

Feb 2024

IGNITE

St. Ignatius of Loyola, Vasai

**Come Into My Heart,
Lord Jesus**



Edition 3

Pope Francis, while referring to Jesus confronting the devil in the temptations in the desert, said “You cannot dialogue with the Devil. You can only oppose him.” Being a Jesuit, Francis must have picked this spiritual insight from St. Ignatius of Loyola.

AGERA CONTRA means *To Act Against*. Ignatius of Loyola gives us this powerful weapon to take on temptations in our spiritual life.

Initially in his life, Ignatius was a man of the world having his share of vices and addictions such as pride, vanity, lust for power, gambling and even violence. These were part and parcel of his life till that cannonball shattered his knee. The rest is history and his story.

During his recovery and his subsequent conversion, when he tried to give up these worldly pleasures, he was tormented by them to the point of suicide. To battle these demons, Ignatius plunged headlong into prayer- buttressing it with fasting- thus surrendering everything to His Will. He then challenged the devil with “Wretched being, can you promise me a single hour of life”. And with this we are told he overcame the temptation and remained in peace. Most bullies when challenged are cowards and the devil is one such but one needs steadfast faith.

Ignatius guided many in the many in the spiritual way, one such being Francis Xavier. His fabled question, “Francis, what will it profit you if you gain the world and lose your soul?” and his guidance brought about a profound transformation in Francis.

So as we approach the season of lent, realizing our addictions or temptations, both internal and external, let us begin by sincerely asking ourselves do I really want to let go of this evil/ vice ? If so, with God’s grace and your will you can STOP.

However, here come a very important point- the space vacated by your former vice/ addiction must be filled with something Good – for yourself and for others. Gradually you will be filled from within with that Freedom and Joy which our Lord alone can give.

And let a new You emerge, as Ignatius would say **For God’s Greater Glory**.

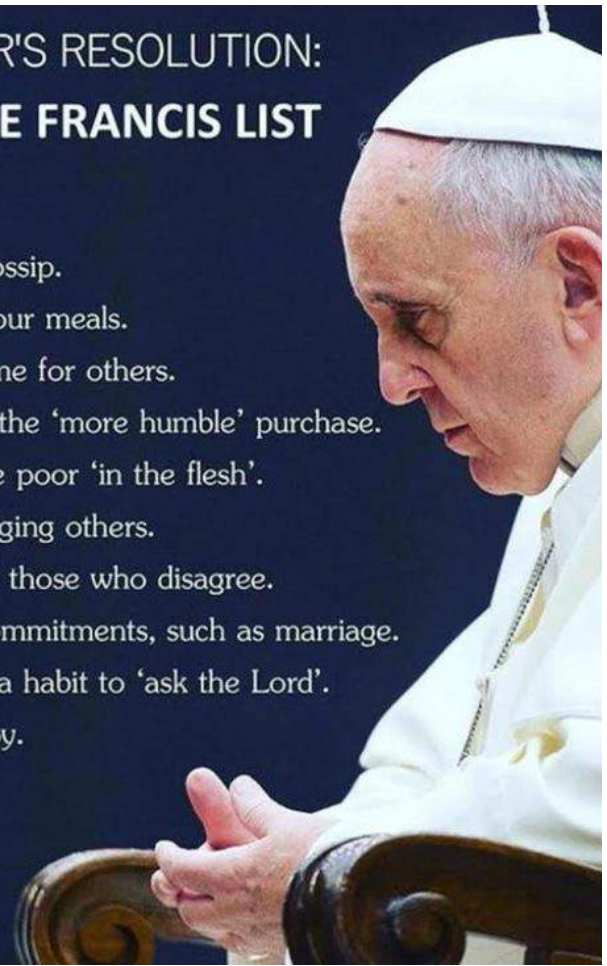
Fr. Vincent Vaz SJ

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: THE POPE FRANCIS LIST

1. Don't gossip.
2. Finish your meals.
3. Make time for others.
4. Choose the 'more humble' purchase.
5. Meet the poor 'in the flesh'.
6. Stop judging others.
7. Befriend those who disagree.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage.
9. Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord'.
10. Be happy.

Paradiso

Credit: rappler/nbcnewsdotcom



As our dear children received their First Holy Communion, they shared with us, their feelings about receiving Jesus in their hearts through the Holy Eucharist.

I was overwhelmed and I felt closer to Jesus

Thank you Jesus for nourishing my body and soul through communion.

I felt like the Holy Spirit has entered my heart, mind and soul.

I felt very happy to receive Jesus for the first time.

I felt closer to Jesus and nourished by his Body and Blood.

I was happy to receive Jesus, I made new friends and am now part of the Church Community.

I felt very happy to receive Jesus for the first time.

I feel blessed to receive Jesus for the first time.

I felt refreshed and that something inside me changed. It made me happy and I feel closer to God.

I felt it was a miracle to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. It tasted like bread and wine but it is really and truly Jesus' Body and Blood.

I feel immensely blessed. the Feeling of receiving Jesus is very special.

I felt the presence of Jesus in my heart and his love gripping me strongly.

The Paradox of *Love and Suffering*

"Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works" (Heb 10:24)

Having celebrated the Christmas season recently, we will soon approach the season of Lent. This year Ash Wednesday falls on St Valentine's day - a day associated with love. Lent also corresponds to suffering - a difficult topic. But for Christians, it's a subject that's difficult to avoid. This is encapsulated in the words of Jesus, "Take up your Cross daily and follow me", highlighting the call for daily sacrifice and dedication.

During the forty-day Lenten season, Christians are encouraged to contemplate the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus, and relate it to their own personal suffering. The aim is to find a spiritual significance in suffering, a task that may prove challenging. Despite the difficulty, the endeavour is seen as a noble pursuit, potentially deepening the spiritual connection between suffering and spirituality. It is through enduring hardships that we acquire wisdom, develop empathy, and gain a deeper understanding of the world and ourselves.

Experiencing pain and suffering can sometimes hinder spiritual practices such as prayer. The distractions and focus disruptions caused by pain make it challenging to engage fully in any form of spiritual activity. However, pain and suffering can be transformative, fostering a greater level of compassion in individuals. Personal experiences of hardship can make one more aware of the potential hidden struggles of others, whether they are visible or not. Such experiences can also increase one's empathy towards the less fortunate, such as the homeless or hungry.



Jayashree Mendes

Life's time is precious and should be used for discerning and performing good deeds in God's love. The Church, in this context, is continually growing towards Christ's full maturity. Valentine's Day is associated with love, but it also carries a connotation of suffering for some. Love, in its purest form, is not devoid of pain and heartache. Thus, Valentine's Day serves as a poignant reminder of love's dual nature - its capacity to heal and to hurt.

Parish Events

Our expectant mothers bring Baby Jesus into our Church on Christmas Day



Beneath the Stars



When I was hungry you gave me to eat
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

though the storm clouds darken the sky'



FAMILY DAY
2023



Children making their Christmas Star



Some quiet time and reflection during the Confirmation Retreat in December



Our Confirmation students cooled off with a nimbu paani after exploring several of the ruined churches in Vasai Fort

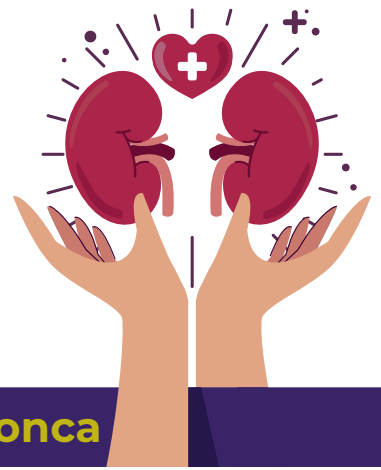



On behalf of the Parish Team we thank you for your generous contribution. **WE HAVE COMPLETED THE ROOF.**



Twinned to
Mission Uplat

Don't Take Your Organs to Heaven - Heaven Knows We Need Them Here!





**THE FEDERATION OF
ORGAN AND BODY DONATION**
601, Kailashdham, G.V. Scheme Road No. 4, Mulund (E), Mumbai 400081
Founder President: Purushottam Pawar 9822049675

www.organdonation.net.in

CANCER PATIENT'S BODY DONATED

- Awareness in the society about organ donation is increased.
- A spontaneous response received from the Mahadani family.

One more successful body donation
at Vasai (Mumbai)

Marian Mendonca (Shanti Interiors Vasai) Left to meet the Lord on 16th Nov 2023.

Just before the six-month mark, his bladder cancer infection was inadvertently detected. The donation looked questionable due to this contraindication. The Nair Hospital's anatomy department informed us that, upon special request, they were permitted to accept the body as a donation.

Dr.Yuvraj Bhosle Sir, the head of anatomy, Laxman Dhuri, Dr.Sneha Sharma, and Jony Menezes are all greatly appreciated for their invaluable support.


What an incredible family having an extensive record of transforming society! Despite their profound grief and sorrow over their father's death, the siblings Felice, George, Alphonso, Diana, and Shanti determined as their own to carry out their father's desire of body Donation.

My highest Regards to देह दानी, महा दानी Marian ji and entire Mendoca family.

Purushottam Pawar (President)

God knows. Organs are needed on earth, not in heaven..

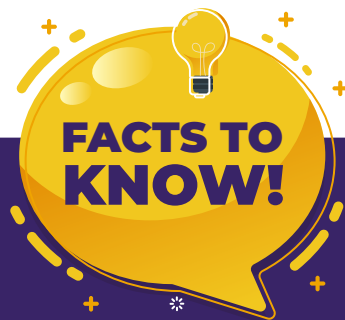
16/11/2023



Body Donor

Marian Mendonca

A parishioner from St. Ignatius of Loyola, made the noble decision to donate his body after his death.



The person's body can be sent to any hospital where they have a medical college.
<https://www.organindia.org/body-donation/>

Zonal Events

"The Holy Family" & "Santa"
Accompanied The Members Of
Zone 5 "Christ The King" For Carol
Singing This Christmas !!



Zone 4 Picnic



Zone 13 Carol Singing



Zone 8 Carol Singing





BORN TO LIFE

Riya Jadhav Baptised On 14th October, 2023
Samaria Dias Baptised On 15th October, 2023
Divisha Rodrigues Baptised On 24th October, 2023
Seema Sharma Baptised On 5th November, 2023
Bhavesh Pawar Baptised On 5th November, 2023
Akyaan George Baptised On 5th November, 2023
Levi Raphael D'souza Baptised On 3rd December, 2023
Reena Chettiar Baptised On 9th December, 2023



BORN TO LOVE

Inisha Nazareth Weds Daniel Saldanha, 3rd Nov. 2023
Kevin Rodricks Weds Shraddha Nair, 5th Nov. 2023
Elaine Alphonso Weds Valencio D'souza, 18th Nov, 2023
Allan D'souza Weds Ranjana Konatt, 19th Nov. 2023
Wellancia Cardoz Weds Ankush Sharma, 25th Nov. 2023
Francis Clinton Miranda Weds Vencilla Rodrigues, 3rd Dec. 2023
Nelson D'souza Weds Jacintha Vaz, 9th Dec. 2023
Jovit Correa Weds Mervyn Patrao, 9th Dec. 2023
Sephora Dcruz Weds Jude Braganza, 15th Dec. 2023
Briason Pinto Weds Dimple Natwarlal, 18th Dec. 2023
Melissa Mascarenhas Weds Dipanshu Dhuliya, 22nd Dec. 2023
Michelle D'souza Weds Royston Lewis, 23rd Dec. 2023
Reema Lobo Weds Rakesh Kotian, 30th Dec. 2023
Janice D'sa & Kevin Tauro, 30th Dec. 2023
Helena Thres Weds Omkar Narvekar, 30st Dec. 2023
Kevin D'costa Weds Seema Sharma, 1st Jan. 2024
Jovita D'souza Weds Lenryl Sequeira, 6th Jan. 2024
Anthony Lobo & Shivani Mohite, 6th Jan. 2024



BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE

Julius D'souza, 53 Years, Died On 14th Oct. 2023 [Zone-6]
Francis D'souza, 69 Years, Died On 28th Oct. 2023 [Zone-8]
Marian Mendonca, 91 Years, Died On 17th Nov. 2023 [Zone-13]
Teresa Fernandes, 72 Years, Died On 19th Nov 2023 [Zone-1]
Joannes Cardozo, 57 Years, Died On 30th Nov. 2023 [Zone-13]
Naresh Hadpe, 73 Years, Died On 22nd Dec. 2023 [Zone-10]
Lawrence Palliyil, 62 Years, Died On 30th Dec 2023 [Zone-1]
Philomena Pillai, 69 Years, Died On 3rd Jan. 2024 [Zone-8]

With every Blessing from...



- Bless our 1st Communicant Aaron Noronha
- Naveen (Star Real Estate)
- Cyprian and family.
- Alwyn and family.
- A Well Wisher
- Well Being of Dora Soares
- Anthony Dias



Interview with Fr. David Mao



Tell us about your early journey to priesthood. How and when did you get your calling TO BE A JESUIT

I guess it begun with stories of saints which my eldest sister used to tell me. Sometimes she ended those story-telling sessions with a question "Do you want to be a saint?" And in my childhood innocence I used to joyfully say that I want to be a saint. Later, the lives of priests and religious in my parish drew my attention. It was a gradual process. I could not recall a definite point of time wherein I got a call as such. My liking for the Jesuits also grew over many years, spanning through high school to my final year of college. It ran almost parallel with my attraction towards becoming a priest.

How has your family supported you along the way? What was their reaction when you told them you wanted to be a priest?

I am very grateful to my family, especially my father and mother who planted the seed of faith in me and helped me nurture it. Being one of the younger children in my family my elder siblings also helped me grow in faith by their life and example. This I believed apart from the grace of God, prepared me to sense my vocation to the priesthood and gave me the courage to respond to it.

It was a mixed response when they learnt of my desire to be a priest. Because being the youngest among sons and an elder brother already in the seminary (now an MSFS priest) they were like, "Is not one priest enough from our family?" and "Are you not supposed to take care of mummy and daddy?" Nonetheless they allowed me to join the seminary and supported me all along. Without their blessing, prayer, and support my journey to the priesthood would have been a lot less easy.

What was going through your mind as you lay prostrate before the altar AND WHEN THE PRIESTS LAID THEIR HANDS ON YOU during your ordination?

A recurring prayer, "Help me be a priest after the heart of God."

A memorable experience in YOUR JESUIT FORMATION

Once in my first year of formation, I shared to my confessor and spiritual guide, my insecurity about my humble beginning. After listening patiently, he firmly but gently asked me, "David will you be ashamed of Jesus because he was from a poor family?" The question deeply impacted me and continues to shape my understanding of poverty, incarnation, and love.

What do you look forward to most as an ordained priest?

Celebrating the sacraments and sharing the merciful love of God with all.

Is there anything else you would like to add that may help young boys and girls in their vocation.

My dear young people at baptism each of us is given a new name, new identity, and mission. Each one's mission is different. Discover and live that mission.