

SHRINE OF THE INFANT JESUS

Vol I Issue 1

July 2021



IJ matters



IJ MATTERS really does.

For all who've hither come
And home returned more blessed by grace
So deep received and felt
By hand of him who rules the world
And all that is therein
Who graces deeply every heart
Who senses every prayer
Petitions that are made in faith
That coming back to seek his blessing.
He answers caring ways
What best there is for pilgrim seek
Perhaps new differently.

Return they will with faith again
And testimonial claim
The faith they had responded to
They bless his holy name

IJ MATTERS really does
And every pilgrim knows
That coming all the way to him
Makes life and spirit glow
That coming back to seek his bless
Makes spirit living grow.



- Fr. Terry Quadros S.J.

A brief Word about IJ Matters

The title for our monthly Newsletter was chosen by Fr. Terence Quadros SJ. It has two meanings. One is The IJ (The Infant Jesus) does matter to each one of us. Jesus (as Infant or Adult) remains our inspiration. He is Saviour as his name suggests and the one we try to imitate. Another meaning of IJ Matters is that in this Newsletter we will inform you about what 'happens' at the Infant Jesus Shrine. However, since the Infant Jesus Shrine is part of the Nashik Diocese and of the Society of Jesus, and the Society of Jesus is a Society in the world, we will also write about what is happening in the Diocese, the Society and the world.

Happy reading. Your feedback is valuable and always welcome.

Kindly write to us at ijshrinenashik@gmail.com

Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ



CONTENTS

- 01 IJ Matters really does.
Fr. Terry Quadros S.J.
- 02 A brief Word about IJ Matters
Fr. Errol Fernandes S.J.
- 04 The Community at the Shrine of the Infant Jesus
- 06 A Cannonball struck and the world was transformed
Fr. Errol Fernandes S.J.
- 10 Cannonball Grace
Fr. Terry Quadros S.J.
- 11 Personal Experience
Fr. Bosco D'souza S.J.
- 12 A Report on the Staff Orientation
Esther Bansode
- 14 तोफेचा गोळा लागला आणि जग बदलून गेले
फादर एरोल फर्नांडिस एस.जे.
- 17 घरटं
ऑगस्टीन डीमेलो एस.जे.
- 19 "Just as you did it to one of the least"
Fr. Errol Fernandes S.J.
- 20 Song of the Infant Jesus
Fr. Terry Quadros S.J.
- 21 Scripture Nuggets



The **JESUIT** Community at the Shrine of the Infant Jesus

Fr. Anthony (Tony) Jurschik SJ has completed 64 years in the Society of Jesus and 50 years as a priest. He is Assistant Chaplain and has been in the Shrine of the Infant Jesus for the last three years. He came to the Shrine with a wealth of experience in both social and pastoral works. Fr. Tony had been Parish Priest in many Parishes before coming to the Shrine. At the Shrine he is available to celebrate Mass and to those who come to him. He has numerous friends and benefactors from all over the world. He has a phenomenal memory and remembers names, birthdays, anniversaries and makes it a point to call his friends on their birthdays to assure them of his prayers.

Fr. Dionysius (Dion) Lobo has completed 60 years in the Society of Jesus and 46 as a priest. This is Fr. Dion's third innings at the Shrine. He was here earlier as Vice-Principal. Now he is the Manager of the Pre-Primary, Primary, ICSE and State Board Schools of St. Xavier's. He is also Assistant Chaplain at the Shrine. He has been here for seven years on the trot. Fr. Dion has been a focused educationist for most of his Jesuit life. However, even when in Schools (as Principal and later as Manager) he was

also pastorally involved in Talasari and in Manickpur (Vasai). His vast experience in education and administration ensures that the school is run with precision and love.

Fr. Bosco D'souza has completed 49 years in the Society of Jesus and 39 years as a priest. This is Fr. Bosco's first posting outside Mumbai. He began his priestly ministry at Seva Niketan (formerly Sodality House) at Mumbai where he was involved in the promotion of Christian Life Communities (C.L.C.). During his work in this promotion, he was involved in giving Retreats, recollections and sessions of different types connected with group building. He then moved to the Parish ministry. He has been Parish Priest at St. Peter's Parish, Bandra and more recently at St. Ignatius of Loyola, Parish Ambadi Road. Besides Fr. Bosco has also been at Holy Family Parish, Andheri and St. Anne's Parish, Mazagaon. He has the unique distinction of being in all three Parishes run by the Jesuits in the city of Mumbai and also in one of the two parishes in Vasai. He has vast experience in Pastoral work and has put himself into his appointment as Assistant Chaplain at the Shrine, with enthusiasm.

Fr. Terence (Terry/TQ) has completed 58 years in the Society of Jesus and 45 years as a priest. He is Assistant Chaplain and has been at the Shrine for the last three years. Fr. Terry comes to the Shrine with a wealth of experience in counselling. He has been Professor of Psychology at St. Xavier's College for many years and counsellor. Even when he stopped teaching his counselling work continued. Thousands of students of St. Xavier's College will vouch for Fr. Terry's unique style of counselling. He has the ability to call a spade a spade and make a spade feel good about itself.

Fr. Augustine D'mello has completed 28 years in the Society of Jesus, 17 years as a priest. For most of his years after ordination, Fr. Augustine has worked in the Districts of Maharashtra, namely in Shirpur and Manor. He has just been transferred to the Shrine of the Infant Jesus, having spent the last two years as Assistant Parish Priest at Holy Cross Church, Nashik. He is Assistant Chaplain and the Minister of the Community at the

Shrine. As Minister his role is to look after the physical needs of the members of the community. However, he goes above and beyond the call of duty which prompted a member of the community to regard him as the mother of the community and not merely the minister. Fr. Augustine is a man of numerous talents and uses all of them to reach out to the poorest of the poor.

Fr. Errol Fernandes has completed 38 years in the Society of Jesus and 27 years as a priest. For most of his Jesuit life, Fr. Errol was teaching in the Commerce Section of St. Xavier's College which Fr. Aleu and he began in 1988. Fr. Errol was also drawn to Pastoral work and thus even as he taught at the College, he would reside in a Parish. Accordingly he has spent many years at Holy Family and St. Peter's Parishes in Mumbai. This is Fr. Errol's first appointment outside Mumbai. Here, he is the Chaplain of the Shrine and has a fantastic team of Jesuits to ensure that the people who come to adore the Infant Jesus are served well.



Fr. Bosco | Fr. Dion | Fr. Terry | Fr. Errol | Fr. Augustine | Fr. Tony



Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ

Chaplain, The Shrine of Infant Jesus

A Cannonball struck and the world was transformed

It was the year 1521. The Battle of Pamplona was on. Spain had conquered part of Navarre which rebelled with backing from France. Those from Navarre captured Pamplona which was the capital of Navarre, by defeating the Spanish troops. The defeated garrison included Ignatius of Loyola. On May 20, 1521, a cannonball struck and severely wounded one of Ignatius' legs and shattered the other. This led to a forced lockdown for Ignatius.

His initial reaction to this lockdown was agitation. He was not one who would be expected to lie in bed even if he was sick. He was a man on a mission. He wanted to be up and about. He wanted to win battles for his king and the heart of his lady-love. How could he pass the time of the day being quiet and still? He had to be doing things. He knew that the shattered leg would take time to heal and even if he wanted it, the process could not be hastened. He had to be in bed. He could

pass the day by reading of the exploits of brave knights, and tried to see if such material was available. However, he could only find the exploits of the Son of God, Jesus and those who were inspired by him. Reading and reflecting on these books led to a transformation. His life was turned upside down. He learned first to be still and quiet. He learned to look both inside and outside of himself. His desire for constant activity was replaced with a calm and serenity of being. In sum these were the changes in Ignatius the soldier for king, who became Ignatius the servant of the Lord.

1. **Doing to Being**: Ignatius measured his self-worth by his accomplishments. The more he did and achieved the more he thought he was. However, his reflection on Jesus the man and his mission made him realise that it was the being that mattered more than the doing and that if his being were good, all that he did would also be good.

This was confirmed for Ignatius when he read that Peter one of the closest of Jesus' disciples described Jesus in these words to Cornelius and his household “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him (Acts 10:38). It was enough for Ignatius to move the focus from his acts to his heart and inner being. This also led to an introspection on a regular basis where he kept checking the motivation of his actions. To do this, Ignatius developed what is known today as the “Examination of Consciousness”. In this spiritual Exercise, one checks one's motivation for every action and with God's grace one makes amendments on a daily basis in one's life. There are times when we focus too much on the external action and not enough on the inner disposition. To be sure, many of our external actions may seem to be altruistic and selfless, however, only when we go into the deepest recesses of our beings will we know if this is true. The “Consciousness Examen” as the Examination of Consciousness is sometimes called is a great help in this endeavour.

2. Self-obsession to self-denying: Ignatius was obsessed with his physical appearance and wanted to look good at all times. This was evident after the intimal treatment to his leg. He began to walk

with limp after the first intervention by the doctors. For Ignatius this would surely not do. He forced the doctors to break the leg and fix it again only so that he could walk straight and tall. However, even after doing so, he still limped. The leg was broken again and reset, but this too did not work as Ignatius hoped. It was then that Ignatius realised that his physical appearance was not as important as his spiritual being. The inner journey to his heart helped him to write the Spiritual Exercises as a sharing of his own experiences and also as an aid to anyone who was desirous of seeking and finding God's will in their lives.

In our world which gives so much of importance to clothes and the outward appearance this experience of Ignatius invites us to the contrary. Doing the Spiritual Exercises will help one to realise that all the externals are temporary and passing and that only God is absolute and eternal. This is why it is prudent and practical to focus on the permanent and steadfast God rather than on that which is gone in the blink of an eye. It is better to focus on that which lasts, than on that which withers away.

3. Worldly glory to God's Glory: As a soldier, Ignatius was extremely brave and was willing to lay down his life for country and king. This did not change with his transformation. He continued to be willing to lay down his life.

However, now, the king was not merely an earthly king, but the eternal king: God. If as a soldier of the earthly he sought both his own glory and the glory of the king, now, his sole focus was the glory of God. It was not merely the glory of God that Ignatius sought, he sought the greater glory of God which became the moot of the Society of Jesus as summarised in the acronym A.M.D.G (Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam – The Greater Glory of God. The reason why Ignatius chose the comparative rather than the superlative degree was because there would be no room for complacency. One could strive for the greater than the greatest, one could be more than the most, one do better than one's best. In this type of worldview, the good became better, the better became better still and the better still became still better.

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better became better still and the better still became still better. There was no accepting the status quo. It was a constant search for the better, the more, the higher, the braver and the greater.

4. **Aggressiveness to assertiveness:**

Ignatius did not change so drastically so as to change his basic orientation. It was the direction of his zeal and enthusiasm that changed. His aggression and desire to win at all costs and in every circumstance was transformed into an assertiveness to transform the lives of others and indeed set the whole world on fire with the reality of God's love. His belligerence was transformed into firmness. This was seen tangibly when he pursued Francis Xavier at the University of Paris and won him over with the words from scripture, “For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life?” (Mt 16:26).

Ignatius used the leadership qualities he had been gifted with as a soldier, to guide and direct the Society of Jesus that he founded along with his companions.

5. **Vanity to humility:** Not even the closest of Ignatius' friends would deny that he was vain. He was obsessed with his physical appearance and would spend a long time with external grooming. This changed during the time he spent with God. Now vanity was replaced by humility.

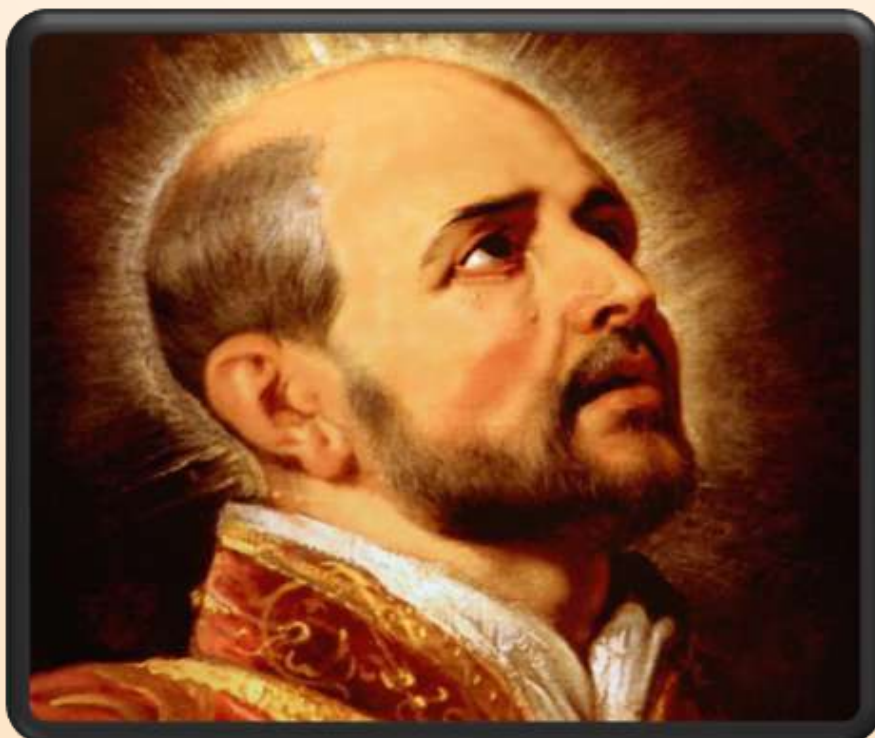
One event which speaks volumes of his humility was his desire not to name the Society he founded after himself but after the one on whom he set his gaze all through the rest of his life: Jesus. This is why the Society was named “Societas Iesu” (Society of Jesus).

The lockdown that Ignatius was forced to go through could have resulted in his becoming morose, depressed, disheartened and could have led to his giving up on life. Instead, because of his positive response, it resulted in a transformation of his being. Ignatius the soldier who wanted to win laurels for his king and the heart of his lady love, now would seek only the greater glory of God and the good of all men and women.

By the time of Ignatius' death on July 31, 1556, the Society of Jesus was operating

a network of 74 colleges on three continents. Besides this, the Jesuits were involved in a variety of social, pastoral and intellectual activities in various parts of the world. Already during his lifetime, Ignatius could see that the Society of Jesus had indeed transformed the world. Through its members, it had set the world on fire with God's unconditional love.

Like Ignatius in his day, we too are going through a lockdown that none of us wants but all of us have to undergo. We can allow it to affect us negatively and give in to depression and dejection because of it, or we look at it as an opportunity to look outside of ourselves and let it lead to a transformation of our lives and through us of the lives of others.



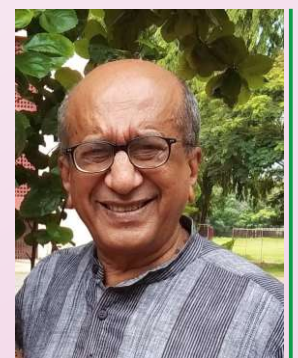
CANNONBALL GRACE

*With war intent French cannon ball
Swift hurtling flew through space
Pamplona fort it sought to fall
But strange, an unknown grace
Redirected it, instead of stone
Struck soldier on his knee
And touched by God a fallen man
Transformed his destiny*

*Ignatius brave and arrogant
A noble high acclaimed
Glory bound to earthly chant
Of riches, honour, fame
Lay smitten, fallen low, by God
In anguish sorry plight
He little knew that fall would lead
To elevation heights.*

*In bed he lay confused, distraught
He wondered why this fate
When catalysing books were brought
Quite quiet quick checkmate
His life, ambitions, goals now till
renewed by God's own hand
Swirled around a soldier still
But hence to divine plan.*

*New army now God's very own
Inspired group he'd find
And lead to make God's glory known
To all of humankind
Companions of the Lord to spread
God's sacred word to all
Fresh beginning world transformed
By one graced cannon ball.*



Fr. Terry Quadros SJ

Personal Experience



Fr. Bosco D'souza SJ

Asst. Chaplain The Shrine of Infant Jesus

It was the 12th of July 2021. Heavy rains in the early hours of the morning made me worried about my departure from St. Ignatius Parish, Vasai. I had planned to leave at 7.00 am by road with my personal belongings. I prayed for the rains to stop, so that I may have a safe and pleasant journey to Nashik where I was appointed to join the Jesuit community at the Shrine of the Infant Jesus. At exactly 6.30 am the rains stopped and the Jesuit community at Vasai helped to load my luggage into the vehicle and wished me a safe journey. We left at 7.00 am and had sunshine all the way to Nashik. The Infant Jesus was there to help us safe all through the journey. We reached the Shrine at 12 noon.

On reaching the Shrine, I was given a warm welcome by Frs. Errol, Terence, Augustine, Tony and Dion who form the Community of Jesuits here at the Shrine. It did not take me long to become one with the other Jesuits of this community. In fact after 3 days itself, Fr. Terence said 'Bosco, it looks like you have been with us for over a month already'. I must say that I am happy to be part of this community of Jesuits who are caring, lively and jovial. We enjoy each other's company as "Friends in the Lord".

May the Infant Jesus bless us and the thousands of devotees who flock to this Shrine all through the year.





A Report on the Staff Orientation held on 11-06-21

Esther Bansode

Supervisor, St. Xavier's High School Nashik

An orientation for the staff of St. Xavier's School, Nashik Road was held on the 11th of June 2021, in the school library. It was conducted by Fr. Errol Fernandes S.J, the Chaplain of the Shrine. The program began with a short prayer. Fr Errol began the session with a lot of enthusiasm and vigour.

Father Errol threw light on the Jesuit ideals, giving examples of two of the greatest Jesuit leaders, St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Francis Xavier. He gave a brief description of the characteristics of a Jesuit community and said that Jesuits were known as 'The School Masters of Europe.' He also elicited the meaning of the word 'Jesuit' – 'to be like Jesus', which still remains the prime objective of the community. Further into the session, Father focused on the four ethos of the Jesuits, which are as follows:

- 1) The 'MAGIS' and 'Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam' (AMDG) meaning 'For the Greater Glory of God'. It means that one must be ever searching for newer things and never be content with the status quo. When we strive to achieve something, we get something more to achieve which results in the good becoming better-better becoming still better -still better becoming better still. The process goes on.
- 2) Trusteeship/Temporariness which means believing in impermanence. We must live each moment as if it were our last. The talents and things that we use do not belong to us. They are given to us by God.
- 3) To find Good and God in all things.
- 4) To be and create men and women for others.



Father also highlighted 'The Practical Lessons for Life' and urged the staff to follow these lessons in their professional lives. The lessons highlighted four important steps:

- 1) **Scatter** the seeds (prepare the lesson before hand)
- 2) **Sleep** (do a lot of hard work during the day so that you get a good night's sleep)
- 3) **Rise** (rise early to give your best during the day)
- 4) **Grow** (the seed grows and we get the output of our efforts)

In the second session, Father Errol introduced the staff to 'The Principles and Foundation' of the Jesuit community. He said that as human beings it is imperative for each one of us to follow some rules set on the principles

and foundation of the society.

They are as follows:

- 1) Live each moment to the fullest.
- 2) Praise God (through the way we live our lives)
- 3) Reverence (to find God in all things)
- 4) Serve God (always working with the right attitude)
- 5) Indifference (by not allowing things to possess us and to believe that all that I am and possess has been given to me on trust)

The Orientation was an eye opener for all as it gave time to introspect and a lot to take away from. The Orientation ended, leaving the staff enthusiastic and in high spirits.



तोफेचा गोळा लागला आणि जग बदलून गेले

ते वर्ष होते १५२१ चे. पॅम्प्लोनाची लढाई सुरु होती. फ्रान्सच्या पाठिंब्याने बंडखोर झालेल्या नवारेचा काही भाग स्पेनने जिंकला होता. नवारे येथील लोकांनी स्पॅनिश सैन्यांचा पराभव करून नवारेची राजधानी असलेल्या पॅम्प्लोना ताब्यात घेतली. पराभूत झालेल्या सैन्यांत लोयोलोचे इग्नेशियस यांचा देखिल समावेश होता. २० मे १५२१ रोजी झालेल्या तोफेच्या मारात इग्नेशियस यांच्या एका पायाला मोठी दुखापत झाली. त्यामुळे त्यांच्यावर सक्तिने आराम करणे भाग पडले.

या सक्तिच्या आरामाची त्यांची सुरुवातीची प्रतिक्रिया म्हणजे अस्वस्थता. ते आजारी होते पण त्यांना अंथरूणावर पडून राहणे मान्य नव्हते. आणि म्हणूनच त्यांना लवकरात लवकर ह्या दुखण्यातून उठण्याची व बरी होण्याची इच्छा होती. त्यांना त्यांच्या राजासाठी युद्ध आणि आपल्या प्रियसीचे हृदय जिंकायचे होते. असे नुसतेच शांत आणि स्वस्थ बसून दिवस कसे काढणार? काहीतरी केलेच पाहिजे. त्यांना हे माहित होते की तुटलेला पाय बरा होण्यासाठी बराच कालावधी लागणार आहे. त्याची इच्छा असूनही ही प्रक्रिया लवकर होणे शक्य नव्हते. त्यांना अंथरूणावर पडून राहणे भाग होते. वेळ

जाण्यासाठी मग त्यांनी शूरवीर राजांच्या शौर्यांचे वाचन करण्याची पुस्तके मागितली ती पुस्तके उपलब्ध नसल्याने मग त्यांना येशुचे चरित्र हे पुस्तक देण्यात आले. त्या मधून त्यांना देवाच्या पुत्राचा, येशूचा आणि त्याच्याद्वारे प्रेरित झालेल्यांचा शोध लागला. या पुस्तकांचे वाचन आणि चिंतन केल्यामुळे त्यांच्या मध्ये परिवर्तन घडले. ह्यामुळे त्यांच्या आयुष्यत अंतर बाह्य परिवर्तन घडले. सर्वात प्रथम ते शांत राहण्यास शिकले, ह्या मुळे ते स्वतःच्या आत व बाहेर बघायला शिकले. त्यांची सतत क्रिया करण्याची इच्छा शांत आणि निर्मळपणा मध्ये बदलली.

सारांश - जो इग्नेशियस राजाचा सैनिक होता, तो आता देवाचा सेवक झाला होता.

१) करण्यातून असण्यापर्यंत - इग्नेशियस यांची पुष्टी झाली जेव्हा त्यांनी हे वाचले की येशूच्या जवळच्या शिष्यांपैकी पिटरने कॉर्नेलियसला सांगितले की, “देवाने नाझरेथच्या येशूला पवित्र आत्म्याने व सामर्थ्याने कसे अभिषेक केले, त्यांना चांगले व बरे कसे केले या विषयी वर्णन आहे. त्या लोकांना येशूने बरे केले कारण देव त्याच्याबरोबर होता (प्रेषितांची कृत्ये 10:38).

इग्नेशियसने त्याच्या कृत्यांमधून त्यांचे हृदय आणि अंतर्मनाकडे लक्ष केंद्रित करणे पुरेसे होते. यामुळे नियमितपणे अंतर्मुखता निर्माण झाली जिथे तो त्याच्या कृतीची प्रेरणा तपासत राहिला. हे करण्यासाठी, इग्नेशियसने आज "चैतन्याची परीक्षा" म्हणून ओळखले जाणारे तंत्र विकसित केले. या अध्यात्मिक साधने मध्ये, प्रत्येक जण आपली कृती तपासुन पाहतो आणि देवाच्या कृपेने दररोज एक बदल केले जातात.

२) स्वःताचा गौरव न करता, स्वःताला नाकारणे - इग्नेशियस नेहमीच चांगले दिसू इच्छित होते. त्यांच्या पायावर गंभीर उपचारानंतर हे स्पष्ट झाले. डॉक्टरांच्या पहिल्या उपचारा नंतर ते लंगडत चालू लागले होते पण इग्नेशियस यांना ते मान्य नक्कीच नव्हते, त्यांनी डॉक्टरांना पाय तोडण्यासाठी भाग पाडले आणि असे काही करावे की ज्यामुळे तो पाय सरळ आणि उंच होऊ शकेल, परंतु असे झाले नाही, ते लंगडतच होते आणि पुन्हा त्यांचा पाय तुटला. पण इग्नेशियस यांना आता समजले हाते की त्यांचे शारीरिक स्वरूप त्यांच्या अध्यात्मिक अस्तित्वाइतके महत्वाचे नाही. त्याच्या अंतःकरणाच्या अध्यात्मि अभ्यासाचे लेखन करण्यास त्याचे स्वतःचे अनुभव इतरांना वाटून देणे आणि इतरांना मदत करणे ज्यांना त्यांच्या इच्छेनुसार देवाची इच्छा शोधण्याची इच्छा

होती त्यांना इग्नेशियसने मदत केली.

आपल्या जगात जे कपड्यांना आणि बाह्य स्वरूपाला महत्त्व देत होते त्यांना इग्नेशियस अध्यात्मिक साधना केल्यामुळे सर्व बाह्य तात्पुरते आणि जीर्ण आहे आणि फक्त देव परिपूर्ण आणि शाश्वत आहे हे समजण्यास मदत करत. म्हणूनच कायम आणि स्थिर देवावर लक्ष केंद्रित करणे सुज्ञ आणि व्यवहारिक आहे.

३) जागतिक गौरव आणि देवाचा गौरव - इग्नेशियस एक सर्वोत्तम आणि शुर सैनिक होते, आपल्या देशासाठी आणि राजासाठी आपला जीव देण्यास तयार होता. हे त्यांच्यात बदल झाल्यानंतरही ते ठाम होता, ते आपला जीव गमावण्यास तयार होते. तथापि, राजा आता केवळ पृथ्वीवरील राजा नव्हता, तर शाश्वत राजा होता, आता त्याचे एकमात्र लक्ष देवाचा गौरव करणे होते.

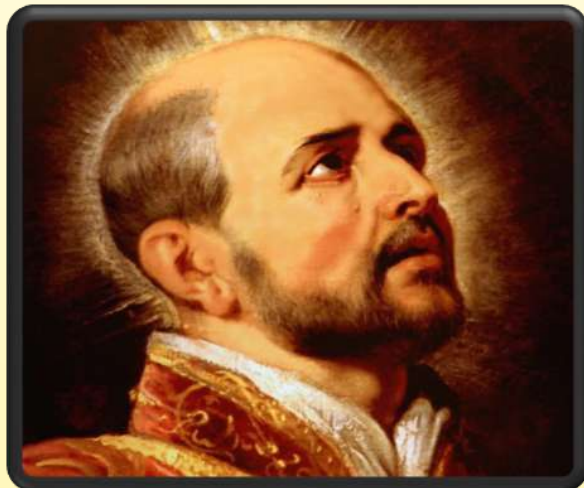
केवळ भगवंताचे वैभवच नव्हे तर त्याने देवाचे अधिक मोठेपण शोधले जे सोसायटी ऑफ जिझस चे मुख्य आकर्षण बनले. एएमडीजी (अँड मैओरेम देई ग्लोरियम - प्रभुच्या उच्चतम गौरवासाठी) इग्नेशियस यांनी निवडले आहे. याचे संक्षिप्त वर्णन म्हणून इग्नेशियसने केवळ देवाचे गौरव मिळविण्याचा प्रयत्न केला नाही तर त्याने देवाचे मोठेपण शोधले जे येशू मध्ये आहे.

जेव्हा त्यांनी पॅरिस युनिव्हर्सिटीमध्ये फ्रान्सिस झेविअरचा पाठपुरावा केला आणि पवित्र शास्त्राच्या पुढील शब्दांनी त्याला जिंकले “जर माणसाने सर्व जग मिळविले व आपला आत्मा गमावला तर त्याला काय त्याचा काय लाभ?” (मॅट 16:26). इग्नेशियसने सैनिक म्हणून मिळालेल्या नेत्याच्या गुणवत्तेचा वापर करून त्याने आपल्या सोबतीबरोबर स्थापना केलेल्या 'सोसायटी ऑफ जिझस' या संस्थेचे मार्गदर्शन व दिग्दर्शन केले.

इग्नेशियसच्या सक्तिच्या जायबंदी होण्याचा परिणाम त्याला निराश बनवू शकत होता आणि त्याच्या जीवनातून तो मोकळा होऊ शकत होता पण त्याऐवजी त्याच्या सकारात्मक विचारांचा परिणाम असा झाला कि जो इग्नेशियस एक सैनिक होता ज्याला आपल्या राजासाठी राज्य आणि आपल्या प्रियसीचे हृदय जिंकायचे होते, तो आता फक्त देवांचा गौरव व सर्व मानवांचे भले व्हावे याचाच विचार करू लागला.

इग्नेशियसच्या मृत्युच्या म्हणजेच ३१ जुलै १५५६ वेळी सोसायटी ऑफ जिझसचे तीन खंडांत ७४ महाविद्यालयांचे नेटवर्क कार्यरत होते. या व्यतिरिक्त जेझुइट्स जगातिल विविध भागात विविध सामाजिक, बौद्धिक कार्य करत होते. इग्नेशियस त्यांच्या हयातीत हे पाहू शकले की सोसायटी ऑफ जिझस ने खरोखर जग बदलले आहे, देवाच्या सदस्यांद्वारे त्यांनी जगाला देवाच्या निस्वार्थी प्रेमाची ज्योत दुरवर पोहचवली आहे.

ज्या प्रमाणे इग्नेशियस हे एके काळी जायबंदी झाले होते त्याच प्रमाणे आपणही आज जायबंदी झालेलो आहोत. आणि आपल्या कोणालाही ते नको आहे परंतु आपला नाईलाज आहे आपल्या सर्वांनाच हे भोगावे लागत आहे. हयाचा आपल्यावर नकारात्मक प्रभाव पडू शकतो आणि त्यामुळे नैराश्य येऊ शकते, परंतु आपण या कडे एक संधी म्हणून पाहूया. आणि आपल्या व इतरांच्या जीवनात परिवर्तन घडवून आणूया.





ऑगस्टीन डीमेलो एस.जे.

घरटं

एक वार पाठीवरुनी फिरव तुझा हात
शेवटचे घरटे माझे तुझ्या अंगणात

आमच्या रूमच्या खाली अंगणात काही
शोभिवंत झाडांच्या कुंड्या आहेत. त्यामध्ये
एक कुंडी जास्वंतीच्या रोपाची आहे. ते रोप
फारफार तर माझ्या कंबरेपर्यंत असेल. ते
इवलसं रोपटं ऊन, वारा, पाऊस ह्यामध्ये
तग धरून आहे. त्यावर एका पक्षिणीने सुंदर
पानांची गुंफन करून घरटं बांधलेलं आहे.
त्यामध्ये चार तपकिरी रंगाची छोटीशी अंडी
घातली. झाड छोटं असल्याने ते वाऱ्यावर
डोलते, तसे ते घरटंही छान झोके घेते.

मी आणि फादर टेरी जेव्हा जेव्हा
आम्ही घराबाहेर पडतो तेव्हा आमची नजर
कळत नकळत त्या घरट्याकडे पडते. ती
अंडी सुरक्षित आहेत ना?, त्या घरट्याला
इजा होणार नाही ना, कोणी तिथे फिरकणार
नाही ना हयासाठी आम्ही त्या घरट्याची
पुरेपुर काळजी घेतो. आम्ही त्या
जास्वंदीच्या कुंडी पुढे आणखी काही कुंड्या
रचल्या जेणेकरून तिथपर्यंत कोणी
फिरकणार नाही आणि ते घरटं सुरक्षित
राहिल.

खारुताई, मांजर, उंदीर, डोमकावळे
हयांना तर आम्ही हाकलवून लावतो
अश्याप्रकारे आम्ही त्या घरट्याची तंतोतंत
काळजी घेतो. आमची दारे हळूच बंद करतो
जेणेकरून पक्षिण अंडी उबवण्यासाठी बसली
असेल तेव्हा तिला त्रास होणार नाही.
आणखी माझं निरीक्षण जेव्हा ती अंडी
उबवण्यासाठी तासान् तास् बसे तेव्हा नर
पक्षी तीला किडे भरवत असे. तिला शक्ती
यावी, उर्जा मिळावी. नुकताच फादर डे
झाला होता, मनात म्हटलं हा पक्षी त्याचा
फादर डे तंतोतंत पाळत आहे. त्यानंतर
जेव्हा पिल्ले घरट्यांत होती तेव्हा दोघेही
आळीपाळीने पिल्लांना खादय भरवत होते.
त्यांची घरट्यातील विष्ठा बाहेर नेऊन टाकत
होते घरटं सुंदर आणि स्वच्छ ठेवत होते.
जणुकाही करोनाच्या काळात स्वच्छतेचा
धडाच ते आम्हाला देत होते. तसेच सोशल
डिस्टन्सींग म्हणुन पिल्लांना इकडुन
तिकडुन ढोसळुन सोशल डिस्टन्सींग मेन्टन
करण्यास शिकवत होते. ते झाडांमध्ये
बागडत असतांना जणु काही तोंडावर पानांचा
मास्क घातला आहे असे भासत होते.
कितीतरी गोष्टी आपण त्या चिमुकल्या
पक्ष्यापासुन शिकु शकतो.

हे सर्वकाही परमेश्वर घडवुन आणतो कारण तोच कर्ता आणि करविता आहे.

एकदा डोबंकावळा आमच्या अंगणाच्या समोर कडुनिंबाच्या झाडावर बसला होता. काव काव करत होता. तिला वाटलं माझ्या घरट्याला ह्याच्यापासुन धोका आहे, ह्याचे डावपेच पक्के आहेत. तेव्हा त्या पक्षिणिने अशी काही शोपटी फुलवत माझ्या बालकनीत नाच केला आणि उलट सुलट कोलांटया उडया मारल्या, जणु काही ती मला सांगत होती तु ह्या डोबंकावळ्याला हाकलवुन लाव. ही सर्व गंमत मी न्याहळत होतो. माझी नजर डोबंकावळ्यावर होती. तिने सुधा त्या डोबंकावळ्याला हाकलवून लावण्याचा पुष्कळ प्रयत्न केला, त्याच्या मागे पुढे आजुबाजुला चिवचिवाट केला परंतु तो ऐकायला तयार नव्हता. तेवढयात ती पक्षिण जोरदार जाऊन त्याच्या छाताडावर धडकली आणि तो डोबंकावळा उडुन गेला. केव्हाही हिम्मत त्या छोट्याशा पक्षिणीची. कालांतराने अंडयामधुन

चार लुसलुशीत पिल्ले बाहेर आली. इकडुन तिकडे बागडु लागली आणि शेवटी मोठया झाडावर उडुन गेली.

पण जेव्हा जेव्हा पक्षिण अंडी उबवण्यासाठी घरट्यावर बसत होती तेव्हा तिच्या चेहऱ्यावर एक वेगळाच भाव दिसत असे. तिची नजर आकाशाकडे आणि शोपटी आईस्क्रीमच्या काडीसारखी सरळ उभी असायची.

जणुकाही ती आम्हाला संदेश देते की कोणत्याही परिस्थितीमध्ये आपली नजर त्या देवाकडे असली पाहीजे आणि आपली शोपटी नेहमी वर पाहीजे, म्हणजेच आपण जिवनामध्ये निराश न होता प्रभुमध्ये सदा सर्वदा आनंद केला पाहीजे. जी संकटे आहेत ती प्रभुला अर्पण करून त्याच्यावरच आपण पुर्णपणे विसंबुन राहीलो पाहिजे. जर तो पाखरांची काळजी घेतो तर आपलीसुद्धा काळजी नक्कीच घेईल.



“Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Mt 25:40)

The Jesuit community at the Shrine of the Infant Jesus, Nashik have reached out to the poor in Nashik city. The Jesuits from our community visited many slums in the city and saw first-hand the abysmal conditions of those living there. We then requested those whom we thought were most in need to come to the Shrine and pick up the dry rations that we had kept ready. These dry rations were ordered not from MNCs like Amazon, D Mart, Big Bazaar and the like, but from small provision stores in Nashik itself. The rates of the items that we bought at these stores, were less than what the MNC's were charging. In doing this we achieved our triple aim. The first was that we were able to provide around 110 families (thus far) with dry provisions that would last each of them for fifteen days at a time, the second was that we were able to provide the small provision stores with business and the third was that we were able to use prudently and carefully the funds that so many generous donors

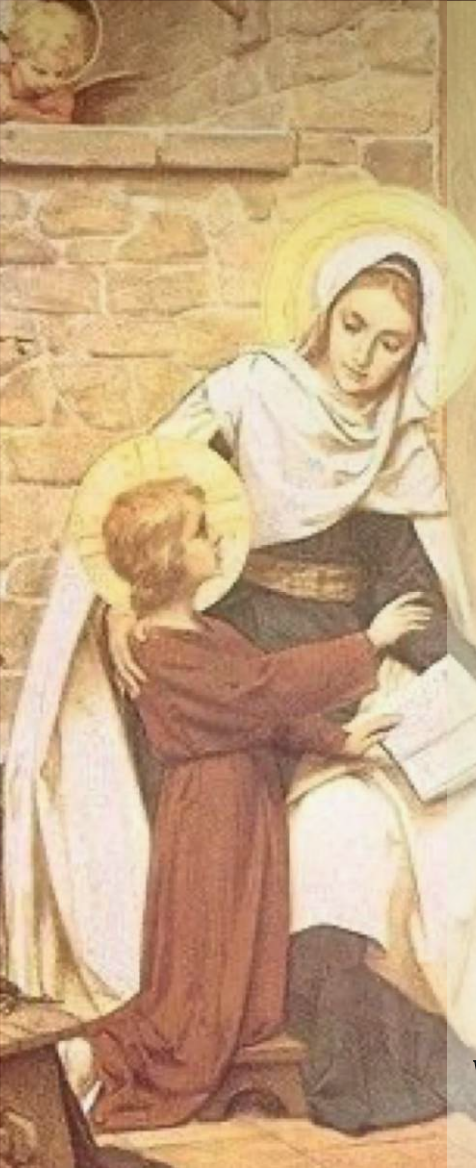
had given so freely. Had we decided to purchase what was needed from the MNC's we would spent much more than we did.

We thank you our generous donors who have been so large-hearted and magnanimous and have given so very much. It is because of your generosity that we are able to do what we do, namely reaching out as often as we can to the poorest of the poor. Please remember that many poor families will go to bed with a meal because of you.

We know that our God is a God who cares for the poor. These are closest to God's heart. It is we who have been blessed with more than we need who are God's messengers to them when we reach out in a tangible manner to reveal God's unconditional love. Thank you once again. May God keep blessing you and may the Infant Jesus open your hearts to his unconditional love.

- Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ





Song of the Infant Jesus

In wisdom and in grace you grew up like a child
In a human dwelling place you lived there meek and mild
Your glory wrapped in shadow no one else around could see
That this infant that all loved to be with
Came from God to set us free

Now we celebrate with joy dear infant Jesus, as a boy
You grew up just the way that we all do
In that home in Nazareth, you were Son of God and yet
You were son of Mary, son to Joseph too.
help us Jesus grow up just like you.

With your blessings help us sail through seas of joy and strife
God is Father let us know his way his truth his life
Walk with us along life's journey through the smooth and through the rough
For the challenges that come to us
your strength will be enough

Bless our efforts, in our weakness help us rise with you again
May we dance with you in happy times, pray with you in pain
Let your spirit with its presence keep us ever near to you
Transforming us to better lives
in all we say and do.

- Lyrics, Tune and Sung by Fr. Terry Quadros SJ



CLICK HERE FOR AUDIO

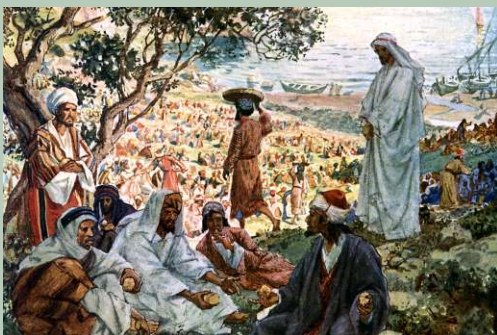
SCRIPTURE NUGGETS DID YOU KNOW?

1. In both the narratives in Acts which mention Saul's falling to the ground (Acts 9:4; 22:7) there is no mention that he fell from an animal and certainly no mention of a horse.



2. When Joseph took Mary and the child to Egypt by night, the animal is not mentioned (Mt 2:14)

3. The tree in the middle of the garden is not mentioned as apple tree (Gen 3:3)

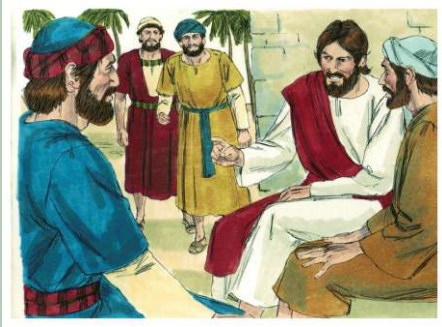


4. The feeding of the 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish in which twelve baskets are gathered is the only miracle that is found in all the four Gospels.

5. The Infancy Narratives are found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.



SCRIPTURE NUGGETS DID YOU KNOW?



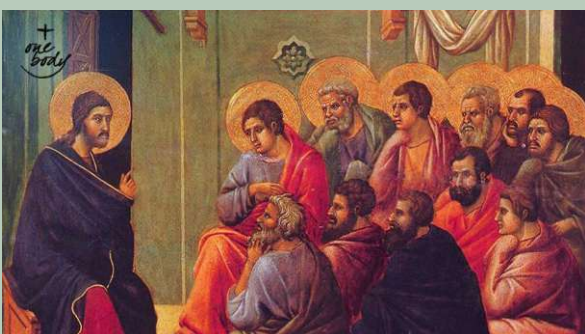
6. Chapter 13 of the Gospel of Matthew has seven parables.

7. Chapters 8-9 of Matthew has ten miracles in series of three miracles with a concluding miracle

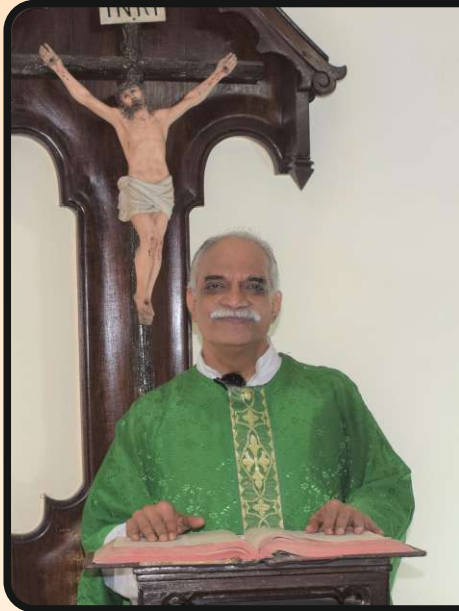


8. The Parable of the Good Samaritan is found only in the Gospel of Luke.

9. The Gospel of John contains Seven Miracles which are referred to as signs.

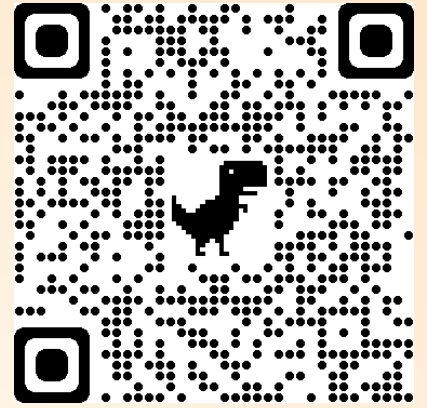


10. The Gospel of Luke has two Mission Discourses. The first is to the twelve and the second to the seventy-two.



Daily Reflection

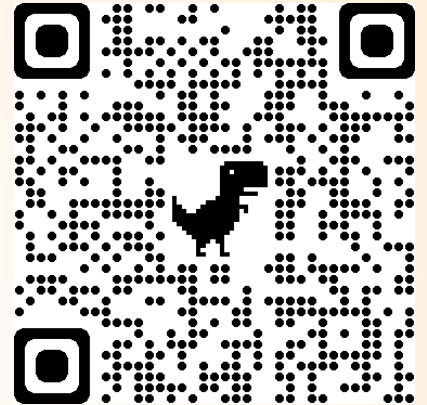
I have a youtube channel and I post reflections on it every day. You can reach my channel by scanning the QR Code or Tapping on the QR Code. Do subscribe to My channel. **Subscription is Free**



-Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ



The Shrine of the Infant Jesus, Nashik also has a youtube channel. On this channel the 12 noon Mass is live online everyday. You can reach this channel by Scanning the QR Code or Tapping on the QR Code. Do subscribe to this channel. **Subscription is Free**



LAUNCHED TODAY



Also being launched today by a group of students of St. Xavier's College, a website on Fr. Terry's collection .

The link is as follows
click to open:

<http://www.terry-times.com>

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation

Since the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) has decided to follow Level 3 norms in Nashik City based on the guidelines issued by the state disaster management relief and rehabilitation department and has extended curbs till FURTHER NOTICE and recommends strongly that crowds should not gather at a particular place, we will not have live Masses till the restrictions are lifted and the Government gives us instructions on how to proceed.

Accordingly, the gate of the Shrine will be closed from 11.30 am – 12.30 pm daily. You are welcome to the Shrine for a personal visit from 6 am till 9 pm daily (except for the timings above).

The online Mass at 12 noon will be celebrated without a congregation. You can participate in it online. We request your co-operation.

God bless you and your families and may The Infant Jesus continue to bless us all. Mary will keep interceding like she always does.

Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ
Chaplain, The Shrine of the Infant Jesus,
Nashik Road
July 2021

We thank you for your generous donations and contribution to the Shrine. The money that you donate is used for the poor and the upkeep of the Shrine. If you wish to donate, you may do so by UPI (Unified Payments Interface) or by NEFT, the details of which are given below.

Bank Transfer Details:
Bank: HDFC Bank
Account Name: The Shrine Of The Infant Jesus
Ac/No: 04561450000155
IFSC: HDFC0000456

Infant Jesus Shrine, Nashik
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BHIM UPI