

KAIROS

GLOBAL

PRIVATE
CIRCULATION
ONLY

*Mission
Talk with
Chris Colaco*

That their
JOY may be
complete



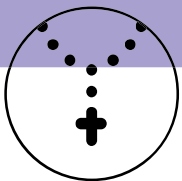
50 YEARS OF
CATHOLIC
CHARISMATIC
RENEWAL

Jubilee

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MARY MY BELOVED MOTHER



I come before you in need of your mighty intercession. Help me to live in the inner joy that you experienced daily. I pray that, like you my mother, by saying yes to the works of

EDITOR'S ROOM



DR. CHACKOCHAN J NJAVALLIL

 @readkairos

While being stoned to death, the first martyr of the Church, St Stephen had a prayer in his mouth. 'Lord, do not put the blame for this on them' Acts 7:60. I am certain that Stephen was able to pray for his persecutors because he was filled with an in explainable and eternal joy. Speaking of an eternal joy, the joy issue got me reflecting on my first year at college, immediately after my pre-university. Still a teenager, and not yet a youth, with lot of insecurities, I was not at all happy with my life. I was a can of hopes, desires and fears. Often angry with everybody at home, unsatisfied and friendless. I was sure that something was wrong with me. Even up to the point when I registered for a retreat at the college, I never expected to have any great God Experience or a deep awakening. My apathy aside, that did not happen either. But by the end of the retreat, I was sensing a special happiness or feeling of joy in my heart. And because I did not want to miss that experience of joy in my heart, I started going to weekly prayer meeting. I wanted to be continually joyful and full of life and that was exactly the reason I persisted with weekly prayer meetings. Perhaps it would be fair for me to say with confidence that it is that experience of joy that sustained me for the last 33 years.

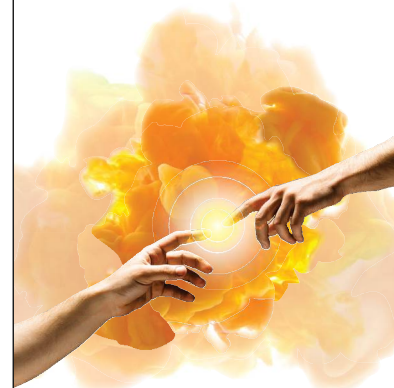
Joy in my opinion, is not the aftermath of great accomplishments, but a continued experience sustained after of the humble and smallest of acts. To further explain, let's say a person is travelling in a crowded bus. When he got on, he did not expect that he would get a seat, but to his surprise he got one, and felt very much relieved. He was much tired after a hard day's work and now he was happy that he had some time to take rest and even sleep for a while. But it happens that on the next stop a rather old lady gets in to the bus. For a while he pretends to not see the old person finding it difficult to balance herself on the speeding bus. After some not so pleasant deliberations in his mind, he offers his seat to the old lady. She quickly sits down and thanks him with her grateful eyes. He starts to feel a sense of satisfaction, a sense of joy within himself. Now he is not thinking about his tiredness or the need to take rest because a deep feeling of joy overwhelms him. This is what joy looks like in the smallest of things.

This joy is not hard found, it can be seen in every person who has an interior freedom. If, when passing through some time of difficulty in your life, but you kept persevering in your ministry responsibilities or undertaking even more; it is because of a deep interior conviction and freedom of joy in the Lord. It was hard at that point in time but there was no hesitation and everything was said and done joyfully. Sometimes, even in the situations of misunderstanding and accusations, there was less anger and hatred. On the contrary, there was a deep joy, a joy that was sustained even in suffering, that paved the way to forgiveness and deliverance from agony. This was perhaps possible because of a great conviction in the Lord and a deep interior freedom.

To end, joy can take many shapes and forms, for me joy very recently came when I was finally able to hold the Kairos Global magazine in my hands. Yes, true, I felt unexplainable joy, a few days' back when I touched the pilot issue of Kairos Global. May be when something comes after desiring for it for quite a long period of time, when it had to overcome several obstacles, when it was very much impossible and suddenly God intervenes and much more than a miracle happens, what other emotion you can have, other than that of JOY.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
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**THIS JOY IS NOT
HARD FOUND, IT
CAN BE SEEN IN
EVERY PERSON
WHO HAS AN
INTERIOR
FREEDOM..**



**Also
LOOK
OUTFOR**

- 6** Ask Fr. Bitaju
- 17** A Christian Rapper
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*These things I have
spoken to you, that my
joy may be in you, and
that your joy may be full.
John 15:11*

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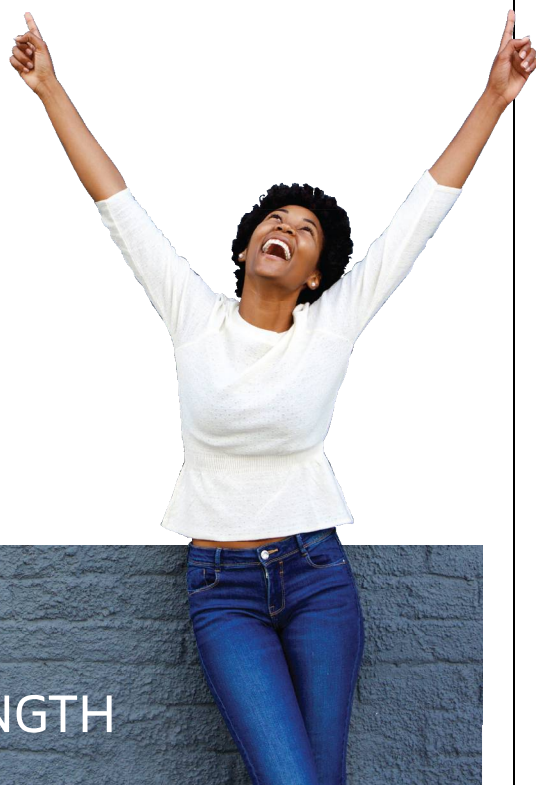
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ASK



Fr. Bitaju Mathew, O.S.S.T. belongs to the Order of the Most Holy Trinity and of the Captives (Trinitarians). He serves as the Secretary Vice Provincial of the Order in India and is currently the Chaplain of the Jesus Youth International Formation Team.

FR. BITAJU

➤ **If God is omniscient then how does it affect our concept of free will? If we truly have free will (and are free to do what we want) how could God be really all knowing? To be more specific if I am free to make any choice how could God possibly know exactly what I am going to do? The concept of an all-knowing God seems paradoxical with free will.**

-Naveen J Thomas, Ireland

The classic Christian position is that God exists outside of time, i.e., He is eternal. As a result, He does not view time in a linear fashion of yesterdays, today's, and tomorrow's. Rather He sees time in one eternal now, being eternally present to all moments of time. This position allows God to see and know the future free acts of humans while not in any way violating their free choice.

By analogy, knowing what will happen does not mean that we are preventing or causing that thing to happen. Knowing that the sun will rise tomorrow does not mean that I am causing it to rise nor am I preventing it from rising. Likewise, consider how well parents know their children. As a father, Joe on many occasions has been able to predict precisely what one of his children will do when faced with a certain situation. Did Joe's foreknowledge of their future actions take away their freedom of choice? Of course not!! Joe had knowledge of what

their future free actions would be; however, they made the choices themselves. If Joe as a finite time bound being have been able to do this a few times, imagine what a perfect, omnipotent, and infinite being existing outside of time is able to do.

Here is a summary of the things the Catholic Church teaches about God's foreknowledge and human free will:

- ▶ God is the source of all good. God does not create evil (which isn't really a "thing", but rather an absence of a good). **God cannot do an evil act!**
- ▶ God allows humans to choose to do good or evil. We have free will. It is possible to **reject God's grace!**
- ▶ God's knowledge is infinite. There is **nothing He does not know!**
- ▶ **God wills (desires) that all be saved!**
- ▶ God always acts first. His grace comes and then we are empowered by it to be able to **respond!**
- ▶ Even after saving grace is received, we can reject it later.

Ref. CCC (Catechism) 154, 155, 600, 2002; Phil. 2:12, 13

✉ Please send your questions to askfrbitaju@kairos.global and your questions will be answered here.



YOUCAT 285

WHAT IS ETERNAL HAPPINESS?

Eternal happiness is seeing God and being taken up into God's happiness

In God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit there is unending life, joy and communion. To be taken up into it will be an incomprehensible, infinite happiness for us men. This happiness is the pure gift of God's grace, for we men can neither bring it about ourselves nor comprehend it in its magnitude. God would like us to decide in favor of our happiness; we should choose God freely, love him above all things, do good and avoid evil insofar as we are able.



KAIROS GLOBAL



On the occasion of the 25 years Jubilee celebration of the Jesus Youth movement in Mumbai, the Pilot edition of the Kairos Global Magazine was released by His Emminence Oswald Cardinal Gracious and presented to His Grace Abraham Viruthukulanagara, Archbishop of Nagpur Diocese and the Ecclesiastical Advisor for Jesus Youth International in the presence of delegates, His Excellency Mar Thomas Ellavanal, Bishop of Eparchy of Kalyan, Mgr. Emmanuel Kadankavil, Vicar General of the Eparchy of Kalyan, Fr. Jacob Thomas [Siju], Chaplain for Jesus Youth Mumbai, Dr. Edward Edezhath, Lay Animator for Jesus Youth International, Charles Bastian, Coordinator for Jesus Youth India. The occasion was witnessed by more than 2800 youth including priests and religious from Maharashtra and Gujarat.

of the global magazine. The stories of Fionne and snatches from the life of Anup and Annilyn's family do present a way of life of Jesus Youth - from a transformative initial encounter to a deeper calling in the family - making it truly a Jesus Youth magazine. I loved the idea of the movie and book reviews.... All in all a great pilot issue. I congratulate the team wish and pray for the upcoming issues.

the potential to be among the best spiritual magazines

Joby Thomas - Previous national coordinator UK

The pilot edition was so beautifully designed and full of heart- touching articles! Praise God! God bless each person on the editorial board, intercessory team and production crew! Thanking Holy Spirit for especially inspiring and empowering Joshy chettan with the divine plan of Kairos Global. May God use every author, and every individual supporting the publication in every way to spread His kingdom through Kairos Global.

Athulya Johnson - College Student, Houston, USA

I was extremely happy to read the pilot edition of Kairos Global. I know that a tremendous amount of hard work and prayer has gone into turning this dream of bringing out a youth magazine in English a reality. Hearty congratulations to the whole team of Kairos Global! This magazine is an effective platform for the Jesus Youth movement to communicate to the younger generation. I found the content not just inspirational and genuinely relevant for young people, it is also presented in a way that instantly appeals to today's youth. I pray that Kairos will continue its journey as an effective tool for communicating the vision of the Jesus Youth movement and for sharing the Good News with people around the globe - especially the youth.

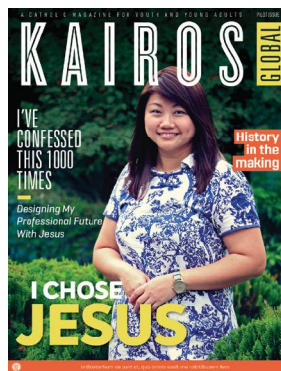
Manoj Sunny - International director of Formation for Jesus Youth

Shelton Pinheiro, Co-ordinator, Rex band & Executive Creative Director, Stark Communications.

Kairos Global has been a dream for quite some time and Mr. Chackochan and team have put in a lot of effort to make this dream a reality. When we look at the reach and scope of Kairos Global we are really hopeful that this will be a channel of Evangelization and reach out to many youth and young families. Kairos Global magazine will not only be a source of nourishment for the Jesus Youth Movement but also an effective tool for outreach and spreading the good news. I thank the team for all the effort and pray that the Holy Spirit leads them most beautifully in addressing topics that's relevant to the younger generation. May this serve as a beacon of light to lead them on and hold on to their faith in this confusing world they are living in. May the lord bless this team abundantly to keep up the good work.

CC Joseph - Jesus Youth International Coordinator

Aesthetically appealing, inspiring & uplifting testimonies & sharings. Particularly enjoyed reading the movie & book review section. If quality of content & design is maintained has



PILOT ISSUE

FEEDBACK

One of the first things that drew my attention to Kairos Global was its design - the selection of images, the typography and the clarity of the layout, I felt, will inspire anyone to pick it up and check it out. Secondly, the choice and spread of the content, as one moves on from page to page is strikingly diverse- ranging from personal stories to Q&As and issues that are at the centre of a young person with an inclination to seek a way forward with Christ. The fact that the contributors are actually from across the world makes it relatable to the idea

TALK

WITH CHRIS COLACO

Chris Colaco shares his experience of mission during his fulltimership in Uganda.

Chris, it's great to have you share your mission experience with us. Can you tell us about yourself?

My Name is Chris Colaco, born in Mangalore, did some of my schooling in Bangalore and Dubai, and in 2005 when I was 11 we as a family migrated and settled in London, UK. I'm the only child in my family. I'm currently pursuing my Bachelor's degree in Philosophy in Maryvale Institute in England. I was also working as an administration assistant in St Joseph's Hospice in London for almost 6 years.

Chris Colaco



What is your mission as a full-timer

I had divided my mission into two. I firstly concentrated on my spiritual growth, a desire to have a strong relationship with the Lord and as a result of this relationship I wanted to go out and reach out to other youth. Just before I started my commitment, I had already set some objectives which I wanted to achieve during this year. I also had a mind-set not to waste this year but to gain and take in as much as possible. I had to have discipline in my life, I had to work hard and not waste time, and moreover whatever I learnt and did should be effective for the rest of my life. This had increased my prayer life to a whole another level. For the first two months I spent around 4-5 hours daily, reflected on the word of God, read and studied the life stories of the

saints and had set some time for myself to contemplate on my life and the life of saints.

Secondly I had been advised to focus on youth ministry mainly. This involved initiating prayer meetings, Night vigils and one day programmes. I also had journeyed with the youth, befriended them and visited their houses. I visited local churches within my parish and introduced the movement especially during youth masses. I also helped the parish whenever I had some time on my hands. There were many baptism and wedding certificates to be stamped and issued so I was helping the seminarian and the assistant priest in these matters. I sometimes moved along with the parish priest and the parish youth chaplain for pastoral work, such as whenever they had burials or hospital visits etc.

Can you tell us something about Uganda, Your Mission place

Uganda, The pearl of Africa as they call it, is a Christian Country blessed by fertile land and rich treasures. Unfortunately, only a few people recognise this and I believe that there is no better place than this that the Lord had prepared for me to experience him and to form me. I was placed in Kassese diocese which is also a district known for its Rwenzori mountains, wildlife and tourism. My parish was called Kasanga which is about 10 minutes' drive from the Border of Congo. Infact it is the last parish of Uganda after which u will be stepping into Congo. Kasanga is in a valley (we can almost say that we are in a ditch between two mountains) and is a very rural village where the reality of poverty is highly visible. There are many languages in Uganda as there are many tribes and kingdoms within the country. I was in the East side of the country where the tribe is called Mukonzo and the language spoken being Lukonzo.

How did you prepare yourself for this one year mission

Our preparation began even before our training. The team in charge for full-timers had sent us reflections for everyday through email





**ONE OF THE MAIN
OUTCOMES OF
THIS YEAR OF
FULLTIMERSHIP
IS THE INTIMATE
RELATIONSHIP THAT
I NOW HAVE WITH
MY LORD**

which ended on the beginning of the training day. After 30 days of intense training we were then assigned our commitment places which I personally had accepted without any hesitation. I believed that the place assigned to me was from God and that there is no other place at that moment in time for God to mould me into his masterpiece. Even when I landed in Uganda I had only increased my prayer to the Lord to use me more, to help me adapt to those situations and to the culture there. Holy Mass played a huge role in my spiritual journey even before getting to Uganda, it was the source of strength when I was weak, it gave me hope when I was nervous and doubtful and gave me courage to step outside the boat into the waters. I personally believe that even though I left Uganda, my mission never finishes

till I see Jesus face to face. Wherever I go, whoever I am with, either with family, friends, workplace etc I should always try to be the presence of God wherever I am.

Did you feel ready to take up this mission that God so faithfully entrusted upon you?

Sometimes there was always a second voice in my head that says, why on God's Green earth did I chose fulltimership, it was easy for me to just roll my blanket over and sleep in my cozy bed. But as the Lord had always said, the Path to heaven is always narrow, I believe the Lord had blessed me immensely during our commissioning at the end of the training to give me that grace to go forth to Uganda and carry out his work.

Some days when I thought I was going to Uganda I was a bit of scared and nervous not knowing what's on the other side of the Planet, but its only through prayer you receive calmness, courage and power from the Lord.

Tell us about your time in Uganda - what were some of the challenges and blessings awaiting you there?

There were many challenges in Uganda, materially, physically and spiritually. Spiritually sometimes there is always a bit of laziness that used to creep in. Waking up

early next morning or going to a church far away during the day in scorching heat could you put you off instantly. But I always had reminded myself that I'm not here to build my kingdom but Gods. Sometimes we had to foot all the way to the churches which takes around an hour of climbing up and then an hour of climbing down. You get really exhausted and all energy is drained out while climbing up to these churches. Some days you wouldn't have electricity it would go off for hours or sometimes some days. It's the same with Water too. I remember once we had no water for around 13 days, in this case we went out with big cans to fetch water from the river which was around 45 minutes away. This was a big learning curve for me to know not to take things for granted even though they were free to us. Every human being has and should have the right to access water. In many of the developed countries we take water for granted but in Uganda I had realised that people used to wait patiently for even a drop of water to flow down the taps. So yes, there were many challenges and most importantly I have learnt from all these challenges and I'm sure these memories will remain with me wherever I go.

What are some of the things that God has accomplished through you during this time?

God has taught me many things and has given me insights into loads of things that I was either confused or doubtful about. One of the main outcomes of this year of fulltimership is the intimate relationship that I now have with my Lord. Secondly, I believe through the numerous experiences of God throughout this year, there can never be an atheist or a scientist who would come to me and say that God doesn't exist. They would never be able to challenge me in those terms purely because of the various experiences of the Lord speaking to me through personal prayer and Holy Mass and day to day activities.

What is your dream for Uganda

I think my dream for Uganda in the short term is to have God fearing leaders who have a lot of zeal, joyfulness and be living witnesses, Missionaries to spread the good news. In terms of Long term dreams I dream that one day Uganda will be the power house for the movement to expand to East Africa and then to Africa.

JESU IS YOUTH



Dr Edward Edezhath, A pioneer of the Jesus Youth Movement gives us a glimpse of the growth of the Movement.

Where you learn to walk in joy



It was the last week in June in the year 1976. The front part of the auditorium of St Teresa's College, Ernakulam was filled with sisters, priests and some lay people. A team of priests, two from Bombay and one from the seminary in Alwaye, were there to introduce the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Although I was invited by one of the organising priests, I came into that gathering with some hesitation and took a corner seat along with a few friends.

The seminar started off on a note of abundant joy and freedom. Fr Fio with his guitar and Fr Rufus with his accordion started teaching a lively song with joyful movements and a hearty

laugh. Its lyrics were so very simple and expressive, "The Joy of the Lord is my strength". They went on repeating the song with slight variations, 'the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace', 'There are no grumpy faces in this Christian life', 'the devil doesn't like it when we laugh ha, ha' and so on. Each change in line was introduced with some witty remark or a funny anecdote and all were spontaneously joining in with laughter, singing and clapping. There is nothing so appealing and inviting as sincere joy. And this was my first introduction to the joy filled spirituality of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and before I could assess and evaluate its worth, I was smiling and singing and was fully in it.





This was also a delightful introduction to the joy of praising God. We were taught new kinds of songs, new ways of praying and the Bible was introduced as the source of abiding joy. We heard the speakers' own stories on how they were touched by the Lord and how they started a new life of joy. We heard about the life of so many persons and families who were transformed by coming in touch with the Lord's love and living a life of joy. This was indeed an opening into a new heaven and new earth, giving a brand new approach to life, its challenges and living with the others.

A new spirituality and a new life style

Charismatic Renewal came with a brand new message of the Good News. Jesus is risen from the dead, and He gives us His Holy Spirit who is the source of all joy and praise. If we open our hearts we will be filled with God's Spirit who will set us free from all bondages of despair and fear, and will fill us with a brand new joy. So many were deeply touched by this and found a new life of joy. Around me I found a new culture and community growing.

This new message had a special appeal to the young. They love friendship and celebration. Here was a Christianity focused on joy, celebration and friendship in Christ. Plenty of young people embraced it with great enthusiasm. How did they celebrate? With exuberant songs, noisy yet joyful exclamations of praise and in prayer and mutual chat sharing about the good things the Lord was doing in their lives. A new outcome of all this was the launching of praise groups. Youth came together in weekly groups and occasional gatherings for times of joyful praise and celebration.

One blessing in my life was that I could join such a group as a follow up of that seminar that I attended. From early July 1976 we started coming together at St Teresa's College, Ernakulam under the guidance of Fr Marcelino Iragui, a Spanish Carmelite priest who was a professor at Alwaye Seminary. He was such a loving and joyful mentor to every youngster. Naturally the group he initiated grew up into a place of

abundant joy and loving fellowship. By now four decades have passed by, numerous persons have come and gone, and this group continues as a place and time of joyful singing, celebration of praise and deep Christian love.

A network of Joy

A life of joy flows out. From the year 1978 there have been efforts in Kerala to bring together youth with this new experience. Such organising efforts got a kick-start with a letter Fr Fio wrote in May that year to the Charismatic leadership in the state. Thank God, we responded positively and there have been continuity and steady building up from that time on. In the path of growth there is always the danger of forgetting certain simple yet essential things in life. But in the growth trail of Jesus Youth there has been a constant call to return to these qualities that we tend to over look, such as, the emphasis on having joy of life and loving dedication.

How do Jesus Youth preserve this ever eluding treasure of joy in personal lives and in the life of the movement? Surely we can get caught with too many bigger things and forget the importance of the little stream of joy. Joy is the fruit of the presence of Christ's Spirit in our lives and hence taking time daily to be with the Lord and thus allowing his river of joy to flow in us is the basis of a refreshing life. A personal joyful time of prayer and some quiet time allowing the Word of God to sink in, do the trick.

But for joy to grow you need places where you drink in this refreshing stream. There is a parched world outside and you need to be in the company of those with abundant spirit to be refreshed. Jesus Youth gatherings provide this infilling experience. They are characterised by joyful singing and spirit filled praise. Fun filled conversation, playful action songs, joyful games, shared meals and the like created a culture of rejoicing in the movement. Joy can be built only on a foundation of deep love and, in turn, this genuine love can grow only through the lifeblood of joy. Love and joy are such intimate companions. A friendly ambience in which people listen to you



and accept you as you are, that is where you would happily spend your time. In the movement, people, especially young people come together in such joyful fellowships. Creative ideas of love and service sprout there and many beautiful Jesus Youth initiatives come out.

Finally, 'it is in giving that we receive', and the best thing that you learn in the movement is the joy of giving. Jesus is Father God's free gift to the world and Jesus gave the gift of his Spirit to humanity. We who are in Christ are called to share the same spirit and continue this chain of gift giving. In Jesus Youth, there is a constant encouragement to live a life of giving, especially to the needy and the poor.

A happy life is built on this Joy Triangle, turning to the indwelling Spirit who is the source of my joy, belonging to a loving friendly circle in which this joy is shared and nurtured and committing to a life of sharing through which this joy is multiplied and spread. Jesus youth is a movement of joy that is well built on this triangular pillar and its sure outcome is enduring and refreshing fruitfulness in the life of every individual and in its fellowships and ministries. With joy may you draw water from the wells of salvation (cf. Is. 12:3)

.....
Dr Edward Edezhath, One of the pioneering leaders and animators of the Jesus Youth movement, a senior lecturer in St. Albert's College, Ernakulam, India lives with his wife Audrey in Cochin, India. They have three children, Ralph, Nicole and Aidan

50 YEARS OF CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Jubilee

Manoj Sunny takes us through the CCR Jubilee celebrations in Rome

The streets of Rome were filled with bright red and yellow colours; people flocked in from all continents, from 128 countries, singing songs of praise in their own languages. They came at the invitation of the Holy Father - to celebrate the golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal - their faces glowing with joy, rejoicing in the way the Lord had led them down the years, thanking God for this family gathering. We could hear different groups praying together in tongues – a language of prayer that transcended the barriers of culture and tradition.

It was the Holy Father who hosted this Jubilee celebration and invited the pilgrims to Rome! Though he gave the mandate of organising this event to Catholic Fraternity and ICCRS, Pope Francis was deeply involved in the proceedings, keeping track of every step of the progress and looking into the finest details pertaining to the Jubilee - from deciding the registration fee to making suggestions for the design of the back drop of the Vigil stage. We have a true shepherd who is concerned about even the smallest needs of his flock!

The Jubilee celebrations started with the general audience on 31st May. On the 1st and 2nd, we had the Jubilee celebrations of different communities and initiatives, ecumenical gatherings, theological symposiums and workshops on different themes, including the Jubilee of Catholic Fraternity, Schools of Evangelisation and the Jubilee of the Youth in CCR. Master Plan, the

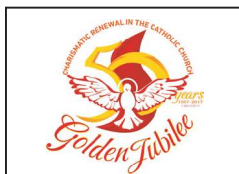
Jesus Youth band from UAE composed the theme song for the Jubilee, sharing the first prize with a Brazilian band. Master Plan animated the music ministry for the Youth Jubilee and the Catholic Fraternity Jubilee gathering in St John Lateran Basilica and led worship sessions during the vigil on Friday and Saturday on the main stage in Circo Massimo. These were proud moments for the entire Jesus Youth movement and it was heartening to see that there are younger bands to follow the footsteps of the RexBand! Everyone appreciated their musical quality, professionalism, prayerfulness and spiritual depth when they ministered. Praise God!

The large gatherings with more than 50,000 people started on the evening of 2nd May at Circo Massimo, Rome, with the 'Worldwide Jubilee Charismatic Gathering'. The testimonies of Patty Mansfield and David Mangan, the first witnesses of the Charismatic Renewal at the Duquesne weekend in Feb 1967, the invocation to the Holy Spirit by Ralph Martin and Vinson Synan (Evangelical leader), the healing prayer by Sr Briege McKenna, the prayer of repentance for the divisions in the CCR, the Holy Mass celebrated by Cardinal Kevin Farrell, etc., helped people in experiencing a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the graces of the Jubilee in a deeper way. On the morning of Saturday, 3rd May, the Holy Father had a special meeting with evangelical leaders. One of the most beautiful moments of the Jubilee was the Vigil





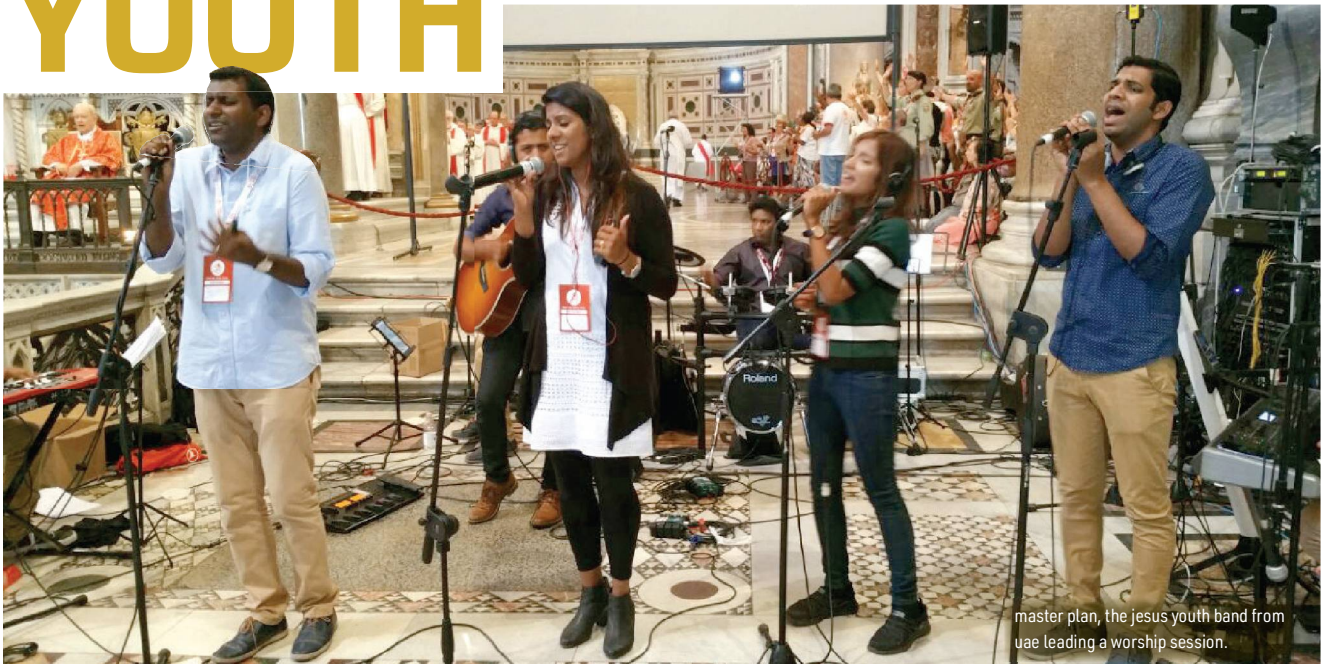
with the Holy Father on the same evening. The backdrop of the stage with the words 'Veni Creator Spiritus' (Come Creator Spirit) was changed to 'Jesus is Lord' in different languages. There were around 60 similar chairs on the stage and the Holy Father sat on one of them between Patty Mansfield and Michelle Moran (President of ICCRS) and the rest of the chairs were occupied by the leaders of Evangelical Churches (except for a few cardinals and members of the organising team) who came from different parts of the world at the invitation of the Holy Father. There was no prayer session led by the Holy Father, no Papal Blessing - just a short message. He was one among the leaders on stage, praying with open hands like any other Charismatic leader, singing along with the choir. The Pope was introduced by the leader of a Pentecostal Church in Italy - Pastor Giovanni Traettino, a friend of his since they met at an ecumenical charismatic gathering in Buenos Aires in 2006. Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher to the Papal household for the last 37 years and Pastor Giovanni talked on 'the work of the communion of the Holy Spirit' and led the prayer to Father God, "seeking forgiveness for sins of divisions among Christians". Pastor Giovanni prayed for the growth of the renewal in the Catholic Church. Finally, Fr Cantalamessa led a powerful prayer of proclamation quoting Rom 10:9: "If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved," which was repeated several times in Italian and English by everyone who was present there - without any differences of denomination, nationality, language or culture. The prayer ended with a powerful prophecy from Patty Mansfield in the presence of the Holy Father "Lift up your eyes and see that the fields are white for harvest. And if you would obey me, and if you would obey the prompting of my Spirit, you will yet see infinitely more than you can ask or imagine, but I need your obedience, I need your docility, I need your faith and you will yet see marvels that will astound you, infinitely more than you could ask or imagine for the glory of my name" We have a truly Charismatic Pope!



This was one of the most beautiful, prophetic moments during the Jubilee celebrations. Personally, I believe the Holy Father clearly brought out the true meaning of ecumenism, which involves not only the Episcopal Churches but includes the Pentecostals too. The Jubilee celebrations concluded with the Holy Mass on Pentecost day celebrated by Pope Francis at St Peter's Square, where he prayed for 'New people, new hearts'.

SPECIAL FEATURE

CCR JUBILEE AND JESUS YOUTH



master plan, the Jesus youth band from UAE leading a worship session.

Manoj sunny explains the relevance of the CCR jubilee for Jesus youth

Looking back, what are some of the things I take home, especially in the context of Jesus Youth movement after this Jubilee? Let me share 5 areas.

THE CHARISMATIC RENEWAL IS ECUMENICAL:

The Charismatic Renewal is "a current of grace," said Pope Francis to the crowd at the Circus Maximus. "It is a work that was born -- Catholic? No. It was born ecumenical," with similar results in many denominations and with Pentecostals providing support and education to new

Catholic charismatics. "It was born ecumenical because it is the Holy Spirit who creates unity," the Pope said. The Holy Spirit drew Catholics and Pentecostals together to profess that "Jesus is Lord" and "to proclaim together the Father's love for all his children... Walk together. Work together. Love each other," he told them.

"The movement of the Holy Spirit, also known as the Pentecostal movement, has in its DNA - its life in the Holy Spirit - the vocation to build Christian unity," remarked Pastor Giovanni Traettino. "Pentecostals and Catholic

charismatics have not always gotten along”, Traettino said, but “the election of Pope Francis clearly opened a new season, especially in relations with us.”

“Let us walk together,” the Pope said to the Evangelical leaders, “let us help the poor together, let us perform acts of charity together, let us work for education together.” At the same time, he said, theologians can do their part and help in the effort for Christian unity. “But we are always on the journey, never stopping, never stopping... and together.”

UNITY IN DIVERSITY OR RECONCILED DIVERSITY:

During the Vigil on Saturday, Pope Francis underlined the importance of ‘Reconciled Diversity’. He made the crowd repeat these two words after him. He exhorted them “To proclaim that Jesus is the Lord - ‘Jesús es el Señor’ - to announce together the love of the Father for all His children! To announce the Good News to all peoples! To demonstrate that peace is possible. It is not so easy to demonstrate to this, today’s world, that peace is possible, but in the name of Jesus we can show with our witness that peace is possible! But it is possible only if we are at peace among ourselves. If we accentuate our differences, we are at war with each other and we cannot proclaim peace. Peace is possible starting from our confession that Jesus is the Lord and from our evangelization on this road. While showing that we have differences – but this is obvious, we have differences – but that we wish to be a reconciled diversity. Here, we must not forget this phrase, but say it to everyone: reconciled diversity. And this phrase is not mine, it is not mine. It is from a Lutheran brother. Reconciled diversity.”

In his homily at the Mass on Pentecost Sunday, the Pope said that Christians can block the

unity in diversity desired by the Holy Spirit by focusing on their differences rather than on what they share. “This happens when we want to separate, when we take sides and form parties, when we adopt rigid and airtight positions, when we become locked into our own ideas and ways of doing things, perhaps even thinking that we are better than others,” he said. “When this happens,” the Pope continued, “we choose the part over the whole, belonging to this or that group before belonging to the church and taking pride in being Christians of the ‘right’ or the ‘left’ before being on the side of Jesus.”

“[The Holy Spirit] rests on each [of the disciples] and then brings

all of them together in fellowship,” giving each a gift for the good of the new community He has created. “The same Spirit creates diversity and unity, and in this way forms a new, diverse and unified people: the Universal Church.”

“The first temptation is to seek diversity without unity,” he said. “The opposite temptation is that of seeking unity without tolerating diversity. Here unity becomes uniformity, where everyone has to do everything together and in the same way, always thinking alike.” The Pope went on to say, “The prayer we make to the Holy Spirit is for the grace to receive His unity, a glance that, leaving personal preferences aside, embraces and loves His Church, our Church. It is to accept responsibility for unity among all, to wipe out the gossip that sows the darnel of discord and the poison of envy, since to be men and women of the Church means being men and women of communion. It is also to ask for a heart that feels that the Church is our Mother and our home, an open and welcoming home where the manifold joy of the Holy Spirit is shared.”

To proclaim that
Jesus is the Lord
... to announce
together the love
of the Father for all
His children!



The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for everyone in the Church:

“This current of grace is for the whole Church, not just for some, and none of us is the “master” and all the others servants. No. We are all serving this current of grace,” the Pope said.

I was reminded of the mandate Pope Francis gave during the Third Worldwide Priest’s Retreat in 2015 at San Giovanni Lateran Basilica. “I ask all of you, each of you, that as part of the stream of grace of the Charismatic Renewal, you plan Life in the Spirit seminars - in your parishes, in your seminaries and schools ... share the Baptism of the Spirit and your catechesis, because it is produced by the work of the Holy Spirit through a personal encounter with Jesus, which changes lives.”

During the Saturday vigil, Pope Francis talked about the Charismatic renewal as the “sovereign work of the Holy Spirit in the Church, which began 50 years ago”. He went on to say, “Fifty Years of

Praise that is the prayer of gratitude and thanksgiving for God’s gracious love.



Charismatic Catholic Renewal. A current of grace of the Spirit! And why a current of grace? Because it has neither a founder, nor statutes, nor organs of governance. Clearly in this current multiple expressions have been born that are certainly human works inspired by the Spirit, with various charisms, and all in the service of the Church. But this current cannot be dammed, nor can the Holy Spirit be enclosed in a cage!”. We can be proud that Jesus Youth is one such beautiful expression of the Holy Spirit which evolved from this stream of grace for the service of the Church!

The Pope wanted the renewal to pause and then move forward with more vigour and passion. “Fifty years is a time of life suitable to stop and make a reflection. It is time for reflection: half of life. And I would say to you: It is time to move forward with more force, leaving behind us the dust of time we have left accumulating, thankful for what we have received and facing the new with confidence in the action of the Holy Spirit!”

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS:

Pope Francis tried to define the four fundamentals based on Cardinal Suenens’s Malines documents. He said “Share with all in the Church Baptism in the Holy Spirit, praise the Lord without ceasing, walk together with Christians of different Churches and Christian communities in prayer and in action for the neediest. Serve the poorest and the sick: this is what the Church and the Pope expect from you, Catholic Charismatic Renewal, and all of you: all, all of you who entered in this current of grace”! To mark the latter priority, at Saturday’s Vigil, special places have been reserved for some of Rome’s homeless. “Being baptized in the Spirit and

knowing how to praise God”, he said, “are not enough” if Christians don’t also “help those in need”. He continued, “Baptism in the Holy Spirit, praise, service to man. The three things are indissolubly united. I can praise deeply, but if I do not help the most needy, that’s not enough. “There was not a needy person among them” (Acts 4:34), says the Book of Acts”.

Pope Francis affirmed the way we pray – the power of praise. He said, “Along with this experience, you constantly remind the Church of the power of prayer of praise. Praise that is the prayer of gratitude and thanksgiving for God’s gracious love. Perhaps some people do not like this way of praying, but surely it is fully a part of the biblical tradition. Take the Psalms: David dances before the Ark of the Covenant, filled with exultation... And please, let us not fall into the attitude of Christians who have the “Michol complex”, ashamed of the way David chose to praise God.”

Jubilee is a time of Grace – to reflect with gratitude on the marvellous things God has done in our lives through this current of Grace; to receive the Power to go ahead with greater commitment in the years ahead carrying His mission! Let me conclude with the prayer Pope Francis prayed.

“The Holy Spirit is the fire of love burning in the Church and in our hearts, even though we often cover him with the ash of our sins. Let us ask him: “Spirit of God, Lord, who dwells in my heart and in the heart of the Church, guiding and shaping her in diversity, come! Like water, we need you to live. Come down upon us anew, teach us unity, renew our hearts and teach us to love as you love us, to forgive as you forgive us. Amen”.



Manoj Sunny, Member and treasurer of the Int’l executive of Catholic Fraternity of communities; He was also a part of the Central Organising Committee of the Golden Jubilee of CCR

UP CLOSE



A Christian *Rapper*

Thomas Pulickal a.k.a Timmy is a Jesus Youth seminarian from the United States. He was born and raised in a devout Catholic family with two sisters. He has been involved with Jesus Youth since its beginnings in the states. He has served in the National Council and International Council before joining the seminary. He continues to minister to young men from around the country and serves as one of the key people shaping Jesus Youth in America.

Timmy, Please tell us a little bit about your childhood and your family. How did your American culture, Indian ancestry and Catholic faith play into your upbringing?

I was born in Jersey City, NJ in February of 1986. My family migrated to America

in 1983, when my older sister was three years old. My parents raised me in the Catholic faith and in an environment of love and innocence. But for whatever reason by the time I was in middle school, I started chasing the empty promises of the world. I thought that true happiness was out there somewhere. And by the time I was transitioning from grade school to high school, my life revolved around parties, drinking, and smoking. I was searching for happiness and acceptance, and I was looking in all the wrong places. Thanks to the prayers and evangelistic fervor of my older sister, I began attending Jesus Youth programs around that time, and I slowly began to experience an undeniable force of love in Eucharistic Adoration and times of praise and worship. Many

Jesus Youths made a conscious effort to relate to me, to understand me, and to share their relationship with Christ in a nonthreatening and natural way. This experience of God's love continued to grow in me. All the while, I also continued growing worse in my life of sin. I was splitting down the middle in attempting to love two masters; whereas, Jesus says, "You must love one and hate the other." The decisive moment was during a silent Jesus Youth retreat.

Timmy, what were your teens like, growing up in New Jersey? Would you describe your character as a reflection of your peers and pop-culture or as a rebel?

"My teens were in a way split at my conversion. It was half way through 9th

grade when I went to a silent JY retreat and by the grace of God resolved to renounce and confess everything and live a new life in Christ. After that point, I changed in many ways, but I continued to be a “rebel”. I probably still am one. Conversion in that respect meant learning to rebel in the right way and for the right thing. In Christ, the rebellion was baptized. When I went to help preach a retreat once, one of the parents saw me speaking and asked those around her, “Who is that drug dealer talking to our kids?” For a brief period through high school I used to make Christian rap songs. All of that was, in a way, different from what people expected from a disciple of Christ, especially within Malayalee circles. When some people look at that period in my life, they assume it

was pre-conversion, my “past life”. But it was really a freedom in the Lord to be myself genuinely and to express my faith in the way that was most natural to me, my peers, and my generation. In JY I found a space to be myself and to use my talents and gifts for the Lord and the Kingdom of God. I didn’t have to put on a pietistic persona or become a scary and superficially “radical” Christian. I experienced JY as this natural place of faith and fellowship deeply rooted in the Church. At such a young age, the movement also gave me the opportunity to share in the mission of the Church in small ways, and I consider that a great privilege.

How would you describe your college years and your journey with the Jesus

Youth Movement that led up to you becoming a full-timer? Was full-timership all you hoped and expected it to be? What would you say you gained out of it?

College for me was a time of deepening, because I left New Jersey where I was very active in JY and had a lot of friends and elders in Jesus Youth and after a period of discernment I moved to McAllen, Texas with my family. Essentially, I was all alone. That was the time the Lord taught me the beauty of solitude, of steadiness in personal prayer, and growing deeper in sacramental life. In many ways it was a difficult time transitioning for me, going from a place with so much fellowship to being alone. But it ended up being a rich time in the Lord. Soon after I moved there



I began traveling around the state trying to connect with other Jesus Youth, looking for support from JY elders, and hoping to build JY in the region. In the summers, I traveled to other regions and helped with various programs and retreats. I also tried to stay with JY families for days or weeks, and that was very formative. During the last year of college, the Lord was leading me through a different phase in my spiritual journey and it was during that time I felt in my heart the call to be a Fulltimer, despite the fact that I was convinced by my own logic that my personality would not be a good fit for fulltimership. Fulltimership was a wonderful experience and extremely formative. I would say I gained three things from that year: 1) the reordering

of ultimate values in life, 2) a deep spiritual fraternity developed with several people in the movement and 3) I was inspired and transformed by the witness, the daily life and inner life of several JY families.

How would you describe your working years and your process of discernment during that time?

Working years were primarily a time of discovering the meaning of mission, especially the mission of the laity. I took time to learn what the church teaches especially from the Second Vatican Council, concerning the vocation of the laity. Work itself was formative; I learned a lot about how to be responsible and also how to manage stress, to be charitable with difficult people. During that time, the Lord also began to reveal to me my calling in terms of mentorship; accompanying younger guys. All these played into the point I received my calling. I was thinking a lot about marriage and living a missionary lifestyle as a

In JY I found a space to be myself and to use my talents and gifts for the Lord and the Kingdom of God. I didn't have to put on a pietistic persona or become a scary and superficially "radical" Christian.

family. I was also exploring a few business ideas that could use my professional skills to contribute directly to the mission of the Church and to the aid of the poor. It was really at the height of all that when out of nowhere came the call to priesthood. Prior to receiving this calling, I was blessed to have the opportunity to respond freely and spontaneously to the truth as I understood it from the Gospel, the movement, church documents, etc. But the calling to the priesthood was different, it came as a gift from above, not a product of my understanding and plans. My part was simply to respond with a Yes. That was a beautiful experience.

Why a Jesus youth priest?

I believe foundation of my vocation is a calling to the priesthood and as a priest I always want to serve Christ by placing myself at the service of the Church and by becoming an obedient son of my bishop and the Holy Father. At the same time, I am a Jesus Youth through and through. I am passionate for the movement's mission and I believe in its relevance for the young

people of these times. Moreover, I believe that its spirituality, which I would call a spirituality of communion, is something that I personally need to become a holy priest. So when my bishop, Bishop Jacob, gave me his blessing and approval to become a Jesus Youth priest, I saw it as a sign of God's providence because these different elements came together.

What were and still are some challenges in your discernment?

Immediately after I felt this call, a million questions came to my mind. I had already been thinking about marriage for several years. To suddenly make such a shift was difficult. In the end, the Lord answered my questions one by one. He strengthened my faith in Him, and gave me the grace to do what I otherwise would not have been able to do- which is to make a total, absolute, and enthusiastic Yes. Since then, there are challenges of growing in holiness and maturity. In other words, the challenges of holistic formation, but I perceive all these challenges in a very positive way. I see them as steps along the journey, a journey which certainly will not be over with priestly ordination but will continue for the rest of my life. The challenge is to become configured to Christ, imitating Him in every way, especially in becoming meek and humble of heart.

What would you like to tell other young Jesus Youth about discerning vocation?

In my opinion, the most important thing is the vocation itself; what Christ is calling me to do and what the specific giftedness that I find in myself is. The celibate life has always been seen in the Church as a special charism of the Holy Spirit, to imitate Christ definitively in one's way of living and loving. I think that discerning that charism is the most important foundational thing. The next step, the where, the how, the with whom, all this flows from there. ■■



The interview was done by **Melissa Tom** and **Maritta Martin**. Melissa Tom is a fulltimer for 2016-2017 from Houston, USA. She has been placed in US as her place of mission. Maritta Martin is a Jesus Youth from Miami, USA. Both Melissa and Maritta enjoy trying out global cuisines, meeting new people and travelling. Stay tuned for more interviews from the duo!

EVOLUTION



POSITIVE VISUALISA

Jacqueline Michael explains how to harness the power of Positive Visualisation in our lives.

There are two ways to run a race. The first is to turn up at the starting point on time and to run as fast as you can toward the finish line. This is what most of us do in life. We turn up and give it our best shot. But there is another group of people. These people get to be called greats. They

too turn up on time and run the best race they've got. But time and again they overcome the toughest opponents and overcome seemingly unsurmountable odds to achieve extraordinary success.

'The man who has no imagination has no wings.'
Muhammad Ali

FUTURE HISTORY

Mohammad Ali was one of the greatest boxers ever. In the days and hours preceding his matches he used a very powerful technique to secure his victory. No, it was not just going to the gym or honing his boxing skills. He called it Future History. He 'saw' his future victory in his mind's eye days before he stepped into the ring. He visualised every little detail; the venue, the referee declaring him winner, his hands up in the air, the crowds cheering, etc. and he replayed these victory visions over and over in his mind.

When his conscious mind was convinced of victory, the subconscious worked double hard to transform conviction into reality. Jim Carrey, Will Smith, Oprah Winfrey, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Michael Jordan are some of the other formidable greats in their field who used the power of Positive Visualisation to shape their future.

TION

WHY DOES POSITIVE VISUALISATION WORK

There are two main reasons it works.

1. Provides clarity of purpose

The greatest difficulty in overcoming challenges and becoming successful in life is a lack of clarity in what we really want to achieve or where we really want to be and how to get there. Clarity about our goals and purpose in real tangible visual form spurs us humans to work toward it with focus and planning. Positive visualisation of victory/goal attainment, convinces our mind that it is doable. This helps channel all our energy to bring our plans to fruition. It further empowers us to realistically prepare for potential setbacks that may come our way. Positive visualisation brings us to the race, well-prepared to tackle the challenges enroute to success already savoured.

2. The nature of our brain Our brain is pretty dumb.

Yes, you read that right! For the brain, seeing is believing; whether it be with your

closed. The sights, thoughts, emotions and imagination that the brain is fed with is all absorbed and assimilated.

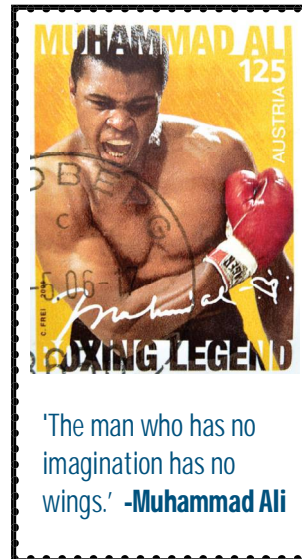
There are many studies which show the power of visualisation. In one study brain patterns activated during weightlifting in weight lifters were also activated when they only imagined lifting! A Cleveland Clinic Foundation study also found that participants who did mental exercises

of weight training in a gym increased muscle strength by almost half of that achieved by those who did the actual physical weight training in the gym. Unbelievable, but true!

HOW CAN I START

For long term goals an easy way to start harnessing the power of Positive Visualisation is to create a Vision Board

Every day and every minute of the day we are bombarded with multiple sensory stimuli making it difficult to focus on the really important stuff. A vision board will help break through this noise. Use the vision board to give visual representation for the important stuff in your life; your life goals, affirmative



bible verses close to your heart, inspirational people etc. You can even break down your life goals into different time periods and create your first vision board to represent the next 5 years and what you want to achieve by the end of it, or how/where you want to live by then. Place your vision board in such a way that you will glance at it several times a day. This will help reinforce your vision and spur you onto action to realise your vision.

Visual reminders to your brain in the form of vision boards or vivid visual imagery teaches the brain what to believe. For quick and

immediate tasks that you need to excel in, imagine the best outcome you want.

If, for example, you are preparing for an upcoming speech, visualise the room that you would be in, the audience and the actual speech. Practise the speech at the venue in your mind. Practise the tone, pace and pauses of your delivery and visualise the audience reactions and applause at the same time. Also imagine the emotional high you would feel at the end of a well delivered and well received speech. This same process can be adapted for a piano recital, ball game, performance, presentation, play or almost anything in life.

Mentally practice the necessary tasks in your mind and visualise yourself solving problems as they arise. Always end your visualisation with images of how success will look as well as feel to you. The emotions of joy and happiness that comes with success are great drivers for the mind. So remember to emote how you would like to feel at the end of the task, in addition to the visuals of success. ■



Dr. Jacqueline Michael,

a Doctor, Writer, Lifestyle

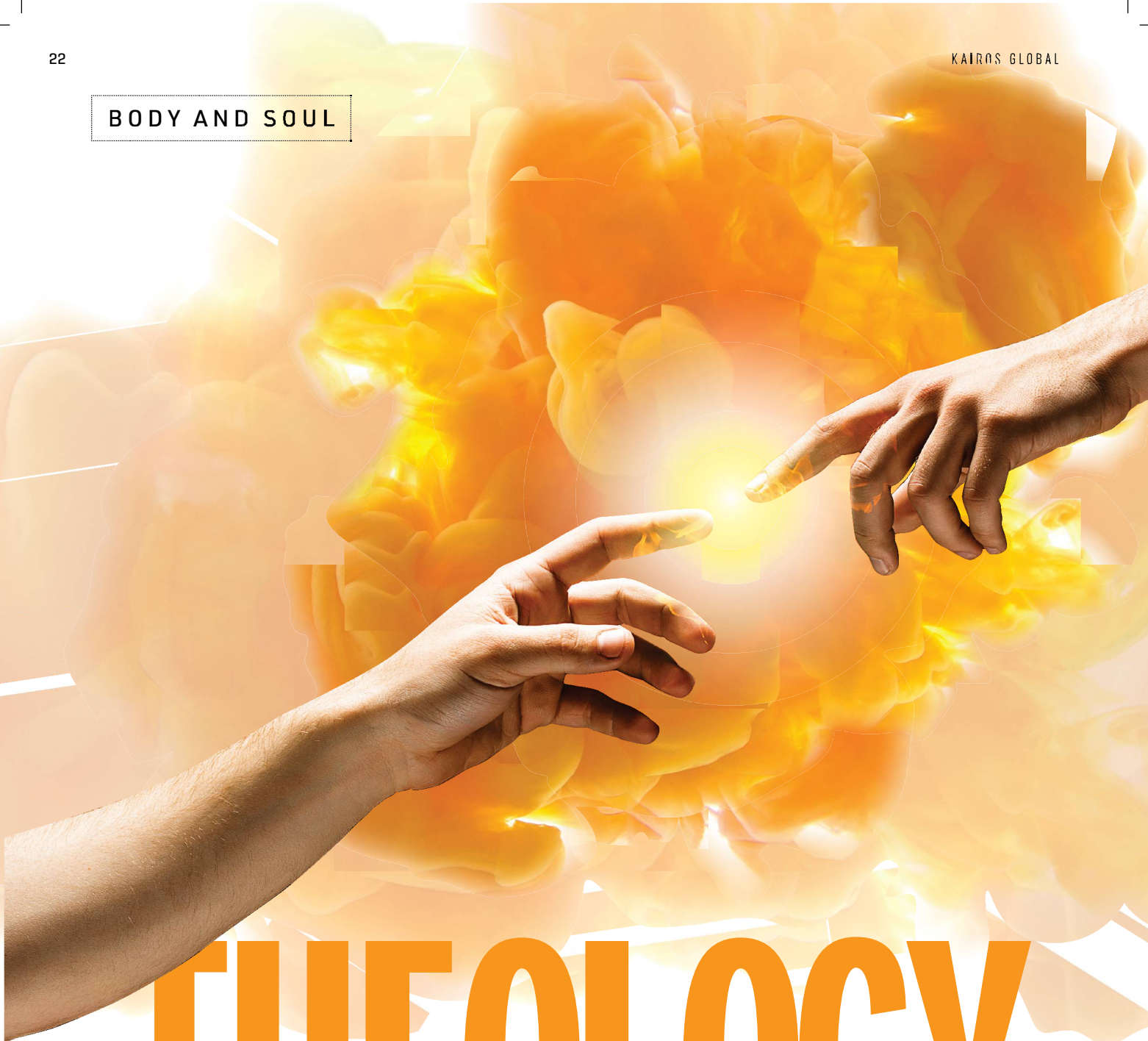
Medicine advocate and mother

of 3 children currently lives in

Kollam, India.

For long term goals an easy way to start harnessing the power of Positive Visualisation is to create a Vision Board


BODY AND SOUL



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY SERIES

LAYING THE FOUNDATION (PART 1)

Maritta Martin explains the concepts of Theology of the body in a simple and practical manner in this first article of the series.



The Church wasn't repressing these natural human desires but upholding and celebrating them in the right context.

Fashioned in Love

“Dear, you can only date guys after college when you are in grad school, now don’t forget that”. This was part of the rule of life my dad had mapped out for me before he dropped me off at my dorm as I started my undergraduate career. Well, he was in luck, because as a young lady of seventeen and in a very demanding doctorate program, I didn’t have time for much else other than studying. But that’s not to say that I wasn’t attracted to guys or my girlfriends and I won’t often talk at lengths about our ideal knight in shining armor. Coming from an Indian background where attractions are often repressed and living in an American culture where affection is free and easily found, I had to discover and live the Catholic balance that I aligned my identity most with. So, when I started on this journey of understanding the Church’s view on sexuality and courting, between a TV that was always tuned into a news channel, Facebook, and a smartphone at my fingertips, it was easy to get lost in what a third party’s opinion on what they thought the Catholic Church was teaching. So, I embarked on a quest to

understand the Church and her teachings on sexuality, courtship, marriage and family directly from her. It honestly wasn’t such a daunting task, as I soon came across the Wednesday audiences of St. John Paul II which was compiled into *Theology of the Body*. This exposure to *The Theology of the Body* served for me as the crux in understanding human relationships from the perspective of the Church going forward.

Theology of the body (TOB) is the complete compilation of Wednesday audiences that St. Pope John Paul II gave over three years addressing human sexuality and relationships. Although I might not have three years to go over each and every single thing he said with each magazine entry, I am nevertheless embarking on a humble attempt to summarize what he said and share with you what my quest taught me. While *TOB* is highly theological and deep in wisdom, I would encourage you to read his “*Theology of the Body*” and “*Love and Responsibility*” to get a more in-depth understanding on the topic. In the meantime, I will do my best in explaining in layman’s terms the little pearls I gained

from my discovery of human relationship from the Catholic perspective.

TOB starts with Pope John Paul II first explaining who God is and who man is. It is only after understanding these two fundamental truths do we understand the rest of *TOB*. In this article, I will be setting the foundation for *TOB* and in the coming articles using this foundation to further clarify the Church’s views on courting and relationships. In letter of John, the apostle says, “God is Love”. So, who exactly is God then? Our basic Catechism teaches us that God is the Holy Trinity. To understand this Trinity, St. Pope John Paul II explains that God the father was eternally loving God the Son who was eternally receiving this love and giving it right back to the Father who was also receiving it eternally. The eternal love between the Father and the Son was so strong, that it was a whole another person—the Holy Spirit. Let’s take a moment, to let that sink in. The Trinity is an eternal self-giving and receiving of this free, total, faithful, fruitful love between God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit. “Woahh” was the only word I could utter when I finally got this truth.

Moving on, now that we have established who God is, the next concept we need to establish is the fundamental truth of who man is. Genesis says that “God breathed his Spirit on man”, “Man was created in the image and likeness of God” and that “God created man as male and female”. Let’s break this down a little more. To be created with his Spirit, in his own likeness and image means that we, because of Breath of the Spirit in us, have the same desire to eternally give and receive love like God who eternally gives and receives love within the Trinity. This is what scripture means when it says that God breathed his Spirit on man, it means that God stamped into man his very own Triune being. We carry in our very essence a spark of divinity. Furthermore, in the complementarity of the sexes, as male and female, we mirror God. So, this is to say a man, in his very being, is stamped



with the capacity and desire to give and receive love. Moreover, when a man freely, faithfully, totally and fruitfully loves a woman and this woman receives and give this love right back to the man, the Trinity is mirrored. The fruit of this free, total, faithful, fruitful love is another life (like the Holy Spirit); whether this life, through God's grace, is the birth of a child, or a community, or new life-giving relationships. So, in the definition of the Church, this free, faithful, total and fruitful intercourse of love between a man and woman that mirrors the Trinity occurs in the conjugal union between spouses consummated in marriage. Bam. This conjugal union between a man and a woman is mirroring the Trinity. How deep and beautiful is that? The Holy Catholic Church is holding the conjugal union consummated between man and woman to the highest and greatest esteem and saying it's an act of divinity. That is why the Church is reserving this conjugal act to the boundaries of marriage, where it can be fully free, total, faithful and fruitful—without any reservations, guilt or shame.

WHEN this concept finally hit me, a whole new understanding of marriage, dating, relationships opened. When I understood the esteem to which the Holy Mother Church considers the union of man and woman, I could let go of the unnecessary cultural biases I had towards relationships towards the opposite sex. The longing and desire I had for companionship was no longer an unnecessary feeling to be repressed and neither was it a free pass to trivially experiment with the next guy that walks my way. This understanding compelled me cherish this union to the highest honor and reverence. I realized

When a man freely, faithfully, totally and fruitfully loves a woman and this woman receives and give this love right back to the man, the Trinity is mirrored.

that the Church wasn't repressing these natural human desires but upholding and celebrating them in the right context. When these two fundamental concepts clicked, the rest of TOB made logical sense and the reason why I decided to listen to the wisdom of the Church and practice that in my daily life.

I hope the foundation of these two concepts wasn't too heavy on Philosophy for the reader, but relatively straightforward. In the next few issues, I'll be diving head on into more concepts discussed by St. John Paul II and how that practically mattered and inspired me in my life. Until then, my message to you is to pause for a moment and reflect on this beautiful and awe-inspiring truth that you and I are fashioned in the image of the Trinity and what it means in the grand scheme of things. ■



Maritta Martin is a Jesus Youth from Miami, USA who enjoys trying out global cuisines and listening to pretty much any kind of music. She has a heart for the Eastern Catholic Churches and spends her spare time reading more about their liturgy and tradition. A goal on her bucket list is to attend divine liturgy in all the eastern rites.

IN FOCUS

That their

JOY

may be
complete..**Joseph Anthraper** delves into the
joyfulness of Jesus Youth Movement.

At last year's March for Life in Birmingham (UK), where we had a larger than normal turnout of about a few thousand people, most of the joyful singing came from a group of young people who wouldn't be silenced by neither the abuses of the passer-by's, nor the scorn on the face of the onlookers. You guessed it right – these young people were "Jesus Youth" and my professor who was walking alongside me – himself a young man with two adorable little girls, was so impressed by the joy and energy of these young adults that he wrote about them in his weekly article in the Catholic magazine, 'Catholic Herald'.

Joy - the trademark of Jesus Youth

Indeed, Jesus Youth is joyfully Catholic and though we might be unaware of it, this inherent joy radiates through in almost everything we are and do! Whether in the singing, dancing and the joyful celebrations of JY programs, or in the quiet meeting of two Jesus Youth, the love and joy that is received and shared is often much beyond mere human happiness. This joy is as CS Lewis says, "it jumps under one's ribs and tickles down one's back and makes one forget meals and keeps one (delightedly) sleepless o' nights". The joy of one who knows that he is intimately, passionately loved. Early on in Mark's Gospel, we read the story of four men bringing



a paralytic man to Jesus (Mk 2:1-12). Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened the roof of the house where Jesus was in, and let the paralytic down. This movement of Jesus Youth, I have often felt, is like the four friends who brought the paralytic to Jesus. Yes, they had deep faith that Jesus would heal the paralytic, but they also had a profound love for their friend, which made them literally move even 'roofs and houses' to get him to Jesus, the source of all healing and true happiness. The joy those four men would have experienced on seeing Jesus heal the paralytic, bringing new life into his body and soul, is the same joy we experience as Jesus Youth in bringing our young people to this 'Life Giving Love'. All the mission and evangelisation endeavours of the movement have always been motivated by this truth – the joy of letting people encounter Jesus, the Christ. That same Jesus in whom, as Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI once said, "we find the happiness that we seek; the happiness we have a right to enjoy".

Joy - the Gift of the Holy Spirit

"Rejoice in the Lord" – at all times, and in all circumstances and places, is a recurring theme in the writings of St Paul. To be able to live a life of rejoicing as St Paul exhorts would require one to live his/her life in union with Christ – a life of beatitudes. Through such a life lived in radical openness to Christ, as CCC says, "man enters into the glory of Christ and into the joy of the Trinitarian life" (CCC 1721). From its initial days, the movement has consistently been challenging and encouraging its young people to enter radically into this new beatific life in Christ. Though even a cursory glance around will show many within the movement who are living this life of missionary discipleship, it is more likely that each Jesus Youth will know at least a person, who even in their struggles and difficulties, is

striving earnestly to live this beatific vocation, thereby experiencing the grace "that disposes man to enter into divine joy" (CCC 1722). This movement of Jesus Youth is often the cradle in which its sons and daughters have looked on the face of Christ, heard from Him the call to follow Him, and taken the decision to enter into His joy.

Hope as we look ahead

The centrality of joy in the mission of the Church was emphasised by Mother Theresa when she said, "Joy is prayer; Joy is strength; Joy is love; Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls". In order that our mission and evangelisation not become stale and lose its saltiness, as in the days of old, there is an ever increasing need for us to delve into the wellsprings of divine joy and love. In sharing Christ to our brethren, let us partake even more in His life and suffering because eventually joy is a gift – a gift of the Holy Spirit. For as CS Lewis says, "all Joy reminds. It is never a possession, always a desire for something longer ago or further away or still 'about to be". We await the day and hour when we will see Him face to face and beholding Him, know the fullness of joy. And until that day, let us march onward, along with our brethren in Jesus Youth, through the Church. ■



Joseph Anthraper, A Jesus Youth, a Software Engineer, lives in Southampton, England with his wife Mahima, daughter Anna-Claire and son John-Paul

Joy = Strength

In this article, Raifiel shares how God transformed her life and filled her with an unspeakable joy.

It is ironic that I am sitting down to write this article on 'Joy' at this juncture in my life. I just gave my 6th practical driving test to obtain an increasingly elusive Australian driving license. No marks for guessing that I failed it! I can't help but laugh when I think of a job interview I gave more than 3 months ago during which, when asked about my license, I confidently declared I would surely get it in two weeks. It is amusing that I believed what I was saying. I was offered the job but could not join because, as you can see, I have yet again failed to impress the examiners with my clearly nonexistent driving skills. This time we even drove to a regional location 2 hours away which was known to be easier on test takers. Hilarious.



When we lose our joyfulness, we lose our strength

Growing up, I was a cry baby. I cried incessantly for reasons unknown. I covered up my 'pain' with humor, wit and a 'don't care' attitude in my teenage years. I was talented in many ways but had a deep longing for something which I wasn't aware of. I sought it in fame, friends and fun but came back dissatisfied. I searched it in different religions and while I admired all the religions they didn't do it for me either. In 2008, after a 2-year intensive personal study of the Bible, I had a personal encounter with Christ that transformed me from the inside out. For the first time, I understood what true Joy was. As I left this retreat, I couldn't contain my joy and was literally bubbling over from the inside, touching everything in the vicinity. During the retreat the Lord had led me to Malachi 4:2 which says, 'But for you who obey me, my saving power will rise on you like the sun and bring healing like the sun's rays. You will be as free and happy as calves let out of a stall'. I was overjoyed as this verse truly reflected what I was experiencing.

I didn't know it then but looking back I know that I was set free from a whole lot of chains that weekend. The Holy Spirit had made a home and temple in my body and the Spirit's fruits abounded within me.

The question is, did this joy remain? Was it meant to remain? My answer is a resounding YES!

No earthly father likes to see their offspring sad and neither does our loving Father in heaven. Jesus told us in John 10:10, 'The thief comes only in order to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness'. Like the Sunday school song, I know that 'the devil doesn't like it when we laugh Ha Ha'. What he desires to steal, kill and destroy is our Joy. What he desires to steal kill and destroy is our current moment. He knows our future isn't in his hands and there is very little long

term harm he can do in our life as we are

bought by the precious blood of the Lamb. What he can try to do, is mess up our current reality with his lies. And whether he can do that, is a choice you and I have **the freedom to make**

Even as I exited that slice of heaven in 2008 with a tremendous peace, my life was thrown into a storm. As I held on tightly to the Master's hand, (He probably has my finger marks imprinted on His hand!) I went through myriad trials. But I refused to let go of the joy my Master had shed His blood for me to receive. And I slowly discovered that joy doesn't need to have anything to do with my circumstances. Nehemiah had said, 'Do not be grieved for the joy of the Lord is your strength.' When we lose our joyfulness, we lose our strength. To be sorrowful and forlorn, and be strong in the Lord is not possible. When I find myself getting too disturbed or upset by situations I quickly take stock of where I am failing to trust God. And if God is turning every situation into good for me, what on earth am I upset about? To my own amazement I have often found myself in absolute peace even as the world fell apart around me. The Holy Spirit makes it possible.

There were times when I was upset/hurt/devastated but I ran to God in personal prayer and asked Him to help

me. Each and EVERY time He comforted me and showed me a new perspective so I could be refilled with joy. When I am low I put on some really peppy praise and worship songs and praise my sadness away. Sometimes I will even dance until the negative thoughts no longer have a choice but to leave my physical body.

I am not a big fan of fruits but I do make sure I buy some when I go grocery shopping. However simply having them in my fridge aren't enough. I need to pick them up and eat them to receive it's benefits. In the same way, we have the fruits of the Spirit always, but we must make a firm choice to avail ourselves of them. Let us respond to our Spirit, not to our flesh, for to be spiritually minded is life and peace. You can tell depression/worry/anxiety to leave in Jesus name. Personal prayer and studying the Word of God have helped to bring my fleshly emotions under the jurisdiction of the Holy Spirit.

As for my current setback, I must confess I did feel upset that I didn't clear the test, but not for long. God loves me and has a plan for my welfare so what is the point of being sad? Who is it going to help but the thief? So, the next time negativity, anxiety and sorrow try to overtake your life rush to Habakkuk 3:17-18 which says, 'Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.'

God is enough. ■



Raifiel Cyril, A Jesus Youth, loves worshipping God through music, writing and counselling. She lives with her husband in Canberra, Australia.

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

Fr. Jacob Thekkemury explains how he is a joyful person in spite of the trials and tribulations of his life.

Lord Jesus the Source of Our Joy

When we look at the face of the innumerable manifestations of evil around us, it is easy to become sad, depressed and hopeless. But when we look at the face of the Risen Lord, we become joyous and hopeful. Jesus proclaimed His mission as one of alleviation, of liberation. The captives, the blind, the depressed, and the sick are there in the world always, and Jesus has good news of liberation to offer to them. He was anointed by the Spirit of the Lord to bring good news to the poor (Lk 4:18-19). The Risen Christ, who has overcome all evils and death – He is our master, leader, and Lord. He wants our inner eyes and minds be settled on Him, not on the evils in the world. It is from Him, and from His Holy

Spirit, that peace, strength, courage, hope, and joy flow to us. His is the Spirit of joy, love, and peace (Gal 5:22). Where there is His Spirit, there is His love, peace, and joy. What is joy? Once asking myself this question, I was inspired write a few lines: “What is joy,” I asked Him. “It is the radiance of peace,” He said. “What then is peace?” I inquired. “Peace is the abode of God” He told me. I was curious and I asked, “How spacious is this abode?” “As spacious as God Himself,” the answer came. Daringly I asked, “What then is God?” He softly said: “God is Love.” Jesus said: “I have told you all this so that my own joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete (John 15:11). Every

follower of Christ is called to participate in the joy that is a special gift of Jesus. Even while the world around us is drenched in deep trouble, the true followers of Jesus can move ahead with courage, confidence, and hope, experiencing deep inner peace, tranquility, and joy.

A Personal Testimony

I was ordained a priest in 1987, at the age of 29. In 1991, I completed my master’s degree in English Literature from Loyola College, Madras, and came out with flying colors, securing the first rank. Back in Kerala, I engaged in teaching for a short period. Then, unwelcomed, two things visited me simultaneously. One, I had to make a choice for or against the gospel ideals set by Jesus. I chose the former knowing fully well that I would be in deep waters. Two, bodily discomforts slowly began to pester me. I was 35 then. Till then I had been a priest of



good repute. Now, things began to change as a consequence of the deliberate choice I had made. I stood by Christ's principles and suffered a lot. Still, I entertained a feeling of great satisfaction and a spiritual joy in my conscience, for I always adhered to truth. I knew I suffered all this for the cause of the Lord. During this period, I believed that the Lord was with me and He would protect and sustain me always. I left the teaching field thinking I could dedicate my whole time for the direct ministry of Jesus Christ. But soon, I came upon an unpleasant medical diagnosis...I was fatally sick. The sporadic headaches I had suffered so far had been due to high blood pressure, and I had renal (kidney) nephritis. It had become chronic, and inescapable. Along with it, there started a terrible pain in the urinary track that was later identified as a spasm at the urethra. I underwent a laser surgery in 1994 and escaped the pain, after experiencing complications like bleeding for a while. With this chronic kidney problem, I had to take rest in the priest home, where the sick and old priests lived. It's now more than two decades since I have been here.

I spent the first few years here with a very strict diet and with a lot of questions to be settled in my mind. During this period, I wrote two books, one on the Book of Revelation, and the other on the Blessed Mother Mary. I also kept preaching retreats and took Bible classes. In 1997 when my kidney failed completely, I fell unconscious and was admitted to Hospital. After eight months of dialysis, I underwent renal transplant. The surgery was partly a failure

due to doctor's negligence. I went through tremendous pain and repeated surgical interferences. Due to long term high dosage use of cortisone, my bones were seriously affected, and the left leg's femoral head collapsed. Almost a year later, with an impaired kidney with tubular necrosis, high blood pressure, bones severely osteoporotic, and Hepatitis B positive, I was discharged from the hospital. I could not walk properly. With the help of elbow crutches I managed my daily chores for a few years.

Why am I describing all these personal afflictions? Just to pose the question to you "how can one be happy, content, and hopeful while these things are happening to one at this age?" Where does happiness come from for such a person? The answer is simple. It is from Jesus Christ, from his Holy Spirit. Once, while I was extremely tired, I asked Jesus, "Why do you allow me this great suffering at this age? Couldn't I do a lot of good things for you if I was healthy? Why did you thwarter all the good dreams I have had for your cause? What sense does it make to die at this age?" The answer was simple and immediate: "How old was I when I suffered and died?" I know His suffering and death has been the most meaningful thing that happened on earth. It was the greatest act of love. Jesus' death on the cross reveals that suffering has immense meaning. Death is not the end of human life, but only the beginning of the flowering of it into its most glorious form. So a genuinely spiritual person does not need to be worried or upset about his or her illness, suffering, and death at any age. Not only that, even while undergoing these, one can also be happy. It is the hope accompanying real faith and God-experience that enables one to entertain inner joy even in such terrible predicaments. Certainly, one's body and sometimes one's mind, can be suffocated with pain and suffering, but not one's spirit. The Holy Spirit enables us to enjoy the fruits of his presence in us. He fills us with faith and hope, with love of God and love for brethren.

Now it has been more than nineteen years since the renal transplant took place. Almost fully confined to the priest home, like a cloistered person, I spend my days. I was hit by chicken guinea, the terrible fever and a lot of suffering. I had a spinal problem. Repeated ayurvedic treatments helped me relieve pain. Once I collapsed and I was admitted in hospital for almost a month. All the while the transplanted kidney has been slowly degenerating. Liver condition is slowly worsening with heavy viral load. Asthma also started living with me few years ago as a side effect of drugs. My sleep is also very disturbed by breathing troubles. Heart also suffers.

I prepared audio/visual material, and gave retreats to people till recently. I have written 18 books during this period, and two of them brought me awards. The latest work is a novel, a pure biblical novel "Elohiminte Paadamudrakal" published in November 2016. It bagged the 2016 Shalom Media Award for the best novel. I made a personal website where those who visit it can freely download most of my books and audio/visual videos on Holy Mass and so on. Now I am sixty.

It is all interesting, isn't it? Do you think that I am a sad or unfortunate person? The fact is that I am one of the happiest persons in the world. I am also fortunate. I did not waste my time worrying about the ill health. I stopped thinking about what other people would think about me. That is to say, I stopped looking for human praise or glory from the world. I abandoned myself into the hands of God, my loving Father. I sought after God's praise and His kingdom and nothing else. I always asked God to reveal His plan for me. I used my time as He inspired and guided me. I keep walking along the path the Lord shows me. As the song goes, "the joy of the Lord is my strength." "Rejoice in the Lord. Again, I say rejoice," admonishes St. Paul. Yes, we are all called by God to rejoice. With the Blessed Virgin Mary, every Christian must be able to sing, "My spirit exults in God my Saviour." ■■



Fr. Jacob Thekkemury, A priest & retreat preacher from Kanjirapally, India who is actively involved in Jesus Youth Movement and charismatic renewal ever since his ordination in 1987 and is the author of 18 books.

LIVING LIFE

LIVING LIFE IN

Joy

I have questioned His plans for my life at many points, especially when things don't work out the way I want it to. However, in my struggles and worries, I find consolation in prayer and the knowledge that there is always light at the end of the dark tunnel, the light of Jesus, our Lord. I am aware that living a life of rejoicing is a long and hard battle, more so because of my repeated failings. But at a certain point in life, I realised the truth that God is completely forgiving – which has time and again given me the strength to get back up and re-start all over again.

Arsha Ann Babu
Birmingham, UK

As a family, we have found that living a life of gratitude and joy, especially during struggles and suffering, can be extremely challenging. And yet we know that attending Holy Mass every possible day is our strength, because we bring home with us our living God. Spending time in personal prayer, claiming the Word of God and surrendering our whole self to Him, gives us the assurance that God is in total control of our life. Though the world around tells us to earn more and buy our way to happiness, deep down we are certain that true happiness comes through a life of sacrifice and love. In addition, opening our house to people of prayer fills our house and our hearts with happiness and blessings.

Vivish Varghese and Reema Vivish
Derby, UK

Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready (Rev 19:7) The joy that no one can take away from us (John 16:22) is knowing our eternal bridegroom and rejoicing in him. It is an overwhelming experience that wells up from the divine knowledge that Jesus Owns You.

Antony Kalapurackal
Brisbane, Australia

A Christian is one who is invited... You are invited to join in the feast, to the joy of being saved, to the joy of being redeemed, to the joy of sharing life with Christ. This is a joy! You are called to a party!..

Pope Francis

Being a part of Jesus Youth since my college days, I was always attracted by the joy that this bunch of people always had no matter what. They were a joyful contradiction and their joy was contagious. Till then I thought joy was happiness, but later understood that happiness is momentary and diminishes with situations or people - but joy cannot be taken away. As the scripture says in Psalm 30:5, "Though the sorrows may last for the night His joy comes with the morning". In spite of situations or people that let me down, there always is a joy deep down, that puts me back on track and that joy stems from a hope that God will turn everything for my good.

Nisha Shelly
Texas, USA

Ever since my first encounter with Jesus, I experienced a deep JOY which I never found otherwise. The joy of experiencing the arms wide open love of Christ is incomparable. But still, the daily routine of life and motherhood could sometimes make me forget to live every moment joyfully. And then I would stop and count my little blessings. And just like that, I'd be back on a joyful track. Reminds me of the song, "This joy that I have the world didn't give it to me, and the world can't take it away"

Bernadette Avinash
Chennai, India

FAMILY IN FOCUS



A peep into a JOYFUL Family

JOBY and Anni Thomas are settled in Worcester in the UK. Joby Thomas was the previous national coordinator for UK, he is man of wisdom and Anni, a woman of prayer. As a family they are very active in the UK Jesus Youth ministry. There's a home that is filled with joy and laughter and is always open to young families and youngsters, through their life based on Christ, they continue to inspire many youngsters to live a life completely rooted in Christ. They are blessed with five children here on earth and one in heaven; Vidya (daughter 11 yrs), Vibha (daughter 10 yrs), Samuel (son 7 yrs), Benedict (son 4 yrs), John Paul (son 1yr).

When you think of a pro-life family what comes to your minds?

Many children, lots of noise, fun, laughter, chaos, joy, struggles, never-ending dishwashing, ample laundry, lots of helping hands, never able to get out of the house in time and so on.....

Do you both come from big families? What do you think is the best thing about having a big family.

No we both come from small families. There is so much joy despite all the chaos. We enjoy seeing the beauty and uniqueness of God's creation in all our children in very different ways. We see how

they learn from each other, share, help and love each other. The older children recognize the need to help the parents with household chores and looking after the young ones. The children can never have enough of each other. They love being together. We love seeing them grow into the various phases of life and realize how merciful and loving God is in having given us these precious gifts.

When did the idea of wanting many kids take shape?

Once we started having them and started appreciating how wonderful and precious they are as God's gifts. Psalms 127.

Do you think it is important to have support systems around you, when rearing children? If so what do you consider to be your supports?

It does help if we can have parents nearby to support in times of delivery, ill-health, occasional child-care, etc. Close friendships within the JY movement can also be strong support. Personally we were never in favor of child-minders or au pairs. Either one of us is always at home to be with the children.

Can you share with us what equips you on a daily basis to deal with all the ups and downs of any day, especially when it comes to children?

I'd imagine you need an ocean of patience and love. Personal prayer, Mass, word of God, and praying, sharing and spending time with each other. Constantly encouraging and motivating each other and the children.

Each child has a unique personality and needs, how do you manage to cater to each one of their needs?

By spending time with each one separately daily, observing them, praying for each one and their individual needs daily. Encouraging and motivating them in what they are good at. Helping them in the areas they struggle by constantly appreciating them and by avoiding to speak negatively/belittling them. Above all, entrusting each one to the Lord during Mass, every day.



TO BE HOLISTIC HUMAN BEINGS AND TRUE CATHOLICS WITH A GREAT LOVE FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH, THAT THEY MAY RECOGNISE AND EXCEL AT WHATEVER GOD HAS PLANNED FOR THEIR LIVES.

You are homeschooling as well, what prompted you?

When we met a few homeschooling families in 2011- we were very inspired by the joy they reflected, the holiness and simplicity in their lives. Their lifestyle appeared to be a joyful contradiction to the worldly ways - a very deliberate and conscious decision which suggested that God is at the center of everything they did and Eternal Life is their most important priority and destination.

Are there any things that you intentionally do within your family to pass on your Catholic faith?

We pray as a family at least twice a day, once in the morning and then in the evening. We usually pray for souls in purgatory while in the car on short trips or rosary with different intentions on long trips. Sometimes the divine mercy is prayed in the afternoon. Try to speak and study about faith (Catechism and the Bible) on a daily basis. Try and practice certain values of the Gospel as often as possible. Preparing

for and observing important feasts and solemnities of the year with a spirit of creativity. We try to practice virtues at home especially we as parents lead by example, encouraging the children to follow.

Do you take time on a daily basis to pray and dream for each one of your children? What would be your biggest dream for them?

Yes. We do, Individually and together. To be holistic human beings and true Catholics with a great love for Christ and His Church. That they may recognize and excel at whatever God has planned for their lives.

You are both active in the ministry? How do you find a balance between work, family, and ministry? Is it important to set priorities?

It is important to pray and discern ones priorities. The Kingdom of God begins with me and my family. So if my relationship with God, my wife and children are not in order then I cannot effectively minister to others. Time-management is very important. We need

plans but at the same time, be flexible. Both of us work part-time which helps get the right balance between family, homeschooling and ministering.

Do you get time to spend time with each other as a couple? Is it important?

Very important. We struggle to, especially since the children are with (and sometimes at us) all the time. It is usually when they are in bed at night or sometimes when the kids are busy watching a video or playing games together. We usually share and pray for some time. Very occasionally, watch a movie together.

How do you come to common decisions especially when there is a conflict of ideas?

We list out all the pros and cons and try reasoning it out. If it is not something very important and there is no headway sometimes one of us lets go and respects the other person's wisdom. But mostly we pray, discern and trust that the Lord will lead us.

How about your individual interests and friendships? Do these take a back seat or do you still find time for them?

We do struggle, but to be honest if we are a little pro-active, we can occasionally pursue our interests. Regular socializing does go down on the priority list but it honestly doesn't hurt.

Any advice for young families who are just starting off?

Marriage is beautiful. It is a joyful vocation. So long as God is at the center of our marriage there is no challenge we cannot face because matrimonial grace provides us with the strength to overcome all obstacles. A strong prayer life and spending time with each other is very important to grow in love with God and our spouse. It is also important to distinguish between genuine needs and wants. This helps us save a lot of time, energy and efforts that we invest in our work. All of which can be channelized into building a joyful family that will be rooted in Christ and be a blessing to the world. ■



Shaun Austin is a part of the Jesus Youth National team in Ireland. With a heart for youth ministry, a talented worship leader & dedicated family man, he enjoys spending time with his baby girls.



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Do you desire to sacrifice time and offer your talent for God, giving all glory to Him? Kairos, the Jesus Youth magazine, is looking for committed and dedicated volunteers to make our mission a success! Please consider helping out as much as you can – we have wide range of needs.

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Your few minutes...Makes miracles!!! "Kairos Power House," the 24/7 intercessory WhatsApp group that prays for the various needs of Kairos Media, invites you to participate in prayer campaign. Are you ready to join us?? Just make a WhatsApp message at +91 9995988690 to join the Kairos Power House. Lets pray together for Kairos Media!!

KAIROS POC (POINT OF CONTACT)

Kairos POC for each Country/Region/Zone, will voluntarily coordinate promotions of Kairos Magazines in their area, identify writers, conduct interviews, and get articles based on requirements.

WRITERS

We welcome articles, personal experiences, mission experiences, testimonies, practical teachings, reflections, interviews, insights, and much more by writers who are with the church and for the church. For more information, and to submit articles, please email editor@kairos.global.

WEB/GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Designs and maintains WordPress websites using latest theme for Kairos. Design flyers, posters, wallpapers, ads, etc.

FULL TIMERS

Commit to volunteer full time with Kairos for 3 months/6 Months/1 year.

FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Join "Friends of Kairos," to financially support Kairos Media by contributing any amount every month. You can make your contributions online through www.kairos.global

We look forward to hearing from you! If you know someone, please email info@kairos.global at the earliest.

Kairos, the Jesus Youth magazine, is looking for committed and dedicated volunteers to make our mission a success! Please consider helping out as much as you can – we have wide range of needs.

BENEFITS

Benefits are secondary as the primary motive is giving glory to God. However, Volunteers will receive solid experience in the world's latest development methodologies and tools. Experience certificate from JesusYouth will also be issued.



FAMILIA



MUSINGS OF A HOMESCHOOLING

Mother

Vinitha Mary Joby

articulates her family's journey of home educating their children.

As soon as a married couple is blessed with a child, it is natural for parents to start planning for his/her future. And as he grows, parents are all too eager to select the best school, to most equip him to meet the growing demands of a fast changing world. When we became parents, we were no different!

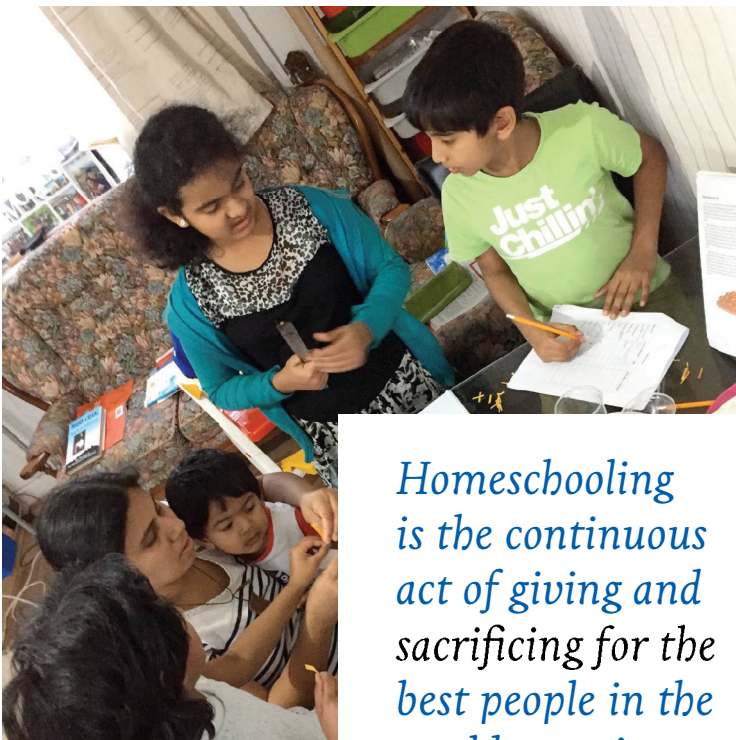
But as a couple who received Jesus and were formed in Christ's love through the movement of Jesus Youth, through being part of the pre-teens ministry in UK God allowed us to hear the unseen cry of children around us. So much so that by the time our kids started school, He had moulded us enough for us to see the peer influence and pressure they were subjected to even at the tender age of 4 or 5. This made us sit up and listen to what God wanted us to do – to listen to His promptings, “when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way;

walk in it” (Is 30:21). This was the start of a journey – a long time of discernment and trusting in God, leading us to choose Home Education – like the ‘Exodus’ of the Israelites.

Our first discernment was about the meaning of education. Education, properly defined, “is the act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgment and generally of preparing oneself or others intellectually for mature life”. The secondary and tertiary meaning of education is connected with schooling. When we look through the Bible we see Jesus as a 12-year-old boy listening and asking questions with the teachers of the law. Further in Daniel chapter 13, we see how a young Daniel, full of wisdom can help Susanna. The Catechism of Catholic Church teaches in 2221 that, ‘the role of parents in education is of such importance that it is impossible to provide an adequate substitute. The right and the duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable’. Furthermore, ‘Parents

have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues, the home is the natural environment for initiating a human being into solidarity and command responsibilities' (2224). While reflecting on these teachings, we came to a firm belief that only through home education would the formation of such virtues be possible in a child.

The definition of education also implies academic learning/schooling occupying only a small part of education. The family is the heart of society. Whether at school or not, most one's learning happens through the various experiences one undergoes. Through home education children have the unique opportunity of spending most of their time within the family itself and thus see the beauty of family life. They can witness to how parents resolve conflicts and continue in love with God's help. They also learn to trust in God's providence, as with home education, families mostly would need to depend on a single parent's income. These lessons have the potential to help the children face future adversities in life, by trusting in God. Children see new babies being welcomed wholeheartedly into families – its joys as well as struggles, and they see how sickness and financial struggles are addressed with faith in God. All these lessons are beyond the walls of a regular classroom.



Homeschooling is the continuous act of giving and sacrificing for the best people in the world – one's own children.

Love begins at home. In fact, homeschooling is the continuous act of giving and sacrificing for the best people in the world – your own children, reflecting the life of Christ. Often, the day begins with toddlers trying to feed themselves and spilling cereal and milk all over the floor, babies crying, middle schoolers not dressing on time and getting late for home-school. On such occasions realising my struggle, my husband invariably steps in – calming the baby, feeding the child, making me a cup of tea, reassuring me and helping me get into rhythm of the day. In being a home schooling parent, it is imperative to be connected and united with one's spouse. Every year, together we take some time off to stop and look at His insights – so that we can work together as a family.

The key advantage in home education is passing on the faith. One of the great blessings with home-schooling is being able to live the sacramental life more fully. Our family enjoys being together, celebrating the feasts and seasons of the liturgical year at home – in the domestic church. In addition, doing things together brings a lot of happiness, life, joy and creativity to little children as well as adults – whether doing an art project, or a craft, reading or following the traditions, or trying a new recipe. Stories of saints are incorporated into our daily routine and the insights drawn from their lives have, over time become a great source of encouragement in the many struggles of our daily lives.

For us, the best thing in home education have been meeting with some extraordinary people. Christian and non-Christian – some of them inspiration pro-life families, who are extremely concerned about the society we live in. Welcoming families that are more than happy to share their resources with one another. Once we were talking with the mother of a Catholic family of 7 children who said about how as we are in the process of making saints and not scholars, there is less pressure placed on children to be competitive in the world.

We consider this as our primary vocation. Our family has gained many blessings through homeschooling; it has broadened my perspective about education, my vocation as a mother, inspired me greatly and empowered me. Moreover, this has helped me to grow in faith, develop a deeper love towards the Mother Church and also bolster love towards my fellow beings through my thoughtfulness, time and understanding. Many times, when struggling with doubts or in difficulty, I look up to Mary, our mother, who experienced the highest peaks and lowest depths of motherhood. Let her name be uttered from your lips; never allow it to leave your heart.

I am reminded of these words of Theresa of Avila:

He leads me always :

Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you.

For all things pass save God, Who does not change

Be patient and at the last, You will find all fulfilment

Hold God and nothing will fail you

For he alone is all.



Vinitha Mary Joby, A home maker, enjoys time with family, loves reading, doing arts & craft, and blogging. She lives in UK with her husband and four blessings and is actively involved in Children's ministry.

CULTURE OF LIFE

BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN THE WOMB I KNEW YOU...

Sherin Alexander explains the uniqueness of each person from conception and the distinctiveness of each person's mission.

ALL human life starts off with one single cell. Conception of a new life happens when a sperm penetrates an egg and a new distinctive life is formed with a new set of DNA. While half of the chromosomes come from the father and half from the mother, the new combination of DNA is utterly unique (except for identical twins since they start off with one fertilized egg and splits into two babies). This new life has never before existed, and this life will never naturally exist again. Here is a unique, irreplaceable creation!

The moment of conception is truly a very special moment. It is the very beginning of a new life. A new soul is placed in the womb of the mother; in some cases, multiple souls in the case of twins, and and

wife who contributed has no idea this has taken place. The mother's body starts supporting this new baby but she won't find out about the existence of this person for another 2 more weeks. There is someone else however, who does know what is happening in the dark recesses of the womb. The Lord, who sees everything, who knows everything and has placed this life in this womb knows this person, personally! In fact, God knows this person even before conception!

The Lord said to Jeremiah, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." (Jeremiah 1:5). Truly, the intimacy and primacy of the Lord in our lives is reflected at the moment of conception and the first 2 weeks of our lives. The Lord, not only knew him, but also dedicated and appointed Jeremiah before his birth. In the book of Genesis, the angels mentioned about Isaac to Abraham and Sarah an year before Isaac's birth despite the reality that Abraham was past age and Sarah had stopped her menstrual periods. In the book of Judges, we read about an angel of God appearing to Zorah's wife Manoah, "Though you are barren and have had no children, you will conceive and bear a son....No razor shall touch his head, for the boy is to be a nazirite for God from the womb. It is he who will begin to save Israel from the power of the Philistines" (Judges: 13- 3-5). That child was Samson. Mary, at the moment of her conception in her mother's womb was conceived free from original sin by the virtue of the foreseen merits of her Son; Church celebrates this yearly on the feast of Immaculate Conception on December 8th. Even though Zechariah and Elizabeth were both advanced in age and Elizabeth was barren, angel informed: "Do not be afraid Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall name him John... For he will be great in the sight of [the] Lord...He will be filled with the holy Spirit even from his mother's womb, and he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers toward children and the

THE MOMENT OF CONCEPTION IS TRULY A VERY SPECIAL MOMENT.... A NEW SOUL IS PLACED IN THE WOMB OF THE MOTHER.



disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to prepare a people fit for the Lord" (Luke 1:13 - 17).

THE uniqueness of each person from conception and the distinctiveness of each person's mission in the bigger reality of the God's plan for mankind is manifest in these characters. God desires all his children to be with him and he is drawing people to him through his faithful believers. This rightly leads us to the question: what about me? What is my unique irreplaceable contribution? We are each placed in specific situations and states of life and only we can fulfill the call assigned to us. Perhaps, the callings in the modern world are not of the same nature as the people of Old Testament. So, we look to the Church to guide us: "Hence the laity, dedicated as they are to Christ and anointed by the Holy Spirit, are marvelously called and prepared so that even richer fruits of the Spirit maybe produced in them. For all their works, prayers, and apostolic undertakings, family and married life, daily work, relaxation of mind and body, if they are accomplished in the Spirit - indeed even the hardships of life if patiently born - all these become spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the Eucharist these may most fittingly be offered to the Father along with the body of the Lord. And so, worshipping everywhere by their holy actions, the laity consecrates the world itself to God, everywhere offering worship by the holiness of their lives" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 901).

Lord, I pray for grace, faithfulness and perseverance to seek and live out the unique, irreplaceable mission entrusted specifically to me. **||**



Sherin Alexander, A Jesus Youth, A Physician Assistant at a family practice, a certified Marquette Model Natural Family Planning instructor lives with her husband in Florida, USA

Chandeliers

MODERN SAINTS

✧ Saints Louis Martin and ✧ Azélie-Marie Guérin

By Manoj Alex, Houston, USA



**Marie Zélie
Guérin Martin**

Born: 1831

Died: -1877

Louis Martin

Born: 1823

Died: -1894

Louis Martin (1823-1894) and Marie Zélie Guérin Martin (1831-1877) are the first married couple with children from modern times to be canonized together in the Catholic Church. The French couple serves as an extraordinary witness of conjugal and family spirituality. Louis and Zélie were declared "venerable" on 26 March 1994 by Pope John Paul II. They were beatified on 19 October 2008 by José Saraiva Cardinal Martins, the legate of Pope Benedict XVI in the Basilica of Saint Thérèse, Lisieux. And finally, on 18 October 2015, Louis and Azélie-Marie Martin were canonized as saints by Pope Francis.

In the year 1858, in northern France there was a man and woman who met each other while passing on a bridge. The woman, Azélie, had resolved to be a sister of charity of St Vincent De Paul, but was sent away due to poor health, so she had

resolved to marry and she had desired to consecrate all of her children to God Almighty. But the man, Louis, who passed her way that day on the bridge, unlike her, had desired to remain a bachelor, because he too had aspired to religious life. He desired to become an Augustinian friar, but was turned away because he did not know Latin, which was needed for his formation. The two struck a conversation, and as they chatted they began to see in each other, a reflection of all they held dear; a reflection of their fervent catholic faith, and a reflection of God's goodness and beauty in each other. Deep in her heart she heard Almighty God say to her "this is the man whom I have chosen for you". And Louis was soon convinced that this pious woman was called to share a vocation with him. So, on July 13th, 1858, the two of them got married and started a journey together. They had Seven girls and two boys, four of whom died in infancy. They, Louis and Azélie are the parents of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, the beloved lily flower, the doctor of the church.

Zélie Guérin had a lace making profession was extremely successful. So, successful that Louis quit his watchmaking

profession and started working with Zélie marketing her Lace products. Azélie was an unusual woman for her times, in that she read the newspaper every day, followed the stock market among other things. Because of their blossoming business, they were considered among the fairly well to do of the society and did not lack in anything material per say. However, this is not to say that they didn't have sufferings. Four children died in infancy. After the birth of her last child, she was diagnosed with advanced cancer. She was told she won't live much longer. On August 28th, 1877 after nearly 20 years of marriage, after receiving Holy communion, Azélie-Marie Guérin died aged 45 in Alençon, France. After the demise of his wife, Louis moved the family from there back to Alençon. As time passed, his health began to deteriorate. In 1889 Louis suffered two paralyzing strokes followed by cerebral arteriosclerosis, and was hospitalized for three years at the Bon Sauveur Asylum in Caen. In 1892 he returned to Lisieux, where two of his daughters looked after him until his death on 29 July 1894 at Chateau La Musse near Évreux. In her diaries, St. Thérèse remembers her parents fondly and notes that "The good Lord, gave me a father and mother, more worthy of heaven, than of earth".

On May 25 2002, a young baby was born with defective lungs. Their priest suggested the parents pray for the intercession of Louis and Zélie. After 2 months, the baby Pietro Schiliro, was cured of lung trouble at their intercession. Louis and Zélie Martin are not saints because all their children became nuns, not because one of their daughters became a saint, not even because of their sufferings, but because all their life they were resigned to seek after God's will. God had chosen them to become the great patrons of married people just because they sought to do only God's will in their marriage.

Quick Facts:



Declared "venerable"
by Pope John Paul II



**Beatified by José Saraiva
Cardinal Martins**



Canonized as Saints
by Pope Francis.

SOUNDREPLY



MOVIE

ARGO (2012)

Argo is a 2012 Academy award winning historical thriller directed by Ben Affleck, based on the true story of how the CIA along with the Canadian government

and with a bit of help from Hollywood, masterminded the rescue of six American diplomats from Iran during the hostage crisis, immediately following the 1979 Islamic Revolution. The film opens with a brief history of Iran and how the democratically elected Prime minister Mohammad Mosaddegh was deposed in a coup by the US and UK, giving absolute power to the King, Mohammad-Reza Shah. His opulent life, domestic reforms and rapid Westernization as well as his indifference to the poverty and plight of his citizens, all contributed to the Iranian revolution of 1979. The Shah fled to the US where he was granted asylum - leading to mass protests in Iran against the US and to the storming of the US embassy in Tehran, culminating in 60 staff being taken hostage, while six manage to escape and take shelter at the home of the Canadian Ambassador, Ken Taylor.

The movie begins with the Iranian and US governments at loggerheads, with Iran demanding the extradition of the Shah, and US seeking the safe and unconditional release of all hostages. Meanwhile, the CIA is racking its brains for a plan to get the six diplomats in hiding out of Iran before the revolutionary

guards comes to know about them. Tony Mendez (Ben Affleck), a CIA exfil specialist, comes up with the plan of a fake movie project to rescue the six US diplomats by disguising them as Canadian filmmakers scouting for an exotic location for their new sci-fi movie. With this objective, he goes to Hollywood, meets up with John Chambers, a make-up artist who puts him in contact with the producer Lester Siegel. Together they set to work on the fake movie project, 'Argo' and the rest of the movie follows Mendez as he flies to Tehran to accomplish the audacious mission.

The film is nicely paced and not for a moment deviates from its primary plot. It could be argued that this intense focus on the objective has, in some ways, contributed to at least some characters coming across as a bit undercooked. However, this is a movie that tells the story of a rescue mission, and not the human costs of living in a world increasingly becoming polarized along cultural, political and religious divides. Yet, any human story is also a story of man's struggles, hopes, emotions and the strength of his/her character. And if one is willing to look closely, Argo also deals in a large



Argo deals in a large measure with the primordial struggle between good and evil

measure with the primordial struggle between good and evil. The film rightly avoids branding either side as good or bad. Every community, every nation contains a mix of people - good and bad. As Viktor Frankl notes, "there are only these two races — the "race" of the decent man and the "race" of the indecent man. Both are found everywhere".

As much as Argo is the story of Tony Mendez who embodies courage and the willingness to put himself in harm's way to do what is right, it is also the story of the sacrifices of Ken Taylor (the Canadian Ambassador), his wife and Sahar - the Iranian maid at their house. Sahar is the unnoticed, unappreciated goodness that blows as a gentle breeze - renewing, refreshing, yet not revealing 'whence it comes or whither it goes' (Jn 3:8). In the end we see Sahar seeking asylum at the Iraqi border for doing what was right according to the promptings of her conscience. Although not shown in more than a few shots, it is Sahar through her self-sacrificial courage, who lingers on as a pain in one's heart after the movie.

In the end, Argo is a story well told about a daring and audacious rescue mission, in the midst of a huge international crisis. If one is willing to neglect the factual inaccuracies, it would turn out to be a good watch.



REVIEW BY Joseph Anthraper

A Jesus Youth, currently a Software Engineer, lives in Southampton, England with his wife Mahima, daughter Anna-Claire and son John Paul

Blooming KIDS

≈ Love ≈

The other day, while Sam was carrying his disabled brother on his shoulders to catechism class, his classmates asked him, "Why do you carry this burden always on your shoulders? Why couldn't you tell your parents that you cannot carry him anymore?" Sam just smiled and told them, "Tom is a not a burden for me. He is my loving brother, and a gift from God to our family."

That reply was an eye opener for many of his classmates. The physical disabilities of many of our brothers and sisters are a gift from our loving God, to bring the whole family closer towards Him. Our only duty is to love and take good care of them.

We are all so concerned about other's physical disabilities. What about our own (spiritual) disabilities? Disabilities like jealousy, enmity, hatred, laziness, etc.? Well, Sam has only one answer. We should believe that God created all of us, and He lives in us. So, next time we tease or make fun of others, we should remember that our words and/or actions are actually against Jesus. So I won't do it again, will you?

God loves us so much that He is always with us in all situations of our lives. His love will protect us from all troubles, and He will help us in all things.

Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times and a brother is born for a time of adversity." ■



Sumol Pious hails from Muscat, Oman. She is working as a teacher. Her husband and her are actively involved in the Jesus Youth Movement for the past 12 years.

Our only duty is to love



many FAMILY good CARE

shoulders

fun

love

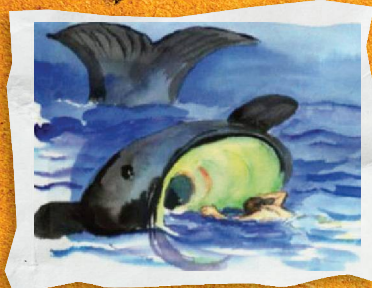
love GOD bring ARE many FAMILY opener eye



SHUFFLED STORIES FROM **THE BIBLE**

EACH SLIDE CONTAINS PICTURES RELATED TO A BIBLE STORY

- ▶ Identify the bible story
- ▶ put the pictures in correct sequence
- ▶ give the bible portion



QUIZTIME

WHO SAID IT?

New Testament

1. "Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?"
2. "He told me everything I ever did."
3. "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples"
4. "Permit these two sons of mine to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom."
5. "Where is the one who is born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."
6. "This is what the Lord has done for me at the time when he has been gracious to me and has taken away my disgrace among people."
7. "I need to be baptized with you, and yet come to me?"
8. "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do all the work alone? Tell her to help me."
9. "Look, Lord, half of my possessions I now give to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone of anything, I am paying back four times as much!"

Have nothing to do with that innocent man; I have suffered greatly as a result of a dream about him today."

GET THE TIME-LINE RIGHT!

Arrange these events in the order of occurrence in Bible.

1. "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants."
2. "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."
3. "Look, I have had still another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."
4. "You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die."
5. "God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones from here with you."
6. "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac,



and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."

7. "Let there be light"
8. He said, "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel;

9. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark--you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.

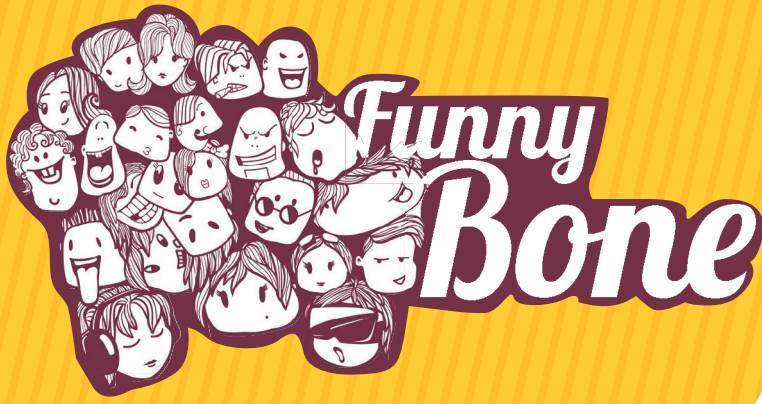
10. "Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear."

11. "Your curse be on me, my son; only obey my voice, and go, get them for me."

Mail your answers to quiztime@kairos.global before February 28. The winner will be rewarded with 1 year subscription of Kairos Global.

BIBLE QUIZ

1. How many books are there in the Old Testament?
A. 23 B. 46 C. 37 D. 18
2. Who wrote Pentateuch, first five books of the Old Testament?
A. Aaron B. Joshua C. Moses D. Jacob
3. What does "Eve" mean?
A. Taken from Dust B. Mother of All Living
C. Daughter of God D. Companion of Man
4. How many men came to visit Abraham in the plains of Mamre?
A. 3 B. 2 C. 4 D. 5
5. Who was the oldest person in the Bible?
A. Methuselah B. Adam C. Cain D. Nimrod
6. What materials did the people of Babel use to build the tower?
A. Clay and Water B. Stone and Mortar
C. Straw and Wood D. Brick and Tar
7. What does Penuel mean?
A. Land of Jacob B. Gate to Promised land
C. The Face of God D. Gift of God
8. This woman tempted Samson to reveal the secret to his massive strength, then she betrayed him
A. Judith B. Jezebel C. Delilah D. Deborah
9. What does Benjamin mean?
A. Servant of God B. Son of Misery
C. Born in the days of Sorrow D. Son of the Right Hand
10. Who lost his riches family and health, still remained faithful to God in his sufferings?
A. Job B. Jesse C. Ezra D. Daniel



Pancakes

A mother was preparing pancakes for her son, Kevin, 5, Ryan, 3. The boy began to argue over who would get the first pancakes. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancakes. I can wait.'" Kelvin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"



FRIENDS OF KAIROS



KAIROS MEDIA is the mass media initiative of Jesus Youth, reaching out to young people around the world using modern means of communication - inspiring, supporting, encouraging and building each other up on our spiritual journey and helping establish God's kingdom, one youth at a time.

With the rising production costs in media technologies, it is the love and support of so many - the "Friends of Kairos" that financially sustain the mission of Kairos. KAIROS MEDIA wouldn't exist without our "Friends of Kairos". With a grateful heart, we lovingly remember and offer continuous prayers for our many friends who support Kairos every month through regular monetary contributions. For we know that the "one who calls us is faithful" and "his power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ever ask or imagine". If the Holy Spirit is inspiring you dear Kairos reader, we invite you to join and support this evangelisation initiative by becoming a Friend of Kairos with your prayers and support. May God bless you! You can make your contributions online through www.kairos.global

NewsWatch

100 Days Adoration

Responding to Jesus' command to "Pray without ceasing", Jesus Youth UK was inspired in 2009 to begin "Awakening" – a 100-day Eucharistic Adoration initiative commencing each year on Ash Wednesday until Pentecost Sunday. This year, Awakening was inaugurated by Bishop Ralph Heskett of Hallam Diocese with Solemn Eucharistic celebration at Jesus Youth Centre for Prayer and Mission on March 1. Right from its inception, Awakening has been about a dream and a hope – to reintroduce the power and centrality of prayer in the life of individuals, families and communities, through silence and intercession before the Blessed Sacrament. Awakening 2017 was organised at 100 different parishes across UK and Europe (including Ireland, Germany, Austria, Italy and Netherlands) for 12 hour slots each day and saw overwhelming response from parishioners. The conclusion on 11th June was attended by over 100 people at JY Centre. Over the years, the support of Bishops and priests to this prayer initiative has been truly phenomenal. Awakening 2017 was also blessed to receive immense support from communities like 'Night Fever' and 'Catholic Society of Loughborough University'. Some of the specific intentions for this year's Awakening included 'revival of faith in Europe', 'vocations to priesthood & religious life' and for 'persecuted Christians'.



A dream come true

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND



Dreams came true for the 41 people who travelled to the Holy Land on a pilgrimage, organized by Kairos under the spiritual leadership of Fr Abraham Pallivathukkal, from May 9 to May 20 2017. Walking along the shores where Jesus would have walked, taught and healed during his ministry 2000 years ago was an experience beyond words for most of the people who journeyed on this pilgrimage. Starting at Amman, Jordan – retracing the final journey in the life of Moses, the pilgrimage proceeded to Israel – visiting Cana, Capernaum, Jerusalem, Gethsemane, and Golgotha, to name a few places. Renewing their baptismal promises at the banks of river Jordan, where our Lord Himself was baptized by St John, proved a life-transforming experience for many. It was hugely emotional as well as sublime to visit places like Calvary, the Church of Holy Sepulchre – where Jesus is believed to have been laid to rest, and the Sea of Galilee – where the presence of God could be felt in a tangible way. The final destination of the pilgrimage was Egypt, where the pilgrims prayed at Sinai, visited the Pyramids and took a cruise of River Nile.

–JOSEPH



KAIROS PRESENTS

PILGRIMAGE TO THE **HOLY LAND**

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR LORD.

10 INSPIRATIONAL DAYS. APRIL 2018

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LIMITED SEATS ONLY!!!



with
Fr. Shibu OCD
Dean of Studies, Pastoral Training
Institute POC, Kochi
and Animator, Jesus Youth Kerala

For Registrations: REGI KAROTT +91 9447394142



"Because the LORD kept vigil that night to bring them out of Egypt, on this night all the
-Exodus 12:42



NIGHT VIGIL

A KAIROS INITIATIVE

In the still silence of the night, we offer before the Blessed Sacrament all the prayer intentions coming to us through phone, e-mail, and online requests. It is a day of blessings. The Lord touches many who are lost in despair. The sick are healed! Sinners are liberated! Youth groping in darkness find a new light! Peace returns to shattered families!

When you feel forlorn, dejected, and weighed down, by the diseases and cares of life, remember our Kairos Night Vigil!

Every Second Friday of the month from 6 PM to 10 PM
at Little Flower Church, Aluva, Kerala, India.

Send us your prayer request:

✉ prayer@kairos.global

☎ +91 9847538140