – one of the strongest affirmative perceptions. Achieving a goal or dream in tandem with the other, no matter how miniscule it may seem, can work wonders.

We invariably hurt the one we love. Conflict is an inescapable, integral and inevitable part of a marriage relationship. Until we accept this and put our conflicts

to creative use, our chance of ever achieving enduring love in marriage is slim. Unless we face our conflicts realistically, and resolve them, true joy in marriage will only last as long as we fool ourselves, by sweeping our differences under the carpet. However, it won't be long before cracks appear in a conjugal alliance.

Conflict brings to the fore that a marriage thrives only at the foot of the Cross of Christ. So, do not fight fire with fire, rather cling to the Crucified Lord.

Disagreements heat up and become conflict. We are all familiar with the hot emotions – irritation, frustration, exasperation and hostility – in a word, anger. All married couples have tasted the fire and pungency of this ugly emotion: the love-anger cycle. Every pinch that hurts in marital love is, in reality, a choice point! In opting for the salutatory, over and over again, in spite of not feeling loved by the nuptial partner, and in not wanting to love in return, one grows in intimacy and oneness. Rage can be expressed creatively in a way that transforms us. Then, fury will become our Pegasus, the winged horse on which we take flight into bliss. Never waster a good conflict! Conflict-resolution is a blessing and can make warring partners fall into one another's warm arms, in genuine forgiveness and reconciliation; they can even go further, and be “locked in naked embrace.” There is nothing more poignant, more touching, more healing. Then, in a kind of messianic pretension and metaphor, coitus

becomes an act of Eucharistic food, a kind of manna that, keeps a marriage nourished and fiercely alive!

Tuck this gem into the folds of your unconscious! Touch, cuddling, caressing and holding – a positive kind of wrestling, is a must! The art of non-sexual, safe, soft, light, gentle, warm touching every day, brings the miraculous touch of Jesus into marriages. Touch and affirmation is a direct, unmistakable, non-verbal and ideal way of communicating matrimonial love. Then,

the home turns into a sanctuary, not a torture house.

Sexual passion (not necessarily the Sexual Act), is the intermingling of intimacy and grace.

It is passionate-devotion and devoted-passion: a “dwelling within” the other. Such a couple symbolizes the “Love Play” of the Trinity, which brings about an aura of holiness. It is a well nigh total reversal of egoistic tendencies; a heart transplant! Sexual oneness gives a matrimonial relationship a mystical tinge. It is prayer! It is a unique form of that great Christian virtue – mercy, which makes couples see one another as whole! Like the Triune God, they are radically separate, yet one, and “a co-equal unity-in-relatedness.” The vowed pair has the multiplicity of God's self-expression!

Partners such as these make love attractive; they make God visible and tangible and draw other couples to Him. “Why, we ask, are the best married people hiding their light under a bushel? Is it not time that some of them emerged from the seclusion of their happy, peaceful homes, and began to ‘sell’ their marriage to a generation rapidly becoming cynical and disillusioned about it?”

And, this gold nugget! Indeed, time is fleeting. Seize the day, the hour, the very minute, nay the melting moment, to make your covenantal togetherness captivating with fragrant charm! Our prayer: “Married couples, may we all love one another and fellow pilgrims, as Jesus loved us!”

Lorraine and Leon Bent have been an integral part of Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Mumbai, for 39 years.

Conflict brings to the fore that a marriage thrives only at the foot of the Cross of Christ. So, do not fight fire with fire, rather cling to the Crucified Lord.

AICTE sponsored Short Term Training Programme by ECS Department, Fr. Conceicao Rodrigues College of Engineering , Bandra

The Online two week Short Term Training programme (STTP) on “Research Areas in Technologies for Societal and Rural Development” was organized by the Department of Electronics and Computer Science from December 21, 2020 - January 01, 2021.

The STTP received a good response of 75 participants have joined from 100+ registration from different universities across India. The topics of the sessions were chosen keeping in view the scope and research work for Societal & Rural Development as well as recent advancements in Technologies. We tried to include all the five areas: Agriculture, Energy, Education, Health and Waste Management. We were fortunate to have eminent personalities from academics as well as from Industry to be the resource persons. “Social Innovation: Need, Create and Evolve” by Ms. Gaytri Thakoor. We had sessions on Smart farming, Innovative Solutions for Rural Issues, Rural Electrification, “Government schemes for Rural Health and Technology for Scheme implementation” by a team of Doctors from Nirman, Gadchiroli and optimal irrigation using Wireless Network Solution, Solar PV Cells and Energy Generation etc.

The Speakers were:

- **Mr. Prof. T. Kundu, (Dept of Physics) Dean SA**
- **Mr. Milind Thatte, Member at Tribal Advisory Council, Maharashtra State**
- **Prof. B. G. Fernandes HoD Electrical, IIT- Bombay**
- **Dr. Satynarayanan, BARC Chair, IEEE Bombay Section**
- **Dr. Jobish John, Post- Doctorate Researcher at University College Cork, Ireland**
- **Dr. Sushma Kulkarni, Director & Professor, RIT**

- **Mr. Yatin Diwakar, Research Scholar, CTARA, IIT-Bombay**
- **Dr. Sanchit Khatavkar (PhD-IIT-Bombay), Vellore Institute Technology, Tamilnadu**
- **Dr. Vinay Palaparthy, Assistant Prof. DAIICT, Gandhinagar, Co-founder SoilSens**
- **Dr. Ashwini Gajarushi, (PhD-IIT-Bombay), Research Associate, IIT-Bombay**
- **Dr. Sunil K. Surve, Professor & Dean Academics, FR CRCE, Bandra**

The STTP was inaugurated by **Ms. Gaytri Thakoor**, educationist, strategist and mentor

at Tata center of technology and design at IIT mumbai. Rev. Fr. Peter D’Souza blessed the participant and the organizing team during the inauguration session. Director Rev. Fr. Valerian D’souza encouraged the organizing team for selecting an apt theme for the two week programme. He also emphasized on the need of technology for societal and rural development.

The valedictory function was graced by very eminent personality, **Dr R. K. Shevgaonkar**, Vice Chancellor of Bennett University.

The most important take home of the STTP is the Product design cycle, in which an interactive activity was carried out wherein all participants were divided into 5 groups, and were given one topic like waste management, agriculture, education, energy and health. During these nine days, presentations were carried out wherein they identified a problem in their topic/ area... they studied it deeply , found out who has that problem, how it can be solved today?, what is their solution & challenges with present solution. I must appreciate all the groups for wonderful presentations. All the groups were mentored by Mr. Neeleshkumar Pandit. Pandit explained in depth stages in Product development right from,

Ven. Fr. Agnel's 152^N



100th Birth Anniversary



Agnel Happenings

'Lab to market' the same were evaluated in the last session by the panel of judges.

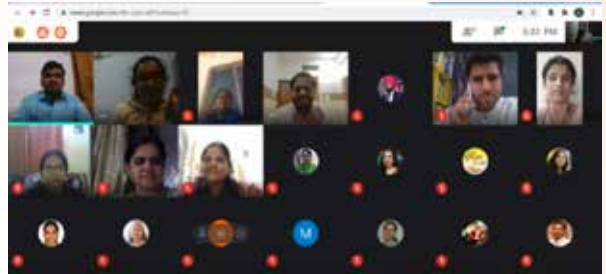
All the sessions were conducted online on Google/Zoom Meet. Every session was followed by an interactive question-answer session. We received a very satisfactory and positive feedback from the participants. Success of this program is based on how participants utilize the things they

have learnt here in actual practice.

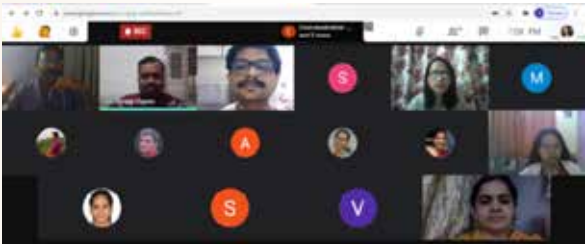
The Program Coordinator, Dr. D. V. Bhoir and organizing coordinators of the STTP, Prof. Sangeeta Parshionkar and Prof. Archana Lopes wish to convey their sincere thanks to the Management and Dr. Srija Unnikrishnan, Principal and Dr. Sapna Prabhu, Head ECS Department for their support.



Fr. Valerian D'Souza , Dr. R K Shevgaokar sir during Valedictory Function



Team of Doctors from Nirman, Gadchiroli.



Mr. Gopal Chavan, Research Scholar, CTARA, IIT-Bombay



Dr. Satynarayanan, BARC Chair, IEEE Bombay Section on Spinoffs and Societal Benefits



Dr. Ravi Deshmukh on Rural Electrification



Feedback by the participant



ICNTE 2021 Report

Agnel Charities' Fr. C. Rodrigues Institute of Technology, Vashi, under the patronage of Rev. Fr. S. Almeida (Managing Director), and leadership of Dr. S. M. Khot (Principal) and Dr. Mini Rajeev (Conference Chair) and Dr. Savitha Upadhyaya (Conference Co-Chair), organized its 4th Biennial International Conference on Nascent Technologies in Engineering (ICNTE 2021) through online mode on January 15–16, 2021. Fr. C. Rodrigues Institute of Technology was established in 1994 with the aim of providing quality technical education in addition to inculcating moral values in its students. Apart from academic excellence, the Institute is also reputed for its extensive facilities that have led to it being awarded an "A" grade by the Directorate of Technical Education, Maharashtra right from its inception. Additionally, all the Departments in the Institute are accredited by the National Board of Accreditation and the Institute ranks between 201–250 as per National Institutional Ranking Framework of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Institute has, within a short span of time, established itself as a leading engineering College in the Mumbai University.

ICNTE 2021 was organized with the objective of bringing together practitioners in the forefront of technologies, from different parts of the world, to share their research findings. Similar to ICNTE 2019, ICNTE 2017, and ICNTE 2015, this Conference was also technically cosponsored by IEEE, had technical co-sponsorship from IEEE Industrial Application Society (IAS) and had technical support of IET, CSI, and IETE. The major financial sponsor of this Conference was Campus Credential. The research papers were invited from a diverse variety of engineering fields segregated in 14 distinct Tracks. The Conference received a wide response of 283 papers from authors in India and abroad. The papers were reviewed by experts from eminent technical institutes, industries, and research centers like IIT, BARC, TCS etc. The final acceptance was based on the plagiarism count and reviewers' suggestions which were based mainly on the relevance of topic and quality of manuscript. Out of 283 received papers, 189 papers were selected for presenting in the Conference. Out

of these 189 accepted papers 157 papers were presented during the Conference and will be sent to the IEEE Xplore for publication. 20% of the selected papers will be recommended for probable publication in the journal of IEEE-IAS.

The Inaugural Function of ICNTE 2021 was graced by the august presence of Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanti (Director, BARC) as the Chief Guest; Dr. Sheldon Williamson (Professor, Ontario Tech University, Canada) and Dr. Suryanarayan Doolla (Chairman, IEEE Bombay Section) as the Guests of Honour; and KeyNote Speaker, Dr. Tomy Sebastian (Director, Motor Drive Systems, Halla Mechatronics, USA). After the welcome address by Dr. Khot, Rev. Fr. Almeida addressed the participants. He appreciated the efforts of the ICNTE Team, described motive of the Conference, and appealed to maintain patience and belief in God during the COVID pandemic situation. Dr. Doolla, on behalf of IEEE Bombay Section, appreciated the quality that ICNTE has been maintaining from its inception. Dr. Williamson acknowledged that the ICNTE is at par with the Conferences organized by the Premier Institutes and Professional Societies across the world. He also emphasized that the interdisciplinary participation of the researchers is necessary to achieve Industry 4.0 goals of technological advancement and the ICNTE strives to do the same. Dr. Mohanti, in his speech, highlighted that the humans need to progress in technology in harmony with the nature. He encouraged the young researchers to focus on emerging areas such as energy efficient manufacturing with minimal use of natural resources, harnessing nuclear and renewable energy, new material development, machinery diagnostics, faster and safer transportation including autonomous vehicles, artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, healthcare systems and services, online learning systems, augmented reality, etc. He insisted on strengthening of the cyber security as the use of online services has been increased multifold during the COVID pandemic situation.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Sebastian, mainly talked about the mechatronics developments in automobiles. He made aware the participants

Agnel Happenings

that the fuel economy, pollution control, safety, driver comfort, and driver convenience are the major concerns as far as automobile industries are concerned and therefore, the advanced control and electrification in the vehicles are increasing at a faster rate. He explained all the systems in an automobile, for which electrification is required and also described what mechatronics developments have taken place, so far, for these systems. He concluded his talk saying that the next 20 years are crucial for mechatronic developments in automobiles as the international norms for safety are becoming stringent and there is an increasing demand from the customers for safer, cheaper and comfortable vehicles.

Mr. John Thomas (Director, Engineering, Google Cloud, USA) presided as the Chief Guest at the Valedictory Function of the Conference. Mr. M.B. Dagaonkar (Council Member, IEI, Kolkata) and Mr. K.K. Varkhedkar (Chairman, IEI, Belapur Local Center) were also invited as the Esteemed Guests for the Valedictory Function. Mr. Thomas elaborated that it is always better to learn from the experience of the experts, and Conference is a place where one can find such experts. He also insisted to practice what we learn and build our own experiences. Dr. Dagaonkar briefed about various activities of

IEI. Mr. Varkhedkar explained the procedure followed for scrutinizing the applications received for IEI-FCRIT Excellence award. This award was given on regional and national levels during the valedictory function. Different categories for the award were Research Excellence: Students (UG, PG, and PhD), Faculty, Industry Person; Academic Excellence: Students (UG), Faculty, Head of the Department, Principal, Institute; Industry Excellence; and Start-up Excellence. Few papers, presented during the Conference, were selected after meticulous evaluation based on various technical parameters, for Best Paper and Young Researcher Awards.

The Conference was highly appreciated by the Participants, Session Chairs, and Dignitaries for its smooth execution and notable standard. The thrust of the ICNTE 2021 was not on the quantity but on the quality of the research work, which was very well seen through the presentations made in the Conference. The Institute is hopeful that the information disseminated through the technical interactions during ICNTE 2021, will expose the newcomers and knowledge seekers in various engineering fields to the advancements in latest technologies.

Photos on pg 19

The Balbhawan Day 2021

The year 2020 will forever be etched in our memories. The uncertainty of the next moment is a Universal Truth. In 2020, this Truth was thrust into the forefront by the pandemic. Each one of us across the globe had to come to terms with our fragility and our vulnerability. Millions of lives have been extinguished by the Covid 19, families left bereft of their livelihood.

When the invitation for the Balbhawan Day arrived, we sent a prayer to God thanking Him for making this day happen. And so, on 9th January, 2021 we gathered in the auditorium of Fr. Agnel School, Greater Noida to celebrate a much loved tradition that was seeing its 21st year.

“Together is a wonderful place to be”. The program began with a Prayer dance and song. It was a powerful expression of Faith in the

Lord. Fr. Bento then addressed the gathering and expressed his gratitude to God for keeping the children of the Balbhawan safe during these turbulent times. However, we decided to have a Mini Balbhawan Day. He then went on to speak with pride about what the children were doing after class XII. One student was pursuing B.Sc. Mathematics, after graduating two were doing their B.Ed. one MSW; couple of students were training to be nurses, to name just a few. It filled the hearts of all gathered with gladness.

The program then moved from one event to the next like a well-oiled machine. The children of the Balbhawan have begun to make a name for themselves as amazing singers and musicians. The Auditorium resounded with song, music and dance punctuated by yet another signature moment of the Balbhawan Day: in a lighter vein.

These moments were brilliantly executed and the children presented them with such finesse!!

Fr. Carvalho addressed the gathering and especially the children of the Balbhawan urging them to aspire to rise above mediocrity and seek excellence in all that they do: to embrace who they are and to avoid imitating what does not belong to them. The children then continued to delight the audience with their singing and the jokes that left us all smiling. The program ended and the entire Balbhawan family came together in

Prayer. We then moved onto the school grounds for the delectable feast laid out for us.

Another year may have come and gone at the Balbhawan, yet this day is a powerful reminder that God weaves His fabric of Love through men and women passionately committed to doing His work on Earth. Fr. Bento and Fr. Carvalho are two such remarkable men who have made a difference in the lives of thousands of the lesser privileged. May God be with them.

Photos on Back Cover

Radio

*Sitting at home, I was bored one day
I got up and made the radio play.
I tuned the frequency to 92.7*

*The songs reminded me of earth and heaven.
I increased the volume till my ears could bear.
With the song I grooved and moved my hair.
I sang along some lines or two
A gush of wind through my balcony blew.*

*I sat on the chair and I began to think
What is it, that makes the radio go.
What makes the volume high or low.
It dawned on me that Heinrich Hertz
A German physicist, found radio waves.
While Marconi got it commercially going.*

*Thanks to them for inventing these.
Made our boring life, to be at ease.
When our heart feels low or reaches a high.
Put on the radio and give it a try.
A relief from stressful crazy days.
Or a travel in the car while the scenery you gaze.
I come back to myself from my thinking so deep.
It wasn't just an invention, it was a giant leap.*

-Marcelino Dcoستا

Justice

*Truth is what we count on.
On justice we rely.*

*The fate of truth is always last.
But first spoken is, twisted lie.*

*Being neglected by evil tongues.
Doubting the truthful ones.*

*Injustice, is prevalent today.
Our farmers, tortured roughly, till day.*

*Justice we need, it's our right.
Equality for all, is what we recite.*

*For Justice denied, is Justice delayed.
Let truth and only truth prevail.*

-Sherol Quadros

**Lent is a favorable time for letting
Christ serve us so that we in turn
may become more like Him.**

Pope Francis

Hold Your Tongue

-Clive D'Souza

A renowned 19th century minister attracted large congregations to Vienna's churches with his fiery sermons on carnal sins. One Sunday, he preached to a mammoth congregation on "that tiny piece of flesh, the most dangerous appurtenance of a man's body". Gentlemen blanched and ladies blushed as he expounded graphically and elaborated on the horrendous consequences of its misuse. As he approached the finale of his sermon, he leaned over the pulpit and screamed at his listeners: "Shall I name you that tiny piece of flesh?" There was a paralysed silence. He leaned out further and his voice rose to a hoarse shout: "Shall I show you that tiny piece of flesh?" Not a whisper or a rustle of a prayer book could be heard. The minister's voice dropped, and a sly smile slid over his face. "Ladies and gentlemen, behold the source of our sins!" And he stuck his tongue out. The congregation heaved a sigh of relief.

Defamation is a generic name for both libel and slander. Slander is defamation by word of mouth while libel is defamation published by means of writing, printing, pictures, images and the like. Libel is addressed to the eye and slander to the ear.

Both libel and slander are criminal offences punishable with simple imprisonment for two years or with fine or both. To impute anything to a dead person may amount to defamation if the imputation would harm the reputation of that person if living and is intended to be hurtful to the feelings of his family or other near relatives. An imputation is said to harm a person's reputation only if it directly or indirectly, in the estimation of others, lowers the moral or intellectual character of that person, or lowers the character of that person in respect of his caste or his calling or lowers the credit of

Just think of the harm that "that tiny piece of flesh" could cause by way of slander. Hold your tongue!

Just think of the harm that "that tiny piece of flesh" could cause by way of slander.

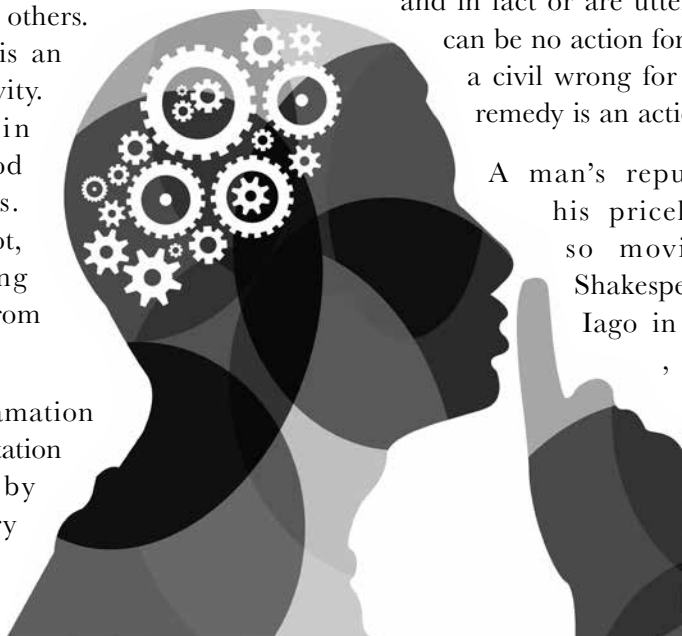
that person, or causes it to be believed that the body of that person is in a detestable state, or in a state generally considered as disgraceful.

of advice not always followed by those who are wont to utter imputations defamatory of the character of others. For some slander is an indispensable activity. They delight in tarnishing the good image of others. More often than not, their mud-slinging imputations stem from malice or envy.

The Law of Defamation safeguards the reputation of individuals by making defamatory imputations punishable in law.

If the words complained of are true in substance and in fact or are uttered in good faith there can be no action for slander. Slander is also a civil wrong for which the appropriate remedy is an action for damages.

A man's reputation is, therefore, his priceless possession as is so movingly expressed by Shakespeare in Cassio's cry to Iago in Othello: "Reputation, reputation, I have lost my reputation: I have lost the immortal part, Sir, of myself, and what remains is bestial, my reputation, Iago, my reputation!"



Out of Their Bounty

Praveen Srivastava	Mumbai	50000	L.Amaalnayagam	Tamil Nadu	1000	C.D.Joseph	Kerala	500
Arun Augustine	Kerala	18600	Avani D. Sheth	Mumbai	1000	Sussamma Kurian	Kerala	500
Bejon Desai	Nashik	12000	David Patrao	Mumbai	1000	Janardhanan	Tamil Nadu	500
S Castalino	U.A.E.	10000	V.S. Bilolikar	Mumbai	1000	h.Gangadhar	Andhra Pradesh	600
Maria Clara Vaz	Pune	10000	A. Gala	Dombivli	1000	V.K.Jiji	Rajasthan	600
N.Hendricks	Mumbai	10000	S.A. Stephen	T.N.	1000	Monica D'Souza	Pune	700
Flemy Thekketh	Kerala	1000	M.M. Athanil	Karnataka	1000	Rita Johnson	Kerala	800
kishan Pragapati	U.K.	1000	Girly Elgin	Kerala	1000	Dhiraj Bhatia	Mumbai	500
Meha Balsara	Mumbai	1000	E.L. Rodrigues	Goa	1000	Attey Kuttikadan	Thane	500
Mary Tom	Karnataka	8000	R. Arulanandham	Mira Road	1000	Jatin Desai	Valsad	500
Selvaraj Chettiar	Mumbai	500	Susheela	Kerala	1000	Gita Kamakia	Mumbai	100
Kiran Fernandes	Mumbai	1000	A Mitathany	Kerala	1000	Thressiamma Paul	Kerala	100
Shashikant Babulal	Mumbai	1001	M.Irudayaraj	Tamil Nadu	750	Agnel Amaldass	Karnataka	100
S Chaudhuri	West Bengal	2000	Pramila Chavan	Sangli	500	Eileen R.D'Cruz	Karnataka	100
Loudes Gracias	Goa	5000	V.B.Sebastian	Kerala	200	K.Kochala	Kerala	200
Nargis J Tatna	Mumbai	2000	K.Alexander	Kerala	200	Santa Arago	Pondicherry	200
Glanin P Nazareth	NaviMumbai	5,000	C.Desmier	Tamil Nadu	200	P S. Patwardhan	Pune	200
Alwyn D'Souza	Vasai	4000	William Pereira	Karnataka	200	Agnel D'Souza	Tamil Nadu	200
I.Santineer	Tamil Nadu	2400	Joseph Thomas	Kerala	200	Anto Paul	Kerala	250
O.C.Georgekutty	Kerala	5000	Francis Rebello	Gujarat	200	Vijay Amolik	Ahmednagar	100
Kurian Thomas	Kerala	750	Bertha D'Cruz	Kerala	500	Shalini Mehra	West Bengal	100
T.J.George	Kerala	3000	I.S.Anand Raj	Karnataka	100	Louis Cecilia	Ahmednagar	100
B X.Adrianwalla	Mumbai	2500	Anna Mathew	Kerala	100	Ramesh Magar	Nashik	100
Gavin Fonseca	Mumbai	750	Jose Mathew	Kerala	100	Josekutty Thomas	Kerala	100
Isabel Hendricks	Tamil Nadu	2000	Ani Dabre	Vasai	500	Elsy Francis	Kerala	100
A.Samthappan	Tamil Nadu	750	Rahul Patil	Vasai	2000	n.x.George	Kerala	100
Pervez Mehta	Mumbai	1000	Olga Patil	Vasai	2000	Mikhayil Padale	Nevasa	100
Gee Thomas	Mumbai	1000	Madhukar Patil	Vasai	1000	Joseph Almeida	Kerala	100
Bulbul Dutt	West Bengal	1000	Jitendra Patel	Vapi	501	F.M.Kobla	Mumbai	200
Kiran Fernandes	Mumbai	1000	R.S.Parnar	Mumbai	500	Mary Singh	Jharkhand	300
Arokiamary Bob	Pune	1000	Bharat Jain	Mumbai	100	L.Muller	Orissa	500
P.j.George	Kerala	1000	Stella Rodrigues	Mumbai	500	Hitendra Desai	Gujarat	500
Hansaben Waghela	Gujarat	1000	Pradeep Shah	Mumbai	50	Earach Bhamgara	Nagpur	50
Anil Mody	Mumbai	1001	Anita Honavar	Mumbai	500	Earnest Aruja	Kerala	100
Shashikant Babulal	Mumbai	1001	Ramesh Patel	Mumbai	500	R.Antony	Tamil Nadu	100
Aloo Daruwalla	Mumbai	1500	A.J. Hariawala	Mumbai	500	Kamala Michael	Tamil Nadu	100
S Eustachius	Kerala	1000	D.M. Patel	Virar	500	A.Alphonse	Tamil Nadu	100
A. Jayasimhan	Mumbai	1500	Nancy D'Souza	Mira Road	1000	Anna Mathew	Kerala	100
S. Panchal	New Zealand	1151	Isha T.Sawakar	Mumbai	200	Maria Nathan	Tamil Nadu	200
J.H. Sampat	Mumbai	1100	sandeep Bhat	Mumbai	100	Stella Thomas	Pondicherry	200
S. I. Agarwal	Mumbai	1100	Bulbul Dutt	West Bengal	1000	John Baptist	Tamil Nadu	200
S Babulal	Mumbai	1001	M.J.Pereira	Pune	500	C.K.Fernandes	Gujarat	200
H Gonsalves	Kerala	1000	Antony Joseph	Kerala	500	M.Rajathi	Tamil Nadu	300
A.J.Joseph	Kerala	1000	George Emmanuel	Kerala	500	Sophia Merlyn	Tamil Nadu	300
Arulnana Stephen	Tamil Nadu	1000	Flora Mortier	Pondicherry	500	Shernaz Mistry	Pune	300
A Alangaram	Tamil Nadu	1500	V.Sophia	Tamil Nadu	500	Nathan A.D'Souza	Mumbai	250
C G.Wanjare	Ahmednagar	1500	Vishal Puppal	Ahmednagar	500	Subodh Gokhale	Mumbai	500
George Xavier	Kerala	3000	Aleena Antony	Kerala	500	Naina Desai	Mumbai	500
Suhita Inigo	Tamil Nadu	3000	M.Irudayaraj	Tamil Nadu	750	Sunilbhai Parmar	Gujarat	100
Kadam Limbaji	Ahmednagar	2000	Arokia Nadar	Mumbai	500	Louis Cecilia	Pondicherry	100
L.N.Kamble	Ahmednagar	1000	M. Antony Raj	Mumbai	454	Anil Tribhuvan	Raigad	100
M.M.aAthanikar	Karnataka	1000	Mary Antony	Kerala	400	Nalini Paulraj	Tamil Nadu	100
A.Devarajan	Tamil Nadu	1000	n.Samraj	Mumbai	500	Sagar Remjie	Mumbai	111
Leelamma Victor	Kerala	1000	N.M.Amolik	Ahmednagar	500	Mary Joseph	Tamil Nadu	100
Tony Jose	Kerala	950	Lilly Joy	Kerala	500	Susan Philip	Kerala	100
P.J.Jose Tony	Kerala	950	A.X.Riju	Kerala	500	M.J.Harris	Madhy Pradesh	50



FR. AGNEL'S BLESSINGS

SUCCESSFUL OPERATION

Anand (Gujarat) : My elder sister's daughter aged 24 was suffering from blood cancer. She was under treatment. She needed bone marrow transplant. My father's or mother's bone marrow did not match hers. We prayed to Ven.Fr.Agnel for his help. Through his blessing a German lady donated her bone marrow, which matched hers, and the operation was successfully done. She is O.K. now. We thank Ven.Fr.Agnel for this favour. In thanksgiving an offering of ₹.200.

-Anita A.Christi

PROMOTION SECURED

Vasai : I was attending Ven.Fr.Agnel's Novena at the Ashram at Bandra. I am happy to say that through his intercession my son secured a promotion in his job and my husband secured a visa to go abroad. We thank Ven.Fr.Agnel for his help. Please accept our thanksgiving offering of ₹.1000.

- Johna W.D'Silva

GOOD JOB SECURED

Ahmedabad : I was praying to Ven.Fr.Agnel for his help. Through his intercession I secured a good job. In thanksgiving an offering of ₹.500 for the orphan boys of the Ashram.

-Ashwin J.Christie

SAFE DELIVERY Goa : During my pregnancy I underwent CT scan. The doctor said that the lungs of the child and not developed fully and that the child would die as he would not be able to breathe. With deep faith I prayed to Ven.Fr.Agnel for my safe delivery and good health of the child. Ven. Fr.Agnel heard my prayer. I had safe delivery and the child is normal. I thank Ven.Fr. Agnel and I am praying for his canonization.

-Maria Fernandes

GIFT OF A CHILD

Anand (Gujarat) : We were issueless after 5 years of our marriage. We were nervous. We came to know about devotion to Ven.Fr.Agnel. We came to the Ashram and prayed to Ven. Fr.Agnel to fulfill our wish. We are happy to say that through his intercession we are blessed with a baby boy. Today we came to the Ashram to pay our homage with an offering of ₹.10,000.

-Hamilton Dabhi

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Thank You!

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