

**MISSIONARY FAMILIES OF CHRIST INDIA NEWSLETTER**  
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS COUPLES FOR CHRIST INDIA)



# THE WORD MADE FLESH

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# REFLECTING ON THE OLD AND NEW

We are at the end of our calendar year, and while things are still winding down; we in the Church have begun a new year! We're awaiting the coming of Jesus Christ our Saviour as King, Judge and High Priest. We're also reminiscent of His coming as a small, vulnerable, dependent little baby. The Word made flesh dwelt amongst us in the most humble of ways.

Who can resist a tiny baby with arms stretched out, waiting to be carried? Our Lord wants us to step out of our busyness to embrace Him, carry Him and allow our hearts to be captivated by Him. He poses no threat and disarms even the loftiest of visitors. His desire is for us to no longer be passers by, visitors or even admirers. He chooses to make His home in the unworthy stable of our hearts, if we will welcome Him in. How can we welcome Him in?

Take time to encounter Him in His Word each day with a few moments of silence and allow Him to speak to our hearts. Prepare ourselves to encounter Him in the Eucharist - that He might truly dwell within us. Reflect each day if we have welcomed Jesus into our hearts by the way we dealt with the people around us.

May this Season of Christmas help us to become a ready refuge and resting place for our Lord.

**Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."**

**WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A NEW YEAR FILLED WITH JOY AND PEACE.**



**COUNTRY SERVANT - JIMMY XAVIER**



### LIVING THE WORD

To live the Word is to live the word. Jesus is the Word made flesh. We are called to live Christ, to be like him, to be his disciples. For this to happen, we need to know him and what he tells us to do. This is through his word in the Bible. And as St. Jerome says, ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ.

We Christians today are truly fortunate to have the convenience of the book called the Bible. It is all about salvation history, and it is everything we need in order to attain to the salvation God intends for each of us. "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work." (2Tm 3:16-17).

Now part of such good work is the work of evangelization, which is the final marching order of our Lord Jesus before he ascended into heaven. We are to proclaim Christ to the world. "Proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching." (2Tm 4:2). How are we to proclaim what we do not know?

Unfortunately, many lay Catholics today do not read the Bible, much less study it. As such, they continue to be influenced and taught by the world, the values of which are often contradictory to authentic Christian

values. How can Christians grow to holiness and Christian perfection without the Bible?

So what must we do? We must read the Bible each and every day. This can help assure that we move forward in the Christian life in the right way. "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path." (Ps 119:105). Secondly, we must not only read but also meditate on what we have read. This helps us to internalize the truths of God's word. Third, to the extent that we have the time (we must make time!), we should study portions of the Bible as much as we can. "How I love your law, Lord! I study it all day long." (Ps 119:97). Throughout our lifetime, this enables us to uncover more and more of the richness and depth of scripture. In this way, as we live out what we learn, we can truly be more like God.

So God's word in the Bible tells us the way we are to go, keeps us from straying from the right path, comforts us in affliction, strengthens us in pursuing the Christian life, helps us grow in holiness. Jesus has won for us our salvation. We look to the time when we will finally enter into eternal life. All this Jesus has promised us. All this we learn as we read Jesus' own words as recorded in the Bible. In the Word and in the word is our hope. "My soul longs for your salvation; I put my hope in your word." (Ps 119:81).

**SERVANT GENERAL - FRANK PADILLA**



**The one who listens attentively to the Word of God and truly prays, always asks the Lord: what is your will for me?**

**POPE FRANCIS**

# LIVE THE WORD- LITURGICAL BIBLE STUDY

Liturgical Bible Study (LBS) of the Sunday liturgy of the Word, is a Catholic Bible study method developed by Fr. Arlo Yap SVD, of the Divine Word Society (SVD), Manila, Philippines that uses the readings of the Sunday Mass. It is in a question-and-answer format that studies the text as it stands, verse by verse. The entire study is completed in 1 hour.

The objective of this study is to help Catholic Parishioners come prepared for the Sunday mass. This helps the Parishioners to participate in the Sunday Mass meaningfully.

### WHAT IS LITURGICAL BIBLE STUDY (LBS)

The LBS uses the Sunday liturgical readings to prepare for the Holy Eucharist and hence supports a more meaningful experience at mass. In LBS the text is studied as it is and as it stands, questions and answers are drawn from each verse of the text leading the participants into the who, why, when, where, what and how of the passage.

The questions lead to a clearer understanding of the Liturgy by looking for answers in the verses themselves. Hence a verse is not just read but a deeper understanding is taken from the context and environment of the verse.

The LBS is structured to be group-centered and not leader centered. Each member is a resource and therefore makes the LBS participatory and experiential.

The leader is more of a facilitator than a teacher, learning together with the participants to draw out answers and enable the participants.

### HOW THE STUDY IS DONE?

The LBS begins with an opening prayer followed by the study of the Gospel. This involves (a) reading of the text (b) Exploration and study with questions (c) summarizing the text (d) identifying the key verse.

Next, the group studies the first reading following the same two steps as the study of the Gospel. Common themes are identified and these are connected with the Gospel. Similarly the study of the second reading is done and themes identified and connected with the Gospel and first reading. A One-Thread-Message (OTM) based on the connection is formulated as a one-line take-home message. This is followed by reflection questions and a challenge to live the Word as understood through the Study. To conclude, the group says a closing prayer which includes the Psalm of the Sunday Liturgy.

The Liturgical Bible Study (LBS) is a gift to parishes and parishioners and the MFC community is glad to support parishes in guiding members in a deeper understand of the Sunday Liturgy of the Word.

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Live the Word Hub-Nerul



Live the Word Animators Workshop, Goa



Fr. Dennis addressing the LTW participants at Saligao Church, Goa.

# RISE ABOVE

The Conference was held from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of August at the St. Joseph Vaz Spiritual Renewal Centre. The conference theme this year is based on the scripture verse 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



The first session was titled 'Rise Above' introduced us to the theme verse for the year. It was about the seasons of our lives – triumphs, typical and trials. Explaining that joy comes easy in a season of triumph but ironically, we are challenged to give thanks in all circumstances, with the focus placed on trusting God and His eternal truths, we went through the four attributes of God – **All – good (Omnibenevolence), All – knowing (Omniscience) , All – powerful (Omnipotence) and Unchanging.**

In conclusion to the session, we were called to trust God and thereby live out our call to Rejoice Always, Pray Unceasingly and Give Thanks in All Seasons with the reminder that God is with us Always!

With the culmination of the first session, there were competitions post lunch. After a short tea break, we were guided through the second session of the day. This session focussed on part of the theme scripture verse 'rejoice always'. It described the

misconceptions of true joy – Equating true joy with happiness and it is not possible to rejoice in moments of trial, pain and suffering.

We were then explained - What is Joy: An abiding sense of peace and contentment we experience when we live out our call to Holiness. Citing that the key to 'rejoicing always' is found in Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always". Our joy comes and is found in Jesus alone. (Psalm 16: 9-11)

Reflecting on the Joyful Mysteries. The lives of Jesus, Mary and Joseph were filled with uncertainty, fear, anxiety, trials and sufferings yet there was joy as they heralded the coming of the Saviour. We are called to trust God despite our circumstances and this is possible only through a deepened relationship with Him.

Post the session, we attended Mass and thereafter dinner. After which each chapter presented their act on the Catholic Shark Tank which wrapped up



events on Day 1 of the conference.

The session on Day 2 addressed the second part of the theme verse, Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17) stating that in prayer we are called to be frequent and persistent.

Since God is our Father, He is with us and we are

always before Him. He calls us to be with Him in prayer. Prayer is our expression of reliance on God. Mama Mary was the perfect example of unceasing prayer. The constant raising of her heart to heaven and the action of pondering allowed her to be moulded more perfectly for God.



We were further explained taking each part of the Our Father and describing its meaning in our current reality.

Praying unceasingly requires these modes of prayer to be a part of our lives – 3A's

1. Anchored prayer: being anchored in God's presence. Thereby deepening our relationship with him through a dedicated time for personal prayer.
2. Asking: prayers of supplication and intercession are examples of this kind of prayer.
3. Assimilating: doing our work/ carrying out responsibilities in the right way.

After the session we spent time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions. After lunch we broke into groups for workshops.

The first workshop 'Rest in God' was an interactive session on the practical aspects of personal prayer. We discussed the reality of our prayer lives and looked deeper into why we are called to silent prayer. The reality that prayer is a battle and, in this battle, we encounter different seasons in our prayer time, and so we are called to rest in God with trust knowing that He will provide us with the strength we need. We were finally taken through the fruits of contemplative prayer and had the opportunity of spending more time before the Blessed Sacrament. The second workshop 'Prayer through Scripture' was a workshop based on Lectio Divina and we were explained the steps that would help us in our prayer lives.

An address from our Country Servant Jimmy Xavier

stirred the Singles with more ardent love for the Rosary and the battle to win souls for Christ.

The day's activities concluded with a surprise fete that ensured the audience had a wonderful night engaged in activities, song and dance. And with that culminated the events on day two of the Conference.



We started off Sunday morning with Mass and after breakfast attended the last session 'Heart of Gratitude'. Drawing inference from the story of the ten lepers, how we are called to give thanks to God just like that one leper that returned back to Jesus to give thanks for healing received. He highlighted that we are called to cultivate a habit of thanksgiving by maintaining a Gratitude Diary or even saying 'Praise God' when we're appreciated. He explained that the ultimate thanksgiving is the Eucharist. The very word 'eucharista' means thanksgiving. When Jesus established the Eucharist, he established it as an act of thanksgiving.

Living out the Eucharist:



Following what Jesus did, we are called to:

1. Take: accept our lives with joys and difficulties
2. Give thanks: thank God for the gift of life and strive for Heaven.
3. Break: being ready to sacrificially serve
4. Distribute: make ourselves available for His Kingdom.

After the session, we had a short time of adoration and pray over by our formators and household servants. After which we had the announcements of the winners of the various pre-conference competitions as well as a short praise fest that concluded the Conference.

**Cristabelle, MFC Singles Caranzalem**

## TESTIMONIES

The singles conference was amazing during the prayer over, I sensed the Lord telling me to give a session for a campus retreat and I graduated from that same college just a month ago so I constantly started praying



that I won't have to give the session since few of them have seen the stressful and the frustrated side of mine but they didn't know that I was religious. I was scared that they would judge me but after I gave the session everyone loved it and they were so glad to see this side of me. Through this experience God made me realise to not be two-faced, to always rejoice and evangelise even better. God is calling each one of us to not be two-faced but to spread His word by being ourselves.

**Jane Mascarenhas, Mangalore**



"Rejoice in the Lord always, in all circumstances.

"Praise God at all times"

"Pray unceasingly."

These were the three most important teachings that my

brother and I took away from the Conference "Rise above" 2022.

Just two days after the conference, our dad fell ill all of a sudden and was admitted. He was then discharged after showing positive signs of recovery. Dad rested well in the night, but when we woke up the next morning he had terrible pain on his right leg near the ankle and got him admitted again. Doctors said that it was an infection which was growing rapidly, the pain wasn't subsiding and went ahead with the last option, that was surgery and so we trusted God's plan with all our hearts. We continued our rosary and prayers all through this time. Our Dad was serious and was rushed to the ICU. It was at this moment that we remembered the teachings of the conference and kept on praising and thanking God whatever the outcome, but ardently expecting a miracle. Hours later, we were informed that Dad is no more. We were shocked, speechless and cried but also remained strong keeping in mind that we need to rejoice in all circumstances. If it wasn't for the conference, we do not know how we would have handled such a shocking and difficult situation. Yes, the conference was a turning point and a life changing experience.

**Jelton & Shelber Pereira, MFC Calangute**

For this conference, I came with an agenda as I wanted God to make it clear to me if He wills that I serve in missions. Not only did God confirm that



but also made an opportunity available for me by putting a desire to conduct CLS in Mumbai. I am working more on letting God take control of situations by simply just handing over the wheel to Him. I continue to fail and struggle but He never promised me it was going to be easy. I struggle with a little pride sometimes and unforgiving nature but when we had the Blessed Sacrament exposed and our Formators prayed over us, I felt Lord's mercy flow through my heart and I desire to serve Him as long as I shall live.

**Margaret Carvalho (Mumbai)**

Before going for this conference, I wasn't at a very good point in life. I had pretty much distanced myself from the church and would only go because I had to fulfill the obligatory mass. Everytime I'd pray I'd have constant thoughts telling me that you're just speaking to the walls, and that there's no one actually listening to anything you pray. But while in front of the Blessed Sacrament, during the conference, I surrendered all of these thoughts to God and asked God for an answer. Well, I did not really get an answer, but instead heard the Holy Spirit tell me just leave them here at the altar and see what I can do to change your life for the better. And I said "God, then let your will be done". Now, 2 months post conference, I've never once questioned God, everytime I pray I know he is with me, and in my worst days he is always by my side and he never left me to begin with. Praise God!

**Titus, South Bangalore**



I had been diagnosed with PCOS and ever since I had very irregular menstrual cycles, I had side effects because of the number of medications that I had to take. After I joined MFC in 2021, I had always talked about

this to my accountability partner and she told me to trust in God. This reminded me of how much I was trusting everything and everyone else and not God. So I decided that I would trust God completely and I started praying everyday and asking Mumma Mary to intercede for this intention. During the Singles Conference I experienced a wonderful miracle. I started getting my menstruation on the very first day of the conference itself. And Praise God it has been 3 months now that I haven't missed my cycle. This incident taught me how much God can work in my life and all that I have to do is trust in Him whole heartedly and to never lose faith in God and Mama Mary.

**Renita Leonard, North Bangalore**

I loved the entire conference but the pray-over and adoration touched me the most. To give you a little context, My father passed away in 2009 and that pained me the most. As years passed, I learned to deal with the loss, or at least I thought I did. As I knelt before the Blessed Sacrament, I felt God asking me to revisit the day my father died, and a calm voice asked me if I blame God for taking away my father. I never realized that deep down I hadn't really accepted God's plan in my life. I revisited every moment of that day and of all the days where I broke down. I revisited each of the low moments once again and God showed me how he was always there by my side, through someone or something. I looked back at the times that I broke down and noticed a crucifix at each of these moments and I realized that God hadn't let me down but He was with me; with me in my suffering and my troubles. I loved that I finally was healed and comforted. The conference also showed me how important the theme verse really was and it is so rejuvenating to put it into practice. I felt that each of the 3 days challenged me to be better and to come back to Christ.



**Victor D'souza, Porvorim**



# THE WORD OF GOD IN ACTION

**Liturgical Bible Study Participants from parishes across India share how the sessions have helped them grow in their understanding of scripture.**

Our weekly LBS has helped me prepare better for Sunday mass than before. Besides getting the benefit of the One thread message speaking to me personally, I also benefit from how it speaks to others as well. The challenge to actualize the one thread message makes living out scripture real rather than it only being something desirable in my life.



**Derick & Ruth D'Souza, Pune, Maharashtra**



My thirst to know and learn about our Lord began 10 months ago. Each of these LBS sessions presented to me a unique experience and perspective, about life and areas in my life that require correction in order to come

closer to a life centered and dependent on Christ. I am able to share the understanding of the weekly sessions also with my family. In each of these weekly sessions with our Lord's grace I am able to discern His plans for me with a greater understanding of our Sunday Gospel readings. Every week in these sessions is a brand-new beginning with faith to lift my spirits high and hope to lift my heart.

**Ajay & Seema, Pune, Maharashtra**



I have been part of LCSC for last 1.5 years. Last year on Ash Wednesday while attending the Mass in my Parish, one message that struck me was "Be Jesus to the one you meet, see Jesus in the one you meet". This message was there deep in my heart for few days and then I got a call to

attend the session of LCSC (Live Christ, Share Christ) and further started to attend the LBS session every week. This has really helped me in growing spiritually and brought me closer to Jesus Christ.

I, Roseline had participated in the Liturgical Bible Study with the Mumbai team. We were able to connect with the Good News and message of God while being connected online. We would receive the One theme message which would always be of important relevance to our lives in our current situation. During the study I would also learn a lot about the Holy Scripture and the wisdom within it. Gradually my life became more spiritual and I was transformed by the Word. The Liturgical Bible Study has been a valuable gift in my life for which I am grateful. **(translated from Hindi)**

**Xavier & Roseline Bansode, Pune, Maharashtra**

I was eager to attend the LBS from the time we heard about it. We joined a group (online) in Mumbai who



were doing it every week and we were gently taught the correct way of learning it and got each of us to lead the sessions in turn. Thus equipped we started our own hub in Pune and are growing from strength to strength in our Spiritual journey with the Lord. I have been personally spurred on to participate in the daily Eucharist, spend more quiet time with Him and immerse myself in His Word. To practice what I preach, else in being busy in the Lord's service, I forget the Lord of the service.

**Kevin & Linda Braganza, Pune, Maharashtra**



I enjoy the LBS sessions every week. Verse by verse simple questions are asked and answered from the text. A message (OTM) is found and followed through the week. The

Eucharistic celebration becomes more participative and active. On one Sunday the priest asked a question and I was the only one who could answer. (I got a prize)

Thanks be to God and LBS for leading me.

**Augustine & Felcy Pais, Pune, Maharashtra**

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I participated in LBS sessions during Covid. I consider myself extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn God's Word and put the one-thread message into practice.

I believe that the Bible should

be thoroughly studied through LBS so that we can understand the Sunday readings and the Gospel better. Additionally, the individualized One Thread message will prepare us for the challenges of the world and help to follow Jesus in his teachings.

**Archana & Ulhas Gaigole, Pune, Maharashtra**

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My experience with LBS (Liturgical Bible Study) has been an exciting one. Every session was different and unique. One common thing was, it always gave answers to my troubled mind. LBS focuses and reflects on the Sunday Liturgy. Before LBS, honestly, it was difficult to concentrate on the Sunday Liturgy. I had to try hard to remember the Word proclaimed. After attending LBS the Sunday Liturgy came ALIVE. I could relate to all the readings. The Second Reading, which was otherwise a tough nut to crack, became easier to grasp. The Word stayed with me, even after the mass without any efforts. In turn, it helped me to interact confidently with my children in detail about the Liturgy. We were blessed to have Deepa as our leader, every question raised she would answer with detailed and meaningful explanation. This gave us the courage to put up any random questions that we had in our thoughts thus making the Liturgy come ALIVE to us.

**Fensita, St. Vincent Pallotti Church, Andheri East, Mumbai**

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I had attended a LBS session in our prayer group in the month of June 2022, which touched me a lot and I was



looking forward to more of such training. I started attending it on Thursdays. It helped me in understanding the connection between 1st reading, 2nd reading the Gospel and the Psalms. And helped me to understand the readings more clearly on Sunday mass. The question answer & sharing session that were

done during the training helped me to know about the word more closely and also the reflections helped me in my daily life.

**Priya Anthony, Good Shepherd Church, Sanpada, Navi Mumbai.**

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I heard of LBS starting in my parish around August, I'll be honest as a teenager I wasn't really eager to join but somehow made up my mind and joined the study. I also had made an assumption that mostly elders will join but was quite surprised when I saw children younger to me and my own age attend these sessions. Attending mass every Sunday listening to the same readings and gospels year after year had become like a cycle. I had doubts regarding some of the readings and Gospels but chose not to ask anyone, once the LBS started I got a clearer view to what these Gospels and readings actually meant. Since LBS, my Sundays have changed, every word the lectors and priests read have a deeper meaning and understanding in my mind. To me LBS is more than just a study, it's a HD view into the Word of God. Praise the Lord.

**Melrisha D'Souza, Our Lady of Vipriyasitation Church, Nerul, Navi Mumbai**

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LBS is an informative program in which I got to learn more about the readings from the Bible. It improved my reading skills. It made it easier for me to understand the readings which were earlier hard for me. I learnt that the gospel, first reading, second reading and the psalms are interconnected.



## TESTIMONIAL REPORT

I am thankful for this method which gives me the knowledge about God's word.

**Shawn Britto (studying in class 7), Our Lady of Visitation Church, Nerul, Navi Mumbai**



Being a part of the liturgical bible study has surely been a blessing. It has helped me to participate in the Eucharist in a more meaningful way. The takeaway from each week's LBS is a one thread message and a few steps we can take in our own life based on that week's gospel. Both of these help me to keep the gospel in my mind throughout the week and make

changes in my life to nudge it in the right direction. Before attending the LBS I was always unsure of what Jesus actually wants us to do with our life. But when I started attending the LBS, each week Jesus' teachings became so easy to understand and clear (P.S Not always easy to follow though). This helped me to develop a personal relationship with Jesus. It also increased my appreciation for the Holy Spirit and the Church for the gift of the Liturgy which it has developed over the years. It is amazing how relevant it still is even after hundreds of years and how it guides me in all situations big or small.

**Encita Dsilva Our Lady of Visitation Church, Nerul, Navi Mumbai**

My experience joining the LBS has been a beautiful one. With the help of the Holy Spirit I am able to hear the voice of God. LBS has nourished me to have a better understanding of the Sunday readings by reading, listening, studying and bearing witness to our lives. It is through the LBS I have come to know God who desires to talk to us and offer us words



of life eternal." My children have attended few sessions and they have understood the connection of the 3 readings and we now have a short time of bible study before we attend the Sunday mass to get a better understanding of the Word of God, and this has helped them to pay attention during Sunday mass and the homily. I will conclude by Hosea: 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge.

**Sandra Mendes, Loysan and Kiara, Our Lady of Visitation Church, Nerul, Navi Mumbai**



My family is part of the MFC Ministry for many years. MFC meetings and teachings have helped in our spiritual growth. In April 2022, I was commissioned as a Word Minister in the Archdiocese of Mumbai wherein we are supposed to proclaim the Word regularly through the Parish Bible Cell. In May 2022,

MFC gave me the responsibility to build the Liturgical Bible Study in India. As you know, God wants our availability and not our ability; you make yourself available and he will make you able! God through the LBS, is helping me to fulfil both my responsibilities i.e. my responsibilities of a Missionary (MFC) and a Word Minister (MOW). With LBS, I am able to evangelise myself, my family, my community and my Parish every week.

Weekly LBS sessions have helped me to know God's plan for me, understand and enjoy the Sunday Liturgy and importantly helps our family to live the MFC Mission. We have Online LBS sessions of 1-hour duration every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We would like to invite each one of you to attend and most importantly experience God's Word through these LBS sessions. We would also be pleased to organize LBS sessions for your Parish/ SCCs/ Association & Cells/ Chapter/ Household etc.

**Joseph, Caroline, Jayden, Chris, Emmanuel Chettiar, Sacred Heart Church, Andheri East, Mumbai**

# TRAINING & EVANGELIZATION



## Youth Camp

29 participants attended the camp from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of May at Vellenkeny Mata church, Nagrota, Jammu.



## Christian Life Seminar

14 participants attended the program conducted on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of May at Bhadravathi.



## Faith Walk

The Youth group from the Missionaries Families for Christ, Porvorim, held a two day Youth Camp at Dasya Porvorim on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of June for 33 enthusiastic youth from Mapusa, Porvorim and Panjim, Goa.



## Campus Retreat

A retreat was conducted for 200 Pre University students of Mount Carmel College, Bangalore on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of June.



## Christian Life Seminar

24 participants attended the program conducted for the couples on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June at Shimoga.



## Switch

A camp for 32 singles of MFC Singles, Mangalore was conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June at Divine retreat center Mulki.

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# TRAINING & EVANGELIZATION

## Prayer for Missionaries

Heavenly Father, we lift up to you all missionaries working in Your vineyard. Lord, you have called them away from home to follow You to fulfil Your will in their lives and in the lives of those they come in contact with.

Father, we ask you to protect them and keep them safe. We pray that all those whom they reach out to may be open and willing to receive the beautiful and life-altering truth of Your Son, Jesus Christ. We pray for all those missionaries who feel discouraged. Comfort them with your assurance that their labour is not in vain.

We pray for missionaries rendering their tireless services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Help them act with your wisdom and guidance during these times. Grant them good health. Father, as many are quarantined, we pray that outreach via the internet or other forms of communication may be all the more powerful. Help them to connect even when not in person and to truly represent You well during these tense days, so that they may bring your message of joy, love and peace to everyone. Amen



### Christian Life Seminar

6 couples attended the program conducted on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July in Bangalore.



### Christian Life Seminar

5 couples and 30 handmaids attended the program conducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of July at St. John's catholic church, Bakshi nagar Jammu.



### Christian Life Seminar

47 participants from Khanvel, Dapada, Silvassa and Vapi parishes attended the program on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of July in Dapada.



### Handmaid Enrichment Retreat

25 Handmaids attended the retreat on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of July in Goa.



### Outreach Program

125 couples attended the program conducted on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August at Madanthyar Church.



### Campus retreat

A retreat at St. Aloysius Degree College was conducted for 150 students on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of August.

# TRAINING & EVANGELIZATION



## Outreach Program

60 couples attended the program conducted on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August at Panir Church.



## Marriage Enrichment Retreat 2

12 couples attended the retreat on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of August in Goa.



## Outreach Program

Love and Respect session was held in Vikhroli, Mumbai on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August for 45 couples.



## Campus Retreat

100 school students attended the retreat conducted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of September in Unai.



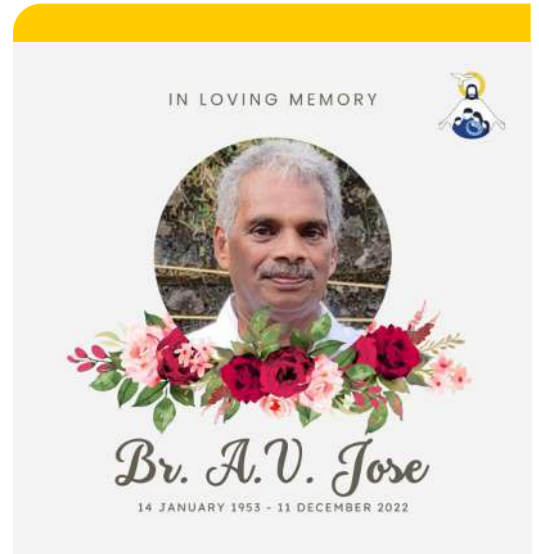
## Outreach Program

Love and Respect session was held in at Nerul, Mumbai on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September for 45 couples.



## Live Christ Share Christ, Live Life

13 couples attended the program on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September conducted in North Goa.



**Br. AV Jose will be remembered as an ardent evangelist who counted the cost and found it worth everything he had to offer; because what Jesus had done for him and through him was far more than he had asked for. Not only did he find it the pearl of great price but invited everyone he knew to rejoice with him and experience it for themselves. May the Word that he treasured in his heart be the cause for his joy in eternity, and may Mama Mary whom he loved so tenderly be a source of comfort for his family, friends and all those who looked to him for inspiration and guidance.**

**Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.**

**May his soul rest in peace.**

**~Amen~**

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## CONSECRATION TO OUR LADY OF VICTORY



O Blessed Virgin Mary, you with your Son Jesus crushed the head of the serpent.

In the spiritual war that continues to rage in the heavens and on earth, you have already won the victory.

Your holy warriors stand before you, dear Mother Mary.

We consecrate ourselves to the cause of your Son Jesus, the Redeemer of the world, and to you as his Co-Redemptrix. We dedicate ourselves to the task of winning souls for the Kingdom. We commit to battle against all evil forces.

Cover us with your mantle of protection as you send us forth under your banner. Amen.

Mary, Star of the New Evangelization, pray for us.



### Engaged Couples Program

8 participants attended the program on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of September in Bangalore.



### Blessed Is She

A National Handmaids Conference was attended by more than 300 participants on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September in Goa.



### Redefined

A Christian Life Seminar for the unmarried Singles was conducted for 65 participants on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September.



### Outreach Program

10 couples attended the program conducted on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at Cascia Church, Mangalore.



### Outreach Program

Sacred Heart Parish, Santa Cruz conducted an outreach to the migrants residing in the Parish on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September. The session was animated by the Missionary Families of Christ (MFC) with our full time workers encouraging the participants to "Live the Word" through Liturgical Bible Study.



### Outreach Program

13 couples attended the program conducted on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September at Bondel Church, Mangalore.

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*We wish you a  
Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year 2023.*