

The
CRUSADERS 
Compendium



THE
WHAT?

THE
WHERE?

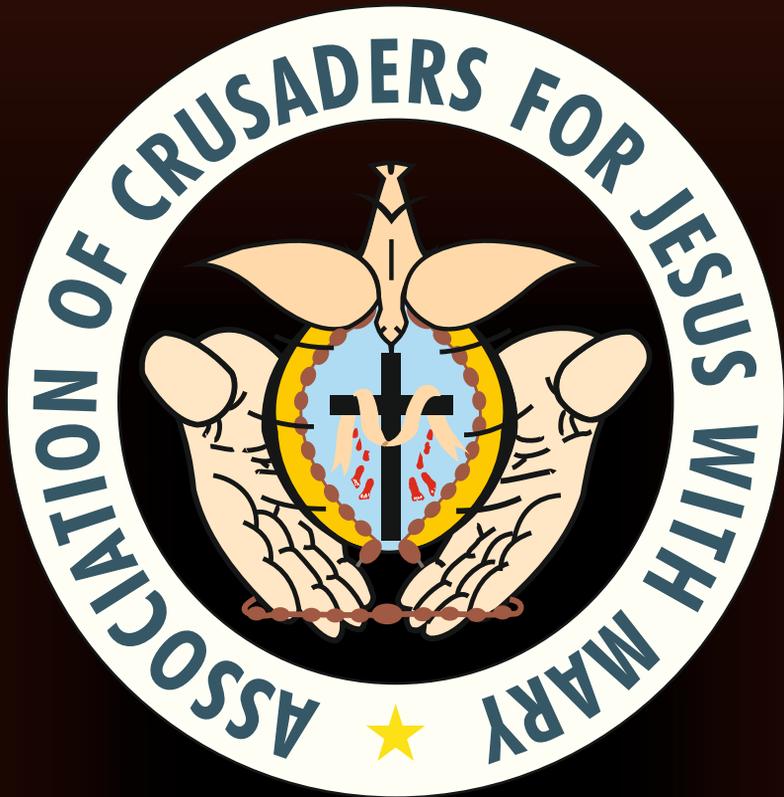
THE
HOW? &

THE
WHEN?

of the Association of

CRUSADERS FOR JESUS WITH MARY

LOGO



The emblem depicts the hands of the Eternal Father, holding the world. The Cross symbolizes the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is symbolized by the dove. Thus the Holy Trinity is depicted and is shown in the emblem as 'the Alpha' i.e the beginning as well as 'the Omega' i.e, the end, which can be discerned on a total view of the emblem. The goldenish yellow symbolizes the rich harvest in the world which we, as laborers are sent out to reap by the Lord, the Owner of the harvest. We are, therefore, called to be disciples of Jesus in the footsteps of Him who showed us the path of the Cross, symbolized by the red blood splattered footsteps, proceeding from the Cross into the world. The blue colour in the emblem and the Rosary beads, symbolize the presence of Blessed Virgin Mary whose role is to ever so gently lead us "to do as Jesus tells us to do".

Published by:

The Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary

Printed at:

Omega Offset, Shetty Galli, Belgaum

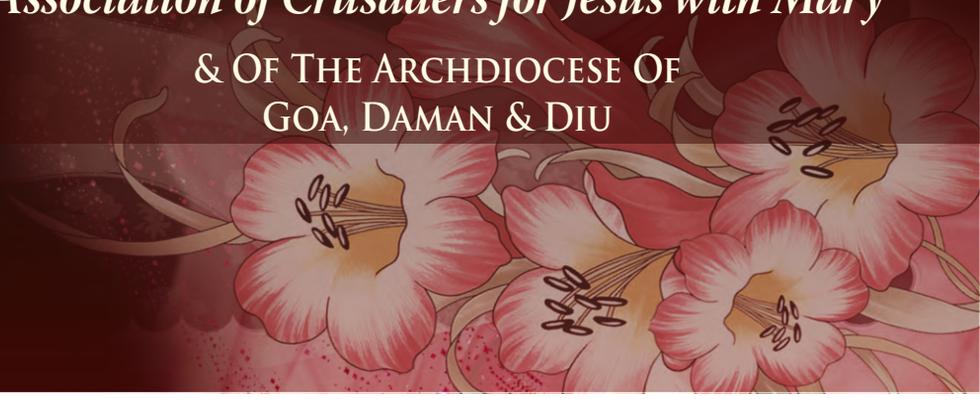
Year of Publication:

2014

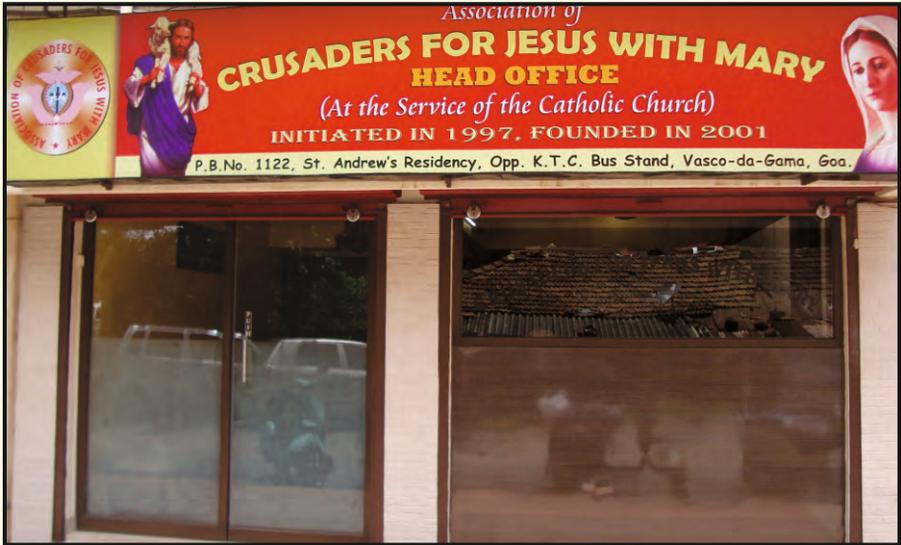
Bl. Joseph Vaz



PATRON OF THE
Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary
& OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GOA, DAMAN & DIU



OFFICES & ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE ACJM



A view of the outside of the ACJM Head Office in Goa



Inside view of the ACJM Head Office at Vasco, Goa with staff

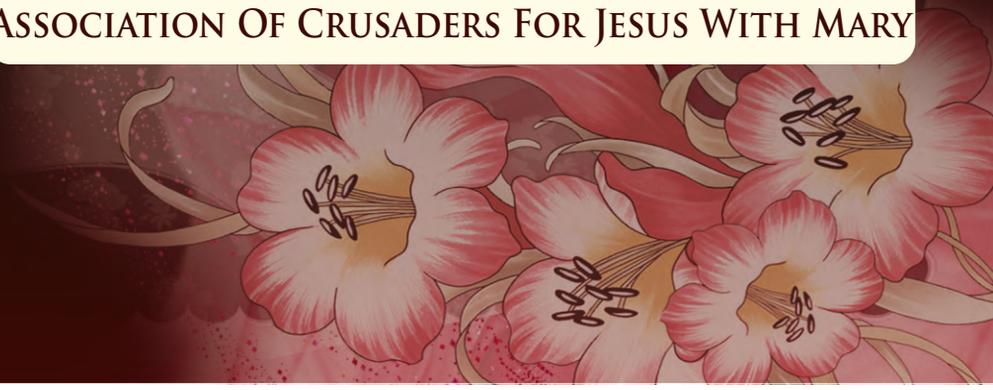
The exclusive Conference cum Prayer Room on the mezzanine floor of the ACJM Head Office at Vasco



Blessed Virgin Mary



PATRONNESS OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF CRUSADERS FOR JESUS WITH MARY



OFFICES & ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE ACJM



The exterior of Crusaders Media Centre involved in Media Evangelisation located at Mangor, Goa.



Exterior view of Panjim Office cum Counselling Centre located at Caranzalem, Goa

CONTENTS

Foreword	▶ 11
Who we are	▶ 13
Our vision	▶ 19
Spirituality of the Association	▶ 20
Charism and Mission	▶ 25
Parish Mission and retreats offered	▶ 26
What makes the Association particularly Catholic in its approach to evangelisation?	▶ 34
Path of Formation in the Association	▶ 35
Community life in the Association	▶ 38
Regulation and finances of the Association	▶ 48
Structure of the Association	▶ 49
Multifaceted work of the Association	▶ 50
Outreaches by the Crusaders	▶ 51
Proclamation work by ACJM in collaboration with bishops all over India	▶ 52
A glimpse of retreats and missions conducted by the ACJM	▶ 56
Frequently asked questions	▶ 70
Evangelisation training	▶ 76
Prayers	▶ 79
Recommended reading	▶ 84
How to contact us	▶ 85
Litany of humility	▶ 84

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Foreword

Seventeen years have lapsed since the inception and 14 years since the actual founding of the *Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary*. What began as a fledgling intercessory prayer group at the St Vincent Pallotti Home in Chicalim has over this time crystallised into a full fledged organisation inspired by the charism of Blsd Joseph Vaz and now operating in various parts of Goa & beyond in several parts of India. The scope of some of its work extends to countries outside India. Echoing the words of the beloved apostle John in John 21:7 we too say – “*It is the Lord's doing!*”!

The good Lord has allowed this organisation to evolve into the form of an Association and become the umbrella which encloses diverse ministries concerned with the Youth, the Married people, Intercession, divine Music, Publication, Pilgrimages, Media Evangelisation, Audio Visual production, village evangelisation Out-reaches and city evangelisation, Missionary work in remote areas of India and is Offices & establishments. Its members who grew from a handful to hundreds have been herded through a regular spiritual formation process spanning well designated time periods under the auspices of a Formation Centre, by means of which their Christian calling has matured & flowered into dedicated disciples for Jesus and committed cadres for the *Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary*.

But in essence the Association has remained what God meant it to be a communion (*communio*) of individual persons with one heart and one mind and one mission. Over the years a distinct identity has evolved to this community. This Compendium or Hand-book is the fruit of the labour of many and the lessons learnt through the years of infancy, childhood and adulthood of this community. It is the presentation of the essence, the nature, the identity and the form of the Association in a compact nut shell. Aptly named – *The What, the Where, the How & the When of the Crusaders for Jesus with Mary*– it aims to answer just this and the many queries and questions that several well-meaning persons from all spectrum of life often seek answers about. More than that however, it spells out for its many *Crusaders* what the Association stands for and the price of being its

sincere & dedicated member “till death from duty of being a *Crusader* departs them”. May it, God willing, do just this!

I dedicate this Compendium or Hand-book) to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patroness of the Association and to its Patron Blessed Joseph Vaz who have over the years inspired hundreds of lay men and women, young & old, married and single, to dedicate their lives, finances, time and other resources and to set aside worldly pre-occupations to uphold first the Lord's will in their lives and to further the cause of Christ and the Kingdom of God – seeking only to be in St Paul's words – “*What is life ? To me, it is Christ.*”

EDMUND ANTAO

Coordinator General

Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary

16th January 2014

Who we are

Some Questions People Ask

- ✚ What is the "Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary"?
- ✚ Why have an Association?
- ✚ What means or method does the Association use to carry out the mission of direct evangelization?
- ✚ What exactly is the ACTS II (Putting ACTS of the Apostles in action) Process?
- ✚ What are the benefits of the ACTS II Process?
- ✚ What is the fruit to the parish?
- ✚ How does the ACTS II Process come into a parish?

What is the "Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary"?

The Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary is a community of individual persons who are committed to promoting and supporting missionary vocations among the laity, by providing training in evangelization and by developing missions in various parts of India and in the world.

The members of the Association set out to adopt the mission of Jesus in the world as their own, to live the demands of the Kingdom and provide a service of evangelization to the Church according to the charism of its Patron, Blessed Joseph Vaz, the greatest Christian missionary to hail from the Third World.



The ACJM is an association at the service of the Catholic Church (CIC 215) and is also registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. It is regulated by its own General Statutes.

Who we are

Its members have come together for two specific reasons:

1. To live the Christian life with a deeper commitment to the Gospel in order to grow in holiness of life.
2. To carry out the mission of direct evangelization together.

Why have an Association?

A community can do more together than an individual can alone. And as Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).



The hope is that the Association will become a community whose members represent the various sections of the laity in the Church working together in unity to:

- a. Carry out the mission of direct evangelization;
- b. Facilitate the transformation of the parish into an evangelizing community; and
- c. Send out representative teams of the Association to evangelize persons and territories throughout the world who have yet to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ proclaimed to them.



Who we are

What means or method does the Association use to carry out the mission of direct evangelization?

The Association uses the ACTS II (Putting the ACTS of the Apostles in action) Process to carry out the mission of direct evangelization. This Process is a biblically based formation that equips individuals, parishes, and dioceses for evangelization. It provides the tools for evangelization and develops within those trained a ZEAL to go out and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

What exactly is the ACTS II Process?

ACTS II is based on the experience given in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2. This portion of Scripture demonstrates very powerfully that the apostles underwent a profound conversion experience with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon them. This conversion experience radically transformed the apostles, changing them from being scared men (Mt. 26:56b; Mk.14:50) into bold, courageous men (Acts 2:14ff; 4:13, 18-20).

The result of the apostles' conversion experience was the proclamation of the Good News without fear (Acts 2:14-36), conversion for those who heard the Good News (Acts 2:37-42) resulting in community (Acts 2:43-47). The Church was not proclaimed but the Lord Jesus Christ was proclaimed. The Church was the result of the proclamation which effected conversion leading to community. Those converted went on to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to others and the process continued.

The title of the ACTS II Process, ACTS II: Conversion, Proclamation, Community, thus takes its name from the book in the New Testament called the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2:

- § first the apostles (the leaders) experience conversion;
- § they go out and proclaim Jesus;



Who we are

§ those who hear and accept Jesus undergo conversion and come into community and the process continues.

A Parish Priest who decides to bring the ACTS II Process into his parish selects some parishioners (leaders -- future coordinators) who go through the ACTS II Leadership Training. Once this training is completed, the leaders (the coordinators) of the ACTS II Process -- are now ready to train their parishioners in the "how to" of evangelization and the ACTS II Process unfolds step by step.

The vision of the process is to revitalize the evangelizing church today toward conversion, proclamation, and community. This Spirit-filled process lovingly leads an individual into a personal relationship with Jesus and to giving testimony to the faith and to the love of Jesus Christ for all men and women. The Process leads to the enriching of Small Christian Communities that provide ongoing follow-up for those initially evangelised.

What are the benefits of the ACTS II Process?

The answer to the need of society at every level is Jesus Christ. The ACTS II Process forms our Catholic people as evangelizers to be able to bring Jesus Christ into every level of society. It is a serious formation for life and for mission.

By going through the ACTS II Evangelization Training, given now by those who went through the ACTS II Leadership Training i.e (the coordinators of the ACTS II Process), parishioners acquire a zeal to bring Jesus Christ not only to those within the parish boundaries but beyond the parish into every level of society -- into the market place: the educational, political, governmental, technological, medical, recreational, and communicational levels of society -- in other words, into all aspects of societal life. This is the call of Pope Paul VI to the universal Church in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelization in the Modern World*. This is what the ACTS II Process brings about through the formation it gives.



Who we are

Parishioners not only evangelize but they provide follow-up for those they initially evangelize by inviting them into small Christian communities where ongoing evangelization, encouragement, support and nurturing takes place.

What is the fruit to the parish?

The parish is gradually transformed into an evangelizing community through the networking of Small Christian Communities whose very reason for existence is to evangelize. The parish becomes the Community of communities.

ACTS II calls forth the leadership of the laity. Through their small Christian communities, the laity begin to take a real personal Christian care for one another as they reach out and evangelize, inviting those they initially evangelize into their small groups where ongoing evangelization takes place. The laity work in collaboration with their pastor to bring this about.

There is an ongoing change in the mentality of the parishioners who gradually become more and more missionary in outlook and action.

How does the ACTS II Process come into a parish?

For the ACTS II Process to come into a parish, the Parish Priest must want the Association to come into and work in his parish and he must fully support those carrying out the Process. However, let it be clear that the aim of this process is not to establish or promote the identity of the Association in the parish. Members of the Association only initiate the ACTS II Process in the parish and work for its realisation.



Who we are

Mary, Star Of Evangelization



ACTS II: Conversion, Proclamation, Community is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary under whose patronage Pope Paul VI placed the entire effort of evangelization in the Church.

“On the morning of Pentecost she watched over with her prayer the beginning of evangelization prompted by the Holy Spirit: may she be the Star of the evangelization ever renewed which the Church, docile to her Lord's command, must promote and accomplish, especially in these times which are difficult but full of hope!

“In the name of Christ we bless you, your communities, your families, all those who are dear to you, in the words which Paul addressed to the Philippians: ‘I give thanks to my God every time I think of you -- which is constantly, in every prayer I utter -- rejoicing, as I plead on your behalf, at the way you have all continually helped to promote the gospel ...’” (Phil. 1:3-5) (E.N. 82).



Our Vision

· The Vision of the Association is three-fold:

That the members of the Association work together to accomplish the following goals:

- a) Carry out the mission of direct evangelization.
- b) Facilitate the transformation of the parish into an evangelizing community.
- c) Send out representative missionary teams of the Association to evangelize persons and territories throughout the world who have yet to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ proclaimed to them.
- d) That the Association seeks to become a community whose members are committed to promoting and supporting missionary vocations among the members of the laity, by providing training in evangelization and by developing missions in various parts of India and in the world.



Spirituality of the Association

1. Love practised according to the description of the Apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 2 Corinthians 5:15) is the main essence of the Association.
2. The members of the Association allow themselves, with their whole hearts to be permeated by God's infinite love. the specific spirituality of the Association is the following of Christ, Apostle of the Eternal Father. Members of the Association strive to imitate His love of the Father and of all people, seeking to imitate His life-style as perfectly as possible.
3. The Association is dedicated to the Queenship of Mary. Our Lady clearly demonstrates that basic attitude in life each member strives to attain: total surrender to the Father and total openness to the Holy Spirit who forms the image of Jesus in each person.



4. The members of the Association set out to adopt the mission of Jesus in the world as their own, to live the demands of the Kingdom and provide a service of evangelization to the Church according to the charism of **Blessed Joseph Vaz**, the greatest Christian missionary hailing from the Third World.
5. The Association follows the spirituality of the Gospel with an emphasis on:
 - a. A strong Catholic spirituality deeply rooted in the Sacred Scriptures with a special emphasis on the evangelical counsel of compassion.
 - b. A life of surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to a following of the lead of the Holy Spirit in community.

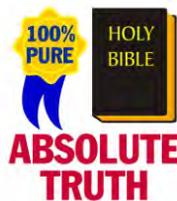
Spirituality of the Association

- c. Mission and ministry carried out under the power of the Holy Spirit who empowers each Member for mission and ministry by gifting each with his gifts (See: 1 Corinthians 12-14).
4. Members:
- A. Are consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Star of Evangelization.
 - B. Cultivate a 'life of worship' centered in the Eucharist and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
 - C. Participate daily in the Eucharist, if at all possible, and in frequent reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - D. Attend the ongoing Formation programmes of the Association & participate in the evangelistic endeavors of the Association.
 - E. Are obedient and loyal to the Magisterium of the Church.
 - F. The Patron of the Association is **Blessed Joseph Vaz** who was so in love with Jesus that his only desire was to be like Jesus in every way, especially in His becoming all things to all men in order to seeking & save the lost.
 - G. Members, in keeping with their Patron, strive to grow in the image and likeness of Jesus in order to be a leaven for Jesus in the marketplace -- drawing all things to Jesus through their witness of life, word and deed at the same time personally pursuing holiness.
 - H. Members:
 - i. Strive to be a community of caring, bearing and sharing people who know Jesus personally and give their lives to him as Lord.
 - ii. Seek fellowship with the Holy Spirit being consciously aware of the power of the Holy Spirit at work within them.



Spirituality of the Association

- iii. Strive to manifest the normal Christian life in the fruits of service, witness of life and explicit proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord.
 - iv. Live in community with others by caring, bearing and sharing.
 - v. Strive for simplicity of lifestyle.
- I. The spirituality of the Association is focused on this major point: being led by another, the Holy Spirit. Being led by another, the Holy Spirit, is basically listening to the promptings, inspirations, guidance, and direction of the Holy Spirit. It is facilitated by: living in the present moment where God is to be found; personal and community prayer; sharing and listening to one another; reception of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation; and the Members working together in unity.



i. Living in the Present Moment where God is to be found.

The only moment we have is the present moment where God is and it is in the present moment that we are to live. And even as we speak and act, the present moment quickly becomes a past moment. We cannot undo the past. But we can give forgiveness to those who have hurt us, learn from our past experiences and strive to become better Christians because of what the past has taught us. We cannot do anything about the future since we do not know what the future holds. But we can live and act virtuously and heroically in the present moment, giving the past and the future to God. The Gospel of Mathew, chapter 6, verses 25 to 34 speaks very well to this point especially verse 34.



Spirituality of the Association

ii. Personal and Community Prayer.

Our commitment is to pray both personally (privately) and in community (together). Each Member spends time alone each day with the Lord with the aim of arriving at a minimum of one hour daily in response to the Lord's love.

In addition, we come together for a time of praise, thanksgiving, and listening to the Lord believing that He will speak to us and guide us according to His plan for us.

iii. Sharing Our Lives With One Another.

Our spirituality includes the sharing of our lives. We place a great emphasis on how we are to be for one another. When a need, a problem or a request for help is expressed, we are there for one another. We believe that we must be for one another before we can effectively be for others.

We believe the Lord wants us to care for one another concretely in whatever way the situation calls for; to bear one another's burdens -- to be there with comfort, encouragement and concrete help whenever the occasion arises; to share with one another our blessings, joys, hopes and sorrows, struggles and challenges -- to be truly brothers and sisters in the Lord and to do for one another whatever the occasion calls for. Whenever differences arise, we are committed to dealing with these differences honestly and openly in dialogue and to the asking and giving of forgiveness. We believe that it is the quality of life that we have together



Spirituality of the Association

that clearly expresses who we are as the Community of the New Covenant.

iv. Through the Reception of the Sacraments especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation.

Receiving Jesus in the Eucharist and being reconciled with God, oneself and others is of utmost importance in being led by the Holy Spirit. In the Eucharist, we receive Jesus into ourselves and are filled again with the Holy Spirit. Each of us is committed to receiving the Eucharist daily, if at all possible.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation removes any barriers that would prevent the Holy Spirit from working as fully in our lives as he would like.

On a daily basis, we believe that forgiveness of others is an extension

of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Forgiveness of others for the wrongs they have done to us, as soon as they happen, is a door to allowing the Holy Spirit to work more fully in our lives and is a help to letting the Holy Spirit lead in our lives. Each of us is committed to being reconciled immediately, as soon as an occasion arises, because un-forgiveness could hinder our relationships from being loving, caring and bearing.

v. Members working together in unity.

All the members of the Association seek to live a life grounded in evangelical life. For this purpose, they gather together, associate with one another, plan, organise, carry on programmes, ventures, projects and endeavours - open to collaborations among themselves and with all others.



Charism and Mission

1. The Association has come into existence at this urgent time in history in response to the Holy Father's call to the universal Church for a new evangelization -- NEW in its method, expression, and fervor -- a new impetus in the Church, that would be so dynamic that it would lead many to bring Jesus Christ to all men and women throughout the world.
2. The charism and mission of the Association is that of direct evangelization: to bring the full Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ, directly to all men and women at all levels of society -- the rich, the poor, the culturally deprived, the oppressed, the sick and the healthy, the young and the old throughout the world.

How the Mission is Carried Out

1. The primary means the Association uses to accomplish its mission:
 - a. Bringing ACTS II: Conversion, Proclamation, Community into those parishes where the Parish Priest wishes to have it in his parish. In this way, all parishioners who are willing can receive training in the ACTS II Process and be equipped to carry out the mission of direct evangelization.
 - b. Using the parish evangelization process, **ACTS II: Conversion, Proclamation, Community**, the Association strives to build and to send volunteer missionaries to missionary territories where multitudes have yet to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ proclaimed to them.
 - c. Bringing people into an experiential awareness of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:4-6).
 - d. Bringing about community among God's people (Acts 2:42-47; Eph. 4).



Parish Mission and Retreats offered

1. Each generation of Christians must find the many ways and means by which to accomplish bringing Jesus Christ to others.
2. While our main emphasis as an Association is to carry out the mission of direct evangelization through the ACTS II Process, we carry this out through other means as well. These too help open people to the love of our Lord Jesus Christ for them and to experience his healing love. And so it is that all of these means also fall under the umbrella of evangelization. Some of these are:

a. Parish Mission On Healing Life's Hurts.

b. Learning to Listen Retreat.

c. Life in the Spirit Retreat.

d. Growth in the Spirit Retreat

e. Inner Healing Retreat

f. Christian Maturity Retreat.



3. Other ministries are carried out as the occasion dictates so that Jesus can be brought to those we encounter in our everyday world.

Parish Mission on "Healing Life's Hurts"

What follows is a precise explanation of the mission and why this mission brings so much fruit to the parishioners and to the parish as a community.

WHY - We are all in need of healing, whether it be in our mind or our body or the most important part - in our spiritual being.



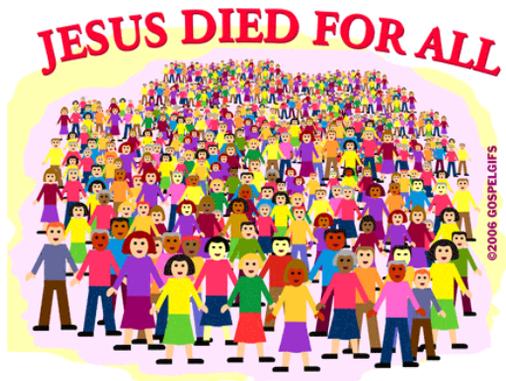
Parish Mission and Retreats offered

Healing Life's Hurts is a faith and community building two or three evening parish mission. The people who come experience the love of God in action for them. No one leaves the mission without experiencing healing in some area of their life, physical, spiritual or emotional. The greatest healing which we see is spiritual healing, especially the healing of unforgiveness.

WHAT - People can expect to experience the Lord's healing love and mercy during the mission:

1. Transformation of lukewarm Christians to active Christians who participate meaningfully in sacramental life;
2. Healing of memories of past hurts;
3. Spiritual healing: increase of faith, hope, love and trust in God,
4. Healing of marriages and broken relationships;
5. Emotional healings; and physical healings that occur according to God's will
6. Helps for praying and for reading the Bible.

WHERE - We have been to scores of parishes. References are available from Bishops and Parish Priests for additional information.



Parish Mission and Retreats offered

- o *Our proposal*
- o *Here is how it works*
- o *Ten good reasons for the parish mission*
- o *Four things the mission is not*



Our Proposal ...

We would like to come to your parish to give a very beautiful and powerful two or three day mission series at no direct cost to the parish. "Healing Life's Hurts" will help your parish immensely. Although we call it a parish mission, it is not to be confused with a mission that is usually only given during Advent or Lent. . Our Community has given countless Renewal Weekends, Healing Missions, and Leadership Trainings in Evangelization throughout India with the blessing of numerous priests and bishops.

If you want something really effective to help strengthen your community - to help heal some of the hurts and broken lives of individuals and their families within the parish community -- or if you would like some effective way to help bring people back to the church and to the sacraments and back to a deeper appreciation of their faith -- or if you would like to more fully involve the laity -- then this is something you should very seriously consider for your parish. If you want to help wake up some of the laity who are sleeping in their faith, this mission has been effective.

Here is how It works ...

1. We urge the introduction of the mission at the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses the weekend prior to the mission. As a result, the people come out for the mission in large numbers. In addition, there is a wide variety of people: little children, the teenagers, and the often hard to reach 20 -30 age group, as well as the seniors.



Parish Mission and Retreats offered

2. Each of the two/three evenings lasts a little about 3 hours. Very often it takes place on any week-day evenings.

By the second night word gets around to many friends and relatives of the parishioners and they get curious and want to come. Very often, these are people you rarely see around the church except at Christmas, Easter or to zip in to get their "ashes" on Ash Wednesday. It is for this reason that this has been found to be really effective in the evangelization of a parish community as well as for sparking off the faith of the average church-goer.

Ten Good Reasons for the parish mission

1. **It's easy to set up** - very little for the Parish Priest or Staff to do other than say "yes."
2. **No direct cost to the parish** - aside from printing some inexpensive announcement flyers. There are no transportation costs, no housing, no food, no stipend. Whatever the people give by way of a free-will offering taken in the Church if any, is acceptable to us.
3. **Knits the parish community closer together** - regardless of size of the parish the sense of community is the hallmark of this event.
4. **Many, many people are helped** - marriages are healed, widows and widowers are comforted, those with emotional, physical or spiritual problems are helped tremendously.
5. **It's different and quite enjoyable** - the music, talks, and praying is loved by both the young and old.
6. **A very powerful tool for evangelization** - many follow-up options are available to help you in this area, if you wish.



Parish Mission and Retreats offered

7. **Large turnouts without major publicity** - by simply speaking at the weekend Masses the week prior to the mission and a few flyers and bulletin announcements, an amazing thing happens: large numbers attend.
8. **Parishioner response overwhelmingly positive** - most Parish Priests have said they have never had so many people thank them so many times for anything as for this Mission.
9. **Great help to the laity** - in realizing their role within the Church.
10. **It works** - As one parishioner put it: "This is the best use of my time in years."

Four Things This Mission Is Not

1. **It is not a mission that can only be given during Lent or Advent.**
2. It is not a "wild and woolly" type of a gathering.
3. It is not to promote the Association itself or any other movement.
4. It is not just attended by people who ordinarily attend a mission.



If you want something that will really benefit your community ---

this is it!



Parish Mission and Retreats offered

KINDS OF OTHER RETREATS GIVEN

Learning To Listen Retreat

The "Learning to Listen Retreat " is a very practical retreat that is designed to call forth the God-given listening ability that lies within each person. It is a time of contemplation and getting in touch with the Holy Spirit who dwells within. It is a time of listening, of being with others, of coming to know oneself better.



Life in the Spirit Retreat

The 2500 Bishops who gathered for the Second Vatican Council invited each and everyone of us to undergo a profound interior renewal of our lives. The Life in the Spirit Retreat is an effective means for bringing about this interior renewal.

The retreat is basically a conversion experience. It is an introduction to a life lived under the power of the Holy Spirit and enables people to discover more about how the Spirit of Jesus works in their daily lives. Persons are helped to take the initial steps that lead them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord over their lives.

For those who are already Christian, the retreat deepens their personal relationship with Jesus.

Jesus knew that we would not be able to live the kind of life that he called us to without the strength and power of his Holy Spirit. At the Last Supper, John 14:16-17, Jesus promised the disciples that he would give them another Paraclete to be with them always. This promise was made also to us and was fulfilled at Pentecost with the giving of the Holy Spirit to the Church (Acts 2:1-4).

Parish Mission and Retreats offered

With the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the lives of the disciples were radically changed. This same radical change is being experienced today by Christians of all denominations. Christians are discovering the power to live in love and peace. Above all, they are discovering a personal relationship with Jesus as Lord and Savior of their lives.

We all received the Holy Spirit at baptism and confirmation but most of us have not known that the presence and power of the Holy Spirit can actually be experienced in our lives. The retreat is a means to that experience. The retreat talks, sharing, and prayer all help open one's heart to repentance and faith and to allowing the Holy Spirit to have his way in one's life.

Growth in the Spirit Retreat

While the "Life in the Spirit Retreat" introduces a person to the Christian life and to the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the "Growth in the Spirit Retreat" builds on that experience and offers practical helps for living a life in the Spirit in a Christian community. It helps to understand the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, how they are to be used for personal growth in holiness, and for the good of the community.



Inner Healing Retreat

The Inner Healing Retreat is offered to meet the needs of those who are sick physically, spiritually, emotionally, and psychologically so that obstacles may be cleared, to their onward emergence into the wholesome plan of God for them in their lives.



Parish Mission and Retreats offered

Christian Maturity Retreat

The "Christian Maturity Retreat " also known as "Disciple Formation Camps" or simply "Conclaves" are designed to help people grow in Christian maturity and is offered as a follow-up to those who have recently made a Life in the Spirit Retreat. Practical helps are given for living a life in the Spirit through teachings, reflection, prayer and fellowship. These conclaves held periodically unfold and promote the growth of the person into fervent disciples who burn now with love only for Jesus Christ.



What makes the Association particularly Catholic in its approach to evangelization?

The Association believes that evangelization is not primarily programs and methods but rather people sharing with people. What is most distinctive about ACJM is that it is committed to living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the context of the Roman Catholic faith.

As a guide to developing its programs there are three main aspects that stand out as particularly Catholic:

- *First*, is desire of the ACJM to ground its efforts for the evangelization and sanctification of men and women in the teachings received through Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the Magisterium of the Church.
- *Secondly*, the ACJM understands that evangelization is not just a one-time action or decision but a process. Although the Association does believe it involves an initial conversion, it must also include incorporation into the community, participation in the sacramental life of the Church (especially the Eucharist), a response to the universal call to holiness, and finally, in the words of Pope Paul VI, "the person who has been evangelized goes on to evangelize others."
- *Finally*, as a movement ACJM believes strongly in operating within the God-ordained structures of the Church and is submitted to the apostolic authority of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church.



Path of Formation in the Association

- ✚ How is the formation regulated for those who become members of the Association ?
- ✚ What is the stage by stage formation process from the time a person is associated with the Association?

REGULATION OF FORMATION OF MEMBERS IN THE ASSOCIATION

Articles 33 and 34 of the General Statutes of the Association deal with *Formation of members* and spells out that the Elders Forum organises the formation throughout the Association, and it sets the guidelines and objectives. It specifies that the formation process of members takes place in docility to the Holy Spirit through daily prayer, the Sacraments, the study of Scripture and service.

The process of Formation within the Association is under the monitoring & supervision of the "**Crusaders Formation Centre**" which is headed by a Director and consists of a council of Formators. The Path of Formation has been specifically laid down as under but in its discretion the Formation Centre can dispense with any stage for any person for reasons that are to be recorded by it.

PATH OF FORMATION OF MEMBERS (stage wise)

(At the very beginning after a person comes into contact with the ACJM) –

Getting to know one another: Above all else, this first step permits the individual to get to know the Association better. This step is normally conducted through regular meetings with one of the local Formators from the ACJM Formation Centre and/or with the local Core in the candidate's area and /or with participation in the local Prayer group. The Formation Centre through counselling will also help the person to discern whether or not he or she is made for the Crusader community life. If there is a positive response at the end of this step, then the person will be invited to proceed to the next step.



Path of Formation in the Association

Formation Stages then follow as under :

1. "CRUSADER ASPIRANT" PERIOD: Through a series of classes ranging from **three to six months**, the Formation Centre presents an overview of what it means to be a Crusader for Jesus with Mary. At this stage the individual is simply called a "**Crusader Aspirant**". As this period of formation ends, the candidate may decide to request admission to commit himself/herself to the spirituality and way of life of the *Crusaders for Jesus with Mary*.

2. PREPARATION STAGE: The duration of the Preparation stage is **twelve months** and it begins with the *Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary* recognizing the person as a member of the Community. This is a more formal formation period in the life of a Community member. This period of twelve months includes diverse activities: the study of the life of Saints; teachings of the Church, the study of the General Statutes, the history of the Association, and the spirituality of the Association and the way of life in the Community; and the work & the general practice of the



commitments of a Volunteer in the Crusader for Jesus with Mary (e.g. mass, regular sacramental life, daily morning and evening prayer as prescribed, Bible meditation & reflection, daily rosary, community activities such as celebrating common Feasts in the Association, certain Novenas, occasionally taking common meals, sharing moments of joy and grief as members of the Community, attending regular meetings, involvement in diverse ministry work including evangelisation out-reaches and missionary work etc).

3. (CONFIRMATION STAGE) SIMPLE PLEDGE: As the Preparation stage ends, the person makes a decision as to whether he/she should make a commitment to live according to the spirituality, community life and rules of the Association for a period of **three years** and **if willing to do so**, and subject to the decision of the Formation Centre, the individual then makes a **Simple Pledge**. This Simple Pledge is made by the person in the prescribed manner, place and time. Formation in Crusader spirituality continues during this time.



Path of Formation in the Association

At the end of this period, the Formation Centre decides if the person is prepared and ***if the person is so willing*** to make the Final or permanent Pledge – which is that of a “***Perpetual Crusader***”.

4. FINAL PLEDGE (“PERPETUAL CRUSADER”): When the decision is reached to move ahead and make a **Final Pledge** and ***the person is so willing***, the person makes a commitment to consecrate oneself to live according to the Rules, spirituality and community life of the *Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary* for the rest of his or her life and makes this **Final Pledge** in the prescribed manner at a public occasion and in the presence of others. The individual is then said to be a “**Perpetual Crusader**”.

LIFE LONG ON-GOING FORMATION: Perpetual Crusaders are particularly committed to on-going formation both in the group/Zone and individually. Even though one has made a permanent commitment to be a Crusader (“Perpetual Crusader”), on-going Formation continues till death in the area of spirituality, the Scriptures, the teaching of the Church, regular meetings etc. Crusaders for Jesus with Mary are always concerned about growing in understanding of both their faith and their vocation through their consecration as Crusaders.

Additionally, each member is responsible for his/her own personal formation in order to live fully his/her own role within the Association, to better serve the Church and all humankind.



Community life in the Association

- Introduction
- Our Life Together As An Association

Introduction



Why would anyone want to be in community? When a person comes into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ what is experienced is a desire to be with others who have had a similar experience. This is brought out so well in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2, verses 38-47:

And Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ... So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers ... And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people.

Community life in the Association

Our Life Together as an Association

1. ***There are numerous texts in the New Testament that state clearly how we are to interact together and with one another which we strive to follow.***

Some of the texts that are especially important to our life as an Association are the following:

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3: 12-17).



"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly/sisterly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never lag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in

prayer Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited. Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If



Community life in the Association

possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head.'

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:9-21).

"... be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father" (Eph. 5:18-20).



"Whatever your task, work heartily as serving the Lord and not men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the Inheritance as your reward; you are serving the Lord Christ" (Col. 3:23-24).

2. ***We believe that as we strive to be more deeply converted to the Lord, we should not be surprised if persecution comes our way for the good we do, for so it was done to the Lord.***

"Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Mt. 5:11-12).

3. ***How We are to Grow in our Love and Support of One Another.***

We are called to grow in our ability to love and support one another in the daily ordinary circumstances of our lives. Community life is not based on what we have



Community life in the Association

in common but on what we are in common. This is what differentiates Christian community from any other community. What we are in common comes from the Holy Spirit who creates in each one of us 'relatedness' -- 'to be from' the Father, to be in' Jesus, and 'to be for' others. That is the whole meaning of the person, of the disciple of Jesus Christ. Community life is always **coexistence**: existence '**with**' and '**in**' Jesus Christ and '**being for**' others.

- a. One of the emphasis in our spirituality is learning to listen well to one another. If we are to have a life of unity and harmony in community, we must have a respect and love for one another that is shown in the most ordinary of ways: that of listening lovingly and attentively to one another. Listening is one of the simplest ways to show love, and it is within each Member's reach. It doesn't cost anything but the discipline of giving our full attention to the person who is speaking. If we are to be able to listen well to God, each of us is to learn to listen attentively to one another (See: I Jn. 4:20f).
- b. Love for one another must characterize the disciple of Jesus Christ and therefore it must characterize each one of us. Jesus clearly states that: "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). How are we to love one another? In the way that Jesus loved -- unto death. As he says in John 15:13, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." That is how Jesus loved -- unto death.
- c. What is true for all Christians must all the more be true for each one of us who have been called to form the Community of the New Covenant. The very name we bear brings to mind the kind of love that we are called to give -- a love that is so great that were the occasion to call for it, each one of us would be willing to die for one another. Isn't this what our name reveals? The new



Community life in the Association

covenant came into existence through the death of Jesus, through his shedding his blood for each one of us in order that we might truly have life, the very life of his Holy Spirit. Each one of us is called to be willing to do the same.

- d. The Lord wants each one of us to work to create a life together that will speak clearly the love we bear for one another that will so astound people that they will be compelled to ask questions such as these: How can you live this way together? Why are you the way you are? How can you be this way? Where do you get the strength to live the way you live? Our lives will be so attractive that others will want what we have. They will want to come to Jesus who is the source of such love. Love is what evangelizes. The Lord wants each one of us to build such relationships of love for one another.



- e. The daily circumstances of our lives prepare us to do as Jesus has done. Community life brings many opportunities for each one of us to show love for one another and to grow in a lifestyle that prepares us to lay down our lives for one another. We may not be called to such an heroic act but each of us can lay down our lives in the daily situations that arise. This is what Paul is referring to when he says: "So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:1-4). That is the challenge given to each one of us.
- f. It is in the daily circumstances of each of our lives that we are challenged to lay down our lives for one another. The person who tests my patience; who talks too much or who never says much; who always asks for my help at the wrong times; who talks too loud; who always talks about himself/herself; and



Community life in the Association

the list could go on and on. But these are the very people, the flesh and blood people, that the Lord calls me to love - to care, bear, and share with. In all of this, life is overcoming death through union -- communion with Jesus who has overcome death. This is what being a follower of Jesus Christ is all about - - allowing the Holy Spirit to overcome the death-aspects in our lives: the disorders, the privations, the sufferings. Holiness is a process of becoming who we are --allowing it to happen by living out the death/resurrection event in our daily lives.

- g. Love is not a noun, some pie in the sky, but a verb that each Member decides to live out, to show in action. Making the decision to love is the first step and the Lord will do his part to make it possible because the Lord honors such a decision. Left to ourselves, such love is not possible but with the power of the Holy Spirit who has been given to us, all is possible.
- h. Love is a commitment I make to give of myself totally -- to give completely without expecting anything in return. That is what Jesus modeled in all that he did. That is what each of us is called to do. Just as Jesus was from the Father and given for others, so each Member is called to be from Jesus and for others.



Love



Grow



Serve



Community life in the Association

4. *Affirmation.*

We are to be open to one another and to respect the diversity of gifts given to each Member by the Spirit. One way to appreciate the gifts of another is to allow that Member to utilize his/her gifts by putting them at the service of the community. We all need to be loved and appreciated for who we are and not only for what we do. And it helps to be told that on a regular basis. Because we are all weak, there is a great tendency to take one another for granted. This must not be the case with us. We are to work at appreciating one another, giving encouragement as the situation calls for. Affirming one another is a way of bringing out the best in one another. Each Member needs such affirmation. Mutual support is of utmost importance for all of us who serve the Church. It is a daily necessity for each Member to receive such support and affirmation.

5. *Reconciling with One Another*

a. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a dynamic sacrament something that we live out daily. We go to the sacrament with a repentant heart to confess our sins and resolve not to sin in that way again, and we receive the forgiveness of our sins. The reality of forgiveness is ongoing. As we have been forgiven, so we are to go and forgive others (Matthew 6:12; Luke 11:4). And we are given the opportunity to do this on a daily basis.



b. The Members are committed to forgiving one another as occasion gives rise and not to let the sun set on their anger (Eph. 4:26). Instead, each Member is to seek and give reconciliation at all times. The best time to do this is when the occasion arises. We do not want to walk away from strained relationships and leave it at that. Members are to take immediate action as soon as the occasion arises to seek forgiveness and be set right in their relationships with



Community life in the Association

one another. When a situation arises, it is best to go immediately and simply ask for forgiveness in a straightforward way: "I ask your forgiveness for" The Member being asked for forgiveness is simply to say in a straightforward way: "I forgive you."

- c. If there are residual feelings of hurt remaining within the Member giving forgiveness, then it is good to pray in the following way: "Lord, I praise and thank you for this person just as (s)he is. I ask you to bless this person, to heal this person and to finally heal me." I may have to pray this little prayer a few times before the residual feelings are gone. But praying in this way does take care of any residual feelings I may have and re-moves any barriers that I may have put up toward this person. As St. Peter says:

"Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing. For 'He that would love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile; let him turn away from evil and do right; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer'" (1 Peter 3:8-12).

- d. If disagreements arise, each Member is committed to working out such disagreements by spending time together to clear the air and come to some common understanding about the matter. It is so important that the Members be one with one another, be reconciled with one another. The Lord tells us how we are to come before him in Matthew 5:23f.

"So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

Community life in the Association

- e. If the Association at large is to know unity and harmony and be fruitful in its mission, it is important that reconciliation become a way of life for each Member.

6. *A Life of Unity and Harmony.*

- a. We have come together in community because we believe that our ministry for the Church is made more fruitful because of the life that we have together, a life of unity and harmony. And Jesus tells us that "where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Mt. 18:20). And St. Paul says, "complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind" (Philippians 2:2).
- b. We have come together around the vision the Lord has given us. This vision gives us direction and focus -- it gives us unity of purpose which is what the Lord desires from us and why he has called us together. We are committed to carrying out this vision with the heart, mind, spirit, and values of our Lord Jesus Christ realizing that as followers of Jesus Christ, division can have no place in our lives. Division is not of the Lord but of the Evil One, Satan. The fruit of the Spirit is unity. Within the Trinity there is unity, oneness (See: John 17:21-23). As a Christian Community, oneness in mind, heart, spirit, and values is something that each Member strives to attain no matter what the cost is to oneself.
- c. Just as community is not a given, neither is unity. It is something that each Member must work to attain and be committed to bringing about. The following can help unity exist in the community:
 - i. All Members are respected and accepted for who they are and allowed to be who they are.
 - ii. All Members pray daily for one another and especially for that person with whom (s)he may have difficulty getting along.



Community life in the Association

- iii. All Members are committed to being reconciled with their brothers or sisters as occasion gives rise and to working out any disagreements in a spirit of peace and openness.
- iv. Gossiping and idle talk is something that the Members refrain from and help one another avoid (Proverbs 16:28; Sirach 19:7-12; Sirach 28:13-26).
- v. All Members are willing to put the interests of the other Members first so that the life they have together may deepen and develop in creative ways (Philippians 2:30).
- vi. All Members are committed to finding ways in which they can serve their brothers or sisters and ways in which they can affirm and support them.

7. ***Devotion to Mary.***

All Members are consecrated to Mary and seek to grow in their devotion to her, the Mother of God, and their Mother, especially by praying the rosary daily. The rosary is a very important means by which we can become more deeply rooted in the Gospel.

8. ***Annual Retreat and Ongoing Formation Programs.***

The Association gathers as a whole annually for days of ongoing formation, sharing, reflection and fellowship so that relationships can be strengthened and our vision deepened.

- 9. ***We believe it is of tremendous value to be a Member of a community that has a vision, a direction, and provides serious formation for all of its Members for life and for mission.***

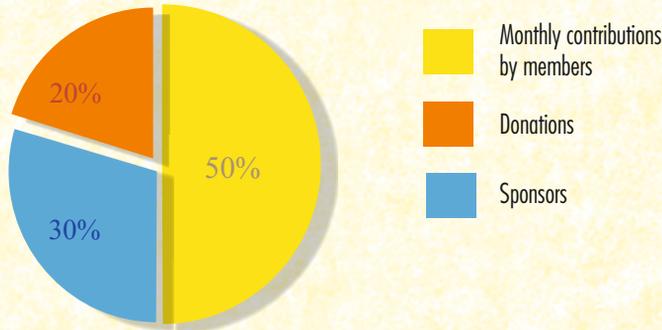


Regulation and Finances of the Association

The Association is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

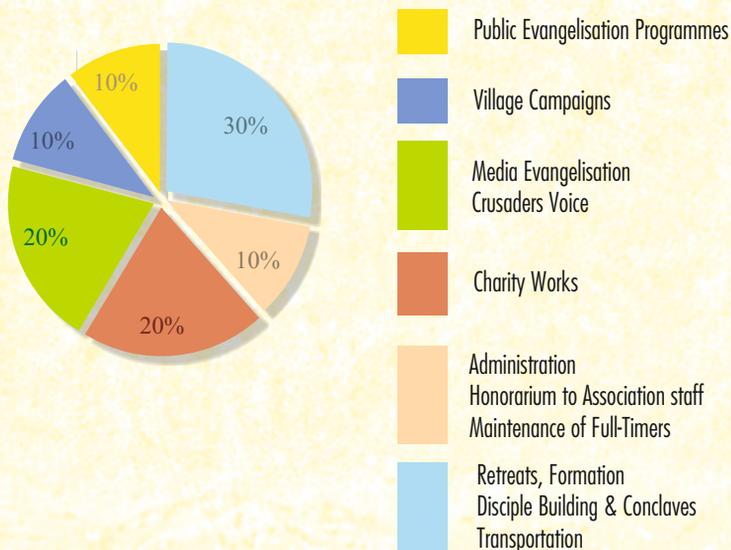
Its yearly accounts are audited and it observes financial accountability and credibility in financial management of its resources.

Financial resources come from.....

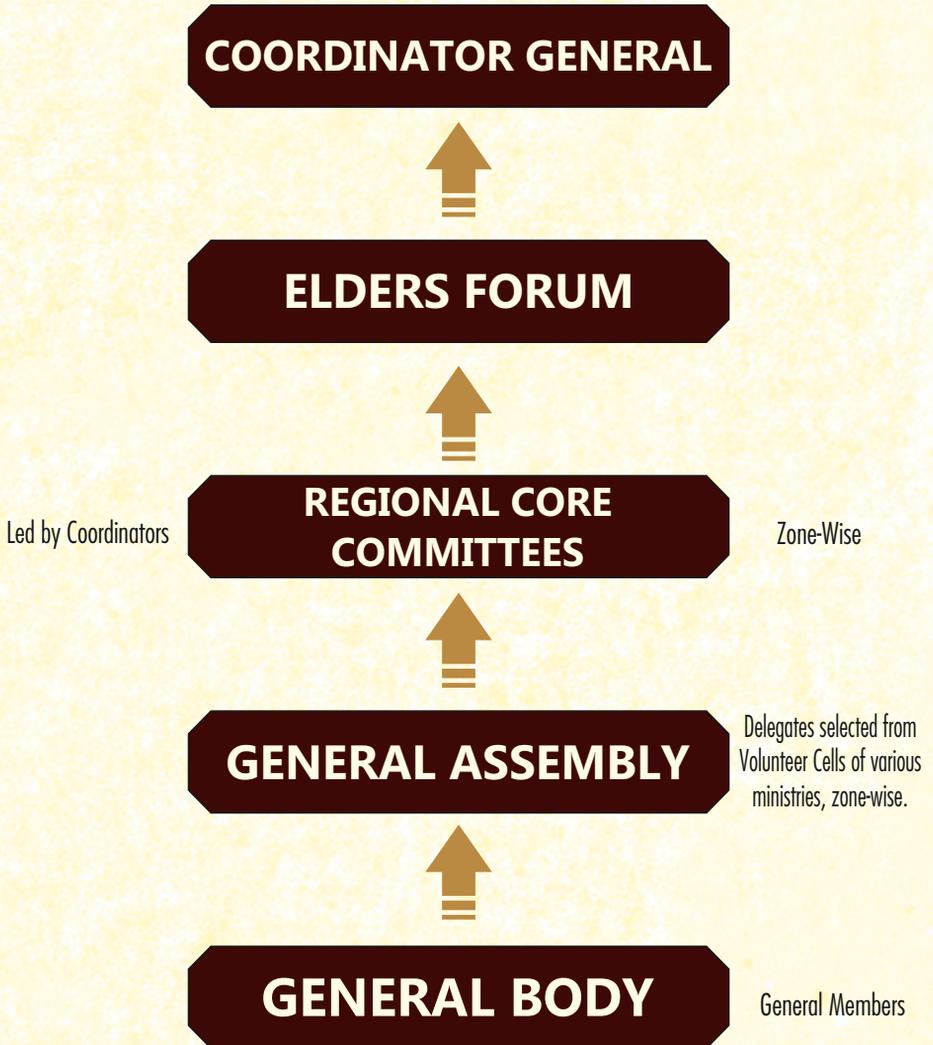


The sponsors, donors and monthly contributors come from hundreds of committed members/well wishers/prayer supporters of the cause of the Association who faithfully give from their pocket till it pinches & of their own free will.

Financial expenditure goes to

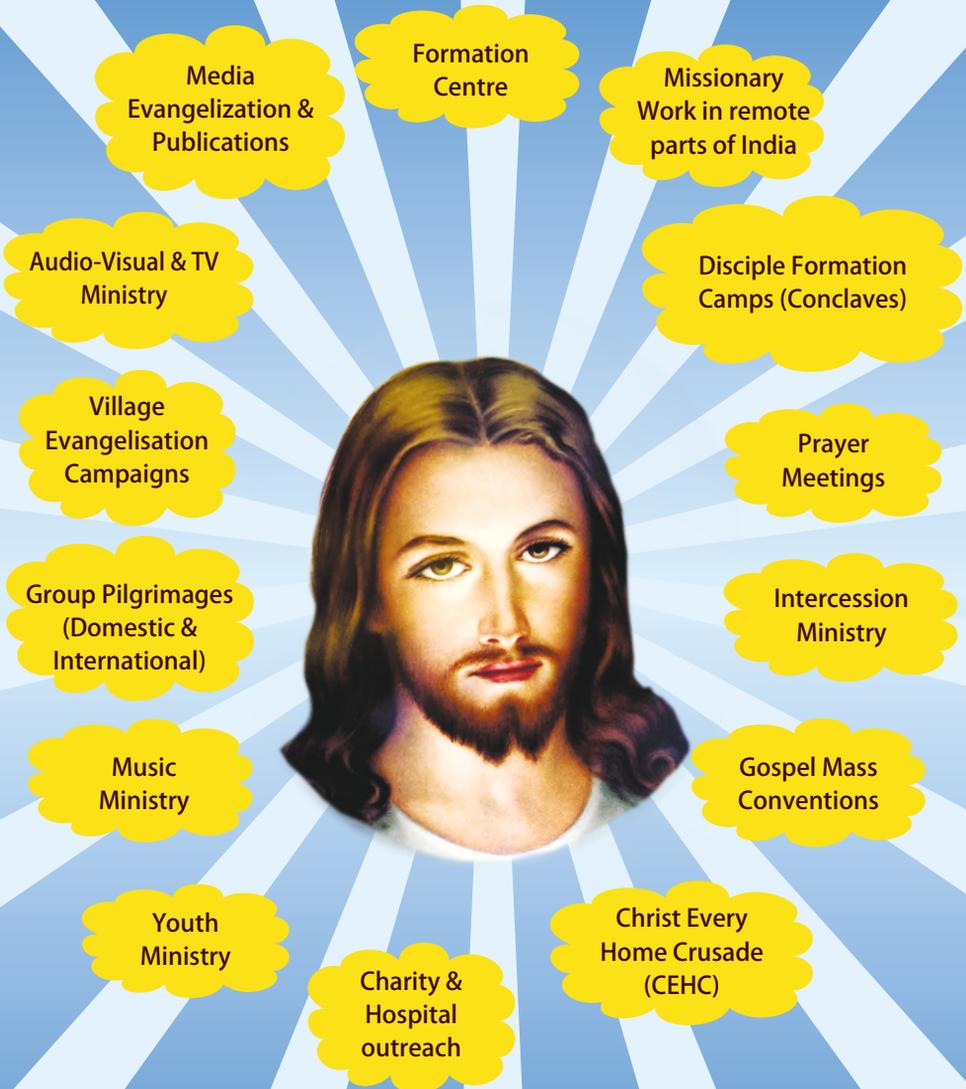


Structure of the Association



(Elections in the Association are carried out through secret ballot voting)

MULTIFACETED WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION



The Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary operates through hundreds of Lay Catholics who, depending on their availability, dedicate themselves full-time or part-time to a ministry of their choice out of the multifaceted work/ministries of the ACJM.

PROCLAMATION WORK BY ACJM IN COLLABORATION



Most Rev. P.K George, Bishop of Miao (Arunachal Pradesh) & from the CCBI National Proclamation Commission inaugurating the 7th General Assembly 2010 of the ACJM, along with priests from Goa and other parts of the country at the 'Fr. Alcantra, Raimundo and Lilia Gracias Auditorium, Agnel Ashram, Verna - Goa' renamed 'Blessed Joseph Vaz Nagar' for the occasion. (July 11, 2010)



ACJM Coordinator General Edmund Antao addressing the Proclamation Commission of North East Bishops Regional Conference at Guwahati (Assam).



COOPERATION WITH BISHOPS ALL OVER INDIA



The Crusaders (ACJM) Leadership seen at the end of their conclave with Rt. Rev. Alwyn Barreto, Bishop of Sindhudurg at Navsarni Retreat Centre, Sawantwadi (Maharashtra).



The Crusaders (ACJM) team seen here with Rt. Rev. Agnelo Gracias, Bishop of Mumbai, after it conducted a series of Lenten retreats in several churches of Mumbai Archdiocese.

ACJM Coordinator General Edmund Antao in discussion with Rt. Rev. Stephen Rotluanga Bishop of Aizawl (Mizoram).



PROCLAMATION WORK BY ACJM IN COLLABORATION



Retreat Team with Rt. Rev. Stephen Lepcha, Bishop of Darjeeling Diocese (West Bengal) where the Crusaders (ACJM) conducted a sustained campaign in Parishes besides conducting retreats for the youth.

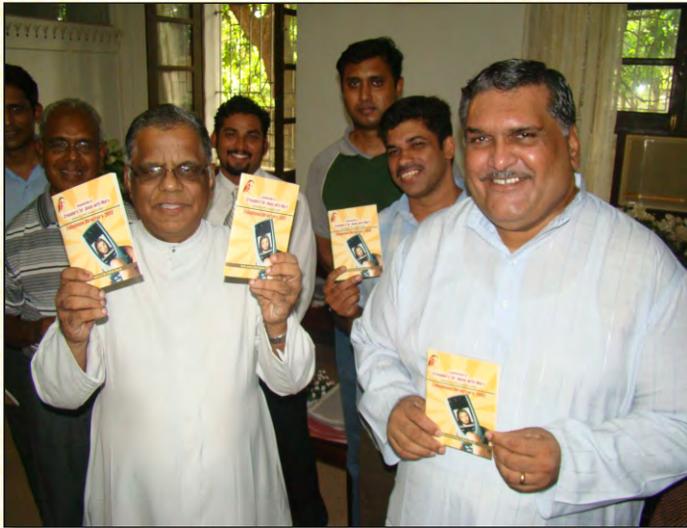


Sharing a point with Rt. Rev. Thomas Macwan Bishop of Ahmedabad (Gujurat) at the start of Youth Leaders retreat conducted by the Crusaders (ACJM).

Most Rev. V. Abraham Archbishop of Nagpur, addressing the Youth Leaders convention conducted by the Crusaders (ACJM).



COOPERATION WITH BISHOPS ALL OVER INDIA



The Crusaders Telephone Directory 2012 being inaugurated at the Archdiocese House in Panaji-Goa by the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Goa Msgr Jose Remedios Fernandes in the presence of some office-bearers of the Association including its Coordinator General Edmund Antao.



Rt. Rev. Lumen Monteiro, Bishop of Agartala (Tripura) seen with the Crusaders (ACJM) team during the Tripura village evangelization campaign.

A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

IN GOA

- 4 day residential retreats being held since the year 2001 as follows:
- Inner Healing Retreat (Every January since year 2001)
- Growth Retreat (Every May since year 2001)
- Married Peoples' Retreat (Every May since year 2001)
- Konkani Retreat (Every August since year 2001)
- Growth Retreat (Every September since 2001)
- Youth Retreat (Every June/October since 2001) (Boys and Girls)
- Retreats at several Parish Churches in Goa at the invitation of Parish Priests, also retreats in Colleges.
- Village evangelisation campaigns in several rural parishes in coordination with local Parish Priest

2001

WEST BENGAL - KOLKATTA DIOCESE

- 4 day retreat at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkatta, West Bengal at the invitation of the Calcutta Charismatic Renewal Service Team (October 2001)

2002

WEST BENGAL - KOLKATTA DIOCESE

- 5 day Residential Retreat for Youth at Holy Child School, CIT Road, Kolkatta, West Bengal, at the invitation of the Calcutta Charismatic Renewal Service Team (October 2002).
- 5 day Growth Retreat for Prayer group leaders organized by the Calcutta Charismatic Renewal Service Team at Our Lady of Bandel Retreat Centre, Bandel, Hooghly, West Bengal (April 2002).
- 3 day Retreat for seminarians at Don Bosco Seminary, Hooghly, West Bengal (April 2002).



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

NAGALAND - DIMAPUR DIOCESE

- 5 day Residential retreat for Deacons at the Salesian College Dimapur, Nagaland.(May 2002).
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2003

MISSION OF DAMAN & DIU: (adjoining Gujarat) - IN DAMAN

- Growth Retreat at Bishop's House, Moti Daman, (October 2003)

KERALA

- 5 day residential retreat at Navjyoti Diocesan Retreat Centre, Calicut, at invitation of Kerala Service Team (Calicut Branch) – (June 2003).

MAHARASHTRA - ARCHDIOCESE OF MUMBAI

- 3 day Lenten Retreat at St. Vincent Pallotti Church, Marol, Mumbai, Andheri, Mumbai (March 2003).
- 5 day Inner Healing Retreat at Atma Darshan Retreat Centre, Andheri, Mumbai(June 2003).

MAHARASHTRA - NASIK DIOCESE

- 3 day retreat at St. Patrick's Church, Deolali, Nasik (April 2003).

MAHARASHTRA - SINDHUDURG DIOCESE

- 3 day retreats at Parish Churches at Malwan, Vengurla, Shiroda (2003).
 - 5 day Residential Growth Retreat at Diocesan Retreat House 'Navsarni', Sawantwadi (May 2003).
 - 5 day Residential Retreat for Youth at Diocesan Retreat House 'Navsarni', Sawantwadi (May 2003).
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A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

2004

MISSION OF DAMAN & DIU: (adjoining Gujarat) - IN DAMAN

- Inner Healing Retreat at Bishop's House, Moti Daman (February 2004)
- Growth Retreat at Holy Name Cathedral, Moti Daman (April 2004)
- Programme at Our Lady of Piety Church, Silvassa (May 2004)

KERALA

- 4 day Residential Retreat at Jubilee Retreat Centre, Puthupaddy, run by the Vincentian Congregation (July 2004).
- 4 day Residential Inner Healing Retreat at Jubilee Retreat Centre, Puthupaddy, run by the Vincentian Congregation (October 2004).
- 4 day Residential Growth Retreat at Bethania Diocesan Retreat Centre at Pulloorampara, Thamarassery Diocese (August 2004).
- 4 day Retreat at St. Joseph Church, Kariathumpara at invitation of Parish Priest Fr. Peter M. (V.C) (December 2004).

MAHARASHTRA - ARCHDIOCESE OF MUMBAI

- 3 day Lenten Retreat at Our Lady of Egypt Church, Kalina, Mumbai (March 2004).

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 5 day Residential Growth Retreat at Christ College for Jesus Youth (October 2004).
- 5 day Residential Inner Healing Retreat at Upasana Retreat House, run by Order of St. Camillus de Lelis (May 2004).

MAHARASHTRA - SINDHUDURG DIOCESE

- 3 day retreats at Parish Churches at Malwan, Vengurla, Shiroda (2004).



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

2005

KERALA

- 4 day Bible Retreat at Jubilee Retreat Centre, Puthupaddy run by Vincentian Congregation (April 2005).
- 4 day Residential Inner Healing Retreat at Bethania Diocesan Retreat Centre at Pulloorampara, Thamarassery Diocese (January 2005).
- 4 day Residential Retreat for priests/nuns/religious at N.R.C (Nirmala Retreat Centre), Kulathuvayal run by MSMI of Fr. C.J. Varkey (February 2005). The Kerala Service Team Chairman from EMMAUS also attended this retreat.
- 4 day Residential Growth Retreat at Tabor Retreat Centre, Pala, run by Congregation of the Mary Matha of Carmel (April 2005).
- 4 day Growth Retreat at invitation of Kerala Service Team (Trivandrum Branch) at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Thiruvananthapuram (July 2005).
- 4 day (stay-in) retreat conducted for leaders of prayer groups (Central Kerala) at Zion Retreat Centre (run by the MSMI congregation) at Nellikutty, Kerala (September 2005).

KARNATAKA - MANGALORE DIOCESE

- 3 day Retreat at Sacred Heart Church, Suratkal (March 2005).

2006

MISSION OF DAMAN & DIU: (adjoining Gujarat) - IN DAMAN

- 2 day Programme conducted for the parishioners of Our Lady of Piety Church, Silvassa, Union Territory of Daman (September 2006).

MISSION OF DAMAN & DIU: (adjoining Gujarat) - IN DIU

- 3 day Lenten retreat for the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church, Union Territory of Diu. (March 2006)

KERALA

- 4 day Retreat held for Parishioners at the Forane Church, Calicut, Kerala (July 2006)

A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

- 4 day (stay-in) Growth Retreat for prayer group leaders and members at Mount Carmel Ashram, Peravoor, Kerala. (November 2006)

MAHARASHTRA - NASIK DIOCESE

- 3 day Lenten retreat for the parishioners of St. Patrick's Church, Deolali, Nasik(March 2006)

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 4 day (stay-in) retreat for Married Couples at Claret Niwas, Carmelaram, Bangalore. (April 2006)
- 4 day (stay-in) retreat for students/doctors of St. John Medical College, Bangalore held at Claret Niwas, Bangalore. (May 2006)
- 4 day (stay-in) Retreat for Professionals / salaried persons held at the Logos Retreat Centre (run by the Vincentian Congregation) in Bangalore. (May 2006)
- 4 day (stay-in) higher Growth Retreat held for the Bangalore Service Team, teams of retreat preachers of the Logos Retreat Centre(run by the Vincentian Congregation) in Bangalore. (June 2006)
- 4 day (stay-in) Youth Retreat for 400 youth held at Renewal Retreat Centre, Bangalore, organized by the Jesus Youth Bangalore. (November 2006)

KARNATAKA - HALIYAL TALUKA

- Village Evangelization Campaign (one week) undertaken in Haliyal Taluka of Karnataka at the invitation of the Parish Priest of Our Lady of Miracles Church, Haliyal, culminating in a retreat at the parish Church. (May 2006).

IN ANDHRA PRADESH - HYDERABAD DIOCESE

- 4 day (stay-in) Growth Retreat (Arising 2006) for youth held at Satyadham Retreat Centre, Hyderabad, organized by Jesus Youth Hyderabad. (April 2006)
- 3 day (stay-in) retreat for 250 students of St. Francis Women's College, Begampet, Hyderabad (November 2006).



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

TAMIL NADU - CHENNAI DIOCESE

- 4 day (stay-in) Married Couples Retreat conducted at the International Pilgrim Centre, St. Thomas Mount, Chennai. (October 2006)

GUJARAT - AHMEDABAD DIOCESE

- 4 day (stay-in) Growth Retreat conducted for the leaders of prayer groups (Gujarat) in Ahmedabad (February 2006).
 - 5 day (stay-in) Discipleship Training Programme held at Ahmedabad, for members of Jesus Youth, Gujarat (May 2006).
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2007

NEW DELHI

- 3 day retreat conducted for the Jesus Youth at Delhi followed by a 3 day Disciple Training Programme (DTP) for leaders of the Jesus Youth in Delhi. (May 2007).

MAHARASHTRA - NASIK DIOCESE

- 5 day retreat during lent conducted at St. Patrick's Church, Deolali, Nashik, Maharashtra (March 2007)

MAHARASHTRA – NAGPUR DIOCESE

- 5 day retreat conducted for the Jesus youth at St. Francis de Sales Parish, Nagpur, Maharashtra (July 2007)

MAHARASHTRA – KOLHAPUR DIOCESE

- 2 Day Parish level retreat Conducted at St. Francis Xavier Parish , Kolhapur, Maharashtra. (September 2007)

MAHARASHTRA – SINDHUDURG DIOCESE

- 4 day retreat during lent Conducted at Rosary church , Bhironda , Kankavli, Maharashtra. (March 2007).

A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 4 day residential Conclave Conducted at Claret Niwas retreat centre for select prayer group leaders in Bangalore , Karnataka.(April 2007)
- 4 day residential retreat conducted for Married Couples at Passonist Jyoti Niwas, Bangalore, Karnataka (June 2007)
- 4 day residential retreat Conducted for Campus Ministry youth Leaders,Bangalore, Karnataka (June 2007)
- 6 day residential retreat Conducted for Seminarians of MCBS congregation, Bangalore Karnataka (November 2007)

KARNATAKA – BELGAUM DIOCESE

- 4 day retreat during lent Conducted at Our Lady of Fatima Cathedral Belgaum, Karnataka (February 2007)
- 3 day retreat during lent conducted at Dharwad , Karnataka (March 2007)

KARNATAKA – MANGALORE DIOCESE

- 5 day residential retreat conducted for the Jesus youth at Ryshivana retreat centre, Mangalore (April 2007)
- 2 day retreat conducted for college Students at of St.Aloysius college, Mangalore, Karnataka. (June 2007)
- 2 day retreat conducted for college students of St.Agnes Girl's college , Mangalore.(August 2007)

DARJEELING & SIKKIM DIOCESE

- An 8 – day expedition to the diocese of Darjeeling with meetings at various places in the diocese in conjunction with the local Bishop. (February 2007)



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

2008

MISSION OF DAMAN & DIU: (adjoining Gujarat) - IN DIU

- 7- day retreat for the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church, Union Territory of Diu. (February 2008)

MAHARASHTRA – SINDHUDURG DIOCESE

- 7 – day village campaign at Bhironda , Kankavli (March 2008).

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 4 day residential Married couples retreat at Bangalore in the Passionist Jyoti Niwas retreat house (January 2008)

KARNATAKA – MANGALORE DIOCESE

- 3 day retreat for students of nursing at Fr.Muller's College , Mangalore (February 2008)
- 2 Day retreat for students conducted at St. Agnes' College for Girls, Mangalore(December 2008)

TAMIL NADU - CHENNAI DIOCESE

- 3 - day residential retreat for the Jesus Youth at Erode (February 2008).

2009

KERALA

- 5 day Residential Retreat for pre-noviciate Seminarians of MCBS Congregation at Kottayam , Kerela (May 2009)

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 4 day residential Married Couples Retreat at Bangalore in Passionist Jyoti Niwas retreat house (August 2009)
- 3 day residential retreat for Jesus Youth leaders of Karnataka State held at Vidyavahan Ashram (August 2009)



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

KARNATAKA - BELGAUM DIOCESE

- 3 Day retreat conducted for nursing students at Our Lady of Lourdes College of Nursing, Dharwad (February 2009)

KARNATAKA - MANGALORE DIOCESE

- 3 Day retreat for Jesus Youth conducted at Ryshivana retreat centre, Mangalore(March 2009)

KARNATAKA - KARWAR DIOCESE

- Village Evangelization Campaign (one week) undertaken in Kadli near Kumta, Karnataka at the invitation of the Parish Priest of St. Vincent Pallotti Church, Kumta. The campaign concluded in a retreat at the parish Church. (March 2009).

ANDHRA PRADESH

- 5 day residential retreat for Major Seminarians of MC Congregation (Missionaries of Compassion) at Elluru, Diocese of Vijayawada (July 2009)

TAMIL NADU - CHENNAI DIOCESE

- 3 - day residential retreat for the Jesus youth at Chennai (February 2009).

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- An 8 – day mission conducted in parishes of Tirap District in the Miao Diocese in conjunction with the local Bishop. (June 2009)

DARJEELING & SIKKIM DIOCESE

- 10-day mission conducted in various parishes of Darjeeling and Sikkim Dioceses in conjunction with the local Bishop (October 2009)
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A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

2010

MISSION OF DAMAN & DIU: (adjoining Gujarat) - IN DIU

- 3-day retreat held at St. Paul's church, Union Territory of Diu. (March 2010)

KERALA

- 3 day Residential Retreat conducted for Kerala State Government employees at Divine Retreat Centre (DRC), Muringoor – Pota. (September 2010)

MAHARASHTRA - ARCHDIOCESE OF MUMBAI

- 2/3 evenings Lenten Retreats held at St. Paul's Church (Dadar), Our Lady of Dolours Church (Dhobitalao), St. Blaise church (Andheri East). (March 2010)

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 3 day growth conclave at Passionist Jyoti Niwas retreat house (February 2010)
- 3 day Married People's Retreat conducted at Passionist Jyoti Niwas retreat house (September 2010)

KARNATAKA – MANGALORE DIOCESE

- 2 day retreat conducted for college students of St. Agnes Girl's college, Mangalore (September 2010)

KARNATAKA – MIRJAN DIOCESE

- Night Vigil conducted at St. Joseph's church, Mirjan, Karnataka at the invitation of the Parish Priest. (December 2010).

NAGALAND – DIMAPUR DIOCESE

- 2 day youth retreat for students of St. Joseph' College, Jakhama, Nagaland. (September 2010)

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- A 3 day residential youth retreat for youth from all over Miao Diocese, conducted at Don Bosco School, Neotan. (April 2010)



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

- A 16 day mission conducted in Parishes of Khonsa District in the Miao Diocese in conjunction with the local Bishop (Nov-Dec 2010)

DARJEELING & SIKKIM DIOCESE

- A 3 – day residential retreat for Youth of Sikkim Diocese held at Don Bosco, Malbasey -Sikkim (January 2010)

2011

GOA

- Retreat for National Leaders and Animators of the Jesus Youth held at Pallotti home (November 2011)

MAHARASHTRA – SINDHUDURG DIOCESE

- 5 day village campaign at St. John Bosco Parish, Kudal (September 2011)

MAHARASHTRA - ARCHDIOCESE OF MUMBAI

- 2 evening Lenten Retreats held at St. Theresa 's Church (Bandra), St. Andrew's Church (Bandra), O.L of Egypt Church (Kalina). (March 2011)

MAHARASHTRA – SINDHUDURG DIOCESE

- 6 day village campaign at Kudal. (October 2011).

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 4 day residential retreat for the Jesus Youth at Renewal Retreat Centre (RRC)(May 2011).

GUJARAT - AHMEDABAD DIOCESE

- 4 day Disciple Training Programme held at Ahmedabad for members of Jesus Youth, Gujarat (August 2011).



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

NAGALAND – WOKHA DIOCESE

- Parish Retreats conducted in Melluri, Woka, Doyang, Longsa, Rephiyim, & Pangti (October 2011)

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- Two retreats of 3 days each conducted for the youth of Kanubari & Changlang of the Miao Diocese (May 2011)

TRIPURA

- An 8-day mission conducted in parishes in the diocese of Bishramganj (March 2011)
- A 3 – day youth convention held at Golirai, diocese of Bishramganj (May 2011)

2012

GOA

- Retreat for National Leaders and Animators of the Jesus Youth held at Pallotti Home (November 2012)

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 3 day residential retreat for Married People conducted at Snehadan Retreat Centre, Bangalore (February 2012).
- 4 day residential youth retreat held at Renewal Retreat Centre (RRC) (February 2012).

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- 5 day residential retreat conducted for Banderdewa Parish of Itanagar diocese in Arunachal (February 2012).
- 8 day mission conducted in parishes of Miao district in conjunction with the local Bishop (April 2012).

A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

ASSAM

- 2 day residential retreat held at Holy Family Church, Japrajang and St. Thomas Church, Hidipi in the diocese of Diphu (February 2012).

2013

KERALA

- Talks given at the weekly English retreat at Divine Retreat Centre besides recording of talks for Divine TV. (February 2013)
- 3 day Retreat conducted for the parishioners of Infant Jesus Church, Cochin. (March 2013)

KARNATAKA - BANGALORE DIOCESE

- 3 day residential retreat held at Claret Niwas for students and doctors of St. John's Medical College, Bangalore (January 2013).
- 2 day growth conclave at Snehadan Retreat Centre, Bangalore (January 2013).
- 3 day residential retreat for Married People at Snehadan Retreat Centre, Bangalore (July 2013).
- 4 day residential growth retreat on the Book of Genesis conducted at Snehadan Retreat Centre, Bangalore (October 2013).

KARNATAKA – BELGAUM DIOCESE

- 5 Day retreat conducted for parishioners of Don Bosco Mission Station in Kakti and Sankeshwar , Belgaum- Karnataka(September 2013)

TAMIL NADU – CHENNAI DIOCESE

- 3 - day residential retreat for management students of Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA) Chennai (September 2013).

TAMIL NADU – COIMBATORE DIOCESE

- 3 - day disciple training programme held at Coimbatore for members of the Jesus youth (January 2013).



A glimpse of Retreats & Missions conducted by the ACJM

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- 8 day mission conducted in parishes of Miao district in conjunction with the local Bishop (April 2013).

TRIPURA

- An 8-day mission conducted in parishes in the diocese of Bishramganj (August 2013)

2014

DARJEELING & SIKKIM DIOCESE

- 8-day mission to the diocese of Sikkim and Darjeeling where teams conducted series of retreats for the youth in various parishes (January 2014).

Frequently asked questions

- ↵ **What is evangelization?**
- ↵ **Is evangelization something new for the Church?**
- ↵ **Who is to evangelize?**
- ↵ **Why should we evangelize?**
- ↵ **How does Jesus prepare us to carry out this mission?**
- ↵ **How do we begin to evangelize?**
- ↵ **How can we prepare ourselves for this mission of evangelization?**
- ↵ **How are we to evangelize today?**
- ↵ **What is the NEW evangelization that Pope John Paul II speaks about?**

What is evangelization?

- a. The word comes to us from ancient history when a slave was chosen to bring back to the ruler the good news of victory in battle. The bearer of this good news was always granted his freedom and so he would come running, nearly dancing for joy, as he bore the good news of victory that would gain freedom for him. So, too, we Christians should proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and his victory over sin and death, the victory that frees us to become joyful children of God. This is what evangelization is all about.
- b. In the strict sense, evangelization means the proclamation of the Good News that in Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, salvation is offered to the whole world as a gift of God's grace and mercy
- c. In a broader sense, evangelization means any activity rooted in Christ that promotes the transformation of humanity from within making it new.



Frequently asked questions

- d. Essentially, evangelization is bringing others to know the love of Jesus and to experience his healing, forgiving love. It is the fundamental mission of the Church.

Is evangelization something new for the Church?

Evangelization is a new word for most Catholics yet the mission of evangelization has existed within the Church since the time of Jesus Christ. Most Catholics are more familiar with the words "convert-making" or "missionary work".

Who is to evangelize?

It is the whole Church that receives the mission to evangelize and the work of each individual member is important to the whole. Jesus came as the first evangelizer and commissioned each one of us to do the same. Each of us, as members of his Body, the Church, is called by him to be a visible, concrete expression of him in our world today.

Why should we evangelize?

Jesus, before ascending to the Father, commissioned his disciples, and therefore the Church, to evangelize when he said in Matthew 28:19f, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

How does Jesus prepare us to carry out this mission?

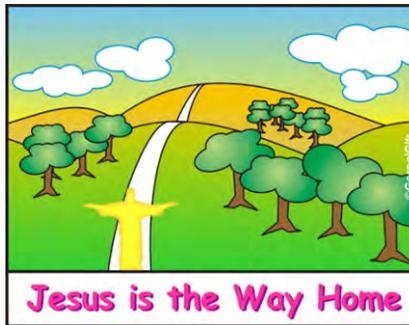
Jesus gives us his very own Spirit, the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to be able to carry out this mission of evangelization. Please look at the Gospel of John, chapter 14, verses 16 and 17; chapter 14, verse 26; chapter 15, verses 26 and 27; chapter 16, verses 7-11, and verses 13-15.



Frequently asked questions

How do we begin to evangelize?

We begin first of all by being evangelized ourselves, by becoming more deeply converted to the Lord Jesus and by being renewed in the power of the Holy Spirit. We need to look at how deep our own commitment to the Lord Jesus is and whether our lives and lifestyle reflect that commitment. What we speak to others about Jesus must be confirmed by our witness of life. In the First Letter of Peter, chapter 3, verse 15, we are told that we must "always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence"



How can we prepare ourselves for this mission of evangelization?

Pope Paul VI, in his Apostolic Exhortation on Evangelization in the Modern World, puts forth six means by which we can prepare ourselves for this mission (the numbers in parentheses refer to the numbered sections in the Apostolic Exhortation).

- a. Through the action of the Holy Spirit: evangelization will never be possible without the action of the Holy Spirit (n. 75). Without the Holy Spirit, no amount of preparation, technique or argument will have power over the heart of a person. The Holy Spirit is the principle agent of evangelization.

§ It is the Holy Spirit who impels us to proclaim the Gospel.



Frequently asked questions

- § It is the Holy Spirit who opens hearts to understand and accept the word of salvation.
- § It is the Holy Spirit who is the goal of evangelization which is the new creation.

Therefore, we are exhorted to study the Holy Spirit's action in evangelization today.

- b. Through authentic witness of life: it is essential that we be authentic (n. 76). We are to ask ourselves:

- § Is what I proclaim that which I believe?
- § Is what I believe that which I live? -Is what I live that which I preach?

The world calls for and expects from evangelisers:

- § Simplicity of lifestyle,
- § A spirit of prayer,
- § Charity towards all,
- § Obedience and humility,
- § Detachment and self-sacrifice,
- § Knowledge of God.

Our evangelizing zeal must spring from true holiness of life which is nourished by prayer and above all by a love for the Eucharist.

- c. Through the search for unity: unity must be evident among the followers of Jesus (n. 77). We are urged by Pope Paul VI to make a greater commitment to the effort for Christian unity by coming together on the basis of what we hold



Frequently asked questions

in common: our baptism and the faith we all have in Jesus Christ.

- d. Through serving the truth: we are to seek the truth even at the price of personal renunciation and suffering (n. 78).
- e. By being animated by love: it is presupposed that as evangelizers, we are growing in the gift of love for those we are sent to serve (n. 79).
- f. With the fervor of the saints: each one of us is to go forth to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ with the fervor of the great preachers and evangelizers who have gone before us (n. 80). They knew how to overcome the obstacles to evangelization.



Such preparation for the mission of evangelization requires prayer, vigilance, study, service, and community. We must keep our eyes on Jesus. He is our main teacher. And the Book he gives us is the Bible. The Bible is the handbook for all evangelizers.

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

How are we to evangelize today?

There are two ways in which we are to evangelize and both are necessary.

- a. Witness of life: first and foremost, the Gospel must be proclaimed by the witness of one's life; by persons truly living a life according to the values of the Gospel, a life of holiness. All Christians are called to give this witness and in this way, they can be real evangelizers (n. 21).

Witness of life is a silent proclamation of the Good News, a very powerful and effective one. Nevertheless, this always remains insufficient because



Frequently asked questions

even the finest witness will eventually prove to be ineffective if his/her lifestyle is not explained or justified (n. 22)

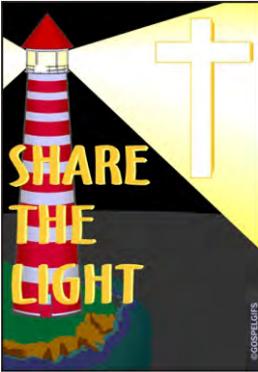
- b. Explicit proclamation: evangelization must sooner or later be proclaimed by the Word of Life. There is no true evangelization without the proclamation of the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God (n. 22).

What is the **NEW** evangelization that Pope John Paul II speaks about?

The Holy Father is calling the universal Church to a new evangelization - NEW in its method, expression, and fervor. This new evangelization is to be a new impetus in the Church that would be so dynamic that it would impel those in the Church to reach out and bring Jesus Christ to all men and women throughout the world.



Evangelisation Training



The Association of Crusaders for Jesus with Mary strives to be a resource for parishes throughout India and abroad. Our purpose is to provide the skills and tools that will empower Catholic Christians to share their faith in Jesus Christ with others. Faith comes from hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ and it can be heard only if we are willing to share it. Our goal is to help one another build such a vibrant, living faith in Jesus Christ that we cannot but share him with others. Sharing our faith in God leads to an increased

vibrant, living faith within ourselves that literally affects every area of our lives: family, others, the world we live and work in, and much, much more.

"How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness, who says in Zion 'your God reigns'" (Isaiah 52:7).

We, at the Association believe the solutions to life's problems can be found in timeless, biblical principles that call on each one of us to be deeply rooted in a living, vibrant faith in Jesus Christ that leads to a sharing of the faith with family, others, and the world we live and work in.

Only Jesus Christ, only Savior and Lord of our world, can give us these survival principles for living life to the full.



Evangelisation Training

Evangelization, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, is a new challenge for our Catholic people today. The ACJM is a valiant attempt to help one to meet this challenge. Its purpose is to provide training in evangelization:

- to facilitate personal conversion;
- to equip men and women in their parish to become enthusiastic evangelizers,
 - § by providing them with a practical "know-how" approach to evangelization,
 - § with an emphasis on one-to-one relationships,
- looking toward facilitating the formation of an evangelizing community within the parish.

The Approach Taken By The Association

It is out of the deep conviction that each of us can only give what we ourselves have, that the ACJM has taken a particular approach in this evangelization training.

What our people need is a deep personal relationship with Jesus and the desire and ability to share him with others. For our people to be evangelizers, they need to deepen their relationship with the Lord and their life in the Spirit.

From the Bible, we see the Master's plan and strategy. First, He selected a few, developed friendship with them, evangelized them, trained them, sent them out, and then supervised them. Lastly, He entrusted to them the mission that he himself had undertaken, and then empowered them to carry it out effectively through the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5, 8).

ACTS II: (Putting the ACTS of the Apostles in action) Conversion, Proclamation, Community is an attempt to do the same.



Evangelisation Training

How Will One Participate In the Mission Of Evangelization?

By discovering:

- the richness of the Good News of Jesus Christ and personal conversion.

By learning:

- to express your own personal witness of the Lord Jesus simply and directly to family, friends and strangers;
- to equip and prepare lay leaders to serve, in a spirit of humility, the people of God;
- to minister to the un-churched and the alienated/inactive Catholic and all who are in need of evangelization (E.N. 51-57);
- to facilitate the formation of an evangelizing community within the parish.



Prayers

- ↪ Prayers For Gathering In The Harvest
- ↪ Prayer For The Holy Innocents



PRAYERS FOR GATHERING IN THE HARVEST

Introduction

While walking our earth Jesus told his disciples:

"I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself; he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father" (John 14:12).

A look through the Acts of the Apostles reveals that the early followers of the risen Christ, weak and human as they were, managed to turn "the whole world upside down" (Acts 17:6). They were able to do this because they allowed the Holy Spirit to work freely and boldly through them. They were immersed in Jesus.

In order to be effective in spreading the Kingdom of God, we must seek Jesus daily in prayer, soaking in all that he desires to give us and coming to know his love and power. Only then can we introduce others to him.

Following are several evangelization prayers that we encourage everyone to pray especially our "**Prayer Partners**". They are meant to be used as a supplement to -- not a substitute for -- your own prayer time with our Lord.

After you have prayed the written prayers, talk to Jesus in your own words and then listen to him. Allow his Holy Spirit to prepare and empower you. Read and meditate on

Prayers

the Scriptures, too, and then confidently go forth and gather in the harvest for Jesus by sharing your faith in him with those you meet.

Come Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Of The Evangelizer

Lord Jesus, it seems that in every direction I look, whether in my own home, on the job, or across the nation and the world, I see people who are hurting. I know you have a burning desire to reach out, touch and restore the lives of your people, now imprisoned and crippled as a result of separation from you; and Lord, you need workers, so I offer myself.

Empower me through your Holy Spirit -- your promise and gift to your followers and your very presence within my own heart -- to reach out to those broken ones who desperately hunger for love and healing as did the people who followed after you on the sun-baked roads of Israel centuries ago. Especially, Lord, fill me with the gifts of wisdom and discernment as I attempt to gather into your kingdom those whose hearts are cold and bitter, those who do not believe in you at all, those who do not care about you, and those who do not realize how much you love them. Place your words upon my lips. Work through me despite my own wounded condition to heal and restore those burdened by physical or emotional sickness. Cleanse and purify me that I might serve you well.



Prayers

Lord Jesus, I love you. I want to serve you. Fill my heart with the power of the Holy Spirit and let that power spread like fire into my family, my parish, my country and my world. Through my hands continue your mission "to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives" (Luke 4:18), that all may come to know you and live in your kingdom forever. Amen.

Prayer For The Unbelievers

Lord Jesus, perhaps the greatest obstacle you encountered while walking our earth was the unbelief and skepticism of many of those whom you met. The Gospels reveal that the first condition for entering into your Father's kingdom is to believe in you -- to believe that you indeed are the Messiah sent by the Father to rescue a fallen world. Yet, those same Scriptures tell us that many people refused to believe in you -- some ridiculing you and some of them going so far as to kill you.

Jesus, today there are many who either believe you never existed or believe that you were merely an historical figure, perhaps only a good man. There are others, Lord, who have never heard of you. They wander through life as best they can, searching for meaning, or they ignore their consciences. I am sure that you long to penetrate their minds and hearts with the truth of your Gospel message. You want to touch spiritually blind eyes and deaf ears that your invitation to joy might be received and accepted. For you have said, "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

Lord Jesus, as you were sent by the Father to proclaim the message of life, send me, and send more workers into the harvest, to those unbelievers who need to hear the truth. Prepare their hearts in advance, that the ground there be fertile and ready for the seeds you will plant through us. I pray that through your Holy Spirit, you will water these seeds until they bear fruit abundantly. Amen.



Prayers

Prayer For More Laborers For The Harvest

Lord Jesus, the Gospels show clearly how deeply you loved and cared for all the people you encountered while on earth, especially those who did not know why they had been born or where they were going:

"But seeing the crowds, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were bewildered and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is great, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the harvest'" (Matthew 9:36-38).

Lord, I see you looking over these crowds of lost people and then turning to me to ask that I be one of those laborers you so vitally need. I respond with a "yes," Lord, and pray that your Spirit will lead many, many others to respond to your call to gather in the harvest. Raise up evangelizers, Lord Jesus, and empower them to carry your light into the darkest corners of the world, renewing it according to the plan of your Father. Through the gifts of your Holy Spirit, equip them to go out and free those mired in their sinfulness and ignorant of your plan of salvation. Amen.

Prayer For The Holy Innocents

"A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are not" (Jeremiah 31:15).

Lord Jesus, Giver of life, I entrust to your hands all aborted babies who have been robbed of life. I commend to You especially those aborted by the brutal and violent partial-birth procedure. With You, I lament and weep over their helplessness, their pain, and the injustice of this barbaric destruction of life.

Jesus answer their cry for help. Heal each baby from the trauma and pain of such a gruesome execution. Aware of what was taking place during their dying, heal their



Prayers

memories of all fear, rejection, pain and loss.

Give peace to any restless souls, wholeness to their little severed bodies, joy to their fearful memories, and love to their innocent and sensitive hearts.

Take them Lord Jesus into the fullness of Your Kingdom where they can experience Your love and tenderness. Amen.



Recommended Reading

Papal Documents

For those interested in evangelizing, we highly recommend the following papal documents:

- ☞ Vatican II Document, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church
- ☞ Apostolic Exhortation, Evangelization in the Modern World, by Pope Paul VI
- ☞ Apostolic Exhortation, Church In Asia by John Paul II
- ☞ Christifideles Laici by Pope John Paul II

Other Readings

- Catechism of the Catholic Church



How to contact us

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The Litany of Humility

O Jesus meek and humble of heart, *Hear me.*
From the desire of being esteemed, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the desire of being loved, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the desire of being extolled, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the desire of being honored, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the desire of being praised, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the desire of being preferred to others, *Deliver me Jesus.*
From the desire of being consulted, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the desire of being approved, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being humiliated, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being despised, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of suffering rebukes, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being calumniated, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being forgotten, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being ridiculed, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being wronged, *Deliver me, Jesus.*
From the fear of being suspected, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

That others may be loved more than I, Jesus, *grant me the grace to desire it.*

That others may be esteemed more than I, Jesus *grant me the grace to desire it.*

That in the opinion of the world, others may increase, and I may decrease,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be chosen and I set aside, *Jesus grant me the grace to desire it.*

That others may be praised and I unnoticed, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*

That others may be preferred to me in everything, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*

That others may become holier than I, provided that I become as holy as I should, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*

