



Disciples India

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01/04/2022

MYSTERY OF DEATH & LIFE



Lent and Easter seasons are a precious time for all Christians, particularly for Ukrainians, where a vast majority of its inhabitants are Orthodox Christians. This Lent, Ukrainians will be leaning on their faith more than ever as they experience war with Russia. During this

war, they have lost much – their loved ones, houses, hospitals, educational institutions, property, wealth, security, etc. but they are holding on to their faith in God.

Life has many mysteries, but there is nothing comparable to death. DEATH IS THE GREATEST MYSTERY OF LIFE. Death is the climax, the crescendo.

During these weeks we will be participating in the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. Before entering Jerusalem for the last time, He tried, once more, to prepare the apostles for what was about to happen. As usual, He spoke in parables, this time referring to a grain of wheat and how that seed must die so that more life, much life, an abundance of life, might come (John 12:24).

Every purposeful self-offering results in a positive effect. If we walked the Lenten journey meaningfully, we too will reap a rich harvest of joy at Easter.

The people of Ukraine whose Lenten journey became victims of power and greed like that of Jesus, may share the resurrection of Jesus and Experience the Peace of the Risen Christ.



Greeting from Disciples India. May the Peace and Joy of Easter fill everyone.

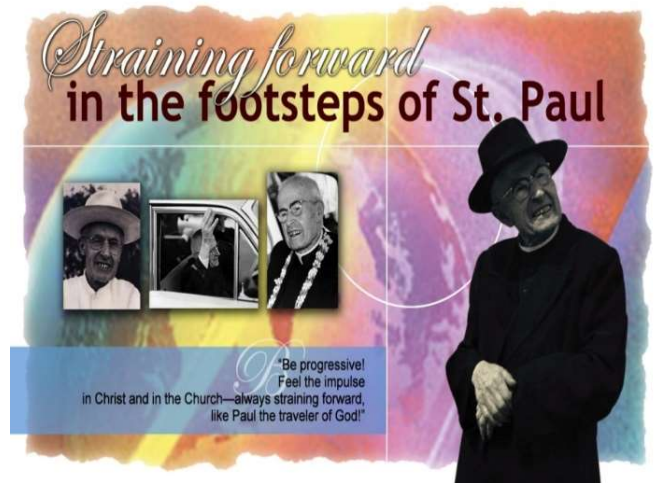
**Let our Lives Be Conquered
&
Transformed by the Resurrection**

- Pope Francis

James Alberione

Saint of the media

As we celebrate the 138th Birth anniversary of our founder we dedicate this poem to him and ask his blessings on all of us, particularly on our Postulants all over the world as they celebrate their Feast.



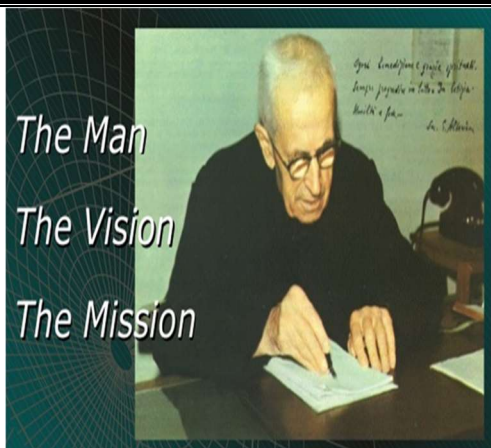
- J.** James Alberione founder of the Pauline family,
- A.** At the age of sixteen, entered the Seminary at Alba,
- M.** Motivated to live & give Jesus Christ the way, the truth & the Life to the world,
- E.** Experienced the intervention of God at various phases of his life,
- S.** Socio-Political situation of his time created a perfect ambiance for the Spirit to take hold of Alberione's life in concrete expressions of action.

- A.** Alberione co-operating with God, explored the secret of sanctity.
- L.** Long hours of Eucharistic adoration on the night that divided the two centuries in the Cathedral of Alba was an intense spiritual moment,
- B.** Blessings and graces flowed from the Tabernacle for a new mission God was calling him to begin.
- E.** Eucharistic irradiation was the mission he gave to the Sister Disciples founded in 1924
- R.** Remaining in prayer, day & night to intercede for the humanity and to support the new means of apostolate.
 - I.** Intent on scrutinizing the signs of the times
 - O.** Our founder wanted to reach the souls with the fastest means possible
 - N.** New means in a modern world of possibilities was his vision for the modern men
 - E.** Embracing everything from God's perspective elevated the modern means as a medium to preach the Gospel.

- S.** Source & sustenance for his daily activity was the Eucharist.
- A.** After the Eucharistic celebration he remained in silent prayer for a long time.
 - I.** Intimately united with the God of his life who is present in that tiny Host
 - N.** Nurturing his faith with childlike trust in his promises **"Do not be afraid, I am with you, from here I will enlighten you"**
 - T.** Tremendous strength he drew from the Eucharistic – the source and submit of all activities.

- O.** Obedience as the surest and the shortest way envisioned Alberione to become a saint.
- F.** Faced with the awareness of personal unworthiness and weakness on one hand, he remained faithful to the inspirations & illuminations from the Spirit.

- T.** Thankfulness for every gift received, was learned from his profound & hard-working Christian family.
- H.** He truly lived and savored the spirit of Beatitude in full measure
- E.** Everything led him to sing God's abundant richness.



- M.** Man of Vision and Mission was called the “**Marvel of his time**”
- E.** End of his life’s Journey gifted with a personal visit & blessing from his holiness Pope Paul VI, left the world with saintly odor for his heavenly reward.
- D.** Drawing himself each day closer and closer to God, with deep realization
- I.** “**I am a miracle of God’s love**” “**I am a pen in the hand of God**”.
- A.** Alberione with all humility projected St Paul as the founder and patron of the marvelous ‘Pauline Family’ and himself as a useless servant.

Sr M. Muriel Yesudas

Let us fall into the Deep Mercy of God

As we celebrate the feast of Divine Mercy Sunday on 24th April, we are all called to realize the deep mercy of Jesus that flows in each one of us.

We know the story of a soldier who pierced the side of Jesus and got healed of his blindness. Being a Roman soldier, he stood against Jesus, tortured, and killed him. Yet finally, he could experience Jesus' healing. Above all, he received the mercy of Jesus for all the sins he had committed.

Yes, this might be a wonderful experience that the soldier never expected to happen in his life.

Each and every day we too are piercing the heart of Jesus through the sword of our sins. The blood and water that fell, not only on the place where Jesus was crucified but it spread, overflowing everywhere on this mother earth, and on us as a sign of his mercy. We are all saved and have been placed under the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ who washes away our every sin so has to be healed from all sickness, evil, etc. and to be saved.

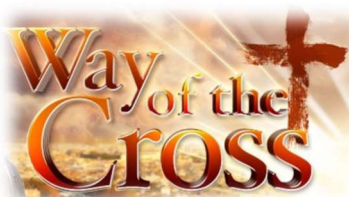
As this world is dipped with various problems and particularly the war between Ukraine and Russia, let us hope in Christ and spread the fragrance of his mercy to the whole world through our mission of Eucharistic adoration. Let us witness Jesus to the people whom we encounter.



Sr M. Prafulla

Walk with Jesus on the way to Calvary

The way of the cross is a popular devotion to the passion of Christ and a practice of piety of the Catholics all over the world. It is being carried out in all the catholic churches during lent. We, the Sister Disciples in Pondicherry had a good opportunity of conducting way of the cross in our parish, Sacred Heart Basilica on the 2nd Friday of the Lent at 5.30pm. Big placards depicting the fourteen stations were set in the campus of



the church Our Parish Priest Rev Fr. Kulandai Swamy began the way of the cross with an inspiring introduction. Well prepared reflections and prayers for each station were shared with different persons from our zone. The choir sang devoutly a beautiful refrain after every station. At the end, Fr. Paul Thelomourd the spiritual director of Sacred Heart Basilica gave the solemn blessing with the Crucifix.

“We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your cross you have redeemed the World”. This beautiful prayer that we pray before each station reminds us the redemption that Jesus has brought to us by dying on the cross. Let us contemplate this mystery of redemption more deeply during this lent and thank Jesus unceasingly for this great gift.

– Pondicherry Community

FIGHT ALL YOUR BATTLES WITH PRAYER, YOU WILL ALWAYS WIN

Prayer is important and it is an essential part of each one's life. It is prayer that keeps us going in the journey of life. Every day we experience the power of prayer. From all ages the quest for God never ends. People travel to Holy places and shrines to find God in prayer because it is the only thing that connects us with God. History has proved that prayer can win battles & this victory allows one to experience peace & presence of God. There is a beautiful saying **"Prayer does not change God, but changes the one who prays."** It can be said that genuine prayer is not when God listens to what we are asking for, but when the one who prays perseveres in prayer till, he/she becomes the listener, listening to what God wants. That is, obeying God's will, and God's will for us is always good, as a loving father he knows what is best for us.

Our Founder Blessed James Alberione was a man of prayer. He gave first priority to the life of prayer. Prayer was the powerful weapon he used to fight all his battles.



We, the Sister Disciples are privileged to spend our life before the most Blessed Sacrament in prayer and intercession for the whole of humanity. We too play a great role in the church through our mission of prayer. We carry out this mission devoutly & enthusiastically. We find God in prayer. From Eucharist, we all draw power and strength to fight all kinds of difficulties & problems. Prayer life sustains, comforts, consoles. Prayer will enhance our relationship with God to such an extent that when trials come our way, we will never question **WHY ME?** Instead, will say **TRY ME!** A Strong soul immersed in prayer will shine after every storm. Do you wish to shine? Pray.... Pray....and Pray and be sure that no power on earth can stop you from shining before God and one another.

Sr M. Sandra Bhavighar

SEMINAR FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION



On 27th March 2022, the Archdiocese of Bangalore under the leadership of his Grace Rev. Peter Machado organized a day of seminar for a group of newly chosen **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE HOLY COMMUNION**, from different parishes of the Archdiocese. The seminar began at 9 am and ended at 4.30 pm with the holy Mass. There were Talks from the

members of the Archdiocesan Liturgy Commission, composed of 4 priests and one Sister.

Sr Mary Gracelet Mudiappan gave the 3rd talk on: "How does the Extraordinary minister of the Holy Communion fulfill their ministry to the Home-bound and those who are Hospitalized". One hour of talk followed by the group discussions. The participants took active part in the lecture as well as the group discussion. Her talk was well appreciated by everyone.



Dear sisters of St Mary's & Pondicherry, thank you very much for your contribution to this issue of Disciples India. For May issue the communities of Mangalore and Calicut are invited to contribute. The others are always welcome. **ALL THE BEST DEAR SISTERS!**