

Awakening Zagruti

Voros 2

Mars 2024

Ank 3

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



For Private Circulation Only



Our Catechists on the Last Day of Catechism

Zagruti

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

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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

Sonvsarantlea veg- vegllea vattaramnim Xubhvortomanachie porgottne khatir aplo jiv sonkottant ghaltat tankam kalljidarponn ani missionari urbha dhi mhonegum-ia.

Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

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

Receive every trial, every annoyance,
every lack of courtesy in the light
that springs from the Cross; that is
how we please God, how we advance
in the ways of love.

Elizabeth of the Trinity

Editorial

At the end of the last DPC meeting on 21st January 2024, I was invited to attend a meeting at Lar de Estudantes on 17th February 2024 to discuss the Synthesis Report for the ongoing Synod of Synodality. I gladly accepted the invitation because I have been following the ongoing Synod right from the start and I found it to be very interesting. We were asked to come prepared by reading the Synthesis report, which is freely available online (for those interested, the link to download the report is <https://www.synod.va/content/dam/synod/assembly/synthesis/english/2023.10.28-ENG-Synthesis-Report.pdf>). However, you can just as easily do a Google search for the same and download the PDF to your computer/laptop/smart phone).

The meeting on 17th February was very interesting. The participants were all lay people: some who had served on the DPC earlier, PPC members, catechists, members of associations and professionals. Similar exercises would also be conducted for the clergy, religious and seminarians. There is a brief report in the magazine.

When I was about to leave, Fr. Leo Fernandes, Executive Secretary, Diocesan Pastoral Secretariat, invited me to attend another meeting on 9th March 2024. Once again, I gladly accepted. Then, a few days after that, Fr. Leo called me again asking if I could also participate in a full day program at St. Joseph Vaz Retreat Centre, Old Goa on 26th February 2024! The answer, of course, was, "Yes"!

The session on 26th February was titled **CCBI Strategic Planning Diocesan Level Workshop**. We were to meet and come up with at least 3 strategic goals to focus on for the various Commissions of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI): goals that they can work towards achieving by 2033. The participants included the Vicar General, Deans, Priests, religious, lay people and youth. The workshop was very interesting and productive with active participation from all the participants. A brief report appears somewhere in the magazine.

On 18th February, 21 parishioners from Ucassaim participated in the 6th Walking Pilgrimage. This year, the North Goa parishes had to start from the Bambolim Cross. The journey was the same for all 21 of us, but it was interesting to see how some of our participants saw the walk from their perspective. We present some views in this issue.

The Formation Sessions for the Reconstitution of the Parish Pastoral Council are on. We had our second session on 25th February evening from 5pm onwards. Though attendance was a bit thin and disappointing this time, the session itself was very interesting and full of practical advice for the prospective PPC members. What was interesting was that the Secretaries for the three groups that took part in the Group Discussion were all from the Youth - a very promising sign, showing that our Youth are ready to take a more active part in Parish affairs!

Meanwhile, preparations are on and people are eagerly waiting for the Counselling and Retreat on 2nd and 3rd March as part of the Lenten programme. Last year the Church was packed on both days. We look forward to a good turnout as well.

Jesus loves hidden souls. A hidden flower is
the most fragrant. I must strive to make
the interior of my soul a resting place for
the Heart of Jesus.

Maria Faustina Kowalska

MISAM ANI PORBO

Mars 2024

Tarik	Dis	Intesanv/ Porob	Vachpi
1ler	Sukrar	8.00 a.m Somp. Margaret Valles (Mhoineacho Ugddas)	
		Khursachi vatt ani Passo 5:00 p.m Somp. Ancessao Fernandes	Maggie D'souza (Mandavoll korunk-Vibhag 3 ani 4)
2rer	Sonvar	7:00 a.m Somp. Lizette Rodrigues	Steffie Rodrigues
3rer	Aitar	Prachit Kallacho Tisro Aitar 7.00 a.m Somp. Reginaldo Fernandes	Mandavoll korunk-Pelo Vaddo
		8.30am	
		5: 30 p.m Somp. Angel ani Ashton D'souza	Retirant vantto ghetleamni
4ter	Somar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis-Preston Sequeira	Preston Sequeira
5ver	Mungllar	7.00 a.m Somp. Gabriel ani Carmelina Fernandes	Rosy Andrade
6ver	Budvar	7.00 a.m Somp. Maria Benedicta Mendonca	Jacqueline Noronha
7ver	Brestar	7:00 a.m Somp. Zacharias ani Luizinha Fernandes	Rosy Andrade
8ver	Sukrar	5:00 p.m Khursachi vatt ani Passo Somp. Apolinar ani Purificacao Fernandes	Mandavoll korunk-Vibhag 1 ani 2
9ver	Sonvar	7.00 a.m	Milly Carneiro
		5.00 p.m	
10ver	Aitar	Prachit Kallacho Chovto Aitar 7.00 a.m Purgotorintlea otmeank ani konn nasloleank- Maria Britto	Mandavoll korunk-Igorz Vaddo
		8.30 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis- Carlo Coelho	Mandavoll korunk-Confraria
11ver	Somar	7.00 a.m Somp. Oscar D'souza	Maggie D'souza
		8:00 a.m Somp. Reginaldo Fernandes-mhoineacho ugddas	
12ver	Mungllar	7.00 a.m Somp. Bertha Rodrigues	Daphne D'souza
13ver	Budvar	7.00 a.m	
		8.15 a.m Somp. Minguelina Carneiro- Poilea vorsacho ugddas ani fondaxim magnnim	Clinton Carneiro
14ver	Brestar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnechem Mis-Lubina Mendes	Lubina Mendes
15ver	Sukrar	5:00 p.m Khursachi vatt ani Passo	Mandavoll korunk-Legion of Mary

MISAM ANI PORBO (continued)

Mars 2024

Tarik	Dis	Intesanv/ Porob	Vachpi
16ver	Sonvar	7:00 a.m Somp. Roque, Minguelina ani Rosario Gomes	Annie Gomes
		5.00 p.m	
17ver	Aitar	Prachit kallacho Panchvo Aitar 7:00 a.m Dhinvasnnechem Mis- Wilbur Carneiro	Mandavoll korunk-St. Anton
		4.30 p.m Khandar Khuris Passo ani Motet	Mandavoll korunk-PPC
18ver	Somar	7:00 a.m Dhinvasnnechem Mis-Cyril Luis	Marietta Noronha
19ver	Mungllar	Bhag. Juze-chi porob 7:00 a.m Dhinvasnnechem Mis-Philomena Correia	Patsy Correia
20ver	Budvar	7:00 a.m Somp. Pedro ani Emy Dias	Perpet Ferrao
21ver	Brestar	7:00 a.m Somp.Luis Pereira	Aurelia Fernandes
22ver	Sukrar	5:00 p.m Somp. Gabriel ani Carmelina Fernandes	Mandavoll korunk-Parish Youth
23ver	Sonvar	7.00 a.m Somp. Anthony D'souza	Jeffrey Noronha
		5.00 p.m	
24ver	Aitar	Talliancho Aitar- Povitr Satollem 7.00 a.m Vaz familiechea soemplelea vangddeank	Mandavoll korunk-Akhi Firgoz
		8.30 a.m Somp. Agnes Vaz- 2 D.A	
25ver	Somar	7:00 a.m Somp. Shirley D'souza	
26ver	Mungllar	7:00 a.m Somp. Agnes ani Joseph D'souza	Daphne D'souza
		8.00 a.m Somp. Neves Rodrigues- 3rea vorsacho ugddas ani fondaxim magnnim	Esmeralda Martins
27ver	Budvar	7:00 a.m Somp. Balbino ani Bertha D'souza	Deseree D'souza
28ver	Brestar	5: 30 p.m Povitr Brestar- Somiachea Nimannea Jevnnacho Somarombh	Mandavoll korunk-Akhi Firgoz
29ver	Sukrar	5: 00 p.m Somia Jezuchea Koxtta Mornnacho Sukrar	Mandavoll korunk-Confraria
30ver	Sonvar	Povitr Sonvar- sokallim Mis asche nam	
		11:00 p.m Paskachem zagronn	
31ver	Aitar	7:30 a.m Somia Jezuchea Punorjivontponnacho Aitar	Mandavoll korunk-Akhi Firgoz

MISAM ANI PORBO (continued)

Abril 2024

Tarik	Dis	Intesanv/ Porob	Vachpi
1ler	Somar	7:00 a.m Somp. Reginaldo Fernandes	Agatha Vaz
2rer	Mungllar	7.00 a.m Veni Fernandes	Flora Fernandes
3rer	Budvar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnnechem Mis-Annie Gomes	Annie Gomes
4ter	Brestar	7.00 a.m Dhinvasnnechem Mis-Clarissa Carneiro	Anarose D'souza
5ver	Sukrar	7.00 a.m Somp. Gabriel ani Carmelina Fernandes	Rosy Andrade
6ver	Sonvar	7:00 a.m Somp. Zacharias ani Luizinha Fernandes	Rosy Andrade



Diocesan Level Workshop for CCBI Strategic Planning

I was invited to attend a full-day workshop that was to come up with strategic plans for the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI). The workshop was held on 26th February 2024 from 9.00am to 4.00pm at the St. Joseph Vaz Retreat Centre, Old Goa.

The day started with registrations. In all, 32 participants were invited to attend this workshop and all of them were present. The participants included the Vicar General, Fr. Jose Remedios Fernandes, Deans, Priests, Nuns, and some lay people and youth.

After a short prayer service, His Eminence Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrao was there for the inaugural session. His Eminence gave us the background for the workshop, which was very informative and interesting.

Then there was the lighting of the lamp followed by a small felicitation. His Eminence was felicitated for having being elected President of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC). The two resource persons for the workshop, Mrs. Maria D'Mello and Fr. Leo Fernandes, Executive Secretary, Diocesan Pastoral Secretariat, Goa were also felicitated, as was the Vicar General of the Archdiocese, Fr. Jose Remedios Fernandes.

This was followed by a group photograph after which His Eminence had to leave for other engagements. The participants proceeded for tea with a promise that they would come back with renewed vigour to tackle the process of strategic planning.

After tea, the core business of the workshop started with the resource persons explaining what was expected of us and the methodology that was to be followed. The methodology was called Spiritual Conversations and followed a pattern similar to what was followed at the first session of the Synod of Synodality in Rome.

The CCBI has 8 Commissions, like the Commission for Women, Commission for Laity, Commission for Liturgy and so on. All the participants were divided into 4 groups named Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Each group was given the task of discussing and coming up with three goal/objectives for two Commissions of the CCBI that were allotted to them. Each group had to come up with three objectives and key performance indicators (KPIs) that the CCBI Commissions will work towards for the next 10 years, till 2033.

The methodology was just awesome. Each group was seated around a round table. A Moderator and Secretary were allotted for each group. The moderator led the group in a small prayer asking the Holy Spirit to enlighten the participants so that they could put forward their

views on what were the priorities for the Commissions allotted to them.

Taking the first Commission, each person in the group then had to present his/her views on the subject - the listening round. For example, we had to find three focus areas for the Laity. Each member presented his/her views on what we need to focus on regarding the Laity. The others just listened. Then followed a time of silent prayer asking the Holy Spirit for guidance. In the following round each person in the group just talked about what he/she appreciated about the views expressed by others in the listening round. After each person in a group had spoken, there followed another round of silent prayer. Then the Secretary announced the points of agreement and the Moderator guided the participants as they tried to identify three focus areas. This allowed for some discussion as the participants tried to iron out three priorities based on the listening and appreciation rounds. Here they could also add any additional points if they wanted to. By this time, generally, a broad consensus was reached and the three focal points were honed and refined. Then a short time of silence and gratitude followed. The exercise was repeated for the second Commission allotted to each group.

This exercise took us to about 1pm and it was time for a sumptuous buffet. The participants were seen talking and discussing the proceedings while enjoying the meal. While the participants were enjoying their lunch, the Moderators and Secretaries, as well as the resource persons, were tweaking and fine-tuning the results of the discussions.

Post-lunch we had the Plenary Session where the Secretaries presented the three focus objectives of their group for each Commission. After each presentation, the members of the other groups could add additional focus areas or modify the focus areas presented.

The methodology followed at the workshop was extremely effective in keeping each participant focused. It was also effective in allowing each group member to present his/her views. This led to us arriving at a consensus in a very calm and dignified way with no raised voices or unnecessary arguments, in an atmosphere of listening and discerning.

All that remained after this whole exercise was to thank the organisers and the participants for a lovely experience where each felt that they had contributed in some way towards the strategic goals of the Latin rite Catholic Church in Goa. Of course, the same exercise will undoubtedly be conducted in each diocese in India. This will lead to the creation of a document that will guide the working of the CCBI till 2033.

Just so blessed and privileged to be a part of this process! And I did walk away having met so many lovely people. Praise God for that! (Group Photo on Inside Back Cover)

Trevor de Noronha (Punola)

The important thing is to do
charity, not to talk about charity.
We must understand the work with
very poor people as a God's chosen
mission.

Irmã Dulce Lopes Pontes

The Walking Pilgrimage - Perspectives

The 6th Walking Pilgrimage was held on 18th February 2024, the first Sunday of Lent. Twenty-one parishioners from Ucassaim decided to participate this time around. Twenty-one participants walked the same route, but each one had a different perspective and take on the journey. Here we present perspectives from some of our parishioners.

Vijay Kerketta (Igorj Vaddo)

I feel urged to share the experience of our first Walking Pilgrimage from Bambolim Cross to Sancoale.

To begin with, the bus taking us from Church to Bambolim was bang on time and so were the pilgrims: NOBODY was late. We left the Church compound at 02:30 hrs on the DOT and were led in prayer by a group member. After we reached the Bambolim cross we were met there by a Priest who guided us about how to go and saw us off.

From there we began the walk with great Zeal and vigour and mind you,.....it was the Ladies who were in the forefront. As we walked, my wife was not able to keep pace with the group due her health and her physical conditions. So as my wife and I started lagging, some members fell back along with us, kept us company and started praying the Rosary. Slowly, Marietta and her husband Peter also fell back to keep us company and pray the Rosary together. I could see so many volunteers en route and they were ever willing to help. So not once, but many times I urged our companions to leave us behind, and to join the group but they would not and none of them would agree with me and NEVER EVER did they leave my wife and me alone. They kept on encouraging us to carry on and not to give up the walk.

While the reciting of the Rosary was happening among us from time to time, these are the words that kept ringing in my mind 'I WILL BE WITH YOU TILL THE END OF TIME', because of the love and the genuine concern that was being showered upon us. While the group walked ahead after covering around half the distance, the five of us stopped for a water break. And it was here that my wife felt very exhausted, and that she might not be able to walk any further. No sooner we got to know it we got in touch with the volunteers and arranged for a pick-up vehicle. Marietta accompanied my wife to the Doctors who were available on the way. My wife was diagnosed as being dehydrated; after quick first aid, she was good to go and the pick-up vehicle dropped her and Marietta to the venue.

Trevor, Peter and I reached the venue on foot.

At the venue we saw volunteers all around guiding and helping the pilgrims so as to avoid any chaos and confusion. And never was there any chaos or confusion, thanks to the brilliant work of the volunteers and the TRUE CHRISTIAN VALUES.....felt proud to be CATHOLIC and delighted to witness such orderly conduct. There were buns and tea for all while entering the venue and also while exiting the venue. Hats off to the selfless and dedicated efforts of the volunteers without whom such a mammoth gathering would have not been possible.

We attended mass which was concelebrated by the His Eminence Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrao and priests. Devotional singing by the choir. Excellent seating and viewing arrangements.

After the Mass we were able to locate each other without much difficulty and then proceed to where our bus was waiting for us

But then there was a pleasant surprise waiting there. Once we got on the bus Marietta and another lady in the group, took out some buns, applied a very tasty chutney and started serving them to all the members of the group. And that is not all! There was lovely piping hot coffee along with that! The ladies were happy to serve as many helpings as anybody wished to have and even after that I guess, there was quite a bit still left. After this quick snack as we got started Trevor lead the group in a thanksgiving prayer. We had a wonderful journey back home and reached the church

compound to meet the community who has just attended the Sunday Mass.

To conclude my narration of our first experience, I would like to say that, this Walking Pilgrimage truly felt like HEAVEN because we experienced true love, joy, caring and sharing....and if this is not PARADISE then what is?

Our sincere gratitude to the group, not forgetting Connie who kept me updated about the Pilgrimage.

Anarose D'souza (Igroy Vaddo)

It was a God-given privilege for me to attend the Walking Pilgrimage this year – a sacrifice of love to the One who gave His life because He loved us.

This was my second Walking Pilgrimage. The first time I went on this pilgrimage was in 2020. The Walking Pilgrimage is held on the first Sunday of Lent to initiate spiritual preparation in us. This year, the Pilgrimage was on 18th February 2024.

We left from our church at 2.30am. We were 21 members from our Parish, and we picked up some of them on the way. This year we started our journey from the Holy Cross Shrine, Bambolim. We started the walk in the morning at around 3.10am.

As we walked, we recited the Holy Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and sang hymns. The environment was calm and pleasant. Through our prayers we talked to God and He took us all to safely and brought us back home safely. I was not tired at all!

We reached St. Joseph Vaz Church, Sancoale at 5.45am. We reached just towards the end of Adoration. When we reached the venue, it was so cool and pleasant there that we could feel God's presence.

The Holy Eucharist started at 6am celebrated by His Eminence Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrao. He also prayed and blessed all the intentions of the people.

The Walking Pilgrimage was well organised: there were around 800 youth volunteers to help all through the journey. Tea and bun bread was served at the venue.

Thanks to the entire team for organising the programme very well. We refreshed ourselves when we got back to our van with coffee and sandwiches.

To conclude, I would like one to remember that in participating in this Walking Pilgrimage, we are walking with Christ and for Christ by making a small sacrifice for the abundant blessings He showers us with each day. I am happy and blessed to have been a part of the Walking Pilgrimage. Hoping to see more parishioners taking part next year, specially the youth.

Anouka Noronha (Dumpem)

On the 18 of February, 21 of the Uskoikars were wide awake from midnight ready and excited as at 2:30 am in the morning we were to take the walk to Sancoale. For me, it was my maiden pilgrimage. The Tempo Traveller picked us up at 2:30 am. We prayed on the way and the Lord helped us reach safely the Bambolim Cross venue at 3:15 am.

Once we alighted from the bus, Jeffrey, Trevor and Jackline organised us into a group and we prayed the rosary as we started our walk. Down the Siridao road and on to Agassaim, we trudged. There were volunteers along the way at various junctions. Mobile toilets, Ambulance - 2 wheeler types and water bottles were made available.

We prayed the Rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, sang hymns, said rosary of the Sacred Heart and continued on the way. Over the new bridge we came to the Cortalim junction, where the crowd became quite large. By the time we walked through the arched opening on the highway to the Blessed area it was 5:30 am.

We were welcomed with a cup of hot black tea and a bun and were indicated our seating area. It was beautiful; The whole venue was well lighted and the Church façade stood elegantly to one side of the main altar well illuminated.

By the time we got seated, we got 15 minutes of the adoration, which could be viewed on a big screen. At 6:00 am the Archbishop, His Excellency Phillip Neri Cardinal Ferrao celebrated the Eucharist along with other diocesan priests. The service was very meaningful and the homily very inspiring.

After the service, thank giving was done by the parish priest of Sancoale and finally all the intentions which had been offered were blessed and prayed over as the Bishop ignited them.

We left the venue with a lot of joy and as we arrived to the bus park were happy to see our Tempo Traveller waiting for us.

Marietta brought chutney buns and coffee for us all and after partaking of it we set off home. Our hearts, filled with gratitude - for a wonderful experience the Lord had allowed us to have.

Jenessa Couto (Punola)

Initially, I doubted my ability to finish the pilgrimage walk, not being accustomed to walking long distances. However, to my surprise, I completed the 10km journey effortlessly. Witnessing individuals of all ages engaging in both the physical and spiritual aspect of walking and praying the rosary reinforced the presence of unwavering faith And also an atmosphere of reflection and self-discipline.

This Lenten season of abstinence, not only deepened the significance of the walk but also fostered a profound connection with fellow pilgrims, as we collectively embraced the spiritual journey along with the physical challenge.

Trevor de Noronha (Punola)

This Walking Pilgrimage was the third time I participated. For North Goa Parishes, this year, the route started from the Bambolim Cross, an addition of about 3km to the older route.

We started off from Ucassaim at 2.30am and were at the starting point by about 3.10am. We were among the last few groups to start off. As a result, we did not see many other groups walking, unlike previous years. I began to feel that the crowd was a bit thin this time. However, when we reached the venue...it was jam packed!

I enjoy walking and it was a sheer pleasure in the pre-dawn stillness. It is an exhilarating experience walking with fellow pilgrims, on still and quiet roads, rosary in hand, praying and singing as we journeyed together.

All along the way we had volunteers to help guide us. They were very visible with their yellow (almost saffron) T-shirts. The remarkable thing about these volunteers along the route was that ALL of them were youth. In fact, from the new bridge down to the Cortalim junction and slightly beyond, all the youth were from Holy Family Parish, Porvorim and I knew some of them! Oh, that we see some youth from our Parish volunteering next year!

The arrangements were good. As we started off, there was a motorcycle ambulance that followed us slowly for quite some distance. Then there was a roving Emergency Car that kept going up and down the route ready to help anyone in need. When one of our members needed medical attention, the volunteers called for the car and she was transported to a medical check point where she got good medical attention. Along the route there were stops where the pilgrims could use washrooms or get a bottle of water.

By the time we got to the venue, it was early dawn. There were buns and tea available for those who wanted to be refreshed. As the Eucharistic celebration started, some of the tired ones took time off for a power nap. After the lovely Mass, His Eminence Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrao also offered the petitions of the faithful up to God as the petitions, written by the faithful on paper provided by the volunteers were set alight...an awesome sight!

The convenor of the Pilgrimage, Fr. Ligourinho thanked the various people who made this mammoth event possible. I was surprised to learn that there was a donor who had donated 10,000 buns for the event! (A picture of the small Ucassaim delegation on Inside Back Cover)

Somudai Round-up

One of the tasks of the Ward representatives of the PPC is to animate Somudai meetings and to bring to the people matters discussed at a PPC meeting. PPC meetings are held on the first Sunday of every month. As such a Somudai meeting can be held any day after the PPC meeting.

However, the sad part is that only a few members from each Ward actually attend meetings. Therefore, they do not get the required inputs from the Ward member. At the same time, by not attending a Somudai meeting, they do not get a chance to voice their opinions or be a part of any positive change in the Parish. If you are one of those who does not attend a Somudai meeting, I would urge you to participate and contribute your views to make things better.

Here are brief reports of Somudai meetings held in various Wards.

Paliem-Nogueira

Ward 2 had their Somudai meeting on Tuesday, 20th February 2024 at 5 pm at the Holy Cross Chapel. All together 11 members were present.

The meeting began with a small prayer by one of the members present, followed by the day's Bible reading, Mathew 6:7-15, with a little reflection on the passage. Discussion was done again on Community dinner and families contributing certain amount to the church.

Ward members want the community dinner on Family day. A majority of the members were not ready for the contribution. We also decided to have the way of the Cross in the ward.

The meeting ended with a closing prayer and hymn at 6 pm.

St. Anthony Vaddo

The SCC meeting was held on 11th Feb 2024 at Mr. Cosme Martin's residence starting at 5.30 pm. 7 people were present. A reading from Mark 1:40-45 was taken and discussed.

Evaluation of the novenas, Feast & tiatr was done. Everyone liked the arrangements done for novenas especially having housie and games after novenas. It was advised that wards should discuss about the items they would serve in the canteen to avoid repetition.

The tiatr was good with a nice story. One complaint was that for the canteen (tiatr) the coffee served was cold.

It was decided to have a prayer service at the residence of late Reginaldo Fernandes on 12th Feb 2024 at 9.30 am

Dumpem

Our Somudai was held on 18th February at 5pm in Ana Vaz's compound. We opened with a hymn and a prayer. Then we read the Pastoral Letter: What type of leader Jesus was. We discussed a few points as reflection.

We then discussed our Ward Mass and cleaning of the Church by the next 4 houses. We also discussed about the Friday Way of the Cross as it has to be conducted by our Ward. We decided to have a Way of the Cross from house to house. We will start at 4.30pm on 5th March 2024.

We ended with a hymn. Prayers were said and the meeting ended at 6pm. Ana served snacks, and the prayer was said by Melina.

Punola

The Punola Somudai was held on 9th February in the Holy Cross Chapel. We had 5 members present.

We started with a small prayer. Then we discussed the matters that came up at the PPC meeting. The members present felt that we could contribute towards Parish expenses, but they preferred that the contributions be kept with the Ward and only be released as and when required.

Then we had a small introductory session on Lectio Divina or Divine Reading. We took the Gospel reading for the day and went through the steps of Lectio Divina: Lectio (Read), Meditatio (Meditate on the Word), Oratio (Pray on what the Word means to you), Contemplatio (Contemplate on what God is telling you through the Word) and Actio (How are you going to adopt what God is telling you through the Word).

Consultation on the Synod Synthesis Report

The Synod of Synodality had their first meeting in October 2023. The outcome of this meeting was a Synthesis Report - A Synodal Church in Mission. This report has been widely distributed and is available for download by anybody. The Report itself is a 42-page document divided into 20 chapters. Each chapter has three sections: Convergences, Matters for Consideration and Proposals.

Convergences were obviously the points on which a majority of the Synod participants agreed upon as important. Matters for Consideration were points where there were differences, but they were significantly important. Proposals were points that were proposed but need to be discussed more,

The next step in the Synodal process is a discussion on the Synthesis Report all over the world. These discussions and consultations involve studying the report and providing focus areas for discussion at the next Synod meeting in October 2024.

Keeping this in mind, the Archdiocese of Goa and Daman is conducting various consultations all over the Archdiocese. Separate consultations are being held for priests, religious, seminarians and lay people.

One such consultation was held at Lar de Estudantes on 17th February 2024. This meeting was for lay people. Those invited were ex-DPC members, DPC members, DePC members, catechists, members of Associations and professionals.

The meeting was to start at 3.30pm, but, due to a mis-communication, we ultimately started at 4pm. Fr. Leo Fernandes, Executive Secretary, Diocesan Pastoral Secretariat informed us about what we were required to do - basically select three focus areas for our Archdiocese in different areas. At the meeting on the 17th our discussions were limited to the first eight chapters of the Report.

The methodology was explained to us by Ms. Gayle Misquita, an ex-DPC member. Eight facilitators were selected. The remaining participants were then put into these eight groups and the discussions started.

Our group was asked to discuss only the Proposals from Chapters 1-8. In the group, in pairs, we were to discuss and select three focus areas, from the Proposals in chapters 1-8. The various groups started work in earnest and quickly jotted down the gist of their discussions while enjoying lovely tea and snacks.

The exercise made us feel we were part of the Synodal process, no matter how insignificant our contribution, and that our opinions and choices mattered.

I was invited because I am the Moderator of the Mapusa Deanery Pastoral Council. If I could be elected as Moderator of the PPC and DePC, I am sure we have more capable people in our Parish who can do things much better. Therefore, I encourage you to participate wholeheartedly in building Christ's kingdom by willingly coming forward when called upon by the Church. Then you too can play a part, however insignificant, in the decision-making process of the Catholic Church.

Trevor de Noronha

The PPC Reconstitution Process

Juxtaposed between feasts and Lenten activities, the PPC Reconstitution process in our Parish is crawling along at a snail's pace. The thing is, we need to have our sessions on Sunday evenings to accommodate working people and to find a resource person sometimes gets a bit challenging. Nevertheless, we had our second Formation Session on 25th February 2024 starting at 5pm.

Though the attendance was a bit thin, especially from a few wards, the session itself was inspired and inspiring.

We started off with a hymn and an opening prayer, all done by our participants. Then we went into a small action song to warm them up. Once we got all of them seated down, we called on our resource person, Fr. Norbert D'Silva, Spitirual Director, Seminary Nivas, Duler, Mapusa to give us his session. Fr. Norbert, using his laptop and a projector, presented the session in a lucid and practical format, ensuring that the participants were interested and on their toes. The session had a lot of interaction as well as very practical tips on what a PPC member is called to do.

The session itself had a small action song "It's me/you/us who builds community" that had the participants enthusiastically following along. Even Fr. Savio, our beloved Parish Priest was seen smilingly participating in the song!

After an absorbing 45 minutes, Fr. Norbert gave us a break so we could freshen up and share a cup of tea and a samosa. The fellowship during this break was animated as the Moderator, Trevor, had given the participants the task of getting information from people they did not know all that well in the group - it was great to see smiles and conversation flowing freely.

The second session was equally informative with Fr. Norbert punctuating and peppering his talk with quotes from the Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Synod 2002 documents.

Though this session was pretty long, the participants were very attentive and gave us their full and complete attention. The session wound up with a blessing from Fr. Savio, a vote of thanks and a few instructions. Looking forward to the remaining sessions!



Walking Pilgrimage Delegation



CCBI Strategic Planning Workshop

Months Mind
Remembering a Beautiful Soul,
Gone but never forgotten



In remembrance of our beloved
Reginaldo Loth Fernandes
(Pelo Waddo-Uccassaim)

There will be a Eucharistic Celebtion for the
soul of our beloved Reginaldo on

Monday, March 11, 2024 at 8am at
St. Elizabeth Church, Uccassaim

Offered by his sorrowful wife Luisa Fernandes

(Relatives, friends & neighbours kindly accept this as the only intimation)