



# PRISON VOICE

December 2021

Vol. XVIII

Issue 12

NATIONAL MONTHLY

₹40/-



40 Glorious Years of

Searching and Serving the Lost

**PMI RUBY JUBILEE SPECIAL**



**Blessing of Kolbe Home, Patan**



**Farewell to Sr Joice Mary Who Served at Central Prison Buxar**



**Kerala State PMI Gathering**



**Kolbe Kids' Mysore Picnic**



**PMI Delhi Meeting at Nirmal Niwas**



**PMI Kerala State Gathering**



**PMI Mysore Unit Praying for Prisoners**



**PMI National Executive Members**



**PMI Volunteers Visiting Sambalpur Prison**



**PMI Volunteers Visiting Shimoga Prison**



**Repatriation of a Sri Lankan Inmate**



**Skill Training Program at Nanjangud Jail**



**Skin Camp in the Ladies Barack at Aadharwadi Prison Kalyan, Mumbai**



**Yoga Day Inauguration at Bijapur Jail**



**Christmas Celebration by PMI Bangalore Unit**



**PMI Volunteers Visiting Shimoga Prison**



**PMI Sivagangai Diocesan Unit Gathering**



**PMI Volunteers Convene Medical Camp at Berhampur Prison**



**PMI Volunteers Distributing Crib Sets to Women Prison, Trivandrum**



**PMI Volunteers Organise Eye Camp in Ambikapur Prison**



**PMI Volunteers Visiting Johar Ganj Prison**



**PMI Volunteers Visiting Kozhikode Prison**



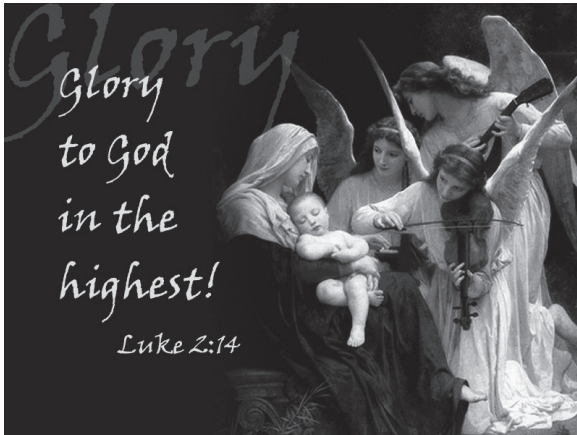
**PMI Volunteers Visiting Kumbakonam Prison**

# Contents



## PRISON VOICE

NATIONAL MONTHLY



*"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" (Lk 2,14).*

Editor's View.....	06
National Coordinator's Desk.....	07
40 Years of Jubilation for PMI .....	10
PMI Roadmap to Golden Jubilee .....	12
Blessed Jan Franciszek Macha.....	14
A Synodal Journey .....	17
Story of His Resilience .....	21
Kings and Queens.....	22
PMI Milestones .....	25
PMI Publications.....	29
PMI Rehabilitation Centers.....	31
Pmi Special Task Forces.....	32
PMI Diocesan Fasting Prayer Days Continued.....	33
PMI Ruby Jubilee Concluding Celebrations .....	35

### Are You Willing?

"Help a Prisoner's Child Prevent a Potential Criminal"

80% of the children of prisoners are potential criminals unless somebody takes care of them. Prison Ministry India has begun a scheme to educate 1000 children of prisoners: Kindly contribute Rs. 5,000/- for the education of a child.

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## 40 GLORIOUS YEARS OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE

### PMI Ruby Jubilee

Prison Ministry India has reached another milestone in its journey. We consider our Prison Ministry India Ruby Jubilee as a year of gratitude whereby we recall the wonderful ways in which God initiated His mission and vision to serve the brethren behind bars throughout India by the instrumentality of our Founders - Fr Francis Kodyan MCBS and Fr Varghese Karippery. It is the dedicated services of the founders, bishops, priests, religious and volunteers in the past 40 years that is behind its progress. As we pay tribute to the past, we envisage a revitalized future so that our present moments become a commemoration of joyful living. It's the great achievement of all those who contributed a lot by their hard work for the lost and the least. As we glance at this number 40, we are wonderstruck to realize that it is a remarkable and memorable number for PMI because our founding Fathers had dreamt of this 40 years ago. PMI Ruby Jubilee projects have become a reality now, May the mission of God begun well through Fr Francis and Fr Varghese spread not only in India but to the whole world as well.

### Merry Christmas

Christmas comes as a perfect moment for self-reflection. This year, though being marked by many hardships, we will still celebrate the joy, peace and goodwill of the Saviour towards all people. People have lost their loved ones in this pandemic, children have lost their parents and become orphans and natural disasters have made a section of society poorer than before. All this should remind us to share our resources with the



**Sr Amala DC**  
Chief Editor

have-nots and also to share faith in the Good News of great joy with all people especially with our brethren behind the bars, their families, and women and children in rehabilitation centers. God gave us his greatest gift of his only Son to become man - Immanuel. The kings from the East paid homage to the new born Babe for they knew this was no ordinary baby. We need to emulate that love and show it through our actions. While we share, we can also use this time to heal the wounds of our neighbours and those who have wronged us and whom we have caused pain; and rekindle a new spirit of love and compassion. Let us start thinking of how we can make someone's Christmas better and brighter by showing God's love and healing.

### Happy New Year

It's almost the end of the year and we hope that with the dawning of the New Year 2022, things will never be the same. We have already learned how to live amidst this pandemic and many other issues as well. It's been a tough year that has gone by but may we find joy in our life in the bright New Year and hope for a return to the normal without masks! May God bless this year and all our new ventures. This is the message of Christmas and New Year that we should be giving to those around us, those in the Church and those in the world. Have a blessed Christmas. May the Light of the world light up our heart and soul and set us aflame with His love.



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## ***DIVINE INTERVENTIONS IN THE HISTORY OF PMI***

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Prison Ministry India has completed glorious forty years of serving the lost and the incarcerated. We celebrated the Ruby Jubilee by offering a thanksgiving Holy Mass and realizing the Ruby Jubilee projects such as 40 houses for the released prisoners, 40 special task forces, 400 scholarships to prisoners' children, releasing 400 prisoners and so on. As we move on from Ruby to Golden jubilee, I am reminded of the Divine Providential interventions that strengthened us to march ahead through the history of PMI.

### **Be a Love Bomb**

It was 8 September 1981. I was a first-year philosophy student at St Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Kottayam, Kerala. Varghese and I were attending the phone calls that came to the seminary. Sitting in the telephone cabin, we discussed about the atomic bomb. Varghese told me that what we needed was an 'L bomb' or the love bomb. In response I told him that it was true the world needed a love bomb but Jesus had already exploded it on Calvary. Varghese added that when the atom bombs exploded in Hiroshima and Nagasaki thousands were killed, and because of its radiation thousands became blind, deaf, and lame. I retorted that on the contrary because of Jesus' love bomb explosion on Calvary, i.e., his crucifixion, millions were able to rise from the dead and come to new life. While we continued



**Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS**  
National Coordinator & Secretary to CBCI  
for Prison Ministry India

talking, we experienced a deep ideological agreement and a profound inner unity much like that of the early Christians who were with "one mind and one heart" (Acts 4, 32). Then and there we decided to become love bombs not to kill but to heal the broken hearted.

### **Conversion of Sinners**

In 1983 I went to the Elijah Ashram, Niravilpuzha in the Wayanad district of Kerala to pray alone for a week. It was a marvellous estate with hills, valleys and brooks filled with coconut, pepper, coffee and cardamom plantations. There, in the chapel, sitting close to the Blessed Sacrament from morning till evening I read the Bible and prayed silently looking at the Eucharistic Jesus. On the evening of Friday 11th March 1983, from a profound communion with the Lord, there emerged a great challenge, an inner call, a great God experience within asking me, "Why can't you dedicate your life to the conversion of sinners?" The life force and divine energy to dedicate my life for the incarcerated came from this God experience.

### **Kottayam Sub Jail**

On 13 June 1985 we visited Abhaya Bhavan of the MC Sisters. On our way back we noticed the Kottayam Sub Jail and felt inclined to visit the prisoners inside. We asked the prison guards about the possibility. The guards told us to submit a written application to the superintendent. But when we submitted the application, it was denied outright. This denial was painful but we were determined to visit it at any cost. While we were returning to the seminary with that decisive plan and reflecting on how to make this prison visit possible, I noticed a board that read Prison Fellowship India, near Kalathippady. I turned to Varghese and said, "It might be something related to prison. Why don't we go there next Thursday and see what it is"? Next Thursday on 20 June 1985 we went to the office of Prison Fellowship India. Mr John Kurian welcomed us. We shared with him our desire to visit the prison. On the following Thursday we visited the Kottayam prison together with them for the first time. That was a great beginning.

### **Divine Providence**

In 1986 we had been working hard to prepare for the All-Kerala Prison Pilgrimage. Annual exams were at hand. One thing was worrying us very much. Money! We did not have sufficient money for the journey, food and accommodation. Once, while I was studying, one of my friends came and told me, "The Postman is searching for you; there is a money order for you". Wondering who might be sending money to me, I ran to the postman. Unbelievable! The postman

gave me two hundred rupees. There was a message on the money order coupon, "For your prison apostolate, a friend from Oman". Overwhelmed with the joy of Divine Providence, I ran to my friends and shared this wonderful divine experience with them. Divine Providence has been a never-ending presence and it continues so even today.

### **Alappatt Fashion Jewellery**

It was then 28 April 1991. There were only two more days left for giving the advance amount for acquiring the land for Snehashramam, Thrissur. We were in need of fifty thousand rupees. On that evening I went to Alappatt Fashion Jewellery at Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam. Mr Jose and Mr Manu owned this jewellery shop. Giving them the recommendation letter from Mar Joseph Kundukulam, I told them that we needed urgently fifty thousand rupees. Immediately Mr Jose gave me a packet containing fifty thousand rupees. "Oh God of PMI! what an act of providence!". This was the genesis of PMI Rehabilitation centres.

### **ICCPPC**

I was attending the Ninth World Congress of the International Catholic Commission of Prison Pastoral Care (ICCPPC) held in Warsaw, Poland from 7-12 September 1996 at the Metropolitan Seminary. After my sharing regarding the high-rate success of reformation and reintegration of prisoners in India many expressed unbelief and dismay and asked for proof, statistics and written documents. This awakened in me the need for a research centre and a research magazine. The result was RRDC and *Reformative Explorations* we launched in 2003.



On 8 November 2019 the Vatican dicastery for the Integral Human Development invited me to present a paper on the *Initiatives and Contributions of Prison Ministry India* to the participants of an international conference for worldwide prison chaplains. During this conference His Eminence Peter Cardinal Turkson, the president of the dicastery gave me a precious gift – the relic of Venerable Francis Xavier Cardinal Van Thuan who was in solitary confinement for 13 years in Vietnam. While placing this relic in the PMI national office chapel I was inspired to establish Van Thuan Home – a rehabilitation centre for released men prisoners in Bangalore.

### **Special Task Forces**

On 12 December 2019, I was waiting at the inner gate of Tihar Prison number 5 to celebrate Christmas with the prisoners. While I was waiting in prayer, a police bus came near to us and many police personnel came out of it carrying special guns together with some prisoners chained on their legs, hands and waist. I felt frightened. But soon I understood that they were some hardcore criminals like terrorists or serial killers and within me there sprout the powerful message “PMI is called to seek and save them too”. I shared this mission with PMI volunteers in Bangalore and decided to launch PMI special task forces. On 22 December 2019, together with Sr Adele Korah, Sr Rose Alexander and Sr Lini Sheeja MSC we went to Aradhanankunju at Carmelaram, Bengaluru, a contemplative community who have perpetual Eucharistic adoration. After spending many hours in Eucharistic contemplation and adoration, we launched the PMI Special Task Forces.

### **Conclusion**

The past forty years of PMI have been filled with amazing experiences of divine providence and whisperings of the Holy Spirit. Let's hope and trust that the next four decades of PMI will also be filled with incredible interventions and inspirations of divine providence with its marvellous care and protection.

### **Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated**

In September 2020 Mrs Rowena Luis former PMI Maharashtra state secretary invited me to give a message to their intercessory prayer group members. In Dongri, Mumbai PMI volunteers pray daily for half an hour interceding for the reformation of prisoners and for the fruitfulness of PMI volunteers' endeavors. This was the initiative of Mrs Rowena Luis and can be followed by every PMI unit. During my message I was inspired to launch the Incessant Intercessory Online Invocation for the Incarcerated for the reformation of worldwide prisoners. I consulted about this with our Chairman Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva and he was glad to give the green signal. Mr Daryl Gandhi came forward to sponsor the zoom payments and he himself arranged everything for the online intercessory prayer.



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## 40 Years of Jubilation for PMI

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**Br Pradeep Anthony L OFM**

### **The Mustard Seed of Love**

In the Gospel of St Mathew, we see that Kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed sowed in the field. The mustard seed will later grow and become a tree to such an extent that even the birds of the air will come and take shelter in it. (Mt 13:31-32) Similarly the seed of love that was planted in the heart of Br Varghese Karipery and Br Francis Kodiyan MCBS then as now has become the tree where the birds of entire States are coming and taking their shelter. On 8th December 1981 the conversation between Br Varghese and Br Francis was the origin of this jubilee celebration. The statement uttered by Br Varghese: “Be a Love Bomb; let it be exploded, not to kill but to heal the broken hearted,” gave a Eureka experience to Br Francis. Immediately Br Francis accepted this idea and started working on this thought. The visible role model for both of them was the crucified Jesus, a dynamic explosion of the Love-Bomb who healed the broken humans. If the mustard seed of faith has the power to move mountains, then how much more should the power of the mustard seed of love be able to do!

### **The Lord’s Call**

They used to spend half an hour before the Blessed Sacrament praying for the lives at the periphery. Then they heard the voice of the Lord that insisted on them to go and see Him in the lives at the periphery. Both of

them ventured into different places at the periphery, like old age homes, HIV AIDS patients’ centers, beggars, mentally disabled people and so on. The call of Jesus for both of them made them more joyful and dynamic.

### **Responding to the Lord’s Call**

In the Gospels we can look into the lives of people who responded to the call of the Lord and seemed to have experienced much peace, joy and love. This is the Joy that Jesus Fraternity experienced at the beginning of their call. On Mar 1-31th 1986, Jesus Fraternity organised First All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage with chain prayer and chain fasting. Besides, they also took the names of particular prisoners to intercede for the grace of their repentance and forgiveness. This pilgrimage really had given them the joy Christ speaks of and St Stephen must have experienced. The second All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage was continued on 1987 after the great effects of the first pilgrimage to all Kerala prisons.

### **Spirituality of PMI**

These pilgrimages were something unique, special and providential. It was unique because nobody had done it before so systematically. It was special because this pilgrimage was not a tour but rather in communion with authority and all the other seminarians. It was a decision taken unanimously by the community. It was providential because Br Francis experienced for the first time the providential care of God in finding the required financial assistance from unknown benefactors. Br Francis had received a money order of 200 rupees in which there was also a message attached: “For your prison apostolate, a



friend from Oman.” Definitely after 40 years, innumerable members of PMI must have had these kinds of experiences. PMI spirituality is formed in this context, namely: first, prayer as the power house; second, working with fraternity; third, believing in the divine providence bank; fourth, inconvenience as convenience. All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage has the combination of all these four aspects. The fraternity was formed by prayer. Both providence and inconvenience are the faces of the same coin. However, there were innumerable fruits that they experienced because the members involved themselves willingly and lovingly.

**Growth of PMI**

After the two consecutive years to all Kerala Prison Pilgrimages the popularity of Jesus Fraternity grew. It became a spiritual movement. On September 8, 1989 KCBC Recognized Jesus Fraternity under its Justice, Peace and Development Commission and appointed Fr Joseph Mackolil as its director. In 1990 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS was appointed as assistant director of Jesus Fraternity by giving an office at POC, the KCBC headquarters. Fr Francis focused on establishing rehabilitation centres for men, women and children. On 1 October 1991 the First Rehabilitation Centre for released men prisoners was established at Vettukad, Thrissur, Kerala. On 11 October 1992 the First Rehabilitation Centre for released women prisoners, was set up at Monvila, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. There was a need to set up a national office in order to collaborate with all other states. The Name of Jesus Fraternity was changed and a new name was adopted as Prison Ministry India in 1994. The first national office was

at Huskur. Similar to the birth of Jesus in a stable at Bethlehem, the Jesus Fraternity too was born in a stable, later it was shifted to Koramangala and then to Carmalaram. In 1991 Jesus Fraternity launched ECHO a news bulletin which turned into Prison Voice, a national magazine in the year 2004. In 2003 Fr Francis Kodiyan established a Reformatory Research and Documentation Centre (RRDC) at Thrissur, Kerala and Launched the Reformatory Explorations, a psycho-spiritual and crimino-social Journal.

**PMI Ruby Jubilee Celebration**

Presently all of us are exuberantly busy with the preparations of Ruby Jubilee Celebrations; setting up different committees to organize the jubilee celebrations, a committee each on transportation, liturgy, cultural events, calendar, directory, memento, food, flex and so on. We are also on the verge of releasing mainly two books. The First on ‘Prisoners’ Rehabilitation and Reintegration’ by Fr. Francis Kodiyan MCBS and the second on ‘Prison Ministry - The Dreamers’ Mission’ by Sr Lini Sheeja MSC. We also work hard for the inauguration of the Annex Building of the national office. Thanks to the visionary and master mind, Fr Francis Kodiyan, the co-founder of PMI who not only planned this event but is also executing it to perfection. Once again thanks to all the benefactors who contribute consistently, financially, materially, emotionally and prayerfully. May all who are going to come to the Ruby Jubilee Celebration be re-energised, re-vitalized to work with the Lord by seeking, serving and saving the lost. May they experience the joy of working with the Lord!



## Prison Ministry India Roadmap to Golden Jubilee (2021-2031)



**Sr Lini Sheeja MSC**

PMI volunteers from the time of its inception have been true love bombs in search of the lost and in pursuit of realizing the dreams of the lost. In 1981 Bro Francis and Bro Karipperry received the divine fire and dreamt for the dejected. In 1980s this divine fire was carried into the dark cells, slums and hospitals by the seminarians who dreamt for the vulnerable. In 1990s PMI reached out in rehabilitating prisoners and their families through rehabilitation centres who dreamt of the broken ones. In 2000s PMI reached out to all the States of India, established the Research, Training and Documentation Centres who dreamt of the larger world. In 2010s PMI reached out to Indian dioceses and formed special task forces to redeem the hardcore criminals who dreamt of encountering volunteers and the incarcerated personally. In 2020 amidst the lockdown PMI dreamt of reaching out to the incarcerated maximum and the fruit was 24 hours Eucharistic Adoration by PMI volunteers across the country.

### **Divine Dreams**

The Father God had a dream for creation and He found everything good on completing it. Father God had a dream for fallen humanity that made him sent His only Son to redeem it. Jesus had a dream for His chosen ones that He sent His Spirit and empowered His apostles. The apostles had dreams of making disciples that from the locked room they went out and proclaimed Jesus boldly. Mother Mary had dreams of Jesus' mission that she walked silently accompanying her Son Jesus on the way to Calvary. St Joseph had dreams and he obeyed and moved on with his dreams. And here Prison Ministry

India volunteers too have dreams for the incarcerated and their families and move on with their dreams. The PMI family has moved as the Spirit led them and as a result, they fulfilled the dreams of the dejected ones.

### **Why PMI Dreams?**

When people dream they set their sights on something bigger than themselves - even when they seem impossible. When the prison ministry family dreams we create opportunities to make the aspirations of the incarcerated come alive. By our dreams we lay out platforms to make the goals of our brethren behind bars a reality. We write down their dreams, we speak for them, so that the voice of the voiceless can be heard

### **Year of Dream Realization: 2020**

Nothing can stop PMI Volunteers, not even the Pandemic, for we are called by God for whom everything is possible. We dream, we believe, we Trust, we run and God makes it a reality. In 2020, we dreamt of constructing 40 houses for prisoners; the foundation stone for the 33rd house was laid a few days ago. In 2020 We dreamt of praying before the Blessed Sacrament as one family, and today God made it a reality as we gather in Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated in 24x7 Eucharistic Adoration for the Incarcerated and their families. If there is a dream, there is hope.

The cry of the homeless incarcerated opened our hearts to respond to them in constructing houses for them. The cry of



abandoned children of the incarcerated prompted us to open Kolbe Homes for prisoners' children. The cry of prisoners from poor socio-economic backgrounds moved us to release them from dark cells by paying their fine and compensation. We dreamt of 4 books to be published during the Ruby Jubilee Year and we have published 7 books. We dreamt of 4 new Kolbe Homes for prisoners' children; two have been blessed already and another two are in the process of accomplishment. We dreamt of 40 Special Task Forces for prisoners across the globe and they stand fulfilled. We dreamt of educating 400 prisoners' children by providing them scholarship and it is a realised dream now. We dreamt of releasing 400 prisoners by providing their fine and compensation and that too is a dream realised. See how much God loves us and takes care of us.

### **Prisoners' Dreams**

As humans we all of us are in search of happiness. Much more so, our incarcerated brethren thirst for joy as they have lost everything in their lives. They long for a kind word; they look around for compassionate eyes; they look around for a smile and a gentle touch; they walk miles to meet someone who can spend some time listening to them; they look around for someone who will never judge their past; they look around for someone who can understand their aspirations; they look for someone who can fulfil their dreams. We become content when our dreams are realized and they become satisfied when they know there is someone who can realize their dreams.

### **Run till Your Goal be Won**

As we journey from 4th decade to 5th decade, from Ruby to Golden, 2021 to 2031 here are God's dreams and our dreams for the incarcerated and their families. Let us run till our goal is reached; till our dreams

are realized.

- 2022-31: Build 100 Houses
- 2022-31: Educate 1000 children of the Incarcerated
- 2022-31: Release 1000 Prisoners
- 2022-31: Reach out to all the Parishes
- 2022-31: Another 5000 more volunteers
- 2022-31: 10 Kolbe Homes for Prisoners' Children'
- 2022-31: 10 Rehabilitation Centres for Released Men/Women
- 2022-31: Establish Legal Service Clinics
- 2022-31: Reach out to 1350 Parishes where there are prisons

### **We the Dreamers!**

We kneel before God for the sake of all our brethren facing injustice, violence and persecution and we have witnessed our God standing for these vulnerable and broken ones. Incarcerated ones too have their dignity; they too have likes and dislikes; they too have a desire for the future; they too have dreams. Can we the dreamers join hands together to fulfill the dreams of the incarcerated, rejected, dejected, broken and vulnerable? Bring many more dreamers to join hands with us to realize the dreams of the incarcerated and their children. Joshua 3:5 says "Sanctify yourselves today, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you". Remove all the bitterness, resentments, hate feelings of the past 40 years and receive surprises from the God of Surprises in this decade. Spend every day, one hour before the Blessed Sacrament and we will see wonders in this decade. Work hard to realize God's dreams for us and for the incarcerated with their families.





# Blessed Jan Franciszek Macha

Fr Jaison Dominic MST

## Introduction

Blessed Jan Franciszek Macha (18 January 1914 - 3 December 1942) was a Polish Roman Catholic priest. He is one of many Polish martyrs – who include priests, bishops, nuns, and laypeople – bore witness to Christian martyrs amidst the horrors of German-occupied Poland. He was a diocesan priest. Martyr lived in the darkness of an unjust imprisonment. He found in God the strength and meekness to face the difficult Calvary of persecution. He was killed in 1942. In this article we look at the life, works, activities, aftermaths, charity, persecutions and courageous and vicarious suffering and death of Blessed Macha.

## Birth and Education

Jan Franciszek Macha was born in Chorzow Stary in Upper Silesia on January 18, 1914, as the first child of ironworker Pawel and his wife Anna. He was known to his family and friends as 'Hanik', a Polonized diminutive form of his German name - Johann. He was good in playing violin and piano, and was interested in amateur theatre productions. Above all, he was an amazing handball player. He did his schooling in his hometown from 1921. Upon completing high school, Jan revealed to his family that he above all dreamed of becoming a priest. He applied to the Silesian Major Seminary, but was

rejected because there were more applicants than the seminary could accommodate. Thus, he studied law at Krakow's time-honoured Jagiellonian University. After one year, in 1934 he succeeded getting an admission in the Silesian Theological College and commenced his ecclesial studies. He received his ordination from Bishop Stanislaw Adamski in Katowice on 25 June 1939 and celebrated his first Mass in the Saint Mary Magdalene parish church in his hometown on 27 June 1939. He was appointed as a joint vicar for the Saint Joseph parish in Ruda Slaska from 1 September 1939 onwards.

## Political Scenario

Chorzow in industrial Upper Silesia, the place where Jan Macha was born, is a historical borderland between Poland and Germany. Many of the inhabitants of Chorzow, whom are of mixed Polish and German ancestry, speak a unique dialect with many German loanwords. There were survey polls conducted whether Upper Silesia should come under Germany or Poland and finally the League of Nations decided to split Silesia among ethnic lines; Katowice, Chorzow, and Ruda Slaska, the parish where the young Father Macha would later work, were given to Poland.

## German Invasion of Poland

As a German nationalist, Hitler was very furious at the weakening of Germany after the World War I and it increased his fury to Poland as the large part of its wealth was spent at the expense of a resurrected Polish state. He could never accommodate

the Treaty of Versailles by the League of Nations. And thus, one of the grounds for the 1939 German invasion of Poland was the suspicion of mistreatment and discrimination of the German minority in border regions like Upper Silesia and Pomerania. After the invasion, Upper Silesia was directly annexed by the state of Reich; Eventually, the persecution began on its Polish and Jewish populations. As the result of the persecution from the part of Germany, there also arose the Polish resistance movements which were considered as the largest underground resistance movement if the entire Europe is taken into consideration. They really owe for saving many Jewish lives in the Holocaust than any other Western Allied organization or government. It was comprised of many secret smaller groups that arose spontaneously during the German - and Soviet - occupation.

### **Social Action of Macho**

Around the time of the invasion of Poland, the recent ordinand Jan Macha was assigned to St. Joseph's parish in Ruda Slaska. As in the custom of Poland, he was visiting the houses of parishioners in the Christmas season. It was a very transformative experience for the young priest, visiting his flock during the 1939-1940 winter season. He saw that the breadwinner was absent in many families (many Silesian men were deported to concentration camps, imprisoned, or compelled to perform slave labor), which made them destitute. These scenes transformed him. Already as a law student, Macha was active in charitable

organizations and activities. Father Macha co-founded one such group, the Polish Armed Organization, at the outbreak of World War II shortly after he was ordained. He organized a network of volunteers to bring material assistance above all to widows and orphans in his parish. He recruited Catholic Action activists, older altar boys, and scouts. They established publishing houses and distributed leaflets that disseminated intelligence to the Polish resisters. His network is said to have consisted of four thousand volunteers. He provided assistance and comfort to those who lost loved ones – both Germans and Polish - in the fighting, tending to their physical and spiritual needs.


### **Illegal Charity Accused**

Charitable works were strictly forbidden in occupied Poland other than some, strictly monitored by German Government. More than this, Fr Macha worked with the Polish boy scouts, who had been incorporated into the illegal armed resistance. So, in early months of 1940, the political police force of the Nazi Government (Gestapo) summoned him to interrogate him about his activities and released him; and then on they kept him under observation. Macha was arrested on 5 September 1941 in a Gestapo raid at a train station in Katowice and was incarcerated in Myslowice until 13 November 1941. During this imprisonment, he was interrogated many times. He was and covered with humiliations and tortures in these interrogations and would often

plead to God to forgive his persecutors for their actions. He was never discouraged and dejected but rather encouraged and strengthened his fellow prisoners who were with him that they would be spiritually and psychologically robust.

### **Execution**

The execution of Fr Macho was very sudden. Only a few hours before his death Father Macha became aware that he would not have a funeral, nor a burial with a grave. He requested for prayers for his soul, and he implored a quiet place where people could pray for the rest of his soul. He made his last confession to the priest Joachim Beslera during the night preceding his execution and also wrote a farewell letter to his relatives. He also wrote a small note that said: “Priest Jan Macha executed on 2 December 1942” despite the fact he was executed at 12:15am on 3 December at the guillotine. It is believed that his remains were cremated since his remains were never recovered. His relatives asked for his remains for a proper burial but the Nazis refused this. The German Political Soldiers (SS), knowing that the family wanted to celebrate the funeral Mass even without the presence of the body, gave the order to the parish priest to celebrate the Holy Mass without the bier, only with two candles in the centre of the church, without organist and without the church being illuminated, despite being crowded with people. They might have considered it



as the last ‘punishment’ to the martyr and his bereaved family and friends.

### **Beatification**

The beatification process opened on 2 October 2013 after the Congregation for the Causes of Saints issued the official nihil obstat decree and titled Macha as a Servant of God. Having done all the procedures for beatification, Pope Francis approved the cause on 28 November 2019 with a confirmation that the Polish priest was killed in odium fidei, or “in hatred of the faith”. The beatification was celebrated on 20 November 2021. The feast is celebrated on 2nd December. The present postulator for the cause is Father Damian Bednarski.

### **Conclusion**

Saints in the history are courageous in practising virtues. Father Macho was the exemplary example for this. He not only preached the Gospel in season and out of season, but rather lived and died for it. He believed that the Gospel is for all. Like St Kolbe, he also followed the words of Jesus “there is no love greater than giving life”. He becomes a martyr, who lived a courageous and virtuous life and who died a brave and fruitful death. He was an inspiration for the living and illustration for the vicarious suffering of Christ. Let him be an encouragement and intercession for all who suffer for justice and all who are accused groundless and innocent prisoners who are undergoing the same vicarious suffering of Jesus.





## A Synodal Journey with the Left-outs

**Fr Beschi Jeyaraj**

The article of mine in the erstwhile issue of Prison voice encapsulated a few significant rationales of the Synod of Bishops in Rome. We have just learnt that the extraordinary synod enjoins us to walk together with the most left outs of society, and include the excluded, namely the Prisoners. We have indeed learnt that journeying together with the prisoners should be an encountering, repairing, functioning, serving and praying one as well. As a sequel to the last issue, this write-up aims to explain in depth some of the proposed dynamics in terms of the synodal journey with the prisoners in our ministry. The synodal journey, hopefully not missing in action, could preferably choose listening over hearing in relationship, inclusion over integration in dealings, subjectification over objectification in pedagogical paradigms, sincere journey over tokenism in praxis during the time of synodal journey with the prisoners. Here are a few suggestions.

### **1. Listening over Hearing in Relationship**

The synod must provide a platform to listen to the prisoners and their kith and kins. Their tiny voices are to be heard with undivided attention. The synod of Bishops could be a springboard to the unheard voices to be heard. It should not sound-proof the hearts nor cause us to remain barricaded in our certainties all thorough the synodal journey.

The synod must disarm the hearts that are filled with ignominious prejudice over prisoners. Only open listening serves that.

Hearing and listening are not one and the same. We hear a lot in our day-to-day life. We hear music, news, interesting gossips, stories, cries and joys. Noises are part of our life, and they keep reverberating even louder at times. They are inevitable despite being annoying and obnoxious. But listening is not the same as hearing. Hearing can remain non affective or nonchalant but listening is not. Hearing can take place impersonally, but not listening. Hearing can be a leisurely affair, but listening is rather a serious act. Good listening leads to definite action. It leads one to side with the affected. It leads us to be in solidarity with those whom we listen to. Yahweh listened to the cries of the Israelites in Egypt, which led him to side with the anavim (Ex 6: 5 -8).

When we listen to the prisoners, they may have a host of stories like lack of equal delivery of food, inhospitable and unhygienic living space, state brutality and apathy of power structures and so on. They may have a slew of ineffable stories that hurt their human dignity. The anthropologist Martha Nussbaum suggests a diverse list of ten vital capabilities for human dignity, namely: bodily health, bodily integrity, senses, imagination, thought to emotions, practical reason, affliction, relations with other species, play and control over one's environment, without which a human being remains in dormant or in permanent vegetative state. Are not the prisoners lacking these things? Are not the prisoners and the families subordinated literally to

surveillance, inspection, discrimination, assessment and containment even after the time of incarceration? Don't they have stories of lynching, legitimated brutalisation, criminalisation or justified maltreatment? Are they not subjected to discrimination, biased ideas and social ostracism? These kinds of stories must be listened to in our synodal journey with the prisoners. Pastors should not be afraid to listen to the flocks entrusted to them and should have no fear to tell the universal Church what they have gathered from them.

### **Jesus' Model**

The synod must ensure that the Catholic Church render a compassionate, non-pre-judgemental, un-offending, non-partial listening following the footsteps of its Master Jesus Christ who never stonewalled any cries of people. In the miracle stories, it is obvious that Jesus had a unique way of healing people. During the time of Jesus, many had performed miracles, among whom Honi the Circle drawer and Hanina ben Dosa were prominent as recorded in the works of Josephus. They utilized some ancient ritual formulas. The rituals would have supposedly included incantations, symbolic actions, the use of certain substances and the invocation of the name of the ancient and wise men of God like Solomon to whom the ritual was supposed to have been revealed. But Jesus' actions were distinct from these. The peculiarity of Jesus is distinguished in his touch, dialogue, expressing compassion and forgiveness of

whole body and mind. Above all, his work of miracles was verbalized in table fellowship. Much like a good physician, Jesus invariably does ask the sick, diseased, or injured person what they want or need (interview), assess the problem (diagnosis), and commence with the process of healing (practice), most often sending forth the healed person with a teaching, usually including strong admonitions to avoid sinful behaviour in the future (so to say in medicinal terms - prognosis and prescription.). John Dominic Crosson would say, "miracles and parables, healing and eating were calculated to force individuals into unmediated physical and spiritual contact with God and unmediated physical and spiritual contact with one another."

### **2. Inclusion rather than Integration in Dealing**

The conventional mechanism to treat and deal with the prisoners is either separation from society during incarceration or reintegration into society after the period of punishment. But they must be included and integrated in society after serving the time of punishment in jail. The synod must guarantee their inclusion in the society and in the Church as well. After the process of reintegration, the prisoners and their family still suffer isolation from deep-seated prejudice of the society. They could feel aloof even though they are in the society. Therefore, they must be included. They must feel that they possess a place in the society and the Church. They must feel "the Church is for me, where I can experience the sense of belonging, where I'm invited irrespective of the track record I hold, where I have a



role to play or something to contribute, the Church of Jesus is the Church of people like me". Our vocational trainings and education may help them to get integrated in society, but they are insufficient to make them feel included.

Let us take the parable of the 'prodigal son' (Lk 15: 11-31). The lost son returns to the father with the intension of integration, in other words, in search of a job to meet both ends meet. But the merciful father includes him in his life and house. If the father intended to integrate his son who ditched him, he might have given him job or food. But on the other hand, he includes his son in his household. Another story that depicts Jesus' ministry of inclusion is the conversion story of Zacchaeus (Lk 19: 1-10). On his last leg of his Journey to Jerusalem, he encounters Zacchaeus whom he loves as he is, but did not leave as he is.

**3. Subjectification over Objectification in Pedagogical Paradigms**

To begin with, let me clarify the term Subjectification. Subjectification is a prodigy of German pedagogical model, which principally denotes the notion that in any pedagogy the human being is put in the centre and not the subject we learn. In the context of prison ministry in terms of synodal journey, the prisoners are subjects or protagonists occupying the central place. They are at the centre of the educational and didactical process to gain autonomy, maturation and identity. It is not what one learns but who learns is important in this approach. The terminology 'subjectification' implies a process of socio-anthropological

and religious maturation of human person, in our case the prisoners, with both individual and community experience to gain autonomy, independence and self-awareness, being able to make own choices and decisions. In this process the prisoners are empowered to make independent decisions and competence to argue. This model is adapted in most of the European universities to teach, educate, counsel, evaluate, develop and innovate. But Indian clergy-centered Church lags far behind. There is no point of tiptoeing around it; it is writ large.

It would not be amiss to argue that the genesis of this synod is to decentralize the power to the laity. In the wake of Amazon Synod in 2019 and Synodal Journey of German Church (synodaler Weg) that was followed by Laity resurgence especially the women under the banner of Maria 2.0., Pope Francis inaugurated a worldwide Synod of Bishops. In the broader context of the universal Church, the Synod is intended to review the power bestowed on clerics by virtue of their anointing, to mitigate the sexual assault on the minors and women and to ensure retributive justice to the victims. In the Indian context, the synod of Bishops is intended to address the unsolvable and deep-rooted issues like clericalism in the name of religious indoctrination, entitlement and impunity of hierarchy, the participation of laity who are infantilized into obedience, gender justice in the ecclesial milieu and eradication of the insidious presence of caste in the Indian



Church. In this process the laity should occupy the central place not the clergy. That is the right mode of subjectification.

Let us look at the situation in India in this respect. Who speaks about synod? Who shares stage with Bishops during inauguration? Who writes in theological journals? Who convenes the meetings? Who prepares the reports? Is it not the same clerics who do all these? Is it not an oxymoron? Is this act a piecemeal action? Is it not something illogical? Is it not an alibi to say that the laity does not come forward? Likewise, in the prison ministry ambit, the prisoners as Subjects must decide what they want, not the facilitating ministers like us.

In the Johannine Gospel we read that the task of the messiah is to gather people. (Jn 4 :36). In the original text it is given *συνάγει καρπὸν* (*synagei karpon*) which means 'to gather harvest'. Though it denotes gathering of the harvests, some translations especially Tamil translation opts for the translation 'to gather people'. It is right to say that the prime ministry of the pastors is to gather people not gather from the people.

#### 4. Sincere Journey over mere Tokenism in Praxis

The world is ruled by the social media, which is entrenched in every fabric of society. In this social-media driven society, image building, posting any mugshot to win likes and complimentary comments in social media platform, have become a new normal. Like politics, the Church is no exception in

falling prey to tokenism. Some are satisfied by taking photos of an event and posting on facebook or twitter. They think their job is over. We have inaugurated the threshold of the synod of Bishops. Well and good. But it is not what is expected of from the Catholic Church. The ships in the harbour are safe, but that is not what ships are built for. What could be done both in prison ministry and in the Catholic Church of India?

#### Few Suggestions to Conclude

- Let's ferret out a mechanism to make a just Church that treats its members equally. Let the Catholic Church establish equal rights in the Church and check whether only a few sections of the group enjoy special rights. Let the Synod encourage the Indian Church to avoid monochromatic approach.
- Too much hoarding of power in one member or one section of the community leads to misuse of power. Let the synod see to it that power is shared and percolated through the Church even to the invisible member of the Church. Let us create some strategies for encouraging the laity to participate more. At least the possibilities enshrined in Code of Canon Law could be looked into.
- Let the Synod ensure that the prisoners, who are left out and excluded, find a visible presence in the Catholic Church.
- Let the Catholic Church be respectful, serving, collectively responsible, diverse, relational and relevant to the society and environment.



## **Santosh Bishoi** **Story of His Resilience** **and Reintegration**

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**Sr Shanti Pulickal**

Santosh's grandfather had cleared around 7 acres of land in the forest area called Deulo khani. He had applied to the Thahasildar and got the necessary papers for the land. He had divided this property among his 3 sons and each of them gave it to their sons. Santosh too had inherited a portion of this land and had built the house for his family consisting of his wife and 6 children. Likewise, the others too had built their own houses. They cultivated the land, kept a few animals and lived poor but were happy. But some years later the tribal people, from the neighboring village started claiming this land saying that it was in the tribal belt. They started destroying the crops and even started harvesting what these people had cultivated. This happened for a few years and so Santosh along with his relatives in the village filed a case in the local court but the tribals had bribed them and the police too started harassing them. Thus there was enmity between the two villages and the situation was turning from bad to worse each year.

One day, as it was turning dark Santosh saw 3 tribals ploughing his land in order to cultivate. There were heated arguments among them and they started throwing stones at each other. Unfortunately, the stone thrown by Santosh killed one of the three men and he fell to the ground. The other two escaped and informed the police and other tribals. The next day the police came with a large crowd and took Santosh

to the police station. They beat him up and questioned him. Santosh had told the truth but they beat him again and kept him in the Mohana police station for eight days. Later he was sent to Udayagiri sub jail for five months and to Paralakhemundi district jail for three years and later to Berhampur circle jail. All the relatives of Santosh were afraid and no one came to his rescue. The magistrate had condemned him to twenty years in jail. Santosh could not hire a lawyer in the beginning as he had no money. He had no house and his family had no place to live since his people were driven out of the village. Santosh requested the superintendent and with his recommendation all his six children were given free admission in the jail school and jail hostel. His wife remained with her parents and did cooli work. Santosh also worked in the jail for which he was paid Rs 40 per day. When he had sufficient money, he hired a lawyer and fought his case in the High court. By God's grace he was given bail after nine years and he went back to his family and did cooli work.

His elder son joined the seminary at Rayagada four years ago. He is happy about his vocation. His elder girl is doing her class 12th from a nearby college. The others are still in the jail hostel at Bhubaneswar. Along with his wife he does cooli work to support his family. He purchased a small piece of land costing Rs.60,000. He has paid Rs 30,000 and is hopeful of paying back the rest of the money very soon. He is grateful to the PMI for helping him to construct his house. He will contribute Rs 1,00,000 by working as laborers along with his wife. He hopes that the house construction will be completed soon by God's grace and by the generous help from Prison Ministry India. "I and my family will always be grateful to you" says Santosh with folded hands.

# Incarcerated, Our Kings and Queens! PMI Ruby Jubilee (1981-2021)

**Sr Lini Sheeja MSC**

Back from a long day's toil and work, Dhanuja (all the names in this true story have been changed) was horrified to find another woman sleeping in their bedroom. She lost control of her emotions as she confronted her drunkard husband and threatened to kill herself. In a frenzy, she poured kerosene on herself. Her three children watched in horror as Sunil, who was fully drunk, lit a matchstick and threw it on her! Little did he think about the consequences of his irresponsible act. The eldest child started wailing. Dhiraj, the third child, fainted. Sunil came to his senses immediately and tried desperately to save his wife, but it was too late. She was rushed to the hospital where she succumbed to her burns and breathed her last without regaining consciousness.


For the children, this was the culmination of a daily routine of drunken bouts and heated arguments between their parents. They could not remember a day of peace or an uneventful night devoid of tears. Sunil was arrested and imprisoned. Dhanuja's brother, who had a family of his own, and lived in a slum, took in his sister's children. While languishing behind the bars, repenting his crime, Sunil started missing his children. Yearning to see them, he expressed his wish to the volunteers of the Prison Ministry. The PMI volunteers promptly responded that they used to visit the children in the

slum and brought them over to visit their father. A few months later, the 2 boys were shifted to Kolbe Home - a rehabilitation centre for prisoners' children, Bengaluru. The girl child was brought to Premodaya - a centre for the rehabilitation of girl children of prisoners. Sunil's kids are being educated in good English medium schools and are excelling even in extra-curricular activities. The PMI takes care of the children of prisoners so that they do not land behind bars like their parents.

"Children of those who have been incarcerated are five times more likely to end up in prison, than the children of parents who have never been to prison. The sins of the father visit the child", said Mr Sam Brownback, the former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom. About 80% of the children of prisoners stand a good chance of turning into criminals themselves unless we reach out to them, and lovingly guide them into growing up as disciplined citizens of the country. As part of the Ruby Jubilee celebrations, under the leadership of the Chairperson, the Most Rev Allwyn D' Silva, and the National Coordinator, Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, the PMI is opening 4 more Kolbe Homes for prisoners' children. Their main aim is to stall the burgeoning of potential criminals.

## **Prince and Princess' Home**

When God touched the hearts of the Prison Ministry volunteers of Maharashtra, the idea of a homely shelter for Maharashtrian prisoners' children was conceived. The team prayed fervently that God's plan is fulfilled at the earliest. Combined with the concerted



human effort to find a suitable location, their prayers soon bore fruit. To their pleasant surprise, the Bishop of Sindhudurg, Bp Allwyn Barreto, offered them the St Anthony's Home in Kankavli. By God's tremendous grace, the team renovated and refurbished the home. The home was formally inaugurated on September 14, 2021.

The home, which can accommodate up to 20 boys, will be run by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, and managed by the Prison Ministry India of Maharashtra. Inspired by the initiative, the Ursuline Sisters have offered their nearby boarding school to house the girl children of prisoners. The final approvals are awaited, after which the corridors of these two homes will be enlivened by the laughter and chatter of the children, and the patter of their little feet. Fr Wilfred V Fernandes, the Maharashtra State Coordinator is joyful as he mentions the new beginnings and many opportunities that God will open up for these unfortunate children, who have come to this state through no fault of their own.

### **Our Queen's Dream Home**

Forty-three-year-old (20 April 2021) Keerthi was an inmate of Snehashramam, Monvila, Thiruvananthapuram. Keerthi hails from Idukki, Kerala. She lost both her parents at the very early age in natural calamities in Kerala.

Along with her three siblings, she was shifted to an orphanage and was grown there. When she was 18, she was sent to a convent as domestic worker. She worked as cook in few places and in



## **KINGS AND QUEENS**

2003 she was brought to Snehashramam, Monvila, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - a rehabilitation centre for released prisoners and women in distress. After seven years stay at Snehashramam, she was given in marriage to Eashwar in 2010, a fisherman and was blessed with a baby boy. The nuns at Snehashramam had bought a 1.5 cent land in 2014 and with the financial support of a few benefactors began the construction of a small house in 2015. Due to financial constraints, the construction could not continue. In 2021, Keerthi's dream home was included in the PMI Ruby Jubilee Housing Project. Keerthi's house was blessed on 5 October 2021 and she received the house key from PMI family.

### **Beggars for the Incarcerated**

The Prison Ministry India, from its inception, has given new life to thousands of women/men like Keerthi. The PMI has uplifted thousands of children like Dhiraj. "Being abandoned or given up is the most devastating emotion we can cause in another human being", stated Gary David Currie. If these abandoned ones are not cared for on time, they would land up in prisons. Some of the reasons for theft are poverty, illiteracy and ignorance. If girls like Keerthi and boys like Dhiraj are not picked up by us at the right time, their lives may be ruined. Don't we need many more centres like the Kolbe Home and Snehashramams to satisfy their hunger, educate them, provide them with work in order to reduce crimes? We, the PMI volunteers, beg to give them a future; we beg to give them hope. We beg



## KINGS AND QUEENS


to make them kings and queens. The Prison Ministry India volunteers are the people of those in hopeless situations within dark cells, in rejected and abandoned families of prisoners and in rehabilitation centres.

### Hope to Royal Families

In 2019, I met a convicted prisoner's wife at the prison gate. She held my hands and tears rolling down her cheeks, she said, "My husband was convicted last year. The rejections and the struggle we went through cannot be explained. Today, what keeps me going is that my husband will be released one day and we will be back to our former days where we shared joy and peace. I thank PMI volunteers for standing by my family with genuine care and for the various kinds of help offered."

### Boon for the Disguised

In Luke 4:14-30, Jesus revealed Himself as the redeemer of the marginalised, saviour of the sinners and God of the poor as He stood up and read the scroll with conviction. This is the call of every PMI volunteer who is gifted with the mission to be a servant to the rejected. We become a blessing to the rejected ones. Did the lost sheep ever know that its miserable life would turn into a blessing when s/he lost her/his way? Did the prodigal son ever think that his life would turn into a blessing when he was on his way to his father's house? Do our brethren from the rehabilitation centres know that their lives will turn to blessings when they step foot in our centres? Do the incarcerated brethren ever think in their bitterest



moments that their families will receive blessings through the PMI volunteers?

### Incarcerated, our Kings and Queens

Jesus our God laid aside His majesty and took the form of a slave as He became one among us. Jesus showed His servant-hood when He bent down and washed the feet of His disciples. Jesus revealed His servant-hood as He laid down His life for fallen humanity. Jesus taught His disciples to find greatness in servant-hood. Pope Francis showed his servant-hood when He washed the feet of the incarcerated. For us, our incarcerated are kings and queens! The children/men/women in our rehabilitation centres are our princes and princesses! The PMI volunteers are their servants! If you receive the call to be servants to the rejected, do join hands with us!

### Birth of Jesus

"In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn (Lk 2,1-7).



# Prison Ministry India: Milestones



## Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS

### 1980-1989

- 1981 Dec 8 Conceptual Conversation on Love Bomb between Bro Varghese Karippery and Bro Francis Kodiyan MCBS at St Thomas Ap Seminary, Kottayam, Kerala.
- 1982 Aug 28 First Prayer Group Gathering under the Guidance of Fr Mathew Elapanickal at St Thomas Ap Seminary, Kottayam, Kerala.
- 1983 Mar 11 God Experience of Bro Francis Kodiyan at Elijah Ashram, Niravilpuzha and the Invitation to Dedicate his Life for the Conversion of Sinners.
- 1985 Jul 18 First Visit to Kottayam District Prison.
- 1985 Oct 21 Dr Kunjumon Chacko and Team from Prison Fellowship India Share their Experiences with Seminarians of St Thomas Apostolic Seminary.
- 1985 Dec 23 New Prayer Group in Preparation for All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage under the Directorship of Fr Thomas Vellilamthadam.
- 1986 Jan 29 The Name Jesus Fraternity.
- 1986 Mar 1-31 First All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage.
- 1987 Aug 15 First All Kerala Art and Literary Competition for Prisoners.
- 1987 Oct 9 First Magazine Pulari (Dawn) for Prisoners.
- 1988 Aug 15 Thadavarayile Sangheetham (Prison Melody) - Collection of Prisoners' Drawings, Poems and Short Stories.
- 1989 Sep 8 KCBC Recognizes Jesus Fraternity under its Justice, Peace and Development Commission and Appointed Fr Joseph Mackolil as its Director.

### 1990-1999

- 1990 Jun 01 Jesus Fraternity Office at KCBC Headquarters, POC, Kochi, Kerala.
- 1990 Jul 01 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS took charge as the Assistant Director of Jesus Fraternity and Staff Member at Pastoral Orientation Center, Palarivattom, Kerala.
- 1991 Oct 01 Blessing of the First Rehabilitation Centre for Released Men Prisoners at Vettukad, Thrissur, Kerala.
- 1991 Nov 01 Launching of The Echo, Jesus Fraternity News Bulletin from Jesus Fraternity Office, POC, Kerala.
- 1992 Oct 11 Blessing of First Rehabilitation Centre for Released Women Prisoners, Monvila, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- 1994 Feb 16 Blessing of Ashadeepam, a Home for Released Women Prisoners by St John the Baptist Sisters, Thrissur, Kerala.
- 1994 Jul 03 Blessing of Snehadeepam, a Home for Prisoners' Children by Holy Spirit Sisters, Inchiyani, Kanjirapally, Kerala.

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- 1994 Aug 13-15 First National Convention, Bangalore, took the Name Prison Ministry India and elected Fr Varghese Karipery as the First National Coordinator.
- 1995 Jan 01 Blessing of PMI National Office in a Farmhouse at Huskur, Bangalore.
- 1995 Jan 22 Blessing of Jeevodaya – A Home for Released Women Prisoners under the Holy Cross Sisters, Bengaluru.
- 1995 Jul 26 Registration of PMI under Societies Registration Act No. ER 375.
- 1995 Aug 6 Blessing of Shanti Nivas, the Second Stage of Rehabilitation for Released Men Prisoners by Claretian Missionaries at Edappally, Kerala.
- 1995 Sep 24 The Second National Convention of PMI at ‘Navintha’, Delhi inaugurated by St Mother Teresa and Presided over by Archbishop Alan de Lastic.
- 1995 Oct 07-09 Fr Francis Kodiyan the PMI Cofounder Participated in the International Conference of Catholic Prison Chaplains, Warsaw, Poland.
- 1996 Feb 22 Shifting of National Office to Koramangala, Bengaluru.
- 1997 May 03 Blessing of Asha Sadan, a home for Prisoners’ Girl Children by Franciscan Clarist Sisters, Noida, Delhi.
- 1997 Oct 24-26 The Third National Convention at DBCLC, Trissur, Kerala.
- 1998 Dec 04-06 The Fourth National Convention at Mumbai and Fr Sebastian Theckanath was Elected as the 2nd National Co-coordinator.
- 1998 Dec 20 Blessing of Nirmal Bhavan, a Home for Released Juvenile Home Boys by the Malabar Missionary Brothers at Thrissur, Kerala.
- 1999 Jan 08 Blessing of Karunyashramam, a Home for Released Women Prisoners by Sisters of the Adoration the Blessed Sacrament (SABS), Edappally, Kerala.
- 1999 Nov 12-14 The Fifth National Convention in Calcutta.

**2000-2009**

- 2001 Jun 01 Premodaya Home for Convicts’ Children by St Anne’s Sisters of Chennai, Bengaluru.
- 2001 Jun 06 Blessing of Arunima, A Home for Prisoners’ Children by Sisters of St Anne at Puteput, Chennai, Tamilnadu.
- 2000 Jun 11 Blessing of Snehanivas, a Home for Prisoners’ Children by the Sisters of St Elizabeth at Aluva, Kerala.
- 2000 Aug 24 PMI was Officially Recognized by the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI) under its Justice, Peace and Development Commission and Most Rev Peter Remigius became the First PMI Chairman.
- 2000 Oct 25-27 Sixth National Convention at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
- 2002 Feb 12 Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan Took Charge as the Third National Coordinator.
- 2002 May 04 Inauguration of Prison Quarters’ Ministry Adjacent to Central Prison Bengaluru.
- 2002 Oct 13-15 Seventh National Convention at Santhome Community Center, Chennai.



- 2002 Nov 03 PMI Received the Spirit of Assisi National Award by the Franciscan Centre for Peace and Dialogue, Karukutty, Kerala.
- 2003 May 13 Inauguration of the Reformatory Research and Documentation Centre (RRDC) in a Rented Building at Thrissur, Kerala and Launching of Reformatory Explorations: A Crimino-Psychological and Socio-Spiritual Journal.
- 2003 Jul 18 Inauguration of the North Regional Office and Appointment of Fr Joseph Kavalakkat VC as the First North Regional Coordinator.
- 2003 Aug 17 CBCI Decision to Celebrate Prison Ministry Sunday on every Second Sunday of August.
- 2004 Mar 27-28 All India Coordinators Meet, Delhi.
- 2004 Oct 10 Blessing of Karunalayam, a Home for Prisoners' Children by Augustinian Sisters (OSA) Punalur, Kerala.
- 2004 Nov 12-15 The Eighth National Convention at Bhopal, M.P.
- 2004 Dec 20 Launching of Prison Voice, the PMI National Monthly.
- 2005 Jun 01 Introduced Full Timers' Ministry.
- 2005 Jul 23 Launching the Mission for the Welfare of Indian Nationals in Foreign Prisons, Releasing of PMI Flag and PMI Anthem.
- 2007 May 30 Fr Josekutty Kalayil MST Took Charge as the Fourth National Coordinator.
- 2007 Nov 8-11 The Ninth National Convention, Mysore
- 2008 Jul 25 PMI National Delegates Met Pratibha Patil, the President of India and submitted the Memorandum to Abolish Capital Punishment in India.
- 2009 Jan 24-29 Fr Josekutty Kalayil MST, the PMI National Coordinator Participated in the ICCPPC International Plenary Meeting at Budapest, Hungary.
- 2009 Sep 03 Blessing of the Newly Purchased PMI National Office at Carmelaram, Bengaluru.
- 2010-2019**
- 2010 Oct 11-14 The Tenth National Convention and Silver Jubilee Celebration at St Thomas Ap Seminary, Kottayam, Kerala.
- 2011 May 21 Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan was Reappointed as the PMI National Coordinator.
- 2011 Aug 30 Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan was elected as the Asian Delegate of the International Commission for Prison Pastoral Care during the International Conference held in Cameroon.
- 2011 Nov 15-17 National Gathering of all the PMI Coordinators at Archbishop's House, Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- 2015 Dec 15 Blessing of Kolbe Home for Prisoners' Children, Bengaluru.
- 2017 April 07 Marie Pushpan's Girls Home for Prisoners' Children by Dominican Sisters, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- 2017 Aug 15 Blessing of Kolbe Home for Released Prisoners, Chennai, Tamilnadu.





- 2017 Nov 01 Purchasing of Karjat Land, Maharashtra.
- 2018 Feb 02-09 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva, the Auxiliary Bishop of Mumbai, Took Charge as the Second Chairman of PMI.
- 2018 Oct 23-26 12th National Convention, Guwahati.
- 2019 Jun 01 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS Took Charge as the 5th National Coordinator.
- 2019 Nov 7-8 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, the PMI National Coordinator presented a Paper on The Initiatives and Contributions of Prison Ministry India in the International Conference on Prison Pastoral Care Convened by the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.
- 2019 Nov 19 PMI National Level Silver Jubilee Celebration, Bengaluru and Relaunching of Reformative Explorations, A Quarterly for Prisoners' Reformation and Rehabilitation.
- 2019 Nov 20 Blessing of Reformative Research and Documentation Centre (RRDC), Bengaluru.
- 2019 Dec 22 Fr Francis Kodiyan Launched PMI Special Task Forces
- 2020-2029**
- 2020 Feb 1-4 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS Participated in the FABC Preparatory Meeting Held in Cambodia.
- 2020 Feb 12-19 Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS Presented PMI Report to the CBCI Plenary Assembly at St John's Medical College.
- 2020 Jul 15 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva Blessed Van Thuan Home for Released Men Prisoners, Bengaluru.
- 2020 Jul 15 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva Blessed PMI Documentation Centre, Bengaluru.
- 2020 Jul 15 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva Blessed PMI Volunteers' Training Centre, Bengaluru
- 2020 Sep 13 Launched PMI Online Retreat
- 2020 Oct 02 Fr Varghese Karipperry Inaugurated PMI Burning Bush Spiritual Banquet
- 2020 Oct 09 Launched Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated Worldwide.
- 2020 Dec 09 Most Rev Peter Machado Consecrated the RRDC Chapel and Blessed the Hall.
- 2020 Dec 09 Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath Launched Ruby Jubilee Projects such as 4 New Kolbe Homes, 40 Houses for Released Prisoners, 40 PMI Special Task Forces, 400 Scholarships to Prisoners' Children, 400 Releasing Prisoners
- 2021 Sep 14 Blessing of St Antony's Home for Prisoners' Children at Kankavli, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
- 2021 Nov 20 Blessing of Kolbe Home for Girls, Patan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- 2021 Dec 8-10 PMI Ruby Jubilee Concluding Celebrations, Bangalore.
- 2021 Dec 9 Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva Blessed Ruby Jubilee Memorial Annex, Bangalore.



# Prison Ministry India Publications

## Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS

When Prison Ministry India celebrates its ruby jubilee an introspection into its publications is worthwhile. Let's be glad to know that PMI published 42 books and periodicals in the past 40 years. PMI ruby jubilee invites us to know and read the PMI publications and thereby to be enlightened with the spirituality, history, theology, and the methodology of prisoners' reformation, rehabilitation, and reintegration. Meditative reading of these books would certainly elevate our thoughts to divine providence, to do impossible things with the assistance of God, and would help us understand how God who sent His only begotten son in search of the lost. In the past 40 years God took care of PMI on eagle's wings. Let's make and write history of PMI for the next 40 years by writing our prison ministry experiences.

### First Decade of PMI 1980-1989

1. First Brochure with the Picture of St John Paul II visiting Rabibbia Prison Rome, going to the cell of Mehmet Ali Agca and catching hold of his hands saying "I forgive You", Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kottayam 1986.
2. First Booklet with songs and prayers for the first All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage, Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kottayam 1986.
3. Pulari – The Dawn, Quarterly (Malayalam), Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kottayam 1987.
4. Thadavarayile Sangheetham – Prison Melody (Malayalam) Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kottayam 1987.

### Second Decade of PMI 1990-1999

5. Karipperry, Varghese, Camp Kalikal - Group Dynamics (Malayalam) Jesus Fraternity Publications Kottayam 1988. Second Decade of PMI 1990-1999
6. The Echo - Quarterly, Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kochi 1991.
7. The Echo Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 1995.

8. Kodiyan, Francis, Religious Conversion Trajectory, PMI Publications, Bangalore 1998.
9. Kodiyan, Francis, Conversion Trajectory of Charles de Foucauld, PMI Publications, Bangalore 1998.

### Third Decade of PMI 2000-2009

10. Karipperry, Varghese – Latika, Prisoners our Own Brethren, PMI Publications, Bangalore 1998. Third Decade of PMI 2000-2009
11. Karipperry, Varghese, Star of Hope in Dark Cells, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2000.
12. Kodiyan, Francis, Saga of Divine Providence: The History of Jesus Fraternity and Prison Ministry India, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2000.
13. Karipperry, Varghese, Mochanayatra (Malayalam), PMI Publications, Bangalore 2000.
14. PMI 6th National Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore – 2000.
15. Karipperry, Varghese, Aantharika Saukyathinte Suvarnna Thakkol (Malayalam), PMI Publications, Bangalore 2000.
16. Pazhakaran, Latika, Jewels in the Dustbin, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2001.
17. Kodiyan, Francis, My Lord and My God. The Ecclesial Identity of the Syromalabar Church, Kalyan Diocese 2002.
18. Reformative Explorations: A Psycho-Spiritual and Crimino-Social Quarterly on Reformation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration, PMI Publications, Thrissur 2005.
19. Kochupurackal, Sebastian, O Sweet Suffering, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2003.
20. Pulickal, Jose, Jesus the Dynamic Way: Towards the Ministry for the Least, the Last and the Lost, Claretian Publications, Bangalore 2004.
21. Theckanath, Sebastian, Beyond the Iron Bars, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2004.
22. Teresia, Joyce, The Sparkling Diamond, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2005.
23. George, Jemma, Let Prison Walls Fall, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2005.
24. PMI National Level Ministry 10th Anniversary Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2005.

25. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, Prison Ministry India: Volunteers' Guide, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2006.
  26. Vimochanam (Malayalam) Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kochi 2006.
  27. Kodiyan, Francis, Rainbow: Theological Foundations of Prison Ministry India, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2007.
  28. PMI 7th National Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2007.
  29. Kodiyan, Francis, (Ed), The Eucharist: An Antidote to Death Culture, Sanathana Publications Thamarassery 2007.
  30. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, Prison Ministry India: Volunteers Handbook, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2007.
  31. PMI 9th National Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2007.
  32. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, The Justice that Heals not that Kills, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2008.
  33. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, Create Homes Not Cells, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2008.
  34. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, Undertrials in Criminal justice System of India, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2009.
- Fourth Decade of PMI 2010-2019**
35. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, I Read Not Books but Prisoners, PMI Publications Bangalore 2010.
  36. George, Jemma, Can Any Good Come from Prisons, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2010.
  37. PMI 10th National Convention Souvenir, Jesus Fraternity Publications, Kottayam 2010.
  38. Karipperry, Varghese, Nalla Idayante Vazhitharayilude, (Malayalam) Sarathi Publications Angamaly 2013.
  39. Prison Voice, Monthly, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2014.
  40. PMI 11 National Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2014.
  41. Vadakumpadan, Sebastian, Best Practices of Prison Ministry India, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2015.
  42. PMI Karnataka 5th State Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Mysore 2016.
  43. Snehashramam Trivandrum Silver Jubilee Souvenir, Jesus Fraternity Publications, Trivandrum 2017.
  44. Kodiyan, Francis, Love Bomb: Prisoners' Reformation Trajectory, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2018.
  45. Karipperry, Varghese, Prabhatha Bhakshanam Vachanathilude (Malayalam), Santi Samaj, Thrissur 2018.
  46. Theckanath, Sebastian, Petals of Life, Cochin 2018.
  47. PMI 12 National Convention Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2018.
  48. Kodiyan, Francis, The Lost: An Eightfold Path for Prisoners' Reformation, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2019.
  49. PMI National Office Silver Jubilee Souvenir, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2019.
- Fifth Decade of PMI 2020-2029**
50. Fidelis, Jeevodaya – A Gift of God: Glimpses of 25 Years, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2020.
  51. Sheeja, Lini, Sound of Silence; Way of the Cross, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2020.
  52. Kodiyan, Francis, Warriors of Prison Ministry India, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2020.
  53. Sheeja, Lini, Redeemed Prisoner, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2021.
  54. Kodiyan, Francis, Prison Ministry Sunday – Pastoral Letters, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2021.
  55. Kodiyan, Francis, Popes to Prisoners, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2021.
  56. Sheeja, Lini, Prison Ministry – The Dreamers' Mission, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2021.
  57. Kodiyan, Francis, Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Reintegration, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2021.
  58. PMI Directory, PMI Publications, Bangalore 2021.



## PMI Rehabilitation Centers Homes for Prisoners' Children

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### Rehabilitation Centers for Men

1. Snehashramam, Vettukad PO, Thrissur 680 014, Kerala; Director – Fr Sunil, Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (SCJ), Tel. 7558914919; Estd 1 October 1991.
2. Santhinivas, Pathadipalam, Changampuzha PO, Edappally - 682033 Kerala; Director – Fr Jos Kidangayil, Claretian Congregation (CMF) Tel. 9961272928; Estd 6 August 1995.
3. Snehatheeram, Market Road, YMCA, Alappuzha – 688 001, Kerala; Director - Fr Thobias, Tel 9526389005.
4. Kolbe Home, KG Kandigai, Tirutanni 631205, Tamilnadu, Director - Fr Thomas, Society of St Eugene De Mazenod (SDM), Tel 894 080 3689, Estd 2017.

### Rehabilitation Centers for Women

1. Snehashramam, Monvila, Kulathoor PO, Thiruvananthapuram 695583, Kerala; Director – Sr Beena, Sisters of the Poor of St Catherine of Sienna (SDP) Tel 8078818239; Estd 11 October 1992.
2. Jeevodaya Ashram for Women, Daddakannalli, Janatha Colony, Carmelaram PO, Bangalore 560035, Karnataka, Director – Sr Clara, Holy Cross Congregation, Tel. 0802 843 9926; Estd 22 January 1995.
3. Karunasadan, Kannur, Kerala, Ursulines Mary Immaculate (UMI), Estd 2004.
4. Vishwa Jyothi, Guntur Andra Pradesh, Sisters of St Anne's of Guntur (CSSA), Estd 2004.
5. Mercy Home, Karnool – DSS Sisters, Estd 2021



### Homes for Prisoners' Children - Boys

1. 1) Snehadeepam, Inchiyani, Kanjirappilly Kottayam 686512, Kerala. Director – Sr Beena, Holy Spirit Congregation, Tel. 94479 33675, Estd 3 July 1994.
2. Kolbe Home, 52 Thomas Layout, Sarjapur Road, Carmelaram, Bangalore -560035, Karnataka. Director – Sr Basil, Satya Seva Catechist Sisters (SCS) Tel 8296304931, Estd 2016.
3. St Antony's Home, Kankavly, Maharashtra. Sr Phillipine Holy Cross Sisters – 9764692996. Estd 2021.

### Homes for Prisoners' Children - Girls

1. Asha Sadan, A 43, Sector 33, Noida, UP 201 303, Franciscan Clarist Congregation, Estd 3 May 1977.
2. Karunyashram, Thoppil, Thrikkakkara PO, Kochi 682021, Kerala, Director – Sr Anne Maria from Sisters of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SABS) Tel. 04842 425270; Estd 8 January 1999.
3. Premodaya, St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, St John's Church Road, Bangalore 560 005, Karnataka; Director – Sr Raji, Sisters of St Anne's, Tel. 080 555 4683.
4. Jeevan Jyothy, St Joseph's Convent, Anavilasam PO, Idukki – 685535, Kerala, Director – Sr Savio, Augustinian Congregation, Tel 9747627889.
5. Bonal Bhavan, Kadumeni PO, Kasargod – 670511, Kerala, Director – Sr Tresa Chacko, Sisters of Charity of St Anne, Tel 8606350100.
6. Marie Pushpan's Home, Ranchi, Jharkand, Director – Sr Jini, Order of Dominicans (OP), Tel 7254043957, Estd 2017.
7. Ashakiran, Ranji, Jharkhand. Director Sr Julia - 7903243808
8. Kolbe Home, Patan, Gujarat. Director - Sr Vidya SMMI, Tel 6356478519. Estd 2021.

# PMI SPECIAL TASK FORCES

## Commander in Chief – Fr Michael Francis – 9923963775

No	STF	Coordinator	Telephone
01	Abducted People's Releasers (APR)	Mrs Rosily Varghese	9850001438
02	Anointed Prisoners' Consolers (APC)	Sr Jancy Chakiath MPV	8281164603
03	Anticorruption and Antibribery Warriors (AAW)	Mr Walter Kample	8407986268
04	Anti-Drug Trafficking Warriors ATW)	Fr Sebastian Vechookarottu	9605887708
05	Antifascist Prisoners Reformers (APR)	Miss Anumol	8792883824
06	Antihuman Trafficking Brigadiers (ATB)	Mr Ashok Kumar	7600041045
07	Blackmailing Prisoners Reformers (BPR)	Sr Beena SDP	8078818239
08	Burglars Transformers (BT)	Sr Shiny SDS	9902342608
09	Cybercrime Prisoners Redeemers (CPR)	Sr Philo SABS	9446070912
10	Dacoits Redeemers (DR)	Mrs Rebecca Pinto	9673910327
11	Death Row Commandos (DRC)	Lt Col Jennifer James	9566219181
12	Espionage Prisoners Reformers (EPR)	Mrs Nancy Misquith	9028587537
13	Foreign Prisoners' Expatriation (FPE)	Mr Jesu Raja	9840040562
14	Gangsters Reformers (GR)	Sr Gracy SJL	8129140602
15	Genocide Prisoners Redeemers (GPR)	Dr Rosily Thomas	9833677173
16	Hackers Transformers (HT)	Ms Fay McKinley	9833283792
17	Hired-Killers Liberating Squadron (HLS)	Fr Alexander Kureekkattil CMF	9447002779
18	Hooligans Reformers (HR)	Mrs Vinita Britto	9822148798
19	Innocent Prisoners' Redeemers (IPR)	Sr Lini Sheeja MSC	9880022209
20	Juvenile Delinquents Reformers (JDR)	Br Pradeep Anthony OFM	6362217558
21	Lynchers Reformers (LR)	Sr Udaya CIC	7397555230
22	Mafia Redeemers (MR)	Fr Dion Isaac	9949158988
23	Military Prisoners Reformers (MPR)	Mrs Latha Appachan	9320048032
24	Murderers Transformers (MT)	Sr Jolly SAB	8660118147
25	Paedophiles Reformers (PR)	Mrs Eunice Fernandes	9049413234
26	Pirates Transformers (PT)	Sr Celia UMI	9945716052
27	Political Prisoners Transformers (PPT)	Mr Raymond Osta	9431646362
28	Prisoners' Children Educators (PCE)	Mrs Veera Pinto	9035227000
29	Prison Police Reformers (PPR)	Sr Anisha SD	8281063290



30	Psychiatric Prisoners Comforters (PPC)	Mr Antony Jacob	9422308023
31	Prisoners' Releasing Squad (PRS)	Sr Adele Korah SCCG Mr Antony Jacob	9606634230 9422308023
32	Purgatory Souls' Redeemers (PSR)	Sr Lini Sheeja MSC	9880022209
33	Serial-Killers Reformers (SR)	Sr Fulmani LDFX	9638454172
34	Sex Offenders Healers (SOH)	Sr Jobina UFS	8132807248
35	Sick Prisoners Healers (SPH)	Sr Shiji SCSC	8435009885
36	Smugglers Transformers (ST)	Sr Dollin Maria FCC	8281380563
37	Terrorists Saving Squad (TSS)	Fr Michael Francis	7775051762
38	Undertrial Prisoners' Releasers (UPR)	Mr Edmond Frank	7975369402
39	Victims Redeemers (VR)	Mr Rajendra Dushing	9423450207
40	War-crime Prisoners Reformers (WPR)	Mr Justine Kottaram	9449047364

**PRISON MINISTRY INDIA**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> PMI NATIONAL CONFERENCE SPIRITUAL PREPARATION**  
**PMI DIOCESAN FASTING PRAYER DAYS CONTINUED**

**2.5 Jharkhand**

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
100	Daltonganj	Fr Napoleon	9445355578	10 January 2022
101	Dumka	Fr Vernard S J	9430774150	11 January 2022
102	Gumla	Fr Cyprian	8340536169	12 January 2022
103	Hazaribagh	Sr Jyothi FCC	9973189167	13 January 2022
104	Jamshedpur	Sr Usha DHC	8340590016	14 January 2022
105	Khunti	Sr Alice OSU	6270700440	15 January 2022
106	Ranchi	Sr Julia OSU	7903243808	16 January 2022
107	Simdega	Fr Kishor	7250616067	17 January 2022

**2.6 Madhya Pradesh**

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
108	Bhopal	Sr Olive PSOL	9867852244	18 January 2022
109	Gwalior	Fr Arokyadas	9179785896	19 January 2022
110	Indore	Fr Clarence SVD	9425058037	20 January 2022
111	Jabalpur	Fr Ranjit	9770320337	21 January 2022
112	Jhambua	Fr Peter Katara	7869272366	22 January 2022
113	Khandwa	Jayen Alex	9406859682	23 January 2022
114	Sagar	Fr Sinto	8435995522	24 January 2022
115	Satna	Fr Joji Puliampally	3312488856	25 January 2022
116	Ujjain	Fr Jose MST	9158073627	26 January 2022

**2.7 Maharashtra, Dadar and Nagar Haveli**

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
117	Amaravathi	Fr Onil Gonsalves	9673387859	27 January 2022

118	Aurangabad	Fr Michael Francis	7775051762	28 January 2022
119	Chanda	Fr Jobin	9689265929	29 January 2022
120	Khadki	Fr Melwin Mathew	9645232777	30 January 2022
121	Kalyan	Fr Joby	9004724259	31 January 2022
122	Mumbai	Fr Glasten Gonsalves	9967450026	1 February 2022
123	Nagpur	Fr Thomas Joseph	7588027203	2 February 2022
124	Nashik	Mr Walter Kamble	8407986268	3 February 2022
125	Pune	Fr Wilfred Fernandes	9822066675	4 February 2022
126	Sindhudurg	Fr Manvel D'silva	9420205111	5 February 2022
127	Vasai	Fr Jacob Koli	9850410024	6 February 2022

### 2.8 Odisha

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
128	Balasore	Fr Jesu Antony	7750834032	7 February 2022
129	Berhampur	Sr Shanti Pulickal SCC	9348325235	8 February 2022
130	Cuttack - Bhubaneswar	Fr Mohan Naik	9438101558	9 February 2022
131	Rayagoda	Fr Ranjan Sabhapathi OCD	6370955751	10 February 2022
132	Rourkela	Fr Stephen Barla	8895299068	11 February 2022
133	Sambalpur	Fr Victor Timothy	9437057279	12 February 2022

### 2.9 West Bengal, Sikkim & Andaman Nicobar Islands

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
134	Asansol	Fr Harshavardhan	8617521385	13 February 2022
135	Bagdogra	Fr Felix Pinto	9932033549	14 February 2022
136	Baruipur	Fr Soumin	7890331745	15 February 2022
137	Calcutta	Sr Mary Lobo	9775488416	16 February 2022
138	Darjeeling	Sr Jane	7076217553	17 February 2022
139	Jalpaiguri	Fr Joseph Kisku		18 February 2022
140	Krishnanagar	Sr Anna Maria	9475926141	19 February 2022
141	Port Blair	Sr Flora	9475920942	20 February 2022
142	Raiganj	Fr Marcus Mardi Fr Sanjit Kullu	9933574391 7703844058	21 February 2022

### 3. PMI NORTH REGION

#### 3.1 Delhi and Haryana

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
143	Delhi	Fr Susai Sebastian	9650755233	22 February 2022
144	Faridabad	Fr George Peter	7999855315	23 February 2022
145	Gurgaon			24 February 2022

#### 3.2 Himachal Pradesh

##### State Coordinator

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
146	Simla & Chandigarh			25 February 2022

#### 3.3 Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
147	Jammu & Srinagar	Fr Antony Peppin	9419143382	26 February 2022

#### 3.4 Punjab

No	Diocese	Coordinator	Telephone	Prayer Days
148	Jalandhar	Fr Sijith	7837949331	27 February 2022



# PMI Ruby Jubilee Concluding Celebrations 8-10 December 2021 Report

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**Sr Amala DC**

## **Recollection Day**

The Ruby Jubilee of Prison Ministry India was celebrated with great enthusiasm and exuberance on 8-10 December 2021 at Ivy Rosa Resort adjacent to PMI National office, Bangalore. The light which Fr Francis Kodian MCBS and Fr Varghese Karipperry had lit on 8 December 1981 continues to illumine millions. PMI Ruby Jubilee Concluding Celebrations began with the Eucharistic adoration at 5PM. This was an opportunity to introspect on the glorious achievements of PMI in the past 40 years. Sr Fidelis devoutly led this adoration in which all participants praised and thanked God for the unfailing mercy and love of the Eucharistic Lord and asked forgiveness for the unfaithfulness in the past 40 years.

## **Recollection**

Fr Varghese Karipperry enlightened everybody by his inspiring message on the genesis of Prison Ministry at St Thomas Apostolic Seminary in 1981 and its development and growth into various Indian states. He recalled how the Lord miraculously led PMI on eagle's wings. The solemn inaugural Holy Eucharist was presided over by Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D'Silva, PMI Chairman. PMI Founder Fathers and other priests concelebrated.

Fr Wilfred Fernades, the PMI Central regional coordinator, delivered the holily. Immediately after a sumptuous dinner, the scintillating cultural program emceed by Fr Michael Francis began. This included some of the foot-tapping dances from different rehabilitation centers, Jeevodaya-girls, FSM-Girls and Kolbe Home boys. The whole assembly wished Sr Amala DC, PMI National secretary festal greetings. Sr Adele Korah presented the power point highlighting the important events in the last four decades in the history of PMI. Mr & Mrs Jolly and Nimmy, Founder Directors of Jesus Friends shared their life experiences in redeeming the lost on the streets and hired killers. The entire cultural program was anchored by Sr Jobina UFS, PMI North East Regional Coordinator. The program came to an end with vote of thanks proposed by Sr Clara and concluding prayer by Fr Thomas Erambil from Arunachal Pradesh.

## **Thanksgiving Day**

The day of thanksgiving began on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7am with the morning prayer led by Lt Col Jenifer James. At 9am thanksgiving Holy Mass was solemnized by Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D'Silva. Founder Fathers, former national coordinators, and other priests concelebrated. PMI national executive members, state coordinators, special task force coordinators, rehabilitation centres directors and directresses, seminary unit coordinators and other distinguished delegates from different walks of life from across India participated in the thanksgiving Holy Mass.

### Jubilee Gathering

The emcee for the public meeting was Mrs Ivy Immanuel. The chief guests namely, Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D'Silva, Rev Fr Varghese Karipperry, Rev Fr Francis Kodyan, Rev Fr Benny Pachanal, Rev Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan, Rev Fr Sebastian Thekkanath, Rev Fr Josekutty Kalayil, Sr Fidelis HCM, Sr Amala DC, Mrs Veera Pinto were invited to the dais and all of them were honoured with shawls and Mementos by Fr Francis. Bishop Allwyn honored Fr Francis Kodyan MCBS. Fr Benny Pachanal, PMI assistant national coordinator gave an apt introduction on the genesis of PMI. Sr Amala DC invoked God's blessings by singing a hymn to the Holy Spirit. Rev Fr Francis Kodyan MCBS made everyone feel comfortable and infused in them the right spirit of enthusiasm by a loving and spirited welcome address.


In his presidential address, Most Rev Bishop Allwyn said that we have to live with a different reality. We live in a digital world. We will have to think how to communicate, how to reach out, how to have meetings in a digital world. How to really communicate what is worth and how to effectively communicate what we are doing. We will be able to meet often to think on the national level of planning and to think in a different way. In prison ministry, we will have to think of new ways of how to deal with this new reality. Another reality is fake news. A lot of fake news is going from one end to the other end. How do we deal with this as members of the prison ministry? The whole

reality is changing. What will be the new normal in the future? We must congratulate Fr Francis Kodyan MCBS, for during this pandemic, he and his team have thought of new ways. I would like to congratulate him and the staff for continuing with our prison ministry. Many organizations and many groups have failed. They have been inactive. But he has been taking the Prison Ministry India forward.

Bishop Allwyn distributed prizes to the winners of quiz competition - Sr Lini Sheeja MSC, Sr Siyamala and Lt Col Jennifer James. Honorariums were given to Sr Adele Korah, Mr & Mrs Jolly Nimmy founder directors of Jesus' Friends, and Br Mathew Albin, founder director of Shanthi Bhavan. Felicitations were delivered by Rev Fr Varghese Karipperry PMI Co-founder, Fr Sebastian Vadakumpadan, Fr Sebastian Thekkanath, Fr Josekutty Kalayil MST, the former PMI national coordinators and Sr Fidelis. Most Rev Bishop Allwyn D'Silva released the books - *Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Reintegration* edited by Rev Dr Francis Kodyan MCBS, *Prison Ministry: The Dreamers' Mission* by Sr Lini Sheeja MSC, *Ruby Jubilee Souvenir*, *PMI Directory* and *PMI Calendar 2022*. Sr Amala DC, PMI national secretary proposed vote of thanks. Meeting came to an end with a concluding prayer and Angelus by Mrs Veera Pinto, the PMI Bangalore unit secretary.

### Kolbe Home Visit

After lunch at 2PM all participants visited Kolbe home, Van Thuan Home, RRDC, chapel for PMI Incessant Intercessory Invocation for the Incarcerated, and PMI volunteers Training and Documentation



Center. Sr Basil and Fr Jaison Puthenpurakkal MST explained the diverse activities of Kolbe home and RRDC through power point presentation.

### **National Office Annex Blessing**

At 3PM all participants came to PMI national office at 52 Thomas Layout, Carmelaram, Bangalore to take part in the blessing ceremony of the newly constructed Annex. Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva blessed the annex in the presence of the PMI founders, former national coordinators, regional coordinators, national executive members, state coordinators and so on. Bishop Allwyn D'Silva appreciated Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS the PMI national coordinator and his team for raising fund for the construction and thereby making the jubilee celebrations meaningful, relevant and lasting. After the blessing PMI books and calendars were distributed to the participants.

### **PMI Synodality**

At 5PM the PMY Synodality meeting began with a prayer led by Fr Pasala Lahasthaya. Words of welcome were accorded by Fr Francis, who also opined that as PMI Volunteers, we have to shoulder a responsibility to convey the voice of prisoners to the synod. To hear the groans of prisoners and to set free those who are doomed to die, to hear the voice of those condemned to death. He also shared his experience at Tihar Jail where there are prisoners languishing behinds the bars without trial even after 12 years because of their inability to pay heavy fees for lawyers.



## **CONCLUDING CELEBRATIONS**

Bishop Allwyn began his talk on synodality explaining the logo of the synod shown by Power Point presentation. There is a large tree with full of wisdom and light which represents the cross of Christ. The Church is full of vitality and it carries the Eucharist which is always in the centre of all celebrations and shines like the sun. The open hand suggests the wings of the Holy Spirit. Synodality means working together and walking together. There is no hierarchy, the bishop and the sisters are in the middle. The journey is led by the children and the youth and a disabled person in the wheel chair. Bishops and nuns are not in front of them but among them. Walking together is listening. He ended by saying that the synod is not a program, it is a process. We need to listen and discern and there shall be communion, participation and mission. Sate coordinators, PMI Special Task Forces coordinators, directresses of homes for prisoners' children, and seminary unit coordinators shared their views on syondality. Fr Dion Isaac, PMI Telangana State Coordinator gave the concluding remarks. Sr Fidelis proposed vote of thanks and Sr Anisha SD led the concluding prayer.

At 7PM Sr Jolly from Kollar prayerfully led the Eucharistic adoration. This was followed by supper and colourful cultural program. Fr Glasten from Mumbai anchored the program. We had the fabulous performance of dances by Augustinian novices, Charity Sisters' aspirants, CRI brothers and Sisters



## CONCLUDING CELEBRATIONS

and a melodious song by Mr Raymond Osta, Patna. Br Mathew Albin shared his life experiences and how he led Shanti Bhavan for beggars and mental patients in the last 27 years depending on divine providence. Lt Col Jenifer James proposed vote of thanks. The program concluded with PMI National Anthem led by Mr Rajendra from Aurangabad and final blessing was given by Fr Wilfred Fernandes from Pune.

### The Day to Dream

On 10<sup>th</sup> morning, we had the solemn Eucharistic celebration by Bishop Allwyn along with the Founder Fathers - Fr Francis and Fr Varghese and all other fathers. Fr Dion Isaac delivered the homily. After the Mass Sr Lini Sheeja MSC presented the power point on our journey from Ruby to golden jubilee. She explained the golden jubilee projects for the next ten years.

### National Executive Meeting

After the breakfast at 0930 PMI national executive meeting was held under the chairmanship of Most Rev Allwyn D'Silva. With lunch, the Ruby Jubilee celebrations came to a memorable end. Glory, honour, praise and thanksgiving to Lord Almighty.

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,[b] praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” (Lk 2,14).

## PMI Golden Jubilee Prayer

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank and praise you for your beloved Son our Lord Jesus Christ who came in search of sinners and died on the cross for our salvation. Beloved Father, we thank and glorify you for our Founder Fathers – Fr Francis and Fr Varghese who brought to light the spiritual movement Prison Ministry India for the release, reformation, rehabilitation and redemption of prisoners. As we prepare for the golden jubilee of Prison Ministry India we praise and thank you for the abundant blessings showered upon brethren behind the bars and on PMI volunteers. Father God, bless all the incarcerated brethren, their families, victims and authorities, bless all those who served in PMI offices, especially our bishops, priests, religious and lay volunteers. In a special way sanctify our founders, chairman, national, regional, state, zonal, diocesan, and unit coordinators, secretaries, rehabilitation centres’ staff, special task forces and seminary unit coordinators and all others who dedicated their lives for the integral human development of prisoners. Bless all our benefactors and those who collaborated with us in redeeming prisoners. Merciful father, we ask your forgiveness for our unfaithfulness, negligence and sins of omission. Have mercy on us, sanctify us with your precious blood, fill us with your Holy Spirit, and strengthen us with your Word and the Eucharist so that we may be able to your mission for the Lost with added fervor and fruitfulness. Bless all those who work hard for the realization of PMI Golden Jubilee projects and assist us in various ways. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

# PRISON MINISTRY INDIA RUBY JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS - 1981 - 2021



