

Pallotti Notes

Jul - Aug 2011

Vinpal Family of God moving towards a Society where Love & Concern within the Family & Neighborhood is a Way of Life

You don't choose your family.
They are God's gift to you,
as you are to them.
~ Desmond Tutu



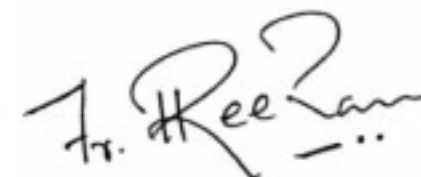
THE VINPAL FAMILY: A FAMILY OF LOVE AND CARE

Hi, nice to meet you all for the third year now. My good old friends, Frs. Claudy Vas and Caetano Crasto, have left our family and are well settled in their new place of ministry, Fr. Claudy as the Novice Master of the students and Fr. Caetano as the parish priest of St. Sebastian's Church, Tormas. The new members of our family, Fr. Charles Fernandes – the Parish Priest and Fr. Paulo Dias – the Asst. Parish Priest, are already acclimatized and well rooted into our Vinpal family, here at Vijaynagar – thanks to your wholehearted acceptance and co-operation.

This issue of our bulletin is dedicated to 'Family.' In the yesteryears we see families having a small room or two, many children, few worries, lots of joy and happiness. Some families were "villages" in themselves, where the spirit of togetherness was present very deeply. I remember my own family of ten persons. At night it was like a community sleeping together in the big room where all the activities took place in the day time - speaking, fighting, studying, eating etc. Today we have many rooms, a child or two, lots of worries and plenty of loneliness. Each one is in their own kingdom. There is a story told to describe this.....

A rich boy was once returning from his school. On the way he notices a small girl playing, full of life. Seeing that girl, the boy smiles at her, but there was no smile in response. Sadly, the boy walked towards his home. The next day, similar happenings, but the result was not the same. This time, the girl shyly smiled, just a little and the boy walked home, a little joyful. The following day, the boy's smile was returned in equal measure by the little girl. The boy's joy was complete and he went home humming some rhymes. The next day on, the new friends started to play together. This, hello and smile, grew into a stronger bond between them. One day the boy invited the little girl to his home. Accepting his invitation she went with him. She was flabbergasted at the sight of the rich interior and the beautiful and costly things which adorned his palatial house. They played together for a while. After sometime, the girl sprang up and ran home. The boy was wonder struck at her behavior. At their next meeting a few days later, the boy asked her why she had behaved so. The girl answered, "that is the time my dad comes home. After his arrival we say our prayers and eat our meals together....." The boy wondered if he would ever be lucky enough to experience the same in his home.

"The family that prays together, stays together" goes the saying. I feel one of the reasons for much brokenness in life is due to lack of prayer or inability to feel God's presence together as a family. This year the theme for parents' day is "PARENTS: OUR GOD'S IMAGE". We have to show the image of God where ever we go, the image of love, care and concern. This is the vision of our Vinpal family "Vinpal Family of God moving towards a Society, where love and concern within the family and neighbourhood is a way of life." Let us work together to make it a reality.



Fr. Reehan S. Antony
Editor

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The family that prays together, stays together

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ON THE PARISH MENU

YESTERDAY

Food eateries are a common place for the Mumbaikar. Every Eatery knows well, they can draw the hungry and satiate hunger only when something on the Menu card steams up the belly. But all dishes after a period of time need a change on the Menu card and new Servings take their place. Some are sad, the ones not open to change palette, some are happy as they love to experiment something new, still others don't care they just eat to Live, and a few Live to eat. **Changes!**

The month of May-June usually breeds a little distaste for me at the parish. Primary among the reasons: Transfers i.e. Changes. I've read this quote of Heraclitus more than a decade ago and have also used it myself, "The only permanent thing in life is **CHANGE**". And yet I don't seem to get comfortable and easy when these changes take place.

And this may be so because these are not mere technical changes but personal ones affecting one's diet.

This June saw two of our Priests **Change**. The parish priest **Fr. Claudy Vas** who spent four years in our midst as Shepherd and Pastor. I was in the company of some young people in the



computer room, and the trickle of people coming down the stairway was indication, the farewell program was over. One old grandma signaled me out of the room and as I neared her, received a kiss of my forehead. Then she said, "You're a very nice boy". In my heart I whispered, "How late is she in realizing this". Anyway, wearing a humble look I enquired why she said so. She replied, "During the farewell Fr. Claudy made a special mention of You, as not just a parishioner, but a Brother who is always around and available to him".

That warmed me all over again. It's not so much about me but the person of Fr. Claudy himself. The first quality that strikes about Fr. Claudy is that he cannot be impersonal and did not allow the office of being Parish Priest dim the warmth of his personality. He kept aside his title and was unassuming in mingling with people and made friends. He is a loving human being, which is why he was conscious of not being the reason to hurt through his words or deeds. In the line of so many parish priests who have come and served our parish, here was one who was compassionate and gentle at heart. He knew no other way. The way of confronting and challenging was not his forte. He simply believed his calling as a Priest was to reach out as much as possible. As Parish Priest he assumed charge of all his duties.

He paid special attention to the Parish Pastoral Council, the Catechetical ministry, the Senior citizens and the spiritual growth of the parish. Mention I must make of his fondness for traditional devotions which he encouraged whilst his tenure. So a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Vailankani, Blessed Alphonsa in Kerala or even the Stations of the Cross at Bhayandar were noteworthy during his stay. As a Leader he imbibed the true charism of the Congregation in giving lay people their due. He respected them and allowed a certain range of creativity and freedom and encouraged lay people to further their Faith Formation in the Diocese.

What stood out was his humility to seek help when required. He was also the Musical note of the priest community and loved the idea of singing Konkani songs, whether at parish functions, Aged

Home visits or gatherings of the religious. We had to tease him just a bit, and he would break into konkani songs and enjoyed keeping alive these old tunes. One quality that I loved in him was his sense of humour, absolutely a delight when it came to mischief and naughtiness or imitating. I guess something he did not dare in the public eye. But that was the greatest quality that tickled me about his presence. And two months gone by, I do miss the fun. But it's not just the fun and laughter, it's also being treated like a Brother. There are some relationships I find difficult to define. Thank you Fr. Claudy for helping me with this one. Will miss ya, BROTHER.

At the parish, we place on record your sacrifices, your service, your spiritual leadership and availability. As you move to greener pastures in Goa, we know life is not going to be Susegaad as you have an important role to play. As Novice Master to young seminarians, you have to help them discern their Calling. We pray God be with you.

Fr. Caetano Crasto

Here is a good example of a priest who believes in Obedience. In our day and times when we often hear of young priests defying authority, Fr. Caetano has always been receptive to the directions given by His Superiors. That was the start of his journey to Mumbai. He came here with some pastoral experiences, and Mumbai has surely given him a new edge.

I'd like to single him out as one of the simplest of the goan priests I've known. He comes from a simple and humble family which is reflected in his personal life and approach. And this is clearly reflected in the way he went about his ministry. Fr. Caetano came across as someone who is extremely pastoral in his approach. Not one to make loud claims, or even throw weight around he believes in reaching out through action. He is a keen observer and silently ensured things are done. As the Administrator of the house he was organized, quick to deliver and prompt in his style of functioning. At the parish he assumed charge of various groups such as Legion of Mary, Hope and Life Movement for widows, the Choir ministry, the Lectors, the Liturgy cell, the Prayer Group etc. He made his presence felt in these groups by his kindness and a spirit of being open to them. He could be always relied upon for going the extra mile when it came to some work. The poor whenever in need approached him and would never turn away with gloom. His caring ways have touched us and one did not expect him to have a Change. But it was not to be so and He was very happy to return to "Goa Amche". The grapevine gossip that he would be in Goa much before becoming official already had him on his toes and we found a Caetano who suddenly began to add pepper and spice to his personality. His jokes and uncanny sense of humour picked up a new flavor. Been a joy to have this young, simple priest Fr. Caetan in our midst. Little to wonder that he has been chosen as Parish Priest of a mission parish in Tormas, Goa. His sensitivity, caring, pastoral and spiritual approach will surely capture the hearts of the faithful in his care. We wish you the blessing of John Marie Vianney.



ON THE PARISH MENU

Today's special



Something New added to the Parish Menu Card.

Special dish: **Fr.Charles Fernandes.**

A capsule of wisdom, "Ships look beautiful at the Harbor, but then they weren't meant to be parked there". They're created for leaving safe harbors and launch into the deep, sailing to destination points.

Welcome on Board the new Captain of St.Vincent Pallotti Church, Fr.Charles Fernandes. The thought above seemed apt for me to scoop out in introducing him and mixing with those of hospitality metaphors. This

because, He seems a man ready for Charge, Care and Challenge. He is motivated about ministry and dares to step out into the deep with the conviction that God Leads.

Fr.Charles has always been handpicked for doing specialized apostolate. He has been part of the Pallottine administration, Formator, Parish priest in Mangalore and Novice Master in his last appointment.

At first glance he makes a very happy picture of himself because of his smiling presence. Known to the parish as the Preacher of the Holy Week, he left us with deep spiritual insights that we could chew on as a Christian community. And now he has been given the herculean task of animating our parish community. Fr.Charles has schooled himself in Spirituality and Counseling, a genre of formation so necessary in forming young men into the priesthood. This was his task as Novice Master which he did very ably and gracefully.

The word "Leader" begins with the word "Lead". Fr.Charles undoubtedly is here to lead and knows his bearings. He is clear sighted in his Vision of where he wants to lead the Community. He is pastoral, receptive, friendly, as also assertive and intends to provoke in us Spiritual awareness, maturity and responsibility. One look at Jesus presented to us in the Gospels and we know for sure these attributes were a part of his ministry. Fr.Charles is organized and Disciplined with a Purpose. He is very hard working, has an eye for details and is intuitive about things around which will help him understand the fabric of the parish. This then will become raw material, which like a Master Sculptor he will chisel, shape and polish. The Community that will evolve then will be a Creation worthy of the Creator. As parishioners let us share in this cumulative task of community building and welcome his Leadership. Savor the new Taste ! Enjoy. (Spiced at your own risk)

Fr.Paulo Dias.

The shoe of simplicity left behind by Fr.Caetano finds a pair of feet that can slip into easily. Fr.Paulo comes to our parish with the experience of a year in a parish in Goa. So the ABC of parish ministry is not totally new to him. His second year as a priest he spent handling the fishing rod to catch fish for ministry. He managed a fish or two and had great plans of throwing a net to fish out more, and then came the news of a transfer to Mumbai. So here he is in our midst ready to experience and minister to the new flock.



Fr.Paulo is young, shares a spirit of openness to give as also learn from others. He is a community person and makes great efforts in being helpful. He believes himself to be ordinary. But GOD in choosing him wants to draw out the extra ordinary. He believes in grassroots ministry and wishes to share the joys and pains of people's lives. My interactions have led me to understand him as a priest who wishes to bring the healing power of God's love in our broken world. The Priesthood is the channel through which he wishes to be available to people. One can sense in him the desire of wanting to introduce Christ, particularly to the young. While in Goa he was known to sit for long hours in the confessional. He wishes to stir Hope so that the gloom of life turns into glow. This I gauged from his reflection that the Cross is not just a Faith event but also a lived experience of us as humans. And like the Faith event which is marked with an empty tomb and the Miracle of the Resurrection, so too the light of the Resurrection can be experienced in our personal lives. He assists the parish as the new Administrator and is given charge of a few associations. His youthfulness and dedication to the ministry will be tested and I can say with certainty, be further refined in Christ. Welcome to the parish Fr. Paulo and we wish you an enriching ministry here.

Ivan Fernandes

THE PASTOR SPEAKS

Since childhood, vivid in our memory, is the delightful story, 'Alice in Wonderland'. A scene that flashes before my mind is, Alice who is lost, asking the Cat, "Where does this road lead?" And the Cat asks Alice, "But where do you want to go?" Alice replies "I don't know," to which the Cat replies, "Then it doesn't really matter, take any road."

I know for sure where the Community of St. Vincent Pallotti wants to go. The very next day of my arrival, my eyes fixed on the "Vision Mission Statement" of our parish **"Vinpai Family of God moving towards a Society, where love and concern within the family and neighbourhood is a way of life"** placed on the wall at the entrance of the church. The following day, which happened to be the 'Ascension Sunday', I was warmly welcomed into this family of God and the Lord assured me through the Gospel of the day **"Remember, I am with you always"** (Mt 28:20).

Having Goals and Vision Mission Statements are crucial in our corporate culture in Mumbai. Noted Management Scientists highlight the importance of having a Concrete Goal. For us as a Christian community the wealth of this wisdom, is already scripted in our Sacred Scriptures. This, what Human science calls modern leadership jargon, the Bible bears evidence right from the Old Testament days. Moses was called upon to lead a new Mission with a Vision. To lead the Israelites to the Promised Land. It did not matter that he thought, he stammered and could not lead. What mattered is, God had chosen this community and a leader with a Goal. God does not necessarily call the qualified, he rather qualifies those he Calls. This Vision and Mission theme is also part of Jesus' ministry. At his Baptism he outlines his Vision Mission Statement, where he says, "He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor..... to let the oppressed free" (Lk :18-19). Clear about his Vision he sets out to give Humanity a glimpse of the Divine. The wisdom of our God is reflected through the church down the centuries and even in our local church, through the emergence of our own Vision Mission Statement. Our parish too has made progress under the shepherding of committed Pastors and my job, along with the parish team, is to march ahead in this family spirit. In this short span of time since my arrival here and meeting with the Parish Pastoral Council, attending SCC meetings and interacting with various associations, it is clear we have a long way to go to make this vision mission statement a reality. To keep alive this Spirit, the Parish Team organized a training seminar for Parish Animators. We had the Parish Pastoral Council members, SCC animators, heads of Associations and Cells for this important reflection. Fr. Gerald Conrad Rodricks S.J. Parish Priest of Holy Family Church, Chakala animated the gathering and stirred us to renew our commitment to the church and community. This was a communitarian opportunity to think aloud, reflect, pray and concretize our efforts in the vivification of our community. What emerged is a Blue Print which helped us highlight certain priorities in our working. So, as a Parish we have embarked upon this practical path of underlining importance in strengthening SCCs by forming clusters, establishing neighbourhood youth groups and grooming more leaders by tapping talents and recognizing potential. I put these thoughts down to include the rest of you parishioners who have not been part of this Training Programme. The Vision is not the reserve task of a few, rather an initiative that invites every parishioner to strengthen our efforts. In the coming months, we will make renewed efforts to meet you, interact with you and seek your participation. Potholes are not just a part of Mumbai roads but also of life. Moses and Jesus too had life's share of difficult moments. But with God rallying in and around them, they led to the Promised land and Salvation. Treading this path, surely will throw out challenges and struggles for us. As your Shepherd I take joy in consoling you not through my human words but the words of Scripture itself, "If God is for us, who is against us?" (Rom 8:31) and thus experience also the presence of God. So join hands in growing together as family of God where love and concern **IS** a way of life"

May God bless you.

Fr. Charles Fernandes

PARENTS DAY

The church celebrates Parents' Day on 26th July every year. It is the feast of Sts. Joaquim and Anne, the parents of Mother Mary. It is a day to felicitate the people who play a very special role, all through our journey on this roller coaster ride, called Life – OUR PARENTS.

Parents are the unsung heroes of every person that has ever done anything great. Think about the people that you most admire in your life. Do you attribute any of their greatness to the people that raised them? Often, we do not even think about the fact that there were most likely two people who were most influential in making this person who he or she is. Namely, the parents.

If someone is great, remember, that greatness is not achieved in a vacuum. There were people who sowed the seeds of greatness.

Yet however, when an innocent little child is condemned for wrong-doing, the blame first shifts to the parents and their upbringing of the child. How easy it is for us to point a finger out at someone. It is only when one acquires the crown of being parents, that they realize their shortcomings.

Life did not come with a Handbook and so God in His infinite wisdom created parents. They care for us, nurture us and help us grow, in Mind, Body and Spirit. A Parent's Love is selfless and devoted. It does not use reasoning...It is only Love...

It is time also for us to do our little bit for our parents who selflessly toiled night and day for us, to make us what we are today. And so, I think it is only fair that we diligently follow the 4th Commandment - Honour thy Father and Mother. Quoting the Bible, "Give honour to your father and to your mother, so that your life may be long in the land which the Lord your God is giving you". (Exodus 20:12)

So here's a warm Thank you and God bless, to all you wonderful parents, for guiding and supporting us through all our walks of life, and for being there to love, cheer, comfort and bless us in all our tribulations.

Brinell Lobo

FOR ALL YOU MUMS AND DADS

You cheer us up when we are blue
And whisper in our ear, "I love you"
You teach us something new everyday
And help us find success in every way.

You attend to our needs
And buy us pencils and beads
You pray for us always, where ever we are,
Whether we are safe at home or in our car.

You would not let obstacles keep us down
And create a smile from our grumpy frown
You teach us to do whatever is right
And encourage us to keep our dreams in sight.

You wipe our tears away when we are sad
And calm us down when we get mad
Thank you mum and dad for all that you do
I don't know where I would be if it weren't for you.

Brinell Lobo

FAMILY - A GIFT

God has blessed each one of us with the gift of Family. But, like many, I too didn't understand the actual meaning of family and had always taken them for granted.

My circle of my family, are my parents and two elder sisters. I was treated special, as I was the youngest among all. I never thanked or showed gratitude to my parents for all the things they did for me all through my life. In fact, I always thought negatively about them because my father was the only earning member and so we couldn't get all that I wanted and I had to often burrow from neighbors to satisfy any / some of my needs.

Now as I look back at my past, I'm shameful of my thoughts and actions. Today, whatever I am, is because of all the support my family gave me unselfishly. I'm proud of my parents.

God placed parents to build a family and to give the required support & encouragement to continue an extended family. Now as I'm married and blessed with a baby girl, I understand the efforts and sacrifices put in by parents, to bring up children.

As I start my new beginning in building an extended family, I ask for God's grace and guidance to be able to bring up the family in the way He desires.

Baptist Fernandes

BONDED BY LOVE

What makes families special? Is it the fact that all members are related by either marital or blood ties? Or because they live together, share their ancestral name? Can one find a family that surpass these reasons? Of course they can.

Research in the human sciences show, that in order for families to be strong centers and to be considered a closely knit heaven, the sense of belonging among its members is a must. Besides this, sharing of the resources among its members is another feature that makes families special. Sometimes these feelings which connect us to our own family are also found away from home. We all find a special connection with people who we meet regularly not because we have to, but because we want to. One such group or formally titled association in our parish is the Catechist group. All of the 30 odd members are part of it for their basic motivation to impart the faith of the Catholic Church in young minds, more so the group has a perfect balance of youngsters and the experienced lot who share their dedication of keeping up with the time in their teaching methodology.

Now besides this primary motivator which forms the foundation on which the Catechist family stands, there are other reasons that makes me call the group a family. We share with one another our joys – celebrating our birthdays and anniversaries, the academic success or an appreciation at one's work place, our sorrows – death of a loved one, failure at performing a certain task, pain from an illness etc, the youngsters seek group members for guidance in their career choices, we spend holidays by playing a game or two, an annual overnight picnic gives us the opportunity of staying with the members through the day and night. The group plans its course of action for the year and redresses challenges that we face in our task. All said and done the most important feature that makes us a family is that we pray together and share our food – very much the signs of the first Christian Community, right?

Carol Sequeira

FAMILY – US & (NEIGHBOURS)?

The vision mission statement of our St. Vincent Pallotti parish can be imbibed to live as a family. It reads *“Vinpal family of God moving towards a society where love and concern within the family and neighborhood is a way of life.”*

The word family conjures up vivid images of doting parents, caring grandparents, quarrelling siblings, experiencing life together. Joint families, where joy was doubled and sorrow halved is a thing of the past, especially in urban India. Hence, living in small nuclear families it would be mutually beneficial if neighbours became part of our families. Love and concern within our close-knit family is our moral obligation, but the same needs to be extended to our so-called neighbourhood family.

But in this fast paced city life who is our ‘neighbour’, whom we are called to love and respect as family? Whether in the comfort zone we call home or in our larger home – our neighbourhood, Jesus taught us, through His example, the dignity of ‘family’ life by the brotherly love he excersized towards all in need. In Luke chapter 10, He explained plainly, through the story of the good Samaritan, the meaning of a good ‘neighbour.’ who showed love and concern to a stranger in need by the roadside. Like a statement I read somewhere, ‘A neighbour is someone who is nearby *wherever* you are.’

The recent Supreme Court ruling against mercy killing of Aruna Shanbaug is a great example of neighbourly love. Lying in a vegetative state after being raped in 1973 and having no relatives to tend to her, the staff at Mumbai’s KEM hospital appealed on her behalf as they were looking after her for the past 37 years and they continue to do so till date. We need not look for neighbours in comatose patients, but every nook and corner provides an opportunity to include a neighbour as family.

Sometimes the level of neighbourly need can seem overwhelming and doubtful if we can really make a difference. Issues like health, finances, unemployment, addictions, tragedies, etc. may require a professional approach. But, most often families struggle with the ‘small stuff’ – accompanying the lonely/aged to medical appointments, provision shopping, arranging to pay utility bills, teaching / baby-sitting children, etc. The needs are endless, but not something that good neighbourly love can’t take care of! However big or small the need be, it’s like throwing a pebble in a pond that creates a ripple effect. Very often, a prayer, a telephone call, a personal visit, a warm hug or just a smile is all that is required to create the ripple effect.

A certain amount of restraint though, needs to be maintained to sustain mutually beneficial relationships - A necessity to be gentle with each other’s vulnerabilities and careful not to gossip about our struggles or deliver self righteous judgement. And most importantly, humility to ask for forgiveness when we fail our neighbours and generosity to forgive them when they fail us.

Viola Saldanha



WHAT IS A FAMILY?

Families are who you Love. Our families all “look” different and it has always been so. A family care-giving unit might consist of a couple, a mother, father and children, a single parent and child, grandparents and grandchildren, a sibling group, a circle of friends, or however that family defines itself.



Families are the foundation of society. It’s where we come into the world, are nurtured and given the tools to go back out and face the world, capable and healthy. While families have the potential for raising healthy individuals, they can also wound their members in places that will never heal. When families break down and fail to provide the healthy nurturing we need, the effects impact not only our own lives, but also our communities.

In today’s competitive and busy world, no member in the family has time for each other. Couples are engrossed at work and have no time to share with each other after a hard day, not even with their children. This brings conflicts, disharmony and a division in the family and makes it difficult to cope with life and society. A happy family is created by spending time together and staying together. And to gain this happiness each should understand the other. There are lots of conflicts in the family and to resolve them, we’re needed to sit across a table and discuss the issues with an open mind. There are many broken families today but they portray the family picture as a happy and blissful one. It is said ‘Marriage is not a bed of roses’. This union is assailed with numerous problems which we have to forgo to lead happy family lives. And so to see your family happy and good, one should be understanding and clever to deal with anything that can become as an obstacle. Each member in the family, be it a parent, child, in-law, etc. has a role to play and when each actor plays his/her role to the best of their ability, they unitedly make a happy family. Having a commanding attitude can ruin the atmosphere at home and build mind blocks. So that’s why all in the family have to put aside their differences and understand each other. The concept of family is extremely important in the Bible, both in the physical and theological sense. This concept was introduced in the very beginning as we see in Genesis 1:28 “God blessed them and said to them ‘Be fruitful and increase in number, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.’” God’s plan for creation was for men and women to marry and have children. A man and women would form “one-flesh” union through marriage (Genesis 2:24) and they with their children become a family, the essential building block of human society.

So what does the Bible say about the family? The physical family is the most important building block to human society and as such it should be nurtured and protected. But more important than that is the new creation that God had made in Christ which is comprised of the spiritual family, the Church made up of all people who call upon the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. This is the family drawn from every nation, tribe, people and language (Revelation 7:9). The defining characteristic of this spiritual family is “Love one another as I have loved you.” “By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:34-35)

Veronica Fernandes



WITNESSING FAMILY VALUES IN TRUE PALLOTTINE CHARISM

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (Jn 20:21)

The apostles must have been terrified at being sent out on an unknown journey and to step onto unfamiliar territory. A week into June, and two, from our parish community shared the same sentiments as the apostles.

It was in the month of April, when Fr. Claudy, the ex-Parish Priest asked two catechists, Alphonso D’Souza and me to represent the parish at the **UAC Congress – a 5-day Symposium** on ‘**THE THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS & PASTORAL IMPLICATIONS OF PALLOTTINE CHARISM**’ to be held at Pallottine Theologate in Mysore from 24th-28th June’11. Theology???? Oh, no! really not our cup of tea! naah were our thoughts. Like Moses, I was reluctant and like Jeremiah, Alphonso felt he was too young, to be asked to attend this kind of a symposium. But like Jesus, all Fr. Claudy said was “Go”. And just as Moses was supported by a staff and Jeremiah, words, our undaunted support – Fr. Reehan and we, set out on 22nd June’11 on a journey to realize our (parish family’s) mission in the world through the vision of our patron and founder St. Vincent Pallotti.

Eminent personalities in the Pallottine fraternity – Bishop of Ireland & ex-Rector General Fr. Seamus Freeman, present and first Indian Rector General Fr. Jacob Nampudakam, Priests and Religious Sisters, emphasized the charism of Vincent Pallotti and his works in the UAC through a series of paper presentations and sessions at this International Symposium. The motto of our patron St. Vincent Pallotti “**LOVE of Christ urges us on...**” forms the basis for the UAC or (Union of Catholic Apostolate) as we know it. He founded the UAC on April 4, 1935 with the vision of being an apostle through faith and acts of mercy & charity, with the help of laity. He envisaged the UAC as a unit that shares **LOVE** as a **family** and extends this emotion in service to humanity.

His deep devotion to Mother Mary was instilled in him by his mother. For St. Vincent Pallotti, Mother Mary is an active presence. Her humanity – a link to us humans, as to the apostles. She was the first recipient of the Holy Spirit at the Annunciation. As a mother would, she stayed with the apostles in absence of Jesus and was present in the Upper Room (Cenacle) at the descent of the Holy Spirit. Empowered and guided by the Spirit, the apostles set out on their apostolate with the love and blessings of Mother Mary. She ruled over their hearts and was thus called the **Queen of Apostles**. St. Vincent Pallotti would always imagine himself present in the ‘Cenacle’ with Mother Mary and the apostles, receiving the Holy Spirit and being sent out on an apostolate. Quoting one of the speakers at the Symposium – “Since the scene of the ‘Cenacle’ was so deeply engraved in his mind,

it was only natural that he entrusted his newly founded Union to the care of Mary Queen of Apostles.”

Thus Pallotti moved out into the streets to recognize his apostolate with the laity –

- To the uneducated and underprivileged children and youth, through service of educating;
- To the military, through prayer and care for the physically sick soldiers;
- To the prisoners, through prayer, counseling and spiritual courses.

Vatican II endorsed the Pallottine ecclesiology of involvement of the laity in pastoral activities and so as parishioners of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish and ardent admirers of the saint and his works, we are in times of prayer, called to imagine ourselves in the ‘Cenacle’ with Mother Mary and the apostles, ready to accept the offering of power and gifts from the Spirit and setting out, energized to witness to the universal community with **LOVE**, in imitating Jesus by being ‘**salt of the earth; light of the world;**’ (Mt.5:13-16) **a little yeast that leavens the dough**’ (Gal.5:9) – **...so that the world may believe...** (Jn 17:21)

Our missionary zeal as Pallottines, is a call to join as members of this **family** Union founded by St. Vincent Pallotti and to extend to humanity at large, in our daily ministry, the charism of our patron, through revival of faith and rekindling of charity.

Our ultimate aim as missionaries in the Union of Catholic Apostolate (UAC) should be – **to live the PALLOTTINE FAMILY value of having a heart where God and neighbour co-reside.**

Jennifer Chavan

ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI CHURCH COMMUNITY FUND

Statement showing Contributions from and due to communities for the Fy 2010-2011

Sr. No	Name of the community	Contributions in 2010-2011	15% to Communities	Add Prev.Bal.	Total Due
1	Ave Maria	62,300	9,345		9,345
2	Bl. Mother Theresa	1,12,845	16,927		16,927
3	Don Bosco	48,905	7,336		7,336
4	Holy Family	53,380	8,007		8,007
5	Infant Jesus	44,215	6,632		6,632
6	Rose of Sharon	1,99,500	29,925	31,129	61,054
7	Sacred Heart	1,08,000	16,200		16,200
8	St. Michael	66,050	9,907		9,907
9	St. Lawrence	62,000	9,300		9,300
10	St. Peter	72,000	10,800		10,800
11	St. Theresa	73,266	10,990		10,990
12	St. Paul	45,289	6,793		6,793
13	St. Francis Xavier	26,150	3,923		3,923
14	St. Patrick	42,645	6,397		6,397
15	St. Jude	81,600	12,240		12,240
16	St. Anthony	92,300	13,845		13,845
17	St. Stephen	1,52,690	22,903		22,903
18	St. Bonaventure	1,18,700	17,805		17,805
19	St. Ignatius of Loyala	1,51,300	22,695		22,695
20	St. Joseph	1,32,700	19,905		19,905
21	St. Thomas	5,400	810		810
22	St. Mary	3,552	530	475	1,005
23	Poomery Nagar	200	30	2,835	2,865
24	Velankanni	4,072	611	688	1,299
		17,59,039	2,63,856	35,131	2,98,987

Yearly Planner

1.	Parent's day	Jul 31	Youth
2.	Vianney Sunday	Aug 7	Liturgy Group
3.	Independence day (Feast of Assumption Province, Bangalore Pallottines)	Aug 15	Civic & Political Cell
4.	Nativity Novena & Girl Child Day	Aug 30-Sept 8	Sunday School
5.	Teacher's day	Sept. 4	Youth
6.	Doctors' & Nurses' Day	Oct 16	S.V.P
7.	Mission Sunday	Oct 23	Parish Council
8.	Children's day	Nov 13	Catechists
9.	St. Cecilia's Day (Choir Day)	Nov 13	Choir
10.	Christ the King	Nov 20	Parish Team
11.	Christmas Bazaar	Dec 18	Communities
12.	Christmas Float	Dec 21/22	PYAT & Youth
13.	Parish Crib		St. Joseph, St. Antony & St. Jude
14.	Christmas	Dec 25	Parish Council
15.	Senior Citizen's day	Dec 26	Youth
16.	Christmas tree for Children	Dec 28	Associations
17.	Family day	Dec 30	C.F.C
18.	Parish Feast	Jan 22	Parish Council
19.	Day of Consecrated Life	Feb. 02	Religious Congregations
20.	Day for the sick	Feb 11	S.V.P & Eucharistic Ministers
21.	Bible week	Feb	Bible Cell
22.	Ash Wednesday	Feb 22	
23.	Women's day	Mar 08	Civic & Politics
24.	Sunday School Annual day	Mar 11	Sunday School
25.	Easter	Apr 8	Parish Pastoral Council
26.	House Blessings	Apr	
27.	Couples married for 10 years		C.F.C
28.	Rosary in the month of May	May	Legion of Mary



The Vinpal Diary



BORN IN CHRIST

24-4-2011	Anil Nayak	Room No.3, Jabarpada, M.Rd.
24-4-2011	Sharmeela Nayak	Room No.3, Jabarpada, M.Rd.
24-4-2011	Utkarsh Kadam	C-5/136 Police Camp
24-4-2011	Grace Aranha	301 Orchid Palace, M.Rd
24-4-2011	Chris D'Silva	A/2/802 Ashok Nagar, M.Rd
24-4-2011	Shaun Mendonca	203 Durga Apts., M.Rd
8-5-2011	Nathan D'Souza	C-1006 N.G. Complex, M.Rd
22-5-2011	Nathan Sequeira	16/1/10 Bhawani Nagar
22-5-2011	Vivian D'Souza	Khira Nagar, Santacruz (W)
22-5-2011	Aydin Maben	2/8/2 Bhawani Nagar
28-5-2011	Austin Chettiar	Poonam Nagar, Andheri (W)
25-6-2011	Godwin Goveas	B-304 Marol Hill View, M.Rd
10-7-2011	Tiarra Menezes	9/3/11 Bhawani Nagar
10-7-2011	Deanne Menezes	9/3/11 Bhawani Nagar
10-7-2011	Joanne Juni	Thane (W)

JOINED IN CHRIST

1-5-2011	Rohit Mendonca & Dimple D'mello
14-5-2011	Alfred Fernandes & Reshma Pereira
4-6-2011	Mohammed Ahmed & Michelle D'souza

REST IN CHRIST

20-4-2011	Rudolph D'souza	18/C-402 Bhawani Nagar
6-5-2011	Mary Gomes	LT 14/23 Vijaynagar
9-5-2011	Philomena Martis	B 1/1 Vijaynagar
17-5-2011	Anthony Fernandes	602-B Akruti Aneri
23-5-2011	Espy Merchant	J.P. Road, Andheri (W)
14-6-2011	Sr. Maria J. Chavanal	Srs. Adorers
16-6-2011	Mark Bocarro	6/5 Blossom Society
24-6-2011	Katleen Symss	LT 7/24 Vijaynagar
30-6-2011	Joe D'souza	8/1 Blossom Society
4-7-2011	George Lobo	G-212 Lok Darshan



SNAPSHOTS

Holy week was celebrated meaningfully.

- 30 April: V-jam for the youth was organized by PYAT.
- 1 May: Sacrament of Holy Eucharist was administered to 44 children.
the Holy Rosary was conducted at the grotto by Legion of Mary
- 8 May: Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 45 youth.
- 2-6 May: Summer Camp was conducted for the children
- 4 June: Farewell for Frs. Claudy and Caetano
- 5 June: Welcomed Frs. Charles and Paulo
- 5 June: Birthday of Fr. Charles
- 19 June: Induction of Fr. Charles Fernandes by Rt. Rev. Bp. Percival Fernandez
- 2 July: An evening with Jesus for the youth organized by PYAT
- 6 July: Birthday of Fr. Paulo
- 10 July: Training programme for PPC members, SSC animators, heads of associations and cells



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Parent's day | Jul 31 |
| 2. Vianney Sunday | Aug 7 |
| 3. Independence day | Aug 15 |
| 4. Nativity Novena & Girl Child Day | Aug 30 - Sept 8 |
| 5. Teacher's day | Sept 4 |