



Vol. 41 No. 3



June 2026

Pearls of Wisdom



As a parting gift, I am happy to share with you some important axioms of life that I personally believe and teach in my seminars and retreats.

● **Attitude is a matter of the heart:** The way we look at life shapes the way we live it. A grateful and hopeful heart opens us to God's grace, while a negative attitude closes us in on ourselves. Ask yourself: What is my attitude towards life, my family, my profession, and my parish community?

● **You are your thoughts:** Everything begins with a thought! Lao Tzu wisely averred, *"Watch your thoughts, they become your words; watch your words, they become your actions; watch your actions, they become your habits; watch your habits, they become your character; watch your character, it becomes your destiny."* So choose your thoughts wisely.

● **The map is not the territory:** Each of us perceives reality from our own limited perspective. No one holds the complete picture, except God. Many misunderstandings arise when we cling to our own view as the whole truth. Let us learn to listen and respect one another, and walk together in humility and peace.

● **You choose both happiness and misery:** Very true! We are the ones ultimately choosing either happiness or misery. Don't blame others for the situation you are in; rather, take responsibility for your choices and their consequences.

● **You are the product of the past, but not the prisoner:** Our experiences have formed us, yet they do not define our future. With God's grace, healing and growth are always possible. We are never prisoners of our past, as we can redeem our past with God's help.

● **You have all the resources you need to accomplish what you want:** God has already blessed us with what we need. Often, it is not a lack of resources, but a lack of trust or courage that holds us back. When we recognize our blessings, we grow in gratitude. As the saying reminds us, *"I complained because I had no shoes, until I met someone who had no feet."*

● **You are the artist of your life; don't put the paintbrush in others' hands:** Your life is a sacred canvas. God has entrusted you with the gift of shaping it. Do not surrender that responsibility to others. With faith and courage, continue to create a life that reflects His love.

● **Love is the greatest healing power:** When we truly love, beginning with accepting ourselves as God's beloved, we become instruments of His grace. God's love and a healthy love of self are the deepest sources of healing and strength.

● **Transformation begins within:** The only person I can change is myself. We cannot change anyone in this world. All that we can give to one another is information. We can always work on ourselves and change what we wish to change.

● **We are created for relationships:** At the heart of every human struggle is often a wounded relationship. We are created for love, for community, for belonging. In a world where many feel lonely, let us be intentional in building and nurturing life-giving relationships.

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OUR PASTOR SAYS...

My dear Parishioners,

With a grateful heart and a slightly heavy suitcase, I write my final message as your Parish Priest of St. Theresa's for the June issue of VISION. Before I move on, I thought I'd take you on a small 'memory lane yatra' – no ticket required!

As we all know, life is a mix of joy and sorrow, like the celebration of Lent and Easter – a little fasting, a lot of feasting! My journey at St. Theresa's actually began on a rather unusual note. I arrived in 2020 and was warmly welcomed by silence. Absolute silence! It was peak COVID-19 time. No band, no crowd, not even one "Good morning, Father!" – just me, the compound, and a few confused birds.

My first year as co-pastor felt a bit like being in a retreat... that never ended! I longed to see parishioners, but instead, I became an expert at celebrating Mass for a camera. I must confess, the camera never said "Amen", never smiled, and never complained about the homily either. Quite a disciplined congregation!

Then came that glorious day when churches reopened. Slowly, like a beautiful sunrise, your smiling faces began to return. And what joy it brought! Just when I took charge as parish priest in June 2021, the parish came alive again. From then on, I made up for lost time, meeting you after Mass, learning names (especially of children, who tested my memory skills!), and reconnecting with our dear senior citizens, the real pillars of this parish.

I also tried a few 'pastoral experiments' – like having separate choirs for each Mass. Some might say, "Father, that was ambitious!" But thanks to our talented youngsters (and a little divine help), we managed quite well. If there was more harmony than noise, I take no credit – that's the Holy Spirit at work! I made sure our parishioners had a clean and comfortable place of worship; hence, took on repairs of the church, polishing of the pews and benches,

installation of new fans, a grotto dedicated to our Lady, etc.

Looking back, I truly feel my six years here were like 'walking on ice', not because it was dangerous, but because I was always careful... and occasionally slipping into learning experiences! This journey would not have been possible without the wonderful support of the PPC, the executive committee, finance committee, liturgy team, Sunday school teachers, lectors, cantors, and especially the ever-enthusiastic 'Charlie's Angels' and of course, the feedback and appreciation from a number of parishioners.

Working with Tina and Ivan, and our ever-faithful sacristan, Elen was a joy. And of course, my brother priests – Fr. Jose, Fr. Jomet, Fr. Shinoy and Fr. Callisto – who were my constant support. Fr. Shinoy made sure the altar servers didn't become an endangered species, and Fr. Callisto tirelessly energized the youth. Together, we survived, served, and even pulled each other's legs to ease our tension.

As I now move on to my next assignment at Atma Darshan, working in the area of psycho-spiritual well-being of individuals and families, I carry you all in my heart. But like any loving pastor, I also leave with a few concerns. It does make me a little sad to see very few able people come forward to serve the community and represent in the PPC. I also notice fewer children in Sunday school and finally, though the Covid ended long ago, some are still quite comfortable in their homes. I hope St. Theresa will show them the way to the church.

Thank you, dear parishioners, for being part of my journey. If ever my homilies were too long, forgive me... I was only trying to give you 'full value for time!' God bless you all, and remember, your next Parish Priest also needs your smiles (and your punctuality at Mass!).

With gratitude, prayer, and a hopeful heart,

Your Pastor

Fr. Henry Dsouza, SVD





Parish Priest: Fr. Henry Dsouza SVD
Fr. Jomet Joseph SVD (Asst. Parish Priest)
Fr. Shinoy Mathew SVD (Principal)
Fr. Callisto Gomes SVD (In residence)
Fr. Jose P.A. SVD (In residence)

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Marianne Karmarkar (Editor)
Edwin Fernandes (Executive Editor)
Theresa Aguiar (Promotional Head)
Kevin Ambosta (Illustrator)

PRINTER: Richardsprints

PUBLISHER:

Fr. Henry D'Souza SVD
On behalf of St. Theresa's Church, Bandra (W)
Mumbai-400050
Tel: 90049 79257
Email: sainttheresasparish@gmail.com
Parish Website: www.sttheresasbandra.org

MASS TIMINGS:

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.; 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:00 a.m.; 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m & 6:00 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

BAPTISMS:

(As per prior appointment)

MARRIAGES:

Regarding marriage formalities meet the priest on duty well in advance. Bring your latest Baptism Certificate (issued not more than six months earlier and a copy of the Marriage Preparation Course Certificate)

BURIALS:

Copies of the Death Certificate & Municipal Burial permission required.
Shroud burials are highly encouraged.

OFFICE TIMINGS:

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Closed on Sundays & Bank holidays

Send your feedback/contributions to the parish office.

Please email your pictures and articles for the VISION: sttheresavision777@gmail.com



Richard Bach famously said, “Don’t be dismayed at goodbyes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends.” As we bid an affectionate farewell to Fr. Henry, we rest assured that we shall definitely meet him again, especially as he is in Mumbai, rather than somewhere around the globe, as SVD priests are wont to be. Many emotional farewells have been penned by our parishioners across the spectrum and Fr. Henry himself has admitted his reciprocity of feelings towards us. We’ll surely carry vivid memories of his warmth and thoughtfulness and erudite teachings in our hearts!

Concomitantly, we extend a warm welcome to Fr. Tony, who’ll be taking over as our Parish Priest shortly. We truly assure him of our wholehearted support and encouragement as vibrant members of this warm and engaging community. Let’s reaffirm our commitment to work together, with joy and love, to spur our Parish forward to new heights of excellence!

Along with the monsoons, may God rain down showers of blessings on, Fr. Henry, Fr. Tony, Fr. Callisto and Fr. Lawrence, enabling them to shine in their Ministries!

Marianne

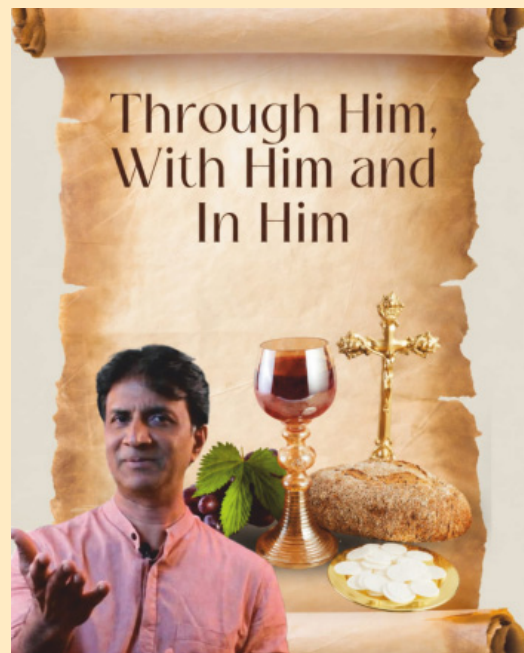


A Warm Welcome

Fr. Tony Menezes

Our new Pastor, Fr. Tony Menezes, SVD, was born and brought up in Chandor, Salcete, Goa. Whilst still in High School, he sensed the call to be a priest and joined the SVD Mission Seminary in Raia, Goa, continuing his studies and formation later in Indore, Mysore and Pune. After his Ordination, he worked as a Vocation Promoter, Prefect and Rector at the SVD Seminary, Goa for two different stints. He also served as the Assistant Parish Priest at Sacred Heart Church, Andheri.

Following his Doctorate in Clinical Counselling Psychology, Fr. Tony served on two postings as the Director of Atmadarshan, Centre for Spirituality and Counselling, Andheri, Mumbai. He was also the Director of Ishvani Kendra, Pune and Aashirvad Retreat Centre in Raia, Goa. Fr. Tony is well known as a Retreat Preacher and Counselling Psychologist, besides being a resource person in India and abroad on topics like Emotions, Stress Management, Formation, Leadership, Happiness, Psycho-Spiritual Growth, Family Life and Marriage.



Fr. Lawrence Correa



Fr. Lawrence Correa, SVD, was born on 27th April 1953 in Pernal, Mangalore, Karnataka, and was ordained a priest on 29th April 1980. He has six brothers and one sister, who is a religious nun belonging to the Carmelite sisters of St. Theresa (CSST). Over the past four decades, Fr. Lawrence has served the Society of the Divine Word in a variety of pastoral, social, educational, and leadership roles in Mumbai, Andhra Pradesh, Pune, Mysuru, and New York. He served twice at St. Theresa's Church, Bandra, as co-pastor and Director of the Urban Community Development Centre (1981–1983 and 1995–1999), and was actively involved in Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation initiatives at provincial, Asian, and international levels. He also held leadership positions with VIVAT International at the United Nations in New York (2000–2005). In recent years, he served as Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Church, Andheri East (2014–2017), Rector of Vidya Niketan, Mysuru (2017–2020), Superior and Manager of St. Arnold's School, Mysuru (2020–2023), and Director of the Urban Community Development Centre, Bandra (2023–2026). We wish Fr. Lawrence a fruitful ministry at St. Theresa's parish.

...continued from pg 1

- **You cannot not communicate:** We are always communicating, through our words, our silence, and our actions. Let us strive to communicate love and joy. *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”* (Ephesians 4:29).
- **It is not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters.** Not events, but beliefs and thoughts determine health and happiness. *“For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.”* (Prov 23:7).

Dr. (Fr.) Henry Dsouza, SVD

A Fond Farewell to Fr. Henry

It is never easy to bid farewell to a parish priest who has been, not only a spiritual leader, but also a guide, mentor, and source of strength for the entire parish community. Through his dedicated service, enriching homilies, and compassionate leadership, Fr. Henry has left an indelible mark on the hearts of all who have had the privilege of knowing him.

He has truly been the heartbeat of the parish – a gentle, yet powerful presence, who kept the community vibrant and united. A shepherd in the truest sense, Fr. Henry was always close to his people, knowing many by name and tirelessly reaching out in search of even the lost sheep.

Fr. Henry received his call to serve in the Lord's vineyard at a young age. He entered the seminary in Mangalore and was ordained a priest in 1994. Over the years, he has carried out his priestly ministry with remarkable grace and dedication, serving in many capacities. A scholar as well as a pastor, he pursued higher studies and earned both, a Master's degree and a PhD in Counselling and Psychology – a reflection of his deep commitment to learning, understanding, and serving others more effectively.

Despite his many achievements, Fr. Henry has always remained humble, approachable, and deeply grounded. He is the all-rounder we know and admire – ever-present at every Mass, quietly ensuring that everything runs smoothly, and extending warmth and kindness, not only to parishioners, but to every person who walks through the doors of the church.

His affection for children has been especially touching; he knows so many of them by name, reflecting the tender love and care of Christ Himself. Fr. Henry is cherished, not only within our parish, but throughout the Bandra Deanery. At SCC trainings and gatherings, his wit and humour bring joy and laughter, while his wisdom and insightful reflections continue to inspire and enrich countless lives. More than anything else, it is his compassionate spirit, unwavering dedication, and gift for guiding others that make Fr. Henry truly unforgettable.

As you move on to your new mission, dear Father, you leave behind countless cherished memories at St. Theresa's – memories of selfless service, tireless hard work, genuine care, and a life devoted wholeheartedly to God and His people. Thank you, Fr. Henry, for all that you have done for the parish and the wider community through your years at St. Theresa's. Your guidance, kindness, and presence will forever remain in our hearts with deep gratitude and affection. We will miss you dearly. Nonetheless, you will always remain in our prayers and in the hearts of all whose lives you have touched. May God continue to bless you abundantly with good health, joy, peace, and success in your new mission.

Errol Ferreira



It is often said that *'All good things must come to an end'*, but this is not an ending – rather, it is the beginning of a new chapter. As we reflect on the journey of our outstanding and dedicated parish priest, Fr. Henry Dsouza, we are filled with deep gratitude for the legacy he leaves behind. His years of faithful service – one year as Assistant Parish Priest and five as Parish Priest – have been marked by divine order, unwavering commitment, and heartfelt devotion to our parish community.

From the renovation of our church building and the installation of additional fans to the nurturing of various religious activities, Fr. Henry carried out every responsibility with grace and care. He encouraged countless families to actively involve their children and themselves in the liturgy – whether through singing, music, or service – fostering a spirit of participation and unity within our parish.

Fr. Henry will be dearly missed by all of us, and we will continue to keep him in our prayers with love and gratitude. We wish him good health, a long life, and abundant blessings, with favour from both, God and man. God bless you, dear Fr. Henry.

Brenda and Wilmar Dias



A Fond Farewell to Fr. Henry

Some farewells are not merely departures; they are gentle reminders of how deeply a presence can shape a community, a faith, a family.



Dear Fr. Henry,

You arrived at St. Theresa's as our Parish Priest – and somehow, without announcement, without effort, you became a part of our everyday faith story. Not just a shepherd, but the kind of person who didn't just walk ahead, but walked with us – occasionally pausing, all the time smiling – and sometimes (very unexpectedly) making us laugh too.

Your sermons... Ah! they would begin like a quiet monsoon sky – serious, thoughtful, almost intimidating – and just when we thought we had you all figured out... Boom! A line so unexpected, we'd be looking at each other like, "Did Father really just say that?!"

And yet, in between those smiles and stolen chuckles, you slipped in God's message that stayed longer than the laughter – the kind that followed us home, sat with us in silence, and gently changed something within us. You taught us that faith doesn't always have to be heavy. That holiness can smile. That even in prayer, there is room for joy.

And then... your singing! Not just songs, but prayers that somehow found melodies, lifting even the heaviest hearts, reaching corners of the soul we didn't know needed healing. You corrected us (yes, sometimes firmly), you encouraged us (always at the right time), and you reminded us again and again that no matter how far we wander, grace has this beautiful habit of finding its way back.

You stood with us in celebration, adding warmth to our happiest moments, and in our quietest grief, you didn't try to fill the silence... you simply stayed. And

sometimes, that meant everything. You didn't just guide this parish. You lived it with us. Every step, every prayer, every shared smile.

And now... as you step into a new chapter, we stand here grateful beyond words, holding memories we didn't realize we were collecting, and yes... trying very hard not to let the tears win. Thank you for being more than we expected, more than we deserved, and exactly what we needed. Thank you for your patience, your kindness, your humour (we will miss that timing!), and the understanding you brought into our faith.

As you go forward, we pray that the same joy you gave us multiplies in all the places you are sent. This isn't a goodbye. It's a quiet, tear-smiled, heart-full 'Thank You'. And a promise... that somewhere, in every prayer we whisper, "God bless you dear Fr. Henry."

Alvina Gourey



It is heartwarming to know that there are such wonderful priests, who will never break ties with you, even though you may be old and non-functional in the church activities, and that person is Fr. Henry. His transfer from our Parish came as a shock to us!

His vibrancy, while taking part in all our church events, boosted the spirits of the young and the old. Besides, his down-to-earth, interesting homilies were inspiring to the senior citizens and youth. Fr. Henry's interaction with the parishioners after mass was such that many waited to have a word with him and he never disappointed anyone. With his gracious presence, he made our community functions very enjoyable. Even though I lived far away, recently he visited me thrice to see how I was doing. I felt, not only a human joy, but also a spiritual joy meeting him.

We wish him all the best in the new parish! As he conducts all his pastoral activities so intelligently, we pray that he may have an elevated position in the years to come.

Theresa Menezes

A Fond Farewell to Fr. Henry



Bruce and Faith

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 – QUIZ

As all football aficionados get caught up in World Cup fever, let's check out your knowledge quotient on the games. No googling please. Give it an honest try, guys!

1. How many teams are competing in WC 2026?
2. Which countries are hosting the WC 2026?
3. Name the four teams making their debut in WC 2026.
4. Who is the current FIFA Boss?
5. Where will the Opening Ceremony be held?
6. Which iconic players are likely to retire post the WC 2026?
7. Name the official mascots of WC 2026.
8. Who is the youngest player to be in WC 2026?
9. How many FIFA WCs has Ronaldo played?
10. When and where will the final of the WC 2026 be played?
11. Which country has won the most FIFA World Cup titles?
12. Who has scored the most goals in international men's soccer history?



ANSWERS

1. 48
2. Canada, USA, Mexico
3. Cape Verde, Curacao, Jordan, Uzbekistan
4. Gianni Infantino
5. Estadio Azteca in Mexico City
6. Cristiano Ronaldo (41 yrs); Lionel Messi (39 yrs); Luka Modric (40 yrs); Manuel Neuer (40 yrs); Robert Lewandowski (37 yrs)
7. Maple™ the Moose (Canada); Zayu the Jaguar (Mexico); Clutch the Bald Eagle (USA)
8. Lamine Yamal of Spain
9. Five so far. In 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2022
10. The final of the WC 2026 will be played on 19th July 2026 at the New York New Jersey Stadium, USA, which has a capacity of 82,500 people.
11. Brazil: five times
12. Cristiano Ronaldo : over 970 goals for club and country combined.

Edwin Fernandes

Oh Buoy - Ship Ahoy!



School days, come summer and we made a dash (rather a splash) for Goa. We were literally *shanghaied*. Most Goans travelled to their *muluk* by ship – either Konkan Sevak or Konkan Shakti. The blandishments and thrills available in the short time we spent in Goa were moments to be cherished.

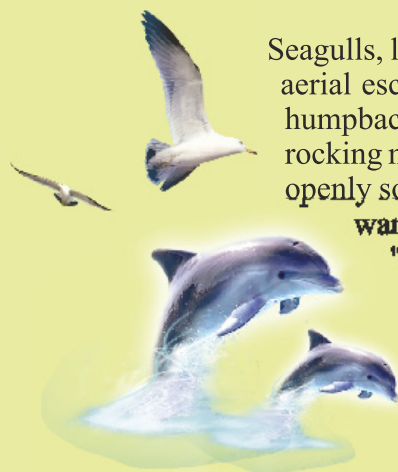


The sea voyage along the scenic Konkan Coast required precise planning and plotting, qualities not associated with *susegad* Goans. The ships had a lower deck, upper deck and the coveted cabins, which were luxurious (highly priced, meant for the upper crust). The departure was between 9.30 - 11 a.m., depending on the tide. In the normal course, 'Time and Tide wait for no man'. Here, man had to wait for both, Time and Tide! In order not to 'miss the bus' (sorry ship), one had to reach the Ferry Wharf at least by 7 a.m. with bag and baggage of both kinds – material and emotional. The authorities opened the booking windows only at the 11th hour. In that Jurassic era, tickets had to be manually purchased by tendering cash, so passengers had to carry quite a stash. Half an hour before departure, the gate separating the dock from the Departure Hall was thrown open. The macho guys, with an assortment of bedsheets, mats, *dhurries* and what-have-you, would hurry to the ship's railings/gangways, often trampling co-passengers, to 'hit the deck running' (literally), to reserve the choicest places. On board, there were no bunks/sleeper class, like in trains; it was one big cattle class *dharamshala*! Thereafter, there was never a dull moment. The fights for space and raucous arguments continued unabated till the blood-curdling ship's foghorn heralded imminent departure. Then, coolies, hawkers, well-wishers all scrambled for the gangways, dodging and jumping over passengers and luggage, in a bid to avoid becoming stowaways. It was a miracle that in all that confusion and chaos, no one ever became a 'throwaway' in the hungry tide. These hardy guys had mastered the art of 'walking the plank'!



Then the ship majestically sailed out. It was a sight to see the visitors in the viewing gallery, energetically waving handkerchiefs and scarves to their families and sweethearts. As the ship gathered steam, the passengers changed into shorts and *lungis*. (There were no rest rooms in the sense we know today – just some basic cubicle toilets). The women now came to the forefront, with hampers and food baskets. The mishmash of aromas wafting across, interspersed with the salty air, did wonders for the appetite. Just as well. Once the ship gathered momentum, the squeamish were sure to suffer from seasickness.

Seagulls, like sailors in immaculate white, would flutter all around the ship, providing a constant aerial escort. If one was fortunate, one could spot dolphins frolicking or even the occasional humpback shooting a spout in the air. Passengers had a 'whale' of a time. Soon the gentle rocking movement ushered in the mood for elevenses. Out came the beer and the ubiquitous *feni* openly sold by the canteen crew. The guitars would start strumming. The youngsters danced or wandered all over the ship, renewing acquaintances and making fresh ones. Who needed 'Tinder' when there was so much Timber on board? Lunch was a leisurely affair. Those who did not carry their lunch, had to meander to the canteen for a munch of the staple diet of 'Phish Curry Rice'. After lunch came the afternoon *siesta*. Given the limited space, passengers tried to make themselves comfortable in yogic postures and poses. Soon, sonorous snores sounded all over the ship. The somnolent mood only got shattered when the tea vendors shouted "Chai, Chai!". Tea could also be had in the



canteen or (to use its correct nomenclature) the First Class Dining Saloon. Here the attraction was the *housie* or *tambola* sessions. Housie tickets were reasonably priced and so were the cash prizes! The First Mate had a field day calling numbers, with imaginative asides like: Two Fat Ladies – 88, *Fatafat* - 55, Never Been Kissed (*how did he know?*) – Sweet 16, Two Hockey Sticks – 11, *Gaaravarti* (*on top of the house*) – 90.... and the perplexed foreigners on board were left wondering why Chess was perceived to be a complex game!



It was time for the sun to '*face the final curtain*' and disappear into the sea. The sea was donned in a silvery sheen, as the moon took centre stage. The ship's luminescent night lamps were suddenly switched on, much to the consternation of the romantically inclined! Dinner was to the accompaniment of some Portuguese and Konkani folk songs. Then it was '*early to bed*', as the cool sea breezes flirted with the bedsheets of the weary sleeping forms. The gentle undulations of the ship served to hasten slumber and the waves gently breaking on the hull crooned soft, soothing lullabies.

Mornings at sea are magical and divine. The sky turns a pale pink, which gradually gives way to a russet red as the sun creeps over the horizon like a Peeping Tom. Time stands still. Then the sacred stillness rudely shatters as the *chai* vendors once more clatter their way through sleeping forms, taking unholy delight in disturbing the amateur mariners from their Bacchanalian-induced dreams. As the sleeping forms stretch languorously on their mats like house cats, Panjim, the capital city, magically comes into view. The beach of Miramar is so close, you can actually see the colour of the bathing suits of the hippies! (those who chose to wear bathing suits, that is).

It was as though the ship was full of hostelites returning home after final exams. The tempting *tavernas* got tantalisingly close. The welcoming brigade of relatives were out in full strength on the jetty. The atmosphere was surcharged with excitement. Never mind that homes in Goa those days didn't have running water or electricity. What mattered most was that the *Bomoi* Goans had come home to the red mud of Goa, their pretty Portuguese villas, their community wells, their beloved bovines, their rice fields, their numerous relatives and to their three Favourite Fs -Football, *Feni*, *Fiestas*!



Edwin Fernandes

Goodbye, Fr. Callisto!



As we bid farewell to Fr. Callisto, we do so with hearts full of gratitude for the wonderful year we were blessed to have him as our Spiritual Director. His presence brought a beautiful mix of calm guidance and a sense of humour that made every gathering brighter. From his playful use of Marathi accents to his gentle encouragement, he had a special way of connecting with each one of us.

Some of our most cherished memories with him include our trip to Mangaon – a simple, yet unforgettable night filled with laughter, bonding, and joy. And of course, the pizza treats he shared with us, which made our time together even more fun and memorable. Fr. Callisto truly believed in building unity among us. He constantly encouraged us to come together, support one another, and grow stronger in faith, friendship, and purpose. As he moves on to his next assignment, we thank him for his dedication, kindness, and effort he put into the TYM. We wish him all the very best and keep him in our prayers as he continues to inspire many more lives.

Rahael Baretto, TYM



THE RESIAN

How Savvy are You on Redevelopment?

The Bombay Catholic Sabha (BCS) St. Theresa's Unit, organised an informative and well-attended session on the 'Essentials of Redevelopment' on 11th April 2026 in the Council Room. Approximately 70 parishioners participated, reflecting the growing relevance of redevelopment in urban residential communities.

The session featured distinguished speakers: Mr. Dhaval M. Parsana, Architect and Project Management Consultant (PMC) Project Maitree; Advocate Aaron J. Solomon of Solomon & Co. Advocates & Solicitors; and Advocate Sanjay Rego of Rego & Associates. The speakers provided valuable insights, equipping attendees with a clear understanding of redevelopment from technical, legal, and strategic perspectives.

Mr. Dhaval M. Parsana outlined the evolution of redevelopment policies and the critical factors that influence successful project outcomes. He emphasized the importance of aligning society members' expectations with practical realities and cautioned against common misconceptions – such as over-reliance on developers or equating higher financial offers with better overall outcomes. Through the concept of Project Maitree, he advocated informed decision-making, structured processes, and independent professional guidance, highlighting redevelopment as a long-term enhancement of quality of life.



Advocate Sanjay Rego delivered a detailed overview of the legal framework governing redevelopment. He explained the two primary models – Developer-led Redevelopment and Self-Redevelopment – along with their respective implications. He stressed the importance of essential pre-requisites, including the appointment of competent legal advisors, architects, and PMCs, as well as conducting feasibility studies and ensuring clear land titles.

documentation – such as agreements, Permanent Alternate Accommodation Agreements (PAAA), and power of attorney – was strongly emphasized.

The session also addressed potential challenges, including legal disputes, title issues, misleading developer proposals, project delays, and financial risks. Advocate Rego highlighted critical financial and legal safeguards, such as securing bank guarantees or reserved areas, ensuring necessary approvals (including IOD) prior to vacating premises, and clearly defining compensation structures, timelines, and dispute resolution mechanisms.

During the execution phase, members were advised to vacate premises only after finalizing agreements and receiving agreed payments. The role of the PMC in monitoring construction quality and progress was

underscored as essential to project success. Post-redevelopment responsibilities, including verification of flats and amenities prior to possession and resolution of discrepancies, were also discussed. Additionally, clarity was provided on taxation aspects, noting that corpus funds, hardship allowances, and residential units received in exchange are generally not taxable under prevailing regulations.

VIBES



The overarching message of the session was that redevelopment requires careful planning, transparency, due diligence, and continuous monitoring. When executed effectively, it ensures long-term benefits and improved living standards; however, inadequate planning can lead to prolonged challenges.



The event concluded with sincere appreciation to the Bombay Catholic Sabha St. Theresa Unit Core Committee for organising this impactful initiative. Special thanks were extended to the Spiritual Director, Fr. Henry Dsouza, for his continued guidance and unwavering support in fostering awareness and empowerment within the parish community.

Bosco Pereira
BCS Secretary

Conviviality and Line Dancing Go Together

Excitement was in the air as the line dancers lined up to board the bus for the much-awaited picnic at Samara Gardens, Madh Island. A day filled with travel, relaxation, laughter, food, games, and endless fun lay ahead. Before we set off, a short prayer for safe travels was led by Lucille Rodrigues. Then came a fun-filled bus ride, complete with music, clapping, and enthusiastic sing-along sessions putting everyone into the picnic mood.

We started with a hearty breakfast (always the best way to begin!), followed by a fantastic round of games. The party games had us laughing, thinking, and sometimes even scratching our heads over the simplest questions! A special shout out to Thelma D'Silva, our very own game queen, who not only organised some brilliant activities, but also got the ladies grooving with a fun line dance session. Others joined in with equally entertaining games, making sure there was never a dull moment. The winners celebrated in style with a lively line dance, soon joined by everyone else! For those who love a bit of action, there was badminton and throw ball, adding to the energy and excitement.

Soon it was time to refuel with a delicious lunch and dessert which everyone thoroughly enjoyed! The fun didn't stop there – indoor games, dancing, singing, and a lively round of housie kept the good vibes going. Surrounded by lush greenery, fresh air, and warm sunshine, it truly felt like a perfect getaway! And for



the adventurous ones, a refreshing dip in the pool was just the thing! We wrapped up the day with some hot *chai/coffee* and crispy *bhajias* – ending the picnic on a perfect, cozy note. All in all, it was a day full of laughter, bonding, and beautiful memories – one we'll be talking about for a long time!

Please feel free to join this class every Monday from 6 pm to 7 pm in the school quadrangle.
Mobile +919819611173 (ladies only)

Brenda Dias





Lenten Mission : A Faith Challenge!

This year's Lenten Mission was preached by Fr. Anil Kiran Fernandes, SVD from 26th to 28th March 2026, in keeping with the theme of Faith-Filled Families. Fr. Anil kept us rivetted on all three days as he tackled the different aspects of Christian family life.



Keeping the cross as the ultimate goal before us, he cited many challenges in his own life. Stressing on forgiveness as the key, he also spoke on the difficulties families face today – and why so many fall apart. He highlighted the importance of Christ-centred families and reconciled relationships.



Getting back to basics, he suggested ways like praying together, sharing meals and understanding one another as important aspects. He was firm about parents and children making efforts towards transparency in a family. His somewhat frank and bold approach served as a wake-up call indeed!

Virginia Vacha

Forgotten Treasures of the Past



Excitement and joy are always in evidence in anticipation of an imminent visit! So SVP members were warmly welcomed by the inmates and caregivers when we paid our annual visit to Shanti Bhavan – Home for the Aged at Kalyan on Sunday, 31st May 2026.

morning with the inmates. It was truly heartening to see their smiling faces! We were then treated to tea and snacks. Later, we conducted a sing-song session and played some games, in which they participated with much gusto and enthusiasm. They got a chance to relive their past and the happy memories of old. They were delighted to receive our gifts as well.

Setting out from St. Theresa's Church at 7.30 a.m., we reached in good time at the Home, eager to spend an engaging

Having entertained the inmates and interacted with them for two hours, we wished them 'goodbye' and left the Home. As we look back on our annual visit, we feel a sense of great gladness and contentment, that we entertained and honoured deserving people. For each one of us, it was truly a day to cherish and remember!

Allwyn Roche

The Paschal Triduum 2026

St. Theresa's Parish observed the Paschal Triduum, the three holiest days in the Church's liturgical calendar, with great fervour and devotion on the school grounds. Keeping in line with the parish theme for the year, **'Faith-Filled Families'**, each day focused on a particular dimension of family life, drawing inspiration from the Paschal Mystery.

On **Maundy Thursday**, the preacher, Fr. Franceline Machado, SVD, reminded the faithful that the Christian community is nourished by Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, and is called to nourish others in return through loving service. Reflecting the parish theme, one family from each parish zone was chosen to participate in the Washing of the Feet, symbolizing **'humble service and unity within the family'** and the wider Christian community.

On **Good Friday**, our Parish Priest, Fr. Henry Dsouza, reflected on the theme **'Families Redeemed by the Cross'**. He invited families to recognize that they have been redeemed by the precious Blood of Christ and are therefore called to live, not merely as ordinary families, but as holy families, witnessing to God's love in the world.

During the solemn **Easter Vigil**, Fr. Pradeep Pinto, OCD, preached on the theme **'Families Renewed in the Risen Lord'**. Drawing upon the lives of various biblical figures who experienced transformation through God's grace, he emphasized that the Resurrection continues to renew families today, empowering them to participate actively in God's mission.



The celebrations were marked by prayerful participation, meaningful liturgical symbols, an invigorated choir by Charlie's Angels and an exhilarated orchestra, providing the ideal environment for reflection and spiritual renewal during the Easter season.

Fr. Henry Dsouza, SVD



Humanity First



- ✧ On April 26, Kenyan runner Sabastian Sawe became the first person to run the marathon in under two hours, winning the London Marathon.
- ✧ On April 6, the Artemis II crew were the first humans to travel around the far side of the Moon.
- ✧ On March 25, Sarah Mullally became the first female head of the Church of England (Anglican Church) and Archbishop of Canterbury.
- ✧ On January 1, Zohran Mamdani was sworn in as the 112th Mayor of New York City, becoming the first Muslim and Asian American to hold the post.



Being or coming “First” has always captivated the human imagination. Right from the time we were infants, the first word, the first turn, the first step has been celebrated. Standing first in school or winning a race or competition was something one strove for and the winner was always feted. Songs like “The Winner Takes It All” and “We are the Champions” and chants like “Jeetenga, Bhai Jeetenga” have become insanely popular all because of this seemingly inherent desire to win.

And this is not only true of individuals, but also of teams, communities and even nations. Unfortunately, in some instances, whether it is in the case of individuals or nations, being first at any cost becomes the mantra. Winning is the only thing that seems to matter.

Take for instance, the recent US-Iran-Israel-Middle East conflict. Everyone seems to be claiming victory.

- ★ United States: President Trump declared a ‘total and complete victory’, emphasizing that the ‘maximum pressure’ campaign, the Hormuz blockade and targeted strikes successfully degraded Iranian military infrastructure and deterred nuclear ambitions.
- ★ Iran: Tehran frames the conflict as a success due to its survival, the ability to strike back at US assets, and maintain its regional network and influence.
- ★ Israel: Israel focused on degrading Iranian proxies and nuclear capabilities, framing its victory based on strikes as a necessary and successful disruption of Iranian assets, and its enemy, Hezbollah.
- ★ Russia/China: Outside observers suggest Russia and China are indirect winners, as the conflict increased oil revenue for Russia and strengthened China's strategic standing in the region while the US depleted its munitions and damaged its alliances.
- ★ Pakistan: Even Pakistan claims a significant diplomatic victory in the 2026 Iran war, by positioning itself as the indispensable mediator, securing a ceasefire between the US and Iran; thus enhancing its diplomatic stature.
- ★ India: India too has claimed success by the fact that it has managed to secure national interests during the conflict through strategic, non-kinetic means by securing its energy supplies, maintaining neutrality, and protecting shipping lanes.

SO ARE THERE NO LOSERS???

If one looks at the devastation, the loss of lives, the injuries to thousands, the loss of livelihoods of millions, the devastation of property and entire cities, it is tragic how narrowly one can frame victory.

America First – the very plank that brought Trump into power – resulted in tariffs that have upended global trade and commerce and consigned to the dustbins of history many a historic trade agreement. The America-China war – which, to my mind, is the real war – while all the rest, be it Venezuela, Iran, Ukraine-Russia, could be proxies or precursors – seems to be only hotting up.



IN THIS, THE ONLY LOSER IS HUMANITY!

SO HOW DO WE PUT HUMANITY FIRST?

Pope Leo tells us how:

- ✧ **Condemnation of Violence:** Pope Leo has stated that 'war is never the way' and that 'delusion of omnipotence' makes military force seem preferable to diplomacy.
- ✧ **Criticism of All Sides:** He has expressed concern over the 'chaotic' situation created by both, US actions and Iran's internal actions, calling for the protection of civilians.
- ✧ **Response to 'Just War' Debate:** Amidst arguments that the war is a 'just' action, the Pope argued that modern conflict has not met the threshold for 'just war' and expressed opposition to the use of weapons of mass destruction.
- ✧ **Advocacy for Peace:** He has urged citizens to contact their leaders to stop the violence and called for prayer for peace.
- ✧ **Focus on Humanitarian Cost:** The Pope has highlighted the suffering of humanity, the need to protect the innocent, and has expressed that he cannot support the war.



May we continue to pray for peace. May we continue to become and be channels of peace. May we, in our choices, always put Humanity First.

Royston Braganza

PARISH REGISTER - (April 2026 to May 2026)

BAPTISMS

**Born
in
Christ**

Goldi Lokpal	Lokpal and Sarita Vishwakarma	A line drawing of a baptism ceremony. A priest is pouring water from a small vessel into a baptismal font. A woman is holding a baby over the font. A man stands next to her. There are crosses on the font and the priest's vestments.	11-04-2026
Sanchita Sadanand	Sadanand and Shubhaeta Dhure		11-04-2026
Ratna Priya	Durairaj and Ponmudi		11-04-2026
Aachal Mukesh	Manohar and Vanshurel Kokane		11-04-2026
Mukesh Devrao	Devrao and Sangeeta Kokane		11-04-2026
Kavita Satish	Nanabhau and Govlan Dunaghav		11-04-2026
Shreya Satish	Satish and Kavita Dunghav		11-04-2026
Eliyana Hopkins	Mark Anthony and Rolania Mark Hopkins		12-04-2026
Janessa Johnathan	Johnathan Vincent and Anita Johnathan Fernandes		19-04-2026

DEATHS

**Rest
in
Peace**

Eliza Philomena Menezes	93 years	A line drawing of a cross with flowers and leaves. The cross is in the center, with flowers and leaves on either side.	10-04-2026
Greta Beatrice Pereira	92 years		11-04-2026
Philomena Pinto	84 years		20-04-2026
Maria Rosie Coutinho	98 years		06-05-2026
Rodney Lewis D'Silva	88 years		12-05-2026
Anthony Pascol Pereira	65 years		13-05-2026
Stephen Sunil Sontumyra	60 years		14-05-2026
Celine Pinto	87 years		21-05-2026
Francie Miranda	81 years		22-05-2026
Susana Francis Ekka	61 years		31-05-2026



Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) - 2026-2029

Zone I

Community	Community Leader
Lourdes	Crystal Ferreira (Zonal Co-ordinator)
Little Flower	Bosco Pereira
Bethany	Julie Lobo
Our Lady of Vailankanni	Kenneth Hopkins
St. Michael	Tabitha Dias

Zone II

Community	Community Leader
Guardian Angels	Sherifa D'Lima
All Saints	Nancy Rodrigues (Zonal Co-ordinator)
St. Anthony - (Kit-Kat Wadi)	Anita Arickswamy
Marian	Joslyn Pereira
Fatima	Lily D'Souza

Zone III

Community	Community Leader
Christa Jyoti	Joanne D'Souza
Alphonsa	Sandra D'Souza
Divya Jyoti	Premilla Parmar (Zonal Co-ordinator)
Florian	Odelle D'Silva

Zone IV

Community	Community Leader
Yeshodhan	Caroline Gouria
Ave Maria	Priscilla Bhundoo (Zonal Co-ordinator)
Salesian	Rita Gowria
Franciscan	Crispin Parmar
Holy Cross	Suzette Gigool

REPRESENTATIVES

S.C.C. Co-ordinator	Errol Ferreira
Co-ordinator-All Cells & Associations	Joe Rodrigues
Gujarati Community	Edward Parmar
Theresian Youth Movement (TYM)	-
Hindi Community	Prashan Soreng



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MALAYSIA

DEPARTURE IN 2026

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EUROPE PILGRIM

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MAY 27



SRI LANKA

DEPARTURE IN 2026

SEPT | OCT | NOV



KERALA

DEPARTURE IN 2026

OCT | NOV | DEC



EUROPE LEISURE

MAY 26 TO OCT 26



AFRICAN SAFARI

DEPARTURE IN 2026

MAY | JUNE | JULY



LEH LADAKH

DEPARTURE IN 2026

MAY | JUNE | JULY |
AUG | SEPT



USA

DEPARTURE IN 2026

MAY | JUNE | JULY



BHUTAN

DEPARTURE IN 2026

MAY | JUNE | JULY



GEORGIA

DEPARTURE IN 2026

AUG | SEPT | OCT



GREECE

DEPARTURE IN 2026

MAY | JUNE | JULY |
SEPT | OCT

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CONTACT DETAILS

Geenel Dsouza +91 98197 93160
Ajith Augustine +91 98201 82959
Leander Dsouza +91 90041 73939



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For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Adieu Fr. Henry!



On 14th June 2026, our Parish bid adieu to Fr. Henry in a fitting finale as he celebrated the 10 a.m. Mass. In his homily, he advised us to continue God's story of compassion through life, opening our hearts in love to reach out to others.

Proclaiming Fr. Henry as the good shepherd of our flock, Royston Braganza succinctly used his name as an acronym:

- H** – Hands-on approach
- E** – Enthusiastic homilies, reflections, activities
- N** – Nurturing children, youth, families
- R** – Reaching Out to all
- Y** – Youthful good looks

Like the cricketer, Sooryavanshi's record-shattering sixes, Fr. Henry also has many sixes in his stars – his birthday is on 6th August, he spent six years at St. Theresa's and he's a sixer with our parishioners! We wish him all success in future!



Thank You Fr. Henry

for your precious service to
ST. THERESA'S PARISH

Your dedication, compassion,
and unwavering faith have
touched countless lives.

“Your approach and
understanding of
parishioners was
on another level.
You didn't just
lead us, you
walked with us.”



WITH HEARTFELT GRATITUDE



INSPIRING
LEADER



COMPASSIONATE
SHEPHERD



TRUE
FRIEND



FAITHFUL
GUIDE

You will always be a cherished part of
ST. THERESA'S PARISH FAMILY

Wishing You

God's blessings
and abundant joy
in your
new assignment.

May God continue to
guide, protect, and
strengthen you always.