


Issue 26, December 2021

Family Trove

Nurturing Christian Families & Community



See Judge Act



Hope IS BORN

And the angel said to them,
"Fear not, for behold, I bring
you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people."

LUKE 2:10



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Hope is born...

with the Christ child who came to give us new hope and joy. This year as we celebrate His birth, we need these gifts more than ever as we continue to cope with Covid-19 and yet move forward hopefully into the New Year 2022.

Thanks to our contributors, our December issue offers both joyful Christmas messages, as well as hopeful articles on the transformation to a Synodal Church, strategies to cope with a 'mutating' virus, and perspective on a changing job market.

Special thanks to our talented young CFMer children and grandchildren for participating in our handmade Christmas ornaments contest.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas.

May God bless you with a safe, healthy, and joyous New Year.

Evelyn Coutto
Editor



From the President's Desk

Ninfa & Remedios Da Silva, National President Couple



*Come all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
Come ye, come ye to Bethlehem!*

This carol brought a new meaning to us as we continue our journey through the season of Advent, preparing ourselves for the Second Coming of Christ our Saviour, who came to this world to redeem humankind.

Let us remember that Church is the community of the entire people of God, and God is the God of all people. As CFM members let us not get lost in the glamour and distractions but instead lead ourselves and our families to grow deeper in the love of the Lord. Let us make 25th

December an experience of the Lord being born in our hearts, lives, families, and society. May we experience the holiness of Bethlehem in our midst.

Our journey during this Advent season must help us to become sensitive towards our family members and those around us. We cannot think about Christmas without being sensitive to the cry of our mother earth, and our brothers and sisters crying in need. We hope and pray that we continue to rejoice and celebrate the birth and sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour who came to show us the way to the Father.

These are just a few ways in which the spirit of Advent aligns with the process of synodality that the Holy Father is encouraging the church to adopt. Let us make this Advent a genuine synodal communitarian journey.

On behalf of CFM India, we together with our family wish you **a blessed Advent and a Happy Christmas.**

God bless each one of you and your family with peace and happiness followed with a **blessed New Year 2022 filled with joy and contentment.**



Ninfa & Remedios Da Silva

National President Couple – CFM India



Warmest
Christmas Wishes

from
TEAM MUMBAI

Note from the National Chaplain



Friar Sidney J. M. Mascarenhas, O.F.M., Ph.D. (National Chaplain, CFM India)

Happy Birthday, Jesus Christ!!!!

Christmas is the day we, Christians at least, celebrate the Birthday of Jesus Christ.

What is a birthday today?

For most people, a Birthday has become a day of receiving presents, and at least, birthday wishes. Nowadays, it is receiving SMSs, electronic birthday cards with lovely tunes, a birthday cake to cut and share with friends, a bouquet of flowers home-delivered through the florist, and perhaps, a nice birthday meal together in a cosy “eat joint” with the family and one’s friends! For some, the day might also begin with a “Holy Eucharist” or a “Happy Thanksgiving.”

Gone are the days of sending birthday cards, or, even sending a birthday postal letter of greetings, a telegram, and a phone call. We do not find the time to go to the post office, let alone, even to jot down a letter of best wishes, and drop it by the post! Some even satisfy themselves by sending emojis, or, smileys of “birthday wishes” on “WhatsApp.” We are an electronic savvy age!

However, in every birth, new life shoots and spurts. A species continues itself. But a “human” birth is also a new creative power and nexus point. Also, in every

human birth, a new face, countenance, viewpoint and originality appears on this earth, and in a home. A human birth is a grace of a new uniqueness and beginning. A human birth is a nexus point of new autonomy and society, creativity and communion. In short, a “human birthday” brings a new face on earth and into a “human family.”

What is so special about Christmas?

For ages, all humans tried to be like “gods.” Humans searched for God.

With Christmas, God “humanizes” himself through His Son and divinizes every human who recognizes that “He is the Way, the Truth and the Life! God searches for Man!”

And through Christmas, may every CFMer be a Minstrel and CFM Home be a Crib where:

1. Jesus draws the Star and the Wise and He tells them: “I am the Way; I am Truth and Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.” (Jn 14:6 - 7)

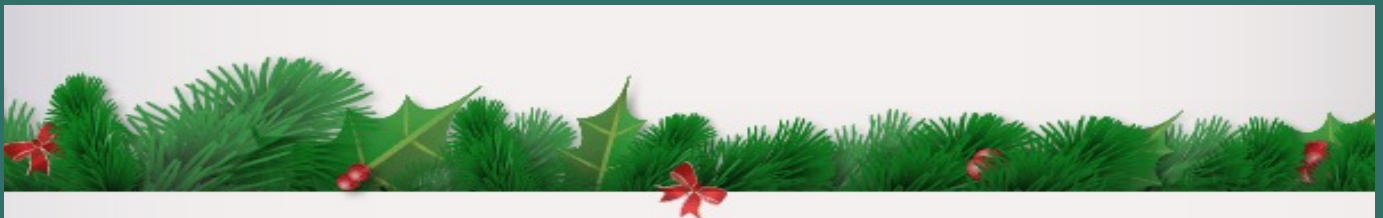
2. The angel says, “Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” (Lk 2: 10 -12)

May you have
the gift of **FAITH**,
the blessing
of **HOPE**,
and the peace
of His **LOVE**



Christmas Wishes

from CFM Bangalore - Group 3



Christmas begins in *God's heart*,
and it is only complete when
it reaches the heart *of man*



The Light of the World



Excerpt from a homily by Late Rev. Fr. Denis J. Hanly, MM

This Christmas, we rejoice, for the light has come, the light that shines into hearts that are open and ready to receive it. And that light gives great hope and renewed energy and renewed courage as it drives back the darkness before it.

I think it's fairly appropriate these days, as many people feel we are facing difficult times. We are so used to being in control of things, but we're in a situation now where nobody seems to be in control of anything about the immediate, or the far future.

And it is at times like this that I feel greatly drawn to the truth of Christmas. For the truth of Christmas came at such times. **The truth of Christmas came to a people very poor, oppressed, looking for something to chase back the darkness in their lives. And it was God who comes to them and brings them new life and new courage.**

So, this Christmas, perhaps for the first time in many Christmases, we are able to understand the deep joy and meaning of the coming of the Messiah, the coming of the Saviour, the coming of the one who will redeem us and bring us new hope and joy. A child is born to you. Amazing. A great mystery.

God becomes man, not as a warrior, not as a great leader, not as one who will blaze new trails in some new, distant



Photo credit: Carsten Tolkmit

world, he comes as a helpless infant, a sniffing, weeping little child, in need of love, in need of tenderness, in need of a mother and a father to keep him and to be good to him and to care for him.

And you wonder. You look at the child and you say, "This is the Son of God!" Indeed, it is a great mystery. And we don't know why he did it. But there are some basic understandings of why he would come this way. It's because he comes out of love. And love does such things.

If God is going to become one of us, if he is going to enter into our humanity as a human being, he comes to experience the things that every little child experiences: the weakness, the inability to do anything for oneself but reaching out to those around to take care of him. He would experience helplessness a child would,

he would experience the difficulties of a teenager, and he would experience, of course, the greatest difficulty of all, which is bringing the good news of God's healing and salvation to a world that perhaps would not accept him.

When God comes to show us how much He loves us, He Himself sends His Son, and His Son endures the pain, he endures the desperation, he endures the edges of despair, all we fear in every one of our lives. And he turns with love, and he turns with grace, and he turns to his Father at the moment he gives up his soul and he says, "Father, they are Your children, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And that, of course, is the meaning of the Incarnation. For God Himself has come to share our pain, almost to apologize for the pain that many of us continue to experience in our lives. Because this is what love does. And out of this comes the great joy of knowing that we are never alone. That God is with us through our joys and our sorrows, and that we walk with him into all eternity.

Christmas is a wonderful time, but it's just a day. It's a day when we experience God's love coming in a special way. And we turn to each other and we feel a certain kind of warmth for each other, and a willingness to forgive each other, perhaps be more patient with each other. It's just one of those kind of days where nothing has to be preached and we don't have to be told this and that. We feel deep in our own hearts that we are in the presence of a love that we can barely understand, a love beyond all telling, of God's great love for all of us.

And then what happens when Christmas passes? What happens when all the

presents are put aside? And what is the challenge that Christmas gives us that we can bring the feelings of this day further, as Jesus meant? For when Jesus came, you notice he didn't ask us to do anything. He didn't say, "Now you see, I have done this and you must do it." The only thing he told us was, "**Love one another as I have loved you. Love not me, but love one another as I have loved you. And if you do that you will change the world.**"

I would like to end this with a small excerpt by Howard Thurman, called the 'Challenge of Christmas'. It makes us aware that we are the instruments of His love in the world, we are His hands, His eyes, His feet, His heart. And it is this that makes the challenge of Christmas. And here's the way this little poem goes:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are
home,
When the shepherds are back with
their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.*



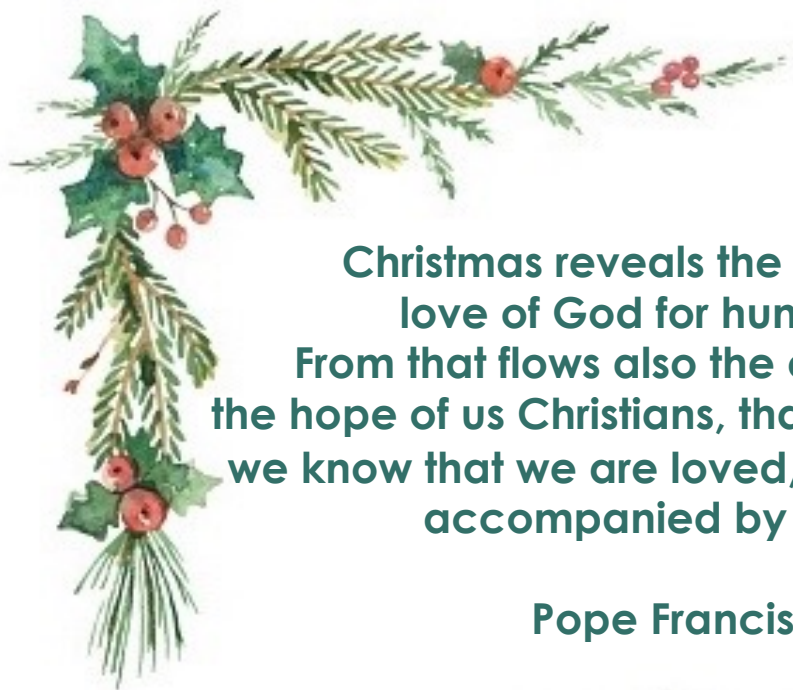
Merry Christmas!

WISHING YOU ALL



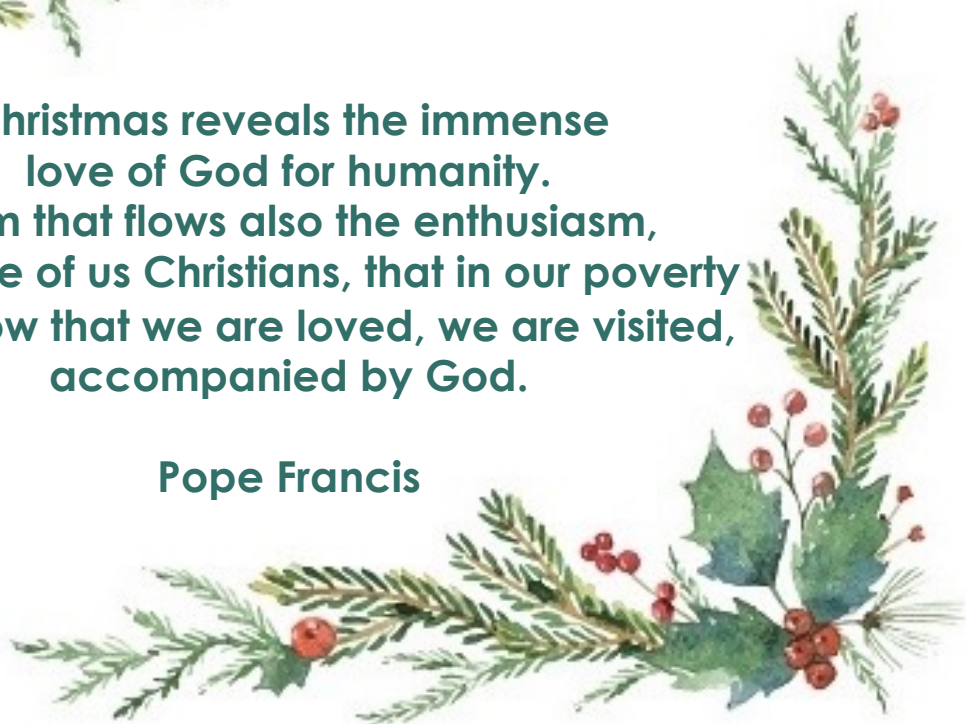
during this HOLY CHRISTMAS SEASON,
and all through 2022!

Love & God Bless, **CFM PORVORIM, GOA**



Christmas reveals the immense
love of God for humanity.
From that flows also the enthusiasm,
the hope of us Christians, that in our poverty
we know that we are loved, we are visited,
accompanied by God.

Pope Francis



Unique Christmas Traditions Around the World

Some surprising and fun traditions during Advent and Christmas

UKRAINE:

Decorating the Christmas Tree with Spider Webs



In addition to the standard tinsel, fairy lights and baubles, Ukrainians like to throw an artificial spider and web on the tree as well. The tradition has its origins in an old tale of a poor woman who couldn't afford to decorate her tree and woke on Christmas morning to discover a spider had covered it in a glorious, sparkling web.

ICELAND:

The Yule Lads of Christmas



Icelandic children do not just get one Santa Claus, but 13 mischievous trolls roaming the country in the fortnight before Christmas. Like Snow White's seven dwarves, each of the 13 'jólasveinar' (Yule Lads) has his own personality – including Doorway-Sniffer, Spoon-Licker, Sausage-Swiper, Candle-Stealer, Curd-Gobbler, and the ominously named Window-Peeper. Each takes turns visiting children, who leave shoes in their bedroom window, dropping off presents for the good kids and rotting potatoes for the bad ones.

VENEZUELA:

Roller-Skating to Church



Every year between 16th to 24th December in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, roads are closed to traffic to let people roller skate to the early morning Christmas mass. Children are put to bed earlier than normal the night before to give them enough strength to wake up and attend the Mass. When Mass is finished, families convene in the street and each others' houses to share food, play music and dance.

SWEDEN:

The Yule Goat



In Sweden, the holiday season is celebrated with the Yule goat, which is usually made of straw and is believed to guard the Christmas tree. The tradition is believed to date back to the 11th century and according to ancient pagan legends, Saint Nicholas himself rode on a man-sized goat to deliver gifts to everyone. The Yule goat is even regarded as a benevolent spirit who protects everyone from the devil. Nowadays, people in Gävle, Sweden erect a gigantic statue of a straw goat decorated with red ribbons and festive lights and it is commonly known as the Gävle Goat. Unfortunately, the straw goat is burned by vandals each year, which in itself has become an unofficial tradition in the town.

JAPAN:

KFC as a Christmas Meal



In 1974, KFC launched a Christmas campaign in Japan, selling a bucket of their famous fried chicken along with a bottle of wine and suggesting it be used for a Christmas party. The campaign was a hit, and *Kentucky for Christmas* quickly became a tradition across Japan that lives on to this day.

KFC Japan starts advertising and taking preorders and reservations for its holiday specials as early as late October. During the run-up to Christmas, Colonel Sanders statues outside KFC's Japanese outlets wear Santa gear.

THE PHILIPPINES:

The Giant Lantern Festival



The Giant Lantern Festival, *Ligligan Parul*, is held annually in mid-December in the city of San Fernando, since the early 1900s. The festival features a competition of giant lanterns and coincides with the nine day novena during Advent. Filipinos place much importance on the symbolism of light as a sign of hope. Over time, the simple lanterns (or 'paruls') have evolved, from paper glued to bamboo frames with rice paste, to more elaborate steel frames and light bulbs creating spectacular shapes and kaleidoscopic effects. However, the message of light and hope remains the same.

NORWAY:

Hiding Brooms on Christmas Eve



Norwegians have an age-old superstition that evil spirits and witches come out on Christmas Eve. Therefore, all the brooms in houses are hidden, so witches cannot ride around on them and cause havoc or even break them under the Christmas tree. For good measure, sometimes the male members of the household will go outside and fire a few shots in the air to scare away the witches.

ITALY:

The Legend of La Befana



La Befana has been an Italian Christmas tradition long before Santa Claus. The name La Befana derives from the word "epifania", and is an old woman who delivers gifts to children on the eve of the Feast of the Epiphany. It is a beloved tradition among many Italians,

making the feast of the Epiphany a day of celebration and gift-giving, instead of Christmas day.

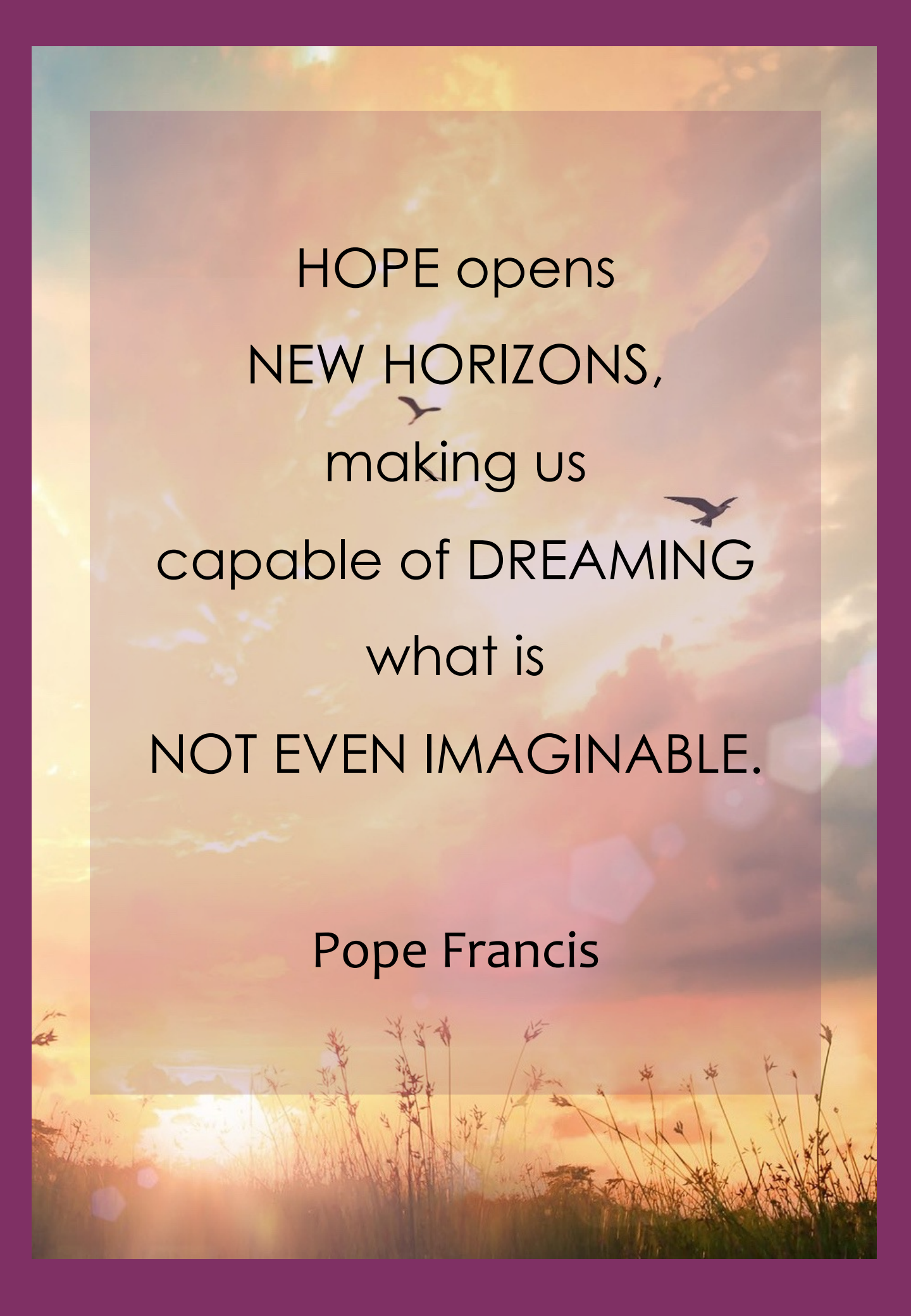
The legend is that the Magi stopped along their long journey, knocking on the door of an old woman to ask directions to Bethlehem and to rest. She received them and offered them refreshment, and they asked her if she would like to accompany them, but she refused, saying she had too much housework to do. Later she gathered some sweets as a gift and ran out after them, but by then the Magi were long gone. She went along the journey, following the star and leaving sweets at every child's door hoping to find the baby Jesus.

GUATEMALA:

Burning the Devil to usher in Christmas



Guatemalans believe that the devil and evil spirits lurk in corners of their home, and hence they will clean their homes weeks before Christmas. On December 7th, they light bonfires of household waste and burn effigies of the devil. The burning of the devil symbolizes the ritual cleansing and banishment of bad spirits to usher in the Christmas season.



HOPE opens
NEW HORIZONS,
making us
capable of DREAMING
what is
NOT EVEN IMAGINABLE.

Pope Francis

The Call to Journey Together

Ninfa Da Silva, National President, CFM India



This October ushered in the solemn opening for the Synod of 2021-2023. This Synod with the path “For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and mission” commenced at the universal level on the 9th–10th of October 2021 in Rome and on the following Sunday (17th October) in each of the local churches (Diocesan Level). The Synod will culminate in the celebration of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, in October 2023, which will be followed by the implementation phase.

Pope Francis says this time we should not treat it as another Synod, another document to be kept in the library, but **Synod 2023 is a ‘Process that is the Product’**. With this convocation, Pope Francis invites not only the Bishops, but the entire Church, to reflect on a theme

that is decisive for its life and mission: “It is precisely this path of Synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.”

The primary objective of this Synod is to listen to the entire people of God by including everyone and excluding none. Listening to God through listening to one another, inspired by the word of God.

Lineamenta, an outline on the topic of Synod, followed by a Preparatory Document, is at the service of the Synodal journey, as a tool to facilitate the first phase of listening to and consulting with the People of God in local churches, in the hope of helping to set in motion the ideas, energy, and creativity of all those who will participate in the Synodal journey.



It is precisely this path of Synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.

Pope Francis

SYNOD in INDIA:

Cardinal Oswald Gracias, the head of the Catholic Church in India, launched the diocesan phase of the Synod 2021-2023. The Cardinal, who is the Archbishop of Bombay, and one of the top consultants of Pope Francis, on 17th October, appealed to every Catholic to transform the Church in India to a Synodal Church.

“To transform the Church to a Synodal Church, we have to walk together in the same path including everybody; we have to encounter Jesus through prayer and adoration and to hear what the Spirit wants to say to the Church. Church should listen to all, rather than just hearing.”, he said during the opening Mass at Mumbai’s Holy Name Cathedral.

The Cardinal quoted the Pope to reiterate that the Synod is a process of spiritual and ecclesial discernment that unfolds in adoration, prayer and in dialogue with the Word of God. He also released a handbook for the Synod titled, ‘For a Synodal Church’, published by the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India, the national body of Latin rite bishops. Cardinal Gracias described the handbook as a useful tool for those involved in the two-year ‘Synodal Journey’, which will unfold in three phases of consultations — at the diocesan, the continental, and the universal levels, culminating in October 2023, in Rome.

The process at the diocesan level, scheduled from 17th October, with inauguration in all dioceses/ parishes, will last until August 2022. Diocesan teams have been formed and two contact persons from each diocese are expected to collaborate with the Synod India Desk

to gather information, plan the Synod consultation in their respective dioceses and include all categories of people to get feedback on the ten themes given by means of questionnaires. It is for each diocese to get a real picture by consulting at the grassroots level. This is being done under the aegis of CCBI (Conference of Catholic Bishops in India).

As part of the Executive Committee of Lay Apostolate in Goa, I had the opportunity of having a series of meetings, first with the Diocesan Pastoral level chaired by His Grace Rev. Filipe Neri Ferrao, President, Conference of Catholic Bishops in India (CCBI), which later culminated in having awareness meetings and consultations on the Questionnaire both at Deanery as well as Parish levels.

Let us continue to keep the synodal process in our prayers and may it not be just another document but guide the way forward to the Universal Church.

Note: Search for @synodindia on Facebook to be informed about updates and explore photographs of events.

“By walking together, and together reflecting on the journey made, the Church will be able to learn from what it will experience which processes can help it to live communion, to achieve participation, to open itself to mission.”



   @mumbaisalesians

THE MEANING OF THE LOGO of SYNOD 2021-2023



A large, majestic tree, full of wisdom and light, reaches for the sky. A sign of deep vitality and hope which expresses the cross of Christ, it carries the Eucharist, which shines like the sun. The horizontal branches, opened like hands or wings, suggest, at the same time, the Holy Spirit.

The people of God are on the move, in direct reference to the word Synod, which means “walking together”. These 15 silhouettes sum up our entire humanity in its diversity of life situations, of generations and origins. This aspect is reinforced by the multiplicity of bright colours which are themselves signs of joy.

There is no hierarchy between these people who are all on the same footing: young, old, men, women, teenagers, children, lay people, religious, parents, couples, singles; the bishop and the nun are not in front of them, but among them.

Quite naturally, children and then adolescents open their walk, in reference to these words of Jesus in the Gospel: “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children”. (Mt 11:25)

The horizontal baseline: “For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and mission” runs from left to right in the direction of this march, underlining and strengthening it, to end with the title “Synod 2021 – 2023”, the high point that synthesizes the whole.

The Virus is Mutating, But So Can We: Our Hope During Advent



Rhonda Divecha, Asst Prof Human Development, Nirmala Niketan College, CFM Mumbai

We had heard news last year about the mutant strains of the novel corona virus.. things like, *"As the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 has swept across the world, it has mutated into different major groups, or strains, as it adapted to its human hosts."* - The Economic Times, Dec 10, 2020¹

This is just one example, but there have been many such reports about the Delta variant in medical journals, newspapers and across social media, and even recently about the emergence of the Omicron variant in December 2021.

So I have a question, can we learn from the virus? The virus is adapting, so why can't we?

This virus is teaching us that mutating is what makes it survive longer, so let's use that very analogy in this 'new normal', to not just survive, but to thrive!

According to science, "If a mutation has a positive effect on the fitness of the offspring, it is called an adaptation. Thus, all mutations that affect the fitness of future generations are agents of evolution." ² We have been evolving as human beings from time immemorial, so this pandemic isn't going to stop us from evolving further. To quote the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, **"Out of life's school of war—what doesn't kill me, makes me stronger."** This accurately portrays resilience and affirmation for overcoming adversity.³

A few questions we may have to answer are 'Do I want to adapt? How? When?'

Step 1: Figuring out whether you want to adapt

Adapting is not easy, it takes tremendous effort. But what gives strength to that effort is will. Where there's a will, there's a way; however narrow that way, but it's still a way. So you'll have to decide whether you want to adjust. There are people who complain and crib about the difficulties in their life, but sometimes when offered help to get better, they come up with dozens of excuses. In such cases, it is evident that they don't really want to change, but the complaining possibly fulfils their need for attention.

Step 2: Exploring how to adapt

If you truly want to move ahead and change that brings us to the next question...How?

One way to begin is by connecting with people who have been through what you are going through. Support groups are a major assistance with how to adapt, step by step, but this is only possible if you actually communicate your issues, not stay silent. Talk to people you trust, or read about the success stories of others, if you are not sure whom to trust. There are scores of written material, songs, prayers, videos and therapists too, who can help you in your specific situation.

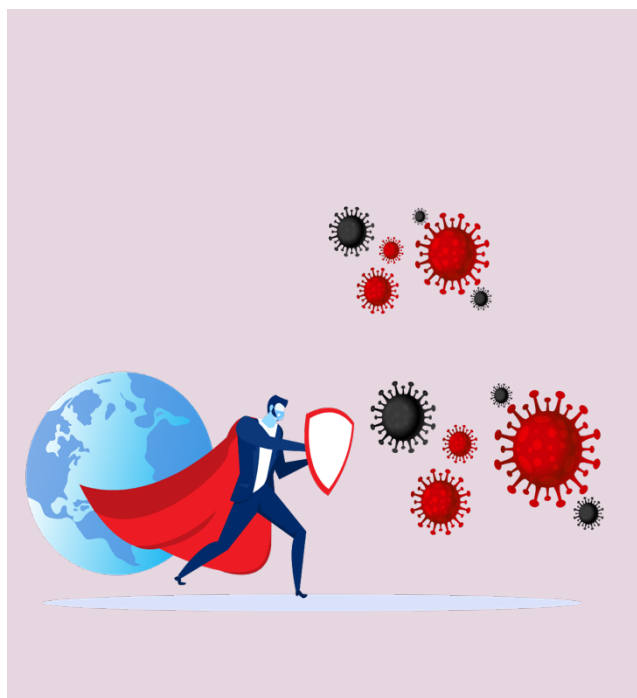
But remember, one person's formula may not work for you. You will have to do a bit of trial till you come to a solution that suits you perfectly. No one can really tell you how to adjust and adapt in your situation. Each person has to decide for himself or herself, how to do so, as each one's reality is personal and unique. It takes persistence, so do not give up easily, try another way... and another... and another, till you succeed.

Step 3: Deciding when to change

Whether you choose to adapt right at the beginning when things just begin to become noticeably tougher, or whether you wait till later when things have worsened, all depends on your unique situation. But it's better not to put off till tomorrow, something that can be done today. Remember, if we keep postponing tasks, tomorrow never comes, and suddenly we realize it's too late. Then regret brings its own set of problems.

Ever since the pandemic began, there have been those of us who have experienced illness, unemployment, loss of family members and friends, poverty, abuse.... and this dismal list goes on. But there are also those of us who have thrived, built new businesses or linkages, developed new relationships, flourished using new found talents, made time to do things we love... and this list of achievements goes on too.

I have personal examples of close friends, family and myself too, who have had dismal experiences, but chose not to let that bring us down, but rather to overcome difficulties by taking some path or the other. They have adapted. Sometimes, it meant starting out on a whole new career, connecting with new people, shifting residence, maybe even shifting to a simpler lifestyle, or moving on after a period of grief. But however hard some things may feel currently, it's important to remember that they're just a phase of life... tough times never last, tough people do.



I will share one personal example at this juncture: I had been teaching music at my home since 1993, and suddenly when students couldn't visit my home to learn anymore in March 2020, I could have lost a whole source of income. However, I decided to venture into teaching music online. I had to learn new techniques and develop new strategies, and with the result, my student base has now grown tremendously. Earlier I had students only from my vicinity, but now I have students further from my home, who live in Santacruz and Vasai, also from Goa, and even from Canada and recently, even U.K. It would never have occurred to me to spread my wings so far if it wasn't for this pandemic.

So choose to change, in whatever way possible to help yourself. It could be to eat better, think positively, follow safety protocols, try a new career or technology, or whatever it takes to get you on the road to success. And remember what I said at the beginning, if the virus can change, so can we.

Advent is a period of hope and new beginnings, so what better time than now to try to adapt.



P.S.: In fact, this article is also a mutant variant of one I had written last year around this time, when a few mutations emerged, and now we have more! So it's high time we change and cope, if we want to not just survive, but live well.

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**For more articles,
do explore Rhonda's blog:**

<https://rhondachologist.wordpress.com>

"Hope" is the Thing with Feathers by Emily Dickinson

"Hope" is the thing with feathers -

That perches in the soul -

And sings the tune without the words -

And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -

And sore must be the storm -

That could abash the little Bird

That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chilliest land -

And on the strangest Sea -

Yet - never - in Extremity,

It asked a crumb - of me.



The Future of Jobs: Emerging Trends



Joseph Marcellus Fernandes, Professor, Consultant & Trainer, CFM Goa

While millions of jobs have been lost due to the pandemic, this has also accelerated the shift to technology absorption. As many as 85 million jobs may be displaced globally by technology absorption, while 97 million new roles may emerge by 2025. Over the past decade, a set of ground-breaking technologies have signalled the start of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Cloud computing, Big Data, e-Commerce, Data Encryption, non-humanoid robots and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are emerging areas.

There is an increasing demand for workers in green economy jobs, the data and AI economy, and new roles in engineering, cloud computing and product development. **The top skills required are critical thinking and analysis, problem-solving, with strong self-management skills like active learning, resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility.** However, emerging professions reflect the continuing importance of human interaction, with increasing demand for care economy jobs, roles in marketing, sales and content production, as well as roles at the forefront of people and culture.

Research indicates that online learning and training are on the rise. While employed workers choose personal development courses, those unemployed focus on learning digital skills such as data analysis, computer science and information technology, but not everyone currently employed may be able to reskill as required.

INDIA Emerging & Redundant Job Roles

EMERGING

1.	AI and Machine Learning Specialists
2.	Data Analysts and Scientists
3.	Information Security Analysts
4.	Internet of Things Specialists
5.	Big Data Specialists
6.	Project Managers
7.	FinTech Engineers
8.	Digital Marketing and Strategy Specialists
9.	Software and Applications Developers
10.	Business Development Professionals

REDUNDANT

1.	Administrative and Executive Secretaries
2.	General and Operations Managers
3.	Assembly and Factory Workers
4.	Accounting, Bookkeeping and Payroll Clerks
5.	Data Entry Clerks
6.	Accountants and Auditors
7.	Architects and Surveyors
8.	Human Resources Specialists
9.	Client Information and Customer Service Workers
10.	Business Services and Administration Managers

Emerging Skills

1.	Analytical thinking and innovation
2.	Complex problem-solving
3.	Active learning and learning strategies
4.	Critical thinking and analysis
5.	Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility
6.	Technology design and programming
7.	Emotional intelligence
8.	Creativity, originality and initiative
9.	Leadership and social influence
10.	Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation
11.	Technology use, monitoring and control
12.	Service orientation
13.	Troubleshooting and user experience
14.	Systems analysis and evaluation
15.	Persuasion and negotiation

Source: The Future of Jobs Report 2020, World Economic Forum

Christmas Inspiration from our children



Our contest for children required them to send in a Christmas ornament designed by them, using any form of art or craft.

We are delighted to share such creative and joyful entries and thank each child who participated, as well as their parents and grandparents who encouraged them.



Isabella Francis

10 years

Granddaughter of

Jennifer Francis

CFM Bangalore

Group 3

Christmas Inspiration from our children



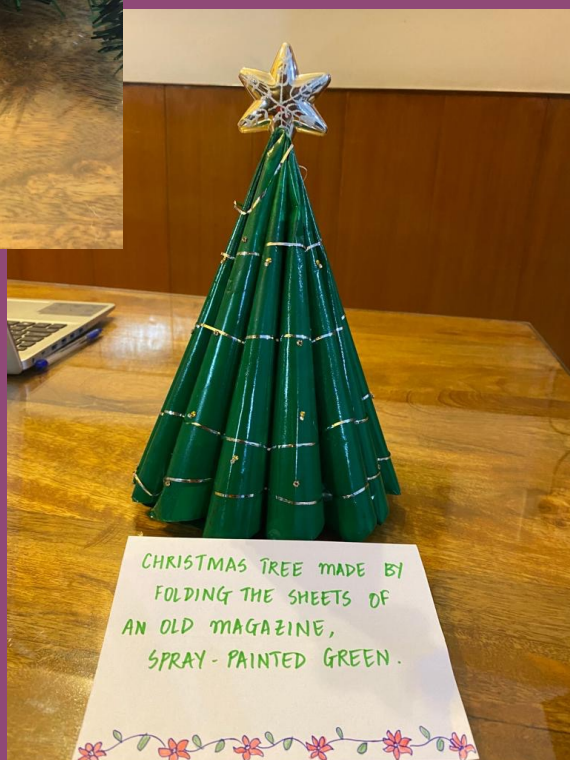
Avila Tarani

18 years

Daughter of John and Anju Tarani

CFM Bangalore

Group 4



Christmas Inspiration from our children



Elaine Virginia Vaz

13 years

Daughter of Anna and Kevin Vaz

CFM Goa

Merces Group



Bells and Santa - Crochet
Christmas Trees - Paper

Christmas Inspiration from our children



Anna Goretti Ozorio Fernandes

14 years

Daughter of Gleeson & Malita Ozorio

CFM Goa

Margao Group



Christmas Inspiration from our children



Katelyn Lobo

8.5 years

From Alabama, USA

Granddaughter of
Blanche and Basil D'Souza.

CFM Mumbai



Christmas Inspiration from our children



Jason Ayaan Isaacs

8 years

Ryan Aryan Isaacs

3.7 years

Grandsons of
Philomena & Joseph Isaacs,
CFM Bangalore
Group 8



Snowmen - one using
Thermacol and the other with
ice-cream sticks



Glitter Ball and an Angel with
a 3D crown using foam
sheets



Christmas Inspiration from our children



Shania D'Souza

10 years

Shane D'Souza

4 years

from Toronto, Canada

Grandchildren of

Blanche and Basil D'Souza,

CFM Mumbai



Regional News: Bangalore



Sandhya & Roshan Menezes, Bangalore President Couple

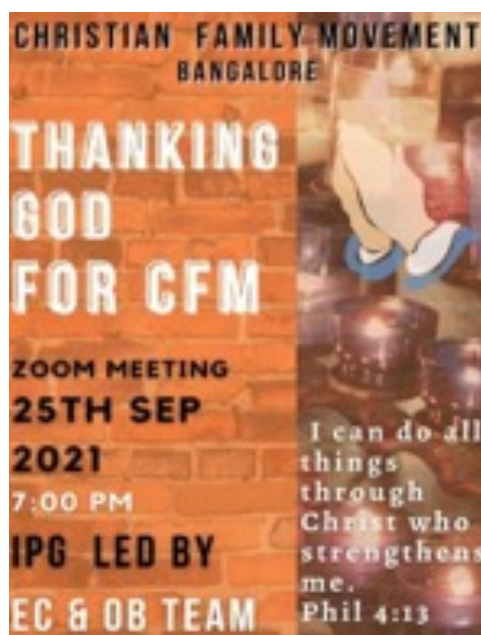
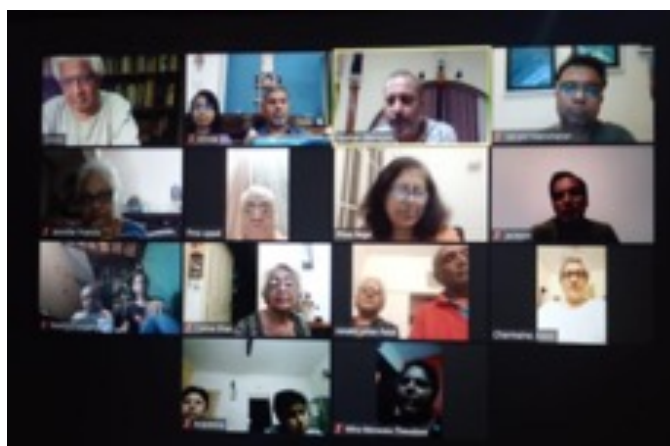


The main objective of CFM Bangalore is to promote integration between the groups as one family and that they effectively conduct the monthly meetings. The office bearers set out to fulfil just that.

The present strength of CFM Bangalore is 87 Families across 11 groups. All the 11 groups have Chaplains to guide the groups. We acknowledge the spirit of involvement and guidance of our Regional Chaplain, Friar Sidney Mascarenhas.

1 Executive Meeting

The last Executive Meeting held in September had full attendance of leader couples. Discussion on the status of completion Inquiry booklets was done by each group.

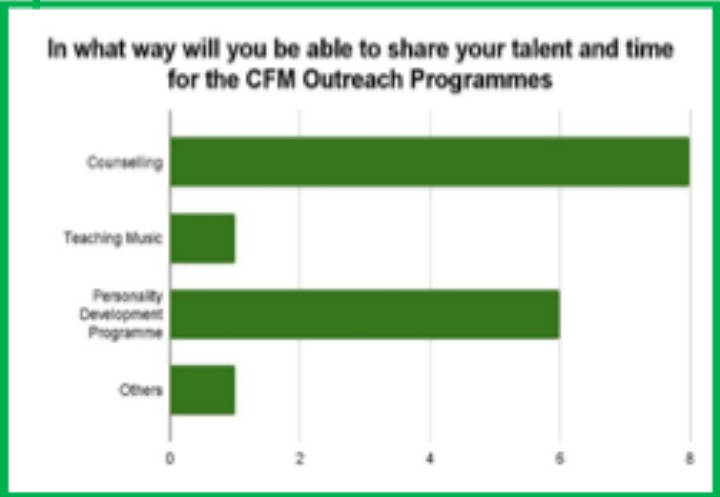
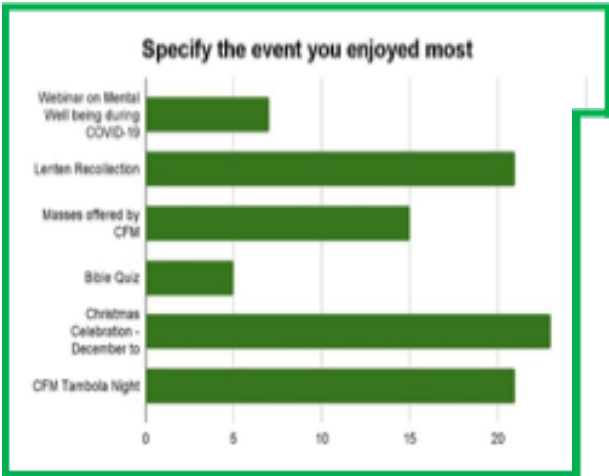


2 Intercessory Prayer Session

A Special Intercessory Prayer session was conducted by the Executive Committee members on September 25th 2021. Prayers were offered as Thanksgiving to God for all the blessings showered on the families of CFM Bangalore in the year gone by.

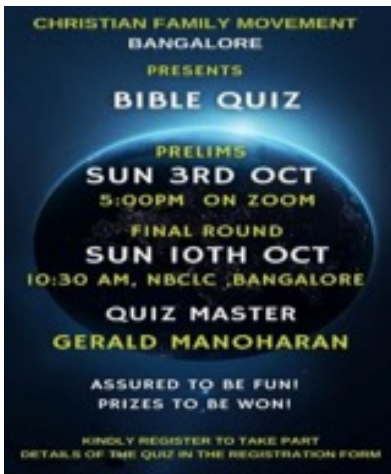
3 CFM Survey Report 2021

An online survey was formulated by the OB team to understand the physical, emotional and wellbeing of members. Most members expressed that they would like to be associated with the CFM Outreach Programmes.



4 Bible Quiz

The most precious gift the Bible offers is to make us know Christ. When we read the Bible, we come across wonderful stories. The members were invited to participate in Bible Quiz which was conducted in 2 rounds. The prelims were held on October 3rd 2021, and the finals on October 10th 2021. The Finals were conducted by Quiz Master Gerald Manoharan, who got the teams thinking. It was a fun filled Quiz where the audience too participated with added enthusiasm.



5 Regional Meet

The Bangalore Regional meet was conducted on October 10th 2021 at NBCLC, Bangalore. The day began with Holy Mass celebrated by Rev. Friar Sidney Mascarenhas, National Chaplain. The President couple presented the Annual Report of CFM Bangalore followed by reports from Individual Group leaders.

The election of new office bearers for 2021-24 was conducted.

The following are the New Office Bearers for the period 2021-2024.

- President Couple: Nirmal & Vrinda Raj (Group 10)
- Vice President Couple: Joseph & Philomena Issac (Group 8)
- Secretary Couple: Lunita D'Sa Pais & Bouvier Pais (Group 1)
- Treasurer: Rajani Pereira & Anju (Group 4)



6 Annual Advent Recollection

The CFM Bangalore Annual Advent Recollection was held this year on 12th December 2021 at the Catholic Club. Friar Sidney Mascarenhas was the main celebrant who offered the Sunday Mass, with a lovely homely on hope and being closely associated with the CFM. He emphasized the need to induct more families, especially the youth.

Fr. Juventius Andrade, C.Ss.R., was the animator for the Recollection. His talk on 'Joy', the theme of the day, kept the 80 plus attendees focused and inspired, with a strong message to take home. To our delight, he ended his talk with a beautiful scripture-filled song 'Surprise, Surprise'. The hall was ablaze with everyone joining him in the chorus.

We were also pleased that Fr. Christy Raj, Parish Priest of St. Patrick's Church, was able to join us. He recognised some senior CFMers who were his teachers, and also led the whole group with the song 'Rejoice in the Lord'.

It also happened to be Friar Sidney Mascarenhas's 54th Ordination Anniversary. We surprised him with a cake, which he happily cut before we broke for lunch.

The Choir conducted by Group-11 did full justice during the Mass and later for the carol singing.

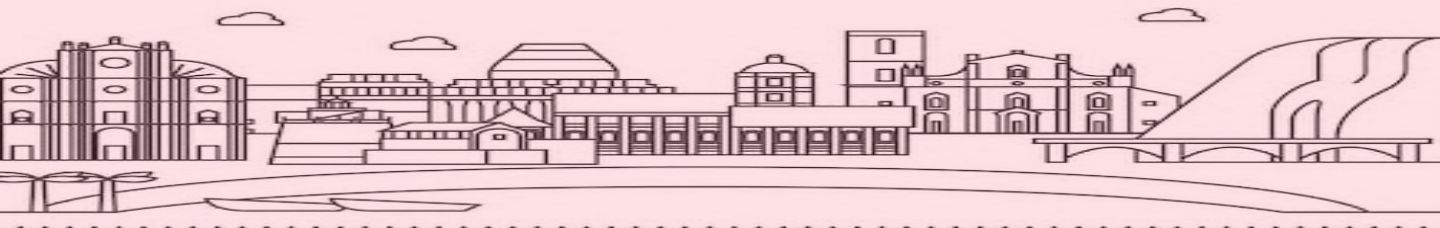
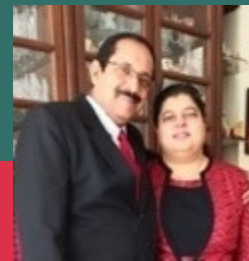
We thank the CFM Bangalore members for the huge turnout and their total commitment.

Contributed by Nirmal Raj, the new Regional President, CFM Bangalore



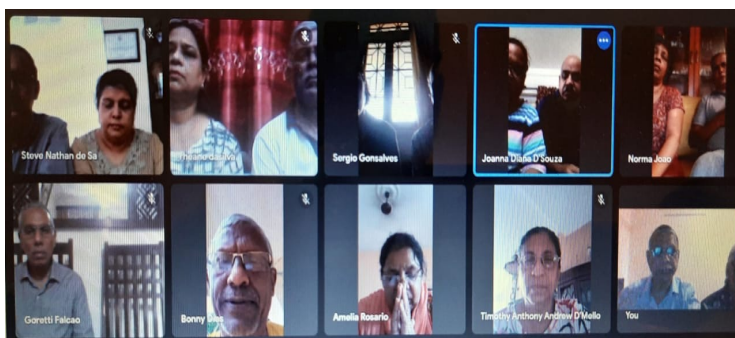
Regional News: Goa

Annelise & Mollet de Sa, Goa President Couple



1 Memorial Service

On 29th of August a memorial service was organized for all Goa CFMers to celebrate the life of Gordon Rosario via Google Meet.



2 Sweet Dish Preparation

On the 15th of August on the feast of Assumption, the Mercers unit of CFM organized a sweet dish preparation using Coconut and Jaggery as the main ingredient. The recipes and all that goes to prepare the sweet was shared via Google Meet. Even though we could not meet physically, this activity made our mouth water.



3 Food Donation

In the month of September, groceries and food items were distributed to 23 needy families of Mercers.



4 Contribution to Flood Victims

In September, the Mercers unit packed 28 boxes of clothes, utensils, household and other utility items which was handed over to the flood affected people of Valpoi and Sattari areas.

Cash contribution was also given



5 Session with Deacons

Remedios and Ninfa da Silva had a session with Deacons at the Pastoral Institute on the topic 'Family Witness'. Their daughter Noemia also shared her thoughts and expectations with the Deacons.

6 Marriage Preparation Program

Ninfa da Silva shared personal challenges and crises faced in marriage with newly engaged couples as part of the marriage preparation program at Candolim Goa.



7 Goa Diocesan Synodal Process

As part of the consultation team of the Goa Diocesan Synodal process, Ninfa da Silva gave a presentation to the Parish moderator and secretaries at Cruz dos Milagres, Old Goa.

8 Outreach to Divya Sadan

On the 16th of November, the Porvorim CFM unit organized an outreach program at Divya Sadan. Divya Sadan is a Caritas Project, which is a community of people living together as a family alongside adults with different levels of abilities.

It was a very enriching experience for all of us who made it there. We started our programme with a short prayer by Cyril, This was followed by a short introduction by Bonny about CFM. Next, we had 2 lively action songs which were enthusiastically joined in by the core members and the others. Eight young nursing students who were also currently staying at Divya Sadan joined in. Then it was time for the tasty snacks that we had brought along and the delicious Roselle juice made in-house.

Christina organized two games "Bombing the City" and "Crossing the River Jordan" which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Everyone got a prize of a KitKat.

Finally the Co-Ordinator, Ashita Abraham, explained to us about the concept of this home and thanked us for taking time off to be with them. She then showed us the workshop and products made, like candles, door-mats, jams and pickles. We bought certain items from them too. We were also shown around their kitchen garden, and offered them food provisions that we took along for them.

After thanking us and we saying our good-byes, we started off for our homes with a sense of fulfillment for having spread a little bit of joy and cheer to our less fortunate brethren. We also had an opportunity to personally meet each other even though we continue to have our meetings online.

Contributed by Milena and Bonny Dias



Milestones



Tito and Tina Soares of the Mercedes Group - CFM Goa, are happy to share that their son Theron married Jochelle Miranda on 4th September 2021.



Clara and Batista Monteiro of the Mercedes Group - CFM Goa, are pleased to share that their son Carlito married Chloe Rodrigues on 3rd December in Ireland.



Milestones

Armando and Marina Saldanha of the Porvorim Group - CFM Goa, are delighted to share the news of the birth of their grandchildren. The baby girl (born on 30th Aug 2021) in blue is Claire, the daughter of Amanda and Clyde. The little baby boy (born on 25th Nov 2021), who is yet to be named, is the son of Aliya and Rohit.





See Judge Act

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Loving Father,

Help us to remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and
open the door of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift,
and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil
by the blessing which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us
happy to be thy children,
and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake.

Amen!

by Robert Louis Stevenson

