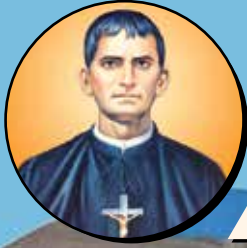


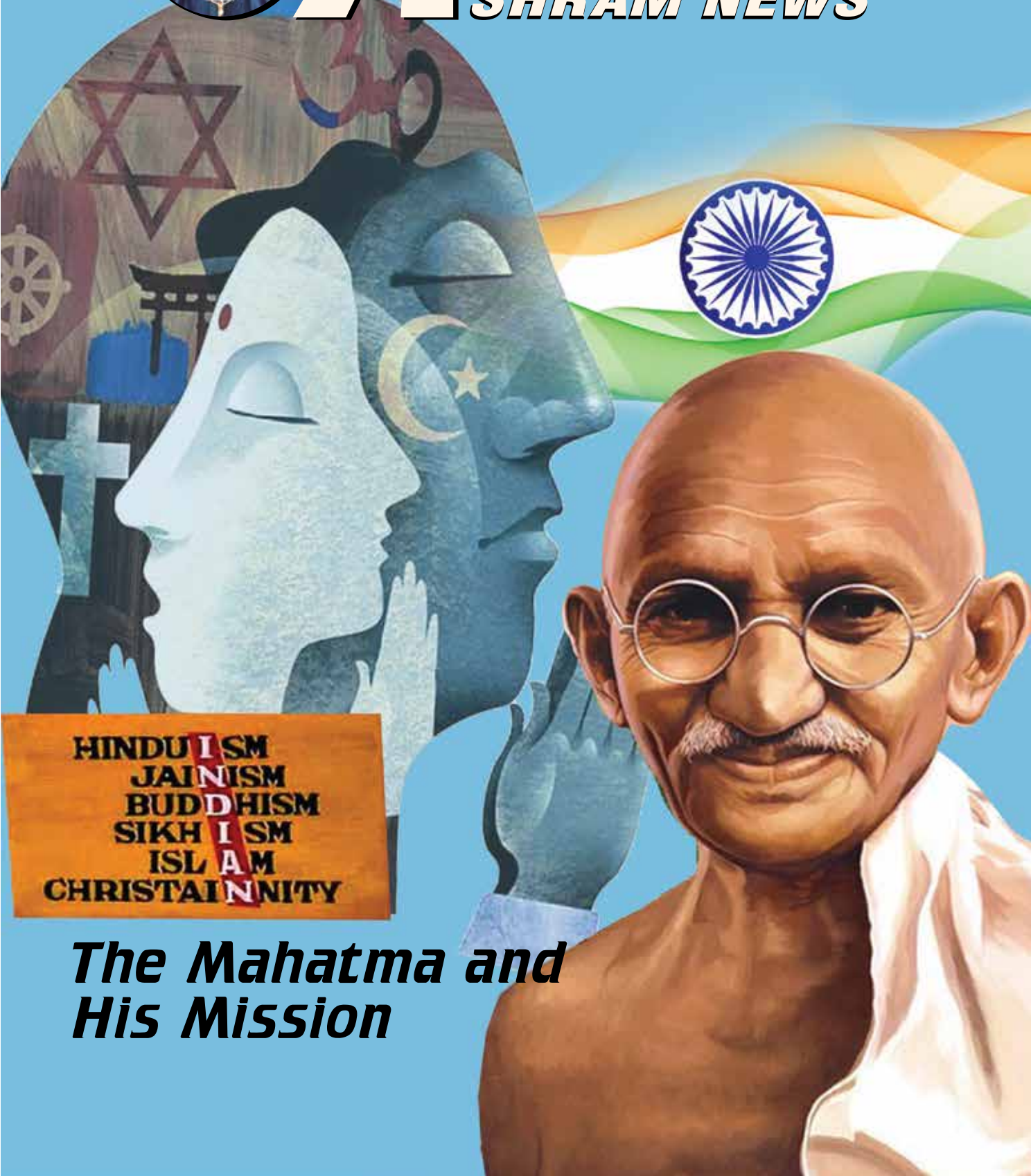
FR

October 2019



AGNEL

SHRAM NEWS



HINDU I SM
JAINISM
BUDDHISM
SIKH I SM
ISL AM
CHRISTAINNITY

*The Mahatma and
His Mission*

FR. AGNEL
ASHRAM

NEWS

October 2019

Contents

Editorial	3
Baptized Born-Again and Sent: Voices in the World	5
Mahatma Gandhi	7
Agnel Happenings	9
It was All Advertisements ...	15
Be Peaceful and today will take care of your Needs	16
Fr. Agnel's Blessing	17
Out of their Bounty	18

Printed & Published by:

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

Editor:

Fr. Jose Alarico Carvalho, sfx.

Printed at:

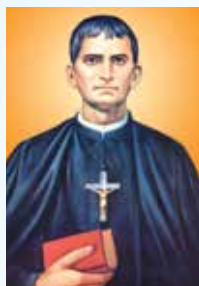
S.B.M Printers
C-130, Ansa Industrial
Estate, Andheri East,
Mumbai - 400072

Place of Publication:

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

Single Copy Price: Rs. 15

Annual Subscription: Rs. 150



VEN. FR. AGNELO'S 92nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY Wednesday, 20th November 2019

PROGRAMME

SPECIAL NOVENA SERVICES From 11th to 19th November 2019

Everyday

Morning : 7.00a.m. & 9.30 a.m.: Holy Mass and Novena Prayer in English followed by blessing with the Relic.

Evening : 5.30 p.m. : Novena Service in Marathi & Gujarati followed by blessing with the Relic.

Evening : 6.00 p.m. : Holy Mass and Novena Prayer in English followed by blessing with the Relic.

N.B.

On Sunday 17th November all Masses and Novena Services will be held as on normal Sundays.

20th November (Wednesday): 92nd Death Anniversary of Venerable Fr. Agnelo

Morning: Masses followed by Prayers for favours in English and blessing with the Relic at 7.00 a.m. & 9.30 a.m.

Evening: A Solemn Concelebrated Mass will be held at 6.00 p.m. in the Ashram Compound followed by Prayers for favours.

Most. Rev. Salvadore Lobo, Bishop of Baruiapur, will be the Main Celebrant on 20th November 2019.



Thousands of devotees will participate in this Annual Novena and celebration. Over one lakh of favours, some of them truly miraculous such as cure of cancer, T.B., Paralysis etc. have been received through the powerful intercession of Ven.Fr.Agnelo.

Favours obtained and petitions to be placed at the Shrine of Ven. Fr. Agnelo may be sent to the following address :

Rev. Fr. Superior.
Fr. Agnel Ashram
Bandstand, Bandra (West),
Mumbai - 400 050. India.
Tel. : 67114000.

Bus No. : 211 :Special Bus Service to Ply from Bandra Railway station (W) to Fr. Agnel Ashram Gate.

The Mahatma and His Mission

Gandhi is arguably one of the most iconic humans who deeply impacted the world in the last century. Yet, he is one of the most used and abused icons, especially in his own country.

We, in India, are currently in the midst of the poll season. It is around this time that Gandhi is fished out of the closet and dusted dry for use as a vote catcher. All and sundry compete with each other to display reverence for the Mahatma.

What is particularly revulsive is the fact that the same set of people who reviled and cursed him to the extent of provoking his assassination, stand in line at Raj Ghat too, on Gandhi Jayanti. Is it the spinelessness of their ideology or the moral strength of the Mahatma that forces them to do so?

So what was Gandhi's mission and what did he stand for? Gandhi had opinions on almost everything under the sun. From food to health and hygiene, he not only espoused an approach, but he even published articles and booklets to express his views on these varied subjects.

Of all the principles that he held on to dearly, three could be considered cornerstones of Gandhian thought: Sarvodaya, Ahimsa and Secularism. Each of these tenets were dear to his heart and those of his followers like Vinoba Bhave. Yet, each of these have been eroded beyond recognition in the India we live in.

Sarvodaya is a term meaning 'Universal Uplift' or 'Progress of All'. The term was first coined by Gandhi in 1908. Mahatma Gandhi was of the firm view that the earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not for every man's

greed. In the Sarvodaya society of his dream, therefore, every member would be free from any greed for limitless acquisition of material wealth and luxurious living and they would follow the motto of simple living and high thinking. Everyone would, thus, get ample opportunity to produce and earn sufficiently through honest work for decent and dignified living. Consequently, there would be no problem of unemployment.

Alas, the lofty ideals of Sarvodaya were washed away with the wave of Nehruvian industrialization that created barons and billionaires and universal employment still remains a distant dream.

Ahimsa, on the other hand, was a tool that was used effectively to achieve political independence from the British. Gandhi knew that India was no match for the brute strength of the world's largest empire. So Ahimsa became a convenient weapon that won both, sympathy and public acceptance like wildfire. The British were clueless about how to handle this unique phenomenon that the world had never witnessed before.

Our political leaders today sing paeans of praise to the Mahatma and Ahimsa. The same hypocrites in Government will use brute force to put down non-violent democratic protests like the Save Aarey movement in Mumbai and many others around the country. In this era of lynching, infanticide, rape and murder of humans and nature, Ahimsa is another concept that died with the Mahatma.

The only cornerstone that survived decades after the Mahatma, was secularism. It was socialists like Nehru and others in the ruling party of that time that enshrined the principle of secularism in the

Of all the principles that he held on to dearly, three could be considered cornerstones of Gandhian thought: Sarvodaya, Ahimsa and Secularism.

preamble of the Constitution. It was fashionable to make suitable noises and attempts to mollify the religious minorities and talk of their welfare and well being.

Unfortunately, today the final cornerstone too had been breached. Secularism has suddenly become an abusive word that is to be shunned. Nationalism has taken its place as the flavour of the day ! The ruling elite have not yet imparted a religious colour to their brand of nationalism. However, by equating secularism with appeasement they have made their intent clear.

The Mahatma's last bastion is waiting to fall. Legislation is being rapidly put in place to reverse the "secular" policies of yore and pave the way for a new India. An India of a single

hue. An India where the majority rules. An India that has space for just one dimension of religious thought and practice.

We are reaching the end of the Mahatma's dream. It is just a matter of time before all that he stood for will be swept away into the bins of history. Sarvodaya,

Ahimsa and Secularism will become esoteric concepts taught to the next generation of Indians, as glimpses of a romantic past dreamed by a romantic hero called Gandhi !

We are reaching the end of the Mahatma's dream. It is just a matter of time before all that he stood for will be swept away into the bins of history.

**Fr. Agnel Ashram - Bandra
MASSES and NOVENAS ON SUNDAYS**

MORNING			
TIME	MASS	TIME	NOVENA
07:00 a.m.	English	07:45 a.m.	English
08:00 a.m.	Konkani	08:45 a.m.	Konkani
09:30 a.m.	English	10:15 a.m.	English
TIME	NOVENA	TIME	MASS
10.30 a.m.	Tamil	11.00 a.m.	Tamil
EVENING			
TIME	NOVENA	TIME	MASS
03.00 p.m.	Gujarati & Marathi	03.30 p.m.	Marathi
06:15 p.m.	English	06:30 p.m.	English
07:15 p.m.	English	07:30 p.m.	English

Weekdays Mass in English at 6.00 p.m.

Novena Prayers and Kissing of Relic are held on every Saturday after 6.00 p.m.

Mass Favours obtained, petitions and offerings may kindly be sent to :

Rev. Fr. Superior

Fr. Agnel Ashram

P.O. Box – 6656, Bandstand,
Bandra (W), Mumbai – 400 050.

Tel : 67114000.

Fax : 67114100.

Email : agnelashramnews@gmail.com

Web : <http://ash.fragnel.edu.in>

All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope.

-Winston Churchill

Baptized Born-Again and Sent: Voices in the World

-Leon Bent

Pope Francis has declared the whole of October as an Extraordinary Mission Month with the Theme: “Baptized and Sent: Christ’s Church on Mission in the World”

Blessed Pope Paul VI will always be remembered as a modern missionary Pope, who journeyed to all Continents and authored “*Evangelii Nuntiandi* (EN). It is known as the Magna Carta for Catholic evangelization. Without doubt EN is one of the most important ecclesial documents of the post Vatican II era. Pope Francis described it as, “to my mind, the greatest pastoral document that has ever been written to this day.” He adds, “The testimony of Pius VI feeds us with the flame of love for Christ, for the Church, and gives us the momentum to announce the Gospel to the people of today, with mercy, patience, courage and joy.”

EN is Pope Paul VI’s outpouring of evangelization, holistically and integrally, in all its rich, complex, multi-faceted, and interrelated dimensions. The word “evangelization” does not occur in the New Testament. However, euaggelion which means “gospel” or “good news” occurs 72 times, 54 of which are in the Pauline corpus. The scope of evangelization reaches out to the full transformation of humanity and cultures in the light of the Gospel (James H. Kroeger, M.M., VJTR August 2014, pp.39-53).

Church as Evangelizing Community

Evangelization is anchored in “the Father’s love (26), in the entire life, mission, practice and witness of Jesus, “*the first evangeliser*” (no.7, cf.6-12). The Church “is born of the evangelical activity of Jesus and the Twelve,” and she “in turn is sent by Jesus” (15) in the Great Commission Mt.28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-18).

EN contains several beautiful descriptions of the Church as an evangelizing community: “Evangelization is, in fact, the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She

exists in order to evangelize”; “Evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church” (14). EN also shows the importance of the local community; Basic Christian Communities (BCCs) have enormous potential to manifest the missionary character of the Church (58).

EN contains quite a few direct references to the missions, as they were traditionally known. In the fifth chapter, three specific tasks are mentioned: missionaries are to: (a) proclaim the Gospel for the first time to peoples and lands where it has not been heard (51); (b) engage and interact with the faithful adherents of other religions (53); and, (c) assist the young Churches and promote missionary consciousness within them (56,58).

EN also confirmed key Vatican II documents (*Lumen Gentium*, *Gaudium et Spes*, and *Ad Gentes*; please read *Redemptoris Missio*, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, and Pope Francis’ masterpiece, *Evangelii Gaudium*), and promoted their reception and implementation in the Church. The Church has renewed her commitment to being a community of disciples and evangelizers (13, 15, 21, 24, 59, 66, 80), filled with joy and enthusiasm (73, 80), eager to give authentic witness (41, 76), under the dynamic action of the Holy Spirit, the principle agent of evangelization (75), and guided by Mary, the Star of Evangelization (82).

Mission and Evangelization

Mission and evangelization are composed of: (a) presence and witness; (b) commitment to social development and human liberation; (c) inter-religious dialogue (d) proclamation and catechesis; and, (e) liturgical life, prayer and contemplation [cf. DM (Dialogue and Mission) 13; DP (Dialogue and Proclamation)]. Popes Paul VI, St. John Paul II, and Francis include the elements of social justice, interfaith dialogue [Vat. II, Evangelization is essentially linked to Dialogue, GDC 27], peace-building, education and health care, life-witness, etc., but place a renewed emphasis, an expanded

vision of evangelization on the missionary nature of the *entire* Church (cf. AG 2; EN 14, 59; RM 61-76; EG 14, 20, 119-121). Today, Catholic evangelization engages the entire Church: all states of life, the hierarchy, priests, religious, laity, married and single, the young and old, alike.

St. John Paul II did everything in his power to renew mission, asserting that mission is at the heart of the Church (*Ad Gentes*, AG 2). He was deeply convinced that “missionary activity renews the Church, revitalizes faith and Christian identity, and offers fresh enthusiasm and new incentive. *“Faith is strengthened when it is given to others!”* (*Redemptoris Missio* or Mission of the Redeemer: RM 2). The focus of St. John Paul II was direct and clear: “I wish to invite the Church to *“renew her missionary commitment”* (2). All are invited to participate: *“Peoples everywhere, open the doors to Christ!”* (3).

The idea of a “Missionary God” comes across powerfully in the World Council of Churches Statement: This was echoed in the Mission Plenary session by eminent Catholic missiologist, Stephen Bevans of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) – “Mission is rooted in the overflowing love and word and embracing communion of the Triune God. God is mission: that mission is the creation, protection and redemption of all creation.” Therefore, as individuals and Churches, all of us are extensions and embodiments of the missionary God, who calls us to be co-creators, co-redeemers, co-protectors, co-operators and co-sustainers of the entire cosmos. Created as we are, in the image and likeness of God, we too are missionary like our God (Vidyajyoti Journal of Theological Reflection, December 2013, p.16; See *Together Towards Life: Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes, with a Practical Guide*, ed. Jooseop Keum, Geneva, WCC Publications, 2013, 4, no.2)

Evangelization and Vision: Transmitting the Urgency of Mission

What kind of view of evangelization emerges from a comprehensive analysis of *Redemptoris Missio*? It repeatedly speaks of mission, evangelization and salvation in holistic fashion: “Jesus came to bring integral salvation, one which embraces the whole person” (11); “evangelical witness...is directed towards integral human development”

(42); “action on behalf of integral development and liberation...is most urgently needed” (58).

“Mission is a fundamental commitment of the whole People of God” (32). Mission is “the greatest and holiest duty of the Church” (63). The document says that words of exhortation must give way to programmes of concrete actualizing. The Christian family is a key and irreplaceable force in evangelization (42); this insight is consistent with the teaching of Vatican II, which termed the family “the domestic Church” (LG 11 – one of the most inspiring and significant documents of Vatican II); a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and Christian charity!” (cf. GDC 51; CCC no.1666).

Mission awareness and animation should be impressed upon in the home. Material and financial donations are gratefully received and accepted, yet, families are challenged to offer “a special contribution to the missionary cause of the Church, by fostering missionary vocations among their sons and daughters” (80). Christian parents are the prime and irreplaceable proclaimers of the good news to their children; they are given this special grace by the Sacrament of Matrimony. Educational activity is both human and religious, through which the Gospel is transmitted and radiated, so that family life is transformed into a journey of faith” (GDC, *General Directory for Catechesis*).

The starting point: “Proclamation of the Gospel always begins with the Christian community, and invites humankind to conversion and following Christ (GDC 254). The Christian community is invited to focus very special attention on parents, since their “educational activity is both, human and religious; it is through ministry that the Gospel is transmitted and radiated, so that family life is transformed into a journey of faith” (GDC 227).

The World Council of Churches, Mumbai, 2014, espoused a “transformative spirituality” since “authentic Christian witness, is not only in what we do in missions, but how we live out our mission. The most basic call is birthing “another world,” the “new heaven and the new earth” (Rev.21:1). Read the beautiful

Contd. on pg. 8

Mahatma Gandhi

-P. D'Mello

On 2nd October we observed the 150th Birth Anniversary of the great Apostle of Peace, Mahatma Gandhi.

His teachings are becoming more relevant specially in today's time when there is great unrest, terrorism and several insoluble crises as in the Middle East, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kashmir and other parts of the world. Many of us realize that in order to establish world peace, we have to be peaceful. It is, therefore, proper to recall the values that moulded Gandhiji into the Mahatma.

Gandhiji was basically contemplative in action and had a very sublime idea of the spiritual. He expressed his feelings in many ways through his writings and prayer meetings. In his paper: "Young India" on April 3, 1924, he said 'I am impatient to realize myself, to attain Moksha in this very existence. I have no desire for the perishable kingdom which is Moksha.' In his autobiography 'The Story of My Experiments with Truth', he said "What I am to achieve-what I have been striving and pining to achieve in these years is self realization, to meet God face to face, to attain Moksha. I live and move and have my being in pursuit of this goal. All that I do is directed to this end."

The quintessence of Gandhiji's religion are the cardinal virtues of Truth (Satya) and non-violence (Ahimsa). He said "My religion is based on truth and non-violence. Truth is my God and non-violence is the means to reach him."

It is important to recall that the teachings of Jesus Christ had greatly influenced the Mahatma. In his words: "Jesus Christ played a great path in my life; unconsciously how great a path I do not know; consciously how much I do know when I felt the beauty of it, the presentation is unique, so many of my words are chosen from the Bible. I am unable to speak without reference to it."

Gandhiji was an idealist and he had great dreams of an independent India. He said: "I shall work for an India in which the poorest shall feel that it is that country in whose making they have an effective voice. There can be no room in such an India for the curse of untouchability or the course of intoxicating drinks and drugs. Women will enjoy the same rights as men."

Historian Judith M Brown explains the contemporary relation on Mahatma Gandhi on religion: What is religion?

This may seem a strange question to start with. But Gandhi's answer to this question was very different from the answers which would have been given by many of his contemporaries in India and beyond. Moreover, it had fundamental implications for his understanding of the significance of all human persons, and for his commitment to enter public life to serve others, and to work in such a way as to preserve their dignity and autonomy. For Gandhi, religion was not a clearly packaged and labeled set of beliefs and practices; neither was it a communal or semi-tribal identity. It was a pilgrimage in search of truth, a lifelong searching for God as truth rather than for a divinity which could be described in any simpler way. It is significant that he subtitled his partial autobiography, written in the mid-1920's as "The story of My Experiments with Truth." This understanding of religion set him at odds with contemporaries for whom religion was a particular orthodoxy of belief and practice, or the cement of specific socio-political identities. He believed that Truth resided at some deep level in every individual, and that consequently, he was called to serve humanity, particularly those who were weak and disadvantaged in ordinary human terms. Other fundamental questions flowed from these assumptions.

Gandhiji was a torchbearer for the whole world and he was sad when he said "the division of India can only harm its future." He was right in his fears, for everyone is aware of the events that followed partition.

We have just completed the 72 years of our Independence and it is our hope that our leaders ensure that politics is completely divorced from religion, which is private, and ensure that the country moves forward towards economic progress and prosperity. Further, they should pursue the aspirations of human equality, human dignity, self-respect and freedom from injustice and violence.

Baptized Born-Again and Sent: Voices in the World - Contd. from Pg 6

insights narrated below to know what and how:

The “Catechism of the Catholic Church” states, “Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit...we become members of Christ... and are made sharers in his mission” (CCC 1213). After Jesus finished his earthly mission, he urged us: “Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt. 28:19-20; Also CCC 1276).

Pope Francis says, “The missionary disciple has first of all a centre, a point of reference, which is the person of Jesus.” He noted several instances in which Jesus acted, in these verses: “It was he who called them, he who sent them, he who gave them power, he who commanded them. In almost every sentence, Jesus is the subject, and the Apostles are the direct objects. This repetition, the Pope reiterated, “highlights the fact that, the Apostles have nothing of their own to announce, nor capable on their own to show for themselves, but they speak and act, as those *“Sent, as Messengers of Jesus.”*”

Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist – *“Jesus was Born”*, figuratively, after which, the Father uttered ecstatically, and said: “This is my Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, listen to him” (Mt. 3:16; Mk.19:9-11; Lk.1:21-22; cf. Jn. 1:9-34, 3:21-22).

After Jesus’ Transfiguration, he had a *“Born Again”*, *“Twice Born”* in the Spirit (Jesus to Nicodemus: Jn.3:5), “Mountain-Top”, “Earth-Meets-Heaven” moment! (Mt.17:5; 9:2; Lk.9:28-36; Ezek.1:28, Acts [Paul] 9:3-19). So must we, if we are to be “Baptized and Sent” missionaries!

In telling Jesus’ Story persuasively, forcefully, brilliantly, like the “Burning Bush” (Exodus 3:1-17), from which God Himself *“Called”* Moses, we too, must become a blazing, illuminating, *“Burning Bush”*, with the Passionate, Personal, Profound, Presence of Jesus in our hearts. Then, Jesus will *“Call”* the world from *our* Burning Bush, and its people will hear the Father’s vibrant voice: “This

is my beloved daughter/son *listen to her/him”*.

And, they certainly will, because their hearts will “burn within them” (Luke 24:32)! The two disciples realized, “Were not our hearts burning inside us, as he (Jesus) talked to us on the long walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus?” “It is a “victory of the eyes”: They became aware it was Jesus, in the “breaking of the bread.” At length their joy and wonder find words; they hasten to share their amazing experience with their afflicted brothers. True heart-to-heart talk pours passion in our hearts, vision in our minds and wind in our feet. The conversation between the two disciples and Jesus was about the “Last things and the Lasting things”. This is one of Luke’s masterpieces! “The road to Emmaus” is not just a story. It is our story. Our lives, too, must be touched at a deeper level by the Rabbi, Redeemer and the Risen Lord! Indeed, this is the New Evangelization!

“Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road; as He opened to us the scriptures?” (Luke 24:28-32.) Perhaps, we are baffled by the way God apparently works in our world; He may be closer to us than we realize. The Word of God reveals that the great business of life is to glorify the Lord by enjoying Him forever, and sharing Him with others.

This mandate! We, too, are “Baptized, Called, Gifted and Commissioned to broadcast the Gospel across the Seven Seas, ‘Charismatically’, through Baptism by Fire”! Baptized and Sent!

Now, this gold nugget! We must only walk with Jesus, on a long, lonely, liminal, counter-cultural, radical, sanctified, enlightened path, with fire in our hearts, as evangelizers!

And, this final flourish! Jesus is the inspiration behind the captivating stories of mission. These highly motivating narrations invite baptized Christians, into a deeper, richer, more fruitful participation in “Good News” promotion, anywhere, everywhere, anytime, all the time.

The punch line! To be Baptized and Sent, in fiery Spirit-Power, then, is just a sacred dance under Jesus’ gaze!

Fr. Conceicao Rodrigues Memorable Debate- 2019

Fr. CRCE, Bandra, successfully completed its Flagship event on the 27-28th of September 2019. The 21st edition of the annual National level Conceicao Rodrigues Memorial Debate 2019, fondly called as CRMD.

The theme for this year was Ideologies: Egocentrism Engendering Self-Abatement

CRMD is an Oxford style Debate competition and has always been lauded by people who have witnessed it. Teams from across India eagerly wait to bag the prestigious trophy with their debating prowess. Like always this year too we witnessed 32 teams battling for the Grand cash prize of Rs.25,000/ for winners and 15,000/- for runner's-up and the Trophy. Teams from Hyderabad, Goa, Pune & Mumbai battled hard through the league rounds to secure their position in the quarter finals.

Dr. Meeran Chadha Borwankar (Ex. IPS Officer) was the Chief Guest for the Inaugural ceremony on the 27th of September. She enlightened the audience with her thought-provoking ideas. She delightedly shared her Debating experiences with everyone. One such experience was when she won a Debate competition with her partner, who is now the Chief Election Commissioner of India. **Mr. Mohan Cheroor** was the Guest of Honour for the Inaugural ceremony of CRMD' 19. Mr. Mohan has nearly 2.5 decades of experience with TCS and currently works as the Senior Manager. Mr. Mohan in his speech, addressed the need of young & energetic minds in the Corporate world.

Our Judges included Experts from the field of Communication, Education, Corporate world etc. An Adjudicator plays a vital role. Their valuable feedback post the Debate helps the teams to analyze their mistakes. Our Adjudicators judiciously noted down all the points they thought teams should consider before moving for their next Debate. The top 8 teams battled their way in quarters. 4 teams proved their Debating skills and secured a position in the semi-finals.

The panel of Judges for the semi-finals included **Mr. Ganesh Dalvi**, who has 18 years of experience in Operations and Training with renowned brands like Reliance retail, the Lalit, JW Marriott etc., **Mrs. Anu Malla**, is the Founder of Nuovo Image. She is an image Consultant and Corporate Trainer, a Curator and Speaker Coach.

Ms. Deepa Panakkal is an Assistant Professor for Communication Skills at the St. Francis Institute of Technology.

Only the best make it to the finals. The semi-final rounds saw the finest Debates of this Edition However, only 2 teams made it to the finals. After hours of meticulous planning on the Motions, the following Motion was selected for the Finale.*This House prefers a world where conception of the afterlife is based on karmic balance, rather than divine mercy*

Mr. Milind Wagle was the Chief Guest for the Finals of CRMD' 19. Mr. Milind Wagle has been a commentator since 1975. He has commented for 5 cricket World Cups, 6 Olympic Games, 8 Common Wealth and Asian Games and 25 Olympic Sports. The Judges for the Finals of CRMD' 19 included **Mr. Jagjyot Singh**, an Entrepreneur and Debater. He won the Best Speaker Award from 2006-2009 in CRMD and also won the prestigious Trophy from 2006-2008; Mr. Surajit Pal works at Prabhudas Liladhar Pvt Ltd as a Vice President Sr.Analyst. He is a rank holder at the Pharma Asiamoney and top 5 domestic Pharma Asiamoney. He has published a series of 5 Articles in Economic Times. And Mrs. Sakshi Chandraakar is the founder of Finesse, an image enhancement and skills enrichment Academy. She has made her mark as an Image Enhancer, Entrepreneur and a Certified People Skills Coach

Both teams gave a cut-throat competition. Side Opposition, Team CMD17 (Sardar Patel Institute of Technology) won the prestigious CRMD competition this year. Side Proposition,

Fr. Conceicao Rodrigues



Dignitaries lighting the lamp



Lighting the lamp Chief Guest & Guest of Honour



Principal Dr. Mrs. Srima Unnikrishnan addressing the audience



Guest of Honour Mr Mohan Cheror



Best Adjudicator Award



Best Speakers Award

Memorable Debate- 2019



*Director Fr. Valerian D'Souza
addressing the audience*

Team CMD32 (Mithibai College) were declared as the runners-up for CRMD'19. Mr. Azain Jaffer received the Best Speaker Award and Mr. Purav Bharadwaj received the Best Adjudicator Award.

Hardworking Students Council who left no stone unturned to make CRMD the finest event in CRCE under the Editorial Secretary, Mr. Ruben Lobo the Faculty Coordinator Prof. Supriya Khamji, and Dean, Students' Affair Dr. Deepak Bhoir. The CRMD-2019 success is due to continuous encouragement from Local Superior Fr. Peter D'Souza, Director Fr. Valerian D'Souza, Principal Dr. Srija Unnikrishnan and all the love and support received pre and post the Event.



Dr Meeran Borwankar



Facilitating Guest of Honour Mr Mohan Cheroor



Runner Up of CRMD 19



winners of CRMD-19

Ecology Rally Report

The Poona Diocesan Educational Society had organized Ecology Rally on Monday 16th September 2019. A motivational year of Ecology was thus marked by creating the awareness of the protection of environment among the students and everyone present there.

32 schools from all over Pune had participated in the Rally .The Rally began from Ornellas

High School and ended at St.Vincents High School. The Chief Guest for the program was Mr. Ganpat More Educational Officer, Rt. Rev. Thomas Dabre, Bishop of Pune, also graced the occasion.

This Rally helped in motivating people to take care of our environment.



Educating the masses through the Ecological Rally



Ecological Rally at its destination



Members on the dais pledge to save the Ecology

Lords of the Ring

Fr. Agnel Vashi, hoopsters created a record of sorts by winning 5 categories out of 6 in the DSO Inter District Basketball championship. The tournament was conducted by Christ Academy School on 19th and 20th of September. The Agnelites, Vashi dominated the tournament in all the age groups – U-14, U-17 & U-19 in the boys as well as girls categories. Boys U-14, U-17 and U-19 and girls U-17 and U-19 emerged winners while girls U-14 were runners up.



happy
diwali



Swacchgiri!! Solargiri!!

On the occasion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and celebration of International Non-violence Day, 2nd October 2019, the when children at Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School and Junior College, Vashi, made an important statement – ‘We children are working towards a better tomorrow.’

In support of our Honourable Prime Minister’s call for ‘Swachh Bharat’, children of the primary section made inspiring posters for a cleaner India. At the same time, another batch of enthusiastic children from the primary section, echoed this sentiment, by holding posters and walking together on the streets around the School building in Sector 9A Vashi. Some vibrant young ones, dressed as the Mahatma himself, urged their friends to imbibe his values of truth and non-violence.

The Middle School children decided to learn from Gandhiji’s subtle but deep messages of the past. They reflected on how to implement these values in the present, and thus carve a better

tomorrow. Short inspirational incidences from his life, were portrayed through pictures and drawings.

‘Be the change you want to see in this world’. ‘This change begins with me’. The children of the High School demonstrated this point by plunging into a cleanliness drive of their very own classrooms.

Around 220 children, of class 6 through 9, donned the role of ‘Student Solar Ambassadors’ by being a part of the Gandhi Global Solar Yatra. This initiative makes them future propagators of renewable energy. As part of the program, they enthusiastically assembled their own solar lamps, with kits provided by IIT Bombay. With this the children proved the statement made by the Father of Our Nation, “Freedom will surely be ours if we learn to free ourselves from the attraction of foreign goods.”

The vivacious children of Fr. Agnel School thus marked themselves, on this significant day, as promising citizens and future leaders of India.

Photos on back cover

A Memorable Scout and Guide Camp

On the 28th of September 2019, the Students and Teachers of Std. X set out for an adventurous Scout & Guide Camp. The students of **Fr. Agnel School, Ambernath** assembled at school early in the morning, unaware yet excited about what lay ahead for the next two days. After an hour long bus ride, they arrived at Pinewood Resort located in Varai village at Karjat. On the way, they witnessed picturesque, lush green paddy fields, streams and mountains. After reaching the destination, a trek led everyone to a beautiful lake for breakfast. The beautiful topographic features of the destination filled all hearts with pure fascination and wonder about Mother Nature. After taking some rest, the evening session began. Everyone’s beloved Rahul sir gave us a highly inspirational message,

placing emphasis on the need of thinking positively in life, and respecting our elders which motivated each one of us. This was followed by an informative seminar by Ms. Salindu about World Scout Jamborees, its importance, speciality etc. . Then, the most awaited part of the Camp, the ‘Campfire Session’ began. The Scouts and Guides of each class showcased their talents and efforts in very humorous, nonetheless thoughtful skits. The singing competition turned out to be a grand success as all the classes sang their hearts out to the melodious rhythms. The memories shared by Jude sir in the form of photographs along with evocative music not only left each one emotionally overwhelmed but also filled the hearts of all present with everlasting love for our Alma Mater. The first day came to an end with

Agnel Happenings

a luscious dinner.

The next morning, all the students assembled on the playground, proudly clad in their Scout and Guide uniforms, ready to face every task that lay ahead. After a morning walk and breakfast, the entire scenario of the Camp changed to an athletic and adventurous one as all the students took part in the 'Scout and Guide Treasure Hunt.' All the patrols were provided with a map enlisting the plethora of exciting activities laid out across the perimeter. The Scouts and Guides rushed from one place to another, looking

for their next activity station. From building stretchers out of bamboo sticks and sweaters; to being chained up to our teammates with ropes, the 'Treasure Hunt' was highly stimulating! Later on, eight student representatives from each class bravely competed in the 'Tug-Of-War' with all their might. The Scout and Guide camp came to an end with the prize distribution ceremony and Vote Of Thanks. Everyone buckled their seats for the return journey with hearts filled with memories to cherish for the rest of their lives.

Photos on inside back cover

Agnelites Bag 20 medals in Thane District Table Tennis Tournament

In the 8th Thane District Ranking Table Tennis Tournament held at **Fr. Agnel Sports Complex, Vashi** the home team players created history by bagging medals in each and every category of the tournament. Agnel paddlers won an astounding 7 Gold, 6 Silver and 7 Bronze medals for a total of 20 medals in 12 event categories.

Star paddler Deepit Patil was dependable as usual claiming a hat-trick of Gold medals as he won the crown in all the events he played in - Junior Boys, Youth Boys and Men's events. Disha Hulawale matched him toe-to-toe as she too won all her events, bagging the title in the Youth Girls and Women's events. Anvi Thorat was the newest addition to a huge list of title holders at

Agnels as she won the Gold medal in the Midget Girls (under-10) event. The Midget Girls was an all Agnel's final as Swara Jangade ended runner-up. In addition the tournament also witnessed 4 more all-Agnel finals as Gaurav Panchangam (Gold) and Sharman Dhedia (Silver) played a thrilling match for the Sub-Junior title. Sharman was also the runner up in the Junior Boys event while Tejal Kamble won Silver in both the Youth Girls and Women's event.

Kavya Bhat and Rohan Dani won the Silver medals in Cadet categories while Shreeya, Johan, Swastik, Tejas won a Bronze medal each.

The players were trained under able guidance of their Coaches Mrs. Suhas Chavan and Mr. Chaitanya Udare.

Photos on inside back cover

A winner is someone who recognizes his God-given talents, works his tail off to develop them into skills, and uses these skills to accomplish his goals.

- Larry Bird

It was All Advertisements ...

- E.F Joseph

Earlier, God was very strict and prompt in judging the fate of men soon after death. But, since the world has drastically changed to an amazing level, the merciful God changed His tough stance and decided to give men an option to choose Heaven or Hell, even after death. However, the right to admission to Purgatory was reserved with Him.

As such, once a youth around 25 years was killed in a bike accident. He was taken up and produced before St. Peter, who has been entrusted with the key of the Heaven. St. Peter narrated the revised procedure to the youth, and accordingly he shall stay 3 days in Heaven and 3 days in Hell, and then he has to choose Heaven or Hell. The decision, thereafter, will be final and binding to all. The youth agreed, and accordingly, he was taken to heaven for 3 days stay.

He saw Heaven, for the first time and was overjoyed. It is very beautiful, calm and quiet, no pollution, Angels and Saints live happily in a blissful state but he was very sad that it was all 24 hours Adoration, all the time Praise the Lord, Alleluia. No interval, no entertainment, no swimming pool, no food, no liquor bars, no girls, dance and orchestra etc his complaints were endless. The youth was fed up with full time Adoration and Praise. After 3 days stay in heaven he returned and was taken to hell.

At the entrance of Hell, he was accorded a red carpet welcome by half naked young beautiful girls. He was treated like a King, truly a royal guest of Hell. He enjoyed posh buffet lunch with beautiful girls, enjoyed liquor of all types, dance & music all the time, swimming pool, recreation

and many more.... He was very happy and got excited in the mesmerizing facilities in Hell. **The extremely delighted youth blamed the Priests on earth for having given a distorted, terrifying picture about Hell, in their sermons during the Mass.**

After 3 days stay, he returned and St. Peter asked him of his final decision. The youth, outrightly said **“I choose Hell”**. St. Peter deleted his name from **the Book of Eternal Life**, closed his file and handed it over to the Guardian Angel. The youth was exulting with great joy and pleasure to return to Hell at the earliest. **In the thrust of joy, he did not see the tears of the weeping Guardian Angel.**

St. Peter asked the youth of his final decision.
The youth, outrightly said **“I choose Hell”**.

At the entrance of Hell, he was welcomed as before but within seconds, it happened! He got a heavy bolt on his back and he plunged into the pit of ever burning fire where he saw lacs of youth like him suffering from burning fire. He shouted and screamed but nobody listened to him. Finally, a senior devil came, the youth blasted at him, “I was treated like a King, now what is all this cruelty I want to go back to Heaven”. The devil In-charge of reception told him **Stupid youth, it was all advertisements, your way to heaven is closed forever.**



The disgruntled youth remembered the divine words of the Priests during sermon that be on your guard against worldly enticements and luxuries lest you be trapped. Alas ! He is languishing in Hell.

(This story, with some modifications on my part, was told by my beloved mother during my college days, I treasure it like a precious diamond)

Be Peaceful and Today Will Take Care of your Needs

Tomorrow doesn't matter for I have lived today

-Horace

The twenty-four hours lying ahead is all we have been promised. With that promise is a guarantee that we will greet opportunities for growth that have their roots in yesterday. Our evolution is not without purpose and design; therefore, we need not concern ourselves with the future. It will educate and comfort us as it becomes the present.

When we understand that the situations inviting our responses today have purpose, our anxiety is eased. Fear is allayed when our understanding

is complete. Our life experiences are not happenstance, of this we can be sure; there exists an interdependence. Events are woven together for our greater good. Moreover, no one even offers more than a glance at the whole picture. So what we see today enlightens us about yesterday and the last week, even last year perhaps. Tomorrow will do likewise. But today is our only concern. It will provide exactly those opportunities we need to weave the next portion of our chosen design.

Allow yourself to enjoy each happy moment in your life.

- Steve Maraboli



There is no Joy Greater than the Joy of GIVING

Keith Monsurate, Dubai:

I enclose a cheque of ₹.10,000 for favours received through the intercession of Ven. Fr.Agnel. The amount may be used for the needs of the poor children. Please request the orphan children to pray for me and my family and for the safety of our jobs.

M.M. Olpadwala, Mumbai

I enclose a cheque of ₹.6000 being my donation to your Ashram for the welfare of the destitute children under your care. Please pray for us. Thank you.

A. Abraham, Bangalore

Kindly accept my humble donation of ₹.2000 for the poor children. Please pray for us especially for my five grand children that they keep good health. Thank you.

Pragna Pai, Mumbai

Please accept my thanks giving offering of ₹.5000 which may be utilized for the maintenance of the children in your Balbhuvan. Kindly remember us in your daily prayers.

Genevieve Marques, Goa

I enclose a Draft of ₹.2000 which you may use for the education and upkeep of the children in your Balbhuvan. Please pray for me and my family. Thank you.



FR. AGNEL'S BLESSINGS

TEARFUL PRAYER ANSWERED

TRICHUR-KERALA : I was completely bed-ridden following a major operation on my cervical disc. I had to fully depend on others for my every need including primary things. I could not move or tilt of my own. In this pitiable condition, I tearfully prayed to Venerable Fr. Agnel for a healing, at least for a condition wherein I could do my primary needs without any help from others. I am now extremely happy to testify that Ven. Fr. Agnel heard my fervent plea as I am now able to walk with the help of a stick and do necessary basic things without much strain and pain. With a heartfelt of gratitude, an offering of ₹.5000 to the Ashram.

-K.C JOY

SAFE AND NORMAL DELIVERY

MIRA ROAD : Being a late conception, the doctor said that my maiden delivery, by several reasons, would be very complicated and a caesarean might be required. I was under tension and got panicky. I entrusted myself to the protection of Ven. Fr. Agnel and fervently prayed to him for my safe confinement and normal delivery. I have now great pleasure to inform you that through the blessing of Ven. Fr. Agnel I had a safe and normal delivery with a healthy baby girl on the due date. We both are keeping hale and hearty. As a token of my profound gratitude, an offering of ₹.5000 to the Ashram.

-Nancy D'Souza

PASSED B M M EXAM WITH 'A' GRADE

WADALA : I was praying to Ven. Fr. Agnel for my better study and through his blessing I passed B M M (Batchelor in Mass Media) with 'A' grade and top in the College. My thanks offering of ₹.500 to the Ashram.

-Freyra Bhaka

BLESSED WITH PROMOTION

NALASOPARA : I am working with a reputed shipping company for a long time but I was not given any promotion despite due qualification and experience. I invoked the powerful intercession of Venerable Fr. Agnel and fervently prayed to him. I am now very happy to inform you that my fervent plea was answered as I am promoted as Chief Officer of the ship. With immense joy and gratitude an offering of ₹.5000 to the Ashram.

-Vianney Lemos

BLESSED WITH JOB IN BANK

AURANGABAD : I am an ardent devotee of Venerable Fr. Agnel from my childhood and would pray to him daily for my better future. Through his blessing I had a bright academic career and moreover I am now blessed with a job in a Nationalized Bank. As a token of my sincere thanks an offering of ₹.1200 to the Ashram.

-Riya Despande

*A blessing is a circle of light drawn around
a person to protect, heal and strengthen.*

-John O'Donohue

Out of Their Bounty

P. Srivastava	Mumbai	5000	Joseph D'Souza	Vasai	1000	R.L. Alphonso	Vasai	500
Kalpna Thakkar	Mumbai	14000	R. S. Barretto	Vasai	1000	R.S. Pires	Vasai	500
Nilisha Shah	Mumbai	9000	P. Fredy Pereira	Vasai	1000	S.E. Luiji	Thane	500
P. Fernandes	Mumbai	6000	Santan Fernandes	Mumbai	1000	Sam Cooper	Mumbai	500
B. F. Edulji	Mumbai	6000	P.K. Raghuvansi	U.S.A.	1000	S. Furtado	Mumbai	500
M. Hsish	Kolkata	5000	Divya Pereira	Thane	1000	Chetan Asher	Mumbai	500
V. Dadarkar	Vashi	5000	A Lourdusamy	T.N.	1000	Aaron Konikara	Mumbai	500
A.J. D'Souza	Vasai	5000	Veena Machado	Mumbai	1000	G.P. Fernandes	Vasai	500
R.T. Chacko	T.N.	5000	P. Vora	Nallasopara	1000	M. Mehta	Mumbai	500
Ayesha Pereira	Mumbai	3000	Lily Moraes	Naigaon	1000	H.U. Gala	Dombivli	500
M. Noronha	Mumbai	3000	Rashmi Pereira	Vasai	1000	Sandip Patel	Jalgaon	500
Joseph Dabre	Vasai	3000	N.Glen D'Cunha	Vasai	1000	Machado & Sons	T.N.	500
Subramaniam R.	Mumbai	2600	F. A. Lopes	Vasai	1000	I. Adaikalam	Odisha	500
Ram T. Hingoran	Mumbai	2100	Vivaan Bhavsar	Mumbai	1000	N.A. Elavia	Mumbai	301
Mrs. Bahl	Mumbai	2000	Behroze Engineer	Mumbai	1000	P.J. Maru	Mumbai	301
Ravi Bahl	Mumbai	2000	H.M. Mahek	Mumbai	1000	B. Vadiyar	Palghar	300
Eesha Bahl	Mumbai	2000	B.C. Pawar	Mumbai	1000	Pascal Fernandes	Mumbai	300
John D'Souza	Mumbai	2000	K.J Jose	Kerala	1000	J. Rattinam	Koliwada	300
Denis D'Souza	Mumbai	2000	M.V. Malaviya	Khopoli	750	Jay V. Maru	Mumbai	300
Agnes Rodrigues	Virar	2000	Wilson Vaghera	Mira Road	700	M. Rajathi	T.N.	300
Sebastiao Rebello	Mumbai	2000	A. Fernandes	Vasai	600	N. A. Dastoor	Mumbai	250
Marie I. Rebello	Mumbai	2000	Narendra Patel	Mumbai	510	D.M. Gandhi	Gujarat	201
Anthony Miranda	Mumbai	2000	A.R. Elavia	Mumbai	501	N.M. Sahiar	Daman	201
C.A. Miranda	Mumbai	2000	M.f. D'Souza	Mumbai	500	L. John	Dombivli	200
B.H. Solanki	Gujarat	2000	Parth K. Macwan	Gujarat	500	D.S. Audhish	Mumbai	200
Savio D'Souza	Mumbai	2000	B. S. Narvekar	Mumbai	500	R.Parmar	Nadiad	200
Joseph Chettiar	Mumbai	2000	Jatin Desai	Valsad	500	Anil Seth	New Delhi	200
Nirmala Joseph	Mumbai	2000	P. D'Costa	Mumbai	500	S.B. Menezes	Vasai	200
Nancy Joseph	Mumbai	2000	Ashok Patel	Mumbai	500	John M. D'Mello	Virar	200
Vanessa Joseph	Mumbai	2000	Doreen Lopes	Kerala	500	B. Fernandes	Mumbai	200
Joyce Fernandes	Mumbai	2000	Theresa Fernandes	Naigaon	500	J. Achuthan	Mumbai	200
Cynthia Mathias	Mumbai	2000	Rajesh Patel	Ahmedaad	500	A. M. Raj	Mumbai	200
Agnello Coutinho	Vasai	2000	Rita Pinto	Mumbai	500	A.S. Parab	Mumbai	200
V. Machado	Mumbai	2000	Peter D'Souza	Canada	500	L. Amalanayagam	Chennai	200
Flossy Machdo	Mumbai	2000	R.R. Vaswani	Mumbai	500	N.C. Parmar	Gujarat	150
D.P. Vora	Nallasopara	2000	Pooja Vaswani	Mumbai	500	C. Christie	Mumbai	150
H. Engineer	Mumbai	2000	Jerold & Senora	Nallasopara	500	S.. Mathi	Mumbai	105
H.S. Engineer	Mumbai	2000	Surekha & Jimmy	Nallasopara	500	B.A. Gandhi	Gujarat	101
Amal Gonsalves	Vasai	2000	Joslin Chenan	Mumbai	500	M.r. Patel	Mumbai	101
K.H. Mistry	Mumbai	2000	A. Thomas	Mumbai	500	K. Thorat	Mumbai	101
N. Chandan	Mumbai	1600	Thon V. Rebello	Nallasopara	500	J. Hariawala	Mumbai	101
Carl Sequeira	Mumbai	1500	C. P. D'Cunha	Vashi	500	P. Sachinbhai	Mumbai	101
Irene Bhagat	U.S.A.	1200	C.K. Achrekar	Mumbai	500	P.P. Ranjibhai	Bhavnagar	101
Sanya Paulson	Mumbai	1200	V. G. Naik	Virar	500	K. Mohite	Thane	101
K. Deshpande	Nallasopara	1120	Luiza J. D'Souza	Vasai	500	Kamdhenu Ent.	Mumbai	101
Ankur & Paula	Mumbai	1001	S. T. D'Mello	Vasai	500	R. Narkar	Mumbai	100
P. Kevin Dias	Vasai	1001	Mariel Lobo	Mira Road	500	R. Parikh	Mumbai	100
N. Rocha	Kerala	1000	S. M. Rigson	Kerala	500	P.C. Jesrani	Dahisar	100
Satish N.	Mumbai	1000	Rigson Alex	Kerala	500	S.A. Shetty	Kalyan	100
Harson D'Mello	Vasai	1000	N. R. Colaco	Vasai	500	S. Kurien	Nerul	100
John Alphonso	Kerala	1000	M.V. Dias	Vasai	500	Agnel Selvan	Dharavi	100
D. Achrekar	Mumbai	1000	Drifa Pereira	Thane	500	B. Popat	Mumbai	100
N.S. Pereira	Nallasopara	1000	T.P. Adarsh	T.N.	500	A. R. Ekka	Jharkhand	100
Delia Gonsalves	Vasai	1000	C. A. D'Silva	Mumbai	500	Antony R.	T.N.	100
S.M. Rumao	Virar	1000	C. Pereira	Vasai	500	L.P. Palande	Ahmednagar	100
Marie Pereira	Goa	1000	J. L. Alphonso	Vasai	500	S.A. Kanojia	Mumbai	51
			Rajesh Alphonso	Vasai	500			

Scouts and Guides, Fr. Agnel School, Ambernath



An energizing walk to the village lake side



Ready to take off with god's blessing



Learning values through drama



2. Birthday Bash!



Morning fitness for the patrols



Motivating young minds



Scout guide mentors



Tugging hard for victory



The tug of war champs

Table Tennis Tournament, Fr. Agnel Vashi



A warm welcome to the guest by Coach Suhas Chavan



Coach Chaitanya Udhare, M. D. Fr. S. Almeida, Russian Chess Coach, Coach Suhas Chavan with the winners



Inauguration by the guest



Winners were felicitated by Fr. Almeida

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/175/2018-2020
to post at concession rate on 14th & 15th
License to post without prepayment
No. MR/TECH/WPP-87/NORTH/2019
at Bandra Post Office, (West), Mumbai – 400 050.

Swacchgiri!! Solargiri!! Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School Jr. College, Vashi



10.jpg



If undelivered please return to:

FR. AGNEL ASHRAM

PB NO. 6656, Bandstand,
Bandra (W),
Mumbai-400050. India

Ph: 022 67114000

email: agnelashramnews@gmail.com