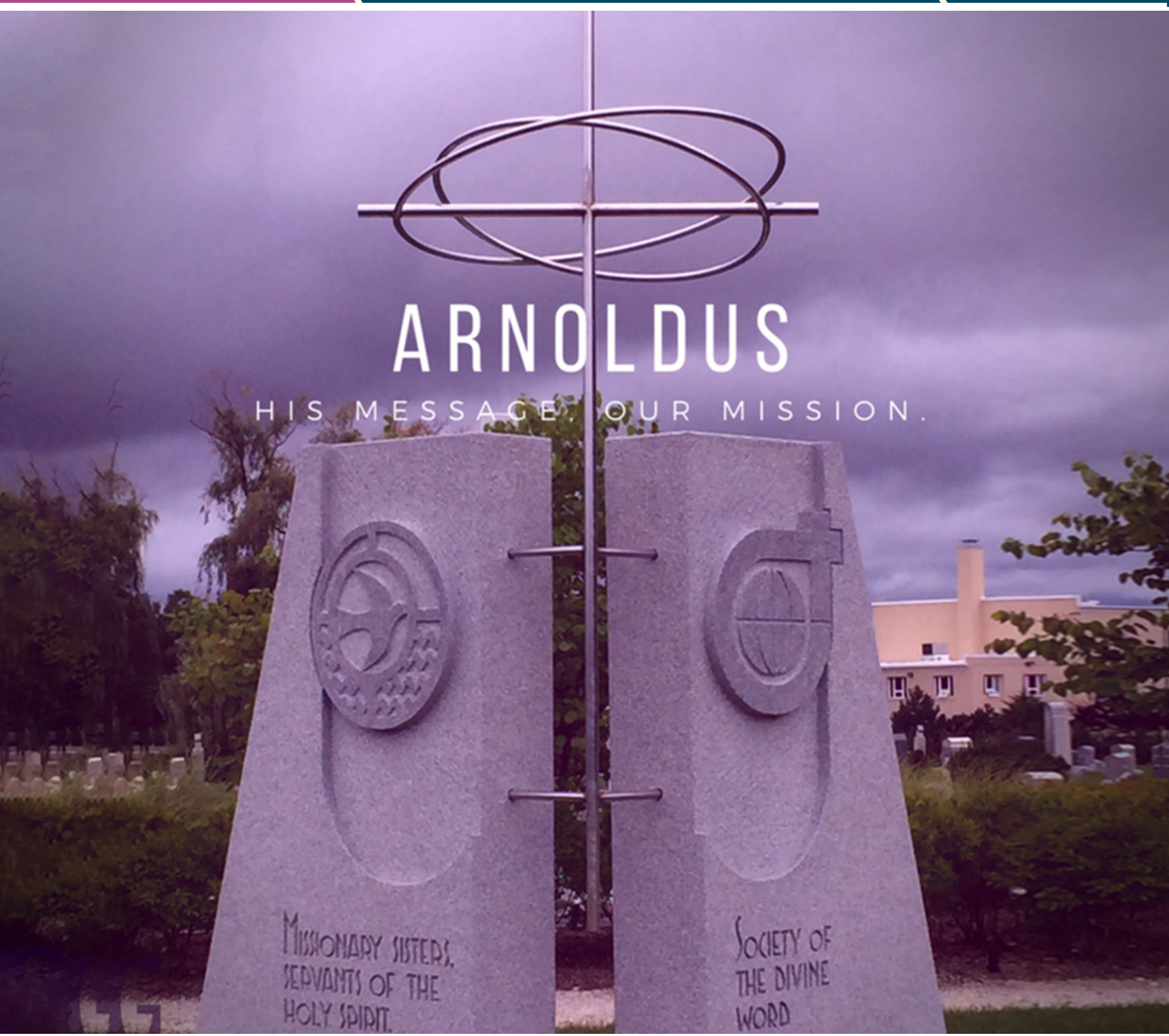


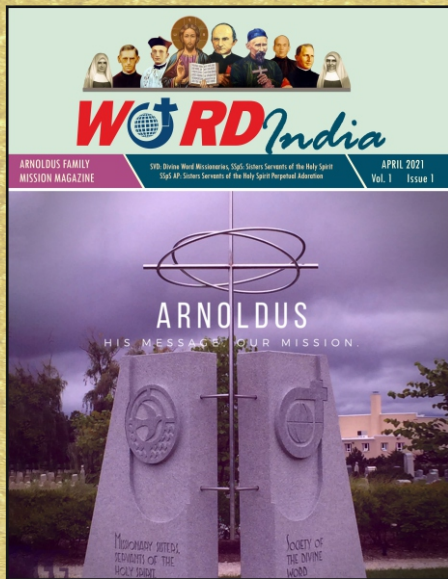
WORD *India*

ARNOLDUS FAMILY
MISSION MAGAZINE

SVD: Divine Word Missionaries, SSpS: Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit
SSpS AP: Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit Perpetual Adoration

APRIL 2021
Vol. 1 Issue 1





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For Private Circulation only

With the Divine Word into the World

"What's in a name?" asked Shakespeare once. Last General Chapter of the Divine Word missionaries said, "our name is our mission," and went on to state a deeper understanding of and commitment to our name, the Divine Word.

What do we do as missionaries? We proclaim Jesus Christ, the Word incarnate. This Christ is not a personality whose philosophy needs several interpretations because he has not said anything vague or ornamental. Whatever he said is very simple, and is easily understandable by anyone. What we do is to put his spirit in to our lives. Christ Spirit is not only meant for Christians. It is for all who have regards for him. He has no limited sphere. The whole world comes under his purview.

WORD INDIA is another name for the Word incarnate that explains our commitment to his mission in the media way. By this magazine, the Arnoldus family shares with you our stories of the mission. From now on it comes to you in the renewed form of an e-magazine.

Our recent Provincial have emphatically the Divine Word into to that aspect of the announced, heard community of the

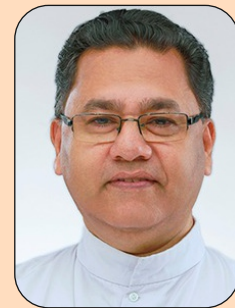
**"OUR NAME
IS OUR
MISSION"**

in his apostolic exhortation Verbum Domini had poetically explained it as "a symphony of the Word." Our Missionaries try hard to percolate this symphony through out the world by communicating it effectively through the media, and by serving the poor. And more, the beauty of this 'symphony of the word' is that it must resonate in our missionary communities. There's a lot of deep thought there.

Over the years WORD INDIA has played a significant role in orchestrating the symphony of the Word. We magnify our love for the Word in its multiple aspects through our life of prayer, and recommit ourselves to concrete actions that manifest his spirit. It becomes then our duty to replicate this love by our life of sharing, in humility, mercy and love.

In this issue you will find how we translate the symphony of the Word in our missionary actions especially through the ministry of communication. *Our name is our mission.*

Mathew Chennakudy SVD
Editor



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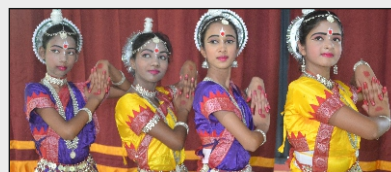
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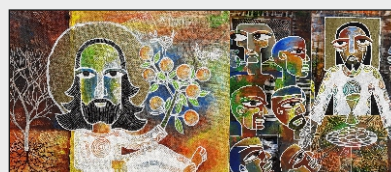
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SVD CONTRIBUTION TO THE MEDIA APOSTOLATE IN INDIA

Fr. Clarence Srambical, SVD

For the SVDs, Communication as a specific missionary activity goes back to the founder Saint Arnold Janssen. He published The Little Messenger of the Sacred Heart to promote prayer for the foreign missions even before he founded the Society of the Divine Word in 1875. From then on, the social communications for the mission became one of the primary concerns of the Divine Word Missionaries. Since its arrival at Indore in 1932, the SVDs used a variety of traditional and modern media to dialogue with the peoples of the continent.

PRINT MEDIA

Print was the big mass medium in the mid-thirties to nineties of the 20th century. After learning Hindi quickly, S.N. Wald SVD published the bi-lingual book of Rituals and Blessings. Joachim Mocha SVD brought out Hindi catholic Catechism. Herman Westermann SVD published Sunday Readings for liturgy, and "Nav Jeevan" a book on sacraments and moral teachings. Fr. Gerry Hofstee authored "A catechism book for grownups and growing ups" in English and Hindi. Fr. George Proksch authored

Kristayan in line with Ramayan and wrote several story books and one act plays for children.

In 1947 the SVD Indore region established Sat Prachar Press. In those days printing presses were also the publishing houses. Sat Prachar Press served the Hindi speaking area by providing much needed literature for Christian and human formation.



Fr. S. N. Wald, SVD, holds the place of honour for providing the first-time catholic translation of the Old Testament into Hindi. Fr. Kamil Bulcke revised the texts of Wald but published the new version of the whole Hindi Pavitra Bible under the joint authorship of Wald-Bulcke. Divya Vani, the SVD Biblical institution in Bhopal, under the direction of Fr. Joseph P. Xavier SVD brought out the dramatized readings of the Bible originally in



Indore by Fr. Clarence Srambical SVD in 1980. Both these institutions continue to publish books on Missiology, Biblical literature and modern classical spirituality. In the last 27 years more than 200 new titles have been published from Satprakashan Sanchar Kendra in Hindi and English on a variety of topics. Fr. Clarence Srambical SVD brought out two volumes of History of the Indore Mission. Lately, Satprakashan Sanchar Kendra has published Fr. Clarence Srambical's "Handbook for praying Rosary together with the word of God" and Fr. Savarirayan's book edited by Abraham Michael on "A Retreat on the Mountains: Ascent to Holiness." Sat Prachar Press has also printed Fr. Clarence Srambical's book: "Saint Arnold Janssen a Prophet and A Sage for our Times."

audio-cassettes, then in CDs and now available also on the internet. Children of Hari by Fuchs is considered a monumental contribution to the cultural history of Balahis. Jungblut brought out Bhili grammar and his book on the Bhils The bowmen of India. Indian Cultural Institute founded by Fr. Fuchs continued to promote research and publish regularly books on the culture of various peoples in India.

In the north east belt, Fr. Jose Kuzhikkattuthazhe SVD with the founding of Sanskriti at Guwahati has brought out two outstanding books: "Understanding North East India: Contemporary Cultural Perspectives," and "Remembering Bro. Prem Bhai: A saint who walked on the earth."

ISHVANI, PUNE AND SATPRAKASHAN SANCHAR KENDRA, INDORE

Activities in print media got a boost with the founding of Ishvani Kendra, Pune in 1975 by Fr. Zeitler SVD and Satprakashan Sanchar Kendra,



MUSIC, DANCE AND TRADITIONAL MEDIA

Where ever the SVD went, they made full use of the folk and traditional media to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. Missionaries in the rural belt of Indore mission regularly organized in the villages Bhajan Mandalis (musical recitals together with explanations) on Biblical themes.

Right from the beginning Fr. George Proksch SVD with the help of Pandits pioneered the use of



Indian music and dance to communicate different gospel themes to the people of Hindi belt. Gradually, he established Gyan Ashram at Andheri Mumbai for promoting music and dance. Fr. Proksch won international renown when he took

LEADER SHIP AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

SVD personnel have been in the fore front of media leadership in the country. Satprakashan Sanchar Kendra and Arnold Vikas Sanchar



his dance drama troupe to Europe and performed on special themes during the Marian Year 1954, Munich Eucharistic Congress, and the Bombay Eucharistic Congress in 1964. Fr. Charles Vaz SVD continued to promote music and dance through Sangeet Abhinav Academy in Mumbai. Fr. Salate Nathan SVD regularly publishes devotional and inspirational audio albums.

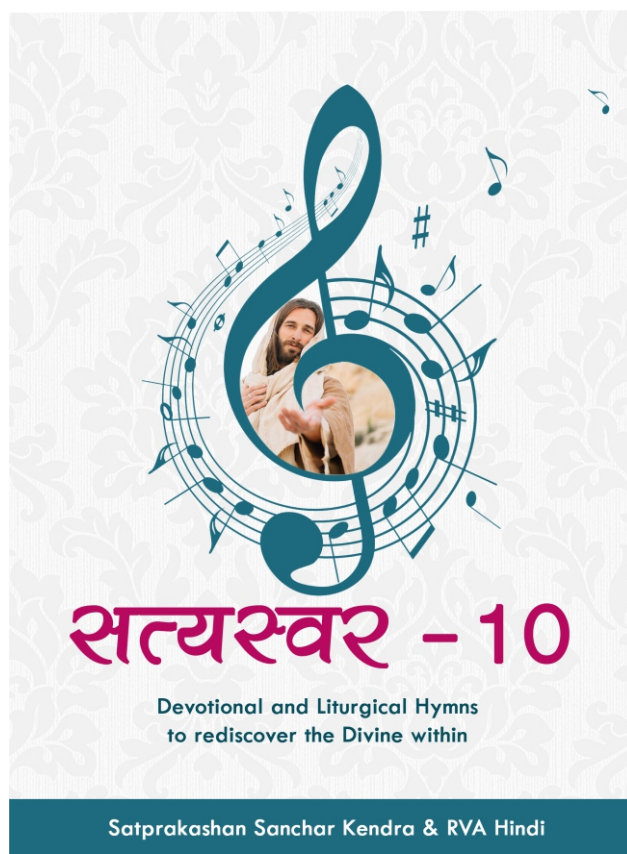
AUDIO-VISUAL MEDIA, FILM AND TELEVISION

From the nineties when the television expanded in the country, SVD men began to provide programmes through the cable and TV channels. Major contribution was the film, "Khristayan" produced at Satprakashan Studios by Fr. George Kannanayil SVD.



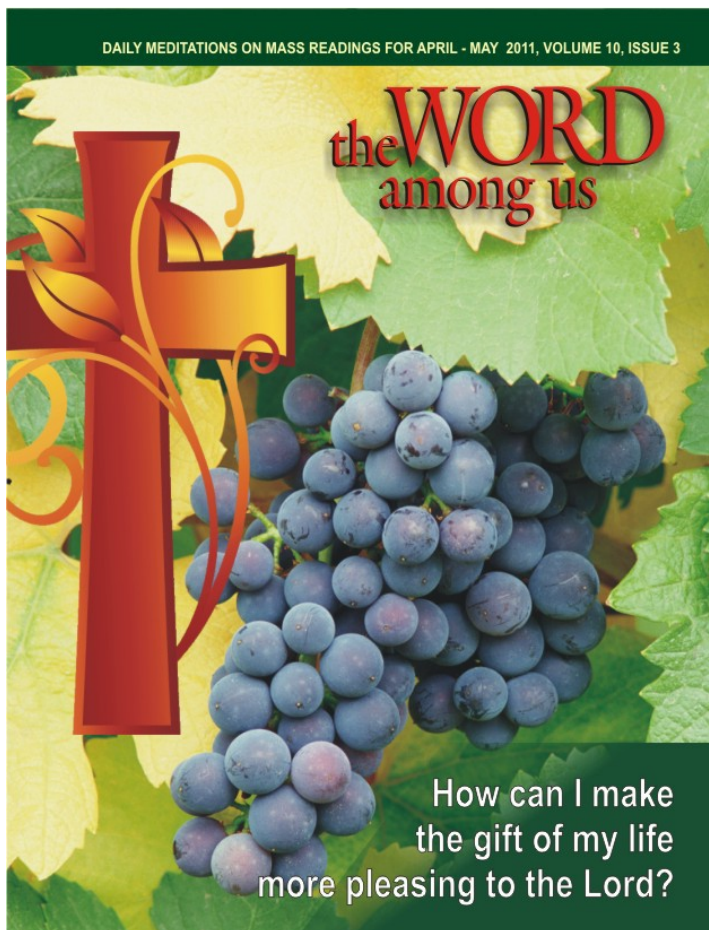


Kendra, Jharsuguda are functioning as regional centres. Fr. Clarence Srambical, SVD was the national Secretary / Treasurer of Unda/OCIC. India and Signis India for seven long years. In this capacity, he has been representing the country internationally.



It is noteworthy that the inspiration St. Arnold Janssen bequeathed to the subsequent SVD personnel has paid very tangible results in India.





BIBLICAL MAGAZINE: THE WORD AMONG US

Fr. Luis SVD

At the beginning of the 21st century, Fr. Mathew Chennakudy SVD founded the Indian edition of "The Word Among Us" with Satprakashan Sanchar Kendra as its base. Later in 2012, the premises of publication was shifted to Sat Prachar Press. Today, this bi-monthly biblical magazine reaches out to thousands of families and institutions world wide, as a source of animation and inspiration.

The Word Among Us is designed to help people to pray and read Scripture. The format of the magazine is simple. Each issue of *The Word Among Us* contains daily meditations based on Mass readings of the day. There is also a monthly theme for each issue with two or three primary articles explaining an aspect of the Catholic faith such as prayer, Sacraments, Lent, Advent, or the Scripture. There are also articles on the lives of saints and personal witnesses. Articles and meditations are written by a team of scholarly lay people. *The Word Among Us* follows a pattern of

encouraging its readers to experience God's presence in scripture and prayer, and thus receive the grace of the Spirit more deeply in their lives.

The magazine's name, *The Word Among Us*, comes from the Prologue to the Gospel of John: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father" (John 1:14). This passage reflects the vision and purpose of our publication: to be an instrument of the Spirit whose desire is to manifest Jesus' presence in and to the children of God. In this way, we contribute to the church's ongoing mission of proclaiming the gospel to the world, growing ever more deeply in our love for the Lord.

"Daily Divine Word your word our life" is a biblical Diary edited by Fr. Wilson Sagayaraj SVD and published by Yesuvin Arulmozhi of the SVD in Vadipatti,. It is a complete liturgical and spiritual companion.





COMMUNICATION MINISTRY : SINE QUA NON FOR CHURCH'S EVANGELISATION

Fr. Babu Joseph SVD

Communication is vital for human connectivity. In our effort to fine tune communication skills across human endeavors, communication technologies have been making giant leaps.

Taking a cue from the global Church, Satprakashan Sanchar Kendra began its operations in the field of publications at the Satprachar press premises in Indore, and later on moved to the present location with adequate facilities for audio and video production. Within a short time, radio broadcasting was added to it. Satprakashan entered into a contract with the Radio Veritas Asia based in Manila, Philippines for preparing and broadcasting programs in Hindi, and the required personnel were regularly deputed to carry out the task. It is a matter of great joy and satisfaction that Satprakashan has successfully completed 32 years of providing Hindi services to Radio Veritas in 2020.

Since a couple of years Radio Veritas has migrated to the YouTube in broadcasting its programs, and hence the Hindi programs are also on the same platform. In course of time Satprakashan has produced 10 volumes of Satyaswar series of audio albums, the latest one was released in January 2021. This has certainly helped the Christian communities in the Hindi speaking areas as many devotional hymns are produced. In addition, many short videos on social, religious and cultural issues that are of great value to the society have been also produced.

Satprakashan has greatly engaged in publications since its inception. It has published hundreds of titles both of SVD authors and others including people of other faiths, the focus being the spread of the Gospel messages and values. Through its publications and audio-video production facilities, Satprakashan has been



able to reach out and make an impact in the city of Indore as well as in the Church of the Hindi heartland.

Time has changed and we have moved on. Online mode has become the new normal. We provide online training programs in media and communications now. The response has been quite encouraging, and hence it is our resolve to fine tune this mode while not abandoning other modes of training programs. Along with the religious programs that we have been producing, we also focus more on social issues that need transformation. In other words, our communication ministry should serve as catalyst in society that stands in need of change and progress.



I communicate therefore I exist



क्या आपने देखा है उन्हें करीब से जो आज भी बंधे हैं सलीब से ?

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Streaming Partner ZEE5

Yeshu, the Hindi Serial

Fr. John Paul SVD

A new television serial on Jesus began in Hindi on December 22, 2020 from Monday to Friday on &TV channel. Since then it has been gaining popularity among viewers day by day.

The story of the serial entitled *Yeshu* is Jesus' life story, and it is done by Utkarsh Naithani, an actor, flutist and writer based on the research work of Fr. John Paul Herman SVD in the India Central Province. He has been working on it since March 4, 2020 as the producer and director called him to Mumbai for the first initial meeting. &TV channel presents for the first time in Hindi the story of *Yeshu*, produced by Arvind Babbal Productions Pvt Ltd. It is a popular Hindi channel which produces great mythological shows besides the comedy and entertainment shows.

Fr. Herman, a media professional, is the research scholar and the story developer of this

serial *Yeshu*, and Fr. Savari Rayan SVD, working in Divya Vani Biblical center in Bhopal, is associated with the serial as a guide. "It is a proud moment for us as Divine Word missionaries to reach *Yeshu* out to the people who have not heard or not sufficiently heard about him," says Fr. Herman, director of media commission, Catholic Diocese of Jaipur, Rajasthan. "Lockdown was a great opportunity for me to sit down and work on it. Since then I am on it all the time."

"*Yeshu*" is the story of an exceptionally benevolent child who only wants to do good and spread happiness all around him. His love and compassion is for all in stark contrast to the dark, evil forces prevalent during his birth and childhood. Witnessing the various atrocities on his family and in society has a deep impact on him.



His attempt to help others and ease their pain often leads to situations where he inevitably ends up being hurt and condemned by not just the oppressors but also the people at large. But even that does not stop Yeshu from continuing on his path. It not only is the most iconic story of good versus evil, but it also captures the beautiful relationship between Yeshu and his support and guide – his mother.

The Story of Yeshu is based not only on the infant narratives of the New Testament but also on

other gospels, traditions, interpretations and other sources. Since it is a creative presentation, the viewers have supported it with positive feedback. And they are growing day after day.

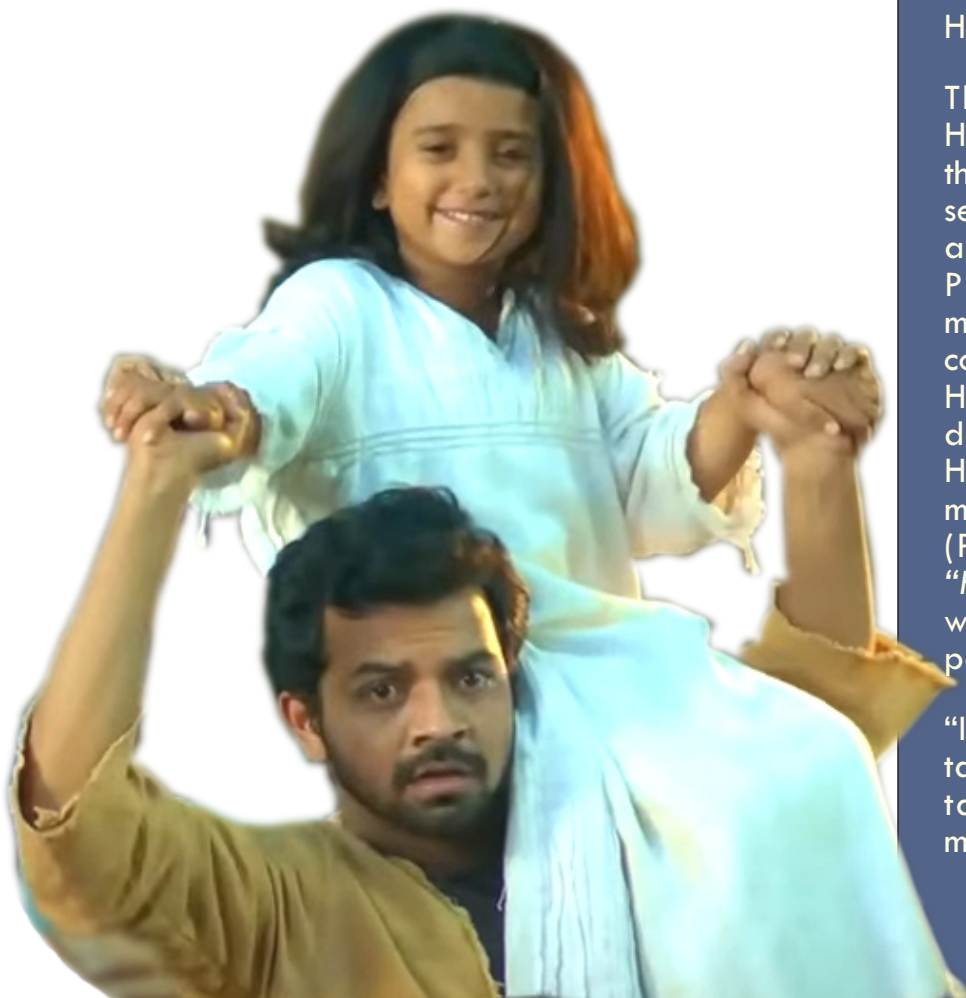
The running time for each episode is 22-25 minutes. The first episode was longer as it had to cover a long background of Jesus' birth. "The shooting is going on daily in Mumbai and I often make my trip to be with the team," says Fr. Herman.



Initially we were nervous besides being excited as to how will the viewers react as there has been many stories which are not found in the Bible. But seeing the views of the first promo crossing the 3 million mark and a number of positive comments made us feel relaxed.

So far hardly any christian film has been produced for the Hindi-speaking people who consist of the majority of the Indian population. "It is a great challenge and opportunity to tell the people who Jesus is. Many people will be informed by the serial," says Father Herman. "We are trying our best that things go well with viewers. We are taking some creative liberty to enhance the characters and the story in line with Christian faith. I am thankful for &TV team and the producer Arvind Babbal that they took a bold step in bringing out this serial and giving me this opportunity to be associated with the team of Yeshu. I am sure this will be a milestone for narrating the story of Yeshu to





Indian audience, specially for the Hindi speaking people.”

This has been Fr. John Paul Herman's dream that something of this kind should come in a mega serial. In the past, I have been associated with Fr. George Proksch SVD, a German missionary who made a significant contribution to music, dance and Hindi writings in India. Fr. Proksch's dance drama had influenced Fr. Herman from his childhood. “I was motivated to do doctoral research (Ph.D) on Fr. Proksch's book “*Khristayan*” and other books which he wrote from the Indian perspective,” Fr. Herman recalls.

“I thank God for such a responsible task the Lord has entrusted me. I take this task as part of my mission,” says Fr. Herman.





WORDNET PRODUCTIONS – IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE FOUNDER

Fr. Soney Sebastian, SVD

Wordnet Productions is the media center of the Society of the Divine Word Western Province USA. It was begun by Father Mike Manning, SVD who accomplished much in the last 35 years since its creation in the early 1970s. He said, “media is the best way to get to hundreds and thousands of people at the same time.” He worked with Mother Angelica of Eternal Television Network (EWTN) but had to stop it due to ideological differences. He then began to work with Dr. Paul Crouch a tele-evangelist from Costa Mesa in Southern California who had the biggest Christian Network in the world. After the passing away of Dr. Paul, his children had different way of running the network. This led us to new ways of doing the media ministry. Wordnet began its own streaming channel and use of Apps.

Mike Manning passed away in December 2016. But Fr. Soney Sebastian, SVD who had joined Mike in 2003 has been taking care of all the production and maintenance. Those days Wordnet Productions operated from Divine Word Residence, Riverside. Mike Manning had lots of friends, even celebrities from Hollywood

who gave him a large donation, which helped us move into the new building and begin the conversion of its spaces to productions studios, editing rooms, and conference halls.

Fr. Biju Thomas, SVD joined the ministry about six years ago. Before joining Wordnet he worked with NISCOT Delhi and with the media activities of INM. Recently Biju is appointed the President of Wordnet. Soney and Biju take care of the production of the programs and designing of the activities and ministry. There are seven staff working at the ministry. There are two religious sisters among these staff making it a collaborative activity. About 35 to 40 volunteers collaborate with the ministry in various capacities.

The objective of Wordnet has been to bring the Word of God to people through the medium of Television, internet and the written word. It has an APP called iGod Today. This is a daily reflection in English based on the liturgy of the day in video made available daily on every kind of devices from computer to cell phones. There are



12 people contributing to this program of which six are from the regular staff and the other six are volunteers including some young adults. We have a Spanish version of the same called Dios Habla, a free app for any kind of devices. The iGod Today and Dios Habla has around 16500 hits each monthly.

Wordnet has formed a new group of supporters and ambassadors called Wordnet Champions. These Champions are from the various SVD



parishes in the province. They serve as local promoters for Wordnet ministry.

Wordnet studio is large enough for most kind of productions. It has four HD cameras with all its accessories and a digital switcher capable of switching live programs and live streaming. It is equipped with LED lights and light control systems to make it more professional, convenient and up to date. The editing system uses industry

standard equipment and is updated and upgraded regularly to catch up with the need of the time.

After the passing of Mike Manning we continue to produce the same kind of interviews hosted by Jack Knight who has worked with Mike Manning for many years. We produce preaching shows by Fr. Soney Sebastian, SVD, Dr. Matthew Petrusek, Phd and many others. Soney also hosts interviews sometimes.

Two years ago, we stopped airing the programs on TBN. We now air the programs on our own streaming channel called WordNet TV (www.wordnettv.net). It is a 24/7 channel available on devices. It can be accessed through Roku, Apple TV, Androd TV, Amazon TV, Chromecast and YouTube Live. The highlight of the channel is the Mission Minutes exploring the missionary work of the Church in different parts of the world mainly through the activities of the SVD priests and brothers and the Holy Spirit (SSpS) sisters.

The pandemic had its effects on Wordnet as well. Our streaming programs and YouTube channel have become more popular with a wider reach and viewership. We launched live streaming Mass on Wednesdays followed by



adoration and benediction. Our audience who follow us every Wednesday has welcomed it. It also opened the door to begin live streaming presentations through YouTube where the audience could interact. The latest addition to our program is the Mission Minute News began in July 2020. Mission Minute News highlights local, national and international Church related news and missionary activity stories from the missions



around the world. This has opened a platform for us to speak about the current issues and to project the missionary activities of the Arnoldus Family. We have produced 15 episodes so far.

Besides these, Wordnet has produced and produces documentary programs. Two of the documentary programs produced in the recent years are “Jesus Calls Women” on the women vocation in the country and “Radical Love” on celibacy of the women religious. Programs on Alzheimers disease, homelessness and the gun culture in the country are a few other documentaries produced with the collaboration other organizations and dioceses.

Over the years, there have been a real evolving of the ministry at Wordnet. Our efforts always has been to move forward and answer to the need of the times. Pope Francis calls today's media world the 'Digital Continent'. Our last General Chapter has also invited us to respond to the invitation of the Digital Continent by adapting to it. Every effort of Wordnet has been to answer this need. One of the greatest challenges is to get the involvement of our own



confreres and members to share their stories, and to get interested members to be part of the media ministry.



“Communication works for those who work at it.” – John Powell





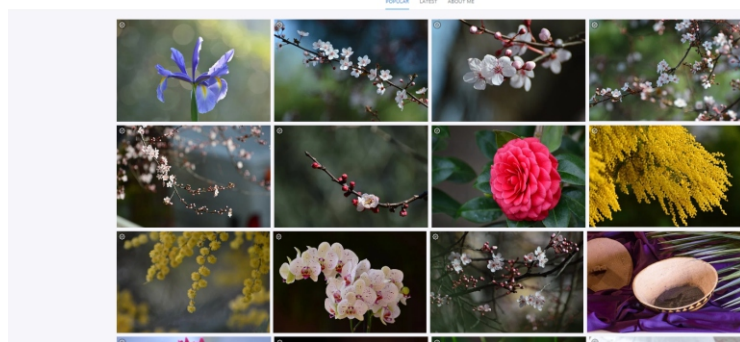
SSpS Communication at the Service of Communion

Sr. Gini George SSpS

The SSpS Congregational Communication Team (CCT) after the 14th General Chapter stressed the need to "Widen the Circle of Communion with Others" by creatively using "social media and modern technology to share the Good News of God's love." As Communication was an unorganized apostolate of the Congregation, it

was necessary to lay the foundation. The CCT drew inspiration from our Founder, Saint Arnold Janssen, and used the most advanced technology of that time – the printing press. He said, "When someone wants to spread something good, he must strive to influence his fellow men. For this purpose, he has to use means suitable for the circumstances





of the time. At present, one of those means is the press.”

In 2015, a group of six Sisters, appointed by the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) came together in Rome as a Communication Commission to create a 5-year plan. This Communication Plan provided direction and guidance toward the creation of an organizational structure that helped the Communication Ministry to assume its role as part of the Congregation's missionary response to the reality of the world today.

In October 2018, the First SSps International Seminar for Communications Coordinators was organized in Rome. This seminar allowed the Communication Coordinators to plan and work as a team from around the globe. The seminar motivated them to take on the Communication Ministry with zeal and enthusiasm. Another

important achievement was the creation of the Manual for Communication and Technology. This manual provides consistency, clarity, and appreciation for Communication Ministry.

Our main activities include publication of various materials like SSps World Wide Newsletter (recently converted into an E-Bulletin), Directories, Official Communications etc. We create and maintain mission updates on the SSps Website (<https://www.worldssps.org>) and social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. Periodically, we also produce audio-visual resources regarding congregational and social matters. One of the priorities of our team is to make the communication within the Congregation smooth and easy, using technologies like G-Suite and Workplace. We are also responsible for the maintenance of electronic gadgets and the internal networking for the Generalate offices.

My main area of expertise is visual storytelling, especially through videography, documentaries and photography. Every person has a story worth telling; a story that needs to be heard; a story that inspires, motivates and teaches the importance of living life to the full. Although, we may not always be aware of it, sharing our stories can influence others and make the world a better place. Because, I strongly believe this, I created a personal YouTube channel



(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGswfZinBKlQIH-L14leqTA>) with a series called “Your Story Matters” where many people have already shared their stories; I continue to look for more people willing to contribute their stories.

My passion for photography springs from my love for nature and a desire to see God in everyday life and in ordinary places and people. It serves me as a contemplative prayer and instils in me the awareness that all of creation is a Sacred text. The colours, lines, shapes and patterns speak to me of God's love for the world and this helps me to stop, look, wind down and be present to see with the inner eyes. I share this experience with others through social media, in the form of images and short write ups. I also contribute my photographs to Pixabay, a site where all can freely download and use high quality images. Some of my

photographs are used for making cards in the Divine Word Press in Ireland.

It is not our expertise in the latest technologies that makes us good communicators, but rather it is keeping our hearts open to hear the voice of God and to communicate that through our life and mission.



**“The way we talk to our children becomes
their inner voice.”
- Peggy O’Mara**





GLIMPSES OF INM COMMUNICATIONS

Fr. Evan Gomes SVD

Three full-fledged communication centres are active in the Mumbai Province.

GYANASHRAM, ANDHERI EAST

Gyan Ashram Day was celebrated on 15th February 2020 in the Lotus Gardens in Gyan Ashram Campus. This cultural evening was based on the theme - "The Glorious Time of Art". On this theme a musical drama was performed by the students of Gyan Ashram Music and Dance Academy with a special emphasis on giving importance to art. Due to the advancement of

science and technology and changing lifestyle of younger generation, life has become more and more mechanical, and art is losing its prominence slowly. Therefore, it is the need of the hour that we cherish the art forms and promote them more and more so that the future generations too may appreciate them as we do at present.

ISHVANI KENDRA PUNE

On the occasion of Mission Sunday October 18, 2020 Ishvani Kendra organized a Webinar on Mission of All Religions at a Critical Time for Humanity and Nature. Religions play the central role in the lives of people, particularly in India. They shape the course of humanity. Pope Francis, in his latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, observes that all religions are at the service of fraternity in the world and appeals to their followers for "building fraternity and defending justice in society." The Holy Father maintains that "the effort to seek God with a sincere heart, provided it is never sullied by ideological or self-serving aims, helps us recognize one another as travelling companions, truly brothers and sisters" (FT 274).



PRODUCTIONS:

1. **On Wings of Love:** A 30 minutes and 45 minutes documentary on the Founder, Fr. Raymond Francis Camillus Mascarehas, of Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany, Mangalore, on the occasion of the Centenary Year of the Foundation of the Congregation.
2. **One Purpose, One Mission, One Dream:** A 30 minute documentary film on the mission work of the Bethany Sisters of Eastern Province (Congregation of the Sisters, of the Little Flower of Bethany, Mangalore), on the occasion of the Centenary Year of the Foundation of the Congregation.
3. **Through the Pages of Calendar:** A 7-minutes video done for the Bethany Sisters of Northern Province.
4. **A Conversation between Bp. Thomas Dabre and Dr. Sadanand: More on Interreligious Dialogue:** A video presentation for YouTube done for the Diocese of Pune at the request of Bishop Thomas Dabre.



DIVINE MEDIA CENTRE, MULKI

Divine Media Centre is involved effectively in developing the Church Management Software for Udupi and Mangalore Dioceses as well as other nearby Dioceses. This Church Management software is widely used by various parishes, and the dioceses have made it mandatory to install it.

This software is developed and managed by the Divine Media Centre. It also develops various church and school websites of our province as well as other religious congregations.



VATICAN WIDGET

The day-to-day activity of the Holy Father and the life of the Church are now easily and freely made available in a simple and effective widget offered directly by the Dicastery for Communication, Vatican. This widget is embedded on the home page of the province website (<https://svdinm.com>). The widget gives all users the possibility to access – in real time – the content published on the news portal of the Holy See: Vatican News, and on the Holy See's institutional website: Vatican.va. Through this widget you can have access to all articles, videos, multimedia content and magisterium.

In an attempt to uncover the various challenges of current times, we have embarked on a new intervention through the digital and social media space. Digital and Social media can be a powerful tool for any organization. It can increase our visibility, enhance relationships, establish two-way communication with people and provide a forum for feedback.





ST. ARNOLD VIKAS SANCHAR (SAVS): AN SVD HERITAGE

Fr. Christopher Kerketta, SVD

Communication ministry is our Divine Word congregational heritage. St. Arnold Janssen started the mission magazine *Little Messenger of the Sacred Heart* that played a vital role in founding the three mission congregations. Proclamation of the Word has been our primary focus since then.

Servant of God Fr. Marian Zelazek SVD is considered the Father of Communications Ministry in Sambalpur Mission. He used an old Jeep as Mobile Cinema Theatre equipped with a movie projector and went around the parishes showing religious movies. In 1974 Fr. Mathew Poovanpuzha inherited this mobile unit and set up the Communication Center St. Arnold Vikas Sanchar (SAVS) in the INE Province. The purpose was to promote catechetical work for deepening the faith of the people in Sambalpur mission.

Ten years later (1984) at the request of Regional Council of Bishops of Odisha, and at the recommendation of the INE Province Planning Committee, this centre was made the

'Regional Communication Centre' for Odisha region catering to the media needs of all the six dioceses of Odisha, namely, the archdiocese of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Berhampur, Rayagada, Sambalpur and Rourkela. The SVD was given the administrative responsibility of running it as the Regional Communication Centre under the supervision of the Bishop of Sambalpur.

Today the Vikas Sanchar animates and coordinates the media activities in all these dioceses of Odisha as well as the neighboring civil states like Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and West Bengal that fall under the SVD Eastern India Province. The vision and mission of the Center have been to propagate Gospel values through media and share important information for a just human society.

St. Arnold Vikas Sanchar primarily supports the pastors, religious and lay leaders to be effectively spreading the Good News through media related activities. The committed social activists, teachers and other developmental



workers make use of the facilities of the center to equip themselves with effective skills. They make use of the library containing audio-visual CDs, VCDs, DVDs, charts, and reference books to meet the developmental, educational, spiritual, and environmental needs of the human society.

Reach Out ministry is one of the main focuses of the center today. Its dance-drama group reaches out to at least 12 to 15 parishes a year, performing both religious and social awareness programs. Another reach out ministry is the Mobile Film Unit that goes out to parishes and villages screening religious and educative audio visual programs accompanied by seminars on various topics. The third part of our reach out program focusses on schools, parishes and institutions with media awareness seminars and workshops, leadership training programs, motivational talks, and career guidance for the parish youth.

The Center regularly organizes intensive training programs and courses in communication and journalism. It also undertakes production of audio-visual programs and publications of books for social awareness, faith formation, catechetical and educational purposes. With a desk top publishing (DTP) system, the center is able to prepare religious and value based publications. Many Priests and Religious are the main beneficiaries of this service. Recently, the center recorded an awareness audio-visual song for Covid-19 in collaboration with the local police administration of Jharsuguda. By this we try to reach out to various social organizations locally.

The SAVS center has also been regularly catering to the spiritual needs of the faithful through Online-Live-Telecast of Holy Mass and Adorations. There have been a number of Zoom interactions with the regional diocesan communication coordinators. Thousands of faithful have been benefitting spiritually.

ARNOLD MUSIC AND DANCE ACADEMY (AMDA)

Dance and Music School under the banner of *Arnold Music and Dance Academy (AMDA)* is an attraction of the center today. Various forms of

music and dance are taught to residential as well as non-residential students from the local township. There are a hundred plus regular students for various streams of dance, music and arts. Since the academy is enrolled and affiliated to a prestigious music university



Octapad Class



Trango Regular Class



Spoken English Class for the Drop-outs

called *Prayag Sangeet Samiti* in Allahabad, the students of SAVS appear for their theory and practical exams twice a year there. They also participate in various states and national level competitions, and are mostly from non-Christian





religious backgrounds. The Music and Dance Academy has four professional teachers and two technical helpers. They are specialized in Hindustani Classical Music, Classical Dance, musical instruments, painting and technical work. The center gets the help of artists and technicians for the video shoots, mixing and editing. Through this ministry we have been able to open the door for a contextualized dialogue in our multi-religious and multi-cultural set up.

The Women Religious Collaborators and lay men and women of Vikas Sanchar are our strength. The center has three committed lay men and two women on a regular basis to support our various activities. Ursuline Franciscan Sisters of Mangalore will join the centre from June 2021 for collaborative mission work in the coming years. Over the years, the women religious missionaries have proven to be effective in their approach and dealing with the women folk.

THE LAY-COLLABORATORS:

The youths are the main collaborators in our reach out ministries to various parishes. Most of them are victims of their abject poverty at home and they fall prey to various bad habits. Since the year 2000, then director Fr. Amalan, SVD, began keeping such boys and girls at the regional communication centre from various parishes of Odisha region. Such youths have been trained according to their talents and have been instrumental in spreading the Gospel Values through dance, music and various role-plays in the parishes. These students are motivated to live better Christian life and are guided in their studies with coaching classes. Many among them are poor Adivasi Christian youths who acquire various media skills like acting, singing, and playing musical instruments from us. Above all these youths are given the SVD spirit to live their lives with the Gospel Values in the family and Society.

The media and communication is like an ever growing tree producing regular fruits generation after generation. It is ever new, always relevant and inevitable for any missionary of the 21st century.





THE INH ARNOLD COMMUNICATIONS

Fr. G. Anil Kumar SVD

Arnold Communications distribute the Word of God through our charismatic retreat houses like Divine Word Centre, Divine Mercy Centre, and Arockia Annai Shrine Vadipatti where thousands of faithful flock to listen to the Word of God. They have publications through which they distribute the Word of God. Arnold Communications play an active role in promoting these centres by

producing videos and circulating them on YouTube, Facebook and other social media.

Responding to the need of the situation, Arnold Communications have become an instrument of reaching the Holy Eucharist to the people through YouTube and Facebook. Online Mass and retreats are of much use to the people to fulfil their



spiritual thirst. Online Masses and talks are uploaded in the province YouTube channel INHCOM. Many of our confreres are enthusiastic to upload their personal reflections and especially Sunday reflections through their personal blogs and YouTube channels.

The Arnold Communication centre is well connected to the regional communication centre Amrutha Vani. By these activities, SVD confreres have been involved in the primary evangelisation of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamilnadu. In order to reach out effectively, Arnold Communications has a Bible Diary with daily reflections in the languages of Telugu, Tamil and English. Proclamation of the Word is found to be very effective in the form of Bible diaries.

Arnold Communications takes an active part in Vocation Promotion. In the present scenario, it is very difficult to find vocations to religious congregations. Our lifestyle does not encourage youths to join seminary and become missionaries. However, Arnold Communications through its active updates and information in social media attracts many youths to become missionaries.

The youth of our SVD parishes is the backbone of Arnold Communications to function effectively. The institute organizes various outreach programs and annual programs like Arnold Janssen Youth meet, Arnold Janssen youth retreat, sports meets and Christmas celebrations. The youths are very actively participating and help the department in many different ways.



Arnold Communications apart from organizing events and programs, do spread the Arnold Janssen spirituality. Prayers and novena books of Arnold Janssen are circulated among parishioners in the form of videos and PDF files so that they can pray and receive the blessings of God.

The centre organizes various social awareness programs for women empowerment and women's education. These programs are conducted in villages by means of street plays, skits and dance.

All these are an attempt to find meaning in our prayer:

“May the darkness of sin and the night of unbelief Vanish before the light of the Word, and may the Heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all people”. Amen.





EVANGELIZATION THROUGH CHRISTIAN ART

Fr. Petrus Baraik SVD

Art forms through ages have been a source of joy and new insights. Different forms of art like dance, songs, drama, poetry, sculpture or paintings have always brought not only joy to our mind but have healed our souls. Christian art and architecture have brought people of many cultures and religion into one common platform of discussion and sharing of Jesus story. They are the store house of biblical stories containing knowledge of our faith. They beautifully and elegantly present the image and story of Christ in different churches around the world.

Fr. Petrus SVD while doing his studies in Fine Arts gets to interact with professors and students of other faith. Most of the western masters' paintings and sculptures of different era contain Christian stories. In the university not only the technique but the content and the context that led to the creation of those art forms are discussed in detail. This creates a unique avenue to engage in faith sharing, dialogue with the teachers and the students belonging to different faith.

Visual catechism is a good way to teach the Bible. On the biblical

Sunday celebration in Khumulwng parish, Champaknagar there was exhibition of sketches and drawing depicting various biblical events. This had helped the viewers both young and old to see the biblical narratives in drawing. The pictures in themselves communicated to the people irrespective of different linguistic groups. These drawings and sketches helped the people to remember and understand biblical events in sequence and oriented them to understand the word of God and led them to pray.



**WE CONSIDER IT OUR DUTY TO PROCLAIM
THE WORD OF GOD TO ALL.**

