



FR

April 2022

AGNEL

SHRAM NEWS

*Alleluia!
We are
Easter People!*



FR. AGNEL
ASHRAM

NEWS

April 2022

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Printed & Published by:

Fr. Peter D'Souza, sfx on behalf of Agnel Publications

Editor:

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Printed at:

S.B.M. Printers

C-130, Ansa Industrial Estate, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400 072.

Place of Publication:

Fr. Agnel Ashram, Bandstand, Bandra, Mumbai - 400 050.

Single Copy Price: Rs. 15

Annual Subscription: Rs. 150



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Happy Easter Christ Has Truly Risen! Alleluia!

An Easter Appeal

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

We, the Agnel Ashram Community, together with the children of our Balbhavan, wish you all a Happy Easter.

Hallelujah! Jesus is risen from the dead! That is what we celebrate on Easter. His resurrection from the dead gives us hope for a New Life. This hope of new life helps us to do a lot of service for our fellow human beings.

Your contribution has always helped us to give a future for our children in Balbhavan and our various other community activities. We express our sincere thanks for supporting our orphanages and hope to continue the good work with your generosity in the future. God loves a cheerful giver.

May the Risen Lord Jesus Christ shower his choicest blessings upon you and your beloved family.

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2. Please issue Cheque/Draft/M.O. in favour of '**Society of St. Francis Xavier, Pilar**' and send to the address below through NEFT and email us details of donations to fragnelashranbandra@gmail.com
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Dear Fr. Superior,

I am sending my Cheque/Draft/M.O. for ₹ _____ as my EASTER GIFT for the children under your care.

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BORN TO RISE ... by the power of HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION – the apparent impossibility of the Resurrection and the necessity of its Experience in Jesus

The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead, as he had earlier promised, has been denied by many who find it difficult to explain it, according to the laws of physics, chemistry or biology or quantum physics. They say that the Resurrection of Jesus is a myth created by the Christians to bolster the “Messianic” (the Promised One) character of Jesus as a Son of God, so that through the Resurrection, the Christians could retrospectively prove that all that Jesus has taught and said during His lifetime was true.

It is true that the Resurrection from the dead, was something unheard of, and when that fact is accepted one is bound to accept as true all the rest that is connected with that event, namely the fact that He is God, and that His teachings are real.

In order to deny the Resurrection of Jesus, one would have to also deny that ‘human life’ is only a matter of space and time and that life ends because, human life, like that of any other living being – appears in time, and is consumed and vanishes because it ceases to exist.

In order to uphold this theory that human life is only a biological fact and nothing beyond it, it is also necessary to predicate that the universal yearning of every human being, to live forever, and that throughout human history, man has not left any stone unheard to seek to define and seek the ‘beyond’ in order to be ‘connected’ with ‘it’, because that ‘connectedness’ has been considered as essential part and parcel of his own identity as humans.

Mankind’s insatiable quest, from the beginning to seek the ‘beyond’, and invent ways and means to ‘propitiate’ the ‘beyond’ or the ‘divine’,

so that he becomes acceptable to ‘IT’, is an unassailable argument to predicate that mankind has always sought to reach out beyond the limits of his physical possibilities. Although there have been atheists who have been proposing the non-existence of life beyond, their argument is that, there is no proof of ‘it’ and that the ‘beyond’ or the ‘divine’ is a ploy created by humans, to seek to gain control over the lives of other humans, through religion or spirituality.

The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is as inexplicable, as it is essential to explain the universal quest for meaning. If humanity has to survive, and not succumb to the greed and the desire to dominate other human beings, by exterminating the rest, there has to be a purpose not to follow the ‘law of the jungle’ where one survives by exterminating or dominating over the others, and rendering them incapable of being what they desire to be. The idea of truth, righteousness, ‘dharma’, is not possible without connecting with the ‘beyond’, something that exists, lives and beckons us to ‘itself’, although invisible and inaccessible to us. The Resurrection of Jesus is an inevitable phenomenon, without which ‘mankind’ cannot be explained.

The most important fact around the Resurrection of Jesus, is not that it is real, but that it truly fulfills what mankind was always looking for, the ability to seek and ‘find’ the ONE. This quest eludes man, because he is aware of his material limitations, that do not permit him to survive endlessly and also deny his urge to ‘survive’ in another ‘form’ (spiritual form), because he has no means to overcome his ‘moral frailty’, ‘unworthiness’ or ‘sinfulness’.

The Resurrection of Jesus, tells the world what it always wanted to hear, (i) 'the existence' of 'quantum matter', which can be explained as 'realities beyond space, time and matter' and (ii) the power of the Almighty, the All Powerful, to 'assume on itself', our limitations of being unable to overcome our 'moral frailty', 'our unworthiness', 'our sinfulness'.

The Resurrection of Jesus is the result of the (i) 'impossible' assumption by 'THE ETERNAL, THE INDIVISIBLE,' of the 'limited' human form, thus rendering the possibility of 'quantum matter' (a form of matter what we cannot understand and we would like to call 'subtle matter' of 'glorious body'), and the (ii) 'unacceptable' fact that the 'MOST PERFECT, MOST SPOTLESS', having made itself 'temporarily' subject to the 'frailty', 'sinfulness' of mankind, so that the 'unlimited perfection' of the Divine, 'annihilates' the sinfulness, that IT 'temporarily' owns up (through surrender to God, on behalf of the entire humanity) to dissolve its unworthiness, frailty, impurity, in its 'UNDEFFINABLE HOLINESS, UNDESCRIBABLE OMNIPOTENCE AND UNPERISHABLE PURITY'.

When mankind, created or made in the image of the Divine, faulted, by its arrogant desire to apportion to itself, the form of the Divine, according to whose image it had been made, the Divine stooped down, to assume that 'image of itself' (the Incarnation of God in human history); after assuming the frailty of the entire human nature, the DIVINITY, through a 'cathartic' process (the Death of Jesus on the Cross), annihilated that frailty (death and burial) and rose triumphantly in a new form, that is proper to the Divine, THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD. The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead, is one event that contains in itself the 'actual Resurrection' of the entire human race, for all times to come.

The Resurrection from the dead is available to all those who believe that belief in Jesus and surrender to His Love, can transform any ordinary human being, into a 'glorious' human being, who through his 'surrender to the power of Jesus', avails of the power of the Risen Lord! Happy Easter.

-Fr. Jose Alarico Carvalho

AGNEL CO-OPERATORS

You can join the Ashram Family by becoming a member of Agnel Co-operators and enjoy the fruits of a Special Daily Mass offered at Fr. Agnel Ashram, Bandra for all the members. You will also enjoy the fruits of all the prayers and good works of the Agnel Ashram Fathers and entire Agnel Ashram Family.

Membership Fees:-

Ordinary Co-operators	: Individual ₹100/-
Family	: ₹500/-
Benefactors	: ₹1000/-
Patrons	: ₹5000/-

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Rev. Fr. Superior, Fr. Agnel Ashram, Bandstand, Bandra (W), Mumbai-400 050.

A Fascinating Easter Spirituality

-Leon Bent

The purpose of writing this Reflection is to propound the great Liturgical treasure, the Easter Vigil Service offers us. We will be delighted with its novelty and picturesqueness, and the extraordinary spirituality contained in the many symbols it offers. The Night Vigil, not only has a singular dignity, but is endowed by a sacramental efficacy and power to nourish Christian life. It prefigures and promises the full realisation of God's plan for the salvation of humankind, on the "Day of the Lord," "The Last Judgement" or the "Parousia."

The service is saturated with biblical images, symbols and allusions: Fire, light, wax, oil, incense – which derive their effectiveness from the "Exodus," and other allusions of the Old Testament. All must have their wondrous connotations, must evoke stirring memories, stir and propound vivid pictures in the minds of the faithful who see, hear and participate, with their hearts probably skipping a beat!

The congregation must feel they themselves are part of the amazing story, actors in it, in the here and now, because it will be finished on the Last Day. The faithful must walk with Jesus, be filled with astonishment, gratitude and triumphant joy at the marvellous way God has dealt in now managing, and in future will handle His people, saved through the death, resurrection and ascension of Christ, His Son – the historical and eschatological, merge.

At Easter, the celebration of the Paschal Mysteries, is at the very heart of this great feast. It is a celebration of God leading His people from slavery (also sin) to new life in salvific freedom. The Liturgy enshrines the very life of the Church. Easter fire – the "nocturnal flame," at which the Celebrant calls on God to dissipate the darkening of the night: the evil in the world is lit up with Jesus, the Light of the world.

The Easter Vigil or "night watch," celebrates the Christian mysteries as its climax. The Jews, ever since their original Exodus from Egypt, spend this night in "watching and prayer"...

as a continuation and commemoration as the "Chosen People." The Jews looked forward with expectancy, to the coming of the Messiah. Contemporary Christians are yearning for his Second Coming in glory, when the risen Christ will dazzle us with his brilliance at the Parousia. We shall pass to God from this "vale of tears," this "exile," to rejoice for all eternity, with Christ.

Our Vigil is not "pious play-acting." It is an actual waiting, an actual looking forward to, and preparing for the Parousia. If we truly love our Master/Messiah, we will long for his coming. These beautiful words should often be on our lips and ring lyrically in our hearts: It was typical of the early Christians: to recite or sing this powerful mantra, **"Marnatha! Come, Lord Jesus!"** – at least a hundred times over.

The first surprise that meets our gaze at the Easter Vigil Service is a fire burning at the entrance of the Church – but outside – in total darkness. The priest inscribes "Alpha" and "Omega" on the Easter Candle. The first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet. The beginning and the end. Jesus came at his Incarnation and will come again at the Parousia. The priest implants into the candle five grains of incense, which represent the five wounds of Jesus. The candle is lit and becomes even more Christ-like, when it is lighted, as the Celebrant sings vibrantly: **The Light of Christ!**

As the Priest enters the Church the paschal proclamation is sung. He proclaims the glory of this particular night in a rousing song of unsurpassable beauty – the **Exultet!**

This is the Song of Praise of the Paschal Candle and of the paschal (relating to the Jewish Passover or Easter) night. It is a panegyric, a proclamation of the victory of Christ who rose triumphantly from the tomb. It is not quite certain who wrote the exquisitely beautiful and poetic text. Some thought it was St. Augustine, but the majority of scholars attribute it to St. Ambrose, going back to the 4th Century A.D.

Contd. on pg 8

Easter has a Message of Hope

-Ibonio D'Souza

Easter 2022 marks two years of Covid-19 and a planet that's thirsty for the love and hope that can be only found in Jesus Christ. There has never been a greater love story than the story of God sending His Only Son to die for sinners and rise to life again! But with everything that is going on, how do you share this hope and get people to listen?

To see the love that God has for us, we need not look any further than the cross of Calvary. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we have been given an opportunity to embrace the resurrection life. When God is on the throne of your life, even Covid-19 cannot take your hope! This new way of living changes everything. It wipes away our past, it redefines our present and it gives us hope for our future.

LOVE REIGNS: As Jesus was being crucified, the soldiers mocked him by placing a crown of thorns on his head and placing a sign over his head that read "King of the Jews." They did not see him as the true King who rules and reigns. After Jesus' resurrection, he revealed himself to his disciples and because of his defeat of death, he claims all authority over heaven and earth. It was Jesus' love for us that held him on the cross. His love reigns in our lives when we put our faith, hope and trust in him.

Jesus's death and resurrection proves that he is the king and had authority over everything. But unlike worldly authorities, Jesus acts with love towards us, freeing us of burdens we were never meant to carry, and giving us freedom and hope.

LOVE REIGNS OVER OUR PAST: Jesus Christ demonstrated his love for humanity by sacrificially giving his life on the cross and resurrecting from the dead. Because of this incredible act of love, those who are in Christ have become new creations. All our past mistakes, sins and miscues have been covered by the blood of Jesus. Our past no longer has the last word and final say over our lives and we have been given a fresh start. We have been reconciled to God and we in turn can give hope to others

by making an appeal for God's forgiving love to them as well.

Is it not nice to know that our past does not define us? Now think about all the people in our community who do not know this truth. People who carry heavy burdens of guilt, shame and unworthiness around with them every day, have no hope and cannot see a better life. We therefore need to invite people in our community to lay down their pasts to realise that they are created for more and that they can start fresh with the love only Jesus can bring.

LOVE REIGNS OVER OUR PRESENT: God's great mercy became a transforming reality through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This mercy is a result of God's love for us and this love invites us to live differently in the present. We are to be living sacrifices that no longer confirm to the patterns of the world. The world around us is deceptive, selfish, angry and foolish. These cannot be the patterns we live by today. Rather, we must renew the way we think and in doing so we will discover God's will for us in the present. This is not easy; however, a living sacrifice is always tempted to crawl back off the altar.

The world around us is deceptive, selfish, angry and foolish. These cannot be the patterns we live by today. Many people feel this way about our society, but feel powerless to change it. We all want more kindness and consideration but few of us realise that many of the decisions we make today, determine who we will be in the future. We may not be able to change the world, but we can influence our little part of it for the better when we replace destructive patterns in our lives with God's way of living. Using this theme, we could invite our community members to think about and discuss what types of small changes everyone can make that will make our neighbourhood a better place to live.

LOVE REIGNS OVER OUR FUTURE: Too many people are consumed with worry and anxiety about what tomorrow might hold. This

Contd. on pg 16

Easter - A Gift of Hope and Faith

-Christine D'Sylva

The Resurrection is at the core of our beliefs as Christians, without it our faith is meaningless.

What is Easter? Most kids equate Easter with Easter eggs and Easter bunnies.

This is not a bad thing because any feast which is associated with pleasant, happy memories is a feast that makes a big impression on young impressionable minds. Of course, eggs denote new life and this is easy to explain to kids. Easter basically is a symbol of new life and thus we buy or make Easter eggs to celebrate new life.

Easter thus has a very positive sign to the world. It comes after a period of penance and fasting which is the forty-day period of Lent.

Similarly, Jesus too underwent great suffering before his Resurrection. He was beaten, tortured and crucified on the cross at Calvary. Then after he had been buried, his promise to his disciples came true. He was resurrected from the dead and he rose again.

He appeared to his disciples. At first, when they saw him, they were convinced that he was a spirit. He asked for food and they gave him a piece of broiled fish and a honeycomb. He took it and ate before them. He also told them that it was written that he had to suffer and then to rise from the dead on the third day.

He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." The message here is important for the stresses of forgiving others who trespass against us. Only when we forgive, our sins too shall be forgiven by God.

However, Thomas one of the disciples was not present and he was skeptical hearing the news. He could not believe that Jesus was resurrected. He said to the disciples, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." Till today we use this idiom, doubting Thomas, to denote a person who needs proof before believing something.

After eight days when all of the disciples were together, Jesus appeared again to them. He stood among them and said, "Peace be unto you." Then he told Thomas to reach out his finger and touch his hands and side. He told Thomas not to be faithless but to believe. Thomas answered, "My Lord and my God." Jesus then said, "Thomas because you have seen me you have believed. Blessed are they who have not seen, yet believed."

This is a very important statement because it tells us that Jesus is pleased by our belief in him and he blesses us for our belief and faith. Thus the feast of Easter is a symbol of belief, faith and new beginnings. It symbolises hope and good times ahead. This does not mean our lives will be with no suffering but it means because of our faith and belief, Jesus Christ will lend us the faith and courage to persevere in our journey in life with hope and joy.

Thus Easter is so precious and an integral part of our faith. It may be a bit doubtful if Christianity would have spread worldwide and become such an important religion had it not been for Easter. Jesus appeared to his disciples for forty days and told them that by the power of the Holy Spirit, they would serve as witnesses for him, in not just Jerusalem, but to all the corners of the Earth.

On the last day of his visit, he led them as far as Bethany, lifted his hands and blessed them. Then he was taken up and a cloud received him out of their sight.

The words of Jesus came true for at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came from Heaven like a rushing mighty wind and on each of them were the tongues of flame. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in other languages as the Spirit led them to do so. Thus began the ministry of the disciples. This resulted in Christianity spreading to all parts of the globe and receiving worldwide recognition.

Here is a story about how even nature celebrates Easter with joy and reverence. Pine Trees seem

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Our minds should be active and alert to understand the meaning and implications of the sublime aesthetic text, and our hearts should sing with gratitude for the great mercies of God, which are described in exquisite detail. It is not a mere recital of facts, for we do not just have intelligence, but are also gifted with imagination and emotions; it is meant to move our hearts and will, to make us thrill with wonder, throb with gratitude, and exult with joy. It is filled with lyrical poetry, with all manner of scriptural allusions to evoke images, recall stirring events of the past, and stimulate our yearnings for the future. The Exultet uses metaphor, paradox, hyperbole and all the other nuances of the rhetoric. For the Church sings 'tonight' of the Christian mysteries, first enacted by Christ long ago, but ever renewed amongst us in our paschal celebrations. The Exultet is invigorating, electrifying and sensational. The setting is perfect: the entire Church ablaze with light, while darkness reigns outside.

All the participants standing with lighted candles in their hands; the deacon arrayed in the most splendid white "dalmatic" which (is a long, wide-sleeved tunic, which serves as a liturgical vestment in the Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, United Methodist, and some other churches) the parish can afford; dominating the whole scene, the great Paschal Candle with its Sign of the Cross, Alpha, Omega, the date, the grains of incense, surmounted by its glowing flame. There is a moment of expectant stillness; then, he begins singing one of the loveliest tunes ever composed – an inspiring appeal that all heaven and earth should rejoice.

Next, we listen to the Readings from Scripture. The Jews were constituted into a "people" only by passing through the water of the Red Sea. This reminds us of the wonder of our Baptism, and is among the chief lessons we learn at the Easter Vigil. So, we sing the Litany of the Saints. Then, we move to the Blessing of the water, with instructive prayers. Now, the priest breathes

over the water, which indicates the action of the Holy Spirit, the lowering in the water of the Paschal Candle which represents Christ, and the pouring in of the Sacred Oils, in the Name of the Blessed Trinity.

If there are any catechumens or newcomers for Baptism, this is the moment when the sacrament is conferred on them. Additionally, the Congregation renew their Baptismal Vows. This ceremony must impose on us "baptismal consciousness!" A radical breaking from the past, and an embracing of the future, which shakes every participant to the core – a titillating and fascinating revolution of mind and heart.

We hold our lighted Christ-candle; answering the questions, not in the singular, but in the plural. This should bring home to us that in Baptism, we become members of the Mystical Body of Christ. "We are Christ's Body, members of it, depending on one another" (1 Cor.12:27). The share in the Christ-life which is ours, does not come to us in isolation; we are the privileged ones because we are incorporated into the grace-filled "Body," which is the Church. By pronouncing the baptismal vows, we express our deliberate adherence to Christ. We make a solemn pledge to transform ourselves as children of the light! We must "become holy as the Lord is holy" (Lev.11:44-45; 20-26; 1 Peter 1:3; Mt. 28:18-20). This invitation is incredibly precious and a vital treasure, beyond imagination!

At the Easter Mass the risen Jesus will come into our hearts, as we all share in the sacrificial banquet, which is the Pasch of old - an archaic name for Passover – made mysteriously present in the Easter Mass.

Easter is extraordinarily awesome because, all of Christianity revolves around the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. If Jesus did not die for our sins, or if he did not rise again after three days, then, the entire hope of Christianity is based upon nothing but lies and falsities.

Education World India School Rankings

The annual Education World India School Rankings (EWISR) is known to be the world's largest and most comprehensive schools ranking survey.

Recently, **Education World**, in association with **C Fore**, Delhi has concluded its 15th annual Education World India School Rankings survey. **Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi**, Navi Mumbai, has once again continued to retain its position among the top ten schools of Navi Mumbai and among the Top 106 in the country, in the Co-Ed Day schools category. It is noteworthy that very few State Board schools feature in top schools list in this survey.

The vice principal, Ms. Rupa Duvvuri, collected the award from Sapna Sukul, founder Edustart and Sanjeev Bolia, founder and MD, Affairs Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd. at the awards ceremony held on 18th December, 2021 in Delhi.



Mantra Mangesh Kurhe successfully crosses from Dharamtar to Gateway of India

12-year-old Mantra Kurhe, resident of Koparkhairne successfully crossed the Arabian Sea from Dharamtar Jetty to Gateway of India. Starting from Dharamtar Jetty at 1 a.m., she made her way across the 38-km open sea to reach the Gateway of India at 8.54 a.m. Her swim of 7 hours and 54 min was noted by the observer from the Swimming Association of Maharashtra and she was felicitated for her achievement at the Gateway promenade by **Shri Munawar Patel**,



ex-corporator NMMC, among other friends and well-wishers.

Mantra has previously crossed from Elephanta to Gateway of India in 2021. She also has to her credit many wins at National level open water swimming events.

Mantra is a Std. VII student of Fr. Agnel School Vashi and is trained by coaches Gokul Kamath and Amit Awale, at the Fr. Agnel swimming pool in Vashi.

Women's Day Programme at F.C.R.I.T., Vashi

On the eve of International Women's Day on 8th March, 2022, the **Internal Complaints Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment against Women (ICC PPSHW)** organised its first offline event for all the girl students and women staff members of **Fr. Conceicao Rodrigues Institute of Technology (FCRIT), Vashi**. The event started with a beautiful tribute to Late Lata

Mangeshkar by Megha ma'am with a medley of songs. Then followed by a talk related to "Women's Health" by our guest speaker, Dr. Mini Nampoothiri about women's health issues and useful preventions and cautions to be taken to avoid diseases.

The event then proceeded with a string of cultural activities with teachers performing "Kannagi"



dance, followed by singing performance by the Rhythm music club of **FR.CRIT**, solo singing performance by Suvarna ma'am, group singing by the office staff members and an amazing act on the life of "Hirkani and her bravery" by the Drama house of the institute. Over 150 girl



students and women staff members attended the event.

Members of the committee included Mini R, Pritha, Lata R, Shalini T, Anshuta Kakuste (Comps 8), Shikha Menon (Electrical 8) and Anya Gupta (IT 8).

VERNA, GOA

P.C.C.E. Celebrates International Women's Day 2022

International Women's Day is annually celebrated with great enthusiasm at Padre Conceicao College of Engineering (PCCE), Verna, Goa. This year two very special events were organised to mark the occasion.

A **Breast Cancer Awareness Camp** was conducted at Agnel Technical Education Complex, Verna, Goa, in association with **YouWeCan, Yuvraj Singh Foundation**. 109 ladies from the campus attended the engaging presentation, followed by a Cancer Screening. Co-ordinated by college counsellor, Ms. Nisha



Gonsalves, the session aimed to empower women in the fight over cancer through awareness, prevention, early detection, patient support and survivor empowerment.

PCCE also organised a programme in the PCCE Auditorium to celebrate the women staff. Dr.

Jayalaxmi Devate, Head of E-Comp Department welcomed the gathering and highlighted the significance of "International Women's Day". There were fun games and lively singing, all curated based on this year's theme - "Break the Bias". The evening ended with delightful refreshments and group pictures to cherish. The



function was compered by Ms. Nadia Fernandes.

Here's to strong and caring women. May we know them. May we be them. May we raise them. Happy Women's Day 2022.

P.C.C.E.'s Team BHP Excels at National Robotics Championship

Congratulations to PCCE's **Team BHP Robotics** for being Semi-finalists at the **National Robotics Competition** organised by Parul University, Gujarat. The team consisted of students from all programmes (Mech/IT/Comp/ETC) and defeated teams from VIT Vellore and NITTE, in the valiant fight to the semi-finals. We are extremely proud of the students for managing this feat, even though



the competition was immediately after their semester examinations.

P.C.C.E. Students Collaborate with BSNL Ltd. on State-level Project

Padre Conceicao College of Engineering, Verna was invited by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited to participate in the project **"Performance Evaluation of free Wi-Fi Hotspots in the state of Goa"**.

Mandira Nagarsekar (ETC), Sashreek Dhaimodkar

(Computers), Heera Kholkar (ETC), and Shubham Bhalerao (ETC) performed testing and performance evaluation of the Wi-Fi Hotspots

in the state of Goa on 16th and 18th February, 2022.



The project was co-ordinated by PCCE-RDCC, Dept. of E-Comp Engineering and Divisional Manager of BSNL Ltd.

We appreciate the efforts of Ms. Sharlaine

Monteiro (E-Comp faculty, PCCE), Mr. Ramprakash Parab (BSNL) and Ms. Neeta Chaurasia (BSNL) for co-ordinating the testing at 24 sites in the state of Goa.

P.C.C.E. Celebrates International Day of Mathematics 2022

Information Technology Department of Padre Conceicao College of Engineering, Verna celebrated the **"International Day of Mathematics 2022"** (IDM 2022) on 14th March. The theme for IDM-2022 was "Mathematics Unites".

IDM is a prestigious project led by the International Mathematical Union with the support of numerous international and regional organisations. The event hosted by Padre Conceicao College of Engineering; Verna has been published on the world map by International Mathematical Union.

The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Stephen Dias Barreto, Head of Basic Sciences and

Humanities Department. He spoke on "Role of Mathematics in Core and Emerging Areas of Information Technology".

There were also some interesting sessions conducted by the faculty of Information Technology on the "Role of Mathematics in IT Courses Taught". Asso. Prof. Dr. Terence Johnson (Algorithms and Machine Learning),



Agnel Happenings

Asst. Prof. Ameya Wadekar (Image Processing), Asst. Prof. Siddesh V. Savant (Finite Automata), Asst. Prof. Ravina Rodrigues Quadros (Computer Graphics) and Asst. Prof. Natasha D'Costa (Neural Networks) were the speakers.



P.C.C.E. hosts Congress on Research in Engineering, Science and Management (CRESM 2022)

Padre Conceicao College of Engineering (PCCE) in collaboration with Soft Computing Research Society (SCRS) of India was proud to host the **Congress on Research, Engineering, Science and Management 2022 (CRESM 2022)** from 10th to 12th March, 2022. The event brought together researchers, academicians, industry and government personnel, to share and discuss the various aspects of Engineering, Science and Management.

Dr. Swagatam Das, ISI Kolkata was the Chief Guest for the Inaugural function. Dr. Amar Kishor, faculty at Magadham University was the Guest of Honour. The ceremony was also graced by Dr. Jagdish Chand Bansal, General Secretary of SCRS, India, Rev. Fr. Agnelo Gomes, Director of Agnel Technical Education, Verna (ATEC), Dr. Mahesh Parappagoudar, Principal of PCCE and Asso. Prof. Shailesh Khanolkar, General Chair, CRESM22.

Dr. Mahesh Parappagoudar welcomed the participants. Fr. Agnelo Gomes gave an insightful overview of the work done at ATEC. He also spoke about the silver jubilee anniversary

celebrations of PCCE. Mr. Shailesh Khanolkar briefed the audience regarding the ubiquitous nature of Soft Computing techniques and their applications.

Dr. Jagdish Chand Bansal spoke about the activities of the Soft Computing Research Society of India. He announced that the **2nd International Conference on Advances in Computing and Intelligent Systems will be held at PCCE in September 2022.**

The inaugural ceremony was followed by two keynote addresses. The first address was by

Dr. Amar Kishor on "Multi-objective Optimisation". The second session was by Dr. Swagatam Das, ISI Kolkata on the topic "Machine Learning: An Overview".

The technical session was presided over by Dr. Adarsh Handa and assisted by Ms. Sufola

Chagas Silva. Seven papers were presented in offline mode and thirty papers were presented in the online mode.

The vote of thanks for the valedictory session was proposed by Ms. Louella Mesquita.



ASSAGAON, GOA

IIC, in collaboration with Women's Cell at A.I.T.D., organises online Webinars to celebrate Women's Day

The Women's Cell at Agnel Institute of Technology and Design, Assagao, Goa, celebrated Women's Day on 8th March, 2022. The event was held online from 2 to 4 p.m. Two webinars were organised for the girl students and the lady staff of the institute. The topic of the first webinar was **"Decoding women health with the wisdom of Ayurveda"**. The speaker, Dr. Sneha Bhagwat (Bachelor in Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery), President at Goa Ayurvedic Medicine Council, briefed the students on the various stages of hormonal changes in the human body and how to tackle the issues that arise with their growing age. She even suggested the various

yoga asanas to be performed and the remedies to be followed during their menstrual period.

IIC, in collaboration with Women's Cell at A.I.T.D. organised the second online Webinar titled **'Success Tips to Young and Aspiring**

Entrepreneurs' to celebrate Women's Day. The speaker, Mrs. Urvashi Gohil, Founder of Intelligent Ideas, Goa suggested the tips to be followed in college life that will help the students to become successful entrepreneur in their



future. She even guided the students on how to start with small scale business. And that the students should aim to achieve their goals by coming out of their home shell and explore the things present in their neighbourhood as well. The event was attended by 61 participants.

A.I.T.D. organises an online webinar based on 'Differential Equations and Its Applications'

The Basic Science and Humanities Department at Agnel Institute of Technology and Design organised an online webinar on **'Differential Equations and its Applications'** on 18th March, 2022 for Second and Third Year ECE students.

Dr. Shivraj Kumar explained the geometric interpretation of derivatives and stated the importance of derivatives in various subjects other than mathematics. He explained the general form of first order, first degree differential equations

with different examples. He gave the definitions of the order and degree and also the procedures to find the same. Further, he differentiated between exact and non-exact differential equations and explained the procedures to find the solutions to exact differential equations. He stated the application of differential equations in the field of engineering.

He asked questions in between his talk and gave explanations for the queries asked. The coordinator for this programme was Utkarsha Joshi.

Women's Cell at A.I.T.D. organises 'Free Breast Cancer Screening Camp'

The Women's Cell at Agnel Institute of Technology and Design organised a **'Free Breast Cancer Screening Camp'** on 17th

March, 2022 for all women in and around Mapusa. The camp was organised in association with YOUWECAN Foundation. It was a full day

camp from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dr. Niky Hadfadkar, Doctor in Homeopathy Medicine, diagnosed the staff. The camp was carried out in the Electronic Instrumentation Laboratory of the Electronics

and Communications Engineering Department. Around 35 ladies participated in this event, out of which 10 ladies were outsiders.

A.I.T.D. Institute Innovation Council organises a field trip visit to CIBA, Verna, Goa

A field trip to Verna CIBA and to Fatorda at Goa State Innovation Council (incubation and pre-incubation unit) was organised by AITD Institute Innovation Council. It was arranged for all the IIC members and seven students compulsory from all the classes (1st to 4th year) of all branches. Travelling was arranged by the college.

In the morning, the students with their respective teachers headed to Verna first where they were explained about the opportunities CIBA provides, start-up and business ideas, grants and schemes available and encouraged everyone to think innovative. All doubts related to start-ups,

business, facilities, etc. were cleared. Later, a visit to the offices of different start-ups was arranged, to gain a lot of insights from their experiences shared with respect to entrepreneurship. Also a demonstration of 3D printer, scanners, laser cutters, food processing room was shown and its uses and methods were explained.

After the lunch break, the students and faculty members headed to Fatorda. A workshop on 3D printing was held. Different 3D models were shown, machine operations were explained and its outputs and demo of the same were shown live. Students affirmed that the trip was a tremendously optimistic experience for them.



Institute Innovation Council, A.I.T.D. organises Internal Hackathon

For the inaugural function the Advisor of the institute, Dr. V. Mariappan, Principal, Dr. J. William, Registrar, Prof. Laxmikant Bordekar and the jury members, Mr. Malcolm D'Souza, Mr. Sanjay Mulvi and Mr. Shaunak Pai Kane were present to grace the occasion.

A total of **15 teams participated in internal hackathon.** The teams selected problem statements from www.sih.gov.in from organisations such as, Department of Science

& Technology (DoST), Ministry of Science and Technology, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, International Council for Circular Economy (ICCE), etc. and presented their ideas to find solutions to the given problem.

The jury members selected 10 sure teams and five waitlisted teams amongst all the participant teams and the results were announced. Further, the jury members addressed the gathering and

gave some valuable feedback and motivated students to participate in such events.



A token of appreciation was given to all the jury members and the function ended with vote of thanks proposed by Prof. Gauri Gaunekar.



A.I.T.D. conducts Certified Training Programme on Concept Design to Manufacturing

A three day certified training programme on **concept design to manufacturing using CNC machine** was successfully conducted at Hi-Tech Lab of Department of Mechanical Engineering at Agnel Institute of Technology and Design. Training was conducted in two batches. Batch 1 was trained from 7th March to 9th March, 2022. Batch 2 was trained from 15th to 17th March, 2022.

Resource persons for the training



Goa and Mr. Deniz Fernandes, Workshop Instructor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, AITD Goa. During the training programme, participants were taught to write manual part programme for turning application and the same was tested on CNC Lathe. Later, participants were trained to make CNC programme using **'FeatureCAM 2021'** by



programme were Prof. Saish N. Rivankar, Department of Mechanical Engineering, AITD

importing CAD models prepared using **'SolidWorks 2015'**. 32 students across Goa participated in the programme.

A.I.T.D. participates in the 'Yuva Sadbhav' Programme Organised by Fr. Agnel Pilar Society, Goa

On 26th March, 2022 about nine students attended the '**Yuva Sadbhav**', an interfaith programme organised by Fr. Agnel, Pilar Society, Goa. The programme introduced the students to people of different religious backgrounds. The programme was aimed to facilitate genuine dialogue among youth, creating inter-religious awareness, overcoming prejudices and building solidarity through experiential sharing, discussion and group activities.

The programme helped the students to understand the perspective of people from faiths other than their own. They learnt to



communicate and dialogue as a team. As a part of the second day's activity, they had a nature's trail early in the morning. The programme concluded on 27th March, 2022 in the evening with prayers and talks from different community leaders of different religions.

Easter has a Message of Hope - Contd. from pg 6

fear can be paralysing. As Christians, we believe that our loving heavenly Father is always looking out for us. He takes care of the birds of the air and the flowers of the field and that gives us confidence that he will take care of us too. There is no benefit from worry, in fact, anxiety only hurts us. We should trust God and allow him to guide our steps.

If the two years of the pandemic, and now the raging catastrophic conflict between Russia and the West has taught us anything, it's that we have no control over our futures! That isn't a pleasant thought and a lot of people around us are consumed by fear and worry, but when we follow Jesus and yield to his supreme plans, we can let our worries go - he takes care of us! That is true hope.

Easter - A Gift of Hope and Faith - Contd. from pg 7

to know when it is Easter. They start their new growth, just a few weeks before Easter. It begins with yellow shoots.

As Easter Sunday approaches, the tallest shoot will branch off and form a cross. By the time Easter Sunday comes, there are rows of small yellow crosses on all the tallest shoots. It does appear that nature is celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ; the shoots pointing toward Heaven, gently waving their small yellow

crosses in jubilation and reverence. Indeed, it is a beautiful sight.

The very first Easter is a lesson that teaches us that life is eternal and true love never dies.

Let us conclude with the words of Pope John Paul II, "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and Hallelujah is our song."

Happy Easter to you!



FR. AGNEL'S BLESSINGS

RECEIVED INNUMERABLE FAVOURS

MANGALORE: My prayers have been answered. Through the intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel, our family members have received innumerable favours such as getting a good job opportunity, success in court matters, police complaint noted, promotion in job and success in examinations. In thanksgiving, I am offering Rs. 600 to the Ashram.

-P.S. Rebello

SUCCESS IN CLASS 12TH EXAM

VASAI: I have successfully completed Class 12th exam, through the kind intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel, In thanksgiving, an offering of Rs. 100 to the Ashram.

-S.V. Dabre

PROTECTION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

MULUND-MUMBAI: I am thankful to Ven. Fr. Agnel, for keeping me and my family safe, during the Covid-19 pandemic. In thanksgiving, an offering of Rs. 100 to the Ashram.

-R. Archarya

SECURED A GOOD JOB ABROAD

TAMIL NADU: Through the kind intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel, each of us has secured a good job in Sudan. In thanksgiving, an individual offering of Rs.100 each, to the Ashram.

-A. Siluvai Erald, A. Selvaraj, R. Nadar, U. Nadarajan

GOT A HOUSE

TAMIL NADU: Through the kind intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel, I have got a house and a good job in Iraq. In thanksgiving, an offering of Rs. 200, to the Ashram.

-A. Xavier

GIFT OF A CHILD

VASAI (W): After eight years, we were blessed with a son, through the prayers and intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel. With a grateful heart, we are offering Rs. 600 to the Ashram.

-P. Dabre

IN GOOD HEALTH

KOLLAM – KERALA: Our family in Kerala and the UAE has been blessed with good health, through the prayers and intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel. In thanksgiving, we are offering Rs. 350 to Fr. Agnel Ashram.

-J. Fernandez

GIFT OF A BABY GIRL

SANTA CRUZ – MUMBAI: Through the intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel, Almighty God and Lord Jesus have blessed us with a gift of a baby girl. A thanksgiving offering has been placed in the Ashram.

-T. D'Cunha

SUCCESS IN EXAMS

ANDHERI – MUMBAI: Through the kind intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel, my son secured 78% in Std. XI exams. We are making a thanksgiving offering to Fr. Agnel Ashram

- Ronaldo Evelyn Gonsalves

SECURED JOB ABROAD

AHMEDABAD - GUJARAT: Our prayers have been answered, through the kind intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnel. We have secured jobs in Paris and Canada, respectively. We have offered thanksgiving Mass at Fr. Agnel Ashram.

-Steven & Sharel Crasta

Out of Their Bounty

Sulzer Tech India	Thane	7,21,000	Princeton & Gretta	Mumbai	2,000	S. Joseph	Kerala	1,000
P. D'Silva	Karnataka	50,000	R. Daniel	Mumbai	2,000	S. D'Souza	Mumbai	1,000
C. Wade	Australia	26,739	S. Sangeetha	Mumbai	2,000	T. Scaria	Kerala	1,000
N. Anthony	Mumbai	25,000	S. Walia	Mumbai	2,000	T. Wilson	Mumbai	1,000
T. Antony & Fly	Mumbai	15,000	S. Ashen	Mumbai	2,000	W. & B. D'Souza	Mumbai	1,000
N. Upadhyaya	Mumbai	11,000	S. Thomas	Kerala	2,000	B. D'Cruz	Kerala	1,000
L. Bijoy	Mumbai	10,500	S. Dabre	Vasai	2,000	J. Thomas	Kerala	800
P. Prince	Kerala	10,500	S. Lopas	Tamil Nadu	2,000	A. Murthy	Andhra Pradesh	600
A. Avasare	Vasai	10,000	D'Mello/Pereira	Mumbai	2,000	H. Lobo	Pune	600
J. Machado	Mumbai	10,000	A. D' Costa	Mumbai	1,500	L. Alvares	Mumbai	600
L. Dias	Mumbai	10,000	K. C. D. Dabre	Vasai	1,500	P. Prajapati	Gujarat	502
M. D'Souza	Mumbai	10,000	D. Gupta	Mumbai	1,500	A. Hariawala	Mumbai	501
S. Saldanha	Karnataka	10,000	F. Brahmane	Mumbai	1,500	B. Chander/ R.Sara	Tamil Nadu	501
Y. Randeria	Mumbai	10,000	G. Nunes	Mumbai	1,500	D. Ingale	Thane	501
C. Alvares	Mumbai	6,000	S. Lopes/Blaise	Virar	1,500	M. Kurien	Karnataka	501
M. Fernandes	Mumbai	6,000	S. Colaco	Mumbai	1,500	A. D' Cruz	Vasai	500
R. Muniz	Mumbai	6,000	G. Sheikh	Mumbai	1,200	A. D'Mello	Virar	500
Phil/W. Fernandes	Mumbai	6,000	K. Raiyani	Mumbai	1,100	A. Gosavi	Nashik	500
J. Adhav	Pune	5,200	L. Chavan	Mumbai	1,001	A. Kapure	Nashik	500
A. Nero	Kerala	5,000	A. Philip	Kerala	1,000	A. Nadar	Mumbai	500
A. Crasto	Thane	5,000	A. Andavan	Mumbai	1,000	A. Pereira	Mumbai	500
J. Puthur	Kerala	5,000	A. Gaikwad	Mumbai	1,000	A. Faroz	Vasai	500
J. Patel	USA	5,000	A. Stephen	Tamil Nadu	1,000	A. K. Dandekar	Vasai	500
M. Pereira	Vasai	5,000	A. Jadhav	Kerala	1,000	A. Braganza	Thane	500
R. Carvalho	Vasai	5,000	A. Surve	Panvel	1,000	A. Fernando	Tamil Nadu	500
S. Menezes	Vasai	5,000	A. Kuttikadan	Dombivli	1,000	A. Attara	Mumbai	500
S. Swamy	Mumbai	5,000	A. Carvalho	Vasai	1,000	A. Patel	Mumbai	500
Subramaniam R.	Mumbai	5,000	B. Dutt	West Bengal	1,000	A. Lade	Mumbai	500
S. Almeida	Vasai	5,000	Capt. Rebello	Mumbai	1,000	C. K. Jacob	Kerala	500
Techno Products	Chennai	5,000	C. Bardolwala	Mumbai	1,000	C. D'Souza	Vasai	500
V. Reddy	Hyderabad	5,000	C. Nariman	Mumbai	1,000	C. Vaja	London	500
B. Maliakkal	Kerala	4,000	D. Author	Gujarat	1,000	C. D'Mello	Virar	500
J. Patel	U. S. A.	4,000	E. Clifford	Mumbai	1,000	D. Samuel	Mumbai	500
S. S. D'Mello	Vasai	4,000	F. D'Souza	Vasai	1,000	Dhanalakshmi &		
A. Antony	Kerala	3,000	F. Thekketh	Kerala	1,000	Chandra Family	Mumbai	500
Dr. Tony/Y Fernandes	Kerala	3,000	G. Rajesh	Ahmednagar	1,000	D. Gopal	Vashi	500
E. Pereira	Mumbai	3,000	Irudayaraj M.	Tamil Nadu	1,000	J. Baptist	Tamil Nadu	500
G. Xavier	Kerala	3,000	I. Rodrigues	Vasai	1,000	J. Doshi	Mumbai	500
L. Mascarenhas	Mumbai	3,000	J. Chackochen	Kerala	1,000	J. Thakkar	Mumbai	500
P. D'Abreo	Mumbai	3,000	J. Saldanha	Mumbai	1,000	J. Faroz	Vasai	500
S. Inigo	Tamil Nadu	3,000	J. Lobo	Mumbai	1,000	K. Parkhe	Pune	500
T. Edward/M. Sudha	Mumbai	3,000	J. Lopes	Vasai	1,000	L. D'Mello	Virar	500
A. Thomas	Kerala	2,500	Kambale L.	Ahmednagar	1,000	Machado &		
S Condillac	Mumbai	2,500	K. Fernandes	Mumbai	1,000	Sons Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	500
Sonia	Mumbai	2,471	L. Abraham	Kerala	1,000	M. Bhavsar	Mumbai	500
Falgunz	Thane	2,350	L. Almeida	Mumbai	1,000	M. D'Souza	Vasai	500
Gala/Gaikwad	Dombivli	2,350	L. D'Souza	Palghar	1,000	M. D'Souza	Mumbai	500
B. Parmar	Mumbai	2,200	M. Prasad	Mumbai	1,000	M. Forgose	Vasai	500
A. Elavia	Mumbai	2,000	M. Prasad	Kerala	1,000	M. Lobo	Virar	500
A. Coutinho	Vasai	2,000	M. Antony	Kerala	1,000	N. Lopes	Vasai	500
A. D'Souza	Mumbai	2,000	M. Chandra	Kerala	1,000	N. Amolik	Ahmednagar	500
B. Dabre	Vasai	2,000	M. D'Souza	Pune	1,000	N. Shah	Hyderabad	500
C. Engles	Punjab	2,000	M. D'Souza	Mumbai	1,000	N. Cerejo	Vasai	500
Dr. Mathai	Kerala	2,000	N. Abraham	Mumbai	1,000	O. Gonsalves	Mumbai	500
G. Bhatena	Mumbai	2,000	N. Khan	Palghar	1,000	P. Baby	Kerala	500
J. Helen	Kerala	2,000	N. Gala	Mumbai	1,000	P. Gowari	Nalasopara	500
J. Mistry	Mumbai	2,000	P. K. Gosavi	Mumbai	1,000	P. Thakker	Thane	500
J. Thomas	Vasai	2,000	P. Tony	Kerala	1,000	R. Johnson	Kerala	500
J. Colaco	Mumbai	2,000	P. D'Silva	Mumbai	1,000	R. Victor	Tamil Nadu	500
L. Lymon	Mumbai	2,000	R. Sebastian	Kerala	1,000	R. Raju/A. Raj	Karnataka	500
M. Mendes	Mumbai	2,000	R. Fernando	Tamil Nadu	1,000	R. Kamble	Mumbai	500
Nepolean	Kerala	2,000	R. Dodhia	Mumbai	1,000	R. Crasto	Gujarat	500
O. John	Kerala	2,000	R. Jam	Mumbai	1,000	R. Pereira	Vasai	500
P. D'Costa	Mumbai	2,000	S. Monteiro	Mumbai	1,000	S. Lath	Daman	500
P. Hendricks	Pondicherry	2,000						



**Fr. Leopoldino Paixao Bossuet
Dias Sfx**

Fr. Leopoldino Paixao Bousset Dias, sfx was called to his heavenly abode at 22:15 p.m. on 8th March, 2022 in the Pilar Monastery.

Fr. Leopoldino Dias was born on 9th December, 1935 to Mr. Jacinto Caitaninho Dias and Mrs. Limitra Rodrigueshails in Betalbatim, Goa. He was baptised on 16th December, 1935.

He entered the Novitiate of the Society of Pilar in 1956 and made his first commitment to the Society of the Missionaries of St. Francis Xavier on 16th June, 1957. After that, he completed his Philosophy in Pilar. After completing his Theology studies in the Mission Seminary, Pilar, he made his final profession in the Society on 16th June, 1963. He was ordained priest on 2nd December, 1964 by His Eminence Cardinal Laureano Rugambwa at the Oval in Mumbai during the Eucharistic Congress. Fr. Leopoldino worked in the dioceses of Goa and Mumbai, primarily at Ugeum, Rivona, Khanwel, Silvassa and Vashi:

1964: Appointed assistant to the Parish Priest of Guardian Angel, Sanvordem

1967-1973: Chaplain, Our Lady of Piety Chapel, Uguem

1973-1981: Parish Priest, Our Lady of Rosary Church, Rivona

1981: Attached to the Region of Daman and Dadra Nagar-Haveli

1982-88: Chaplain of Our Lady of Rosary Chapel, Shelti, Nagar Haveli. During the period, he was the Project Officer/Director of the Social Development programme for Nagar Haveli and CSR Director/Consignee for Dadra and Nagar Haveli

1988-1996: Parish Priest of Our Lady of Piety Church, Silvassa

1997 till 2022: At Fr. Agnel Complex, Bandra and then Procurator at Fr. Agnel Complex, Vashi

Fr. Leopoldinho was an organised and committed missionary, who worked with people at the grassroots. He was one of the early missionaries in the Mission of Sanguem serving in Sanvordem, Uguem and Rivona. He was instrumental in implementing the social development programme in the Mission of Nagar Haveli, a benchmark programme at that time begun in 1975 and which he took charge of in 1981. As Parish Priest of Silvassa and Manager of Fr. Agnel School, he was instrumental in the expansion of Fr. Agnel School. He spent a large part of his life, from 2002 to 2022 in the multi-faceted Fr. Agnel Complex in Vashi as its Treasurer. He was a quiet but familiar face to the staff and students at Vashi where he will be sorely missed.

Fr. Leopoldinho had a passion for gardening with a refined sense of aesthetics. Till the end of his life, he took care of the flowers and plants at Vashi and maintained his fish ponds.

In the last years of his life, his health deteriorated but he managed himself until he suffered a stroke a couple of months ago. The members at Vashi gave him all the care and concern. He was brought to Goa for his final care and was first taken to JMJ Hospital. He was then brought to the Pilar Monastery where he passed away peacefully in the Pallative Care Unit of the Pilar Monastery.

The funeral mass was celebrated at 4:00 p.m. in the Pilar Monastery followed by the burial in the Pilar Cemetery. Requeiscat in Pacem!

Regn. No. of Publication RNI-9473/64.
Date of Publication 10th of every month
Date of posting 14th & 15th of every month.
Single copy Price Rs.15/-
Annual Subscription Rs.150/-
Total pages including cover : 20

PRN - MCN/175/2021-2023
to post at concession rate on 14th & 15th
License to post without prepayment
No. MR/TECH/WPP-87/NORTH/ 2021-2023
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May you have a blessed and holy Easter with your loved ones!

*May you be blessed with joy, happiness and
harmony in your life!*

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