

Thus says Lord, Maintain Justice and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. (Is 56.1)



2009 November-December Vol I Issue 1

AKASAPARAVAKALUDE KOOTTUKAR

Friends and Birds of the Air



Web.: www.fbaworld.org

*"He raises up the poor out of the dust,
He lifts up the needy from the dung-
hill, To make them sit with princes,
And inherit the throne of glory; For
the pillars of the earth are Jehovah's,
And he has set the world upon them"
(1 Samuel 2:8)*



Oh! Dearest Delhi Arch Diocese,
Mater et Magistra Nostra, Heartly Golden Jubilee Greetings!

Prophet Elijah Pray for us!

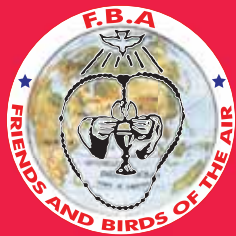


"A nswer me, O L ord, answer me" so that this people may know that you, O L ord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.

Then the fire of the L ord fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones and dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench.

When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The L ORD indeed is God; the L ord indeed is God". (1 K in 18: 37-39)





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AKASAPARAVAKALUDE KOOTTUKAR

Friends and Birds of the Air

Chief Patron

Most.Rev.Vincent M.Concessao
(Delhi Archbishop)

Co-Patrons

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(Bishop of Jalandhar)

Chief Editor

Rev. Fr. George Kuttickal MCBS

General Manager

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Managing Directors

Samsonappan SECBA
Eleeshwamma DECBA

Sub. Editor

Parvulamma DECBA

Asso. Editors

Ciciliyamma CDECBA
Mr. Vinod Cyriac
Mr. Mathew Kutty

Layout & Design

Joyal Antony

Photographers

Ignatiousappan
Garvasisappan

Behind the Curtain

Dr. Anil Sam
Rev.Fr.Antonyto Paul
Martin de Porresappan
Ligouriamma

*Rev.Fr.George kuttickal MCBS
Prathyasa munambu,
Kankamala P.O.,Kodakara,
Thrissur, Kerala, India - 680 689
Ph: 09446505525, 09447351254
www.fbaworld.org*

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May we welcome you to FBA...!!!



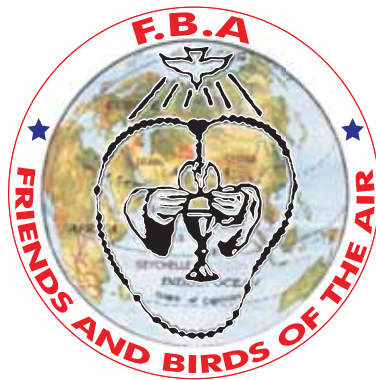
FBA is a pilgrim community to the manger of Bethlehem with the glorious proclamation of the Magi. "We have come to worship Him".

In the least, last and lost of the society, FBA encounters the little Baby of the humble manger. By being with them and by being for them FBA becomes a Eucharistic Catholic Ecclesial Community on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho.

In this community the good Samaritan encounters, experiences and unites himself with the wounded and crucified Jesus in the wounded man. And the wounded man on the other hand experiences and enters into communion with the healing Jesus present in the good Samaritan.

Experiences of this Eucharistic love leads them to the most solemn celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy. Then the power of the Eucharist transforms them into a Heavenly, koinonia and they begin to pray with forgiving love for the priest, the levite and the wounding robber.

The humble and penitential life of this core community leads them to communion with the priest, the levite and the wounding robber and the immense power of the Eucharist transforms them into a Eucharistic Covenant Community of the Birds of the Air.



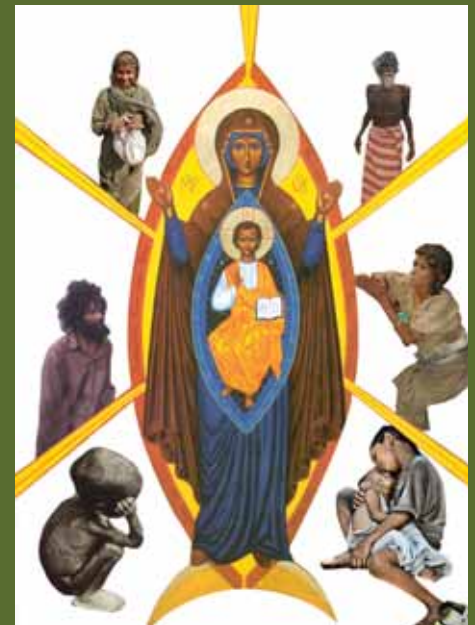
We pay a special homage to our beloved patron, Arch Bishop Vincent M. Concessao, who is a faithful shepherd to the Friends and Birds of the Air & a guide to Padre pio bhavan and Swargadwar our rehabilitation centers in the Archdiocese of Delhi. We are eternally grateful to him for establishing Friends and Birds of the Air as a pious public association in the Archdiocese of Delhi.

An incident to remember was in the year 2000. When the members of FBA visited Delhi and wanted to start a house in Najabghat, ArchBishop himself wrote the requisition letter for us. The Christ like humility, amiability and concern shown by the Arch-Bishop, stays alive in our minds even today.

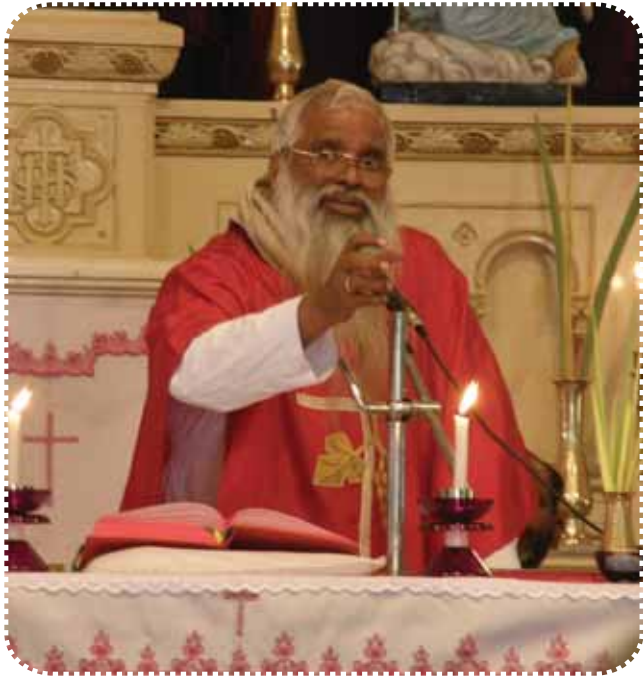
Another incident that reminds us of the Archbishops concern for the poor is when he was moved in his heart seeing twice sick and wounded men thrown out into the streets, whom he was not able to rescue and took a decision not to turn away from such men and he was faithful to the same. On meeting the FBA members, he said, he was relaxed and happy that Friends and Birds of the Air will do it for him.

May, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with the beloved sheep and shepherds of the Arch Diocese of Delhi.

Your Humble Servants in the Eucharistic Lord ,
Rev.FrGeorge Kuttickal MCBS & all Friends and Birds of the Air.



**Golden Jubilee
wishes to our
beloved Delhi
Arch diocese,
To all the be-
loved Arch
bishops, Bish-
ops, Priests,
Religious and
laity who have
struggled hard
for the growth
of the diocese.**



Oh! Dear... ? is this Justice...

The one who got a plate is unhappy that he did not get the meal! He who got the meal is sore that he did not get a mat to sleep on! But what about the one who did not even get a plate at the banquet!!!???

The slum dweller has a tent to live in, and the adivasi has the forest. But what about those who wander on the streets? Slum dwellers and adivasis have their associations and organised might. But the beggars, mentally ill patients and children who roam the streets are the ones, who in the history of this world, have never got organised either by themselves or through others. Municipal councils and city corporations have often come forward only to expel them from the midst of the society, by issuing notifications for prohibiting the practice of begging, etc...

They are in deed almost lifeless but moving bodies, who live like refugees in their own motherland, with their names not even enrolled in the voters' list. Who cares about their pains? Who pays attention to their agonies? Like mad dogs or mongrels, they are chased away from society. They compete with stray dogs to grab some waste food from garbage bins kept at wayside eateries or star hotels. As they stand with outstretched hands before palatial houses in the urbanised towns, all that they get is a shower of deafening rebukes and cruel bites from hybrid dogs.

When they approach eateries, they are subjected to scalding experience of hot water being poured on them! Such are the fundamental rights, citizenship privileges, and minority rights that society gives to these fellow beings!!!?

The whole world is in a rat race for progress. In a society that swears by the primitive policy of "Survival of the Fittest", these unfortunate ones who are poor in intelligence, health and influence find themselves rejected as outcasts from the society.

Political parties, ideologues and think-tanks of intellectual ivory towers have no need of these desolate ones who are nobody in the society, and who have nothing to call as their own. Many of the cultural leaders in this consumerist civilization that has lost all love and brotherhood look upon them with contempt.

Most of the time, centres run by "Friends and Birds of the Air", which is clearly distinct from other orphanages and destitute homes – only meet with utter neglect and rejection from the State Orphanage Welfare Board.

Obsolete laws and regulations framed in respect of orphanages and destitute homes several decades ago are still deliberately or unwittingly being imposed upon the ashrams of "Friends and Birds of the Air" – a movement that gave the clarion call for social transformation and progress.

The Magazine:

It is the herald of eternally merciful divine justice rightly named as the "Friends and Birds of the Air" to signify the cries of hope from the unfortunate ones (wandering destitutes), who have been denied the justice and are standing in the midst of the society and seeking justice before God, the loving father, in the company of those who have become their virtual parents and benefactors. It is a resource material offered to society by such birds of the air to share true love, although they have been denied even a plate at the banquet. It gives a revolutionary call for spiritual-social change and invite people to come forward sharing God's love and justice- to help those who do not even have a plate.

It gives a heavenly warning to prepare for the Last Judgment of Jesus who loves, and lives through the poor. Do not miss it... subscribe it... give it as a gift to others.

I cordially invite all of you to participate in this spiritual – social movement .

Your humble servant of the Divine Justice,

Sd/
Fr.George Kuttickal MCBS.



To the shore of ..

I was conducting a Eucharistic retreat at Unday-angadi parish of Mananthavadi and a boy, Biju Thadathil, who had just completed his 10th std came to me and said that he wants to join the MCBS congregation. I looked at his face curiously. Suddenly a thought came in to my mind which was quite strange. I told him, "You can join MCBS. However, you won't get a chance to become a priest, not even a Religious Brother. You will be given a place in the kitchen. But you won't be paid as the other kitchen staff. You can imbibe the spirit of MCBS in your heart and partake in the Eucharist and the Prayers, you won't be given any Religious habit. Are you ready for it?". I could see a dazzling light on his face. With great joy he cried out, 'Father that is enough for me', that is enough for me.

Money or position or any worldly comforts was not in his agenda. He wanted Jesus and



Eternity...

only Jesus who is the treasure hidden in the field. For him, to be His humble servant was all and everything. And hence Biju was found quite happy anywhere and everywhere. Three years of minor seminary life, one year novitiate and three years of Philosophy of MCBS seminary training passed soon. Like the wise man of the East, he was taken up with the joy of following Jesus.

God the father and Jesus might have decided that Biju, who ran his course so faithfully need not run further. When Biju said, 'father that is enough for me', the basic Eucharistic Doctrine that Jesus is the Bread of life and whoever comes to him would not hunger or thirst was getting literally realized in Biju. And God the father told him through Jesus that it was enough and the Holy Angel of Eucharist came to Biju with the invitation to

eternity in the form of Lukaemia.

I was fortunate that I could sit beside his death bed during his last hours. I was inspired to ask him whether he was happy to go to Jesus bosom .And again, with a face so bright his reply came "Father, isn't for that I left my house and came over here. His reply struck my heart. Even at those last moments his face was bright, the eyes so sparkling and on the face, a sweet smile.

None of our members who knew Biju's disease divulged it to him, incase it saddens him further. So I plainly asked him whether he know what his sickness was. To my surprise, he revealed that he took new about his sickness. But he didn't share it with others because he felt that it would sadden the rest of the community. The exact moment of Biju's death, who had already become the body and blood of Jesus, was the moment when his spiritual father, Fr.Kuriakose Munjely was saying the consecration words during the mass, "This is my body; this is my blood."

When Biju's dead body was kept in the MCBS study house at Karukunnu, Always, I came to the sanctuary. As I reached there I heard a voice, " Biju is not there in that body; he is here in Me, in this Eucharistic Tabernacle". I knelt there and prayed for half an hour looking at Biju in the Eucharistic Tabernacle. Then I got up and sat beside the dead body of Biju. Again I

heard a voice, a tender voice of the Eucharistic lord , 'I am not there in the tabernacle'; I'm here in Biju. When I meditated over these two voices together, there came to me the meaning of the great saying of Jesus, "One who eats my body and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him".

In this graceful year for priests, let us pray for all priests and seminarians who have passed away to their Eternal home. Lets also pray through the beloved

mother of priests, that all the priests and seminarians may burn like Biju with love for the Eucharistic lord . Let every priest and seminarian may reach heaven , with innumerable souls gained for Jesus. If any priest happens to be depressed and desperate, let them all get strengthened by the Holy spirit, and be prepared and protected within the Immaculate and sweet Heart of Mary. Thereby, each and every individual, family and community and the universal church be blessed and graced. Thus let the New Heavens and New Earth spring forth.

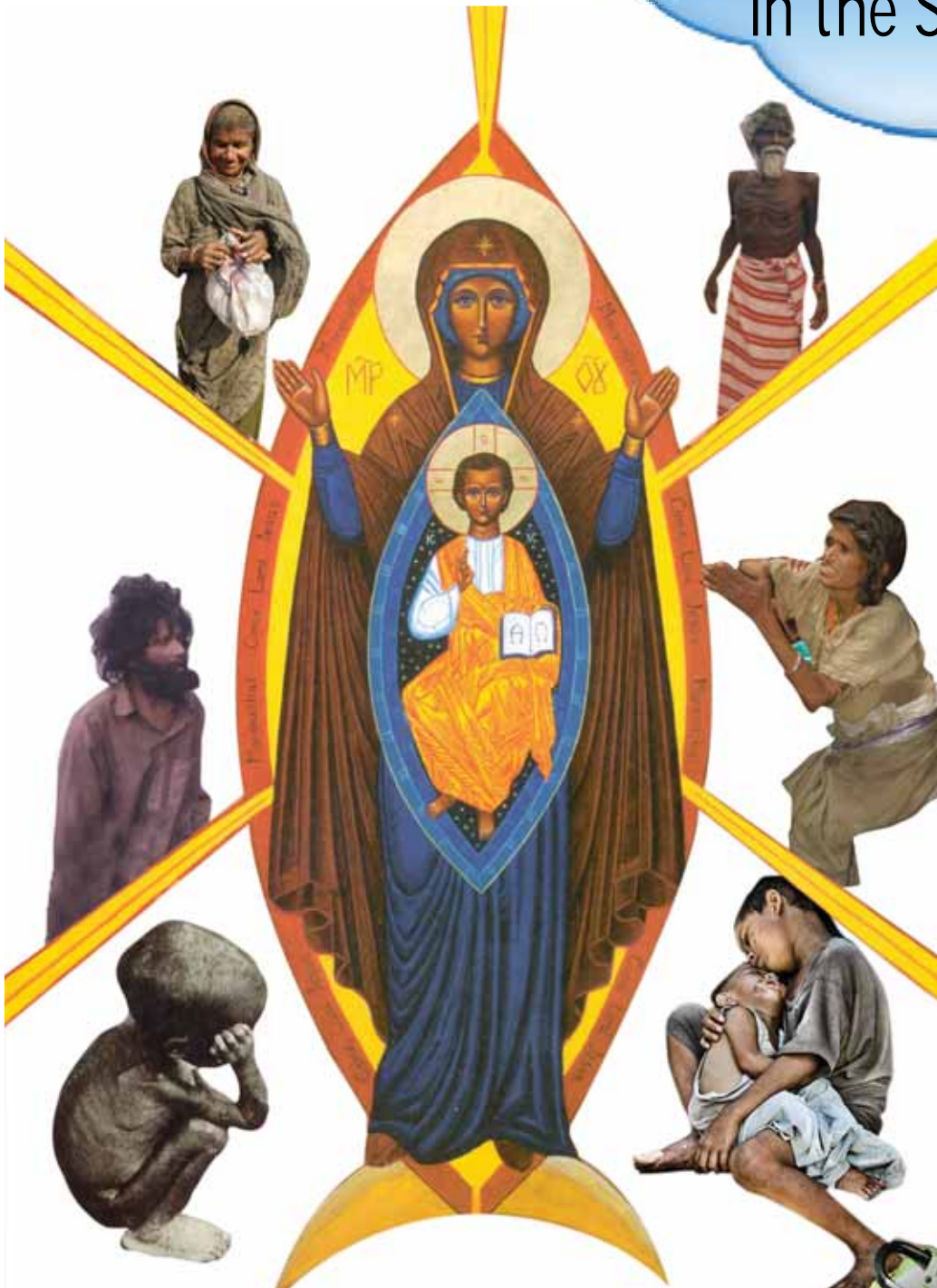
"One who eats my body and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him".

Yours lovingly
Fr. George Kuttickal MCBS

And he was told, "Your mother and your brethren are standing outside, desiring to see you". But he said to them, " My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of god and do it (Luke 8:20-21)

And a mother of ours too.....

Oh!
Mother, the Heavenly
mother of those wandering
in the Streets.....



Mary, the mother of Jesus and us is a woman who bore the word of God in the heart, in the lips and in the womb . Mother is everything in this life. Mother is the virtue; Mother is the sweet memory; Mother is the living visible god. In the moments of gloom mother is consolation, in moments of despair mother is hope. Mother is the source of sacrifice and patience. There is a beautiful proverb ; 'God created mothers as he can't be present every where visibly'. A mother is the light and the lamp in each one's life. The sweetest term in every language is 'mother'.

A baby opens his mouth calling out this term. The life breath of a child is its mother.

She Keeps in her Immaculate heart....

On 15th July 1993, Mary mother of Carmel was made the mother of Friends and Birds of the Air. On that day a Divine voice was heard in the silence of the heart saying Oh! Mary my mother , you know very well to be with those carrying the cross and to be at the feet of those who are on the cross. Be with those who take lovingly the duty of rescuing the wandering beggars from the streets and rehabilitate them. It was on the eve of the feast of Mary mother of Carmel . From that day onwards , Mary mother of Carmel took to her heart every Friend and every Bird of the Air.

A Mother, if she is full of grace.....

The greatest influence one has in his life is from his mother. If she is full of grace her children too would grow in grace. On the other hand , if the mother is full of malice, the children would become worse. Hence the need of mothers to prepare themselves in prayer and holiness, to form their children is very essential today. The heavenly mother became the model for all mothers in order to guide their children in the path of holiness. Man's life is guided by his visions. However. all our visions, values and attitudes depend on our mothers, who is decisive in making us great or small. That is by Jesus gave Mary, full of Grace to be the mother of Friends and Birds of the Air.



This maternal influence starts even before the child birth and starts at the very conception. The will power and strength of a child is already formed in the mother's womb. She sheds light in to the heart, mind and emotions of the child. If so, every mother has to accept her child in the heart than in the bosom like our Heavenly mother, and offer the child to God in prayer.

My perfect one, my only one.....

Whatever the Holy Bible speaks of our divine mother applies also to all the mothers. God tells "My dove , my perfect one , is the only one. She is immaculate, lovely and blessed. Queens will praise her. Who is this that look forth like the dawn, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army with banners": (Song . 6: 9-10)

May the mother of Carmel shower immensely on those who are wandering in the streets and their friends, her children, the abundant blessings from heaven. Consecrating all those who are wandering in the streets and their friends into the most Immaculate Heart of the Heavenly mother, mother of Carmel.

Yours in the Eucharistic Lord.
Rev.Fr.George Karintholil MCBS



Assessment of FBA



Most. Rev. Vincent M. Concessavo

Maria Vianamma DECBA, had a chance to sit over with Archbishop Most.Rev.Dr.Vincent.M.Concessavo, the chief patron of FBA and the archbishop of Delhi.

Your Grace, FBA has been working in Delhi under your paternal guidance. Kindly brief your views on the activities of the same.?

Even though I have not been closely acquainted with the day-to-day happenings, I have learned from the visits I paid occasionally, that they demonstrated the wonderful love of Jesus and are powerful witness of Christ's Love and Compassion., that Jesus wanted us to share with the destitute and the suffering with whom he identified himself.

Your Grace, Is FBA acting like a 'Catalyst' for the formation of a culture of sacrificial love among the citizens of our national capital city?

Certainly, it is so. But in a limited way as the number of people who are acquainted with these homes are few. But there are benefactors and volunteers who collaborate with

them in measure.

Your Grace, kindly expound on how the efforts of this catholic thinking. ?

As we know Money, Power and Status only count in this materialistic world. People who have no purchasing capability have no place in this system, and globalization helped in making the situation of the deprived worse. Both poverty and affluence are dehumanizing. Because every human's basic necessity has to be met rather than economic growth and amassing wealth.

This also does not allow the image and likeness of God in us to surface. As Pope Paul-6th taught us, it is not enough to know more, to do more and to have more unless these lead to becoming more, namely more human and more compassionate. FBA is a response to this challenge in the modern world.

Your Grace, faithfully following the divine plan of God and emulating the 'Good





Samaritan' , FBA community strives for total social transformation. How do you look at it?

FBA touches and transforms the heart of the society more by deeds than words. As Pope John Paul 2nd, said "Modern man listens to witnesses rather than teachers and if it listens to teachers it is because of their witnesses." I am sure , as and when required , the FBA members also pass on to the suffering people they look after, the message of God's love and compassion for us and how these were manifested in the life of Jesus particularly in his Death and Resurrection. I am sure these message gives them hope for a better future and possibly inspires them to do for others what FBA members do for them.

Your Grace, you must have recognized the need for better synergy and stronger coordination amongst the Catholic charitable organization. What you perceive about the role for FBA.?

I am glad that we have several organizations and persons committed to the service of the poorest of the poor in the archdiocese. In fact, sometime ago I called a meeting of all those who are involved in this kind of service. And it was very inspiring to listen to their experience of God's miraculous intervention in their ministry almost as a regular feature. In fact, I got the addresses and telephone numbers of all the agencies and dis-

tributed them among the participants so that whenever they have no room to accommodate a suffering person they can get in touch with others and see that the suffering people are not sent back. Occasional meetings of this kind and coordinating our efforts are bound to result in mutual support in the service of the poor.

Your Grace, as part of the preparedness for 2010 commonwealth games, efforts are being made to make the city beggar-free . Should we not take as a challenge and take urgent steps for meaningful rehabilitation of all destitutes in this city. ?

The beggar free city role is certainly something that we need to perceive but it can't be achieved purely def and rehabilitation. The basic cause is an unjust system based on a distorted vision which produces beggars. If the national goals of Justice, Equality, Freedom and Fraternity, so beautifully enshrined in the pre-ambule of our constitution were to be taken seriously and incorporated in our structures and systems, there will be very few causalities. But this is a difficult process that assumes an enlightened leadership and real commitment to the welfare of all our people. It calls for awareness among People, Education , Organization and Action at all levels.

Your Grace, of late, churches in India are facing much opposition from various quarters. At the same time, services of Catholic charitable organizations are lauded by the entire society. How do you react to this dichotomy?

There is no doubt that our services particularly in the Educational, Medical and developmental areas are very much appreciated. But unfortunately for some these very expression of Love and Compassion become threats. They have given the word conver-

sion, their on interpretation and spread false information that we do everything for religious conversion and they have no qualms about disrespecting the freedom of conscience which is a fundamental right in our constitution. But these are small fundamentalist groups which spread fear and hatred . The vast majority of our people are good and respectful, believe in diversity and defend fundamental rights of all our citizens. We need to work with them. I am afraid that those who attack Christians have political ends in their minds. They politicize religion.

Your Grace, could you elaborate the encounter with your inner conscience that has made you a 'Servant of Destitute'?

My involvement in developmental work in the archdiocese for some years, made me aware of the suffering of the poor and convinced me of their capacity to achieve great things. They have tremendous potential for good. They are formed by their struggle to survive. Much as we think of struggle and suffering in negative terms, they do have a positive contribution to make for the building up of the human person. That apart, the Lord's teachings are very clear on the basis of our last judgment. It is what we do for him in the poor and suffering. I would like to say that perhaps the measure of faith is the measure of our recognition of Christ in our brothers and sisters especially those who suffer and our response to him. As for your title 'Servant of the Destitute', it is people like you, and thank God for the good number of such people in the church, who are truly servants of the destitute. My role is mainly to inspire , encourage and support people like you.

Your Grace, with your blessings, FBA is organizing its third all India fellowship convention of members of all its ashrams to be called as "Holy Trinitarian Koinonia", from 27th Dec/2009 to 1st Jan/2010. What according to you should we do to make our brethren feel, loved and wanted by those in the mainstream of the country. ?

The Trinitarian convention should be an opportunity for the people in Bangalore to become aware of the sufferings of many of our brothers and sisters and how as human beings we need to respond to them and demonstrate that our love for God is truly present when we love our neighbour especially those who need it most. As people grow in this awareness they are likely to visit our Ashrams, contribute what they can for their welfare and make them loved and wanted. There is no doubt that love, recognition and acceptance are deep needs of the human person and can transform people into greater personality. I hope your convention will help the people of Bangalore to be more loving and compassionate.

May God Bless You.



Dinesh....." -

""A 'Bird of the Air' or 'Son of Samasthi pur!'



Dinesh was born in a poor village called Samasthipur in Bihar. He lost his father at a tender age and his life's journey started with his widowed mother and his younger brother. Dinesh who dedicated his life for his widowed mother and younger brother left Bihar for Hyderabad in South India in search of a livelihood. He became a loner and suffered without a livelihood. Even in the midst of suffering and loneliness God stood beside him. Thus Dinesh headed from Hyderabad to Kerala. By then he became an absolute lunatic, Who ate from garbage to quench his hunger, in the town of Kottayam. The merciful God who places the poor with the elite met Dinesh while he was lying in a garbage pit.

Towards Nazareth ashram

Our beloved 'Friends' from the Nazareth Ashram in Kanjirapally came to the rescue of Dinesh who brought him to the ashram. The loving care, concern and prayer of the

Friends of the ashram made Dinesh a new creation. The verse which says " How beautiful it is to be with brethren" came to life in Dinesh. In a short span of time Dinesh became a volunteer at the ashram.

This Is The Way, Follow It

God intervened in Dinesh's life as he was continuing at the ashram by making him one of the six representatives from this ashram to participate in the Holy Trinitarian Convention organized by the Birds of the Air in Delhi. After this convention Dinesh got back his memory and remembered his mother and brother.

Dinesh at the Capital of India

The desire of Dinesh was considered after the Holy Trinitarian Convention and he was handed over to the " Swarg Dwaar Ashram" in Delhi, by Lalichan a Friend of Nazareth Ashram. The prayers and spiritual atmosphere of Swargdwar ashram healed and transformed Dinesh, and he was made the Chief cheff of the ashram. Our totally dedicated Friends Garvasiappan and Shajiappan, were instruments in taking Dinesh to his hometown in Bihar.

The journey was hazardous and tiring; we overcame the heat of the day travelling on top of the bus and finally reached Samasthipur. We met the Vicar of a church near the railway station and introduced the Friends and Birds of the Air. On hearing about this ministry the Vicar requested the FBA representatives to start such an ashram in their village and offered to support with land and the needful.

At Dinesh's Village

After two hours of journey from Samasthipur they finally reached Dinesh's home. The villagers crowded around them, since it was 12 long years after Dinesh left the village. The last rites were conducted for Dinesh since he was considered dead. The villagers welcomed us warmly by their traditional rituals. On hearing her sons arrival Dinesh's mother left her work and came from far to join the 'tears of joy'. A doctor in the village invited the FBA members to his house and honored us for the great deed. It was an occasion for Divine touch for us and for the villagers by that we became one in Heart and one in Mind. So it was very painful for us and for them when we had to come away from the village. We left Dinesh with his people and we journeyed back to Delhi with a feeling of fulfilling a great responsibility.



travelling on top of the Bus



Dinesh at his village

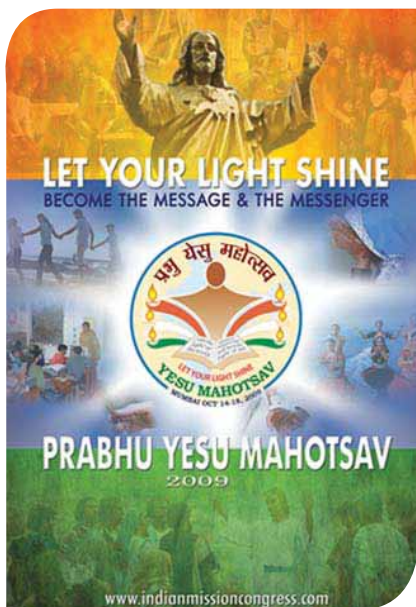


Dinesh with his family



Dinesh with his relatives

Let your light shine



The "Prabhu Yesu Mahotsav" conducted from 14th to 18th October 2009 at St. Pius X college campus (Goregaon, Mumbai) has become a fore-runner (given a glimpse of) to the advancement of the love and light the church is going to make in the oncoming year 2010. The Indian Mission Congress that took place in Mumbai staged the platform for the meeting of around 1500 participants representing 160

dioceses each sending seven selected participants. This event has bought into realization a joyful dream FBA was keeping in her heart since 1997 regarding a great blossoming in the year 2010 . We are gladly and joyfully glorifying the most Holy Trinity , for all those who became instrumental to the works of the Holy Spirit during these blessed and glorious days.



Bangalore, one of the metropolitan cities of India, has been growing as the hub of I.T. Sector. People tend to concentrate only on their lives and the extended family- the life of the other is been ruled out. At this juncture the service of Thirumughashram and Thritwashram is praiseworthy.

The service for Birds of the Air in Bangalore was originated around twelve years ago. Some of our 'Friends' from Shimoga district, imbibing the spirit of Rev.Fr.Kuttical MCBS, made a pilgrimage to Bangalore with a determination to dosaa something for the brethren who are thrown out to the streets. They had

The Glorious Eucharistic reign in Bangalore.....(1997- 2009)



TRITHWA ASHRAMA
#6, BHARATH NAGAR, ASHRAMA ROAD, THANISANDRA, ARABIC COLLEGE POST,
BANGALORE - 560 045, MOB: 9945832591

THIRUMUGHA ASHRAMA
28, VODERAHALLI VILLAGE, VIDYARANYAPURA POST, MS PALAYA (VIA)
BANGALORE - 560 067 MOB:9886623996
e-mail: fbaministry@gmail.com

been praying through night vigils at RRC(Renewaffl Retreat Centre) for the Spirit of God to work in them and reveal his plan. Then the idea of rehabilitation centers in Bangalore for the Birds of the Air was originated. They worked under the leadership and spiritual guidance of Rev.Fr.George Kuttical and later on it was affiliated to the Divyakarunya charitable trust.

Mr. James gave away his house at Kottiya Palaya for this purpose. Later paulosechettan gifted two plots for this service. Then a shed was made for the accommodation of Birds of the Air amidst extreme poverty. All through the years the life was difficult, but they trusted in the providential love of God. Later Matthew-kuttiechayan, by seeing the plight of life in the shed, donated a plot at Jalahalli and constructed an abode for our beloved Birds of the Air.

Jaswant Singh was wandering through the streets, eating tyre and plastics. And it was he who laid the foundation for Thritwashram in the presence of Fr.George kuttickal on 7th Feb. 2004. It is noteworthy that later he was rehabilitated to his home town in Punjab. Through the prayers and the helps of different people and mainly by the support of Mr.Tony Thritwashram was finally materially realized. The three floor building was blessed and inaugurated by Most Rev.Dr.Bernard Mores,the Arch Bishop of Bangalore on Sept.2006.

Once the building was ready Birds of the Air started to flow in, and the number exceeded seventy, which was the maximum number to be accommodated. Due to space constraint Thirumughashram is now being renovated. Altogether about 1000 Birds of the Air have received our service, of whom many have been rehabilitated to their own homes, while some have reached their heavenly abode.



Shajuappan & Shijamma
Humble Instruments of God





Shajuappan and Shijamma are the main instruments of God in carrying out this ministry, with the wholehearted support and corporation of many friends. And it is through them that the precious members experience the healing love of God. Many seminarians, sisters, nursing staff and the people alike come here on free days and extend their help.

Following the ascetic tradition of our Motherland India we give great importance for Prayer and Spirituality. The inner enlightenment through prayer and spirituality hastens the total healing and transformation of the members of our Ashram.

Yes, Thirumughashram and Thritwashram are the beacons or the light houses for Birds of the Air in Bangalore city, spiritually empowering and transforming the society around. May this ministry challenge the people to dedicate themselves to serve God through the downtrodden.

Garvasisappan

FBA Leaders for Bangalore City



A pauper becomes the Saint of the Poor



My mind was in a pilgrimage through the life of saints. In the heart of the saints, a fire of divine love keeps burning always. If only we could own up at least a ray of that love burning in our heart, would have gone far ahead in the path of holiness. I can state with absolute certainty that it was the model of the saints that helped me to face the various problems and crisis of my life.

In my search for the fragrance of holiness, my eyes and my heart caught at a book of a saint, a pauper who became the saint of the poor. The richness of purity emanating from his face has caught hold of my heart. The shine of those eyes as the light of his holiness within, makes that dark face brighter than the sun. Isn't it the internal beauty of which Jesus often speaks?

That black pearl, St. Martin, was a black born in 16th century at Lima in Peru. He was born in 1539 of Don Juvantine, a European noble and soldier and Anna Veleskuce, a Black woman. Martin got the colour of his mother.

And hence this mother and child were object of mockery in society of nobles. Her husband deserted her and this poor mother had to do the work of a doer to look after the children. Martin had an extraordinary love and sympathy for the poor since his early childhood and hence he used to give away whatever he got for the poor.

For Martin prayer was the source of Joy when his friends found joy in play. Likewise Martin enjoyed food by sharing it with others, when usually people enjoy food by eating up by self. Similarly when he got a new apparel he enjoyed not by dressing himself but making others to put on that new apparel. And he finds joy in it. However such a generosity was too much for his poor mother to bear.



His father send him to Equidor . There he was a peon to a Doctor and learned some primy nursing care. Seeing the pathetic situation of the poor Negroes at the port he felt very sad. And God made him a miraculous healer to this poor miserable people.

This most humble servant, who was so hard working, after finishing his work of the day came to his small room and knelt down for hours in the night praying before the crucifix fixed on the wall. During those hours he experienced a supernatural joy.

It was during these hours of prayer, this great saint used to take all major decisions in his life . Thus he decided to melt himself like a burning candle for the Glory of Holy Trinity and for the service of humanity. It was during these hours of prayer and meditation he imbibed the fire of divine love.

He was so humble that , he thought himself of absolutely unworthy to become a priest or even a brother. Therefore, he decided to become a servant in the nearby Dominican ashram. With certainty, we can call him a saint of humble living and noble visions. His simplicity and courtesy attracted everybody. He was always conscious of the respect to be given to every creature of god .



He did the usual chores of works such as sweeping. Washing, etc... With extra ordinary love. Once in the Dominican ashram, there was severe poverty. The prior was selling articles of the house to run day to day business of the house. One day , Martin saw him, going to sell off two paintings which were so dear to the prior. Martin told him not to sell of those paintings and offered himself to be sold as a slave so that the ashram may get much more money to meet the day to day expenses.

Martin was convinced that whatever help one does for the poor is done for Jesus. He had a special gift of speaking to others so as to instill hope in their hearts . Even during his lifetime, he was filled with the divine power that could even raise the dead. On 30th November 1639, the soul of that great saint who spent himself for God and for men ascended to the bosom of Holy Trinity.

Whenever I tried to travel through the path of holiness, listening to the Holy spirit, I could experience the tender touch of holiness and supernatural tranquility. Yes, let us imitate this great Saint especially the great virtues of humility ,charity, innocence, simplicity and courtesy. Let us become the last and the least so that we may be able to do things great and gain eternal joy.



Bethlehem's manger, The School of Heavenly Knowledge...

That Cave on the slopes of Bethlehem's mountain...
There is only a dim light...
There is the Divine School that spreads the fragrance of Divine wisdom of God...

The Eternal Treasury of Gods Mysteries.
The Divine Infant, who was granted by the Heavenly Father

Through the Immaculate Mother
by the Holy Spirit.

Let us also adore the manger's mystery with St. Joseph and Mary Immaculate, who became the seat of wisdom and the abode of divine knowledge by meditating the mysteries of the manger.

The Glory of the Holy Trinity

When the adorable Holy Trinity created the universe and everything in it and handed it over to mankind with love that knew no boundaries and without sparing anything for Him. We also know what happened when He gifted His Only Begotten Son, as a perfect Man. He gave to his only Son the total kenosis and emptiness of the manger.

The Spirituality and Lifestyle of the manger

We can live and work in three different ways in this modern century.

1. Living and working with the bare minimum.
2. Living and working with all the necessary materials.
3. Living and working amassing splendidly all the Luxuries.

The Divine Infant was satisfied eternally with the first style, where he chose to live and work with the bare

minimum, while most of us are tempted to choose to live and work with splendid luxuries.

Oh...! Poverty my Divine Spouse!

The truly blessed are not those who have gathered all things, but the one who has filled his heart, mind and life with God and His Kingdom, this is what we learn from the Mystery of the manger.

Man starts gathering things when he doesn't experience fulfillment. Haven't we learned that, "He is the Bread of Life and anyone who comes to him shall not hunger and those who believe in Him shall not thirst." (John 6/35)

We are called, set apart, sanctified and appointed to live the manger's mystery to reach at the perfection of the Heavenly Father. The whole mankind has a divine invitation through Christ our Lord for an eternal perfection. That is why, the saints who have grown in the divine perfection, satisfied themselves with the things that are most necessary. So to fill our hearts, minds and lives with the Holy Infant, let us put aside the worldly pleasures and luxuries as debris of Satan and let us grow in Zacchaeus self-sharing and self-emptying style as it is written in the Gospel of Luke.

To give enough place for the Holy infant in our Hearts for this Christmas, let us become empty vessels by sharing whatever we have and whatever we are. Then let us cry out "MARANATHA"; "Come Lord Jesus"

With Joyful Christmas Wishes,
Friends and Birds of the Air

HOW

Looks



the face of FBA

Like

1 Sons of the Eucharistic Covenant of the Birds of the Air (SECBA)

2 Daughters of the Eucharistic Covenant of the Birds of the Air (DECBA)

The call of the Sons and Daughters of Eucharistic Covenant is to become the Eucharistic heart of the Church. It is by being the Eucharistic heart of the FBA Ecclesial Community. The Eucharistic heart is the heart of the lamb that takes away the sins of the world. Eucharistic heart has a purifying and expiating call which leads to a life of zealous prayer and severe penance.

3 Contemplative Sons of the Eucharistic Covenant of the Birds of the Air (CSECBA)

4 Contemplative Daughters of the Eucharistic Covenant of the Birds of the Air (CDECBA)

The role of the contemplative community is to be the Mosses on the mountain while the Joshua is in the battle field. With their penitential prayer, they fulfill the call of the FBA Ecclesial Community 'to be with Him' and the active community fulfill the call 'to be sent'. Thus, there is a beautiful blending of Martha and Mary in the Ecclesial Community.

5 Eucharistic Family Community of the Birds of the Air. (EFCBA)

It consists of Eucharistic Families who live the radical Christian life of the Early Christian Church. They live neither for themselves, nor for their own families but for the Church, fulfilling her mission to be with the poor and to be for the poor.

6 Eucharistic Youth Community of the Birds of the Air. (EUCBA)

Eucharistic Youth Community consist of the *broken and shattered Youth*, the Holy Trinity entrust to our care from the streets. In this Community and through this community with the intercession of Mary mother of Carmel and all the Saints and Angles, the heavenly Father immerses and soaks them in his eternal love and in the all pervading grace of Jesus Christ and in the all embracing fellowship of Holy Spirit. Which forms and transforms them into an empowered and sanctified youth abiding in the Holy Trinity And they gradually grows in to a leaven and transforms the whole youth.



7 Eucharistic Gurukulam Community of the Birds of the Air:

Heavenly father with His immense and eternal love brings his most beloved and precious children from the streets, through his son Jesus Christ and with the power of the Holy Spirit entrust them to our care. And the Holy Spirit leads them with the intercession of Mary our Heavenly Mother and the beloved angels and saints to a deeper and deeper Abba experience and the divine sonship experience and gradually transforms and forms them in to the great personalities of divine and human love.

8 Eucharistic Media Community of the Birds of the Air

It is a community founded by the Eucharistic Lord to give a Eucharistic Heart to all the mass media by prayer, penance, selfsanctification and by Eucharistic publications in various languages called as "Friends and Birds of the air"

9 Eucharistic Pro-life Community of the Birds of the Air

"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachael weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more" (Mt 2 : 18). Life is not only a gift of God but it is the very presence of God, in all creatures, especially in man, created in the likeness of God. Eucharistic Pro-life Community is the response of the Eucharistic Heart, to the silent screams of the helpless and unwanted, unborn babies and their mothers.

10 Eucharistic Emmaus Community of the Birds of the Air

"The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh" (Jn 6 : 54)," No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friend" (Jn 15:13), Eucharistic Emmaus community is founded by the Eucharistic Lord to lead the seekers of death who are in the valley of despair and darkness, to the valley of everlasting light and hope and to form them into a community of friends and apostles of hope.

11 Priest Community of the Eucharistic Heart:

"I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding" (Jer 3 : 15)

"I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed; nor shall any be missing, says the LORD." (Jer 23 : 4)

It is a community of Eucharistic priests who not only live for the poorest of the poor but also live with the poorest of the poor, sharing their very life by being priests, shepherds and prophets for them and with them. It leads to the creation of a New Heaven and New Earth.

12 Ashram Communities of the Birds of the Air

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers... All who believed were together and had all things in common;...

Every Eucharistic Ashram Community is founded by the Eucharistic Lord by binding together the healer and wounded. In the Holy Spirit, the wounded Jesus Present in the served community and the healing Jesus present in the serving community forms them together into a Eucharistic Ashram Community.



The 3rd Most Holy Trinitarian Koinonia of The Friends and Birds of the Air



on
2009, December 27,28,29,30,31 Jan.1/2010

@
Bangalore

THIRUMUGHA ASHRAMA

28, VODERAHALLI VILLAGE, VIDYARANYAPURA POST, MS PALAYA (VIA)
BANGALORE - 560 067 MOB:9886623996

e-mail: fbaministry@gmail.com

Office:

TRITHWA ASHRAMA

#6, BHARATH NAGAR, ASHRAMA ROAD, THANISANDRA, ARABIC COLLEGE POST,
BANGALORE - 560 045, MOB: 9945832591

Tel.: 9242 623298

e-mail : fbaministry@gmail.com

Web.: www.fbaworld.org

FBA ASHRAMS ACROSS INDIA



Swarg Dwar Ashram
Chattarpur, Mehrauli
New Delhi
011-263302577, 09966430390

Paramprasad Ashram
Akhnoor
Jammu & Kashmir
09419642934

Thirumukha Ashram
Voderahalli
Jalahalli, Bangalore
080-64188649, 09886623996

**Mother Teresa
Sisubhavan**
Perumpadav, Kannur
Kerala
0460-2280375, 09447645626

**Divya Karunya
Thapovanam**
Nellipara, Alakodu
Kannur Dt.
0460-2256575

Padre Pio Bhavan,
Sunlight, Colony, Ashram
New Delhi
011-26348340, 09871497073

Karunalaya
Satna, M.P

Parisuthanarkarunaillam
Veerapuram
Avadi, Chennai
044-65288700, 09840152719 9.

**Divyakarunya
Gurukulam**
Chempamthotti
Kannur , Kerala
0460-2267914, 09747301088

Jeevan Jyoti Ashram
Chully, Kasarkodu
Kerala
0467-2248498, 09495027870

St. John Maria Viyanney
House of formation
Chenkottukonam
Thundathil Post
Trivandrum
9495623367

Chotti Teresa Sadan
Bakshi Nagar
Jammu & Kashmir
0191-2584977

Thritwashram
Nagawara
Bangalore
09945832591

Marvallah Dayara
Malayattoor, Ernakulam
Kerala
0484-2469009, 09947761570

Prathyashaamunambu
Chalakudy, Kerala
0480-2720889, 09446248934

**Mariam Tresa
Gurukulam**
Kozhikode Dt., Kerala
0495-3164585



Inauguration of the first Ashram of the "Birds of the Air" by Bl. Mother Theresa on 18th January 1994.

