Divine Mercy Chaplet
(for private recitation on ordinary rosary beads)

Our Father..., Hail Mary..., The Apostles’ Creed.

then on the Our Father Beads say
Eternal Father,
I offer You the Body and Blood,
Soul and Divinity
of Your dearly beloved Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
in atonement
for our sins
and those of the whole world.

On the Hail Mary Beads say
for the sake of His sorrowful passion
have mercy on us
and the whole world.

In conclusion Three Times say
Holy God, Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
have mercy on us
and the whole world.

(from the diary of the Servant of God
Sr. Faustina - Note Book I, p.197)

GOD BLESS

Year of Mercy at Jhansi
Happy Birthday Rt Rev Peter Parapullil

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION_BISHOP EMIRITUS FREDERICK D’SOUZA

Annual Retreat for Religious_27th Dec-2nd Jan_Diocesan PastoralCentre, Jhansi
'Christmas meal for all' at St Jude's Shrine, Jhansi
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This is only a story of a fisherman who had the catch only for the morning hours of the day. Then he sat under a tree kept the smoking pipe to his lips. He enjoyed the afternoon looking at the waters that he ventures daily for the fish. Hours past when an industrialist came in and finding the fisherman wasting the time began advising him. Why don’t you work hard and catch more fish instead of wasting time like this. The fisherman replied what do after catching more fish? The industrialist gave a long speech saying. You can have big catch, and earn more money, and buy bigger boats, and go into deep sea for a bigger catch of fish, and you can also start your own farm, and you can become a very rich man... When he posed his speech the fisherman asked, then what to do after becoming a rich man? The reply came "So that you can enjoy your life!" The fisherman gave a serious look at the industrialist taking the pipe out from his mouth and asked "Enjoy life? Then what the bloody thing do you think that I am doing right NOW?"

Dear lovers of St Jude. We are all people trying to enjoy life sacrificing the 'now' like the industrialist in the story. Forgetting even to look at the river we step in daily. As we have begun a new time a new season in our life, let us keep reminding ourselves to look into the waters where we step daily. Our life is in a flux, says the philosopher. It is like running streams. We can't step in to the same life a second time. Wind and dust, mind and emotions, time and situations do keep change without even our knowing things have past. Let us remind each other to enjoy the life while pouring our efforts for a better tomorrow. Enjoy the moment and its fruits now; we fill and carrying the fruits for tomorrow on our own shoulders to enjoy it later. The 'now' could be far good than later.

Look at the birds of the air… and they are so merciful! Look at the lilies in the fields… they are so beautiful and the God who provide them provide for us! The call is nothing but to be merciful and beautiful in the eyes of the Lord 🙏

Benny Palliparampil

God Bless
Our beloved Pastor Pope Francis has granted the Church the most opportune time by declaring the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy to be commenced in the Universal Church on 08.12.2015, the Feast Day of Immaculate Conception, which he declared on 13th March during a homily.

"The Church lives an authentic life when she professes and proclaims mercy - the most stupendous attribute of the creator and redeemer - and when she brings people close to the sources of the Savior's mercy, of which she is the trustee and dispenser" ST. John Paul II.

Mercy identifies the very nature of God in relationship with the whole created order. We simply do not know God if we do not know his mercy. It is the quintessential Gospel. We have not yet truly heard or lived the Gospel if we have not opened our hearts and our lives to the mercy of God. Neither will we ever really know creation, redemption and granting of eternal life to human beings as a gratuitous gift.

The Bull MisericordiaeVultus of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy is composed of 25 numbered sections. Pope Francis highlights the most salient features of mercy, focusing on the face of Christ as fathers invisible Mercy. So Mercy is no more abstract word but rather a face to recognize, contemplate and serve. Let this Jubilee of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, especially poor sinners. The Father will pour out an entire ocean of graces upon all who approach the Fount of God's Mercy. "Blessed are the merciful for they will receive mercy" (Mt 5:7).

The logo and the motto together provide a rich summary of God. Be Merciful like the Father (Luke 6:36). How precious is your mercy, O God! "The children of men take refuge in the shadow of your wings" (Ps. 36:7). O taste and see that the Lord is God! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! (Ps. 34:8). When you say the prayer, if you think that you have something against someone, forgive them, then Father in heaven will forgive you (Mk 11: 25-26). If you forgive men their trespasses, neither will you Father forgive your trespasses (Mt 6:14). The purpose of Jesus in his ministry is made clear, "I desire mercy and not sacrifice, for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Mt 9:13).

The horizontal phenomenon of the Mercy is to be experienced by all. As the disciples of Jesus we carry the same message to be merciful as the heavenly father is merciful. We are not to condemn our brothers but forgive them as the heavenly Father is merciful. Let all of us give a try to show mercy to others irrespective of circumstances and situations. Let us follow Jesus our leader and Master in this pursuit.

To disseminate the indulgences and graces to all, in the discourse of Jhansi two Mercy doors are opened, one in St Anthony's Cathedral and the other in St Jude's shrine. Let us all enjoy the Mercy and Pardon of the heavenly Father and share it with one another.

+Peter Parapullil
Bishop of Jhansi
FINDING HAPPINESS IN PSALMS

How do we find happiness? The answer to this question is very much a scriptural one, though we do not usually think of the Bible as concerned with happiness. We imagine it to be devoted to a whole different set of issues. And yet happiness—our happiness—is very much a part of what the Bible and indeed the psalms are about. We are pointed in this direction by no less than John Donne (1572-1631), the English poet most famous for his line “no man is an island.” In addition to being a poet, Donne was also a preacher. And in one of his sermons, Donne leads us to the subject of happiness by the indirect route of a mistranslation of Psalm 1.

The first word of Psalm 1—and thus of the entire Book of Psalms—is ashrei, probably the same word that Jesus used in the Beatitudes (Mk 5:3-12 and Lk 6:20-22). The translation Donne read renders this word as “blessed.” And thus Donne writes in his sermon: How plentifully, how abundantly is the word Beatus, Blessed, multiplied in the Book of Psalms? Blessed, and blessed in every Psalm, in every Verse; The Book seems to be made out of that word Blessed, and the foundation raised upon that word, Blessed, for it is the first word of the Book.

Donne argues that the very character of the book as a whole is suggested in the very first word. And he might well be right. But interestingly, the correct meaning of that first word is really not “blessed” at all, with all of its theological connotations. Today most translators would render ashreias “happy.” So today we might paraphrase Donne’s words to suggest that “the book seems to be made out of that word happy, and the foundation raised upon that word happy, for it is the first word of the Book.”

John Donne is right in reminding us that ashrei/happy runs like a bright thread throughout the entire book. In these verses we find a wonderful image of the situation of a happy person. That person stands like a proud tree, luxuriant and abundant by a continual source of nourishment. Perhaps we hear this image amplified in the words of the prophet Jeremiah, too:

Like a tree planted by waters, sending forth its roots by a stream:
It does not sense the coming of heat,
its leaves are ever fresh;
It has no care in a year of drought, it does not cease to yield fruit. (Jer 17:8)

We hear an evocation of a similar image elsewhere in the psalms: “But as for me, I am like a leafy olive tree in the house of God/ I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever (Ps 52:10).

Who would not want to live in such a condition? And who, living in it, would not consider themselves happy indeed? And how, according to this psalm, can we become planted by those streams of water? By walking our lives on the paths of goodness. By avoiding evil companions. By not counting ourselves among the congregation of the wicked or the destructive. Our own conduct determines our happiness, not the diversions and blandishments that are continually presented to us; not wealth nor possessions, not even power. Only our own integrity plants us like a well-watered tree that needs not fear the time of heat. This sounds a little like the sentiments expressed in a verse of yet another psalm. “Some trust in chariots and some in horses but we will make mention of the name of the Lord our God” (Ps 20: 8).

Trust in God and happiness seem closely aligned in many of the Psalms. This is the thread Donne might have us find running through the entire book. Indeed we read of ashreifrom the beginning of the book to the end: “Happy are all they that take refuge in Him” (Ps 2:12). And “Happy is the one that hath made the Lord his trust” (Ps 40: 5). And

Happy are they that are upright in the way
Who walk in the law of the Lord
We are well aware that there is tension between the familiar and the unfamiliar, the known and the unknown, and very often the fear of the unknown murders talents and closes down the new possibilities. One hand we see people with renewed vision and enthusiasm, on the other hand we find people with increased passivity and inaction, a life surrendered to the dictates of others. We also come across innovative and creative minds who create a new platform for themselves and others to grow, and people who are tied up with the past and losing their space or domain in the future. The life we choose determines our domain among others.

There is tension between the past and the future. The past that gave us a strong foundation cannot be just ignored, and at the same time the future which would offer us a new horizon should not be sacrificed for the fear of the unknown challenges and to safeguard the vested interests of a few individuals. Therefore we keep continuity with the past, and approach the future with openness. And this is necessary for the past to be pruned for newness and the future to be given a solid root for growth. In this light Jesus offers us a powerful imagery “Jesus the true Vine” in John 15:1-2. “I am the true vine and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to bear more fruit”. It suggests the removal of the unfruitful and irrelevant past and opening ourselves to the fruitful future in order to preserve the dynamism and regenerating ourselves constantly to move towards the goal that we are destined for.

Everything in the world is dynamic and evolving. The creation including human beings renews itself constantly in order to achieve its goal. A man or a woman is fundamentally a dynamic being. He or she keeps evolving and growing towards his or her fullness. It is the same with the human society, culture and institutions. Therefore if anyone is not open to changes or any system opposes changes that would make us innovative, liberate and enrich human beings is bound to experience degeneration, and any system that pays no heed to the signs of the time would soon disintegrate. Therefore renewed vision is imperative to regenerate ourselves and the planet to which we belong.

- John Paul

**RENEWED VISION FOR REGENERATION**

“Vision without action is merely a dream
Action without vision just passes the time
Vision with action can change the world - Joel A Barker”
Rita and Zita celebrated their birthday. One for the 90th already, the other for the 60th only. The celebration began with the Holy Eucharistic celebration by Rt Rev. Peter Parapullil (Bishop of Jhansi). At the introduction Sr Lattitia gave us a flash back of their life. Tragic death of Mamma Rita’s father at her very young age and her struggle in life during the world war times and so on. During those days Mamma Rita used to work for a tobacco factory. She used to paint the tobacco pipes. It is at that time the parish priest sent her an invitation to work for the leprosy patients if she is willing for it. Miss Rita was happy for that work but not the manager of the tobacco company. The manager doesn’t want her to go away. Because Rita used to paint the tobacco pipes with adorable perfection and neatness. She was extremely punctual at duty. Apart from that her work output had the professional touch. After all the hurdles from personal factory to family she joined for the training and later began to work at the Leprorium. Mamma Rita’s reading habits fetched knowledge about Africa, India and other countries as well as the mission works that is happening here. It was a long journey with ups and down.

Today we know our Mamma Rita who came to India in the year 1958 and landed in Jhansi. She once again began to paint. Aiming at its perfection began to paint the lives of babies at Foundling home with love care and affection. She brought colors to the lives of people at Manikpur, Lalitpur, Sahebganj (now in Jharkhand), BHEL-Jhansi, Bangalore (for training), Jaria, again back to Foundling home. In all these places she painted the lives of others with lots of perfection, neatness and punctuality. And the colors that Mamma Rita used are hospitality, sharing, giving alms, listening, serving, visiting and so on. In all these colors of life she never missed to mix smile. Mamma is only 90 now. We shall hear more when she is 100.

Sr Zita joined the celebration with her sweet 60s. Her story is different. However the smile which Mamma Rita mixed can be found with Sr Zita. Life struggles, pain and sufferings did not wipe away the joy. Even in her physical ailments she is jovially and prayerfully galloping with the time perfectly. Let us await for her 90s to hear more.
We need to pause in order to find ourselves in silence and peace; in order to clarify to ourselves the driving force of our life. Above all we need to meet God, to listen to him, to allow ourselves to be guided by his Word so that we may live this Word faithfully and meaningfully.

For this, the Diocese of Jhansi under the watchful care of His Lordship, Rt. Rev Peter Parapullil had arranged a retreat for the religious nuns working in the Diocese. The retreat was conducted under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Benny. It was attended by 29 religious sisters from different parts of the Diocese.

The retreat began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by His Lordship, Rt. Rev Peter Parapullil, then a small session with the introduction and entry into the actual retreat was that in which the participants observed silence for near about 24 hrs. Varied situations and new needs call for a pluralism of forms, according to the character of the groups and persons, which aim, in an intelligent, sensible and open way at values rather than at uniformity. Therefore the sessions comprised of short talks, followed by sufficient long periods for personal meditation, the recitation in common of some parts of the divine office, and the Holy Eucharist with homily. Silence was maintained all throughout except when opportunities for conversation and fraternal communication were offered.

The time table was simple, balanced, practical planned and coordinated each time to respond to the need, the maturity of the retreatants, and the values fostered.

It is an extraordinary event in the life of each one, the goal that is sought is conversion, that is, growth in faith and love, change of mental attitude, review of one’s life in the light of the gospel, unity and communication between the members of the community or house, the exchange of experiences, common prayer, and charity. To reach these objective more easily, there were talks and sessions, it was accompanied with the help of audios and visuals, guided meditations, celebration of the word of God with homily, sufficient time for silence and reflection, the examination of conscience, the sacrament of penance and other piety like the Divine mercy prayer.

Retreats, especially the annual retreats, are occasions for examination and conversion, not only for individual, but also for the community. It is also for the purpose of deepening faith increasing charity, strengthening the commitment of service to God and neighbor, and offering the opportunity for personal and intimate contact with God. They deepen once again our spirit of union with the Lord. These moments of retreat and recollection are the basic part and synthesis of our whole life of prayer.

During those days we were venturing into ourselves in order to rediscover the bond of love that unites our life to God, in order to find again and renew our faith in God. The outcome of the retreat does not depend ultimately on the power of the preacher’s word or the creative leadership of the animator, but on God’s grace and individual determination and effort.

In order to fulfill our needs, the preacher had been discreet in his role as the animator and he has carried out in accordance with the level of maturity shown by the community.

Our grateful thanks, to the Almighty God, for the opportunity to participate in the retreat, to our beloved Bishop, Rt. Rev Peter Parapullil, who arranged it and to our resource person who met our spiritual needs and to Rev. Sr. Lilly and co-helpers who met all our physical and material needs during the days of retreat. Thanks to all the retreatants for their valuable cooperation.

-Sr. Marina M.P.V.
BIBLE Quiz for Children

1. After the Baptism, where was Jesus led? By Whom?
2. What did Jesus eat in the desert for forty days?
3. Name the book from which Jesus read in the Synagogue?
4. Where did Jesus find a man with unclean spirit?
5. Whose mother-in-law was cured by Jesus?
6. In whose boat was Jesus sitting while speaking to the crowd?
7. Who said the following to whom?
   a) “One does not live by bread alone.”
   b) “For with authority and power, He commands the unclean spirits and they come out.”
   c) “Put out into the deep water.”
   d) “Depart from me o Lord, for I am a sinful man.”
   e) “Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean.”
8. Who was Levi? What was he doing?
9. Who was accused of eating and drinking with sinners?
10. Complete this sentence: “I have not come to call the righteous……………………………”

(Find the answers on the last page)

SCIENCE AND SPIRITUALITY

The purpose of technology is to comfort and support human beings. However, the reality what we see is that technology bringing discomfort; it brings fear and destruction. Technology without human values would see nature as a dead object. Science gives an insight into the life of nature and spirituality makes nature come alive. Every created being has life and feeling. Technology without spirituality is destructive.

Nature is a mystery. The more you know about nature the mystery deepens. The more a scientist knows, the more he feels there is much more to know. Deepening the mystery of self in spirituality; they are the two sides of the same coin. Why does an act when performed repeatedly lose its sacredness? This happens when your memory over powers your consciousness and you lose your sensitivity. For example saying like this, that people living in Nazareth do not feel the sacredness of the place. Every place you are in, has a different impact on the mind. Even in your house, you can see that you feel different in different rooms.

Time is also a factor. Different times of the day and year have different influences on the mind. The people and events you are associated with influence your mind. Do not look for the divine somewhere in the clouds, but see God in every one’s eyes, in all created things and in oneself. When you have reverence in all your relationship, your own consciousness expands and you will be in harmony with the whole universe. In this techno world let us be different by cultivating the skill of love and respect to all in every moment of our life.

-Br Ignatius Podimattam.
BETWEEN THE REGRETS OF YESTERDAY & ANXIETIES OF TOMORROW

Someone once said that people live their lives "crucified between two thieves—the regrets of yesterday and the anxieties of tomorrow". Anxiety is a state of uneasiness and apprehension about future uncertainties according to Webster's Dictionary. One of the synonyms to anxiety is worry. This can be explained with its root word meaning as 'to be torn in two'. Exactly that is what anxiety does—it tears us apart. Our bodies might obediently go in one direction, but our minds are somewhere else. The result is that we live with tension, we cannot sleep and we cannot enjoy the present moment.

The bible has a lot to say about anxiety, even though the word itself may not be found all that often. However the synonyms like trouble, heaviness, distress, and cares are used in its place.

Only few of us are strangers to anxiety. It creeps in over big and little things, gnawing away at our insides. Someone graphically described anxiety as "a thin stream of fear trickling through the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained" (Arthur Roche, Reader's digest [6/88], p.64).

In fact, worry or anxiety has definite physical side effects: They are the unseen source of our different aches like headaches... They produce everything from obesity to obscenity, from constipation to diarrhea, and from impatience to impotence. They give us knotted stomachs, sleepless nights, high blood pressure, low morale. They make our tempers short and our days long. They cause indigestion, irritation, chest pain, and muscle strain. Like one doctor says: "You don't get stomach ulcers from what you eat, but you get ulcers from what is eating you.

FOCUS ON THE LORD: Human beings are more than combinations of chemicals and hormones. We are made in God's image. The God who created you loves you, and does not want you to be miserable. Therefore keeping our minds focused on what the Lord says should captivate our attention which will enable us to eliminate anxiety in our lives.

FIND JOY: "A joyful heart is good medicine" Proverbs 17:22. One of the most necessary ingredients for peace of mind is being related to our creator. Because worry causes us to work against ourselves and hinders our fellowship with God. According to Jesus, people became anxious over food, drink, clothing, and the future (Mt 6:25-34)

PRAY TO WARD OF ANXIETY: God's sovereignty reigns over anxiety. Everyone who is able to rest by being "in Christ" is able to look to God as a gracious Father who deeply cares about their peace. Knowing that God has forgiven our sins, that His Holy Spirit indwells us, and that we will spend eternity with Him, provide a wonderful spiritual foundation for overcoming anxiety.

FILL YOUR HEART WITH CHRIST (Rev 3:20): Peace through the storms of life comes through trust in God. It does not mean that trusting in Jesus will immediately relieve all of your depression and anxiety. Turn your hearts to Him in humility, confessing your sins to Him and to those you have sinned against, seeking and receiving forgiveness, and He will bring peace to your troubled heart. A drug addict boy who was taken to treatments and psychiatrists was brought to me. After seeing the prescription and much counseling I asked if he is ready to accept Jesus in his heart. He said yes. The next day his mother too came forward to receive Christ. Because after so many days the boy late well slept peacefully the previous night. The boy too gave testimony of being delivered. Then I opened the Bible and asked them to read 2 Corinthians 5:17 which says "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new Creation; the old has gone, the new has come"

God Bless You. ❧

-Fr Robert Henry
(Offers free Counseling. Mb: 9793949540)
A FEW INTERESTING QUESTIONS AND THEIR ANSWERS...

WALLACE JACOB

Q. Who were the sons of Simon the Cyrene?
A. Alexander and Rufus (Mark 15: 21).

Q. Where is Arimathea?
A. Arimathea is a town in Judaea (Luke 23: 51).

Q. Jesus met two of his followers when they were on their way to Emmaus (about eleven kilometers from Jerusalem). Were those two people the disciples of Lord Jesus? How do we know?
A. Out of the two, one was known by the name Cleopas (Luke 24: 18). According to Luke 24: 33, the two of them got up at once (after Jesus disappeared from their sight) and went back to Jerusalem, where they found the eleven disciples gathered together with the others. Thus, we can draw the inference that the two of Jesus’ followers whom Jesus met when they were on their way to Emmaus were not among the twelve apostles.

Q. At what time was Jesus crucified?
A. Nine o’ clock in the morning (Mark 15: 25).

Q. At which age did Jesus start working?
A. When Jesus began his work, he was about thirty years old (Luke 3: 23).

Q. In which Gospel do we have the account of washing of the feet?
A. The Gospel according to John (John 13: 4 – 6).

Q. What is Kidron?
A. Kidron is a brook (John 18: 1). There was a garden at Kidron. A group of Roman soldiers, some temple guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees (accompanied by Judas Iscariot) arrested Jesus from the garden in Kidron.

Q. What was the relationship between Annas and Caiaphas?
A. Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas (John 18: 13) and Caiaphas was the High Priest in the year in which Jesus was crucified. Caiaphas was the one who had said, “it is better for you to let one man die for the people, instead of having the whole nation destroyed” (John 11: 50).

Q. After resurrection when did Lord Jesus show himself to Thomas?
A. A week after the Sunday on which Lord Jesus arose (John 20:26).

Q. Who was the father of Judas Iscariot?
A. Simon Iscariot (John 13: 2).

Q. Where is Ephraim?
A. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Some of the people who had witnessed Lazarus’s coming
back to life, returned to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. From that day on the Jewish authorities made plans to kill Jesus. So Jesus did not travel openly in Judaea, but left and went to a place near the desert, to a town named Ephraim, where he stayed with the disciples (Luke 11: 54).

Q. Where could the Garden of Eden be?
A. LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the East (Genesis 2:8). Perhaps this garden was destroyed in the forty days and forty nights rain (Noah) (Genesis Ch 7).

Q. What was the name of the person at whose house a woman washed the feet of Jesus with her tears, dried them with her hair, kissed his feet and poured perfume on his feet?
A. Simon (Luke 7: 36 – 49). The Simon mentioned herein was a Pharisee.

Q. Where can we find the Kingdom of God?
A. The Kingdom of God is within us (Luke 17: 21).

Q. How many fishes did the seven disciples catch when Jesus appeared to them (third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the death) at the edge of Lake Tiberias?
A. Hundred and fifty–three (John 21: 11).

Q. What makes a person unclean?
A. Immoral things: robbing, killing, committing adultery, being greedy, doing all sorts of evil things, deceit, indecency, jealousy, slander, pride, folly (Mark 7: 22 – 23).

Q. How many people were there in Noah’s boat?
A. Eight (1 Peter 3: 20). They were Noah, Noah’s wife, three sons of Noah – Shem, Ham, Japheth and their wives.

Q. The numbers 3, 7 and 40 appear at several places in the Holy Bible. Does the number 18 occur in the Holy Bible?
A. Jesus said, “What about those eighteen people in Siloam who were killed when the tower fell on them?” (Luke 13: 4).

A woman had been possessed by an evil spirit that had made her ill for eighteen years because of which she was bent over and could not straighten up at all (Luke 13: 11). Jesus healed her on a Sabbath day.

Q. Did Jesus weep while on earth?

When Jesus was on his way to Bethany (Bethany was the town where Mary, Martha and Lazarus lived and it was less than three kilometers from Jerusalem), he saw Mary weeping after which Jesus also wept (John 11:35).

According to Hebrews 5: 7, “In his life on earth Jesus made his prayers and requests with loud cries and tears to God, . . .”

Once a boy asked: where does the egg come from? from the 'chicken' was the answer. Where does the chicken come from? from the 'farm' was the answer. Where does the farm come from? from 'field' was the answer. Where does field come from? for this one question the answer came from the hard hand to his cheek: TAPP! Then the boy gave one and the only answer that too was a question, this must be the same way someone once had an enlightenment, isn’t it? -hive
Meaning of Hindutva

Literally the term ‘Hindutva’ means ‘Hindu-ness’. Broadly, it is used to mean the so-called Indian values, which are attributed to relate uniquely to the Indian heritage in general and to Hindu culture, in particular with an ideology of establishing a Hindu Rashtra. It is that movement as well as its ideology that is referred to as Hindutva. According to the Supreme Court definition Hindutva is a way of life or state of mind and it is not to be equated with, or understood as religious Hindu fundamentalism.

Hindutva has many social and political institutions at the national, State and local levels. Like Arya Samaj, Hindu Mahasabha, Hindu Militia, Ram Sena, Mahavir Dal, Agni Dal, RashtriyaSwayamsevak Mandal, Shakti Dal, Ram RajyaParishad, Jan Sangh, Bajrang Dal, RSS, VHP, BJP, ShivSena, DurgaVahini and the SanghParivar. Most of these organizations are pampered by the Hindustan governments and are utilized to indoctrinate the masses.

Mahatma Gandhi put it very simply; “I do not expect the India of my dream to develop one religion, i.e., to be wholly Hindu or wholly Christian or wholly Mussalman, but I want it to be wholly tolerant with its religions working side by side with one another.”

All students of history know well that Buddhism, though born in our country, was never allowed to be flourished here, and was violently uprooted. Hindutva has not proposed a viable theory of nationhood on which we can build our nation collectively. On the contrary, it presents a narrow, racial, exclusive and divisive ground among the people. How can India be united with Hindutva?

Christian Response to Hindutva

EvangeliiGaudium(Ch.IV-226) says, “Conflict cannot be ignored or concealed. It has to be faced. But if we remain trapped in conflict, we lose our perspective and reality itself begins to fall apart”. But there is a way to tackle “the willingness to face conflicts head on, to resolve it and to make it a link in the chain of a new process. “Blessed are the peacemakers! Conflicts, tensions and oppositions can achieve a diversified and life-giving unity. Our ethnic diversity is our wealth...it is only in unity, through conversion of hearts and reconciliation, that we will be able to help our country to develop on all levels”.

Hinduism is one among the World religions known for its profound scriptures, its highly contemplative and spiritual traditions, its spirit of tolerance, its perennial values and philosophical insights. Hindutva is a closed and exaggerated ideology. There is a lobby within the Hindutva which argues that Church in India should Indianise itself—as in communist China—and sever its links with the Pope, the Vatican and other western countries. ArunShourie says: “The Church is big business. Evangelisation is big business. And the business depends on the harvesting of souls”. Sita Ram Goel alleges: “The Catholic educational network alienates Hindu young men and women from their ancestral culture or at least neutralises them against missionary inroads”.

2 RatnaKapur Brenda Cossman, ‘Secularism’s Last Sigh?’, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1999, p.20
3 Kuvachira.j, Roots of Hindustan, Media House, Delhi,2005,p.275.
6 Kuvachira.j, Roots of Hindustan, Media House, Delhi,2005,p.271.
We, as Indian Christians, are proud of India’s ancient heritage, its religious, ethical and philosophical traditions from which we draw nourishment and vital energy for our life, spiritual experience and theological reflections. We invite all Christians to build up a positive relationship with our Hindu brothers and sisters and those of all other religions by means of healthy dialogue and collaboration.

It is possible to respond to Hindutva from various points of view. We as Indian Christian believers seek to respond to Hindutva in an authentically Indian and Christian way. It is only when the church, with all its structures and institutions, ceases to seek power, prestige, wealth and expansion for itself and becomes a servant following in the footsteps of Christ, committed to the life and liberation of all peoples of this land, particularly the last and the least, and to the harmony of all communities based on genuine fraternity and justice that it will truly grow as the Church of Christ.

From the Devotees

We wish to thank St Jude from the bottom of our hearts for helping our son to get over a troubled relationship. We also thank St Jude for helping us in our difficult situation in our life

-From a Devotee in Australia.

We express our gratitude to St Jude for all the blessings that He obtain for us. Life was always in a hardship and struggle. We had no idea of how tomorrow or years ahead would be. But we used to pray to St Jude to lead us and guide us and achieve the goals in life. Even though there are struggles and moments we really feel frustrated from somewhere consolations come spiritually or physically. I believe that St Jude who is the hope of desperate cases is interceding for all of us. Thank you Saint Jude for obtaining all the blessings and graces from the Lord Jesus Christ.

-a devotee. (U P.)

It was a touching experience to be at St Jude’s Shrine campus on December 25th. When numerous people gathered in the campus. Young and old, rich and poor. There was meal served specially for the poor in front of the Shrine. There was no religious, caste, color, and status, all were seems to accept the other as they are. Indeed Christ is born. Born to bring peace. And it was a peaceful co-existence and sharing that we could witness. Indeed world not as selfish as we hear sometimes these days. There are good people around. There are good places around. There are good people around. There is a very good saint here in this campus who extends the goodness of the Lord around.

Thank You St Jude.

-a devotee.

An old man set out for a pilgrimage all alone. On the way wind blew, rain flashed, sun starred, but he kept going. Onreaching one of the pilgrimage a monk asked. Are you not afraid to make this pilgrimage alone? The man replied. Since the time I am unable and old, I am journeying alone. There is fear, but it is everywhere. Then he said: COURAGE IS NOT EXCACLTY ABSENCE OF FEAR! -hive
Our reconciliation should lead us to be more merciful

Bless me Father I am a sinner ...

God is always kind to the repentent...

Father...

God is always Merciful...

we need to be merciful to all

But above all you need to be merciful to Yourself!

(Handwritten note: "Tobi")
The prayerful intercession of St. John, the Evangelist, the able guidance of Rev. Fr. Julian Fernandez, the Parish Priest conjoined with Rev. Fr. Sadanand and the full cooperation of every member of the parish carved a golden letter in the history of St John’s Parish, Premnagar on its Platinum Jubilee. Preparations to the celebration of the Jubilee began six months in advance primarily by collecting prayer for the year of Jubilee. On the day the occasion lit up with the Eucharistic Sacrifice that was presided over by Rt. Rev. Peter Parapullil (Bishop of Jhansi), Concelebrated by Rt. Rev. Joseph Kaithathara (Bishop of Gwalior) and the priests from both the dioceses. The occasion also witnessed the First Holy Communion of twelve children. After the Eucharistic celebration, cultural programme to entertain and to felicitate all the guests and to honor all those, who invariably contributed to the growth of St. John’s parish in Premnagar. All the former parish priests, brothers and few of the parishioner for their love and dedication were felicitated with a souvenir. A special honor was conferred on Br. Ignatius Podimattam who has been in this parish for seventy two years. St Don Bosco School and St. Joseph Vas School mesmerized the gathering with their cultural bonanza. Delicious meal was the culmination of the event. All hearts filled with joy, contentment and gratitude to God and each other cherish the day that is part of the Golden memories carved in Platinum letters. -

-Dn. Marcelline

Oh Good, St John the Evangelist, the beloved disciple of Jesus. You present Jesus as the Eternal Word of God who became a human being and lied among us. The message you heard from the beginning that Word was God, through him God made all things. The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to mankind. Love one another because love comes from God and God is love. In the book of Revelation, God sent hi angel to you to record the events that Jesus Christ revealed to you. Even on the cross Jesus said, "Son, she is your mother." "Mother, he is your Son.", because Jesus loved you. On this occasion of the Platinum Jubilee, We the Boadita family who are here since 1944, specially My mother in law MrsRemedineBoadita who never miss the first Friday Mass, would like express our gratitude and love received through Your blessings. We ask you to bless each one so to realize the countless blessings of Jesus which He has endowed on each of us.-

-Mrs. Rosy Boadita
REPORT PMI - JHANSI UNIT

| Sr. ElsitaCTC |

Don’t be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David’s town your savior was born – Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manager Lk 2:10-1

Yes my friends, this is a great joy to all the people that Jesus is born in the manager to save us, the sinners from the depth of sin. Jesus never wants anyone to die of his sin that he came to the world to redeem us. Christmas is not for the people of Christ, the Christmas but for the whole humanity. When we take a step towards the needy i.e. the prisoners who are rejected and condemned by the society and the civil laws, we share that joy which the shepherd experienced when they saw the baby Jesus in the first time. It is our prime duty to share our joy of Christmas and give the message to the people inside the bars. Jesus will ask us at the last judgment day that when I was sick and in prison but you would not take care of me. St Mt 43b.

Organized a Christmas celebration with the people in the prison on 23rd January 2015 at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Fr. Valerian the coordinator gave a warm welcome to the Jhansi jail Supt. Mr. Avdesh Kumar, Rt. Rev. Peter Parapullil, the Bishop of Jhansi Diocese, sister of CTC, Sacred Heart, C.J., charity, sevika and everybody presented there. Melodious carol singing by the candidates of CTC along with Rev. Sr. Soumya made the event a memorable one. Followed by a beautiful message giving skit organized by students of St. Joseph’s High School, 14 Cantt. Jhansi. His Excellency Rt. Rev. Peter Parapullil exhorted that Jesus the savior came to the world for nothing but to save each one of us. When we sin Jesus disappears from us and satan enters. Satan’s deeds are sinful deeds. So not to hate anyone and not to sin.

The Supt. Mr. Avdesh Kumar gave thanks to the organization and appreciated the service in the jail. Blankets, fruit and snacks were distributed to the prisoners. Thus it was an enjoyable day for each one of us to be with the brethren in the prison.

Little deeds of love
Little deeds of kindness
Make the unwanted and rejected
A repented soul, a better person.
Come on! Brothren
Joining the hands together
Step forward courageously
To comfort and console them.
Rewards are waiting for us
Don’t be late, Don’t be late
Come on brethren with outstretched hands
To embrace them, to bring them back.
Few lines from “A Historical Sketch of the Maltese Capuchin Mission”, that says:

An application for the convent school near church was made on the 13th October 1894 by St. Mary J. Patrick Brophy I. B. V. M. of Tara Hall Simla and this application on the 19th October of the same year was favored by a grant of ground, 6 acres in extent at No. 67 Jhansi Cantt. On this site a building was erected between 1895-97 keeping the proprietorship of the estate reserved with all rights.

This school was finally opened in 1898 and entrusted to sisters Patricia and Teresa of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary to educate the British Army residing in Jhansi.

The beginnings were indeed small and difficult; besides the two sisters having grown old and weak naturally could not make any progress. And hence the proprietorship of the school with its control management was on the 1st April 1913 formally made over to the Bishop of Allahabad. Fr. Patro- nusGramigha, ofm Cap. In this state they remained 15 years until the congregation of the I. B. V. M. decided to take it over and in 1913 Rev. Sr.Delphina with two Sisters Sr. M. Pauline and M. Aventine were sent there to take up the work.

At their arrival they found but the nucleus of the present establishment, which consisted of a hall with dilapidated furniture, the compound a jungle therefore they lived in the same Bogie in which they came...

In these past fifty years, the noble work of progress, both in building and education has been so great that few looking on St. Francis’ Convent today would guess its humble Beginnings.

In 1953, at the Congress of the Apostolate of Laity, Pope Pius XII, addressing a large crowd at St. Peter’s in Rome, said about Venerable Mother Mary Ward, “… that incomparable woman whom England in her darkest and most blood stained hour gave to the Church… “Mary Ward, the Foundress of the Congregation of Jesus was born on 23rd January 1585 and died on 30th January 1645. So the last week of January, every year, Mary Ward Schools all over the world celebrate ‘Mary Ward Week’ with great devotion and enthusiasm. It was Mary Ward’s dream that “women in time to come would do great things…”

From the early childhood Mary developed great devotion to Jesus. “Jesus” was the first word she uttered as a young child, and ‘Jesus’ was the last word on her lips before she died. One of her first companions had written: “Jesus was her first and last word, beginning and ending of all her petitions, her refuge in all dangers and protection in all evil. The Holy name of Jesus was the centre and heart of Mary’s life and mission. During this month, we pay special homage to this great woman who walked the path which nobody else had walked; fought for a cause which no one else had the courage to sand for; won a victory (liberation of women) which was unheard of in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Because of the freedom and agility to move around, Mary and companions were nick named “galloping girls”. Today we are proud of millions of girls who gallop towards future, through our Educational Institutions spreading the beacon of light, hope, knowledge and message of freedom and peace!!!

Sr.Mary C.J.
The CRI-Jhansi met on 13th Dec 2015, at Pastoral centre, Jhansi for a twin celebration- Christmas get-together and a finale to the Year of Consecrated life. At 9.30 a.m. after the opening prayer by the secretary Sr. Soumya CTC, the president Sr. Mariella C J welcomed all. Fr. ThankachanSdb took up the with the help of Fr. RinoySdb. It was very informative as well as enjoyable. All the participants took part it very keenly and interestingly. Fr. ThankachanSdb dealt in detail the ten diseases what Pope Francis mentions in his letter addressed to the Consecrated People. The gathering also was made to smaller groups for group discussion. All the groups were asked to share what was their experience of moving to the periphery or term means to them. What have they done till now to move to the periphery or to the marginalized? Many of the groups had lot of interesting issues to share to the big group. After the first session we had the break 10.45 am.

After the coffee break session we had the business session, where in Sr. Mariella the president of CRI presided over. In the business session Sr. Mariella C J explained to the general assembly regarding the election of a secretary to the CRI unit for its better function. The president explained to the general assembly the difficulty of Sr. Soumya to function as a treasurer cum Secretary. She preferred to continue rather as a treasurer rather than a combined position. The excuses of Soumya were that she is new to the place, she is also having lot of works for the running of the State board Hindi Medium School. Also her provincial requested to the CRI advisory board to relieve of her post as secretary since she is busy with some other works along with their candidates.

After the business session we moved to the lighter moments. Fr. ThankachanSdb conducted few party games to make everyone feel at home. All the participants took part in one or other games organized by the CRI executives. The games brought everyone together; it also helped them to get to know each little more better.

At 12.45 pm we had the Holy Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. RinoySdb, and Fr. ThankachanSdb preached on the occasion. Fr. Thankachan in his message exhorted everyone to prepared a little crib in each one’s heart and welcome the Lord into that. The crib can be beautified and decorated with little bit of mortifications and self-sacrifices and wait for the coming of the Lord. It should not an external celebration; it should be an internal preparation. As two thousand years ago when HE came he had no place in the inns. People were not prepared to receive HIM at that time. We should prepare and wait for him to receive HIM at any form / ways in which we meet HIM. As stars brought, the learned and the illiterate together to the manger. Similarly, our life should become a star to others and lead many to the experience of meeting the Lord.

The day concluded at 1.30 with a sumptuous solemn meal prepared by the pastoral staff. The CRI Jhansi is ever grateful to Rev. Fr. Benny Palliparampil and Rev. Sr. Lilly for the assistance and help to make the day a very successful one. During the lunch time all the gifts were distributed to all the participants. All the participants were given token numbers and they could go to the counter and pick up their numbers. All were happy because all had something to share with others, at the same time they could take back home something precious shared by the CRI members. The day concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Rev. Sr. Soumya CTC.
Where are all our inherited values disappeared? Where is the dedication and adorations of the divine power vanishing?

The love, patriotism and sacrificial attitude for our country, the character of our men, the modesty of our women, the innocence of our children, the love trust, and respect for one another, respect for our parents, teachers and elders and the sacrificial importance of our friendship. All these hereditary values are disappearing into a no man’s land. these priceless jewels in the form of values gifted to us, in a precious necklace; by our germ of ancestors, has been shattered by the cruel influence of the Satan, which entered into our homes, hearts and minds and destroyed our friendly and caring relationship, all under the cover of modernization leaving us in a vacuum of suffocation and desolation. Everything is lost, our trust, faith and love for one another. The peaceful look, the importance of relationship, importance of teachings of the Holy Scriptures, the Bible, Gita and Quran. We all boast about these holy books, but do we really follow its teachings. the honest answer will be a big NO. The majority of us are blowing the devils trumpet, and chorusing their approval. The only items of social pleasure, we proudly own to satisfy our social ego are the lifeless items of luxury. The trend is to own these luxury items, is important, not its resources. The Bible says in chapter 16 verse 26 of Mathew that 'what profit is it to a man, if he gains, the whole world and loses his own soul or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

The purity of the soul is important. You will not be judged by the enormous wealth you have accumulated or by the cleanliness, and beauty of your perishable body but by cleanliness and purity of your immortal soul that you will be judged.

The faithless protestors, voicing their feelings up in the air, saying the creator has abandoned them, leaving them in isolation of loneliness and dejection. The truth is that the sole owner, was, is, and will always be in our hearts and mind, it is we who have gathered so much malicious dirt, in our hearts, and mind, that we are unable to witness and feel His holy presence. Returning to the old time in this relation would mean to unite together, and burn the effigy of mistrust, selfishness hatred and jealousy, and make a solemn vow to gather, all those precious jewels of values, gifted to us by our ancestors, which has been shattered by the trouble times. Love, help, care, peace, happiness and all goodies may sprout again in the new mending.

Some migrating birds were flying. One among them did a poo. It fell on the back of a grumbling lady who was dumping the waste on to back field. With a roar she shouted at the birds. Then a gentle voice resounded from elsewhere: Bird to your back, you to your own back EEEEEEEEEEHIHIHI...-hive
Answers for the Bible Quiz for Children
1. The Spirit led Him into the wilderness.  
2. Nothing. 
3. Prophet Isaiah 
4. In the Synagogue 
5. Peter’s 
6. Peter’s 
7. a) Jesus to Satan b) people to one another c) Jesus to Peter d) Peter to Jesus e) leper to Jesus 
8. Levi was a tax collector 
9. Jesus 
10. but sinners to repentance. 

Sr Mary CJ
Frist Holy Communion and Confirmation at St. Judes Parish_Budagav Jhansi

Differently abled Children at Arunodaya Jhansi

the journey goes on...
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