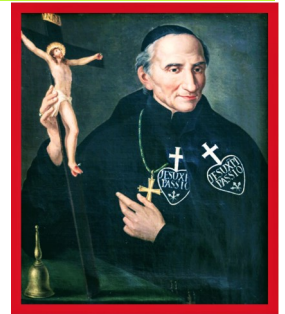




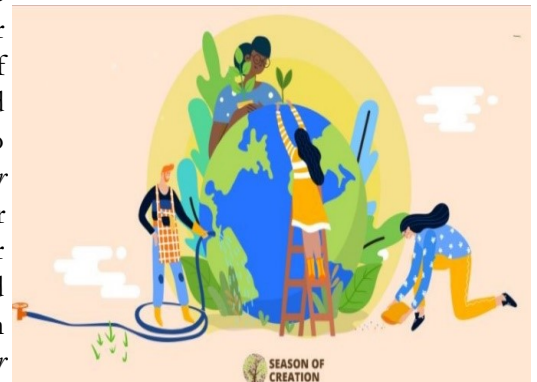
Season of Creation

Dear Sisters and Brothers,



Greetings from Bangalore, India! I do hope that this PIANO finds you all in good health and spirits!

In this issue of the PIANO I would like to offer a short and simple reflection on the ‘**Season of Creation**’ proposed by the Dicastery for Integral Human Development. The season will begin on the 1st of September (the World Day of Prayer for our common home) and will end on 4th October 2020 (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). This season is so named to remind all of us about the need to take care of the earth—*our common home*. It is a season for **letting our prayer be inspired anew**. In our prayer we cannot simply be oblivious to what is happening to our environment. What is happening around us must be reflected in how and what we pray. It is a season to **reflect on our lifestyles**, to introspect on how our lifestyles impact the environment in which we live. It is a season for **prophetic actions**.



We all know that our life is sustained by the seasons of the Sun: spring and summer, autumn and winter (more clear-cut and noticeable if one is living in the northern or southern hemispheres). There is “a time for sowing and a time for reaping”, says the preacher! Even the “drama of our salvation is enacted each year in the pattern of the Sun’s strengthening and weakening” states Fr. Timothy Radcliffe. But when everything is commercially sowed and reaped and flown around the world for human consumption, it is quite easy for us to forget how our living is so embedded in the solar rhythms of animal and vegetable life. We forget that we are **ha-adamah** (Adam – earth beings), whose lives cannot be lived in isolation, having no sense of connectedness.

In the broader sense of incarnation (deep incarnation—a theological neologism), fundamental for our sense of being *catholic* (connected to the whole), “one cannot talk about God becoming human apart from recognition that God also became material in Christ’s corporeality, thereby extending divine solidarity to all God’s creatures”, states Fr. Daniel P. Horan, OFM. If incarnation is also an act of God’s mercy towards us, it is imperative that we recognize the care of our common home as a work of mercy. Therefore, our participation in this work of mercy must begin in, and be strengthened by, God’s own mercy towards us. But if we reject this first love, then, we are turning against God’s own design for creation.

In order to observe this season of creation in a meaningful way, let us think of some creative ways and come up with feasible action plans. By way of some suggestions, I would like to offer the following along the lines of the directives from the Dicastery: **to conduct some special liturgical celebrations** focusing on the **glocal** environmental issues, **to take pilgrimage walks**, **to promote sustainable practices** in our personal life as well as in our communities in order to counter the ‘throw-away culture’, and **to support advocacy initiatives**. In this way we can respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

Fraternally,

Paul Cherukoduth, C.P.
Vice Provincial

UPDATES

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays

Jiffin	4
Sugun	14
Devaraj	30
Don	30

Feast days

Nativity of BVM	8
Exaltation of the Cross	14
OL of Sorrows	15
St. Vincent Mary Strambi	24



Inauguration of the New Academic year, 11 New Aspirants joined St. Gabriel's Minor Seminary at Kochi. (Above)



Onam Festival is celebrated at Kochi with the traditional Competitions. (Above)



Bro. Dibi Edison, Student of Philosophy was initiated into the Pre-Novitiate Program in Gyananilaya Community at Bophal (Left & Right)



Fr. Benzen Valiyavittil C. P.

As I write this episode of the article I am reminded of what John F. Kennedy once said, "Every area of trouble gives out a ray of hope; and the one unchangeable certainty is that nothing is certain or unchangeable." I guess I am still holding on to something that I know will probably never happen, because somewhere deep down inside me, I have this little piece of hope that someday it will.

Everything began when one of our parishners brought to my sense that, there is a poor widow in the village who hardly has a shade to lay down her head. My immediate response was: what to do and where to go? To my surprise the lady said, she could aid me with few bricks for the construction of a small house for the old lady. **There comes the first Ray of Hope.** I enquired with several other people who were generous enough to provide me with cement and soil: one said I will give bricks, another said I will give roof material. Hence, I was reminded of the proverb "**few drops make the ocean**"

It was Fr Rajan who started the construction with St Gabriel youth of our parish. I appreciate these young boys who said to me, " Father, we have no money to lend but our hands". Within few days a room was built for the widow to lay her head. God puts rainbows in the clouds so that each of us in the dreariest and most dreaded moments can see a possibility of hope. Yes, indeed HOPE REIGNS...



The Seed of Hope....



Together we started....



Putting our hands and minds together...

HOPE



A home for a Widow:
House blessing



Lending our labour..



One brick at a time...



JeevaOotru Minor Seminary is blessed in Randham, Portion of Multipurpose Hall is Renovated With the Help of Parish Youth as temporary accommodation for students in Formation from Tamilnadu in the



Cows were purchased for the poor Catholic Families in the Randham Mission as part of the Cow Programme (Left)

Onam is celebrated at Jeevadhama Community at Bangalore (Right)



Onam & Independence day were Celebrated at St. Gemma Novitiate, Nilambur (Left)



**Fr. Wilson CP joined
Randham
Community as
Superior and
Principal of
St. Gemma School
(Left & Right)**



**St. Gabriel's
Youth of
Randham built
a Birds cage in
the Community
campus (Right)**



**Fr. Benson CP
joined and began his
ministry in the
Shrine Basilica of
Our Lady of Health
at Velenkanny, Ta-
milnadu (Left)**



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Verba volant, scripta manent!**