

# IJ MATTERS



Nashik India: Volume II Issue 14 – December 2023

## CONTENTS

SR NO	TOPIC	PAGES	AUTHOR
I	SHRINE HAPPENINGS	3-7	ERROL
II	CHRISTMAS CONTEXT	8	GODFREY
III	ADVENT TIMES	9-11	TERRY
IV	CHRISTMAS 07 – DAZZLE BEYOND	12-13	TERRY
V	HUMAN RIGHTS DAY	14	GODFREY
VI	CHRISTMAS 2023	15-16	ERROL
VII	नाताळ दिन विशेष !!आज दिवस हा भाग्याचा !!	17-22	मीना बनसोडे.
VIII	SCRIPTURE NUGGETS	23	ERROL
IX	RETREAT FOR THE LAITY IN JANUARY 2024	24	ERROL

## **SHRINE HAPPENINGS IN NOVEMBER 2023**

December brings with it new hope. In the month of December, we celebrate some extraordinary feasts and events. It begins with the feast of St. Francis Xavier (December 3), the Immaculate Conception (December 8) and culminates in the birth of Jesus (December 25). This year, all four Sundays of Advent are within the month of December (December 3, 10, 17 and 24). Immediately after Christmas, we celebrate the feasts of St. Stephen (December 26), St. John the Evangelist (December 27) and the Holy Innocents (December 28). The feast of the Holy family is celebrated on the first Sunday after Christmas, which this year will be on the last date of the year December 31, 2023

At the Shrine of the Infant Jesus, the Jesuit community were busy with many things.

Fr. Errol was in Atma Darshan, Andheri, Mumbai giving a Retreat to 15 Pilar Fathers who had come from different parts of India. He concluded the Retreat on December 2, 2023.

Though the feast of Francis Xavier was on Sunday, Fr. Errol suggested to the Principals of the Primary and Secondary Schools that we celebrate on that date itself. Accordingly, we had the celebration of the Eucharist at 8 am for the school children and teachers. At 9 am, we met in the School quadrangle, where the students put up an excellent programme. After the Introduction, there was a short skit, a group song (there was a choir of over 50 children) and a group dance. After the programme the teachers and Jesuits gathered for brunch in the Sydney Feuz Hall.



On December 4, 2023, Jesuits from the Nashik cluster (which included Jesuits from Holy Cross Parish, MPSM, Ambatha and Manmad) gathered at the Shrine to have a meeting on our way of proceeding. The meeting was from 5.30-7.30. Our discussion was focussed on the following seven points (I) Examen of where we are at this moment (II) The situation in the Church and the world (III) Our identity - "Sinners yet called to be companions of Jesus" (IV) The necessary tensions between Being and Doing and other tensions (V) Becoming collaborators (VI) Governance for better Mission and (VII) To love and serve in all things. The Nashik Bishop Rt. Rev. Lourdes Daniel who is a great devotee of the Infant Jesus and a good friend of the Jesuits joined us for supper.

On December 5, 2023, Fr. Errol went to Divyavani, Shrirampur in Nagar District to give a talk to the Pune Jesuits on the theme of Advent and preparing for Christmas. The talk was divided into three parts as follows: Before the birth of the Saviour (the Disponibility of God); the birth of LOVE in our

world (the necessity of human response for the incarnation to be come real) and after the birth (typified by the search of the Magi for the child king).

Fr. Errol was the main celebrant for the Mass of the Immaculate Conception at Dev Mata Sadan Convent at 6 pm on December 8, 2023. In his homily, he spoke of three qualities of Mary. These were: her openness which itself was a gift from the Lord. It was this openness which allowed her to hear what the angel was saying. Her response was not that she would cooperate with God but that she would let God work in her. She was actively passive or passively active to God's word.

On December 9, 2023, the School had their annual Funfair which is an event where the teachers serve the students snacks and conduct a variety of fun games for them. They began at 9 am and went on till 1 pm. The students had a rip-roaring time. The teachers did a great job and they were seen in quite a different light by their students.

Fr. Augustine had gone to Aurangabad to participate in a table-tennis tournament. He was a semi-finalist in the group event and was given a cup in recognition of this feat.

On December 11, 2023, we had the first meeting with the volunteers who help out during the feast of the Infant Jesus to plan for this event. In 2024, the Novenas will be from February 1-9, 2024, the feast day on February 10, 2024 and the Sunday after the feast on February 11, 2024. The volunteers at the Shrine are a class apart. They do what they do with no expectation whatsoever. Their devotion to and love for the Infant Jesus is so great that they will leave no stone unturned to ensure that all arrangements are done to perfection.

On December 12, 2023 some of the Jesuit community went to Mother Theresa's home at Adgaon where we sponsored lunch for 84 inmates, the sisters and their helpers. This was sponsored by devotees of the Shrine who wanted to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their wedding.



On December 14, 2023, a tempo arrived from Mumbai with warm clothes, toys and household articles given by “Touch One Life” Trust, Mumbai. These were distributed to the need on the streets and in the slums. Some of our employees also took some clothes and toys for their children.

The ICSE had their Sports day on December 16, 2023 and it was extremely well conducted. The children were at their participative best. In all events one could witness the striving for the Magis, the more.

On December 18, 2023 we had our Christmas party for differently abled children from a School named Kiran Smurti Vikas Mandir which is situated about a kilometer from the Shrine of the Infant Jesus (Mukti Dham). We served them snacks and later lunch and distributed toys which they will use in their school.





Our intention was to entertain the children by having games and spot prizes. However, it was they who entertained us with their singing and dancing. They put up the parable of the Good Samaritan and enacted the Christmas story. It was poignant to see them perform. The Bishop of Nashik was present from the beginning of the programme till the end and even had lunch with the children and teachers.

This event captured the interest of the Press and a short article appeared in the Marathi Newspaper titled Gavkari

दैनिक गांवकरी गोकुळ लोखंडे

## दिव्यांग बालकांनी घेतला नाताळचा आनंद

**देवळाली कॅम्प : प्रतिनिधी**  
 सेंट झेवियर स्कूल, नाशिक रोड येथील बाळ येशू चर्च येथे विकास मंदिर शाळा नाशिकरोड येथील दिव्यांग मुलांना नाताळच्या निमित्ताने खास आमंत्रित करण्यात आले होते.

याप्रसंगी बिशप लॉरडेस डॅनियल यांनी कार्यक्रमात सहभागी होऊन मुलांचा उत्साह वाढवला. दिव्यांग बालकांनी सुंदर अशी वशभूषा परिधान करून नाताळनिमित्ताने प्रभू येशूचा जन्माचा देखावा उभा केला.

बायबलमधील खरा शेजारी कोण? ही कथा मूकबधिर मुलांनी साभिनय सादर केली.

विद्यार्थ्यांना भेटवस्तू प्रदान करण्यात आल्या. त्यांच्यासोबत सहभोजनाचा आस्वाद घेतला. या कार्यक्रमासाठी फादर एरोल फर्नांडिस व फादर ऑगस्टीन यांनी विशेष परिश्रम घेतले. याप्रसंगी फादर डीमेलो, फादर टेरी विल्यम मोझेस, फादर विनय, फादर बाँस्को डिसूझा आदी मान्यवर उपस्थित होते. संस्थेच्या सचिव सुहासिनी घोडके यांनी आभार मानले.

A group of 96 Play School children from Raj Bihari International School came to visit the Shrine at 12 pm. We gave them snacks and Fr. Errol took them to the Shrine where he addressed them for a few minutes after the 12 noon Mass. They left soon after.



We take this opportunity to thank you for your generous patronage and generosity. It is largely because of it that we can do the work we do and reach out to the poor.

We know that you will have a Blessed Christmas and a Hope Filled New Year 2024. The Christ child born in our world will be born also in your hearts.

May God be with you and your families; may the Infant Jesus bless you all and may Joseph and Mary always intercede.

Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ

Chaplain

Shrine of the Infant Jesus,

Nashik 422101

December 2023.

## CHRISTMAS CONTEXT

I've not heard angels singing  
To urge a festive mood  
Some crisis will be winging  
And who can help but brood

Peace trembles frail and fleeting  
Dissent has shrinking space  
Democracy's retreating  
Brute power wins the race

But when I hear the story  
Of times when Jesus came  
It was as bleak and gory  
That age and ours feels same

His birth began a mission  
To stand for truth and love  
He shared his lifelong vision  
That seemed from worlds above

With him there's joy fulfilling  
With him there's more to life  
To everyone that's willing  
There's strength to face the strife

These thoughts may find you cheery  
Or pensive for the times  
Christmas is no reverie  
To stall at humming rhymes

Godfrey SJ  
Christmas 2023



## **Advent times**

We are in the middle of the advent season. Waiting in hope, preparing ourselves and getting ready

Commercially the city lights up otherwise ways in multi coloured splendour... windows all dazzled up with Santa show-stoppers and stuffed mannequin reindeers frolicking the presence of a jingle-bells world. Decorated Christmas trees, lights, gifts, more gifts and invitations to dances and celebration times.

The markets sing the most popular carols with an implied chorus resonating :

"buy....buy....buy some more....

all your money for gifts galore !"

Meanwhile, in historic distances, quite unheeded by the world, a young carpenter and his pregnant wife sombrely ride their way to Bethlehem and all that awaits them there....

The journey is long and arduous. The conditions and whereabouts of their stay uncertain ..

In all of this is the Father's plan that has been heard and heeded.

Things will fall into place as He designs. Of this there can be no doubt.

The carpenter and his wife journey on.....

Meanwhile dawn lights gently break their way over an awakening horizon....



photo: terryQ

God's Word announced  
new breaking dawn

genesis fresh writ  
Adam re-conceived

and morning comes  
and evening too

prophetic hand scribes  
another First Day!

on waiting shores  
rough fishermen

ready boats and nets  
for miracle catch....

he comes he comes  
new rising sun

night mantle shrugged  
day dazzle revealed...

terryQ

Our own life journey has that element of uncertainty too.

"Two roads diverged in a wood...

And I took the one....."

Which one ? Less travelled by... more travelled by.....

Of course either one will have made a difference ... but what kind of a difference?

Which road should I take... and where will it lead me to....?

If I hear the Father's word and heed it then I do not have to worry about the road I have to take.

If I heed the Father's word I am taken to the road .....and the road takes me to the Father...

It cannot but be the right road....

And as I travel on it my heart's desire makes the road even more right....

The journeying continues... and in few days we too will have arrived at Bethlehem .

One journey will end.

A new one will begin.....

There is so much to look forward to....

Continued blessings to you as you prepare yourself for the Christmas happening !

Terry Q



photo/collage: terryQ.

beyond the dark beams dazzle quiet  
as silhouette surrenders slow  
afar in distanced haze is seen  
an iridescent glory glow

foreground shadows mark space and time  
of gifted light long lost and grace  
abandoned as usurping hands

greed clawing grab at guttered waste

"'tis wealth!" they claim as wars are waged

injustice heaped and lords enslaved

to bondaged hate devouring man

unbalanced deep by sin engraved

all now is lost, all lost and yet

catastrophe stayed still by plan

divine redemption will be wrought

by Son of God in form of man

so gentle heaven's child new born

his peace gift brings to turbulence

and in the hush of Christmas morn

is re-created - innocence!

terryqQ

Human Rights Day Godfrey D'lima SJ

We cannot win against this might  
Of states and army's of the night  
Who kill our rights and chain our minds  
Whose rule our very freedom binds  
We live in these Orwellian days  
As if no God can change our ways  
No wakening wisdom no insight  
No reasoned search to find the light  
They name it terror to protest  
They lay all dissidence to rest  
And trample with ill gotten wealth  
What they have not amassed by stealth  
Yet all the menace of their fists  
Can't kill a spirit that resists  
The human heart will find its way  
To reach the crest of dawning day  
With strong resolve to love despite  
The hellish forces of the night  
The price was paid we may recall  
Down history by both great and small  
On crosses cruel many hung  
And suffered much through lives unsung  
They sign to us that all's not lost  
No future's born without the cost

## Christmas 2023

In most cultures in the world, the birth of a child is a cause for great rejoicing and celebration. How much more profound and joyful must this celebration be if the child, born in our midst, is the Son of God?

Christmas is the birth, not merely of a child, but the birth of the child who would change the destiny of humans forever. It is the celebration of the unconditional love of a gracious and generous God who holds nothing back but gives of his very self. It is the celebration of the fact that God wanted so much to be part of the human race that he took on flesh and blood, and thus, became limited so that he could reveal to us our own limitlessness.

Though God had been constantly conversing with humanity from the beginning of creation, through prophets and kings, through blessings and punishments, these did not seem to have had the desired effect. Humanity, as a whole, moved further and further away from God. Thus, in the fullness of time, God decided that the way to draw people back to himself would be if he became one like them, in every aspect of their being. This was so that he could feel with our feelings, think with our thoughts and, in doing so, show us who we are meant to be.

At the beginning of his Gospel, the evangelist John speaks about the “logos” (the word) becoming “sarx” (flesh) and dwelling among us. This means that the abstract, the indecipherable, the incomprehensible, and the inconceivable, through one decisive act, become concrete, decipherable, comprehensible, and conceivable. The impossible has become possible.



The possibilities that the birth of Jesus have opened up are innumerable. No longer is humanity a disadvantage or a limitation. No longer is humanity something to be looked down upon or to be ashamed of. No longer is humanity weakness. After the birth of Jesus, humanity takes on a new look and a new meaning. Now, there are no limits. Now, humanity need not be confined. Now, there are no restrictions on how far we can go. Jesus has shown the way.

However, even as this is true, there is another, and sad, side to the story. The prologue explains it by stating that “the darkness tried to overcome the light”, and “he came unto his own, but his own

received him not". Surprising, astounding, and startling as this may sound, it was true of the time when Jesus came. It continues to be true even today. Darkness constantly tries to overcome light.

Why would darkness try to overcome the light? Why would his own not receive him? The answer to these questions can be found in the person of Jesus and all for which he stands. First, when he came, he did not come as many were expecting, in pomp, in splendour, and in glory. He did not come, as many would have wanted, mounted on a horse. He did not choose to be born in a palace, as kings usually are. He came in humility, in nothingness, and in total helplessness. He came in the form of a child. This kind of a God seemed, and still seems, an aberration to some and they cannot, they will not, accept him. Second, in a world where authority is interpreted as domination and where rulers expect to be served and not to serve, Jesus' approach of interpreting authority as service, and his desire to serve and not be served, was regarded as an anomaly. Third, when all logic seems to point to the fact that it is better to have more and accumulate as much as one can for oneself rather than share with others, the life of Jesus, a life spent for the well being of others, was an abnormality. In other words, when Jesus came, he did not fit the pre-conceived and stereotyped notions that people had. He was different, and difference, because it may not be understood, is often rejected.

Yet, despite this rejection of the Word, there is a note of hope and promise. There continue to be people who will choose light over darkness, who will choose selflessness over selfishness. There will continue to be people who will fight for justice and will never give up this cause. There will continue to be people who will generously give, not only of their wealth, but also, of themselves, in imitation of the one who became human and gave all. Those who opt for the light can continue to do so because their openness to the Incarnate Word and all that he stands for makes them open to receive grace upon grace from him. This abundance of grace continues to sustain them through the most trying times. It gives them the courage never to give up or to give in, but to continue and carry on.

By taking on our humanity, Jesus has shown us that we can be divine. He has shown us how far we can go, even in our humanity. We can love more, we can dare more, we can believe more, and we can be more. Nothing is now outside the scope of our humanity which, after the birth of Jesus, is no longer a limitation but an advantage. The oracle of Isaiah, composed towards the end of the exile, and which announces the return of the exiles to Jerusalem, finds its fulfilment in the birth of Jesus. Captivity and limitation have come to an end. Now, only freedom and limitlessness are real.

Thus, Christmas is not merely the celebration of a historical birth that took place over two thousand years ago. It is about becoming conscious of who we really are as human beings. It is the celebration of life in all its fullness. It is the celebration of the transformation of limit to limitlessness, of selfishness to selflessness, of bondage to freedom, and of fear to unconditional love.

Those who dare to accept the light and walk in its ways begin to realize that God, himself, walks with them and ahead of them. They know that God does not stay distant from them, remote and isolated. Rather, they know that, in Jesus, God chose to live with humanity in the midst of human weakness, confusion, and pain. This bond holds true for all times and all places. To become flesh is to know joy, pain, suffering, and loss. It is to love, to grieve, and someday, to die. The incarnation binds Jesus to the "everydayness" of human experience. The Word lived among us, not simply in the world. The Word became flesh and the Word's name is Jesus Christ. This Jesus continues to be born in our midst, even today. When selflessness triumphs over selfishness, when generosity triumphs over greed, and when light overcomes darkness, then is Jesus born, again, and again, and every day is Christmas.

Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ

December 2023



नाताळ दिन विशेष !!  
आज दिवस हा भाग्याचा !!  
....मीना बनसोडे.

"आजचा दिवस हा मानव मानवेतर अशा सर्व सृष्टीसाठी भाग्याचा दिवस आहे.  
ह्याच दिनी बाळ येशू जन्मा  
आले आहे"  
प्रभू येशूचा जन्म हा अतिशय सुंदर अशा वातावरणात  
लुकलुकणाऱ्या चांदण्यात  
आणि मनमोहक अशा  
नैसर्गिक वृक्षवल्ली  
आणि प्राणी मात्राच्या  
सानिध्यात झाला आहे.

डिसेंबर महिना म्हटलं की  
थंडी गारव्याचा महिना  
नवलाईने नटलेला निसर्ग.  
उबदार पांघरुणाचा महिना.  
डिसेंबर महिन्यास प्रारंभ झाला  
की सगळीकडे आनंदाचे,  
मांगल्याचे, प्रसन्नतेचे वातावरण पसरते.

सगळेजण आतुरतेने 25 डिसेंबर ची वाट बघत रहातात.  
आणि ह्या सण उत्सवाच्या अंतर्बाह्य तयारीलाही लागतात.  
यालाच आगमनकाळ असेही म्हणतात.

आगमन म्हणजे तरी काय? एखाद्या विशिष्ट कालावधीची सुरुवात होणे म्हणजेच आगमन होणे  
होय.

फादर वेन्सी डिमेलो यांनी ह्या सुंदर आगळ्या आगमनाचे वर्णन करताना सृजनशील कल्पना  
मांडली आहे. ते म्हणतात....

" तो येत आहे....  
तो चालत येत आहे...  
संदेशाची हळुवार चाहूल  
घेऊन येत आहे.

एका धर्माध देशात  
'खळांची व्यंकटी' सांडावी  
स्वधर्म सूर्य पहावा.'  
म्हणून  
या अंधारलेल्या  
काळोखाच्या काळजात  
प्रकाश पेरीत  
तो येत आहे.....  
उजाडलंय पण  
सूर्य कुठाय? विचारत...  
तो येत आहे....  
समता, न्यायाचे बियाणे  
रुजवत तो येत आहे.  
नैतिकतेच्या देशात  
दुष्टांनी पेरलेले निंदत  
वेचीत. ते काढण्यास  
हाती खुरपे घेऊन  
तो येत आहे....  
शास्त्री परुशी  
भक्तांच्या सनातनी  
समरसतेच्या सत्तेच्या  
राज 'धर्माध' देशात  
माणुसकी, मानवता  
सत्याचा आग्रह धरीत  
शांतीची हिरवळ  
पसरवीत. मने रिझवीत  
तो येत आहे,..,  
त्याचे आगमन होत आहे  
ह्या माझ्या सहिष्णु देशात...  
आशा, प्रीती, आनंद आणि शांतीचे...  
बियाणं पेरीत हळुवार  
पावलांनी तो येत आहे..."

खरोखर किती सुंदर नि सार्थ  
वर्णन आहे.  
भूतलावर अवतरणाऱ्या ह्या  
शांती दुताचे.

कुणाच्यातरी येण्याची आपण आतुरतेने वाट पाहत. आणि त्याच्या येण्याच्या स्वागतासाठी आपण सज्ज होतो.  
त्याच वेळी ते स्वर्गीय बाळही आपली वाट पहात असते.  
त्यालाही ओढ नि आतुरता लागलेली असते आपणास भेटण्याची. त्याच्या सृष्टीची...

प्रभू येशूच्या जन्माची कथा ही एक अद्भुत कहाणी आहे. पवित्र मरिया ही एक कुमारीका धार्मिक, निर्मळ, निष्कलंक हृदयाची.  
सर्व स्त्रियांमधून धन्य अशी हिची निवड खुद्द देवाने त्याच्या पुत्राची आई होण्यास केलेली.

जेव्हा प्रभूच्या दुताने मरीयेला संदेश दिला तेव्हा ती कुमारी भयभीत झाली. घाबरली बावरली. म्हणाली....  
"हे महादुता,  
मला पुरुष ठाऊक नाही हे कसे शक्य होईल ?"  
साहजिकच येथील प्रस्थापित माझ्याकडे कोणत्या नजरेने दृष्टीने बघतील?"

प्रभूचा दूत धीर देत म्हणाला...  
"पवित्र आत्म्याची छाया तुजवर कृपा करील " .

ती त्वरेने आणि आत्मविश्वासाने म्हणाली...  
"मी प्रभुची दासी आहे. प्रभूच्या इच्छेप्रमाणे होवो."

ह्या देवाच्या तिच्या पुत्राला

जन्म देण्यासाठी  
कोणी तिला जागा दिली  
नाही.  
शेवटी गाईच्या गोठ्यात  
गुरांच्या गव्हाणीत  
उबदार गवतात.  
मऊ मऊ गादीवर  
देवाच्या पुत्राला जागा  
मिळाली.  
शेणागवताच्या कारवीच्या  
कुडाची ती झोपडी.  
स्वर्गीय आनंद देती झाली.  
आकाशातून धरेवर चांदणे  
सांडले जात होते...  
धरतीवर हिरवे कुरण सजले  
होते.  
त्या माळरानावरील पहिली  
हिरवी तृणपाती  
स्वागतास सज्ज होती.

गुरे हंबरली. निसर्ग सजला.  
कव्यांची फुले होताना  
आणि एक एक पाकळी  
अलग होताना....  
ठिबकणाऱ्या त्या  
दवबिंदूंना वारा  
म्हणाला...  
"अरे पूर्वेकडे पहा कैसा  
निराळा भासतोय तारा."

अशी मने रिझवणाऱ्या  
सानिध्यात वातावरणात बाळयेशूचा जन्म झाला.  
आणि निसर्गनिही साथ दिली. आकाशातील तेजस्वी तारा  
अंधाऱ्या रात्री कंदील होऊन गोठ्याच्या दाराजवळ  
येऊन थांबला.  
"की कोणी स्वर्गीय राजा  
जन्मला आलेला आहे.

त्याच्या स्वागतासाठी या".  
असा संदेश देत...

प्रभूच्या दुताने बाळाचे दर्शन घेण्यासाठी थंडीवाऱ्यात माळरानावर शेकोटी पेटवून बसलेल्या मेंढपाळांना सर्वप्रथम ही मंगल आनंद वार्ता दिली.  
आऊराजाचे दर्शन घेण्यास धाडले. तेजस्वी ताऱ्याच्या दिशादर्शनाने दिशादिशातून तीन राजेही नंतर बाळाच्या दर्शनाला आले. अशा ह्या प्रभूदर्शन प्रसंगाला आपणही आतुरलेले आहोत.  
25 डिसेंबर ची वाट बघत आहोत.

सण सोहळे उत्सव म्हटलं की सानथोरात मोठा उत्साह नि आनंद.  
सगळ्याच गोष्टींची मग  
घराघरांत लगबग सुरू होते.  
स्वच्छतेपासून ते रंगरंगोटी  
रोषणाई पर्यंत नवनवीन कपड्यांपासून ते  
घरामध्ये गोडधोड पदार्थ  
बनवण्यापर्यंत....  
उत्साहाचे, आनंदाचे  
वातावरण असते.  
सगळ्या गोष्टींचा, धावपळीचा मोहल असतो. सर्व दिशादिशांत रेलचेल असते.  
सुंदर आकर्षक गव्हाणीचे  
देखावे बनवले जातात.  
त्यावर रोषणाई असते.  
प्रभू येशूचा जन्माचा दिवस म्हणजे आनंदा नाही तोटा.  
मोठा उत्साह.....

मी पण बोर्डिंग स्कूलची वसतीगृहातील विद्यार्थिनी असल्याने त्यावेळी नाताळ सणाची आम्ही बाळगोपाळासमवेत मोठ्या आनंदाने तयारी करत असायचो.  
त्यावेळी मला माझे भाग्य लाभले होते. मला एका नाटकामध्ये पवित्र मरियेची भूमिका मिळाली होती. किती आनंद झाला होता. ती भूमिका करण्यासाठी. खुद्द देवाच्या आईची भूमिका करणे म्हणजे केवढा तो आनंद होता.  
प्रेम वात्सल्य अनुभवायचा....

" ईश्वरी अंश म्हणजे "प्रेम" .  
हे प्रत्येकाच्या हृदयात  
वास करते.  
प्रेम हे उपजत नैसर्गिक  
आहे.

म्हणून तर या भूतलावर  
मानव जात जगत आहे.

जन्मणारे हरएक बाळ  
आईकडे पहात एकटक  
गोड हासत आहे.  
वात्सल्याने बिलगत आहे.  
जो पर्यंत कपिला वासराला वासल्याने चाटत आहे.  
सिंहिणीचे छावे, वाघाचे बछडे  
आईच्या आयामाशी लडिवाळ क्रीडा करत आहेत.  
हरणे पाडसे बागडत आहेत...  
झाडे वेली एकमेकांना  
आधार देत उभी आहेत.  
विहग एकाच आकाशात  
विहरत आहेत .( यशया:११)  
तोवर जगात प्रेम शिल्लक आहे.  
त्यांची ती निशाणी आहे.

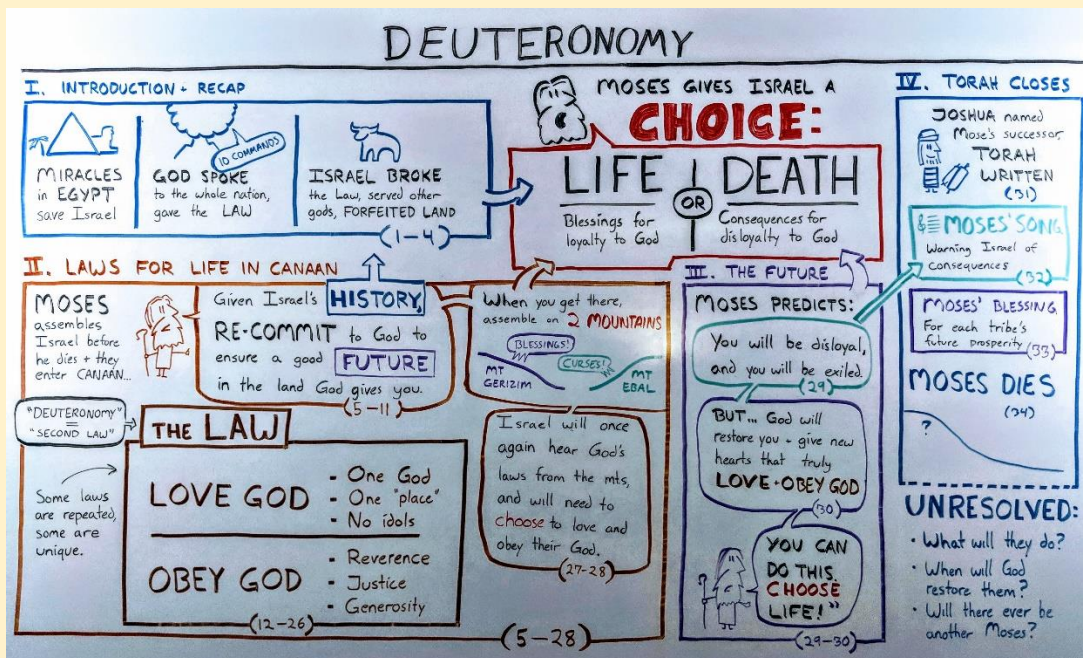
हे प्रेमच जगाला सृष्टीला  
तारील...  
इथली माझ्या देशांतील  
पिंपळवृक्षांची (बौद्धि वृक्ष) पानेच  
जगाचे तारण करतील. आणि हीच जगाच्या अभ्युदयाची  
एकमेव आशा आहे....

प्रभू येशू ख्रिस्त हा अभिषिक्त केलेला जगाचा तारणहार आहे.  
तो सर्वस्वी सर्वांसाठी आहे.  
हे येशू बाळ अखिल मानवजातीसाठी आहे.  
"देव प्रेम आहे"  
हा निरोप घेऊन ते जगात  
आले आहे."

# SCRIPTURE NUGGETS

## THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY

1. The Book of Deuteronomy is the fifth book of the Pentateuch.
2. The Book consists of 34 chapters.
3. The book contains three separate speeches supposed to have been delivered by Moses delivered to the Israelites while on the Moab Plain.
4. The Hebrew title is Elleh Haddebarim which translates to “These are the words”. The English title reflects the Greek word Deuteronomion meaning “second law”.
5. During the course of Deuteronomy, the responsibility for the Israelites passes from Moses to Joshua---the next generation.



6. The main idea of Deuteronomy regards the covenant between God and the Israelites. The instruction is to keep the commandments because you love God. This idea is at the heart of the covenant.
7. The themes of Deuteronomy are commandments, covenant, God's mighty acts, and transition.
8. There are two separate songs or sections of poetry. The Song of Moses is found in chapter 32 and Moses Blessing is found in chapter 33.
9. Chapters 1-11 look backwards to where the Israelites came from and summarizes what happened to them from their founding with a dynamic leader. Chapter 12 begins a look forward to the settlement of promised land and a royal dynasty.
10. Of the books of the Pentateuch, the first three books (Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus) are concerned more with the aspect of relationship between God and His people, while Numbers and Deuteronomy concentrate on the aspect of land.

**RESIDENTIAL RETREAT FOR LAITY**  
**AT THE SHRINE OF THE INFANT JESUS, NASHIK ROAD**

**Preacher: Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ**  
**Contact 9004617804 or errolsj@gmail.com**



**January 26-28, 2024**

**Arrival: January 26, 2024 (evening before supper) Departure: January 28, 2024 (after lunch)**

**Kindly book by the Jan Shatabdi (12071) {Second sitting Rs. 120 and AC Chair Car Rs. 400 – Departure at 12.10 pm from CSMT and 12.25 pm from Dadar} to come to Nashik. Book by Tapovan (17618) from Nashik to CSMT {Second sitting Rs. 90; AC Chair car Rs. 335 – Departure at 6.05 pm from Nashik}**

**Come away to a refreshing and rejuvenating place at the Shrine of the Infant Jesus, Nashik Road, and rest with the Lord**

**Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy burdened, and I will give you rest. (Mt 11:28)**



**Total donation Rs. 1,500 (Rupees One thousand five hundred) for board, lodge and retreat notes. Two will be accommodated in each self-contained room.**

**Contact Fr. Errol 9004617804 or errolsj@gmail.com**