



FR

February 2016

AGNEL

SHRAM NEWS



Life depends
on Change
& Renewal

-Patrick Troughton

FR. AGNEL
ASHRAM

NEWS

February 2016

Contents

Editorial	3
Hell And You	5
The Lenten Refrain: "Repent And Believe in The Gospel"	8
Agnel Happenings	9
Fr. Agnel's Blessings	16
Balbhawan Miracle	17
Out of their Bounty	18
The Balbhawan Day Celebration - 2016 at Fr. Agnel Bandra	19

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4. Fast from complaining.

When you find yourself
about to complain,
close your eyes and recall
some of the little moments
of joy Jesus has
given you.

Lent:

A different Approach to Fasting

Lenten fasts have a tendency to be oriented towards things like giving up food or television. But there are many other creative ways we can welcome Jesus' healing touch this Lent. Below are some suggestions you may want to consider

1. Fast from anger & hatred. Give your family an extra dose of love each day.
2. Fast from judging others. Before making judgments, recall how Jesus overlooks our faults.
3. Fast from discouragement. Hold on to Jesus' promise that he has a perfect plan for your life.(Jer.29:11)
4. Fast from complaining. When you find yourself about to complain, close your eyes and recall some of the little moments of joy Jesus has given you.
5. Fast from resentment or bitterness. Work on forgiving those who may have hurt you.
6. Fast from spending too much money. Try to reduce your spending by ten percent and give these saving to the poor.

The Challenge of Change

Change is the stuff of life, without it we cannot survive, with it life is a continuous opportunity to make it better. Every living organism exists because it changes, birth and growth is change, survival itself is change, and what does not change is doomed, rather does not exist.

We stand, we move, we are steady because of change. It is not only the earth's rotation around its axis that gives us stability, it is also because of the moon's rotation that we have stability, if either or both falter or cease to rotate everything will go topsy turvy.

The evolutionary process from simple to more complex, from adaptation to resilience is all change, and had it not been there, our world would not have survived the way it is today. Change is the essence of life, and when the world's best known creatures, the dinosaurs, could not change or did not adapt fast enough, they became extinct, while their contemporaries like the infamous croc survived.

Change truly understood is not a random turn of events, but a series of events that are inherent to its identity. Cells reproduce and thus life perpetuates itself, but when the cells go berserk the result is a monster or a cell that is pernicious, instead of building or healing. Change that generates, perpetuates or enhances life is a change that is due to it!

The spiritual realm too is governed by the same principles that guide nature. Change must happen and must happen rightly and when it does not happen the way it must, the need arises to induce change, to make a course correction. Our understanding of the intervention of God in human history, much like many other traditions is also about course correction.

The Season of Lent is a holy season of opportunity, to respond to the call to renewal, "Metanoia" (Greek for renewal), to change. It is an invitation to look inwards, deeper into ourselves, so that we can arrest deviation or departure from our right path, the path of our Destination,

God, and make a course correction, seek reconciliation with the God of our life.

The 40 days of Lent that the Christians observe, called "Quadragesima" or 40 days is a significant part of the Christian tradition. The Bible, has always projected 40 as an ideal period, that conveys the a perfect period, a kind of fullness, required for the purpose. There are several important instances of the number 40 in the Bible: Noah spent forty days in the Ark during the Flood, followed by a wait of forty days more before he could return to dry land. Moses spent forty days on Mount Sinai to collect the Commandments. The Jewish People spent forty years wandering in the desert, followed by forty years of peace under the government of the Judges. The inhabitants of Niniveh fasted and made penance for forty days to obtain God's forgiveness. The reigns of Saul, David and Solomon, the first kings of Israel, lasted forty years each. In the New Testament, Jesus spent forty days praying in the wilderness before beginning His public life and, following the resurrection, He spent forty days instructing His disciples before ascending to heaven.

The practice of self-denial and penance is common to most religious traditions of the world. The Hindu tradition is replete with the practice of fasting and abstinence, which in many regions and groups is rigorous and lasts the entire lifetime. Most Hindus, particularly women folk deprive themselves of a series of choice foods for one or two days each week, throughout the year. Sometimes this giving up, is very arduous as they cannot even swallow a liquid. The Jains too are very sparse about their food habits and shun most foods, that for westerners and most Christians form part of their regular staple. Followers of the muslim faith too follow very rigid fasting norms during the Ramadan although the aftermath of the 12 hours fasting is different.

The fasting regime of the catholic is in comparison, only a light imitation of what the faithful of the Hindu and Jain faith observe. The entire Gospel

message pivots on the spirit, "I do not want holocausts and sacrifices...instead here I am". Jesus focused on personal and collective commitment, rather than observances and often dares the existing dispensation. In the Gospels, Jesus gives little or no importance to external observances, but all acts of worship must reflect the new reality of the Kingdom of God that elevates ordinary human experiences to a mystic level. That is how the practice of penance during the Season of Lent is less a negative statement of giving up and more a positive attitude of the kingdom reality.

Pope Benedict XVI in one of his Lenten addresses, drawing a parallel with the forty days spent by Jesus in the desert, spoke about the season of Lent as a experience of wilderness, "This wilderness is made up of the aridity and poverty of words, life and values, of secularism and the culture of materialism which enclose people within a worldly horizon and detach them from any reference to transcendence. In such an atmosphere the sky above us is dark, because it is veiled with clouds of selfishness, misunderstanding and deceit. Nonetheless, even for the Church today, the wilderness can become a period of grace, because we have the certainty that even from the hardest rock God can cause the living water to gush forth, water which quenches thirst and restores strength".

A season of Lent, practised and enjoyed in the Spirit is an invitation to experience and live the reality of the Kingdom, even as we live right here. Lent invites us to fast and abstain, particularly in the matter of personal and collective indulgence and reaching out to others. In our country where our fasting and abstinence are a far cry of how most of our countrymen fast and abstain from, this season is an opportunity to proclaim the identity of a Christian understanding of self-denial as our desire and effort to leave our ways and come back to God, and be grounded in the reality that as God's children we need to renew and consolidate our relationship with the Lord.

It would be an excellent practice if as individuals and institutions we could be more pro-active in reaching out to the poor during this season of Lent, and through this reiterate the Gospel idea, which is unique, that the sign of God's kingdom among us, is when the poor become part of our life plan, both through material sharing or proclamation of the Jesus' message of love and our adoption as God's children. This would necessarily prompt us to act further in promoting solidarity with the poor, as a primary Christian objective, during the Lenten season.

-Fr. Jose Alarico Carvalho

**THE JOY
OF GIVING**



Letters from some Benefactors and Friends of our Balbhawan Children

Delight Jackson, Australia

Kindly accept my donation of \$ 1000/- for your orphanage so that the children can have a good Christmas. God has blessed me and my family and I will like to share this with your orphan children. Please pray for my family and also offer masses for the souls of my deceased parents.

Linette Martis, Canada

Enclosed is a cheque for ₹.1000/-. Please accept my contribution towards your mission activities. Kindly pray for our family.

Mathew Kochupurackal, U.S.A.

I am sending a small gift of \$50/- for our

brothers. Please pray for our family. I would also wish you and your community a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Jaipaul Berchmans, Chennai

Please find enclosed a cheque of ₹.2000/-. We thank the Lord for all the great favours he has showered on us during the last year and seek his blessings for all our family members during the coming year. Kindly remember us in your prayers.

Sajeev Mathew, Kerala

Please accept my Christmas Gift of ₹.5000/- for the orphans in your Balbhawan. I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year. Kindly pray for me and my family.

Hell And You

Ivan Jr.

(For many centuries well meaning faithful have wondered how the God of Mercy, who has revealed Himself to us as a God of Love and abundant mercy, permits perdition and condemnation of millions of human beings. The idea of universal salvation, has been plaguing the minds of theologians and thinkers for 15 centuries. An attempt for recapitulation of the issues is made here. Editor)

HELL has always been used as a major deterrent in retreats and charismatic preaching to leave behind a sinful life and has to a large extent been instrumental in bringing hundreds of thousands of people back to a life lived according to Christian principles and the fear of pain of hell and damnation continues to motivate millions to come back to God's path. The idea of hell and permanent damnation have been a matter of serious questioning by ordinary people who find it hard to reconcile God's loving kindness and abundant mercy with hell and eternal punishment without the chance of repentance. The Church has not been kind to the idea of universal salvation and it relies heavily on the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, and other such utterances around the last judgment, "Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels." etc.

St. Athanasius appears to be the first major theologian who brings hell's punishment as the necessary evil necessary to propitiate the justice of God, to the mainstream. This saying is generally attributed to him "Anyone who does not hold to the Catholic faith in its entirety will "without doubt perish forever," and "those who have done good will go to eternal life but those who have done evil will go to eternal fire." St. Augustine develops his theology of hell that has largely influenced our understanding of it. Augustine believes that human nature has reached such a low level of depravation that when one reaches that level, it was impossible to be saved and therefore man(woman) deserves to be condemned, as there is no other alternative, since he or she is excluded from the ambit of God's mercy and is the object of God's justice.

This was in a way an apologetic for a God who loves man and is compassionate, but given the state of man's depravity and intransigence, he had no chance to be saved. Augustine goes further to state that God's justice must triumph in the face of man's depravity, and thus hell must be a fire that burns without consuming.

Augustine states, "I have sufficiently argued that it is possible for living creatures to remain alive in the fire, being burnt without being consumed, feeling pain without incurring death; and this by means of a miracle of the omnipotent Creator." Imagine, if you can, invoking a miracle at the hands of a loving God to guarantee that the torments of the damned will last for all eternity! Augustine's perception of hell is central to his theology of the indescribable depravity of sin and its offense against God, which leads him to state that the whole humanity is a condemned mass "massa damnata".

The same severe doctrine of hell has been affirmed time and again in official church documents. In the Lateran Council in 1215, it was declared, that at the end of time, "all will receive according to their deeds, good or evil, the former to their everlasting glory with Christ, the latter to perpetual punishment with the devil." In his constitution of 1336, Benedictus Deus, Benedict XII solemnly defined that "the souls of those who die in actual mortal sin go down immediately after death into hell and suffer the pain of hell." The Council of Florence in 1442 maintained that "not only pagans, but also Jews, heretics and schismatics" are precluded from salvation for they "will enter into eternal fire" unless they embrace the Catholic Church before their death. Similar declarations on hell and salvation were issued by the Council of Trent in the sixteenth century. Vatican I reinforced them in the nineteenth century.

Vatican II, with its doors thrown open to fresh thought did not dare allow any open statement on universal salvation or in any form mitigate the existing stand about hell and eternal condemnation. Neither did it re-affirm the old and solemn definitions about hell and punishment but opened a

door a wee bit, when it stated, happily though that even atheists could be saved. This significant statement is clearly contrary and repugnant to the upto then existing position that anyone who refused to acknowledge God, cannot but be lost forever.

But alas, that was only a streak of hope, because traditional and official church teaching on the issue, such as the statement of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, on May 17, 1979, reiterated that there would be “eternal punishment for the sinner, who will be deprived of the sight of God, and that the punishment will have a repercussion on the whole being of the sinner.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church, published in 1994, contains what may be the most recent official word on the existence and meaning of hell:

THE DILEMMA OF UNIVERSAL SALVATION

Much before Augustine enunciated his doctrine about Hell as a necessary punishment for men who refuse to accept God’s kindness, another great thinker, a full century and half, before him, Origen (185-251 AD) propounded the idea of universal salvation as a necessary corollary of the Revelation of God in the Bible, as a God of love and abundant mercy. He found it abhorrent and impossible to reconcile the understanding of the idea of a God of love with eternal damnation of millions. Origen was one of the first exegetes of Sacred Scripture and has been called the “inventor of theology as a science.” In his youth, his well-to-do Christian family had been subject to religious persecution. He persevered in his faith and went on to establish a school for catechetical instruction while pursuing his own scholarly studies. Later, in Rome, where Christians were being persecuted, he was imprisoned and tortured. He died a year after being released, from injuries inflicted on him by his torturers.

Origen’s understanding of universal salvation was based on his solid faith experience that withstood severe persecution, as well on the philosophical idea of cosmic unity. Much like the idea of the Indian tradition of Adi Shankaracharya “Aham Brahma Asmi”, (I am Brahma), which can be easily paraphrased as “God lives in me”, and “I live in God”, which predicates

the cosmic unity of all that exists, Origen relied on the contemporary, pre-Socratic Greek philosopher, Pythagoras of Samos (c. 570-490 B.C.), who was perhaps the first scientist in the west who propounded the idea of a round shaped earth, the theory of relativity, etc. Pythagoras believed that the world is a harmony and it returns to its origin from where it has evolved to create a perfect harmony of nature.

Origen relied on Pythagorean philosophy to buttress his idea of universal salvation, as a logical and doctrinal corollary of a God who loves all, is the origin of all, and therefore ensures that his creation comes back to him in a final completion of the cycle of harmony. This was in consonance also with the mathematical theory of unity of numbers, propounded by Pythagoras who is one of most respected mathematicians upto this day. One important concept in this tradition was the cosmic harmony between one and many. Particularly attractive was the vision offered by Pythagoras, mathematician and mystic, who saw the unity of the cosmos as analogous to the unity of numbers. All numbers proceed from the number one in such a way that every number continues to be its own self even as it maintains its unity with all other numbers and with its origin; it is one-with-the-One. This is coupled with the idea that whatever proceeds from its origin is destined to return to it.

Origen applied this understanding to Christian theology: creation by God, man’s fall, separation from unity, the Incarnation, redemption, reconciliation, and return to unity. This return is what Origen called the *apokatastasis*—a compound term (*apokata-stasis*) meaning the moving away from a state of ruin toward renewal. The word is used but once in the Bible, in Acts 3:21, and has been variously translated as “universal restoration” (New English Bible), “all is restored anew” (Ronald Knox), and “the restitution of all things” (the King James and Douai-Rheims Bibles). With Jesus there began the union of the divine with human nature so that the human, by communion with the divine, might rise to be divine, not in Jesus only, but in all those who believe and take up the life that Jesus taught, which elevates man to friendship with God and communion with Him.

In the centuries that followed, this tradition persisted alongside the predominant doctrine about hell. Certain theologians hung on to the conviction, rooted in the virtue of hope, that somehow salvation belonged to all. Karl Barth is one of the greatest Protestant theologians of modern times. Urs von Balthasar and Hans Küng both had a deep respect for him, acknowledged his influence, and enjoyed his personal friendship. Karl Barth suggests that to recognize God in his totality, is to recognize him in his sovereign togetherness with man: “Who God is and what He is in His deity He proves and reveals not in a vacuum as a divine being-for-Himself, but precisely and authentically in the fact that He exists, speaks, and acts as the partner of man.... God’s deity, rightly understood, includes His humanity.” This togetherness, he continues, is the very being of Jesus Christ: “It is when we look at Jesus Christ that we know decisively that God’s deity does not exclude, but includes His humanity.” In Jesus Christ “the fact is once for all established that God does not exist without man.”

The question of universal salvation comes as a consequence of the humanity of God: The dignity belonging to man in virtue of the eternal will of God: “We have to think of every human being, even the oddest, most villainous or miserable, as one to whom Jesus Christ is Brother, and God is Father.” The Creator is faithful to man even if the man or woman in question is “a rebel, a sluggard, a hypocrite.... The Word of God announced good news to the poor, liberation to the imprisoned, sight to the blind, justification and sanctification and even a call to service to sinners, whether gross or refined.” Barth himself asks whether this description of God’s universal fidelity also implies universal salvation, but goes no further to make a categorical statement in this direction.

Like Barth, Balthasar gets close to the idea of universal salvation of all, but is wary of being in conflict with the biblical texts on damnation as well as jeopardizing God’s absolute freedom. Hans Küng too comes close to proposing universal salvation. And like them, he enlists the virtue of hope to support the idea. In his book *Eternal Life*, Küng’s critical discussion of hell begins with Jesus’s own words about hell, which, according to Küng, were figurative rather than literal: terms in the New Testament pertaining to final judgment—words like “hell,” “eternal,” “fire”—are to be taken as metaphors warning sinners of the delicate edge they’re dancing on. They are “meant to bring vividly before us here and now the absolute seriousness of God’s claim and the urgency of conversion in the present life,” Küng writes. No one should dismiss his or her responsibility to meet the demands of conversion, but how each of us meets them “remains a matter for God as merciful judge” in his “all-embracing final act of grace.”

What these three theologians show us, however, is that hope is a powerful virtue and not just a matter of wishful thinking. Hope always has its reasons, even earthly hopes. In the everyday sense of the word, a doctor’s skill is reason for his patient to hope for a cure, a worker’s good job performance a reason for her to hope for a promotion—though such hopes, subject to human limitations, can be disappointed. In the economy of salvation, however, the reason for hope is nothing less than the divine will—profoundly declared in the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus: “For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17). The clarity of this scriptural passage on God’s will reassures not only Christians but all mankind that our hope for salvation will be fulfilled—without exceptions.

(The views expressed in the article are the author’s and the Agnel Ashram News does not take ownership of the views expressed by writers, but ensures that no objectionable material is published.)

Pythagoras of Samos (c. 570 - 490 B.C.) was an early **Greek** Pre-Socratic philosopher and mathematician from the Greek island of **Samos**. He was the **founder** of the influential philosophical and religious movement or cult called **Pythagoreanism**, and he was probably the first man to actually **call himself** a philosopher (or lover of wisdom). Pythagoras (or in a broader sense the Pythagoreans), allegedly exercised an important influence on the work of Plato

The Lenten Refrain: “Repent And Believe in The Gospel”

-Fr. Nazareth Fernandes

We begin the Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday. We are signed on our foreheads with ashes on this day to commonly signify that we are, “dust and to dust we shall return”. With it we enter into a self-imposed exile, a self-imposed desert experience. Just as every seed dies in order to rise and fructify and multiply, so does the desert experience. We shun all that is worldly, fleshly in order that the spirit take control of our lives. The spirit lives, the flesh is of no avail in our quest for salvation.

‘Lent’ is defined as a, “period from Ash Wednesday to Easter observed as a time of fasting in commemoration of Christ’s fast in the wilderness”. John the Baptist underwent the desert experience and only thereafter could draw crowds to the wilderness and preach to them: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand”. (Mt. 3:2). Jesus too underwent the desert experience of forty days and forty nights after his baptism, fasting and praying to be strengthened in the spirit. He came out victorious against the three major temptations as found in Mt. 4:1ff.

Both, Jesus and John the Baptist, preached repentance, and forgiveness and, the Kingdom of God. “Repent and believe in the gospel”, is the constant refrain of the season of lent. What is Repentance? What is “Believe in the Gospel? Two words in the Lenten season are closely linked to one another: the latin ‘poenitentiam’ and the greek ‘metanoia’. Some have confused and made these look identical as having the same meaning. While the first intends on ‘doing penance’, the second intends to going for a ‘total change’.

‘Repentance’ as we usually know is about regret, or guilt or shame for the things of the past. While ‘Metanoia’ is about the future course taken, or to be taken. Therefore metanoia can be said to mean conversion to the gospel. Hence, ‘Repentance’ and ‘Metanoia’ are the words to be considered for our Lenten spiritual journey.

Repentance, as said above, is limited to

remorse, or regret for the sins committed, or pain or suffering in view of being liable to punishment. It is said that “every saint has a past and, every sinner has a future”. Therefore, ‘Repentance’ and ‘Metanoia’ are the two hinges that open the door to the saving act of Jesus. Falling back into the past in order to propel into an eternal leap is what signifies salvation. Repentance therefore becomes necessary as a stepping stone towards complete metanoia. The English proverb, ‘Dry Lent, fertile year’ is an apt understanding of what repentance and metanoia would really mean.

In the gospel of Matthew 3:2 and 4:17, we have, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand”. The ‘kingdom of heaven’ is the ‘good news’ – the ‘gospel’. Hence, ‘Repentance’, becomes a precondition to ‘believe in the gospel’. Therefore, ‘repent’ and ‘believe in the gospel’ are the two sides of the same coin.

When the Pharisees objected that Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus told them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance (Lk. 5:31-32). Godly sorrow brings about repentance that leads to salvation, but worldly sorrow brings death(2Cor. 7:10-11). Refusal to repent would mean destructive judgment. We see this in Jesus when he pronounced his judgment against Korazin, against Bethsaida, against Capernaum, who refused to repent in spite of the fact that most of his miracles having been performed there(Mt. 11:20-24).

Implicit in ‘Repentance’, as we can see it, is the radical mindshift, the so-called ‘Metanoia’, a decision to turn around – to take a new direction. Repentance for Jesus is not rudderless, or empty, or void of direction. It is directed towards the kingdom of God. “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is near”. (Mt. 4:17). In Matthew 5:1-11, when Peter recognizing the divinity of Jesus repented of his own sinful nature, “depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord”, Jesus did not want him to stop at that. “Do not be afraid,

Contd. on pg 15

AGNEL HAPPENINGS

The Poetry Recitation Competition At Fr. Agnel's Bandra

All roads led to the Samvad Auditorium of A.C.R.C.E. Bandra on 29th January 2016 to witness the 3rd Interschool Poetry Recitation Competition organized by **Fr. Agnel Primary School, Bandra**. All in all 14 schools from the vicinity of Bandra and surrounding areas and as far as Ambernath, participated in the competition. Right at the outset,



The budding poet of Fr. Agnel Primary school, Bandra Ms. Aashna Pandey recites 'Time to Believe'

was spellbound with the performance of the budding poets. The chief guest appreciated



Fr. Joaquim D'Costa presented the trophy to Ms. Shania Grace Vaz of St. Joseph school, Bandra who bagged the 1st prize at the poetry recitation Competition

the life and the qualities of Ven. Fr. Agnelo D'Souza were highlighted to the audience by Fr. Dilip s.f.x. Fr. Joaquim D'Costa, an eminent educationist of the Archdiocese of Mumbai was the Chief Guest for the day. All the participants who represented their respective Schools presented various poems in the spirit of their authors. The audience

all the participants and encouraged them for a better future. St. Joseph's convent school, Bandra, emerged victorious. St. Aloysius School bagged the 2nd place and Learner's Academy the 3rd place. Towards the end, the Chief Guest gave away the prizes to the winners as well as the participants. The program ended with the vote of thanks.

Agnelites of Bandra Rejoice On The Birth of Jesus Christ

Fr. Agnel Balbhawan Bandra secured the 2nd place in the whole of Bandra in the original category of Christmas Crib competition, organized by Valencia Caterers. They were awarded a Trophy and a cash prize of Rs. 5,000/-. The Theme of the Crib was:-SAVE THE EARTH, SAVE THE FAMILY.



Balbhawan students are honored with the winning Trophy by St. Andrew's Parish.

The Concept was drawn from the two recent Encyclicals of Pope Francis : 'Laudato Si' and 'Misericordiae Vultus' : Taking care of creation is taking care of humanity and family.

Fr. Agnel's Annual Sports Day

The Annual Sports Meet of **Fr. Agnel Technical High School, Bandra** was held on 14th January 2016 at St. Andrew's ground, Bandra. The Senior Police



Mr. M.C. Thomas Principal welcomes the chief guest Senior Police Inspector Mr. Ramchandra Dhawle.



Primary students enthralled the audience with their Dumbbell performance

Inspector of Bandra police station Mr. Ramchandra Dhawale was the Chief Guest. Various cultural drills and track & field events

SOLEMN 147TH AGNEL JAYANTI

The 147th Birth Anniversary of Ven. Fr. Agnelo D'Souza was celebrated on 21st January, 2016. Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Dabre, the Bishop of Pune in his soul stirring sermon highlighted the qualities of Ven. Fr. Agnelo D'Souza, as the Epitome of God's Mercy. A short cultural program put up by the students of Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi preceded the Eucharistic Concelebration. At the beginning of the programme Fr. Nazareth Fernandes sfx in the name of Fr. Agnel devotees welcomed and introduced Bishop Thomas Dabre. Master Sahil Shaikh offered flower bouquet to the Bishop.



The students of Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi escort Bp. Thomas Dabre.



Master Sahil Shaikh presents a Bouquet of flowers to Bishop Thomas Dabre.



Pushpanjali by the students of Fr. Agnel, Vashi

THE CELEBRATION IN BANDRA



Fr.Agnel Tec.High School, Bandra
Dr.Thomas Dabre to the stage



Audience watches the programme with rapt attention



to Bp.Dr.



Fr.Nazareth Fernandes Local Superior welcomes the gathering



Prayer Dance by the Pre-Primary students of Fr.Agnel, Vashi



Fr.Agnelo an Epitome of God's Mercy the concelebrated Eucharistic celebration



A Vote of thanks by Fr.Dilip Donke

were displayed by the students of the school to the applause of the large gathering of parents & friends. All the winners were given prizes and mementos. The parents of the students as well as

the invitees appreciated the great show put up by the children. Thanks to the co-ordinating efforts by the Management and the Staff of the School.

Agnel Balbhawan Brass Band making Waves in Bandra

In the month of December **Fr. Agnel Balbhawan, Bandra** Children were invited to play Brass band at the Inter-Parish Choir Competition held at St. Andrew's College Auditorium, Bandra on the occasion 400 years of St. Andrew's Parish. The hour long Brass band show was appreciated by the organizers and the audience.



Annual Certificate Distribution Ceremony

A momentous Certificate Distribution Ceremony was organized by **Fr.C.Rodrigues Institute of Technology, Vashi**, Navi Mumbai for their graduate students of the batch 2011-15, from Mumbai University, on 22nd January 2015.



and was honoured with the presence of Rev. Fr.Almeida, Managing Director of Agnel Technical Education Complex, Dr.S.M.Khot, Principal, Fr.C.Rodrigues Institute of Technology, and the Heads of all the departments.

Mr.Thomas Mathew, President of PTA & Gasification in Reliance Technology Group was the Chief dignitary for this function.

The ceremony was a grand success

This was an overwhelming experience for the graduating students as could be seen in their enthusiasm while receiving certificates from the Chief Guest.

Agnel Lad Creates A Record In Swimming

Sunday, 17th January, was a day that made waves in the aquatic world. 9 year old, Vedant Sawant, a class IV student of **Fr. Agnel School, Vashi**, swam his way into a new record at the Gateway of India. Clocking 2 hours, 50 minutes and 28 seconds, he became the fastest swimmer in the Under 10 category to swim the route from Elephanta Islands to the Gateway of India. It is worth mentioning that this was his maiden attempt. The previous record belongs to Himanshu Patil from Uran, who covered the distance in 3 hours and 10 minutes. When Vedant was swimming across the choppy waters of the Arabian Sea, he was accompanied



by pilot boats with official observers, time-keepers, coaches and parents. Vedant was given a hero's welcome at the shore by the Honourable Mayor of Navi Mumbai, Shri Sudhakar Sonavane.

Mr. Santosh Patil, who trained Vedant for this swim said, "I am proud that Vedant chose a less taken swimming route. I honestly did not expect him to break the record. He is truly a wonder kid." Vedant has been training at the Navi Mumbai Sports Association for the last two and a half years. He undergoes rigorous training of two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening. He is successfully juggling between sports and academics. His coach

Mr. Sander Sawant said, "We first worked on his strokes and then his endurance. Stamina is also very important in swimming. Another thing we had to work on was his fear of the sea. " Vedant

will receive state certification by the Maharashtra State Aquatic Association for the record. Vedant will continue in his endeavours to create many more records in the field.

Balbahwan Day Celebration, Noida

The Balbahwan Day is a celebration of Lord's Love to us, and therefore the best way is to say " This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us us and be glad in it!

Fr. Agnel Balbahwan Noida of the Agnel Ashram Fathers is unique in many ways because it has the modern facilities in infrastructure, and care of children. With 250 kids from all over India, from Pre-School to Post Graduation, it is a hub of activities, 24/7. So, naturally their Balbahwan Day is a celebration of Joy and Gratitude to Lord who loves us and to those hundreds of benefactors who make every day happen.

We were particularly honoured with the presence of His Excellency, Arch Salvatore Pennachio, the Pro-Nuncio to India, and representative of the Holy Father, as well as His Excellency, D.Joao Camara, Ambassador of Portugal and his wife, as well as His Excellency the Ambassador of Benin.

There were over 300 well wishers, mainly Principals, Staff and from the Fr. Agnel School, Delhi, Fr. Agnel School, Noida and Fr. Agnel School, Vaishali, and of course from Fr. Agnel School, Noida, who came from as far as 40 kms away, since this day evokes joy, gratitude and a sense of purpose. Some students too were privileged to attend, and rightly so, since many of them have contributed generously over the years for this miracle of love. It is an excitement to watch these kids, who have excelled in everything they do, and are no match for anyone, and the show is always a treat for the eyes, the years and the mind.

The Balbahwan is all about goodness and what else would these wonderful kids do, except what they can do best, sing and dance the glory of God, which is always their first performance, anchored by kids

of Class Kindergarten and Class I. It followed the melodies rendered in song and music, with exotic instruments, like violin, saxophone and trumpets! Yes they are are not lip syncing, they are singing and blowing the instruments. Like William Wordsworth, one could simply say: I watched and watched but little thought what wealth to me the show had brought, for oft when I on my couch lie they flash upon that inward eye, which is the bliss of solitude!

They sang and danced, from the hits of the 60s to the latest qwalis like only they can do. Song and dance are universal languages of joy and gratitude.

The children presented a stupendous variety programme leaving the audience spell bound. They staged a play 'When the Microphone Fails ' to showcase what would happen when the mike-system does not function well. A presentation on 'Plight of poor English' by one of the performers lured the minds of everyone .Heart touching English songs and scintillating dances were the other attractions of this red letter day. The Nuncio in his address praised the noble work the management does for the welfare of the poor children.

Fr. Carvalho wondered, why the world spent itself in quarrels and debates, when there is a better way to be a man or a women. He appealed to people, to take a lesson home from this event. Here there a children from all over the country, nothing divides them, religion, community, colour or economic status, and so too, the people who are gathered here from all communities and creeds who generously help them, there is no division of any kind, only oneness, everything here unites them, and that one thing is compassion, kindness and love - so if we want to be happy, make a difference to ourselves and others, be kind, be compassionate, and life becomes beautiful. That indeed was a

message no one can afford to ignore!

Fr. Bento in his own style added a unique feature where everyone learnt to play music notes on a rudimentary flute, and that indeed was a good lesson in music, even for those who crow about their music abilities!

The final number was the Balbhawan

Anthem composed by the children themselves. Music has brought these children together, given them a purpose, given them strength in troubled times. It was a moving spectacle as Fr. Bento stood among his children and sang the anthem...a song on their lips, a melody in their hearts. The celebration culminated with everyone enjoying a sumptuous meal.

Inauguration of the Wallpaper- Imagination

Balbhavan, Vashi, innaugrated of all creativity. And there is no limit their wallpaper for imagination. The green background Imagination on 7th of February through the hands of Fr. Flavio, from Italy. The other guest who graced this occasion were some of the benefactors of our society from Italy and Romania, and fr. Saturninho Almeida. After the floral



welcome fr. Flavio pulled the curtains open thus inaugurating the wallpaper-“Imagination”. Sidharth, a student of balbhavan gave a brief explanation of the concept of wallpaper and the theme Imagination. He mentioned “The wallpaper is a concept which we have considered to boost our creative writing skills. It is about displaying our own original writings like poems, articles, lyrics, paintings etc.” he continued as he explained the theme, “Imagination is an Italian word for imagination. We have named this wallpaper as imaginacion since it is imagination which is the source

used, reflects the extension of our balbhavan motto “Love God and love creation” which considers our relationship with God, the other human beings and the nature.”

Fr. Almeida in his short speech emphasized the need of reading books and keeping English as the mode of speaking in balbhavan. Fr. Flavio, spoke a few words in Italian, translated by Claudia one of our benefactors. He said that he was pleased to be present for this meaningful short programme which came to him as a surprise. After the few words spoken by the Fr. Flavio and Fr. Almeida the balbhavan kids sang the theme song Imagination composed for this occasion by Josly Fernandes, the balbhavan incharge. The programme ended with the vote of thanks delivered by Akash, a student of balbhavan.

Chennai Mission

The staff, ex-students, students, parents and well wishers of **Fr. Agnels Vashi** under the guidance of Managing Director Fr. Saturnino Almeida came together to collect funds to help the poor families of Chennai who are struggling to get back to a normal life after the devastating floods. A total amount of Rs. Twelve Lacs and twenty thousand was collected.

Fr. Agnels Vashi wanted to ensure that this amount goes straight to those who need and not to overheads or indirect costs.

We are grateful to Fr. Joe Arun who helped

us connect with the team at Jesuit Chennai Mission who were doing a commendable job to help the families to build their homes after the floods left them homeless and penniless. This is the team that has helped 14,000 families in 12 villages and 30 slum areas in and around Chennai. The team continues in its rehabilitation mission and Fr. Agnels Vashi will now contribute towards this mission.

On Saturday February 6th, Fr. Almeida handed over the cheque to Fr. Joe Arun in presence of the school teachers at Agnel Technical Education Complex in Vashi, Navi Mumbai.

Agnel Swimmers Rule Mayor Trophy Swimming

Swimmers from the **Fr. Agnells Sports Center, Vashi** won most medals at stake and became the single largest medal winning team at the Navi Mumbai Mayor Trophy Swimming Championship 2015-2016. The team comprised of over 70 swimmers from various schools who represented the Agnells sports center at the event.

Viraj Prabhu from Fr. Agnel School led the team by winning all 5 gold medals at stake and winning the Individual Championship Trophy in the Open category. His team mates Rishabh Das and Taesha Fernandes also proved their mettle by winning the many medals in their respective age categories and won the Individual Championship trophies in the boys under 10 and Girls under 8 respectively.

Among the other medal winners from Agnells were Shruti Pusalkar, Siddhi Vanmali, Rishabh Pillai, Lynsey Fernandes, Rasika

Nadar, Isha Vinerkar, Anshuman Jhingran, Tanvi Randive, Trijal Sutar and Arya Kripalani.

Swimmers from other Navi Mumbai schools who represented the sports center and won laurels were Mehram Ghadiyal, Payal Shirao, Shardool Kadam, Vanshika Parti, Krish Katija, Gaurav Upadhyay, Aryan Upadhyay, Rajveer Motta and Isha Kadhi.

Noted swimmer and National Games medallist Rutuja Udeshi after a major leg injury participated in the open category and won 2 silver and one bronze medals.

The ceremony was inaugurated by Navi Mumbai Mayor Hon. Shri Sudhakar Sonawane in presence of other dignitaries from the NMMC and the prize distribution ceremony was conducted by Hon. Deputy Mayor Shri Avinash Lad also in presence of dignitaries from the NMMC.

The Lenten Refrain: “Repent And Believe in The Gospel” Contd. from Pg 8

he said, henceforth you will be catching men”. And soon after it says, “And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him”. The change is final and decisive and complete. In the call of Matthew (Mt. 9:9) and the conversion of Zaccheus (Lk. 9:2ff) we see the complete repentance and turning around. While Matthew leaves his tax-collecting table to follow Jesus instantly at the call, Zaccheus undergoes a complete interior change and therefore, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham”.

In the conversion of St. Paul (Acts. 9:1ff) we see a complete turning around from Saul to Paul – from a persecutor of Christianity to the greatest preacher of the Gospel – “And in the synagogue immediately he proclaimed Jesus, ‘He is the Son of God’”. (Acts. 9:20)

Dwelling on the word ‘metanoia’, we see that this New Testament concept signifies a divine call to a radical mindshift in the way men think about repentance and conversion and religion. The word is a greek one made up of two words: ‘meta’ and ‘nous’. ‘meta’ means ‘after’ or ‘change’, and ‘nous’ means ‘mind’. The word means ‘aftermind’ and signifies a change of mind:

thinking one way, but then afterwards thinking another. The New Testament call for metanoia is a command to change your mind and get it where it should be. It is a change of mind unto the gospel itself.

‘Metanoia’, therefore, is a turning away from ‘darkness’ and facing the ‘light’ directly – the light of salvation. It is a turning away from sinfulness to the God of Mercy (Acts. 3:19; 8:22). It is a turning away from ‘Sin’ to ‘God’ and ‘believing in the Lord Jesus’ (Acts. 20:21). Hence, the Gospel or Christianity is not primarily about amending men’s behaviour through repentance or teach men the highest principles of piety and morality. It is about understanding the New Testament gospel as the ‘gospel of grace’, embodied in the person of Jesus Christ and, man is justified not through law but through Faith in Christ.

Lenten Season, therefore, is a time to make a radical option to the person of Jesus Christ. This can be effective to the extent that repentance as a precondition plays its total role of accepting one’s nothingness in the face of the Almighty God of grace and salvation. May this lent be a period of deep introspection, surrender and turning to God with Repentance.



FR. AGNEL'S BLESSINGS

Gift of a Child After Five Years of Marriage

Ahmedabad – We were issueless even after five years of marriage. Although we were under medication we were less fortunate not to have a child. In our plight, we at the advice of a friend started praying to Fr. Agnel and reading his powerful Novena. We are now very happy to inform you that through the blessing of Fr. Agnel we are now blessed with a healthy baby girl. Today, we have come to the Ashram with our little daughter to give our thanks offering to Fr. Agnelo.

-Nirmala Rahul Sonawane

Pension Received

Vasai, Maharashtra – I was working for the Central Govt. I took VRS. Since the last two years my pension was held up and I started to pray to Ven. Fr. Agnel. Through his blessings and intercession my pension was approved by the Government. In thanksgiving here is our offering of ₹.1000/-.

-Bernard lopes

Secured A Good Job

Vasai, Maharashtra – I was praying to Fr. Agnel to bless me with a good job. Fr Agnel heard my fervent plea, I am now blessed with a good job. My thanks offering of ₹.500/-.

-Cyrus Gonsalves

Cured Of Muscular Pain

Vasai – I was suffering from severe pain on my right hand. Although I was under medication and applied many types of ointments it did not bring any relief to me. Rather my pain worsened. Sometimes I could not move my hand due to acute pain. In this plight, I fervently prayed to Fr. Agnel. I am now very happy to inform you that through the intercession of Fr. Agnel I am alright. My sincere thanks to Fr. Agnel and I am sending an offering of ₹.1000/-.

-Joseph Tuscano

Accident Averted

Dharavi – My mother and sister met with a road accident but by the grace of God and through the intercession of Ven. Fr. Agnelo they escaped with minor injuries. It could have been fatal. Again through the blessing of Fr. Agnel my brother and sister got a very good job as they desired. Our thanks offering of ₹.200/-.

-T. Kennedy Fernando

Secured A Good Job

Vasai – My son was without a job after his graduation. All his attempts to get a good job was in vain. In this predicament I initiated special Novena to Fr. Agnel and by his intercession my son got a very good job in a foreign country. Here is our offering of ₹.300/-.

-Janmary Albert Colaco

Successful Operation And Speedy Recovery

Kottayam, Kerala – There was a tumour in my large intestine. Since it did not cause any pain or any trouble I did not pay much attention to it. But later on, it was diagnosed to be cancerous and an emergency operation was done. The tumour was removed but it became septic and I was in ICU for over a month facing death. During this critical time, I was praying to Fr. Agnel for God's healing touch. I am very happy to inform you that through the intercession and blessings of Ven. Fr. Agnelo I was discharged from the hospital and am fast regaining my health. As a token of my sincere thanks, I am sending an offering of ₹.1000/-.

-Graceamma Alex

Numerous Blessings

UAE – I am an ardent devotee of Ven. Fr. Agnel since my childhood and I have had numerous blessings through his heavenly intercession. I had a bright academic career, got a suitable life partner, elegant house and a very good job abroad. As a token of my profound gratitude and homage, here is an offering of ₹.25000/- to Fr. Agnel's Fund.

-Sossamma Saji

**I Love to help my
friends in need**



My name is Neha Kumari. I am from Bihar. I am now staying in Navelin with my mummy and my 3 brothers. My sister is already married and staying in another village. I have no father and my mummy was unable

to look after me because of financial problems. When I came in this Balgram I was 4 years old. I was crying that time because all of this was new for me. There were children of my age who became my friends after a few months. I was crying because I was missing my home. I was not getting proper food and shelter. Here I am happy with good shelter, food, education and good discipline. The Sisters, Fathers and Mothers take care of me. Now I am studying in the 6th Standard. I like to play Basketball, sing and dance. My mummy is doing house work. When I entered this Balgram I was with a mother whose name was Cynthia. Now I enjoy it here and I like to stay more years. I am studying in Father Agnel Multipurpose High School and my mother did that to fulfil my father's dream. I like to water the garden. I like to eat fish, rice and vegetables. My talents are sharing my things with others and I really like to help others when they are sick or they need help. My dream is to be a doctor and I want to take care of my mummy and also my whole family and other people.

(Neha Kumari Verna ,Goa)

*Good, better, best. Never let it rest.
'Til your good is better and
your better is best.*

St. Jerome

**Balgram – I will Remember
Always**



My name is Melroy D'Souza and I am studying in the 5th Standard. My father died when I was 3 years old. My mother was not able to take care of us, so she put me in this Balgram. I came to Fr.

Agnel Multipurpose High School and to the Balgram when I was 7 years, hardly understanding what was happening with me. I was confused and scared coming to an unknown place and living with people I hardly knew. How was I supposed to know that this place would always have a special significance in my heart and I would be proud to call these very people my own family. I joined this Balgram in 2007 when I was in the 2nd std after my father died. There was nobody in my house to teach me so I came to this Balgram. My birthday is on 02/10/1999. I want to study until my 10th std and I won't forget this Balgram. My hobby is to play football. My talents are studying and to read story books. My ambition is to become a priest.

(Melroy D'Souza - Verna ,Goa)

*Believe in yourself! Have faith
in your abilities! Without a
humble but reasonable confidence
in your own powers you cannot be
successful or happy.
-Norman Vincent Peale*

Out of Their Bounty

Kenneth Vaz	Mumbai	40000	M. Joseph	Kerala	2000	F. Alapath	Kerala	1000
P. Srivastava	Mumbai	35000	J. Fernandes	Mumbai	2000	Dr.M. Thomas	Kerala	1000
S.K. Abraham	Nerul	25000	J. Berchmans	Chennai	2000	Dr.C. Engles	Amritsar	1000
R. Pinto	Mangalore	17000	H. Hyrapet	Kolkata	2000	Dally K.S.	Kerala	1000
A. Augustine	Cochin	13000	G. Marques	Miramar	2000	D. D'Silva	Mumbai	1000
Manoj & Shilpa	Nashik	12000	F. Almeida	Mumbai	2000	Claude Lobo	Mumbai	1000
M. George	Doha	11000	E.A. Thomas	Mumbai	2000	C. Xavier	Pondicherry	1000
H. Nachia	Bangalore	11000	B. Mathew	Kerala	2000	B. Thomas	Kerala	1000
T. Aranha	Mumbai	10000	B. Antony	Kerala	2000	B. Thomas	Kerala	1000
Michelle & Moshe	Mumbai	10000	A.T. Daruwalla	Mumbai	2000	B. Abreu	Bangalore	1000
Jose K.V.	Kerala	10000	M. Sundar	Mumbai	1600	Annie Joseph	Kerala	1000
F. Sharaon	Dubai	10000	S.J. Tharakan	Kochi	1500	A.R. Vaghela	Surat	1000
Savio D'Silva	Pune	7500	L. Johnson	Kerala	1500	A.P. Give	Pune	1000
A. D'Souza	Abu Dhabi	6500	J. Edwin	Mumbai	1500	A.C. D'Souza	Mangalore	1000
S.S. Solanki	Ahmedabad	6000	H. Gala	Thane	1500	A. Thomas	Kerala	1000
Mary Tom	Bangalore	6000	C. Fernandes	Thane	1500	B. Doloi	Kolkata	600
F. Quadras	Mumbai	6000	C. D'Mello	Vasari	1500	J. Menacherry	Aurangabad	501
X.C. Raj	Dombivli	5000	A. Jayasimhan	Mumbai	1500	T.T. Punnen	Kerala	500
Valsa Mathew	Kuwait	5000	L. Fernandes	Dahisar	1400	T.A. Ross	T.N.	500
V. Varghese	Mumbai	5000	S. Jathanna	Rajasthan	1200	Sr. Esther Alice	T.N.	500
S.V. D'Abreo	Vasari	5000	K.R. Shah	Bellary	1200	Sarah Gomes	Kolkata	500
S. Mathew	Kerala	5000	S. Babulal	Mumbai	1100	S. Parak	Mumbai	500
O. Miranda	T.N.	5000	N. Dandiwalla	Mumbai	1001	S. K. Philip	Kerala	500
N. D'Souza	Mumbai	5000	K.M. Press	Mumbai	1001	S. Gaikwad	Mumbai	500
M. D'Costa	Mira Rd.	5000	Varghese C.	Kerala	1000	S. Fernandes	Chennai	500
Lancy & Bessy	Mangalore	5000	V.S. Bilolikar	Mumbai	1000	P.J. Anslem	Kerala	500
D. Monsurate	Dubai	5000	V. Thomas	Kerala	1000	Omesh Naik	Mumbai	500
C.J. Antony	Kolkata	5000	V. Roy	Chennai	1000	N. Janardhanan	T.N.	500
A.T.M. Braganza	Mumbai	5000	V. Mathew	Kerala	1000	N. Assey	Bangalore	500
A.N. Rebello	Mumbai	5000	T. Jose	Kerala	1000	M.D'Souza	Pune	500
Annmary E.T.	Trichur	4650	Sherin J.	Pune	1000	M.J. George	Kerala	500
D.H. Dama	Mumbai	4500	Sani Alex	Kerala	1000	M.C. Joseph	Chennai	500
Bindu A.M.	Kerala	4000	S. Selvappan	T.N.	1000	M. Helen	Kerala	500
L. Remedios	Dubai	3402	S C. Gandhi	Valsad	1000	M. Gregory	Kerala	500
W.E. D'Mello	Mulgaon	3000	R.A. Francis	Kerala	1000	M. D'Souza	Mangalore	500
V. Murughasan	Mumbai	3000	R.A. Francis	Kerala	1000	M. Chacko	Jabalpur	500
R.K. Nazareth	Bangalore	3000	P.T. Joseph	Kerala	1000	K.M. Waghmare	Pune	500
R. Natash	Mangalore	3000	P. Hendricks	Pondicherry	1000	K.H. Gnatra	Mumbai	500
Lucy Pinto	Mumbai	3000	O.S. Samuel	Jaipur	1000	K. Xavier	Bangalore	500
Dr.R. Bilimoria	Mumbai	3000	Mini George	Kerala	1000	John Serrao	Bangalore	500
Archi Serrao	Mumbai	3000	M.A. Marykutty	Kochi	1000	J.M.Raju	Kerala	500
K. Somani	Mumbai	2501	M. Xavier	Kerala	1000	J. D'Souza	Mumbai	500
R.C. Fernandes	Mumbai	2500	M. Varghese	Kerala	1000	H.P. Shinar	Mumbai	500
M.B. Rukhana	Mumbai	2500	M. Joseph	Kerala	1000	H. D'Souza	Mangalore	500
G.F. Palia	Surat	2500	M. Gaikwad	Dombivli	1000	G. Veeramani	Chennai	500
V. Chyandrakant	Ahmednagar	2100	L. Paul	Mumbai	1000	E. Victoria	Hyderabad	500
Sheila Cherian	Kerala	2000	K.K. Karkaria	Mumbai	1000	E. Fernandes	T.N.	500
S.V.S. Rama Rao	Mumbai	2000	J.M. Pamani	Mumbai	1000	Dr. Sarosh Lath	Daman	500
S.R. Alphonso	Mangalore	2000	J.A.C. Roche	Tuticorin	1000	D. Fernandes	Pune	500
S. Saldanha	Mangalore	2000	J. Sebastian	Kerala	1000	D. David	Bangalore	500
S. Mathew	Pune	2000	J. Saju	Kerala	1000	C.D. Joseph	Kerala	500
S. Ghosh	Mumbai	2000	J. Paul	Mumbai	1000	C.A. Cardozo	Mumbai	500
Rose D'Mello	Mumbai	2000	J. Jerome	Kerala	1000	B.Kamdar	Mumbai	500
Raju Thomas	Kerala	2000	J. D'Souza	Mumbai	1000	B. Joseph	Kerala	500
R. D'Silva	Bangalore	2000	H.N. Nagarwalla	Mumbai	1000	A. Thorat	Thane	500
Phyllis D'Abreo	Mumbai	2000	Gee Thomas	Kerala	1000			
M. Thomas	Dubai	2000	G.L. D'Souza	Mumbai	1000			

The Balbhawan Day Celebration - 2016 at Fr. Agnel Bandra

On 23rd January 2016, the Balbhawan Day was celebrated with much pomp and gusto. Fr. Caesar D'Mello was the Chief Guest for the day. The Balbhawan children put up various cultural items to mark the day. The highlight of the program was the Brass Band display by the children.

The chief guest Fr. Caesar D'Mello in his address to the gathering appreciated and encouraged balbhawan children for their spectacular performance. The program ended with the prize distribution and the vote of thanks.



The Chief Guest Fr. Caesar D'Mello lights the lamp to invoke God's blessings.



Brass Band by Balbhawan children



Dance Bhale! Bhale!! Balbhawan boys dances to the tune of Bhangra



Folk Dance from Goa-Maria Pitache



Joshua fought the Battle of Jericho enacted by Balbhawan children



Living Water - An Instrumental piano by Balbhawan boys

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FR. AGNEL SCHOOL, NOIDA CELEBRATES BALBHAWAN DAY

