April-2021

PASSIONIST INDIA ACTIVITIES NEWS OUTREACH







Dear Brothers Sisters and Friends of the Passionist Family, Greetings!

I am writing this with a special prayer of Easter hope that you all keep well and safe from the pandemic.

As I pen these few lines for the current issue of the PIANO, here in India, we are reeling under the immense pain

and sorrow and a sense of desperation inflicted by the relentless surge of the corona virus. People are desperately running from one hospital to another looking for beds with the essential supply of oxygen and ventilators, but only to be turned down because either no beds are available, or the supply of oxygen and other essential medicines have depleted. It is heart rending to watch people waiting in line to cremate their loved ones who had succumbed to COVID and, in some cases, burying or cremating in open grounds with so many pyres burning at the same time. India paints at this time a collage of death and despair.



As people go through this terrible time, there is a kind of senseless blame game that is going on between the various State Governments and the Central Government. It is absurd, to say the least! People who have been elected by the people to take care of their needs have abdicated their responsibility to score political mileages. By saying this I do not want to fall into the same blame game.

However, when we self-distance and look the present situation of the unbearable and heartbreaking sufferings of our country men and women, it is easy for us to see that what has befallen us in this second wave of the COVID-19 pandemicis the result of our collective negligence in not following the COVID appropriate behaviour as well as the callousness and the lack of preparedness of the governments. Hence, this collective problem requires a collective response because "no one is safe until everyone is safe"!

Sometimes I have noticed an attitude among our own brethren, a kind of disregard for COVID-appropriate behaviour tacitly saying: "well, it is not our problem; it is all out there"! Well, all that has changed now with several of our communities having had to self-isolate themselves. When it hits closer home, we realize that all of us must be more conscious and live with a sense of responsibility towards ourselves and others.



So, at this time, what should be our attitude. Are we going to be like the stoics who would want to tough it out because "if the bullet's got your name on it, so be it"! Or are we like the modern West which says, just self-isolate yourself and be comfortable with Amazon Prime Video or Netflix because "this too will pass" or again, are we like some Christians who would say that this isn't the worst that can happen. Our home is not here but heading to another place, the world that is to come. So, as I mentioned sometime back, the question should not be "why" but "what". What can we, as Christians and consecrated men and women, do to assuage the situation?

Well, to begin with, let us pledge to abide by the protocols related to COVID-appropriate behaviour and reach out in ways possible to those in need. Let us not give into despair but be harbingers of hope, peace and joy of Easter.

Let us be united in prayer and continue to live out our Passionist vocation and be strengthened by the Crucified love to experience the joy of Easter and share the same with others in our ministry.

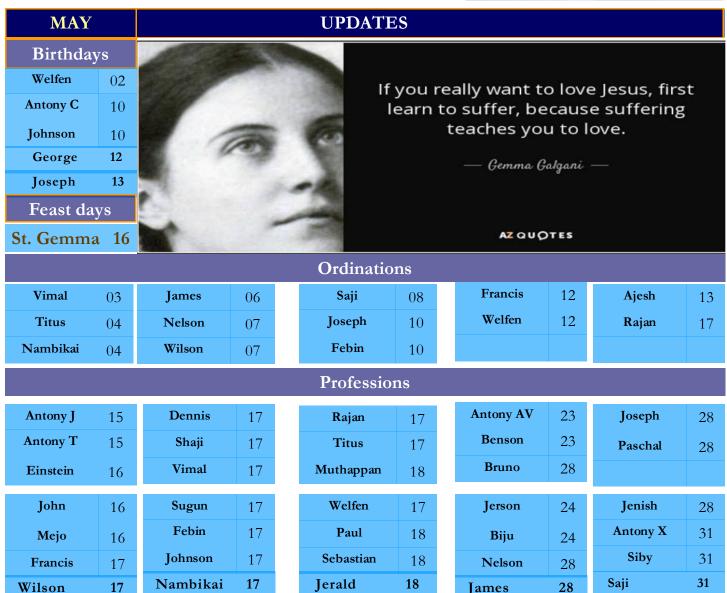
May Our Lady of Sorrows, the Patroness of our Congregation and St. Paul of the Cross, our Founder continue to intercede for us as we go through these trying times.

Fraternally,

Paul Cherukoduth, C.P.

Vice Provincial





UPDATES







Welcome home Fr. Dennis CP!

Fr. Dennis, successfully completed his Licentiate in Philosophy at the Gregorian University, Rome.



Easter
Celebration
At
Kochi
Community





Dn. Devaraj CP
begins his
Diaconate Ministry
in the
parish at Uvari,
Diocese of Tuticorin





Fr. Paul had
Visited Shrine
Basilica of
Velanakanni.
(Left)
Bro. Moncy CP
begins his
Pastoral Year
Ministry in the
Archdiocese of
Imphal (Right)







Bro. Mahendra CP Commences his Pastoral year Ministry in the Archdiocese of Imphal (above)
St. Gabriel's youth render their free labour for the New Church construction at Randham Mission.
(Below)







Fr. Jerald CP attends Formators Classes at AVP, Bangalore. (above) St. Gabriel's Youth enacted the Station of the Cross on Good Friday & Easter vigil celebration at Randham Mission. (Below)











Bro. Abiyouthraj CP conducts VBS classes for the Randham Children. (Left)

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Verba volant, scripta manent!