



## Devotion to Mary

Month of May is a beautiful month for both hemispheres. In the North, spring is gradually blooming into summer, while the South celebrates the beautiful colors of autumn and its harvest. May represents the start of Holiday season in many parts of the world, leading to subsequent family unions and festivities.



May is just one word short of Mary. At times one may wonder, is it because of this that May is dedicated to Mary in the Catholic Church? All over the world, we do notice great expressions of devotion to Mary during the month of May. In many parts of our country, people take her in processions praying the Rosary and children carry flowers to decorate the images of Mary, in some of the parishes 'Summer Bible Camps' are organized for children during which they spend the mornings learning the Scripture and the evenings with a lively May devotion.

The Mayflower, appropriately named after May month is also white, bringing forth ideas such as purity, goodness, and sincerity. May Mary the Mother most chaste and Mother most pure help us to live lives that are filled with spiritual depth, passion for our mission, and enthusiasm in our consecrated life.

### MANGALORE HILLS

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, the workers all over the world join hands to strengthen their unity and to celebrate their solidarity. For this the Universal Church found a model and example of a worker who could inspire and guide the world of workers i.e., 'ST JOSEPH', the humble carpenter of Nazareth. He fills us with courage to undertake the dedicated work with honesty. In today's world we hear the outcome cry of the poor workers who suffer poverty, bitterness, slavery, injustice, a crushing burden and a source of division in minority. It's our duty to lift them up in prayer, so as St. Joseph did in his life, offering to God with patience and joy his daily labour.

"Workmen and all those laboring in conditions of poverty will have reasons to rejoice rather than grieve, since they have in common with the Holy Family daily preoccupations and cares." (Leo III)



**"Hard work spotlights the character of people. Some turn up their sleeves. Some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all." – Sam Ewing, Baseball Player**

# PDDM Participation and collaboration in the Parish activities of Bondel



The Zonal meeting with 31 families of the Basil ward was held at Prarthanalaya, Mangalore.

It was a time of Prayer and faith sharing along with the election of new Gurkar (Leader) of the ward for tenure of 5 years.



At the end of the meeting, a day of outing for the ward members was arranged on May 1<sup>st</sup> to Udupi, Brahmavar, and a visit to the Relax Leisure Park.

## Senior Citizens' Day celebrated in the parish

The 'Senior Citizens Day' was celebrated at St. Lawrence Church Bondel, along with the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2022 to bring awareness of the richness of the Senior Citizens in our Society. Vehicle arrangement was made to bring them to the Parish campus to celebrate this day. It was nice to see so many of seniors of the parish who were part of this celebration.

### Quotes from the programme

**'Ageing is just being with the delicious years of maturity'**

**'Seniors are very knowledgeable about life from their experience and they are always happy to pass on the knowledge to the young. They are very thoughtful, experienced and motivating force amidst us.'**

**'The homes for the aged are so filled up because there are people who have refused to take care of their aged parents or relatives. Be kind and thoughtful'.**





## A Historical Event of 238<sup>th</sup> Years Way of the Cross at St. Joseph's Church, Pezar, Mangalore



St Joseph church, Pezar is situated at a distance of 20 kms from Mangalore and is one of the most ancient churches in Mangalore diocese. It existed here even before 1670. The history of the parish for the period from 1800 to 1864, written in Portuguese language is available. The celebration of Passion of our Lord Jesus on Tuesday of the Holy

Week is a unique religious tradition, which started after the return of the captives from Srirangapattana, in remembering those people who laid down their life for the faith during the captivity under Tipu and celebrated with religious fervour.

On April 18, 2000, Stations of the Cross were erected and the Calvary Grotto was built.

April 12<sup>th</sup> 2022 was a memorable day for all the Catholics, as the historical event of 238<sup>th</sup> year of the Way of the Cross was held at St Joseph Church, Pezar, Kalavar, Mangalore.

The passion of Lord Jesus Christ was exhibited as a mark of tradition with true reverence. With a solemn Holy Eucharist celebrated by Dr Peter Paul Saldana, Bishop of Mangalore diocese, along with priests of the Diocese and the faithful, this event builds the faith of Community in the present situation.



- Mangalore Community

**“Working hard for something we don’t care about is called Stress;  
Working hard for something we love is called Passion.” – Simon Sinek,**

# A Special Birthday



Birthdays hold an immense spiritual significance. In fact, it is the best time to revive one's deeper aspirations for an Enlightened existence and make a promise to one's body, mind, and soul to move in that direction. It is that special day when the cosmos showered you with grace, giving you a human body, created in God's image so that you develop your faculties to the level where you can unite with the Divine. The Birthday is, "one of those days in the year when the supreme descends into us, one of those days when our soul is in contact with the Eternal and if we remain a little conscious, we can feel the ***Presence*** within us.

Particularly on Birthdays, we express gratitude to the Divine for giving us this wonderful opportunity to exist, grow and blossom. Get in touch with our innermost and sincerest aspirations and make a resolve to live our lives in the light of this aspiration. On this day, it is good to take time out to tell others how grateful and blessed one feels to have them in one's life.

The age sixty, represents a milestone for a person and is considered a turning point in one's life. 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday is known as Diamond Birthday and it is a SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE OF one's LIFE. The word diamond comes from the Greek word 'Adamas' which means unconquerable and enduring. Many also believe that the fire in the diamond symbolizes the constant flame of love. Truly, this is a good symbol for this significant day.

According to Erik Erikson a famous Psychologist, after 60 a person is moving from middle adulthood to maturity, from generativity to integrity, from the virtue of care to wisdom, from a sense of contributing to the society to reflect on one's life, from productivity and service to regeneration, from nurturing to a sense of fulfilment.



Celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday on a Holy Saturday when the whole world is still and silent because the King of the universe is asleep made me reflect that only in the process of death and in oblivion can a new life burst forth. Holy Saturday is a Day of pondering – pondering over all that has happened. A Day of waiting in silence for a resurrected life, a life that is not limited to time and space. Every Birthday beckons us to ignite the fire within and start afresh. Age is only a concept of the mind. So, live life to the full because "The Glory of God is, a person fully ALIVE" – St Irenaeus.

– Sr M. Regina Sebastian

**Thank you, dear sisters, from Mangalore community for your contribution to the May issue of Disciples India. For June issue the communities of Mysore Novitiate and Prashantha Nilaya are invited to contribute. The others are always welcome. ALL THE BEST DEAR SISTERS!**

*"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new." -Socrates, philosopher*

