

# NEWS BULLETIN



## KARNATAKA-GO A OCD - CARMELITES

SADBHAVANA

Dr. Rajkumar Road - GKW

BANGALORE – 560010 (INDIA)

Tel. 0091.80.23476402 Fax: 23476584

*E-mail: ocdkgprovince@gmail.com*

**Mailing address:** Carmelite Provincial House

Rajajinagar 1<sup>st</sup> 'N' Block - Post Box 5602

BANGALORE – 560010 (INDIA)

## NEWS-NEWS-NEWS-NEWS-NEWS

**Volume 11 - Number 03 – December 2011**

**PROVINCE NEWS**

### ASHA DEEPA'S GLORY TURNS TO SILVER

December 6, 2011 will be a day to be remembered and pondered over because the Asha Deepa celebrated twenty five years of its existence as a formation house. This solemn occasion was celebrated along with the members of the Province and the near and dear ones of our friars. The centre of the celebration was the Eucharist presided over by Rt. Rev. Dr. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, Bishop of Mangalore and concelebrated by thirty five priests. The Bishop glorified God for calling so many youngsters to serve His flock through the instrumentality of Asha Deepa. The Eucharistic celebration was followed by a cultural programme with a prayer dance by the budding Carmelites of Asha Deepa. The Chief Guest Mr. Arun (who studied along with a batch of our students), the President Rev. Fr. Archibald Gonsalves, Provincial Superior and all dignitaries and the friends of Asha Deepa were welcomed by the Superior. The former Provincials, Superiors, Teachers and the Benefactors were felicitated and their contributions to Asha Deepa were publicly acknowledged. Fr. Provincial recalled the early memories of Asha Deepa, its struggles, difficulties and the progress it has made in the last 25 years and verbalized words of gratitude for all those responsible directly and indirectly towards the development and welfare of Asha Deepa. The community members were felicitated and thanked for their initiative in organizing the solemn

celebration. The climax of the cultural programme was a Konkani drama staged by the brothers of Asha Deepa. The solemn celebration concluded with a fellowship meal.

*Hats off to the community of Asha Deepa, May silver turn to gold.....*

### **THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF NAMAN BALLOK JESU & A TRIBUTE TO MR. WILFY REBIMBUS**

On the 4th of December, 2011, the Naman Ballok Jesu, Konkani Monthly published by Infant Jesus Shrine, Mangalore celebrated its 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. To mark this occasion, a symposium was organized on the songs and literature of Konkani Kogul, Late Mr. Wilfy Rebimbus, as a fitting tribute to his memory. Konkani Maina Mrs. Meena Rebimbus, wife of Late Mr. Wilfy was the chief guest while Rev. Dr. Archibald Gonsalves, Provincial, presided over the function. The programme commenced at 5.30 pm with a prayer dance; followed by a shradhanjali to Mr. Wilfy, after which Fr. Stephen Pereira, the Editor of Naman Ballok Jesu welcomed the gathering, mainly writers, poets, benefactors of the magazine and well-wishers among others. The symposium was moderated by the well-known Konkani poet Mr. Melwyn Rodrigues. The first paper was presented by Konkani writer Mr. Dolphy Cassia on the social revolutionary aspects in Wilfy's Songs. Mrs. Concepta Alva elaborated on the place that Wilfy gave to women in his literature highlighting the affectionate way in which he portrayed women. Rev. Dr. Pius James D'Souza likened Wilfy to the Psalmist, in his paper explaining the presence of the Word of God in Wilfy's songs. The papers were very informative and enlightening. A few writers namely Mr. Eddi Siker, Mr. Edi Netto and Mr. Herolpius shared their comments after the presentation. Fr. Provincial heaped honours on Late Mr. Wilfy and praised Fr. Stephen for organizing this great event, the first of its kind, and acknowledged that it would go a long way in promoting Konkani and reiterated the commitment of the Carmelites to this cause. Mr. Vishwas, son of Mr. Wilfy thanked the Carmelites for organizing this event in honour of his father. Wilfy's troupe presented a few of his songs, while the Brothers also presented a song and a dance. Deacon Rajesh compeered the programme while Br. Cyril thanked the gathering. The event ended with supper.

*Congratulations to Fr. Stephan and the community of Carmel Hill.*

### **TRINITY IS FOUND AT OUR NOVITIATE**

On December 13, 2011 three postulants, Brs. Melbert Audry D' Souza, Vishan Vinu Monis and Ashwath D' Souza entered the canonical novitiate at a simple but touching function in the community choir. Rev. Fr. Archibald Gonsalves, the Provincial, entrusted them to the care of the Novice Master by quoting a letter of Abraham Lincoln that he had written to the teacher of his young son. Each one of them was given a Scapular and Emblem of the Order. There was rejoicing in the refectory thereafter welcoming these young brothers to the cradle of the Province. We wish them a fruitful year in the Novitiate. *May all three of them feel the presence of the Trinity in their life.*

## **FOURTEEN EMBRACE THE LIFE OF CARMEL**

December 14, 2011 was a special day marked by dual celebration at our Novitiate, Tapovana, Kushalnagar, one of our major formation houses. First of all on this day the Carmelites celebrated the Solemnity of St. John of the Cross, reformer, mystic, doctor of the Church, but above all our spiritual father. Secondly it was the First Religious Profession of fourteen brothers, a record number, who committed themselves to Carmel through the profession of the Evangelical Counsels. The dual celebration was presided over by Rev. Fr. Archibald Gonsalves, the Provincial and concelebrated by 45 other priests both Carmelite and Diocesan. The rite of the religious profession began with the calling of names by the novice master. The Provincial in his exhortation, compared the 14 brothers to satellites prepared in the novitiate during the past year, to be launched in the orbit of the church. The newly professed brothers were overwhelmed and touched by the grace of God and verbalized their words of gratitude through a thanksgiving song on the theme: "Deep within my heart echoes a simple melody". The celebration was attended by a large number of friends, benefactors and the family members of the professed brothers. We congratulate these 14 brothers for their commitment to the Lord in Carmel and pray that they may persevere till the end. We are indebted to the community of Tapovana and all the benefactors who have accompanied these young and energetic brothers.

## **MEETINGS AND FESTAL CELEBRATION AT SADBHAVANA**

On October 12, 2011 parish priest and Shrine Pastors gathered for input sessions by experts. The morning sessions were animated by Rev. Fr. Victor George D' Souza, professor of Canon Law clarified their doubts. In the afternoon, Rev. Fr. Joseph Abraham, the Parish Priest of Uttarahalli, Bangalore and a renowned preacher besides being a Canonist enumerated the pastoral qualities and approach that are expected of a parish priest. The final session was conducted by Fr. Provincial, who offered a few tips and guidelines for the smooth functioning of our parishes.

On October 13, 2011 all the local Superiors of our communities converged at Sadbhavana and the inaugural address was delivered by Fr. Provincial where he highlighted the major changes and developments in the Province. After which the individual superiors presented a brief report of their respective community.

At 6.30, p.m. guests from the neighbourhood joined us for a solemn Festal celebration of St. Teresa of Jesus, our patroness, which was also marked as PROVINCE DAY. The main celebrant was the newly appointed Provincial of the MSFS fathers, Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil, who offered the congregation an inspiring message based on the Word of God and the life of St. Teresa. The choir was directed by Fr. Ronnie D'Souza, with a group of our seminarians from Pushpashrama. A sumptuous dinner followed which prolonged the festive mood.

On the final day, the 14th of October the bursars arrived to receive important information and practical tips from our veteran Provincial Procurator, Fr. Canute D'Souza. After a session separately they joined the Superiors and the Provincial Council for the concluding remarks

and observations by Frs. Provincial and Canute. Many matters that need the attention of both the Superior and Bursar, who have to work in tandem, were discussed.

Besides the hectic programme, it was a real celebration of our fraternity. May our bonds grow stronger and bear abundant fruit!

## **SECOND ANNUAL RETREAT OF THE PROVINCE**

The Second Batch of the Province Retreat was held at Sadbhavana, Bangalore from 21st to 25th November, 2011. Rev. Fr. Jossey Fernandes, OFM Cap guided the friars into spiritual renewal. There were fifteen friars who attended the retreat from different communities of the Province. At the end of the retreat all the participants did experience the spiritual presence of Jesus.

## **TALKS ON ST. TERESA FOR THE FRIARS OF THE BANGALORE REGION**

On December 17, 2011 one full day class was organized for the Bangalore region friars on St. Teresa's – "Way of Perfection". Fr. Gregory D' Souza delivered three lectures on the topic. All the friars were delighted with the input session and made great efforts to inculcate the spirituality of St. Teresa in their Carmelite way of life. There was good participation from all the communities of Bangalore region. Deacon Vijay D' Costa was a new member to our region and he was extended a cordial welcome.

## **NEW FOUNDATION IN GULBARGA**

Earnest efforts are being made to acquire a property in the area assigned to us by the local Bishop. Fr. Provincial along with the councilors has visited the Diocese a couple of times, and four of our Deacons will be exercising their Diaconal Ministry in various mission stations of the Diocese till their Ordination.

## **MEETING OF OUR FRIARS SERVING IN GOA**

The first meeting of all friars serving in the region of Goa was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011. The three friars from Londa joined the gathering during the morning sessions, during which Fr. Gregory D'Souza shared his insights on the 'Way of Perfection'. In the afternoon, there was a fraternal dialogues on issues related to our monasteries and ministry in the region. After the meeting, all joined the inmates of Lar de Sta Teresinha for the blessing of the foundation stone of the new block by Fr. Provincial. A sizeable number of OCDS and other well-wishers were also present.

## **VOCATION PROMOTER MEET AT MYSORE**

The vocation promoters of Bangalore-Mysore region came together at Dhyavanava, Mysore on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 to plan and discuss strategies for the recruitment of boys.

## **FORMATION COURSE**

Frs. Ajith Rodrigus, Sunil Rodrigues, Francis Bartholomew and Maurice D'Souza are participating in three month course for formators organized by the Generalate at Alwaye, Kerala. At present they are in various formation communities for field experience. Two formators from other provinces attending the course from are in Pushpashrama and Carmel Hill, Mangalore.

## **TWO CARMELITE MISSIONARIES COMMIT THEIR LIFE TO CARMEL AND TO THE CHURCH AS DEACONS**

The entire K.G. Province along with the Missionaries of Tanzania celebrates and rejoices in the dual celebration of the Solemn Profession and Diaconate of Bros. Praveen Frank and Reevan Cutinha. These two young men committed themselves perpetually through the evangelical vows on the 30th of September, 2011 at Kihonda, Tanzania. They made their solemn profession in the hands of Rev. Fr. Raymond Santhanaz, the first councilor of Tanzanian Vicariate. After the spiritual celebration, all the friars along with the faithful congratulated these two young men.

On the following day, that is October 1<sup>st</sup>, the feast of St. Therese of Child Jesus, who is popularly known as the Patroness of the missions, the same Bros. Reevan and Praveen were raised to the clerical status by Rt. Rev. Dr. Telesphore Mkude, the local ordinary of the diocese of Morogoro. There were 24 deacons from different congregations. The Bishop asked them to be servants after the living example of their Lord and Master Jesus Christ. The ceremony was witnessed by 106 priests and a good number of laity. After the Eucharistic celebration, the Carmelites gathered together to felicitate the Deacons.

*We wish these two young men all the best in their consecrated life and their ministry as Deacons in the Mission land of Tanzania.*

## **DIAMOND YEARS IN THE GARDEN OF CARMEL**

The Karnataka – Goa Province has a reason to celebrate and rejoice as one of its stalwarts celebrates 60 years of Religious Life. He is none other than the 'Walking Encyclopedia' and the 'Living Philosopher' of the Province – Rev. Fr. Paul D' Souza. One can only envy his ever green 'Memory'; one cannot but admire his religious fervour.

Fr. Paul served Carmel in Kerala and Goa. In the newly erected Karnataka-Goa Province, he rendered yeomen service in various capacities: Provincial Councilor, Provincial Secretary, Professor of Philosophy and Theology, Counselor and Spiritual Director, etc. Most of his life has been spent in the formation of young seminarians at Pushpashrama, Mysore. He has to his credit a number of scholarly articles and a book "History of the Carmelite Order" which is an added feather on his cap and a treasure of our Province

Through his scholarly and timely guidance, he has also guided many priests, especially those of our Province pursuing higher studies in India and abroad. He is much sought after for his

retreats, recollection talks and spiritual conferences by seminarians, religious and priests alike.

As he completes his 60 years of Religious commitment and 79 years of life, the Karnataka-Goa Province wishes him good health and all cheer to carry on his mission in Carmel. *Ad Multos Annos dear Fr. Paul D' Souza.*

### **JINNECHI VATT, IN KANNADA SCRIPT RELEASED**

Rev. Dr. Pius D'souza OCD, Superior, St. Joseph's Monastery, Bikarnakatte Mangalore, released JINNECHI VATT – a book in Konkani on moral values on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2011 at Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte. Fr. Valerian Fernandes, Parish Priest of Sastan, has transliterated the book from Roman script to Kannada script. It is a book on Value Education originally written in roman script by John M. Alfonso OCD. It is published by Dhyanavana Publications-Bangalore

'Jinnechi Vatt' (in roman script) has received three awards (Best Essay book in Konkani for the year 2009) from Goa Konkani Academy, Thomas Stephen Konkani Kendra, Porvorim-Goa and Konkani Bhasha Mandal-Goa. *Congrats dear Br. John M. Alfonso.*

### **NEWS FROM CARMEL HILL, MANGALORE**

- ♣ **Medical Camp at Mangalore:** As many as 127 jail inmates including 12 women prisoners benefited from a free medical camp organized by the Prison Ministry India (PMI), Mangalore Unit in association with AJ Institute of Medical Sciences in the Mangalore Jail Premises on 30th Oct, 2011. The Medical camp was organized following a demand from the jail inmates as a large number of inmates were reportedly suffering from skin related diseases. While all the medicines were provided free of cost to all the needy inmates, the doctors team spent half a day in examining and treating the inmates. Prison Warden Kavitha too was present. When asked, Dr. Narendra Shetty said most of the inmates were suffering from Eczema, Scabies and fungal infections. "Lack of hygiene is the main cause of disease among the inmates," he opined and added that sharing of clothes and bed sheets may also be the reason for the same."

*KUDOS to FR. WALTER D'SOUZA, Director, PMI Mangalore*

- ♣ **Vocation Camp:** The Carmel Hill community conducted a two-day vocation camp on the 6th of October. The camp was inaugurated by Fr. Elias D'Souza at 10:00am with 43 participants, ranging from classes 8th – 1st PUC (with two boys from classes 6th and 7th too), from 14 parishes all around Mangalore. The brothers, under the leadership of Fr. Deep, organized various activities and competitions – sports, drawing, drama, recreational games, etc. They catechized them on the parables of Jesus and a life of prayer, enlightened them about the Carmelite life by sharing their own vocation experience, kept them active and on their toes with action songs and

interactive sessions, entertained them with a beautiful movie, tested them with competitions and finally rewarded them with prizes. The participants were totally involved till the end and exhibited great enthusiasm. The camp was a great success and some of the participants shared their experiences and profusely thanked Fr. Deep and the other friars for inviting them. The camp concluded at 1.00 pm with the prize distribution and a message by Fr. Superior, followed by a fellowship meal. May the Lord, who guided our efforts during these two days, enkindle in the hearts of these young boys the desire to dedicate their lives to Him in the garden of Carmel.

- ♣ **Minor Orders conferred:** On the 21st of October, the Brothers received the Minor Orders at the hands of Rev. Fr. Provincial during the Solemn Community Eucharistic Celebration at 7.00 p.m. The First year Brothers – Bros. Kevin, Prakash Rebello, Antony, Cyril, Augustine, Noel and Arun, and the Second year Brothers – Bros. Richard Saldanha and Rayan, received the ministry of Lector while Bros. Joyson, Sunil, Richard Menezes and Prakash D’Cunha of the Third year received the ministry of Acolyte. Fr. Silvestre, Councillor, preached a beautiful homily, expounding the mind of the Church through its documents, regarding the significance of these ministries. He urged the Acolytes to be more devoted to the service of the altar and the Lectors to be dedicated to the reading and meditation of word of God, that they may proclaim it more worthily. He also reminded the Lectors of their duty of preparing the faithful for the celebration of the reception of the word and the celebration of the sacraments. The deacons prepared a wonderful liturgy. The Mass was followed by a fellowship meal for which Frs. George, Nelson and Alwyn were also invited.

Through these ministries, may the brothers recommit themselves to the service of the Church and be encouraged on their journey to priesthood.

- ♣ **The Annual Get-together of OCDS:** The Annual meet of the OCDS of the Mangalore Unit was held on 16th October, 2011 (a day after the feast of Our Mother Teresa) in the house of Mrs. Mary Rebello. 28 members were present. The meet began with the recitation of the PRAYER OF THE CHURCH. Mrs. Benedicta D’Souza (Benny Teacher), the president of the unit welcomed the gathering. Through the Power Point Presentation, the activities of the past year were flashed. Mrs. Lavina Noronha, the councilor in-charge of the Cultural activities compeered and also conducted a few games with the help of her assistants. B’day cake was cut and B’day Babies – born in the month of October were wished. The presence of Frs. Gregory, George Santhumayor, Melvin, Deepak, Elias, Deep and Br. Baptist conveyed a special message to these committed lay Carmelites that they truly belong to our family. Fr Deep, the director of the OCDS, thanked the gathering. All then enjoyed the delicacies lovingly prepared by these brothers and sisters of ours.
- ♣ **Secular Carmel Library Inaugurated:** The newly set up Library for the exclusive use of the Secular Carmel and their family members was inaugurated on 4th Nov, 2011 at 4 pm. Fr. Pius J. D’Souza, inaugurating the Library said, that after listening to the talks given by Fr. Deep during the meetings and now reading the books available in the new library, we look forward to the birth of new writers who will in turn share

their insights and knowledge with others. Fr. Deepak Tauro and Br. Prakash were present. Fr. Canute Tauro who was also present invited all the Secular Brothers and Sisters to the Silver celebrations of Asha Deep. At the end birthday babies of the month were wished good luck.

*Hats off to Rev. Fr. Deep Fernandes, the Delegate Provincial to Secular Carmel in the Province for his creative initiatives!*

- ♣ **Carmel Gudo celebrated the Carmel Day:** The whole community of Carmel Hill put their hands together to organize the Carmel Day 2011 on Dec. 10th. The programme began at 5.30 and reached its climatic end at 8.20 pm. The crowd of more than 1000 people actively participated right through and was very supportive and encouraging. The programme began with a prayer dance by the altar girls, after which Fr. Pius James D'Souza, the Superior, welcomed the gathering and honoured the President Fr. Archibald Gonsalves, the Provincial Superior of the Carmelites, and the Chief Guests, Mr. Melwyn D'Cunha, President of MCC Bank, Mangalore, and Mr. Roy Castelino, President of Konkani Prachara Andolana. He also welcomed Fr. William who was present on behalf of the Diocese of Mangalore, and Fr. Joseph Martis, Rector of St. Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary. The brothers harmonized their voices to bring forth a melodious chorus. Mr. Melwyn D'Cunha while sharing about his association with the Carmelites at Carmel Hill mentioned the three functions of an ordained minister, namely, priest, prophet and king. He spoke of how the Carmelites have served God and the faithful around. He also thanked the gathering for their contribution in bringing about the centenary year of the MCC Bank and appealed for their continued support. Mr. Roy Castelino appealed to the sentiments of the gathering, asking them to contribute to the growth of Konkani our mother-tongue and highly appreciated the Carmelites for playing a primary role in this regard, through their association with various Konkani organizations and initiatives, and especially through such programmes like the Carmel Day, which go a long way in promoting Konkani. He then honoured Mr. Thomas J. D., the dance master, for his commitment to the Carmelites for the past eight years. Fr. Provincial recalling the early years of this event, highlighted the fact that the Carmel Day has been held for 24 years consecutively, mentioning that there were some present who had attended every single one. He proudly congratulated the brothers for organizing such a wonderful programme despite their hectic schedule. He also honoured Mr. John M. Permanoor, the director of the Konkani drama. The brothers entertained with two dances – a western and a classical – and a creative song conveying the message, “Stop corruption.” Fr. Deepak Tauro, Master of students, thanked everyone who contributed to the success of the programme. Then followed the highlight of the event, the Konkani drama, written by Br. Jocy Siddakatte, “Khaim Tuji Savari?” Interpolated with comedy scenes, the play, a tragedy, kept the crowd in suspense until the climax. The brothers through their incredible performance made the Carmel Day a great success.

*“Kudos to the Carmelites of Carmel Hill”*

- ♣ **Christmas Celebration by the OCDS:** The Secular Carmel Community of Carmel Gudo celebrated Christmas with fun and gaiety on 16th Dec, 2011. Members who are talented in various fields exhibited them in putting up a Christmas play "Balkak Kone Velo?" (Written by Sr. Judy Pinto OCDS), singing Carols etc. Sr. Judy gave a Christmas message. Fr. Pius D'Souza appreciated the good will of the members. Other than the community Fathers and Deacons, Fr. Canute D'Souza and Fr. William Miranda were present. The celebration reached its climax with the sharing of the Kuswar prepared by the members.
- ♣ **Christmas Celebration at Mangalore Sub-Jail:** Prison Ministry India, (the National voluntary organization working for the release, renewal and rehabilitation of prisoners as well as women in distress) Mangalore Unit - celebrated the Christmas with the inmates of District Sub-Jail, Mangalore on 19th December 2011. Rev. Fr. Walter D'Souza OCD, the Coordinator of PMI, welcomed the gathering. Most Rev. Dr. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, Bishop of Mangalore who was the President of the Program, delivered the Christmas message of peace and brotherhood. Speaking on the occasion he said that Christ is born not only to a particular community rather he has come to alleviate the pain and to give joy and peace to all. Mr. C. K. Manjunath, Principal and Academic Head of Yenepoya School, Mangalore invited the inmates to make the best of the opportunities provided in the jail and to enrich their experience by mixing with others and sharing their joys and sorrows. He said, every problem has a solution provided we take a right direction and adopt just means to solve it. P. S. Ambekar, Superintendent of Mangalore Prison and other Prison authorities were present. Students of Sacred Heart High School, Kulshekar entertained the inmates with a colorful dance and skit. Sr. Dafney proposed the vote of thanks and appreciated the contribution made by Leslie D'Costa. Mrs. Jane Sequeira compered the program.

### ***CANADA REGION REJOICES***

- ∇ The New Website of the Discalced Carmelites in Canada will be inaugurated on 25th December (2011) during the Solemn Holy Eucharistic celebration at Guardian Angels Church. This website contains a short history of the Discalced Carmelites of Karnataka Goa Province working here in Canada since 2003; the profiles of the priests working in Canada and their photos; links to all the 4 of our parishes run by the members and other interesting features like: Articles, Stories, Religious Jokes, Parish Bulletins, Homilies, Books and News items. This Website will be a useful instrument to gather the Carmelite Family in Canada in view of establishing links and relationship to foster collaboration and fraternity. **The domain of the website: [www.cccocd.org](http://www.cccocd.org).**
- ∇ It is a great news to all of us that a Carmelite Charitable Society with Charitable Tax Deduction number will be shortly ready for transactions here in Canada. The society name will be: CANADIAN CARMELITE CHARITABLE SOCIETY
- ∇ Fr. Boniface Cyril D'Souza has successfully completed his CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) Certificate course. This course allows him to work in any Canadian

Hospital and render quality services and earn a considerable income for the Province. We congratulate Fr. Boniface for his dedicated successful venture at completing this tough course here in Canada.

- ∇ Fr. Rudolf V. D'Souza will be giving a course on Yoga and Christian Spirituality at St. Mark's College in spring and he has been also appointed Chaplain to the Neo-Catechumenal Community at West End Vancouver city by Archbishop Michael Miller CSB.
- ∇ Guardian Angels Church will be building an Open Air Crib for public viewing at the Rectory Roof shortly by the Knights of Columbus members.
- ∇ A meal for 300 homeless will be served by the Community during Christmas week at Guardian Angels Premises.

### ***VOICE MAIL FROM HEGDE NAGAR PARISH***

- ◆ **October 9th 2011:** It was the day of feasting and merry making. Our Lady of Rosary, the feast of our patroness was celebrated with all pomp and glory. The novena was preached by Rev. Fr. Joseph Abraham, the Parish Priest of St. Antony's Church, Uttarahalli. The feast day i.e. 9th was marked with 42 children receiving First Holy Communion. The Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Bangalore, Msgr. C. Francis presided over the Eucharistic celebration. Many priests concelebrated the Eucharist. Food was served to all the people. In the evening there was a beautiful car procession of Blessed Virgin Mary, with all the First communicants and the faithful lining up almost for a kilometer accompanied by praises to God and prayer. The crackers added colour to procession and it was indeed a beautiful sight for the onlookers, who watched the procession with due respect.
- ◆ **December 4th 2011:** It was the red letter day in the chronicles of the parish. 92 candidates received the Sacrament of Confirmation from the Archbishop of Bangalore, Most. Rev. Bernard Moras. His Grace was happy with the training of the candidates for the reception of the Sacrament. His Grace questioned the children on the importance of the Sacrament and the children were prompt in answering all the questions. Indeed it was wonderful to see the candidates with a blooming smile. Some were adults, others married, some who had not received the Confirmation for more than twenty five years, some 60 years old candidates, etc. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was very much felt on this auspicious day.
- ◆ **X-Mas tree** was celebrated on the 18th in the Parish with various programs and Christmas activities.
- ◆ There will be a TV program on the day of X-mas from the Hegde Nagar parish, with the Christmas message by the Parish priest Fr. Elias Daniel, in Chandana TV. Please do watch the program on the X-Mas day during the morning and evening hours.

### ***TIDINGS FROM MIRA ROAD***

- **Seminar on Interfaith marriages:** The seminar on Inter faith marriages was held for the PPC members, SCC coordinators, animators and head and assistant heads of all

the associations and cells on Sunday, 25th September, 2011. The gathering was held in the Community Hall of St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road from 6.00p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Rev. Fr. Vincent Barboza, expert in apologetics, gave a talk on Inter faith marriages and connected problems. More than 200 people attended this session.

- **Medical Checkup Camp:** Sep.25th: A free medical checkup for blood sugar (fasting and Random) and cholesterol was organized with the collaboration of Dr. Mallya's pathology Laboratory team members from 8a.m. to 12 noon in the Infant Jesus hall. Around 250 parishioners benefited from this camp. They were also grateful for having organized this camp and all could see a broad smile on their faces.
- **Proud moment for LCD Team and Parishioners:** On 18th Sept 2011, Sunday: It was a proud moment for the LCD Projection Team and parishioners of St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road. It was a day of thanksgiving, and felicitation as we successfully completed two years after installing LCD projectors in our parish. Soon after the 8.15 mass Infinity Solutions Director Mr. Aaron Nicholas in his short introduction said that it was a great challenge thrown to Infinity Solutions that they took up with great courage and strength. He also mentioned how helpful this technology has been in rendering service to the church, by participation in the proceedings of the Holy Eucharist. He appreciated the support of the Priests, LCD Team and Parishioners.
- **St. Joseph's Sunday school now on facebook!** On 11th September St. Joseph Mira Road launched Sunday school on facebook. In Bhyander deanery this is the first Sunday school to enter into the facebook. This account is opened especially to exhibit the hidden talents of our children and to highlight the activities which take place in the Sunday school. If you are interested to watch our children participating in various activities, then search on facebook for Sunday school St. Joseph.
- **Medical Camp:** Oct 1st: Senior Citizen's Day was celebrated at St. Joseph Church, Mira Road. On this auspicious day Matiaji Concubens Charitable Trust and Temple of Human Dignity had organized a free medical camp in the community hall from 8a.m.to 2p.m. Famous cardiologists, orthopedicians, diabetologist, gynaecologists, skin specialists, ENT surgeons, dentists, psychiatrist were present and they conducted ECG, bone density, asthma test, retina check up, blood sugar and other tests. More than 500 senior citizens came with the history file and went home with a joyful smile. After the function, lunch was served to all. It was a memorable day for the people from all walks of life coming together to rejuvenate their health.
- **Senior citizen's day a fabulous success:** Mira Road: Senior Citizen's Day was celebrated at St. Joseph Church, Mira Road on Sunday Oct. 23 in the Community Hall. The program began with the Eucharistic Celebration. Rev. Fr. Michael M. Shenoy, Superior of the community, presided over the Mass and preached an inspiring homily. Soon after the mass a renowned advocate Mr. P. Vas gave a session on Problems of Senior Citizens. It was full of enriching and meaningful insights for the Senior Citizens. Later St. Don Bosco community youth cheered the gathering with songs as well as instrumental music. Fr. Dominic Vas and Fr. Ivan entertained the crowd with baila songs. This was followed by games and spot prizes conducted by the Youth. On this wonderful day one could witness the enthusiasm and energy of the

senior citizens as they celebrated the day that belonged to them. Speaking on the occasion, Parish Priest Fr. Dominic Vas said “We are celebrating this day out of joy, and You are the jewels and pearls of our parish.” Later he expressed his gratitude to all those who had contributed in various ways towards making this event a grand success. This program culminated with a sumptuous home cooked food prepared by the SCC members of our Parish. It was appreciated and relished by all.

- **Musical Delight:** The fifth and final show of the ongoing 'Wilfy Nite' tour concluded at Mira Road, which is also known as 'Mini Mangalore', on Oct 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday evening. The packed audience at the open grounds of St Joseph's Church premises witnessed Wilfy Nite performed by well-known artistes from Mangalore, including the Rebimbus family.

The parish priest of St Joseph Church Mira Road, Fr Dominic Vas presided over a felicitation programme and honoured Konkani Maina Meena Rebimbus. Bhayandar MLA Gilbert Mendonca was the chief guest. Dominic Mendonca of Catholic Bank, Gilbert Baptist of Malaika, entrepreneurs Robert Noronha, Maurice Pinto Hirgan, and Vishwas Rebimbus were the guests of honour. Meena Rebimbus and others rendered songs composed by late Wilfy Rebimbus, Veena and Vishwas Rebimbus. Dolla along with Leslie Rego added a dash of humour to the evening.

- **A Special Day:** Sunday, 18th September 2011 'A Special Day' for Confirmation Catechesis... all confirmation students gathered in the Community hall for a session on intensive group discussions on various topics pertaining to the X Commandments... it was truly motivating to see the confirmation students engrossed in focused discussions on the topics and later coming out to share their views with the larger group.
- **Altar Servers:** On the 29th of October 2011, the Altar Servers Association spent a day in Suraj Water Park in an amazing way. There were 125 altar servers accompanied by the animators, brothers and beloved Father Michael. It was to refresh our children and to share an experience of togetherness with each other. At 8.00 am the buses set off with all children cheering in excitement. We reached the spot at 9.30am and headed for breakfast. At around 10.00 am all the kids were ready to jump into the waters and drown into the environment full of fun. After the fun filled session at the pool all gathered with empty stomachs and plates to relish the mouth watering lunch that was served at 1.00 p.m. We continued dancing and enjoying the remaining day and then with drowsy faces all were almost asleep on our way back home.
- **King of Diocese at Mira Road:** The Annual Parish Feast of St. Joseph Church, Mira road known as the 'Family Feast' was celebrated in a befitting manner on Sunday Dec.4th at 5p.m on the Parish grounds. In view of a worthy preparation for the feast, nine days novenas were held on the Theme “St. Joseph and Church Community”. The celebrations began at 4.00 p.m. by welcoming Cardinal Oswald Gracias, Archbishop of Mumbai at the main arch of the Church. It was followed by a get-together with the Cardinal and the Parish leaders in the community hall.
- **The theme “Let change renew our Faith”** was Chosen for the festal Mass. Cardinal Oswald Gracias, presided at the high mass. Rev. Fr. Dominic Vas, Parish Priest, Fr.

Michael, Fr. Ivan, Fr. John, Fr. Arwin, Fr. Agnelo, Fr. Paul Vincent and Fr. Reean concelebrated the Eucharistic celebration. Cardinal Oswald Gracias in his homily stressed the role of parents in nurturing Christian values and prayer life. A very encouraging participation from all the parishioners added colour to the celebration. Soon after the mass the cultural programme began with a welcome speech by Fr. Dominic Vas followed by comedy skits and dance. During the short felicitation programme Fr. Dominic Vas, Parish Priest thanked His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias and together with Fr. Michael and Mr. Johnson felicitated the Cardinal with a shawl, fruits, flower bouquet and Raja Peta saying He is the King of our Diocese. The cultural programme was put by the parish association and cells. It was thrilling and thoroughly entertaining. Theology Brothers added much charm to the cultural programme with their dashing and enigmatic skits. It was a fantabulous performance by the groups with a message accompanied by a thunderous applause from the crowd. The entire day was filled with faith, fun and frolic.

### ***ASHA DEEPA***

- On December 5, 2011 the Carmelite get together was held at Asha Deepa for Carmelite fathers who worked strenuously day and night and all students who have passed the portals of Asha Deepa. Fr. Archibald provincial, more than twenty five priests, Br. Baptist and Br. Maurice witnessed this great event along with the Asha Deepa Community. The gathering began with the prayer session conducted by Fr. Wilfred Rodrigues and a spiritual reflection by Fr. Archibald Gonsalves. After the prayer session guests were welcomed with hot soup followed by short cultural programme. One of the important aspects of the cultural programme was sharing of the unique experiences of Asha Deepa. Br. Maurice gave the lead and others followed it. It was summed up with a delicious and sumptuous dinner prepared by Mr. Sylvester who serves the Asha Deepa community since 14 years.

### ***ETERNAL CITY - SANTA MARIA DELLA SCALA, ROME***

- **August 31, 2011:** Fr. Ivan Pinto and Fr. Oswald Crasta stepped into Maria della Scala in preparation for the taking over of the same.
- **Sept. 13, 2011:** Official taking over of SANTA MARIA DELLA SCALA: A MONASTERY OF THE KARNATAKA GOA PROVINCE IN THE ETERNAL CITY became a reality in the presence of Fr. Archibald Gonsalves, provincial, Fr. Rocco Visca, Provincial delegate of Rome and some of our fathers from and around Rome. Frs. Ivan, Oswald, Alphonse and Stanislaus, four of the community members also began to live in the new house. Fr. Wilfred, one more member of the community joined the community a week later.
- **Oct. 1, 2011:** Feast of St. Therese of Child Jesus was celebrated with all solemnity and prayers. An hour of guided prayer and rosary, reflecting on the life of St. Therese was conducted before the Holy Eucharist. The mass was celebrated at the altar dedicated to St. Therese.

- **Oct. 15, 2011:** Feast of St. Teresa of Avila: We are fortunate to have the relic (right foot) of St. Teresa of Avila here in the Chapel of St. Teresa (our choir). The relic is venerated here from 1616 onwards. Since this monastery is the second monastery built after the reformation in Italy and outside Spain, this monastery was gifted with the right foot of St. Teresa of Avila as a relic. On the feast day, devotees visited the relic throughout the day. There were also a few groups who celebrated the mass near the relic of St. Teresa. The solemn feast mass was celebrated at 18.30. At 21.00 a concert in honour of St. Teresa was hosted in the Church lead by Mr. Andrea our Church organist. The Church was packed with people from different parts of the world to listen to some of the world famous classical pieces.
- **Oct. 17, 2011:** Feast of St. Teresa and the beginning of the new academic year. The community along with some of the invitees, guest priests from the community celebrated the feast and inaugurated the new scholastic year. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 18.30. Fr. Rocco Visca, provincial delegate of Rome presided over the Eucharist. In his homily he presented the historical importance of this monastery and the Church and thanked the Karnataka-Goa province for the generosity showed in accepting this monastery. The participants were from the Generalate, Teresianum, superior of Collegio Theologico, Members of Collegio Missionum, Rector of collegio Damasceno, president of the faculty, parish priests from neighbouring parishes and the dean of our deanery. There were also a number of sisters and lay faithful. After the mass all of us gathered in our refectory for an Italian/Indian dinner prepared specially by Fr. Alphonse and Fr. Stanislaus.
- **Nov. 12, 2011.** Mons. Marco Antonio Cortez Lara, bishop of Tacnae Moguegua, Peru makes a friendly visit to our community. Fr. Ricardo who is staying with us is from his diocese.
- **Nov. 26, 2011:** A memorable day – Holy Eucharist, adoration, evening vigil by the group “Gioventù e Famiglia Missionaria”, in our Church from 20.00 to 24.00. A group of young people who are zealous for God and His Church spent their time in prayer and led many who were found in the squares at the foot of the Eucharistic Lord.
- **Present situation at Santa Maria della Scala:** Seven guest priests from different countries are living with us in the community and three more will be joining at the beginning of January. We have also received some requests for the next year. A few guests come to stay with us. We have a Church built in the year 1592, frequented by tourists, pilgrims and a few regular faithful. We have taken over a chaplaincy to the sisters near our monastery. As the student priests of the community are busy with their studies, Fr. Ivan, superior keeps himself occupied with the Church, house matters and with the historical pharmacy of the year 1700, which is the first pharmacy of Europe (now a museum). There are two persons who are rendering their service in our house, one for cooking and the other for washing and cleaning. Since the community is new, it still lacks economic stability and so all the priest students (all four without burse) of the community manage their study expenses personally. As there are no other sources of income, the community tries to manage itself with the income from the masses, ministry, Church, guests, museum, chaplaincy etc. It is

commendable and worth mentioning the initiative taken by Fr. Archibald, provincial and the maximum cooperation given by each member of the community in establishing this new community.

### ***HISTORICAL CITY – PUSHASHRAMA MYSORE***

- **Free Medical Camp at Pushashrama:** The Pushashrama-Infant Jesus shrine organized a free medical camp for the poor of Yahweh on Sunday 27th, November 2011. Dr. Pais and a team six doctors and four nurses from St. Joseph's hospital and Mission hospital, Mysore helped the patients in their sickness. Many patients from the surrounding villages i.e. Kesare, Naidunagar and Kuri Mandy attended the camp and benefited from the same. All were given medicine free of cost. Special care and attention was given to the women and children. The free medical camp was organized with a definitive theme "to love the poor" as a preparation for Christmas and the solemn feast of Infant Jesus which will be celebrated on 25th of December 2011 and 8th of January 2012 respectively.
- **Let us adore the Lord:** As a Spiritual preparation for Christmas a full day adoration was organized at Infant Jesus shrine, Pushashrama on December 18th, 2011, the third Sunday of Advent. It was conducted by various groups as a chain prayer. It was a day of recollection, penitential rite, and reconciliation. The central theme was "The Lord is my Shepherd all the days of my Life" (Ps 23)

### ***OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS***

- ✓ Bro. Anil Austin Pinto and Bro. Naveen Fernandes, who were undergoing home regency and Bro. Nelson Monis, regent in Belur Community have discontinued from our way of life.
- ✓ Bros. Rakesh and Avil from Avila Jyothi, Mapusa have decided to discontinue from our way of life.
- ✓ Bros. Roston, Prem and Santhosh – the Postulats from Margao have also returned to their families.
- ✓ **Placements of the Deacons:** Bros. Rajesh D' Souza, Arun Sunil Lobo, Prashanth Lobo and Denzil Vegais to Gulbarga; Bro. Vijay D' Costa to Hegde Nagar, Bangalore; Bro. Joe D' Souza to Rajodi, Vasai; Bro. Ivo Dias to Mira Road, Bombay; Bro. John Malvino to Mapusa, Goa and Bro. Pradeep Pinto to Carmel Hill, Mangalore.

### ***Arrival and Departure***

- ✚ Fr. Manoj Braganza is back in Italy after his visa formalities.
- ✚ Fr. Joe Cardozo has come down to India
- ✚ Fr. Alwyn Aranha is back to Empoli after his home holidays
- ✚ Fr. Praveen D' Souza who had come for home holidays is back in Manila
- ✚ Fr. Joseph D' Souza (Ammembal) had come down for holidays and has left for Tanzania.
- ✚ Fr. Mario who came down for holidays has returned to Canada.

- ✚ Fr. Dennis Misquith has come down for his home holidays
- ✚ Fr. Gabriel has come down from Canada for his home holidays
- ✚ Fr. Selva Kumar has left for Genova, Italy.

### ***REST IN PEACE (RIP)***

- ✚ Mr. Lawrence Pinto, aged 65, uncle of Fr. Praveen Pinto (Bangalore) passed away on October 12, 2011 in Bangalore.
- ✚ Mr. Michael D' Souza, dad of Bro. Joseph Cyril D' Souza (First year Theology, Carmel Hill Mangalore) passed away on October 18, 2011 at Siddakatte, Mangalore.
- ✚ Mr. Charles Pinto, aged 79, brother of Rev. Sr. Marie Celine (Mother Prioress of Mangalore Carmel) passed away on November 7, 2011 at Andheri, Mumbai.
- ✚ Mr. Jossie Lobo, aged 52, brother of Sr. Therese (Mysore Carmel) passed away on November 5, 2011 at Nekkilady, Uppinangady, Mangalore.
- ✚ Mrs. Teresa D' Souza, aged 81, sister in law of Fr. Gregory D' Souza (Carmel Hill, Mangalore) passed away on December 17, 2011 at Pezar, Mangalore.

### ***PRAVERS REQUESTED***

- ❖ We request your earnest prayers for the good health and speedy recovery of Rev. Sr. Elizabeth, from Raipur Carmel.
- ❖ We request your prayers for the good health of Fr. Fulgence Fernandes who had another stroke is bedridden and unconscious.
- ❖ Please pray for the good health and speedy recovery of Mrs. Novidade Fernandes, Mother of Fr. Mario Fernandes, who had a fall and as a result has broken her hip bone. At present she is bed ridden.
- ❖ Remember in your prayers Mr. Wilson Pinto, brother of Fr. Nelson Pinto (Ryshivana, Mangalore) who is suffering from fever and now he is on the process of recovery.

### ***Gift of Life we Celebrate***

**December:** 01 –Fr. Agnelo Rebello; 09 –Fr. Renatus Payovela; 11 –Fr. Joesph D' Souza (Amemba); 14 –Fr. Victor Fernandes (Sr); 21 –Fr. Alex Braganza; 22 –Fr. John Sequeira; 24 –Fr. Walter Lobo; 27 –Fr. Baptist Fernandes; 28 –Fr. Elias D' Souza; 29 –Fr. Selva Kumar; 30 –Frs. Shabas Crasta & Theodozio Fernandes; 31 –Frs. Canute D' Souza, Wilfred Frank, Sunil Rodrigues.

**January:** 01 – Fr. Canute Tauro; 02 – Fr. Clifford D' Souza; 09: Fr. Melwyn Pinto; 10 – Fr. Anthony D' Souza; 15 – Fr. Elias Daniel; 16 – Fr. Stephen Pereira; 20 – Fr. Peter Rebello; 21 – Frs. Cyprian Fernandes & Vivian Menezes; 27 – Frs. Alfred Menezes & Rovel D' Souza; 29 – Fr. Walter D' Souza.

**February:** 03 – Frs. Lawrence D' Mello & Sudeep Christy; 11 – Fr. Peter D' Sa; 13 – Frs. Maurice D' Souza & Jerome Mascarenhas; 15 – Fr. Faustin Crasta; 16 – Fr. Melwyn Rosario; 19 – Fr. Joe Cardozo; 26 – Fr. Roshan D' Souza.

## ***Provincial 's Programme***

**December:** 23- KRCCR meet, CWC meet Bangalore; 24-26: Christmas, Sadbhavana; 27- Mangalore; 28- Christmas Message, Bishops House, Mangalore; 30- Requiem Mass, Mangalore; 31- Wedding, Mangalore;

**January:** 2- Lar Meet, Goa; 3- Londa Feast; 4- Pastoral Visit, Londa; 6- Pastoral Visit Hadagali; 7- School Day, Hadagali; 8- Infant Jesus Feast, Mysore; 9-13, Classes, Ryshivana; 10- AMPC Meet; 11- Uppinangady feast; 13- Infant Jesus Novena Mass (Carmelites Fraternity Day); 14- Infant Jesus Feast, Mangalore; 16-19: Gulbarga Missio Project; 21 Solemn Profession, Mangalore Carmel; 22: Nemesio Alzola Lectures, Sadbhavana; 23-25: IPCI meet Trichy; 26- Infant Jesus feast, Sadbhavana; 27- KRCE Meet, Bangalore; 29- Jubilee Ahmadabad, 30- Pastoral Visitation, Gorwa;

**February:** 1: Pastoral Visitation, Baroda Carmel; 2: Pastoral Visitation, Rajodi; 3-4: Provincial Council, Mira Road; 5: Fr. Dominic's Jubilee; 6-10: Nairobi Mission Congress; 11-17: South Africa Visit; 19: Fr. Rudolf's Jubilee, Madanthyar; 20: Shrine Committee Meet, Mangalore;



**Rev. Fr. Archibald Gonsalves, OCD**  
**Provincial Superior**