

Awakening Zagruti

Voros 2

Fevrer 2024

Ank 2

St. Elizabeth's Church, Ucassaim, Bardez, Goa 403507



LENT

PRAYER • FASTING • ALMSGIVING

For Private Circulation Only

Spotlight on our Youth

Serenading



At the cafe



With senior citizens



At an Institution

During the Christmas Season



The Beautiful Star!



Celebrations for Ravi and Family

Christmas Tree



And the Winner is...



Vying to Eat the Biscuit and Win!

Zagruti

Voros 2

Fevrer 2024

Ank 2

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

St. Elizabeth's Church, Ucassaim, Bardez, Goa 403 507

Ph.: 2261608 | Website: www.stelizabethchurchucassaim.com

Vigar/Parish Priest: Iad. Savio D'Souza

Secretary: Smt. Agnes Vaz

Igorjecho Vavr: Ravindra

Igorgent Misam:

Somar-Sonvar (Mon-Sat): 7.00am

Sonvar/Saturday: 5.00pm

Aitara/Sunday: 7am and 8.30am

Kochericho Vell/Office Timings: Somar te Sonvar/Mon-Sat: 9.30am to 1pm

Piddestank Komunhanv/Communion for the Old and Sick: Fr. to announce

Bhag. Bap Magonk Iaita/Pope Francis' Intention

Jivitachea nimannea panvddear pavlolea piddestank voizuki ani monisponnachi kallji mellunk toxench tanchea familink gorjecho adar mellum mhonn magum-ia.

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

Firgoz Zomeank Zomati

- Gonvllik Firgoz Sobha: Poilea Aitarak sokallim 10:30
- Dev-Sondexkaram: Dusrea Aitarak
- Tornnateancho Zomo: Chovtea Aitarak
- Mariechi Fouz (Legion of Mary): Dor Mungllara sokallim Mis zatoch
- Dublleanchi Sonvstha (SSVP): 2nd and 4th Sonvar/Saturday
- Vediche Sevok (Altar Servers): Dor Sukrara, 5:00 pm

The Need of the Hour

We are not sure if you are following the current trends in our country. But if you are concerned about the state that we are in at the moment and if you care about our future generations, then you need to take action now.

Elections are coming up soon. And it is time to remind you, once again, that your vote is important. It is crucial that you exercise your franchise carefully. Before voting you need to discern about who you need to vote for. And please, please do not throw your vote away for the promise of a few hundreds/thousands of rupees or electrical/electronic gadgets. Do not let ANY candidate bribe you with a gold chain, money or any such enticement.

Please do vote for people who are educated and are genuinely concerned about doing good for the people instead of wasting your vote on someone who will jump to whichever camp seems to be stronger. Do you remember a politician who said that "god" told him to switch sides after he won the election? Do you think you should ever vote for such turncoats who only look out for themselves?

The need of the hour is for us to understand the power we have in our hands. Elect representatives who will be **accountable to you**. The **choice is yours**. **Choose wisely**.

Editorial

How time flies! Just like that, we are already in February 2024! And the cold wave just seems to be going on! Strange weather in Goa this time. Normally we have a fairly mild winter. However, this year, we had an extremely warm December. Towards the end of December late nights and early mornings were cool, bordering on chilly. But now in February, we still face pretty chilly nights and early mornings!

A lot has happened in the past few months. The most scary and disturbing was the stiff opposition and outrage caused by a document issued by the Holy See's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF). The document, of course, is *Fiducia Supplicans* (Supplicating Trust), with the subtitle "On the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings". The outrage and confusion was because traditionalists feel that Pope Francis is allowing priests to bless couples who are not considered to be married according to Church teaching, including same-sex couples.

For some time now, Pope Francis has been facing a lot of flak for many of his proclamations and decisions. When the Synod of Synodality was announced, there was a lot of opposition. Mainly because Pope Francis said that we *ALL* need to walk together, giving special attention to those on the periphery or fingers of the faith.

Then there was the issue of the *dubia* (doubts) raised by certain cardinals and archbishops. They sent Pope Francis a set of *dubia* in the form of questions. When Pope Francis sent back detailed replies, they rejected what he said and reissued the questions saying that they were looking for Yes/No answers to the questions.

Now with *Fiducia Supplicans*, the opposition has become more boisterous and belligerent. It is being alleged that Pope Francis is allowing priests to bless same-sex "marriages".

I am just a small, insignificant speck in the Catholic universe, but I did not get this sense when I read the document. All Pope Francis is saying is that anyone can come to a priest for a blessing. But the priest should not use a formal, ceremonial blessing to people in marriages that do not conform to Church teachings. Rather, if someone comes to a priest for a blessing, the priest may bless that person. The blessing by the priest does not mean that the priest accepts, say, the union of a same-sex couple. All the priest is trying to do, is reach out to people on the fringes of the faith.

However, the objections and vociferous opposition is only getting louder. And I wonder...what is it that these people want? Do they want Pope Francis, the pope they elected, to step down? Then what? Do they want to split the Church further, causing a schism? What is it that they really want?

My way of looking at this situation is that those opposing Pope Francis are opposing God's representative on Earth. If I cannot obey my pope, do you think I will obey my cardinal/archbishop/bishop? And if I do not obey my bishop, will I obey my parish priest? And if I disobey the pope and the clergy, am I not disobeying God? My thinking could be wrong.

I do admit, that the clergy are, after all, human and a prone to making mistakes. If those opposing Pope Francis feel that they disagree with him wanting to reach out to all sections of people including the LGBTQI+ community, then I am sure there are ways to make their voices heard, but this rabid opposition seems out of place.

Are we becoming like the Pharisees who thought they knew everything and felt threatened by Jesus who seemed to be breaking all the rules? Can we not think, "What would Jesus do? (WWJD)" in the current situation? Can we not think like Jesus who told the people that they could stone the prostitute if they wanted to, but the first person to cast a stone had to be one who had not sinned...and the people slowly slunk away...for they knew they were all sinners, maybe some were even worse sinners compared to the prostitute!

I think we all need to pray earnestly that good sense prevails and that our God gives us the grace and understanding to sort the issue out peacefully. Let us pray that our Heavenly Father may give us discerning rather than angry minds. Let us ask Jesus to give us loving hearts rather than hearts that hate. Let the Holy Spirit give us the grace to love all who are made in God's image, no matter how different they are from us. Have a grace-filled Lent.

MISAM ANI PORBO

Fevrer 2024

Tarik	Dis	Intesanv/ Porob	Vachpi
1ler	Brestar	Saude Saibinnichem Satvem Noven- Ters, Mis ani Salve 5:30 p.m- Zacharias Ferrao ani famil	Mandavoll korunk- Pelo Vaddo
2rer	Sukrar	Saude Saibinnichem Atthvem Noven- Ters, Mis ani Salve 5:30 p.m- Francis ani Edina D'souza ani famil	Mandavoll korunk- Paliem
3rer	Sonvar	Saude Saibinnichem Vespr- Stotram ani Mis 6:00 p.m	Mandavoll korunk- Confraria
4ter	Aitar	7.30 a.m Poilem Mis	Mandavoll korunk- Akhi Firgoz
		9:30 a.m Porbechem Mis	Mandavoll korunk- Confraria
5ver	Somar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis- Irene Dias	Deodita Soares
6ver	Mungllar	7.00 a.m Bore Bolaike khatir Mis Dita- Benjamin and Karma Pinto	Peter Noronha
7ver	Budvar	7:00 a.m Somp. Augustine Lobo- 2rea vorsacho ugddas	Agatha Vaz
		8.00 a.m Somp. Andre Po- fondaxim magnnim- Mhoinneacho Ugddas	
8ver	Brestar	7.00 a.m Bore Bolaike khatir Mis Dita- Edel ani Blythe Andrade	Jeffrey Noronha
9ver	Sukrar	7.00 a.m Bore Bolaike khatir Mis Dita- Vivaan Pinto	Maria de Graca D'souza
10ver	Sonvar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis- Anita Fernandes Magunk laita- Albert ani Angela Rodrigues- W.A	Anita Fernandes
		5.00 p.m Somp. Lourence Carneiro	Mandavoll korunk- Paliem 1
11ver	Aitar	Sadhea Kallacho Sovo Aitar 7.00 a.m Somp. Salvatore Britto	
		8.30 a.m Dhin'vasnechem Mis- Oliveta D'souza	Mandavoll korunk- First Holy Communion Group
12ver	Somar	7.00 a.m Somp. Oscar D'souza	Maggie D'Souza
		5: 30 p.m Lourdes Saibinn- fest	Igorz Vaddo
13ver	Mungllar	7.00 a.m Somp. Maria Menezes	Bonita Menezes
		Magunk laita- Vicena Rodrigues	
14ver	Budvar	Gobracho Budhvar 6.45 a.m Dhin'vasnechem Mis- Angelie Vaz- Zolm Dis	Agnes Vaz
15ver	Brestar	7:00 a.m Somp. Jhonny ani Joanita Vaz	Milly Carneiro

MISAM ANI PORBO (continued)

Fevrer 2024

Tarik	Dis	Intesanv/ Porob	Vachpi
16ver	Sukrar	5:00 p.m Somp. Michelle Britto	Magdalene Britto
17ver	Sonvar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis-Valanka Sequeira	Valanka Sequeira
		5.00 p.m Somp. Fr. Francisco Lourenco Mascarenhas Amche Firgojent- Jezucho Vollkhicho Dis	Mandavoll korunk-Paliem Nogueira
18ver	Aitar	Prachit kallacho Poilo Aitar 7:00 a.m Somp.Angel ani Aston D'souza	
		8.30 a.m	Catechism Children
19ver	Somar	7:00 a.m Somp. Edward D'souza	Marietta Noronha
20ver	Mungllar	7:00 a.m Somp. Luis Pereira	Aurelia Fernandes
21ver	Budvar	7:00 a.m Somp. David D'souza	Jacqueline Noronha
22ver	Brestar	7.00am	Antonia Gonsalves
		8:00 a.m Somp. Joseph Couto poilea Vorsacho ugddas ani fondaxim magnnim	Milagrina Couto
23ver	Sukrar	75:00 p.m Dhinvasnechem Mis-Brian Carneiro	Milly Carneiro
24ver	Sonvar	7:00 a.m	Lina Noronha
		5.00 p.m	Mandavoll korunk-Dhumpem
25ver	Aitar	Prachit Kallacho Dusro Aitar 7.00 a.m Somp. Marshall Carneiro	
		8.30 a.m	Mandavoll korunk-Legion of Mary
26ver	Somar	7:00 a.m Somp. Sofia D'sa	Nifa D'souza
27ver	Mungllar	7:00 a.m Somp. Monica Lobo	Maria de Graca D'souza
28ver	Budvar	7.00 a.m	Anouka Noronha
29ver	Brestar	7.00 a.m	

Mars 2024

Tarik	Dis	Intesanv/ Porob	Vachpi
1ler	Sukrar	7:00 a.m Somp. Ancessao Fernandes	Maggie D'souza
2rer	Sonvar	7.00 a.m	
3rer	Aitar	Prachit Kallacho Tisro Aitar 7.00 a.m	
4ter	Somar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis-Preston Sequeira	Preston Sequeira
5ver	Mungllar	7.00 a.m Somp. Gabriel ani Carmelina Fernandes	

Saud Saibinichi Porob

Saud Saibinichi Porob amche Uskoiche Firgojent vorsachea vorsa Fevrerachea poilea Aitara ami monnoitanv. (1st Sunday of February). Christmachi Kuxalkai ani umed Janerachea mhoineant sompta thumch asa ami Saud Saibiniche festache porbhechi toiarichi survat kortanv.

Amche Askarinn Bhagevont Isabelachi Porob July mhoineant zata tori punn ami Saud saibinnichi porob amche porompura pormonnem ami monnoitanv. Festache porbhek poilo Fam zaun ami Nov (9) novenanim ek kherit vixoi vinchum kaddun kuddi otmeache bolaik passot Saibinn maie kodde vinoti kor mhunn magtaum. Amcho Padr Vigar hi Porob odik folladik korunk, novenanim sermanv, Devachem utor, ani kumsaram vorvim Devacho mog ani kakut onbhovumk amchi atmik toiari korta. Novenamin dhakttim bhurgim anj bhoddve koxe (angels) nesoun konfradi borobor pursavant ieun salve gaion kortat.

Festa disa ek attvoch dobazo. Sokallim fuddem dotornnichim bhurgim darvontteancher fullam laun, lokak porbhek ieukar ditat. Matching flowers with your matching dress. Bandacho avaz, muzgacho kumpas mhonnlear festacho mood ready. Konfrad bhau amche sezarache Nachinolache konfreluk ieukar diunk toiari kortat and fugotteo marun tankam orde vattek khursa lagim addunk vetat. Hi ek porompura amchea gavant aiz pasun chalu dovorlea. Janerache poilea tarker amche konfrad bhau tanche porbhent vanto ghetat ani toxench amche Saud saibiniche phorbek tanche konfrad bhau amche porbhent vanto ghetat. Festache porbhechem dobajik cantar mis. Choirache vangddi apli vinchum kaddlim kherit gaionam, Vachpeamchi toiari porob gazouunk aple pure proitn kortat, ani bhitor sankistanvcho goddbodd. Aplem dumpavnem vellar zavop and soglli toiari vevastik zaunk to aplea boballar Asta. Bhitor uchambollai zalear igorje bhaileanui ghoddobodd amkam disonk ieta. Khell ani Khajem. Canteen stalls ani games. Sut boot, Janot neshop. Thoddim veginch vellar misak vetat zalear toddim apli boska sambhavunk vegim Igorjent dhanvtat. Thoddim nesnachea boballar Misak late pavtat zalear toddim parking mellona mhunn late pavtat. Fest somplea uprant donparam football game ani sanze festacho tiatr polleum ami amche porbhecho dis eka meka sangata "Happy Feast" mhunnon kuxalkaien sartanv. Hea novea vorsak ami ieukar dilea. Amkam kuddi otmeachi bolaiki favo kor mhunn Bapa lagim magumia ani oxinch Sodam ekcharan ani bhavponnan jieunk ami eka Mekak sangat dium-ia.

Festachim ununit porbhim. Happy feast tumkam soglleank.

Greta Gomes (Igorj Vaddo)



Diocesan Pastoral Council Brief

The DPC had its meeting on Sunday, 21st January 2024 at Lar de Estudantes. Sadly, there were very few participants this time. Maybe some felt that with the PPC Reconstituion process, their responsibility was over.

However, there was a lot to discuss. First off, we took a look at the PPC Reconstituion status. Up to 5 parishes had already completed the process, but the majority of parishes were still in the formation phase.

Our Archbishop, Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão was very much there and he gave us a passionate message. Once again, as he has stressed in the past, he requested us not to interfere in the process of transfer of priests. (Continued on the next page)

Youthful Vibrance: Joyful Moments in the Past Months

Our church life is like a big, changing picture, and the youth are a vital part of it. As we reflect on the past few months, I'm delighted to share a brief report about what the youth have been up to. We have enjoyed fun get-togethers and undertaken significant efforts to assist both others and the church. Let us quickly recap what we have accomplished together.

The Christmas preparations began well in advance with the creation of the Nativity Scene (Crib) and star. The youth gathered at the church for almost a month before Christmas to complete the nativity scene and the star. There was a remarkable display of effort, unity, and coordination among the youth of our parish. Simultaneously, we initiated our house-to-house Carol Serenading in our village. Almost every house participated, making it a challenging yet fulfilling task without speakers. The youth once again demonstrated their enthusiasm, successfully completing serenading throughout the entire village. Additionally, a crib and star competition took place for the parish members.

On December 26, 2023, a Christmas tree program was held in the church for all parishioners. Various games were organized for different age groups and married couples. The games were engaging, and the event was a success, with active participation from many kids and positive feedback from the parishioners. Santa Claus at the end became the highlight of the event.

On December 27, a cultural program took place where each ward had to present at least one program. Unfortunately, we did not receive an overwhelming response, but we still had some engaging programs planned by parishioners, youth, and Catechism students. Overall, the event turned out to be a success.

The Christmas and New Year midnight Mass was animated by the youth with full coordination. As I conclude, I want to express a heartfelt thank you to all our parishioners who consistently support us, and especially the youth members. Your energy and excitement bring life to our gatherings. We have created wonderful memories together and have made a positive impact on the people around us.

Francisca Carneiro (Bela Flor)



Diocesan Pastoral Council Brief (continued)

Fr. Ligorinho D'Costa, Convenor gave us information about the Walking Pilgrimage to be held on 18th February 2024. We were asked to enthuse and encourage our parishioners to participate in large numbers.

Fr. Savio Fernandes, Executive Secretary, Council for Social Justice and Peace (CSJP) told us about what CSJP are doing to make people aware of the current political scenario and how the country is faced with a democratic crisis at this point in time. He stressed the need for Catholics to be more aware and discerning when it comes to electing leaders keeping in mind the upcoming elections in 2024.

Ms. Asha Vaz, President of the SSVP in Goa gave us a brief about SSVP and what they do. At the end of the meeting she distributed copies of their magazine to all the participants.

The meeting ended with a sumptuous fellowship lunch.

Somodai/Small Christian Communities Round-up

Igorz Vaddo

Ward 5 had their Somodai meeting on Sunday, 14th Jan 2024, at 5.30pm, at Lourdes Chapel. Present for the meeting were about 18 members, which included 3 gents, as also 3 youth members. All members who were recently elected were present.

The meeting began with the opening prayers, followed by day's Bible reading. Announcements were made about the novenas and feast. Members were OK with only two masses on the feast day. All welcomed the proposal of annual collection of Rs. 500/- per family towards yearly miscellaneous expenses. A review of the Christmas Party held on 25th Dec 2023 at the Chapel was done, as also the Community dinner held on 6th Jan 2024. All members said the Christmas Party was very nice, as also the dinner. A big clap was also given to the Youth for the lovely Crib and the hard work put in during the week. Also a reminder was given to elected members to attend the formation sessions.

Further discussions regarding the novenas and feast of Lourdes Chapel took place. Also announcements regarding repairs and maintenance of the Chapel, which included installation of grill fencing and roofing, for the Chapel were made.

The meeting ended with closing prayers at 6.45pm.

St. Anthony Vaddo

The SCC meeting was held on 14th Jan 2024 at Mrs. Elvira Correi's residence at 5.30 pm. 9 people were present. A reading from Luke 2:22-39 was taken and discussed. An evaluation of midnight masses of Christmas/New year, Christmas sports day, children's mass, mass for the old and sick was done. Questions were asked as to why there was no housie and spot prizes after the midnight masses.

It was suggested to have games without prizes if it is difficult to give/get good prizes. All agreed to have the family dinner on the Family day along with the ward wise program during the Christmas week. It was suggested to have midnight masses in the church as it was very cold and there was lot of dew outside in the month of December. A suggestion was to put up a pandal if the masses are to be held outside.

People appreciated the Sunday 8.30 am mass with children singing, but were unhappy that recently there were more elders and less children in the choir.

The Novena and Feast details were given. The participants were informed that church cleaning was to be done on 28th Jan 2024 from 9.00 am onwards as the novena mass would be in the evening.

One question that came up was : Since the rates for offering a novena are high as it is, is it OK to ask the person offering the novena to get flowers for the altar as well?

We discussed how to raise funds when we need gifts/prizes for programmes held in church. A suggestion was that, the association in-charge of organising the programme should check out/look for sponsors.

Punola

We had our Somodai meeting on 10th January 2024 in Holy Cross Chapel, Punola starting at 5pm. We had 12 members attending, which included 3 men.

The meeting started off with a hymn and the Gospel reading of the day. After the

reading, we had a few questions that helped us reflect on the passage.

Then we had a detailed and animated discussion and evaluation of the Christmas and New Year programmes. The majority of the members felt that we should have the Community Dinner on the 1st of January and not later because families are still in the village and love to be a part of the celebrations.

We also talked about all families in the Parish contributing a small amount to the Church each year. This amount could be used to conduct programmes and for prizes/gifts on occasions. The meeting ended at 6pm.

Dhumpem

The Dhumpem Somudai was held on 13th January 2024 at 5pm. We opened with a hymn and prayer said by Deodita. Then we read the Pastoral Letter, Section 1.3 Jesus Puts on the Robe and Sits Down. This was followed by a discussion on a few points from the Pastoral Letter.

Later we discussed about the Community Dinner. The general consensus was that any day for the dinner was OK. This was followed by a discussion on our Novena and canteen, the Formation Sessions for the PPC, the Walking Pilgrimage, Church cleaning, etc. Snacks were served by Deodita. We ended the meeting with a prayer and hymn.

Children's Section

All things were made by Jesus. John 1:3

What Jesus Made

Jim said, "My new wagon is scratched. I'll wait a few days; maybe it will get better." Will the scratch on that wagon get fixed by itself? No way. Not by itself. Somebody will have to fix it.

Bill said, "My hand is scratched. I'll put on a bandage; soon it will be better." Will that hand get better by itself? Yes, it probably will.

What's the difference? A man made the wagon. Jesus made the hand. The things which Jesus made are much more wonderful than anything a man can make.

What all did Jesus make? The Bible says that all things in the beginning of the world were made by Him. Jesus made the sun and the moon and the stars. He made the lions and the cows. He made grass and trees begin to grow. He made the first people.

"Not one thing in all creation was made without Him," says the Bible. What do you think of that?

When the world was made, God said to the first people, "You take care of the world and rule it." Jesus had put many wonderful things into the world for people to use in making things. He also gave people minds so they could figure out how to make things from what He had made.

But in the beginning all things were made by Jesus. And the things which Jesus made still can't be made by people. You see, Jesus is God, and God is much wiser and greater than the people He made.

Let's talk about this: Why can a hand fix itself while a wagon cannot? What are some of the things Jesus made? For whom did He make them? What did He give to people so that they could make things from what He had made?

*I'm the resurrection & the life, whoever
lives in me shall never die*

~John 11:25-26

1st Death Anniversary

*"Our loved ones never
depart
They live forever in our
hearts
Walking besides us
everyday
Guiding us on our way
In our hearts you will
remain
Until we meet again"*



In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH COUTO

**Eucharistic celebration will be held on
22nd February 2024 at 8:00am
offered by his loving wife and daughters.**

St. Elizabeth Church - Uçassaim

Spotlight on Our Youth



Enthusiastic Youth in a Cultural Event