

THE MALANKARA SYRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE EPHREMITES



BULLETIN OF THE EXARCHATE OF ST. EPHREM KHADKI - PUNE

VOL II | NO. 7 | November 2016



Dedication of the Church
Qudos Eetho



Minor Seminarians Picnic to Mumbai



Onam Celebration at Nirmal Hriday Seminary



Minor Seminarians with the Malankara Seminarians from Papal Seminary, Pune

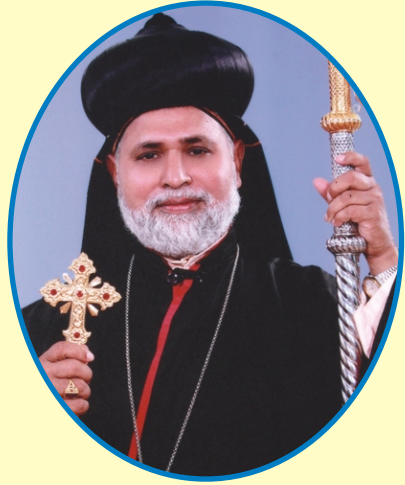


The Exarchate Welcomes Rev. Fr Joseph Vattaparambil

Festal Greetings



**Most Rev. Geevarghese
Mar Divannasios
29 November**



**Most Rev. Yoochanon
Mar Chrysostom
13 November**

Feast of Commemoration



**Most Rev. Paulose Mar Philexinos
03 November**



MCA & Mathrusangham Seminar, Khadki



Reunion Day Celebration, Mumbai



MCYM Patron's Day Celebration, Pune District



MCA & Mathrusangham Seminar, Khadki

MCYM Resource Team Formation



Chennai



Pune



Mumbai



Hyderabad



Bengaluru



MCYM with SEVA Kids, Pune District



Suvisesha Sangham Formation, Bengaluru



Suvisesha Sangham Formation, Chennai



Onam Celebration, Vikhroli



Onam Celebration, Chinchwad



Onam Celebration, Jeedimetla

MCYM Patron's Day Celebration



Vikhroli



Vishranthwadi



Hennur



Mathikare



Pune District



Goa





**Family Day and Onam Celebration
Khadki**



**The Malankara Community
Prays in the Cathedral
Church, Aurangabad**



Committee Meeting & Night Vigil, Goa



Orphanage Visit, Hennur



**MCYM Warje Bags First Prize
for Street Play Competition**



Blood Donation Camp, Chinchwad



FAMYS Medical Camp, Jeedimetla

The Malankara Syrian Catholic Church

THE EPHREMITÉ

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VOICE OF THE EXARCH

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the sweet name of Jesus Christ I greet you from Switzerland where I am now for mission preaching and visiting our benefactors and friends. They too send you their greetings. They also expect our prayers for their spiritual good, especially for the good of their families and loved ones. We pray for them. I am happy to share with you that, on behalf of our Exarchate our Seminarians pray for them daily during the Holy Qurbono.



Here it is autumn season. Summer gives way. Temperature falls. Nature is colourful. Green gives way to multicolours. Though cold sets in, nature is wonderful!

As I visit the parishes and celebrate Holy Mass with the parish communities, I experience the depth of the faith of the elders. Now this has to be transmitted to the generation next. Though various programmes are arranged, we fail to reach out to the grass roots. It is here that I thank God for the wonderful way in which we are led as a Church our family prayers, our celebration of the Holy Qurbono, our prayer services, our MCYM activities, our MCA and *Mathrusangham* and especially our *Suvisesha Sangham* help us to live our faith vibrantly and fervently.

We also observed the Mission Sunday and we have vowed to spread the joy of the Gospel according to the command of the Lord. I congratulate all, especially the parish priests for taking the initiatives.

Season of Annunciation (*Suboro*)

We have already entered the Liturgical Season of Annunciation with the celebration of *Kudos Eetho* Sunday on 30 October 2016. During the month of November we celebrate *Hudos Eetho* (the Renewal of the Church), the Message to Zachariah, Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Visitation to Elizabeth. November is a month to begin the meditation on the advent of the Saviour and the preparation to welcome him in our hearts through Christmas celebration. Not only the Church but also our hearts have to be prepared, through *Kudos Eetho* and *Hudos Eetho*, to receive the

Infant Jesus. We have to be renewed through the Sacrament of the Holy Confession and sanctified through the solemn reception of the Holy Eucharist.

MCYM Resource Team Formation in the Districts of the Exarchate

I congratulate our MCYM District Committees for the programmes they conducted in October for the celebration of the Youth Day. I am extremely happy and overwhelmed by the Resource Team Formation Activities happening across all the Districts of the Exarchate. The Training Team consisting of Fr Sunil Maria Benedict (Bengaluru), Mr Saji Daniel (Pune) and Mrs Julie Jim Philip (Mumbai) is inspiring and motivating the Youth Team to be the model Malankarites of the future. I wholeheartedly appreciate the necessary support extended to them by the MCYM District Directors and the Executive Committees. Conducting Sessions regularly every month is a tedious task; but they have achieved it through sheer determination and sincere commitment. May God bless all our Youth!

***Prabodhanam* Faith Formation Programme for MCA and Mathrusangham**

For the last two months, I have been closely observing the initiation of *Prabodhanam* in the Parishes of the Exarchate for the members of the MCA and *Mathrusangham*. Well begun is half done! All Parishes in Pune District had a splendid beginning with the Bethany Brothers taking the lead in organizing the Sessions. Majority of the Parishes in Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad are slowly on the track, as far as possible, with the Sisters conducting the Classes in the given situation. I exhort all the remaining Parishes to implement *Prabodhanam* atleast from November 2016 onwards. Let this help us to deepen our faith in Christ and to transform our lives according to the learning from the sessions.

***Suvisesha Sangham* Formation in the Districts of the Exarchate**

The Formation Programme of *Suvisesha Sangham* is regularly

conducted every month in all the Districts of the Exarchate. The commitment of Rev Fr Antony Kakkanatt and the Team is giving good momentum for the formation of *Suvisesha Sangham* in the Exarchial and District levels. The tedious efforts taken by the members to attend each formation session are really noteworthy. The *Suvisesha Sangham* members have a greater responsibility to involve as much as possible in the Mission initiatives of the Exarchate. I congratulate Fr Varghese Valikkodath and the team of the Laity who are wonderfully committed to it.

Mission Endeavours of the Exarchate

The Exarchate has initiated certain Mission endeavours in different areas of the Exarchate by concentrating on the spreading of the joy of the Gospel and the upliftment of the poor and the downtrodden. We have succeeded in beginning some humble movements in the following areas:

- Marathi Mission in Pune led by Msgr Varghese Mattamana, Fr George Mathew OIC, Bro. Varghese Kurisinkal, Mr VA George, AC Joseph, Sijo Joy, Lijoy Joseph, Mrs Jessy Thomas and Anumol Lijoy.
- Kannada and Tamil Mission in Bengaluru led by Fr Varghese Kadakketh, Fr Sunil Maria Benedict, Sr Mary Priya SIC, Mr James K John, Mr John Bosco and Mr Richard K James
- Tamil Mission in Chennai led by Fr Stephen Mathaar, Sr Seraphine DM and Sr Celin Maria DM.
- Telugu Mission in Vijayawada led by Fr Varghese Valikkodath, Mr Zacharia Pawath, Mr V A George, Mr Alex Valavil, Mr Joshi Raphel and Mrs Mary Joshi.

All these efforts in different parts of the Exarchate have to be integrated and established according to the missionary vision of the Exarchate. Our *Suvisesha Sangham* and SEVA (St Ephrem Vikas Ayojan) Social Service Society is leaving no stones unturned in our endeavour to reach out to places we can share our faith and the Word of God. I particularly congratulate the members of our Laity who have committed themselves to this cause. To add more flavour to our sincere efforts, I am happy to announce that the DM

Sisters of Nirmala Province (Venniyoor) are taking the initial steps to strengthen the mission activities of the Exarchate. At least two Sisters from the Province will join the Exarchate soon to support the Exarchate in the Mission Areas.

Priests' Meet and Pastoral Council

The next Priests' Meet of the Exarchate is scheduled to be held on 24 November 2016 at St Mary's Cathedral, Khadki. The Priests' Meet will be an occasion to evaluate the various activities of the Exarchate and to introspect on the role of the Priests in the Parish activities and their participation in the Exarchial initiatives.

The Fourth Exarchial Pastoral Council will be held on 25 November 2016 at St Mary's Cathedral, Khadki from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. Priests working in the Exarchate, Superiors of Ashrams and Convents coming under the Exarchate, Finance Council Members, Pastoral Council Members and members designated are expected to participate in the Council without any fail. Considering the importance of the Pastoral Council and the significance of the decisions taken in the Council, all members should be present from the beginning to the end of the Pastoral Council.

The Exarchate Welcomes Rev. Fr Joseph Vattaparambil

On behalf of the Exarchate I welcome Rev. Fr Joseph Vattaparambil, who had been until now a member of the Order of the Imitation of Christ, among the clergy of our Exarchate. You find more details (and the clauses are noteworthy for a clear understanding) in the news column. I wish him a blessed ministry in the ministry of the Exarchate.

Conclusion

The Holy Year of Mercy, the Extraordinary Jubilee Year is coming to an end on 20 November 2016, the Feast of Christ the King according to the Latin tradition and the Sunday of Commemoration of the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary according to the Malankara tradition: "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give

him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.” (Lk 1:32-34). As we come to the close of the Holy Year, let us conclude it with fervent spiritual celebrations and obtain all the graces and indulgences granted for the year. As we approach the preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Jesus, let us approach the saviour with the Blessed Virgin Mary saying, “I am the Lord's servant, may your word to me be fulfilled.” (Lk 1:38).

May God bless us all! May God bless our families! May God bless our children! May God bless our Priests and Religious! May I be blessed through your valuable prayers!

Loving in Jesus, your Aboon,

+ *Mar Anthonios*

✠ **Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC**

Apostolic Exarch

Bishop's Diary - November 2016

- 02 : Arrival in Mumbai
- 03 : Blessing of Presbytery & Annual Day Celebration - Sacred Heart School, Chennai
- 04 : Annual Day Celebration - Little Flower Nursery School, Chennai
- 05 : Pune
- 06 : Qurbono, Cathedral Church (Kharghar, BARC & Warje Parishes visit the Cathedral Church)
- 07 : Pune (Drafting of the Particular Laws)
- 09, 10 : Nashik
- 14 : Trivandrum
- 15-17 : Bengaluru
- 18 : Adoor, Trivandrum
- 20 : Holy Qurbono - Borivali, Mumbai
First Holy Communion - Thane, Mumbai
- 24 : Priests Meet, Pune
- 25 : Pastoral Council Meet, Pune
- 28-05 Dec. : Federation of Asian Bishop's Conference (FABC) - Sri Lanka

NEWS**1. Exarchial News****Rev. Fr Joseph Vattaparambil Ascribed Temporarily in the Exarchate**

In consultation with the His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos, the Father and Head of our Church, with the Holy See and the Superior General of Bethany Ashram, Rev. Fr Joseph Vattaparambil, who had been a member of Bethany Ashram is granted ascription as priest in the Exarchate of St Ephrem - Khadki, on an experimental basis, for five years, as per cc 366 and 494 §2 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Church and as per the Code of Particular Canons of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church. The Holy See has granted him dispensation from the vows he professed as a Religious in the Order of the Imitation of Christ. Presently he takes care of a home for the mentally and physically challenged in Medak District of Telangana. His priestly and pastoral ministry can be availed of throughout the Exarchate except in the territorial limits and vicinity of our parishes in Hyderabad. The Exarchate welcomes Fr Joseph Vattaparambil and wishes him a spirit-filled ministry in the Exarchate.

2. Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary News**a. Onam Celebrations**

Onam the festival of harvest in Kerala is a day of great joy for all the Keralites. The Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary also shared this joy through games and other cultural programmes. The seminary was blessed to have the presence of Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, Frs. Samuel Thoppil, Varghese Kaithon and Joseph Venmanath along with the staff from the Bishop's house to share the joy of Onam. The seminarians had traditional games in the morning hours. Fr George Mathew OIC, the Rector welcomed all the guests and the Maveli accorded the welcome for the celebrations of the day. Seminarians sang songs and expressed wishes to the guests. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana delivered the Onam message. All the guests and the seminary enjoyed the Onasadya. It was a day of

togetherness and joy.

b. One Day Picnic

The seminarians along with the priests and staff from the Bishop's house went for a one day picnic to Lonaval and Mumbai. The presence of Rev. Frs. Samuel Thoppil, Varghese Kaithon and Bro. Manu Kurishingal added mirth to the picnic. It was a day of relaxation and entertainment for the seminarians and the staff to enjoy the scenic beauty of Lonavala hills and to see places like Elephanta Caves, Gate way of India etc. The visit to Mount Mary Church and Mahim Church were moments of blessings.

3. Exarchial Commission News

1. Malankara Catholic Suvisesha Sangham

a. Suvisesha Sangham Formation, Pune District

The monthly Suvisesha Sangham Formation Programme of Pune District was held on 8 October 2016 at Holy Redeemer's Church, Kalewadi from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. 34 members across the Parishes in Pune attended this gathering. The first session was conducted by Fr Varghese Valikkodath. He



said that by the Grace of the Almighty, the work of Suvisesha Sangham is continuing without hindrance. Orissa mission is the first fruitful outcome of the Suvisesha Sangham; and now the mission centres of Punjab, North-Eastern States and Vijayawada are the movements started due to the austere work of Suvisesha Sangham.

After the tea break, Rev. Fr. Varghese Valikkodath elaborated the 25 points of life style which a member of Suvisesha Sangham should observe. He insisted that if one does confession and receives the Holy Eucharist daily, life will change radically. After the afternoon prayer, lunch was served for all the participants.

Post lunch, Mr VA George shared his experiences as a member while serving the Vijayawada and other missions. Adding to his experiences, Fr Valikkodath exhorted the Members to prepare themselves to engage in Mission Areas as and when required. The

meeting concluded with the final prayer and blessing given by Fr Varghese Valikkodath.

b. Suvisesha Sangham Formation, Mumbai District

On 9 October 2016, the Suvisesha Sangham Formation Class of Mumbai District was held at St Mary's Church Sakinaka from 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm in the presence of Fr Philip Pulipra, the District Director of Suvisesha Sangham. Some members could not attend the Session since they could not reach back after attending the Formation Course in Trivandrum. Sabhathala Members from Pune, Mr VA George, Mr Daniel Lukose and Mrs Mariamma Daniel, attended the Session and encouraged the Mumbai Community through their presence. Fr Varghese Valikkodath introduced them to the gathering and appreciated their enthusiasm.

As usual the Session started with Songs, Prayer and Bible Prathishta. Mr VA George took the first Session explaining the Daily Evaluation Chart prepared for analysing the daily spiritual activities of the Suvisesha Sangham Members. The group got a second chance to glance through the 25 Ways of the Life Style of Suvisesha Sangham members. All members wholeheartedly agreed to ardently follow this life style and consciously reflect upon it every day using the Daily Evaluation Chart prepared from the Centre.

The second Session of the day brought about a bird's eye view of the Mission Endeavours taken up by the Exarchate in different areas of the Exarchate, especially in Vijayawada region. A chronicle of the Vijayawada Mission through his experience was presented by Mr VA George. Fr Valikkodath addressed the gathering highlighting the role of Suvisesha Sangham in the Mission activities of the Exarchate. His presentation of strategic involvement of the members in various areas of the mission activities motivated the members to be part of the Mission and enlightened the members about one's role in the mission.

c. Suvisesha Sangham Formation, Bengaluru District

The Suvisesha Sangham Formation Session of Bengaluru District

was on 15 October 2016 at St Mary's Church, Hennur from 9.00 am to 2.00 pm. Around 30 Members from the four Parishes in Bengaluru participated in the same. Fr Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial Director of Suvisesha Sangham led the Sessions.

It was altogether a different experience this time for the participants. The first session was a mind blowing Object Meditation with a burning Candle kept at the Centre on a stand. Everyone got excited and nourished as the Burning Candle slowly became the model of Jesus-centered Christian life, with the different dimensions narrated by each one. One way, it was a great motivation to lead the life that all are called for.

The second session was to review the 25 points of spiritual lifestyle given as guidelines in the leaflet of Suvisesha Sangham. Five groups were formed and each was allotted 5 points to study and present what they had understood by each life style. Again, when the responsibility was assigned to the members, everyone could explore the meaning of these and understood it deeper with further explanation given by Fr Valikkodath. Further, 25-points Daily check-list in a monthly table form was distributed to the members which will help them to review themselves on daily compliance of the lifestyle that they have to observe.

Towards the conclusion, Fr Varghese Valikkodath appealed to the members to slowly begin to engage in the Mission Visits taken up by Fr Sunil Benedict in Hoskote and Devanahalli in Karnataka and Kamagiri in Tamil Nadu, to establish localized Missions which could be possible with everyone's efforts and blessings of Christ our Lord.

The Bengaluru District Director of Suvisesha Sangham, Fr Varghese Kadakketh and the Hennur Parish committee made necessary arrangements needed to conduct the Formation Classes effectively.

d. Suvisesha Sangham Formation, Chennai District

Malankara Catholic Suvisesha Sangham Formation was held on Sunday, 16 October 2016 at St Thomas Church, Padi from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm. The Programme began with the Holy Qurbano

celebrated by Fr Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial Director of Suvisesha Sangham. After the Holy Qurbono, Fr Valikkodath addressed the whole Community and explained in brief the relevance of Suvisesha Sangham in the Church in the present context. He motivated them to be active members in the Suvisesha Sangham of the District.

The Formation Session began at 11.30 am with the prayer by Fr Varghese Maruthoor, the Vicar of Padi Parish. Mr V P Thomas welcomed the gathering. The topic of the day was 'Evaluation of Daily life based on the 25 Ways of Suvisesha Sangham Life Style'. An Evaluation Chart was introduced by Fr Valikkodath for the Suvisesha Sangham Members to reflect upon their daily life. The 25 Ways were once again explained in brief to remind the Members about the sacrifice they have to undertake in their daily life.

Around 50 people attended the Session. The Session concluded with the Vote of Thanks by Mr Joshi Raphel, an active member of Suvisesha Sangham from Chennai Parish who regularly involves in Vijayawada Mission.

2 MCA & Mathrusangham

a. Seminar for MCA and Mathrusangham, Pune District

On 11 October 2016, a Seminar on 'How Parents can be a Symbol of the Mercy of God' for the MCA and Mathrusangham of Pune District was held St Mary's Malankara Cathedral, Khadki. The seminar which was organized under the leadership of Fr Varghese Kaithon, the District Director of MCA and Mathrusangham was attended by almost 150 people from all the six parishes in Pune.



The programme of the day began with the Holy Qurbono offered by Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial Director of MCA and Mathrusangham. Fr Kaithon initiated the Seminar while Fr. Varghese Valikkodath inaugurated the seminar. Mrs. Shirley Rex, the District President of Mathrusangham-Pune, welcomed the gathering.

The Seminar was led by Fr Joseph Venmanath, the District Vicar of Pune. He spoke on the topic with his expertise in the field of family counseling and experience of conducting pre-marriage preparation courses. The Session gave the participants a renewed outlook about marriage and family life. The seminar was a great inspiration to reflect upon being merciful in their families like the heavenly father is merciful.

Fr Venmanath concluded his session by showing a clipping of a speech by Fr Davis Chiramel who asked the people to have a big heart to lend, share etc. and a message by Dr. Mario Joseph.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr Raja Francis, the General Secretary of MCA-Pune. The birthday of Fr Samuel Thoppil, the Procurator of the Bishop's House was celebrated in the gathering followed by Noon Prayer led by Fr George Mathew OIC, the Chancellor and Rector of the Minor Seminary. The Seminar concluded in the Noon with the lunch.

3. Malankara Catholic Youth Movement (MCYM)

a. iConnect - MCYM Patron's Day, Pune District

MCYM-Pune conducted 'iConnect', an event to celebrate the Patron's Day in lieu of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Heavenly Patron of MCYM. It was conducted on 2 October 2016 at St Mary's Cathedral, Khadki. Almost 90 youth across the Parishes of Pune participated in the event. The programme commenced with the Holy Qurbano by the Proto-Presbyter of Pune District, Fr Joseph Venmanath. It was followed by an ice-breaking session conducted by Mr. Saji Daniel, the Exarchial Animator of MCYM.



The youth were then bifurcated into juniors (under the age of 21 years) and seniors (21 years and above). Two extremely talented and magnanimous speakers viz. Fr. Mathew Joseph and Bro. Ciju CMI, took the theme 'iConnect - Stay Tuned To Him' to a different level through interactions and group discussions. An Inter- Unit Street Play competition on the theme 'Bible' was organized in the afternoon. MCYM Warje were the Winners and MCYM Pimpr

became the Runners Up.

Overall it was a blessed day which saw the MCYM youth of Pune coming together in full vigour and enthusiasm. Fr George Mathew OIC, the District Director of MCYM-Pune and Mr Libin Oommen, the District President of MCYM-Pune co-ordinated the event.

b. MCYM Resource Team Formation, Pune District

The fifth MCYM Resource Team Formation Session of Pune District was held on 9 October 2016 at St Mary's Cathedral-Khadki, deepening the faith and fellowship of the Youth in Christ. The session was led by Mr Saji Daniel, the Exarchial Animator of MCYM, in the presence of Fr Joseph Venmanath, Proto-Presbyter of Pune District and Mr Johny Abraham, the MCYM Animator of Pune District. The session witnessed an active participation of 35 youth from all over Pune District.

The session commenced with a prayer by Mr Neville Varghese.

Topic: YOUTHHOOD ROOTED IN CHRIST

General points discussed were as follows:

- * Different phases of life
- * Meaning of youth hood
- * Possibilities and Challenges in Youth hood
- * Jesus- An Ideal Youth
- * Being rooted in Christ - Need of this Era

Methods adopted were as follows:

1 Gamification

The objective of the game was to balance a bunch of nails on a single nail which in turn helped us in understanding the concept of being firmly rooted in Christ. The game brought into light the fact that each one of us cannot grow in Christ unless we are rooted in him.

2 Group Discussion

The participants were asked to reflect on a portion (Mark10:17-31)

from the Bible

Based on the reflection the following points were discussed:

- * Qualities of Jesus as a Youth - The teams had discussions regarding His Social life, His interaction with women, His ideologies and its application in today's era.
- * Characteristics of the Rich man - Each one was asked to reflect on the characteristics they had in common with the Rich man

3 Power Point Presentation

The slides covered various instances from the Bible wherein each one is obliged to stay deeply rooted in Christ. The 2 hours session was definitely fruitful for the youth. Each one took back a learning and assurance of God's love.

The next gathering will be an advanced session 'Train the Trainer' and is scheduled for 6 November 2016. The vote of thanks was proposed by Mr Libin Samuel, General Secretary of Pune District. The session came to an end with a concluding prayer by Msgr Varghese Mattamana, the Proto-Syncellus of the Exarchate.

c. MCYM Resource Team Formation, Mumbai District

The fifth successful Resource Team Formation Session on 'Youthhood Rooted in Christ' was led by Mr Saji Daniel, the Exarchial Animator of MCYM at St Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Sakinaka on 8 Oct 2016 at 4:30 pm.

The session witnessed an active participation of 20 youth from all parishes in the District. The presence and guidance of the other Exarchial Animator Mrs Julie Philip was encouraging. The session brought to light how much man owes his life to Christ. Every participant was given a fair opportunity to share their views. The Session included how as a youth one can depict Christ and the truth that man is saved only through Christ.

The session concluded enlightening each member that we should be people who are called to enhance our youth hood in Christ and that Christianity is not simply a matter of following commandments, it is about living a New life in Christ

d. MCYM Resource Team Formation, Bengaluru District

The fifth Resource Team Formation Session took place at St John's Malankara Catholic Church, Singasandra on 16 October 2016 from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm. Around 17 MCYM Resource Team Members along with SrJerome SIC, the District Animators and promoter Mr. Jubil Joy attended the meeting. The session was conducted by Rev Fr Sunil Maria Benedict. The topic covered was 'Youthhood Rooted in Christ'

The session started with a prayer song which was sung by the whole group with Mr. Joel Joy on the guitar.

Fr. Sunil began the session by explaining the meaning and significance of the word 'Theosis' which stands for Union with God. This was followed by a presentation which covered topics such as the possibilities and challenges faced by the youth today. Fr. Sunil stressed on how strong and powerful the actions and words of Lord Jesus Christ were during his Youthhood. He exhorted the Youth to be inspired by Jesus' contagious energy and put this into effect by contributing towards the society in a meaningful way.

The session was very interactive with Fr. Sunil frequently splitting the group into two, involving the groups in brainstorming and later presenting the ideas. Fr. Sunil also listed out several interesting books for the youth in order to further develop our character and behaviour. He also explained the meaning of some of the symbols and colours that are used in the various paintings depicting Jesus and Mary.

Finally to conclude the session Fr. Sunil also cleared some of our lingering doubts regarding the previous topic on Intoxication. Overall the session was very informative and practical as they were able to get an overall direction and purpose in their quest for being Youth rooted in Christ.

e. MCYM Resource Team Formation, Chennai District

The fifth Resource Team Gathering of MCYM-Chennai was held on Sunday, 15 October 2016 at St Thomas Church, Padi. The session was led by Fr. Varghese Valikkodath, the Exarchial

Director of MCYM. The session started with a welcome note by the president of MCYM-Padi unit, Mr Rinson V Thomas, followed by a brief self-introduction by the new members who were present.

Details of the Gathering:

The gathering was attended by the Resource Team Members from Padi Parish. The topic for the fifth session was 'Youthhood Rooted in Christ'. The main points of discussion were

- The various aspects involved in the jump from the adolescence to Youthhood.
- Difficulties faced by the youth in this transition period.
- Possibilities & challenges faced in the youthhood
- Verses from the bible were highlighted to correlate the challenges of youth-hood.

An activity was given to balance 10 nails on a single nail. 2 groups were given separate wooden block with one nail, nailed on it and ten more nails to balance on it.

Afterwards, a discussion was done on each one's perception of the challenges faced in the activity and how is it related to rooting in Christ.

Later on, the encounter of the Young Rich Man with Jesus in the Bible was read and a group discussion was held to understand the peculiarities of Jesus as a Youth and the Young Rich Man as a Youth who wanted to follow Jesus.

The session concluded with a prayer by Sr Mahima SIC, the Animator of MCYM-Padi.

f. MCYM Resource Team Formation, Hyderabad District

The fourth Session of MCYM Resource Team Formation in Hyderabad was conducted on 16 October 2016 at St Joseph's Malankara Catholic Church, Jeedimetla. The Formation Programme began after the Holy Qurbano celebrated by Fr Isaac Parackal OIC and around 32 youth participated in the entire Session. The Session was led by Mr Saji Daniel, the Exarchial Animator of MCYM.

The first insight he gave to all the youth is to dream big. Then an ice breaking session was conducted where the Youth were asked to solve out a puzzle individually without discussion. Later on the participants were asked to solve it by communicating with others. From this activity the Youth learned that they need to reach the goal however difficult it is.

Then the Youth were introduced to the formula TPH-Teaching, Preaching and Healing. As youth it is important to be a Resource Person to teach and preach the word of God. The nail activity which followed gave more understanding on the strength of being rooted in Christ. The anchors paved the way to be rooted in Christ. In times of trouble and depression if one is rooted in Christ s/he will always stay safe and succeed.

The discussions on the parable of the rich young man gave a scope to breaking of the word and understand the peculiarities of the personalities of Jesus and the Rich Man. 'When we follow his commandment and teach, we will be called great in heaven. When we are not rooted in Christ, we leave a scar on him.'

g. MCYM Pune spends a Day with SEVA Kids

St Ephrem Vikas Aayojan (SEVA) is the charitable organization of the exarchate which has taken up a slum near khadki and is educating the children of the construction workers. The MCYM of Pune had the privilege to visit these children and spend time with them educating and playing with them. Around 13 youths along with the district animator Mr. Johnny Abraham and Msgr. Varghese Mattamana, the director of SEVA visited this place. The youths successfully engaged the children through music, dance and games. They were then divided into three groups and the youths played various games with them like passing the ball, picking up the chocolates, Fire in the mountain and Antakshari. Overall it was a fun-filled day which saw the youths and the children bonding well. The help of Bro. Manu Kurishingal, Mr Lijoy and wife Anumol and Mrs. Saly helped in the well organizing of the event.

Exarchate District News

Mumbai District

a. Reunion Day Celebration

This year the Reunion Day in Mumbai District was celebrated on 25 September. The program was hosted by Holy Family Malankara Syrian Catholic Church, Vikhroli. The event began with Holy Qurbano at 8:00 am, celebrated by HE Dr. Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC. A formal public meeting presided by the Aboon was held immediately after the Holy Qurbano. The Rank Holders in different Board and University academic examinations, elderly who are 65 years and above, Married couples who had completed their silver jubilee year, Educational Aid in memory of His Grace Most Rev. Benedict Mar Gregorios, Young families with more than 3 children and Catechism prizes were given and felicitated. On this occasion the representative executives of the various pious organizations belonging to the Malankara Catholic Church, spoke on their views and insights on the Reunion day and growth of the Church. The programme ended at 12:30pm with Papal Anthem and the agape.

Parish News

Pune District

a. St Mary's Cathedral Church, Khadki

Family Day & Onam Celebration

Onam, the most colorful festival of Kerala, and the Family Day was celebrated with much devotional fervor at the St. Mary's Cathedral, Pune on 25 September. The day began with Holy Qurbano celebrated by the Vicar Rev. Fr. Joseph Venmanath. Rev. Msgr. Varghese Mattamana along with the young Maveli Master Melano Benoy officially inaugurated the program. The energetic Mathrusangam performed the Thiruvathira setting up the mood of festive fun. The three prayer groups competed in the Atha Pookalam competition in high spirits with the Mar Gregorios prayer group winning the competition, besides the above various

cultural programs and Onakalikal were organized for the parishioners by the dynamic MCYM youths. In the end, everyone enjoyed the delicious Onam Sadhya followed by the much awaited Tambolla. The Vicar thanked everyone for their participation and appreciated the committee and organizers for all the arrangements done.

b. St Antony's MSCC, Vishrathwadi

MCYM Patrons Day Celebration

It began with a candle procession and offering by the youth followed by the Holy Qurbano. After the Holy Qurbano, there was a sharing session by the parents and the youth on "Appreciation for and Expectations from the youth of today". This session was an eye opener and on behalf of parents Mr CB Joykutty, spoke on the topic. He shared his experience in handling children and teenagers and brought out the challenges parents face with our youth in this era where technology has overtaken the conservative culture of family where sharing and caring was an inborn culture. On behalf of the youth Mr. Merin Varghese spoke on Expectations of youth from friends / parents / Church / Community. A summary of both was presented given by Bar Itho Kashiro, Mr P V Thomas. This was followed by the Street play "Manishada- do not kill".

c. St Thomas' MSCC, Chinchwad

Onam Celebration

The Chinchwad Parish community celebrated 'Onam' with much enthusiasm on 24 September. The festivities began with evening prayers led by the Vicar Fr. Zachrias Nanthiattu OIC. It was a fun filled evening with exuberant participation in the cultural programs from members belonging to MCYM, Gents Wing, Ladies Wing and Sunday School. This was followed by a fulfilling and delicious 'OnaSadya'.

Blood Donation Camp

In this year of mercy, as a charitable initiative a blood donation

Camp was organized on 02 October under the leadership the MCA and aptly supported by MCYM. The planning for this event was undertaken by Mr VG Thomas. Mr. AJ Antony and Mr. Jerome Saji (President and Secretary of MCA) along with MCYM members provided leadership for the smooth sailing of the event. The camp was conducted by Pimpri Serological Blood Bank. In all 19 people donated their blood as part of this camp for a noble cause.

d. St. Mary's MSCC, Warje

MCYM Patron's Day

The Youths participated in the Pune district MCYM Patron's Day celebration held at Khadki on 02 October. In the inter-church Skit competition the parish youths bagged the first prize. The youth who worked behind it along with the brothers who helped them were specially thanked and felicitated on 09 October after the Holy Qurbono.

Festal Qurbono at Katraj Syro Malabar Church

On 15 October during the feast of Mother Mary of the Rosary and St. Sebastian, Holy Qurbono in Malankara rite was celebrated by Fr. George Mathew OIC at Our Lady of Rosary Syro Malabar Church, Katraj. It was a great occasion to share the fellowship between the two churches. The Warje parishioners also participated in the parish day celebration after the Holy Qurbono

e. St Mary's MSCC, Aurangabad

On account of the year of Mercy, Holy Qurbono was held at St. Francis De Sales Cathedral Church, Aurangabad on 16 October, in the presence of his Lordship, Most Rev. Ambrose Rebello, Bishop of Aurangabad. All the parishioners participated in the Rosary and opening of the Main door of the Cathedral for prayer. Bishop Rebello and Fr Celin Josem the Vicar shared the gospel and message to the parishioners on this occasion. They also elaborated the motive behind conducting such Rosary and Holy Qurbono in the year of Mercy.

Mumbai District

a. St Mary's MSCC, Sakinaka

Onam Celebration

The parish celebrated Onam on 02 October with great fun and festivities. Parish members exhibited their talents by participating in the various cultural events including songs, kummikali, group dance and naadan paattu. The festivities ended with lavish & delicious onam sadya which was whole heartedly prepared by the church community members.

Commemoration of Benedict Mar Gregorios OIC

The Commemoration of Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios OIC was celebrated by Rev Fr Varghese Valikkodath on Sunday 09 October. Fr Valikkodath described how Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios was instrumental in laying the foundation of the Malankara Catholic Community in Mumbai District.

Moments of Pride

The community members of St. Mary's Church, Sakinaka take great pride in announcing the achievement of Dr. Arun Saji in completing his M.D in Medicine with flying colours. The parish community wishes him all the best for his future endeavours and prayers to the almighty for his success.

b. Holy Family MSCC, Vikroli

MCYM Patrons Day

The parish MCYM celebrated the Patron's Day on 09 October. Holy Qurbano was offered for the special intentions of the Youth. The MCYM served at the altar and participated in the Choir. After the Holy Qurbano the MCYM gathered and hoisted the MCYM flag, recited the MCYM prayer, pledge and sung the MCYM anthem. Followed by the formal ceremonies a short programme was conducted by the Youth.

Onam Celebration

The parish celebrated Onam on 09 October. After the Holy Qurbano, under the initiative of the MCYM, a cultural

programme, hosted by Mr. Robin Mathew was held in the unit. Catechism students, Mathrusangham and the MCYM performed group song and cultural dances of Kerala to mark the festivities of Onam. Short fun games were conducted by Rev. Fr Philip Pulipra. After the programme, the gathered faithful enjoyed the delicious Onasadhya prepared by the parishioners.

St. Vincent De' Paul Association Meet

The regional and the central executives of SVP foundation visited the parish on 13 October. A meeting held after the Holy Qurbano was attended by the delegates to inform the activities of the SVP. The visiting executives congratulated the unit for taking the initiative to begin the SVP though it had a small group of families with them.

c. St Mary's MSCC, BARC

Onam & Vicar's Feast Celebration

The feast of the Vicar, Rev. Fr Mathai Iranathara OIC and the Onam was celebrated in BARC unit on 18 September after the Holy Qurbano. Members were decked up with traditional Kerala dresses. The celebration began with a prayer song by the Sunday school students and the dignitaries lighting the lamp. The Sunday school students came together to make the traditional 'athapoo' while the MCYM for cultural programmes like dance and 'naadanpaatu'. The highlight of the evening was the couple dance performed by the parents. Rev. Fr Mathai Iranathara OIC delivered the Onam message and the vote of thanks by Mr. Thomas Mathew. The celebration was followed by 'Onasadya', prepared by the Mathrusangham members.

MCYM Patron's Day Celebration

Patron's day was celebrated in the unit on 16 October after the Holy Qurbano. The MCYM members made offerings for the Holy Qurbano. In the meeting that followed animatuer Mr. Daniel Babu motivated the youth through his words of wisdom. MCYM members actively participated in the celebration by singing songs and giving speeches. Rev. Fr Mathai Iranathara OIC, the vicar concluded the days program with his message.

Bengaluru District

a. St Joseph's MSCC, Mathikare

MCYM Patron's Day Celebration

The parish MCYM members celebrated Patron's day on 16 October. The celebrations began spiritually by the youth themselves reading the Old Testament after the Morning Prayer and offertory being offered during the Holy Qurbano. Rev. Fr. Mathew Varikkattu celebrated the Holy Qurbano and encouraged the youth to lead a true Christian life and be models to others. After the Holy Qurbano, MCYM Unit President Mr. Robin Samuel hoisted the flag and Miss Rinu Anna Rajan led the MCYM pledge. A special meeting was convened which was attended by more than 35 members. The MCYM President Robin Samuel and Rev. Fr. Mathew Varikkattu addressed the gathering and the meeting was concluded by MCYM anthem. The mathrusangham conducted games for the youth and also sponsored the lunch. A fund raising auction was conducted which was a huge success and the unit also kicked off the "charity month" initiative with an intension of collecting clothes, provisions and other items to be donated to a charity organizations in December.

Hyderabad District

a. St Joseph's MSCC, Jeedimetla

Onam Celebration

Onam celebrations were held on 18 September, with a nostalgic feel. The celebrations were inaugurated by Rev. Fr John Thundiyath OIC and Rev Fr. Siju Matthew OIC. Cultural programmes like Thiruvathira by the mathrusangam, Malayalam retro dance by the youth, nadan dance by Sunday school, medley dance by pithruvedhi were conducted. There were many games held for kids, youth and parents.

Francis Assisi Malankara Yuva Seva, FAMYS

The event FAMYS is aimed at providing free medical camp for the local people in and around the church. This initiative by the

MCYM was held at St. Joseph's Malankara Catholic Church, Jeedimetla-Hyderabad on 09 October. The camp was supervised by Dr. John Abraham MD (CMC, Vellore) and other paramedical staff. The event was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. John Thundiyath OIC followed by a Diabetic Awareness programme by Dr. John Abraham. There were about 104 participants in the medical camp. Free medicines were also distributed as prescribed by the doctor. The participants included employees from the small scale industries, sweepers of GHMC and shopkeepers from the markets.

Goa

St Ephrem MSCC, Cortalim

MCYM Patron's Day

The MCYM of the parish celebrated Patron's Day on 16 October in the parish. Mrs Elsy, the former Animateur of Christian community in Goa was the chief guest of the day. She took a session for the youth and the elders of the parish on the Challenges faced by the youth today. The unit has initiated the activities of the youth under the strong leadership of Rev. Fr. Stephen Chempakathopuvilayil.

Night Vigil

The parish community conducts night vigil on every first Friday of the month. This month too the parishioners came together and prayed long time during the night.

Days of Remembrance

- 01 : All Saints Day
- 03 : Commemoration of HE Paulose Mar Philexinos
- 13 : Feast of HE Yuhanon Mar Chrysosotom
- 29 : Feast of HE Geevarghese Mar Divannansios

Sad Demise

The Exarchate expresses deepest condolences on the demise of Mrs. Mary Antony Pawath from Kharghar Parish on 18 October 2016.
May her soul rest in peace.

Dedicated Parish Collection

Sr. No	Parish Name	Seminary Day 03.04.16	Laity Day/MCA 01.05.16	Sunday School 07.08.16	Justice Sunday 21.08.16	Mathru sangam 04.09.16	Reunion day cover	
1	St.Mary's MSCC Church, Khadki	2160	1820	2855	3000	2500	25000	
2	Holy Redeemer's MSCC. Kalewadi	3291	2842	5040	2670	10261	30350	
3	St.Antony's MSCC, Vishrantawadi	3453	5560	7280	4880	5510	20000	
4	St.Joseph's MSCC, Dehuroad	665	330	600	590	675	7000	
5	St.Thomas MSCC ,Chinchwad	650	650	855	1050	1110	7000	
6	St.Mary's MSCC ,Warje Malwadi.	675	1170	1220	1800	2000	5000	
7	St.Mary's MSCC,Aurangabad.							
8	St.Thomas MSCC,Nashik.	605	310	590	400	220	2500	
9	St.Mary's MSCC,BARC	1117	1250	1505	1590	1450	8800	
10	St.Mary's MSCC,Kharghar	1399	1400	3300	1840	1950	11300	
11	St.Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Dombivali							
12	St.Thomas SMCC, Borivilli	1995	1872	2475	4037	2972	2385	
13	St.Mary's MCC,Malad	300	300	460	310			
14	St.John The Baptist MSCC, Vasai	1505	1239	1972	1686	1688	1496	
15	St.Mary's MCC, Sakinaka	2026	4074	2828	3210	2982	4830	
16	Holy Family MCC, Vikhroli	1500	1500	2000	2000		5650	
17	St.Thomas MCC, Thane	3555	3110	3535	2900	3365	1800	
18	St.Joseph's MSCC, Ulhasnagar							
19	St.Thomas MSCC -Padi						25000	
20	St.George MCC -Ayyappakkam	1865	1490	1600	1570		2000	
21	St.Mary's MSCC,Hennur	3350	3380	6520	6260	3260	25000	
22	St.Joseph's MSCC,Mathikare	2265	2790	2345	2375	1970	25000	
23	St.John's MSCC , Singasandra	3335	3160	4470	4125			
24	Mother Mary MSCC , Secunderabad, Picket	1190	1620				9700	
25	St.Joseph's MSCC ,Hyderabad	900	1100	1470	1350		5450	
26	St.Ephrem Malankara Catholic Church, Goa						5500	
27	St.Malankara Catholic Church, Carmelaram-Mission							
28	Bhoisar-Mission	No subscriptions Rs. 5000/- paid as donation						
29	Malankara Syrian Catholic Church, Nagpur-Mission		1200					

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Note : Republished due to printing errors in the last edition



Onam Celebrations in Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary



Call to Priestly Life



Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into the harvest.” (Mt 9:37-38) The situation Jesus foresaw is the situation of the Exarchate of St Ephrem Khadki-Pune. We need labourers, priests and religious, to go out into the vast fields of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Goa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to share the Good News of the Gospel to those who have not heard it so far. We need priests to look after the Faithful in our parishes. Nirmal Hriday Minor Seminary of the Exarchate is established to form the future priests of the Exarchate. Let us join hands in motivating talented, committed young men to join the Seminary!

The Exarchate of St Ephrem invites pious and God-fearing candidates for serving in the vineyard of the Lord.

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