



Detoxing Online

#Joseph'sWay







St. Joseph's Church, Akurdi



St. Joseph's Church, Chembur ROF



St. Joseph's Church, Jerimeri



St. Joseph's Church, Airoli



St. Joseph's Church, Powai



St. Joseph's Church, Naigaon



St. Joseph's Church, MC Road



The Inauguration of Joseph's Way, a personal pilgrimage initiative to eleven churches dedicated to St. Joseph in the Eparchy of Kalyan, by Fr. Franklin Pottananickal, Director of KEY



കാണാതെ പോകരുത്"

ലോകം അടിമുടി മാറുകയാണ്. മനുഷ്യജീവിതത്തിന്റെ എല്ലാ ക്രമങ്ങ ളേയും കോവിഡ് 19 മാറ്റിമറിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. നിർണായകമായ മാറ്റം അരങ്ങേറിയ ഒരിടം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ മേഖലയാണ്. ഈയൊരു സന്ദർ ഭത്തിലാണ് ഓൺലൈൻ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ സാധൃതകൾ വ്യാപ കമായി ഉപയോഗപ്പെട്ടു തുടങ്ങിയതും. അതേസ്മയം ഓൺലൈൻ പഠ നം ഉയർത്തുന്ന വെല്ലുവിളികളെ നാം കാണാതിരുന്നുകൂടാ. അവ വി ദ്യാഭ്യാസമേഖലയെ ബാധിക്കുന്നത് മൂന്നു തലങ്ങളിലാണ്. ഒന്ന് ഡിജി റ്റൽ വിഭജനം: ഡിജിറ്റൽ സാക്ഷരത എത്രയോ പരിമിതമായ നിലയി ലാണ് ഇന്നും തുടരുന്നത്. രണ്ട്, ഡിജിറ്റൽ അസമത്വം: വിവരസാങ്കേ തിക വിദ്യയുടേയും ആശയവിനിമയസാങ്കേതികവിദ്യയുടേയും അസ ന്തുലിതമായ ലഭ്യത മൂലം ഒരു പ്രദേശമോ ജനതയോ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന അസമത്വമാണ് ഡിജിറ്റൽ അസമത്വം. മൂന്ന് നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്ന സർഗ്ഗാത്മ കവിനിമയം: ഇതുമൂലം നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നത് സാമൂഹികതയാണ്. കൂ ടാതെ ഭാഷാ, സാഹിത്യ, ശാസ്ത്ര, കലാമേഖലകൾ ചരമസ്ഥാനങ്ങ ളായി മാറിയേക്കാവുന്ന അവസ്ഥയുണ്ടാകാം. സത്യത്തിൽ ഓൺ ലൈൻ സംസ്കാരസമ്പ്രദായം ഗുണത്തേക്കാൾ ദോഷകരമായ പ്രത്യാ ഘാതങ്ങളിലേക്കാണ് വിരൽ ചുണ്ടുന്നത്.

ഇവിടെയാണ് നമ്മൾ കണ്ണു തുറക്കേണ്ടത്.

ഈ ലോകത്തിൽ പിറന്നു വീഴുന്ന ഓരോ ശിശുവും ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കൈയൊപ്പുള്ള മാലാഖമാരാണ്. ദൈവസ്വപ്നങ്ങൾ സാക്ഷാത്ക രിക്കപ്പെടേണ്ടത് അവരിലൂടെയാണ്. വളർന്നു വരുന്ന യുവതലമുറ അ ത്യാധുനിക ഡിജിറ്റൽ ലോകത്തിന്റെ ഉപഭോഗവസ്തുവാകാതെ, ദൈ വമെന്ന സതൃത്തിലേയ്ക്ക് വളരേണ്ടവരാണെന്നും, ആ വളർച്ചയ്ക്ക് ആവശ്യമായത് സ്നേഹമാണെന്നും, ആ സ്നേഹം പരസ്പരം പങ്കു വെച്ച് ഒത്തൊരുമിച്ച് ദൈവസ്നേഹതണലിൽ വളർന്ന് നിത്യജീവനായ ഈശോയെ സ്വന്തമാക്കി, ദൈവസ്വപ്നങ്ങൾ സാക്ഷാത്കരിക്കപ്പെ ടേണ്ടവരാണെന്നുമുള്ള തിരിച്ചറിവിലേക്ക് വളരാം.

ഈ ലക്കത്തിലൂടെ കോവിഡ് 19 എന്ന മഹാമാരിയിലൂടെ കടന്നു പോകുമ്പോൾ ഉണ്ടായ വൃതിയാനങ്ങളേയും അവ പ്രധാനമായും ബാ ധിച്ചത് മനുഷ്യബന്ധങ്ങളെയാണെന്നും, ആശയവിനിമയ മാധ്യമമായി ഓൺലൈൻ മാത്രമായി, മനുഷ്യനെ യാന്ത്രികമായ ചുറ്റുപാടിലേക്ക് എത്തിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്നു ചൂണ്ടികാട്ടുന്നു. ഈ ചിലന്തിവലയിൽ നി ന്നും പുറത്തുകടന്ന്, യഥാർത്ഥ സൗഹൃദങ്ങളിലേക്കും, സാഹോദ രൃത്തിലേക്കും പോകേണ്ടതിന്റെ ആവശ്യകതയെക്കുറിച്ച് ഊന്നി പറ യുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു.

ദൈവസ്നേഹ പാരമ്യത്തിന്റെ ഭാവമായ ഈശോയുടെ പീഡാസഹന മരണ ഉത്ഥാന രഹസ്യങ്ങളെ ധ്യാനിച്ചു കടന്നു പോകുന്ന ഏ<mark>വ</mark>ർക്കും

> ഉത്ഥിതനായ ഈശോഖുടെ സന്തോഷത്തിന്റേഖും, സമാധാനത്തിന്റേഖും സ്വാതന്ത്ര്വത്തിന്റേഖും ഈസ്റ്റർ ആശംസകൾ.



YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO MY FEET & A LIGHT TO MY PATH

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Getting Clean or Detoxification: Do We Need It?



Dr. Joseph Kanayamplakal

Head - Research, Emkay Wealth Management St. Mary's Forane Church, Andheri West Any decades back, a detoxification was a process administered in a hospital to eliminate some toxicity from the body. One could go home after a few days as they felt well, and the toxins were out of their body. But today, the meaning of detoxification itself has undergone a drastic change. In fact, for everything including even having a cup of green tea or herbal drink, the term is commonly used. But detoxification is not that simple a process because a healthy human body which has a functional liver and kidneys is capable of detoxification that the body needs on a daily basis. Therefore, the meaning of the word as we use it here, refers to a deeper cleansing which includes the body, the mind, and the soul. Individual aspects of this process of cleansing may apply sometimes either only the body or to the mind. In this context, it just means a conscious process by which you refresh yourself and rejuvenate in a meaningful way, which enhances your physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing.

The First Sin

The need for cleansing or detoxification, or the conditions that lead to it, has its genesis in the first sin and the ouster of man from Paradise. Destined to earn his bread by the sweat of the brow, he continually negotiates the vagaries of nature to fill his stomach. Over centuries of existence the accumulative and self-protective instincts engendered in him many good things, but also many negative traits like greed, selfishness, and aggression. It led to not only estrangement of man from man but also estrangement of man from nature, and man from God. Profit motive and the desire for material acquisitions, and all that comes with it, is the product of the banishment, and it naturally had its impact on the human mind, thinking and behaviour. The human mind is not made for disorder or violence, but for innate peace and tranquillity, and any deviations from the normal requires corrective action. The sacred scriptures embody this process of return to God's mercy and peace. The vulnerability of the human body and mind cries out for the cleansing or detoxification from time to time.

The Health of the Planet

Due to the consumption of fossil fuel for transport, and smoke emitting from factory chimneys, the level of air pollution has crossed the danger levels. Every year, we read about bushfires, and vast stretches of forests getting gutted by fire, mainly in summer. The earth is So, when you think of cleansing and detoxification, there are many reasons why we may need it, to varying degrees. It will be interesting to plan a trip to the hills or to the beach and enjoy the immensity of God's creation, or just walk to the Confessional.

getting warmer and hot, and it is burning, and gasping for breath. Almost 7 million people die premature deaths every year due to the adverse effects of air pollution. Air pollution and breathing in black carbon and methane reduces life span. But the thing to be particularly noted is that these things are affecting our lives on a daily basis as we fall sick too often and are not able to enjoy everyday life and activities. You can just imagine the impact this will have on our progeny, as children grow up invariably with lower lung capacity.

Pope Francis in his encyclical on the care for our common home writes, ... Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she "groans in travail" (Rom 8:22).

Monotony

"I am feeling bored", how long will I keep doing this? is something that we hear more





often at the workplace and probably less at home. The need that you feel is an escape from monotony, the desire to do something different. The predominantly urban life that we end up leading is repetitive at the workplace and even at home to a large extent. This monotony needs to be avoided for some time for us to come back to the pristine nature that we belong to. Bishop Fulton J Sheen says, we do not see monotony in nature, though the river flows the very same way even after many centuries. The birds sing much the same way even after a century. Nature refreshes itself in a miraculous way and it offers respite to the tired eyes and limbs. There is no monotony in nature, and it is important for us to look at nature and be in the company of nature as often as possible to get over the monotony. This is a cleansing for the body and the mind.

Reconciliation

Detox may be required at a spiritual level too. It is precisely this spiritual cleansing or detoxification, "metanoia", that we attain as we go in for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It may be too simplistic to call it a detoxification act as its impact is much more deep and powerful than that. As we go for confession, it fills us with three spiritual benefits. First, as we say the confession and say sorry and decide to be better people, we get pardon for our sins which helps us to start our spiritual life on a fresh grounding, to restart everything all over again. Second, we receive the Holy Spirit, like it is with all sacraments. And third, we get the special grace in accordance with our state of life - married people, young students, health workers, priests - the special grace helps us to sustain in the state of life in accordance with God's will. It is something which Jesus grants us freely and imparted to us by the priest freely, and so we should receive the sacrament as often a s possible to receive the graces.

So, when you think of cleansing and detoxification, there are many reasons why we may need it, to varying degrees. It will be interesting to plan a trip to the hills or to the beach and enjoy the immensity of God's creation, or just walk to the Confessional. Whatever refreshes you and helps you go back and make amends is that we need. We need it more often than you ever thought of.

KALYAN LANTERN APRIL-MAY 2021 07 COVER STORY

ONLINE FATIGUE AND SELF CARE

Open -> Word Document -> New -> Online Fatigue and Self Care

A blank page and a blinking cursor.

I stare at the blinking cursor that urges me to begin penning down my thoughts about online fatigue. I'll begin with my own screen time tally for the day - a total of 6.5 hours of online classes and assignments and more to go. The cursor blinks incessantly and I gather the strength to write this article. Online fatigue is very real and is affecting us in more ways than we realise!

The outbreak of the pandemic forced us all to pick up our digital devices and adapt to an unthinkable little virtual universe on our screens. From preschool children learning to colour online to our elder Appan-Ammamaar who swiftly mastered technology, we've all adapted to both the blessing and curse that this online world would bring us. I am grateful for the ways in which we've managed to learn, work, play and create even in the midst of a pandemic, all thanks to technology. But I also grieve for the restricted access I have to life size humans when they are confined in the small cells of my video calling app.



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What is Online Fatigue?

Online fatigue can be defined as the lack of motivation and exhaustion that is experienced due to a prolonged exposure to a sedentary digital life. Online work can involve video call meetings, tackling emails, creating digital resources and so on. The human brain is used to being stimulated in multiple ways through interaction with the real world. Socialising through screens is an alternative but it limits our interpretation of non verbal cues. Moreover, the mere act of staying on a call and seeing oneself can be distracting and make shy people feel more conscious. For extroverts, the experience of not meeting their peers face to face becomes frustrating as it limits their experience. One can begin to dread starting one's day and feel drained by the time the first call ends. Online fatigue can have physical symptoms such as muscle ache, eye pain, insomnia and so on.

How does it affect you?

Online fatigue is not classified as a mental health disorder at present, but it is important to factor that the human race is most dependent on a digital life now more than ever. While online fatigue is not a clinically diagnosable mental health disorder, its effects are very real and harmful. If left unattended, online fatigue can build and lead to a situation of a burnout which is a state of being emotionally drained. It is thus important to begin with acknowledging the resentments of a digital life and also allowing oneself to grieve for our pre-covid lives and the abrupt changes that have taken place.

Self care - Recharging your battery

The term self-care describes the actions that an individual might take in order to reach optimal physical and mental health. With the second wave crashing in, it is natural to feel helpless and more fatigued. While some things are beyond our control, our own self care and reducing our online fatigue is definitely in our power.



Self care has several dimensions - a few tips for each of the dimensions is listed below:



1. Mental/Emotional

- Have a non digital hobby read/sing/dance/ANYTHING other than scrolling a device
- Express feelings in a healthy manner (journal, talk, draw)
- Limit your phone time





2. Physical

- Hydrate well, eat healthy food
- Exercise, take stretch breaks during video calls
- Sleep for 7-8 hours, use a blue light filter to sleep better.

3.Spiritual

- Meditate or mindfully say the rosary/pray
- Yoga
- Gardening or enjoy a sunset

4. Social

- Spend time with family or friends in person
- Write gratitude notes to friends who are far away
- Ask others for help when needed.

Note - Social media often confuses selfcare with indulging in oneself through shopping. While such goods may give temporary joy, self care involves a deeper understanding of what fills your cup and keeps you content for a longer period. It comes from knowing how you can recharge your batteries so that your ideal self can be productive at work. If these little steps to wellbeing are not helping, then feel free to meet a mental health professional who can guide you to a healthier and more fulfilling life.

Bonus - If you really resonated with the information in this article, then google 'Self Care Assessment'. It involves rating yourself on a few statements and within 10 minutes you can find out which dimension of self care you're doing well in and which needs to be improved. Accordingly, you can customise and create your own little self care plan. For instance, if you scored a low score on physical self care, you can make one small and easy goal that improves that score such as going for a walk, 4 times a week or sleeping for 7 hours a night. Go ahead and create your own self care plan, you deserve it! Most importantly remember to be kind to yourself! We are fighting a pandemic and are in an unfamiliar territory. Things are already difficult, so let's go easy on ourselves and try to do things to the best of our capabilities. Pat your back for making it this far, friend! All the best.

Okay disconnecting now. Last seen today at ----?

KALYAN LANTERN APRIL-MAY 2021 10 COVER STORY

സാമൂഹിക ബന്ധങ്ങളും, ക്രോവിഡ് – 19 ഉം ഒരു അവലോകനം



Rev. Fr. Aloysius (Biju) Panickaparambil OFM Cap. Parish Priest, Ulhasnagar & Badlapur



വിവര സാങ്കേതികവിദ്യയിൽ അധിഷ്ഠിതമാണ് സമകാലിക സമുഹ ജീവിതം. ഇന്റർനെറ്റിന്റെയും, കമ്പ്യൂട്ടറിന്റെയും, മൊബൈൽ ഫോണിന്റെയും വെർച്ച്യൽ റിയാലിറ്റിയുടെയുമെല്ലാം കടന്നു വരവ് മറ്റേതൊരു സാങ്കേതിക വിദ്യയെക്കാൾ സാമുഹ്യ ക്രമങ്ങളെയും ബന്ധങ്ങളെയും പൊളിച്ചെഴുതി. കോവിഡിന്റെ വരവ് ഈ പ്രക്രിയയെ ത്വരിതപ്പെടുത്തി. ക്ലാസ്സ് മുറികളും, വ്യാപാരവും, എന്തിനേറെ ആദ്ധ്യാത്മികത പോലും ഇന്ന് സൈബർ സ്പേയ്സ്സിലേക്ക് മാറിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഒരേ മുറിയിലല്പാതെ എവിടെയിരുന്നു വേണമെങ്കിലും ആർക്കും മറ്റുള്ളവരോട് ഇടപഴകാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നതും സാമ്പത്തിക സമയ ലാഭങ്ങളുമെല്ലാം ഈ സൈബർ സ്പേയ്സ്സിന്റെ ഗുണങ്ങളും ആകർഷണങ്ങളുമാണ്. ലോകം വിരൽ തുമ്പിലായിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ അവസ്ഥയുടെ മറുപുറവും നാം പരിഗണിക്കണം. ഇത് വ്യക്തിബന്ധങ്ങളെയും മാനസിക ആരോഗ്യത്തെയും, കുടുംബ സാമുഹിക ക്രമങ്ങളെയും വ്യക്തിവികാസത്തെയും സാമൂഹിക ക്ഷേമത്തെയും എല്ലാം ദോഷകരമായും ഒരു പരിധിവരെ ബാധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

1. വൃക്തിയധിഷ്ഠിതചിന്ത

ലോകം വിരൽ തുമ്പിലായപ്പോൾ ജീവിതത്തിൽ മറ്റുള്ളവർക്ക് ഇടം ഇല്ലാത്ത ഒരു അവസ്ഥയും, വ്യക്തി കേന്ദ്രീകൃതമായ ചിന്തയും അധികരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. സാങ്കേതിക വിദ്യയിൽ എന്തും സാധിക്കും എന്ന തോന്നലും ഇതിനു പ്രേരകമായി.

2. കുടുംബബന്ധങ്ങളിലെ അകൽച്ച

വീടുകൾ ക്ലാസ്സ് റൂമുകളും, ചാറ്റ് റൂമുകളും, ഓഫീസുമെല്ലാമായി പരിണമിച്ചപ്പോൾ കുടുംബബന്ധങ്ങൾക്ക് സമയമില്ലായ്മയും യാന്ത്രികതയിലൂന്നിയ ഉപരിപ്ലവ ബന്ധങ്ങളിലേക്കും വഴി തുറന്നു. ജോലി സംബന്ധമായ Time Zone ഉം ഇതിനെ ബാധിച്ചു.

3. ഏകാന്തത

ഒരു കുടുംബത്തിൽ ജോലി സമയങ്ങളുടെയും, സമയക്രമത്തിലെയും വ്യത്യസ്ഥതയും, കാരണം പരസ്പരം ഒരുമിച്ചു സംവദിക്കാനും, സഹവസിക്കാനുമുള്ള സമയങ്ങളെ കുറച്ചു



കൊണ്ടു വന്നു. അത് ഏകാന്തതയിലേക്കും സുഹൃത് ബന്ധങ്ങളുടെ തകർച്ചയ്ക്കും ഇടയാക്കി.

4. ആസക്തികൾ

ഗെയിമിംഗ് ആസക്തികൾ, അശ്ലീല ആസക്തികൾ, നിർബന്ധിത വിവരശേഖരണം, നിർബന്ധിത ഷോപ്പിംഗ് എല്ലാം അവയിൽ ചിലതാണ്.

5. ശാരീരിക പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ

ശാരീരിക വേദന, ഉറക്കമില്ലായ്മ, കാഴ്ചപ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ, അമിത ഭക്ഷണവും ഭാരവും, കാർപൽ ടണൽ സിൻഡ്രോം (Median Nerve Compression) തുടങ്ങിയവ അതിൽ ചിലതുമാത്രം.

6. മാനസിക പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ

ഉത്കണ്ഠ, ഭീതി, ഒറ്റപ്പെടൽ, അക്രമണ സ്വഭാവം, കുറ്റബോധം, വിഷാദം, ജീവിതയാഥാർത്ഥ്യങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നുള്ള ഒളിച്ചോട്ടം, ഏകാന്തത, പ്രതീക്ഷയില്ലായ്മ, നിസ്സഹായത തുടങ്ങിയവ ഏതാനും ഉദാഹരണങ്ങളാണ്.

മേല്പറഞ്ഞ കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കെല്ലാം പുറകിലുള്ള കാരണം ചികയുമ്പോൾ കവി കുഞ്ഞുണ്ണിമാഷിന്റെ വാക്കുകൾ പ്രസക്തമാണ്.

''ലോകമൊന്നായിരിക്കുന്നു, കമ്പികൊണ്ടും കമ്പിയില്ലാകമ്പികൊണ്ടും എന്നാൽ കരളുകൊണ്ടല്ലു''. ബന്ധങ്ങളിലെ കുറവും പാളിച്ചയുമാണ് ഇതിന് കാരണം. പരിഹാരം ബന്ധങ്ങൾ പുന:സൃഷ്ടിക്കലത്രെ.

ബന്ധങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാധാന്യം

മനുഷ്യബന്ധം മനുഷ്യന്റെ ശക്തമായ ഒരാവശ്യമാണ്. കാരണം, മനുഷ്യൻ ഒരു സമൂഹ ജീവിയാണ്. അവന്റെ വ്യക്തിത്വവികാസം സാമൂഹ്യ ബന്ധങ്ങളെകൂടി ആശ്രയിച്ചാണിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഒരു വ്യക്തി മറ്റൊരു വ്യക്തിയുമായോ, പ്രവർത്തനവുമായോ, വസ്തുവുമായോ, പരിസ്ഥിതിയുമായോ സജീവമായി ഇടപെടുമ്പോൾ മനുഷ്യബന്ധം സൃഷ്ടിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. കവിവാക്കുകൾ ഇവിടെ സ്മരണീയമാണ്.

''വേദനിക്കിലും വേദനിപ്പിക്കിലും വേണമീ സ്നേഹബന്ധങ്ങളൂഴിയിൽ''.

മനുഷ്യരെന്ന രീതിയിൽ നമ്മുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തിന്റെ എല്ലാ വശങ്ങളിലും സാമൂഹിക ഇടപെടലുകൾ ആവശ്യമാണ്. ശക്തമായ സാമൂഹിക പിന്തുണയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ വൈകാരിക, ശാരീരിക ആരോഗ്യവും, പ്രവർത്തന മികവും, സംതൃപ്തിയും, ലക്ഷ്യബോധവും വർദ്ധിക്കുമെന്ന് മനശാസ്ത്രപഠനങ്ങൾ സൂചിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

സമൂഹവുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ പ്രയോജനങ്ങൾ

- സമാന ലക്ഷ്യങ്ങളുള്ളവരും പുരോഗതിയെക്കുറിച്ച് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നവർ ചുറ്റുമുണ്ട് എന്ന ബോധ്യം സുരക്ഷിതത്വം നല്കുന്നു.
- ഊഷ്മളതയും പ്രചോദനവും ബന്ധങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും ലഭിക്കുന്നു.

വീടുകൾ ക്ലാസ്റ്റ് റൂമുകളും, ചാറ്റ് റൂമുകളും, ഓഫീസുമെല്ലാമായി പരിണമിച്ചപ്പോൾ കുടുംബബന്ധങ്ങൾക്ക് സമയമില്ലായ്മയും യാന്ത്രികതയിലൂന്നിയ ഉപരിപ്ലവ ബന്ധങ്ങ ളിലേക്കും വഴി തുറന്നു. ജോലി സംബന്ധമായ Time Zone ഉം ഇതിനെ ബാധിച്ചു.



- കഴിവുകളെ വളർത്താനും ഫലപ്രാപ്തിയിലെത്താനും സഹായകരമാണ്.
- സാമൂഹ്യബോധവും സാമൂഹ്യ പ്രതിബദ്ധതയും വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നു.
- 5. ജീവിതത്തിന് ദിശാബോധം കൈവരുന്നു.
- വാത്സല്യം കാണിക്കാനും വികാരപ്രകടനവേളകളിൽ അപരന്റെ വികാരങ്ങളെ മനസ്സിലാക്കാനും കഴിയുന്നു.
- പരസ്പരം പങ്കുവെയ്ക്കാനും പിന്തുണക്കാനും പഠിക്കുന്നു.
- ആദരിക്കാനും ബഹുമാനിക്കാനും പഠിക്കുന്നു.
- സഹകരണമനോഭാവവും സഹവർത്തിത്വവും ആർജ്ജിക്കുന്നു.
- ഉത്കണ്ഠ, വിഷാദം, മറ്റു മാനസിക പിരിമുറുക്കങ്ങൾ കുറയ്ക്കുന്നു.
- ഉയർന്ന ആത്മാഭിമാനവും തന്നോടു തന്നെയും മറ്റുള്ളവരോടും സഹാനുഭൂതിയും പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നു.
- വൈകാരിക മാനസിക സാമൂഹ്യ ക്ഷേമത്തിനിടയാക്കുന്നു.

നല്ല ബന്ധങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതെങ്ങനെ?

- മറ്റുള്ളവരെ ശ്രദ്ധാപൂർവ്വം ശ്രവിക്കുക.
- അഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾ തുറന്നു പറയുക, ചോദിക്കുക.
- വ്യക്തികളുടെ പേര് ഓർത്തിരിക്കുക, ഉപയോഗിക്കുക.
- എനിക്ക് എല്ലാം അറിയാം എന്ന ഭാവം മാറ്റിവെയ്ക്കുക.
- 5. മറ്റുള്ളവരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുക.
- 6. ഒരുമിച്ചുള്ള പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളിൽ ഏർപ്പെടുക.
- 7. സംഭാഷണങ്ങൾ വ്യക്തത വരുത്തുക.
- മറ്റുള്ളവരെ ആദരിക്കുകയും ബഹുമാനിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുക.

കോവിഡുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടു ജീവിത വൈകാരിക പ്രശ്നങ്ങളെ സഹിഷ്ണതയോടെ നേരിടാൻ ACCEPTS എന്ന ചുരുക്കപേരിൽ ഏഴു കാര്യങ്ങൾ ചുവടെ ചേർക്കുന്നു.

1. AFFINITY - അടുപ്പം

സമാനചിന്താഗതികളുള്ള ആളുകളുമായോ ആശയങ്ങളുമായോ ഉള്ളത്.

2. COMMITMENT - പ്രതിബദ്ധത

വൃക്തികളോടൊ, ലക്ഷ്യങ്ങളോടൊ ആശയങ്ങളോടൊ ഉള്ള പ്രതിബദ്ധത

3. COMPASSION - അനുകമ്പ

മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളോടുള്ള സഹതാപവും അതിലിടപ്പെട്ട് സഹായിക്കാനുള്ള മനസ്സും.

4. EMPATHY - സമാനുഭാവം

മറ്റൊരാളുടെ വികാരങ്ങൾ മനസ്സിലാക്കാനും പങ്കിടാനും ഉള്ള കഴിവ്

5. PRAYER - പ്രാർത്ഥന

ആത്മാർത്ഥമായ പ്രതീക്ഷയും ആഗ്രഹവും, ദൈവിക മനുഷ്യബന്ധവും എല്ലാം ഇതിലുൾപെടുന്നു.

6. TRANSFORMATION - രൂപാന്തരം

സ്വഭാവത്തിൽ മാറ്റം വരുത്തി ഒരു സാമൂഹ്യ ജീവിയായുള്ള പരിവർത്തനം.

7. SENSIBILITY - സംവേദന ക്ഷമത

ജീവിതത്തിലെ സങ്കീർണ്ണമായ വൈകാരിക സൗന്ദര്യാത്മക സ്വാധീനങ്ങളെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുവാനും പ്രതികരിക്കാനുമുള്ള കഴിവ്.

ഉപസംഹാരം

വ്യക്തിത്വത്തിന്റെ സവിശേഷതകൾ സമുന്വയിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിൽ പരാജയപ്പെടുന്നതിന്റെ ഫലമായി ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന പൊരുത്തകേടുകളും അവ്യക്തതകളും പരിഹരിച്ച് സാഹചര്യങ്ങളോട് പൂർണ്ണമായും ന്യായമായും പ്രതികരിക്കാൻ ഒരുവന്ന പ്രാപ്തനാക്കലാണ് ജെസ്റ്റാൾട്ട് തെറാപ്പിയുടെ ലക്ഷ്യം. ജെസ്റ്റാൾട്ട് എന്ന പദത്തിനർത്ഥം 'ഒരുമിച്ച് ചേർക്കുന്നു' എന്നാണ്. സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ മുഖ്യധാരയിൽ നിന്നൊഴിഞ്ഞ് വെർച്ച്യൽ ലോകത്തിലും, ഏകാന്തതയിലും കുറ്റബോധത്തിലും, ഉത്കണ്ഠയിലും, വിഷാദത്തിലും ജീവിക്കുന്നവരെ സാമൂഹിക ബന്ധങ്ങളിലൂടെ തിരികെ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാനും നാമേവരും ഒറ്റപ്പെട്ട യാഥാർത്ഥ്യങ്ങളല്ല, സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗങ്ങളാണെന്നുള്ള തിരിച്ചറിവിലേക്കും സാമൂഹിക വൈയക്തിക സുഹൃത്ബന്ധങ്ങളിലേക്കും വളർന്നു കൊണ്ട് ആധുനികതയുട ദൂഷ്യവശങ്ങളെ നമുക്കൊരു പരിധിവരെ നിർമാർജ്ജനം ചെയ്യാം.



Rini Panamkkoodan

St Joseph's Forane Church, Powai

OVID-19 hit us like a train wreck, upending our lives unlike anything this century has ever seen. As the lines blurred and every day became a life and death struggle, we faced an unknown monster as we attempted to navigate the colossal storm uprooting our neatly ordered lives.



As we struggled to cope, we also got pulled into the whirlpool generated via social media. There was a flurry of posts on how to stay productive and amass certifications, so that we have something to show once the pandemic is over. Although no one explicitly stated these requirements or forced anyone to do more, this became the unsaid rule.

Social media became a far greater source of anxiety than the pandemic as everyone around us seemed to accomplish so much more while we could barely hang on to the threads of our sanity.

Right before our eyes, our workplaces underwent a transformation, our goals were realigned and we were expected to remain as productive as before, if not more. Without realising



it, we placed a heavy burden of ourselves: to match up to the new standards set by everyone else. We got busy looking at the highlight reel posted by our friends and acquaintances and simultaneously judging ourselves based on our workin-progress situations.

Working from home meant that we are never 10 steps away from our laptops and it gave others greater and better access to us. Our families had us close by and so did our colleagues. At first, flexible work hours and a lack of commute seemed to be a good thing. But suddenly, we realised that instead of working from home, we were sleeping at work. The mornings turned into nights and days into weeks, but we struggled to stop working. An unsaid fear started eating us alive amidst the chaos raging around us. We expected ourselves to put all the time we were 'saving' to good use and have something to show for it.

While the pressure continued to build, it became clear that something needed to be done. What is it that would help us navigate this maze? As I tried to make sense of things and take back a smidgen of control, I found myself reaching for Brene Brown's research-based wisdom. A professor at the University of Houston, she talks about the need for boundaries in our lives. She found that clearly defined boundaries help us say No to the things we don't want and to be fully present for what we do take up. It enhances our relationships and prompts us to bring our best to everything we do. More than any certification or seal of approval, we must first establish our boundaries to be productive by any definition of the word. Boundaries help us draw the proverbial line in the sand which help us say No to distractions and unnecessary requests.

As we face a global crisis, everyone from colleagues to friends, acquaintances to relatives will require our help at some point or the other. Here, it is important not to get carried away by our altruistic feelings. Boundaries help us rein in our emotions and keep our lives on track.

It might seem harsh to say No or to reschedule with someone close to you, but in times like these I fall back on the work of Adam Grant, an organisational psychologist at the Wharton Business School. Through research, he discovered that people can be broadly classified into givers, takers and matchers; givers - those who generously share themselves and their talents, takers - those who take more than they give, and matchers those who give only as much as they take. To his surprise, he found that the most successful and the least successful people in the world belong to the same group - the givers. The line that differentiates them? Boundaries. It is only when we structure our time and give that we can put our potential to good use.

But suddenly, we realised that instead of working from home, we were sleeping at work. The mornings turned into nights and days into weeks, but we struggled to stop working.

Amidst all this, the most important thing to do is to make space for ourselves. Find a block of time where you can pursue whatever interests you in peace. This, more than anything else, will keep us centred and ensure that we maintain a healthy balance of things.

So, while the pandemic rages and wanes, and a hundred other factors pressurise us, constructive productivity happens only when we take charge. We must define what we will and will not do, along with the when. Harvard psychologist Susan David puts it succinctly as she shares her mantra, "Be kind to yourself and stay curious".



ONLINE DETOXING: A Listicle of Activities



Bavitha Thomas Immaculate Conception Church Dombivli In this brand-new virtual world, pumping positivity amidst everything online has not been a cup of tea. Finding peace and a sense of comfort in the so-called new normal is what everyone is thriving for.

Evidently, online platforms are an inseparable part of our lives. Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter keeps us connected with loved ones, catch up on news, and discover both beautiful destinations and inspiring people. Education and work have also added up to our screen time through Zoom, Microsoft Teams and Google meets.



"Won't touch my phone and laptop for at least an hour!"

2 hours later

Ahh how did I spend 2 hours scrolling through my phone?

Been there, done that!

Long online working/studying hours and endless scrolling through various feeds can leave you feeling anxious, drained, or dissatisfied. So how do you get an online detox?

Reflect on your pattern and schedule.

Evaluate how screen time impacts your life. Is there any negative impact on your mental wellness? Is your productivity and creativity getting hampered? Identify the apps you are using the most. Apps like Moment (available on iOS and Android) helps you break down how much time you're spending on your apps.



Set realistic goals.

If you can't stay off your devices during the day for your job or studies, try a mini detox at the end of the workday. Choose a time when you want to turn off your devices, and then focus on spending an evening completely off screen. Try a **digital fast** for a short duration, such as a day or up to a week. Or a **Recurrent digital abstinence** where you pick one day of the week to go device-free. A **specific detox** can be done too if one app, site, game, or digital tool is taking up too much of your time.

Detox with a buddy.

Find a loved one who is interested in "detoxing" with you and then discuss how both of you can achieve the goal together. You're more likely to stick to your goals or feel less discouraged when you have a friend by your side.

Set bedtime for your devices.

After a specific hour (like 9pm), your phone goes into its charging station and is out of commission until the next day. Smart tip: Keep your phone away. Out of sight, out of mind!

Some psychological well-being strategies

Try these quick fix techniques while you feel you are slogging in front your screen.

Breath focus. This is a quick and easy yet powerful technique. Take long, slow, deep breaths (also known as abdominal or belly breathing). As you breathe, you gently disengage



If you can't stay off your devices during the day for your job or studies, try a mini detox at the end of the workday. Choose a time when you want to turn off your devices, and then focus on spending an evening completely off screen.



your mind from distracting thoughts and sensations. Let out the toxicity through each exhale.

Body scan. After a few minutes of deep breathing, focus on one part of the body or group of muscles at a time. Mentally releasing any physical tension, you feel there. A body scan can help boost your awareness of the mind-body connection.

Mental mini vacation. For this technique, close your eyes and take yourself to soothing scenes, places, or experiences in your mind to help you relax and focus. Maybe a nice stroll at the beach- Feel the sand, sound of the waves and the breeze or watching the sun set in the mountains.

Mindfulness meditation. This technique involves sitting comfortably and focusing on your breathing and bringing your mind's attention to the present moment without drifting into concerns about the past or the future.

Repetitive prayer. For this technique, you silently repeat a short prayer or phrase from a prayer while practicing breath focus.

Rhythmic movement and mindful exercise. The idea of exercising may not sound particularly soothing, but rhythmic exercise that gets you into a flow of repetitive movement can produce the relaxation response. Examples include:

- Running
- Walking
- Swimming
- Dancing
- Climbing

Rather than choosing just one technique, experts recommend sampling several to see which one works best for you. Try to practice for at least 20 minutes a day, although even just a few minutes can help. But the longer and the more often you practice these relaxation techniques, the greater the benefits and the more you can reduce stress.

Expect ups and downs! Consistency is the key.



Inter net ്ന്റെ കണ്ണികൾ കുരുക്കാവാതിരിക്കാൻ...

'വലയിൽ വീണ കിളികളാണ് നാം......'

യശ്ശശരീരനായ അനുഗ്രഹീത കവി അനിൽ പന ച്ചൂരാന്റെ വരികളെ അന്വർത്ഥമാക്കുന്ന അവസ്ഥാ വിശേഷത്തിലാണ് ഇന്ന് ലോകം.

വിഭിന്നങ്ങളായ പ്രത്യേകതകൾ നിറഞ്ഞ കണ്ണികൾ ചേർന്നൊരുക്കിയ ഒരു 'നെറ്റിൽ' നമ്മുടെ ബാല്യ യൗവ്വനങ്ങളും പ്രായഭേദമന്യേ മുഴുവൻ ജനങ്ങളും അകപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇന്റർനെറ്റ് എന്ന വലയിൽ നിന്നും നമുക്കു മോചനമില്ലേ...?

അനിവാര്യമായ ദുരന്തങ്ങൾ ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗ മാകുമ്പോൾ ആദ്യമൊരു അമ്പരപ്പ്, പിന്നെയ തൊരു പൊരുത്തപ്പെടലായും, അവസാനമൊരു അകപ്പെടലായും മാറുന്നു. അങ്ങനെ വലയിലാ ക്കപ്പെട്ടു പോവുന്ന ജീവിതത്തെ എത്ര മനോഹര മാക്കാമെന്ന നിഷ്ഫല പരിശ്രമങ്ങളുടെ ആകത്തു കയായി ശിഷ്ടജീവിതം മാറുന്നു.

അനന്തമായ 'വിശാലതയെ ലക്ഷ്യം വയ്ക്കേണ്ട കണ്ണുകൾ മൊബൈലിന്റെയും ലാപ്ടോപ്പിന്റെയും സൂക്ഷ്മതകളിൽ മാത്രം കേന്ദ്രീകൃതമാകുമ്പോൾ തെറ്റുന്നത് ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ താളവും ക്രമവുമാണ്. വിശാലമായി ചലിക്കേണ്ട കൈകാലുകൾ ഒറ്റപ്പെട്ട ലയവിന്യാസങ്ങളിലൊതുങ്ങുന്നു. ചലനാത്മകമാ യിരുന്ന ജീവിതം നിശ്ചിതമായ പരിമിതികൾക്കു ളളിലുള്ള താളക്രമത്തെ പുൽകുന്നു. സമസ്ത ജീവിത മേഖലകളിലെന്നപോലെ നമ്മുടെ ആധ്യാ ത്മികതയും ഇന്റർനെറ്റിന്റെ കണ്ണികളിലമരുന്നു. നെറ്റില്ലങ്കിൽ ഇല്ലാതെ പോകുന്നു 'നെറ്റി'ലായ ജീവിതങ്ങൾ.

അതെ 'വലയിൽ വീണ കിളികളാണു നാം...'

ലോക്ഡൗണിലും തൽഫലമായി ഇൻറർ നെറ്റിലും അകപ്പെട്ടുപോയ മുംബയിലെ ക്രൈസ് തവ കുടുംബപശ്ചാത്തലത്തിലെ ജീവക്രമത്തിൽ ഒരു തിരിച്ചുപോക് തവശ്യമാണോ.....? ആവശ്യ



മെങ്കിൽ സാധ്യമാണോ..? ലാൻേറൺ ഒരുക്കിയ വീക്ഷണങ്ങൾ:

Babu Mathew Scared Heart Church, Bhyandhar

Let's take a detox from social media. This heavy dependence on social media platforms and on our gadgets is also taking a toll on our lives mentally, physically and spiritually. But the most important and sure way of detoxification is by building up our prayer lives. Prayer is the act of communicating and being with God. Prayer also is not a one step process. It is deeper than the ocean. There is a lot of understanding that one gains from a deeper relationship with God. Prayer is also highly nourishing and relaxing. As we grow in prayer, we are slowly pulled towards God. This is the perfect way to distract ourselves from social media.

Agnel George St Alphonsa Church, Vasai (w)

Everyone welcomed the year in its full glory, with little knowledge about how unprecedented the times would get ahead. We all were introduced to the new normal then, as Christians going to church especially during the lent season was a big question mark. The conscious efforts taken by our diocese and authorities helped us to grow in faith even during those bad times. I still remember asking my parents then about the holy week rituals and questioning my grandmother whether she had faced anything like this during her time. Then months passed by and still the churches were not open, deep down I only had wished for a chance to attend one Holy Qurbana. These times made me realize how fortunate we were back then. We all were together in this fight with the virus starting from the smallest unit our family, our church, our diocese and the Mother Church. It was only possible because of our deep-rooted faith and resilence that we have built up and only this can take us ahead. The virus is still around us trying to overpower us but we must



not forget our faith is much stronger and it will surely help us pass through these turbulent times smoothly.

Kritsy Tomi St. Marys Parish, Nashik Forane

Digital devices can upgrade proficiency, comfort, and communication. However, all the time we spend there implies we have less time to spend doing real-world activities we appreciate. Some of our concerns should be:

Gaming Disorder: WHO has classified Gaming Disorder as a Mental Health Condition and can be explained as an inability to control an obsession with video gaming. The ADHD-Technology Connection: Prolonged screen time catalyzes compulsive and erratic behaviors and as such voungsters who made frequent use of digital media were more than twice as likely to develop symptoms of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder . Less Workouts and Less Time Outdoors: People who spend hours on digital devices develop sedentary behavior and are more likely to become obese since they have fewer hours in the day for exercise, meditation or being with nature which is a big drawback for children and teens, since exercising is an important part of their personality and brain development.

What can we do?

Start small: Start by not looking at your phone for 15 minutes and follow it up the next day by disconnecting yourself for 30 minutes or several 15 minutes, eventually building up to half a day or full day in a week.

Designate regular offline times: This is especially important during meals since dinner may be the only time the entire family sits together.

Device off-limit areas: Besides dining area, maintain areas in the house where screen are a strict no-no, like the kitchen or a dedicated area for kids for reading and board games.

Sijo Puthenpurackal Mother of Victory, Tikujiniwadi

Today's workload? Escalations? Targets? Urgent response awaited? Facebook notifications! Instagram story update! Whatsapp chat! How can today's story be creatively enhanced and edited? Too much on my To Do list! I need a break, but I feel so overwhelmed! I am at the verge of a breakdown! Why ain't I meeting my targets? I am doing my work but receive feedback that I am not being productive and effective! Sounds similar? Been there, seen that, done that! I wanted to figure out a solution when one day. I was hit with Spiritual notifications in the Book of Genesis. I understood that the entire journey of our lives would be a battle to transform from a serpent to the servant of Lord, of breaking ourselves free from prison and living in prosperity. Adding the salt of discipline and fibre of self control could ensure that I have a good optimum intake of information, maintaining a basic pH in body and mind. Keeping purely 10-15 minutes aside for viewing social media in 4 to 6 hours intervals worked well for me. Infact taking a break from Facebook and Instagram for a week will also help us in realising that the world doesn't end. Knowingly and unknowingly, by practising these two simple



steps, we will be following what Jesus taught us of loving God and loving our neighbour like ourselves respectively. It's us who must safeguard and control the creative technological outputs rather than being controlled by the latter.

Rosily Rajan, St. Mary's Welfare Centre, Marouli

"Detoxing" from digital devices is often seen as a way to focus on real-life social interactions without distractions. Isn't this one reason enough for every individual to think on Digital Detoxing? You might want to enjoy some time by yourself without the interference that your phone and other devices create. At times we might even feel that our device use has become excessive and is adding too much stress to our lives. Most of the messages forwarded on various social media platforms are taken at their face value without the effort



to know the truth which leads to anxiety and stress. Let us all together take a small step to disconnect ourselves from the digital world and use the same time to connect with God in the spiritual world, and remember that the spiritual line is always open!

Rinsy Sebastian, St. Alphonsa Church Vasai West

It was difficult to adapt to online learning as we were used to classroom learning. Reciting prayers before study helped me to focus and accept the new way of learning with an open mindset. We faced difficulties in the beginning to understand the use of Google classroom, Google meet, Zoom



etc. Thanks to our teachers who guided us technically, we managed. Unlike learning in school, when we sit at home we get distracted as we are amid our family. Personalised feedback and guidance by our elders and teachers helped us overcome our challenges.

Sandra Sajan, Sacred Heart Church, Bhayandar

ആദ്വം കൈകൾ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ പക്കലേക്കുയർത്തിയും പിന്നീട് കൈകൾ കുരിശാകൃതിയിൽ നെഞ്ചോടുചേർത്തു പിടിച്ച് ബലിപീഠം ചുംബിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുമാണ് കാർമ്മികൻ ഈ അയോഗ്വത ഏറ്റു പറയുന്നത്. നമ്മുടെ അയോഗ്വതാ ബോധമാണ് ദൈവകാരുണ്വത്തി ലാശ്രയിക്കാൻ നമ്മെ പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്. ഉയർത്തുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് കാർമ്മികൻ തന്നെത്തന്നേയും തന്റെ കരങ്ങളേയും ധൂപാർപ്പണത്തിലൂടെ വിശുദ്ധീകരിച്ചതിനുശേഷം കൈകൾ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ പക്കലേയ്ക്കുയർത്തി തന്റേയും സമൂഹത്തിന്റേയും അയോഗ്യത ഏറ്റു പറയുന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥനയാണ് 'കർത്താവേ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കണമേ' എന്നു തുടങ്ങുന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥന. സ്വർഗ്ഗത്തിലെ മാലാഖമാർ പോലും അയോഗ്യതാബോധത്തോടെയാണ് ദൈവസന്നിധിയിലായിരിക്കുന്നത്. എങ്കിലും യോഗ്യത ഒന്നുമില്ലാത്ത മനുഷ്യരുടെമേൽ അവിടുന്ന് കാരുണ്യം കാണിക്കുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെ തന്റെ പക്കലേയ്ക്ക് അവരെ അടുപ്പിക്കുന്നു. വി. പൗലോസ് പറയുന്നതുപോലെ പാപം വർദ്ധിച്ചിടത്ത് കൃപ അതിലേറെ വർദ്ധിക്കുവാൻ ദൈവം തിരുമനസ്സായി. (റോമ. 5:20). ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കരുണയിലാശ്രയിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ് നമ്മുടെ യോഗ്യതയാലല്ല നമ്മൾ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ പക്കലേക്കു വരുന്നത് എന്ന് "ഞങ്ങൾ അയോഗ്യരാകുന്നു" എന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥനയിൽ ഏറ്റു പറയുകയാണ്. ഒരു ഭാഗത്ത് മനുഷ്യന്റെ അയോഗ്യതയും മറുഭാഗത്ത് ദൈവത്തിന്റെ കരുണയും നമ്മൾ കാണുന്നു. നമ്മൾ സമീപിക്കുന്ന ദിവ്യരഹസ്യങ്ങൾ സ്തുത്യർഹവും, പരിശുദ്ധവും ജീവദായകവും

ഞങ്ങൾ അയോഗ്യരാകുന്നു

വി. കുർബ്ബാന കൈകളിലെടുത്ത്

പാപങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ച് അനുതപിക്കണമെന്നും ദൈവത്തിൽ നിന്ന് കരുണയും പാപമോചനവും യാചിക്കണമെന്നും ഈ സങ്കീർത്തനങ്ങൾ നമ്മെ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. അങ്ങനെ പാപബോധവും അനുതാപവുമുളള ഹൃദയത്തിൽ നിന്ന് ദൈവത്തിന്റെ പക്കലേയ്ക്കുയരുന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥനയായി ഈ സങ്കീർത്തനങ്ങൾ മാറണം.

മാർ തോമസ് ഇലവനാൽ

കല്വാൺ രൂപതയുടെ മെത്രാൻ

അനുരജ്ഞനശുശ്രൂഷയുടെ രണ്ടാമത്തെ

പാപമോചനം അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്ന 51–ാം

ആദ്യത്തെ രണ്ടു പാദങ്ങളാണ് സാധാരണ

വസിക്കുന്നവനേ" എന്നു തുടങ്ങുന്ന 123–ാം

സങ്കീർത്തനവും കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ

ശുദ്ധീകരിക്കപ്പെടുവാൻ ആഗ്രഹിച്ച്

ഓരോരുത്തരും ഈ സമയം സ്വന്തം

അനുതാപസങ്കീർത്തനങ്ങൾ

ചൊല്ലുന്നത്. ഇതിനുപകരമായി "സ്വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ

പാപപ്പൊറുതിക്കായപേക്ഷിക്കാൻ ആവശ്യമായ

അനുതാപത്തിലേക്കും പാപബോധത്തിലേക്കും

ദൈവകാരുണ്യത്തിനായി ഇവിടെ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

നയിക്കാൻ സഹായിക്കുന്നു. അപരാധങ്ങൾ

നിശ്ശേഷം കഴുകികളഞ്ഞ് പാപങ്ങളിൽ നിന്ന്

പ്രാർത്ഥനയായി സങ്കീർത്തനങ്ങൾ ചൊല്ലികൊണ്ട് കർത്താവിന്റെ കരുണക്കായപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. ദാവീദ്

തന്റെ തെറ്റിനെക്കുറിച്ചനുതപിച്ച് ദൈവത്തോടു

സങ്കീർത്തനമാണ് ആദ്യമെ കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നത്.

അനുതാപ സങ്കീർത്തനം



ദൈവികവുമാണെന്ന് പ്രാർത്ഥന നമ്മെ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. ആദ്യം കൈകൾ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ പക്കലേക്കുയർത്തിയും പിന്നീട് കൈകൾ കുരിശാകൃതിയിൽ നെഞ്ചോടുചേർത്തു പിടിച്ച് ബലിപീഠം ചുംബിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുമാണ് കാർമ്മികൻ ഈ അയോഗ്യത ഏറ്റു പറയുന്നത്. നമ്മുടെ അയോഗ്യതാബോധമാണ് ദൈവകാരുണ്യത്തിലാശ്രയിക്കാൻ നമ്മെ പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്. കാരുണ്യമാണ് നമ്മെ ദേവത്തിന്റെ പക്കലേക്ക് അടുപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

വിഭജനശുശ്രൂഷ

വി. കുർബ്ബാന ഉയർത്തൽ, വിഭജനം, റൂശ്മ ചെയ്യൽ, കലർത്തൽ എന്നീ കർമ്മങ്ങളാണ് വിഭജനശുശ്രൂഷയിലുളളത്. കർത്താവിന്റെ ശരീരമായിമാറിയ അപ്പം കാർമ്മികൻ ആദ്യമായി ഇപ്പോഴാണ് കൈകളിലെടുത്ത് ഉയർത്തുന്നത്. അതിന് മുമ്പായി കാർമ്മികൻ അഗാധമായി കുനിഞ്ഞ് ബലിപീഠം ചുംബിച്ചശേഷം തിരുവോസ്തി ഉയർത്തിപ്പിടിച്ച് അതിന്മേൽ നോക്കിക്കൊണ്ട് "ഞങ്ങളുടെ

കർത്താവീശോമിശിഹായേ" എന്നു തുടങ്ങുന്ന പ്രാർത്ഥന ചൊല്ലുന്നു. റൂഹാക്ഷണപ്രാർത്ഥനയുടെ സമയത്ത് കർത്താവിന്റെ ഉത്ഥാനത്തെ നമ്മൾ പ്രത്യേകം അനുസ്മരിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ഉത്ഥാനാനന്തരം മിശിഹാ ശിഷ്യന്മാർക്ക് പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെട്ടതിനെ വി. കുർബ്ബാന ഉയർത്തുന്നത് അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് വി. കുർബ്ബാനയെ വിശദികരിക്കുന്ന പിതാക്കന്മാർ നമ്മെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

നാഥനായ നിനക്ക് ആരാധന

വി. കുർബ്ബാനയിലുളള കർത്താവിന്റെ സാന്നിദ്ധ്യം പരസ്യമായി ഏറ്റുപറഞ്ഞ് ആരാധിക്കുവാനുളള സമയമാണിത്. അതുകൊണ്ട് പുരോഹിതൻ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നത് 'തിരുനാമത്തിനു സ്തുതിയും നാഥനായ നിനക്ക് ആരാധനയും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കട്ടെ' എന്നാണ്. നമ്മുടെ കുർബ്ബാന സുറിയാനിയിലായിരുന്ന കാലത്ത്, വി. കുർബ്ബാന ഉയർത്തുന്ന സമയത്ത് സമൂഹം, വി. തോമാശ്ലീഹായുടെ "എന്റെ കർത്താവേ, എന്റെ ദൈവമേ" എന്ന വിശ്വാസപ്രഖ്യാപനം ആവർത്തിച്ചിരുന്നു. തോമശ്ലീഹായും മറ്റ് ശിഷ്യന്മാരും ഉത്ഥിതനായ ഈശോയെ കണ്ടാരാധിച്ച മനോഭാവത്തോടെയും വി. കൂർബ്ബാനയിലൂടെ നമ്മുടെ മുമ്പിൽ കൗദാശികമായി സന്നിഹിതനാകുന്ന ഈശോയിലുളള യഥാർത്ഥ വിശ്വാസത്തോടെയുമാണ് ഇവിടെ നമ്മുടെ വിശ്വാസം ഏറ്റു പറയേണ്ടത്. വി. യോഹന്നാന്റെ സുവിശേഷത്തിൽ (6:41-59) ഈശോ നമ്മെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്ന വിശ്വാസത്തിന്റെ സംഗ്രഹമാണ് പുരോഹിതന്റെ ഈ പ്രാർത്ഥനയിൽ കാണുന്നത്. ഈശോയോടുള്ള പ്രാർത്ഥനയാണിത്.

തിരുനാമത്തിന് സ്തുതി

ഈ പ്രാർത്ഥനയെ മുന്നുഭാഗങ്ങളായി കാണാം. ആദ്യഭാഗത്ത് തിരുനാമത്തിന് സ്തുതിയും ആരാധനയും അർപ്പിക്കുന്നു. രണ്ടാം ഭാഗത്ത് ഈശോയെ സ്വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ നിന്നിറങ്ങിയ അപ്പമെന്ന് വിശേഷിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. ഈശോയും ഇതു പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. (യോഹ. 6:33, 41, 42, 58). ഈ അപ്പം സജീവവും ജീവദായകവുമാണ് എന്ന് വിശേഷിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. (യോഹ. 6:35, 40, 53, 56, 57). മൂന്നാമതായി ഈ അപ്പം ഭക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ ഫലങ്ങൾ ഏവയെന്ന് ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. ഭക്ഷിക്കുന്നവർ ഒരിക്കലും മരിക്കയില്ല, (യോഹ. 6:50) പാപമോചനവും രക്ഷയും പ്രാപിക്കുകയും നിത്യം ജീവിക്കയും ചെയ്യും. (യോഹ. 6:51, 54, 58) ഈ ദാനങ്ങളെല്ലാം നല്കുന്ന ഈശോയെയാണ് വി. കുർബ്ബാനയിൽ നമ്മൾ സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നത് എന്ന് ഈ പ്രാർത്ഥന നമ്മെ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

Penitential Psalm

As the second prayer of the rite of reconciliation, the celebrant reciting the psalms implores for the mercy of God. The first psalm is Ps. 51 by which David, repenting of his sins, asked forgiveness from God. Usually the first two verses are recited. As the second option Psalm 123 "I lift my eyes to you, to you who have your home in heaven" is also given. These penitential psalms help to lead the community to the spirit of repentance and pray for forgiveness of sins. Here the community is praying for the mercy of God through which they will be washed clean and purified from all their sins. Everybody is here exhorted through these psalms to repent of their sins and implore for mercy and forgiveness from God. These psalms should become for everyone a prayer that rises to God from a sorrowful and repentant heart.

We are unworthy

Before taking the Eucharistic bread in the hands for elevation and fraction the priest purified himself and his hands through the rite of incensing. Then he raises his hands towards God and acknowledges unworthiness of himself and the community through the prayer "Bless us O Lord. May your mercy draw us near... we are unworthy". Even the angels stand before the throne of God with a sense of unworthiness. But God shows His mercy towards us who are weak human beings. Through His mercy He draws us to Himself. As St. Paul says "However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater" (Rom. 5:20). Here in the prayer we acknowledge that we draw near to God not on account of our merits but depending on the mercy of God. We see on one side our unworthiness and on the other side the great mercy of God. The prayer reminds us that these mysteries that we approach are glorious, sacred, life giving and divine.

As the priest acknowledges the unworthiness, first he raises his hands towards God and then placing his hands crosswise on the chest he kisses the altar. It is our sense of unworthiness that motivates us to rely on the mercy of God. It is the mercy of God that draws us nearer to God.

Rite of Fraction

Elevation of the Eucharistic bread, breaking of the Bread, Rusma and mingling of the Sacred Body and Blood are the parts of the rite of fraction. It is for the first time that the celebrant elevates the sacred body of Christ. Before that the celebrant makes a deep bow and kisses the altar and then raises the sacred body and recites the prayer: "O Lord Jesus Christ, May there be glory to your name...". At the time of Epiclesis we remembered the resurrection of Christ. At this time of elevation we remember the Risen Lord appearing to the disciples.

Worship to Your Majesty

At the time of elevation we publicly acknowledge and confess the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Hence the priest prays: "May there be glory to your name and worship to your majesty". At the time when our Ourbana was celebrated in Syriac and the community could not recite all the prayers, at the time of elevation of the Sacred Body the community used to proclaim their faith repeating the words of St. Thomas the Apostle, saying "My Lord and my God". With the sentiments of the apostles who encountered the Risen Lord and with real and deep faith in Jesus who is present before us in the Eucharist we should acknowledge and proclaim our faith here. Here in the prayer of the priest "this living and life giving bread has come down from heaven" we have the summary of the teaching of Jesus on the Eucharist as given in St. John's Gospel (6:41-59).

Glory to Your Name

We can see this prayer as having three parts. In the first part, praise and adoration in given to God's name. Secondly Jesus or the Eucharist is qualified as the bread that has come down from heaven. We see it in the teachings of Christ (Jn. 6:33; 41, 42, 58). This bread is qualified as living and life giving (Jn. 6:35, 40, 53, 56, 57). Thirdly the prayer reminds us of the result of eating this bread. Those who eat this bread will not die but will attain remission of sins and salvation and eternal life. This prayer reminds us that Jesus who promised all these divine gifts is present in the Eucharist and this Jesus we receive in the Holy Eucharist.





ON screen to OFF screen

None of us would deliberately consume poison that could destroy our bodies. Yet we may be consuming poison that's dangerous to our souls without even realizing it. One of the common statements made by parents is - "You know, the problem these days is that kids are so addicted to their phones," to which the kids reply- "Hey, we're kinda bored right now. What else do we do?"

In every direction, digital media entices our eyes. We escape into our screens, get smitten and find it difficult to get out. Most of us cannot get rid of screens from our lives, but can we take time away from our screens? Should we? And to what extent?

Only a digital detox can help us reaffirm that God himself is everything we need. Here are few suggestions that can help us to go for a fruitful digital detox:

1. Find a new hobby: Hobbies are a great way to trigger your creative side and enhance your productivity. Try something you always wanted to do, maybe pottery or gardening. Get your hands dirty and have fun.

2. Cooking: Try and add your special twist to your family recipes. Cooking with parents, grandparents and adding Indian influences to a Western dish can spice things up.

3. Enjoy God's Creation: Go for a walk every day without your phone. Spend off-screen time in God's world to admire nature and its beauty and this will help you feel peaceful and rejuvenated.

4. **Be Kind:** We can still spend time with people without being physically close to them. Check on people and make sure they're okay. We can also give people gifts like handmade cards or home-made meals. Not only will you be serving those in need, you will be serving Christ himself.

5. Take small steps: Silence your notifications and phone for a one or two hours window every day and



disconnect from electronics 30 minutes before bedtime each night and don't reconnect until a specified time each morning.

6. Pray a Holy Hour: Sitting in a quiet church or chapel for an hour doing nothing makes no sense according to the world but for anyone who's done it, it's an extremely beautiful experience. Let's pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament and spend time with Jesus.

7. Engage in a fruitful conversation: When you're unplugging, seek out such conversations. Enjoy a face-to-face conversation with people about faith, current events, or whatever's on your heart and mind.

8. Read Scripture: Spend your time unplugging and getting to know the scripture. If you don't know where to start, read the four Gospels. Your mind and heart will be filled with hope, faith and joy as a result.

9. Intercede for others: Consider using your digital detox to pray for a relative, a friend in need, to grow in purity, or for another personal intention you have. You may just be amazed at the results.

Let us all promise to Slow down and Unplug for a better start.



Digital Detox Questionnaire for Kids

Write down the number of points for each question and then add Did I check-in while listening to an online lecture or in class? them up. 0 times = 0 pointsDigital media: e-mail, phone calls, text messages, social media 1-2 times = 1 point accounts, news websites, blogs, Apps, music, video, etc. 3-5 times = 3 pointsCheck-in: Any use of digital media, but especially refers to 6 + times = 10 pointschecking texts, e-mails and social media. Did I use my device while exercising or walking? No = 0 points Yes = 5 points How many times did I check-in today? 0-3 times = 0 points 4-9 times = 1 point Did I use two devices at the same time (watching 10-19 times = 5 points TV and checking social media at the same time) 20-39 times = 10 points No = 0 points Yes = 3 points 40 + times = 20 pointsHow many times did I manage to spend an hour without For how many minutes did I use digital media today? checking in? 0-30 minutes = 0 points 6-10 times = 0 points30-60 minutes = 3 points 3-4 times = 3 points 1-2 hours = 5 points 0-2 times = 10 points 2 + hours = 10 pointsDid I take a digital Sabbath this week? (set aside the Lord's Day How many times did notifications interrupt me? (sounds, pop to fast from social media, the Internet, e-mail, etc.) No check-ins on Sunday = 0 points ups, or vibration) 1 check-in = 1 point 1-5 times = 0 points5-10 times = 3 points 2-3 check-ins = 3 points 10-20 times = 5 points 4 + check-ins = 10 points20 + times = 10 pointsHow many selfies did I take today? How successful was I at letting messages and e-mails 0 = 0 points accumulate for batch processing a few times a day rather than 1 = 3 points 2-5 = 5 points responding immediately? Very successful = 0 points 6 + = 10 points Moderately successful = 3 points Failed = 5 points Deduct 10 points for every 30 minutes spent reading a real book. Deduct 5 points for every time you pray instead of check-in. Deduct 5 points for every time you choose to start a Did I use any device before my morning prayer? No = 0 points Yes = 10 points conversation instead of check-in Did I check-in last thing at night Total points. instead of reading and praying? If your score is -No = 0 points Yes = 10 points 75 +: You are severely addicted to digital media 55+: You are mildly addicted to digital media Did I check-in during the night? 0-25: You are sober and almost exemplary! No = 0 points Yes = 10 points ACTIVITY: Disconnect to Connect Did I check-in while with family or friends? (e.g. during meal time, with friends) Going for a digital detox can be uncomfortable. You might feel No = 0 points irritated, annoved and even bored. While it may be difficult, it can be 1-3 times = 3 pointsa rewarding experience too. 4 + times = 10 pointsMail us your experiences of digital detox that you undertook for yourself in not more than 150 words to lanternkidsroom@gmail.com on or before 15th April 2021. Suja Johny Vithayathil

St. Joseph's Church, Airoli

The best entries will be featured in the next issue of 'Kalyan Lantern.'



Question:

How different is virtual participation and real participation in the Holy Eucharist?

Answer:

The lockdown during the Covid 2019 pandemic has aroused a new interest in the participation of the Holy Mass virtually and spiritually. Setting an example for churches unable to celebrate public masses due to the lockdown, Pope Francis began live-streaming daily mass from his residence at Domus Sanctae Marthae on 9 March 2020. Let us analyse the position of the Church on virtual church sacramental services. The document, "The Church and the Internet." states: Virtual reality is no substitute for the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, the sacramental reality of the other sacraments, and shared worship in a fleshand-blood human community. There are no sacraments on the Internet; and even the religious experiences possible there by the grace of God are insufficient apart from realworld interaction with other persons of faith.

In a letter addressed to the Presidents of Bishops' Conferences, Cardinal Sarah insists that "virtual" services cannot compare to, and cannot replace, personal participation in the liturgy. The Letter, bearing the title, "Let us return to the Eucharist with joy!" was published with the approval of Pope Francis, which he granted on 3 September. The Cardinal emphasized that "as much as the means of communication perform a valued service to the sick and those who are unable to go to church, and have performed a great service in the broadcast of Holy Mass at a time when there was no possibility of community celebrations, no broadcast is comparable to personal participation or can replace it."

Let us go through the fundamental differences between Virtual Holy Communion, Holy Communion in the real presence, and the Spiritual reception of the Holy Communion. The service of the Eucharistic liturgy is in a parish involving (1) Christ's presence, (2) interpersonal community, and (3) the direct proclamation of the gospel. These essential characters of the Holy Eucharist are missing in the Virtual reception of the Holy Eucharist. When we virtually participate in the Holy Mass, we virtually experience the prayers and the proclamation of the Word of God. Cardinal Thomas Collins, a member of the Pontifical Council on Social Communications, suggests that the Gospel is something that the congregants can participate in through communication technology. He believes that the first part of the Mass, The Liturgy of the Word, "is very accessible to the technology of communication." However, Collins also states that the "second part of the Mass involves an incarnate encounter with Christ and that simply is a different world from what is accessible or possible through technology."

After the Lock Down, churches are reopened for sacraments but there could be a tendency to continue the spiritual experience in the Virtual participation rather than participation in the Eucharistic celebration in the Parish. Blaylock summarizes the dangers of it: The obstacles faced in using technology is emphasizing the individualistic notion of faith and personal piety rather than the communal affirmation essential to the priesthood of all believers. With that sense of individuality, people lose their connectedness to the community and become more inwardly focused. The church loses its place as the arena for social engagement and connection to technology and social media.

A virtual Mass could be considered as a sign of hope for a world where physical communion is not possible and where embodied participation and the reception of the bread and wine in the community are impossible. We have already gone through that stage of difficulty and at present, we recognize the importance of participation of the Holy Eucharist in the Parish. Let us also foster the spiritual practice of spiritual reception of the Holy Communion.



KEYword – PATRIS CORDE

Read the extract of the encyclical 'PATRIS CORDE' and click on the below link to solve the quiz. Names of the winners will be published in the next issue and also on our social media handles.

Link for the Passage

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xeJF5Dfu3IuBAitmq9cUEW3gZKRd1n1C/view?usp=sharing Link for the Quiz https://forms.gle/HRe4zf2YNdBm3kgU7

WINNERS OF MARCH EDITION

Jessica Toyson Alina Toyson Glen Johny Divya Job Teena Tomy Anagha Thomas Justin Jacob Emil PulickaL Shannelle Pallikunnath AncyKuttappan St Mary's Church, Malad (E) St Mary's Church, Malad (E) St George Forane Church, Panvel St Thomas Cathedral, Kalyan (W) St Thomas Forane Church, Borivali St Joseph's Church, Pavan Nagar St Mary's Church, Badlapur St Mary's Forane Church, Andheri (W) St Joseph's Church, Airoli St George Forane Church, Panvel





Appointments of the Priests in the Eparchy of Kalyan

Given on 20 Jan 2021, w.e.f. 20 Jan 2021

THE COLLEGE OF EPARCHIAL CONSULTORS (June 2019 to May 2024)	Msgr. Francis Eluvathingal; V. Rev. Fr. Joju Arackal (Secretary), V. Rev. Fr. George Vattamatthil, V. Rev. Fr. Jacob Porathur, V. Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Kadankavil, V. Rev. Fr. Justin Kallely, V. Rev. Fr. Benny Thanninilkumthadathil, V. Rev. Fr. Sheen Chittattukkara, V. Rev. Fr. Biju Kollamkunnel
Rev. Fr. Aloysius (Biju) Panickaparambil OFM Cap.	Given on 24 Jan 2021,w.e.f. 24 Jan 2021 Priest-in-Charge: Ulhasnagar & Badlapur; Chaplain: CHF Convent & ASI Convent – Ulhasnagar and CMC Convent - Badlapur
Rev. Fr. Antony Thekkiniyath OFM Cap.	Relieved from the Eparchy of Kalyan
THE FINANCE COUNCIL (March 2021 to Dec 2024)	Given on 19 March 2021, w.e.f. 19 March 2021 Rev. Msgr. Francis Eluvathingal, Rev. Fr. George Vattamatthil (Secretary), Rev. Fr. Joju Arackal, Rev. Fr. Sebastian Mudakkalil, Rev. Fr. Cyriac Kumbatt, Rev. Fr. Jefrin Pallithara, Mr. Thomas Mathew, Mr. Sunny Philippose, Mr. P. M. Xavier, Mr. P. K. X. Thomas, Mrs. Mary Alexander
COUNSELLING FORUM	Rev. Fr. Cijo Aricatt OFM Cap. (Convener), Rev. Fr. Aloysius (Biju) Panickaparambil OFM Cap., Rev. Fr. Alby OFM Cap., V. Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Kadankavil, Rev. Fr. Shaibu Paul Malethadathil, V. Rev. Fr. Kuriakose Kalaparambath, Rev. Fr. Jinto Edattukunnel, Rev. Fr. Frinto Ollukaran, Rev. Sr. Marykutty Michael ASI, Rev. Fr. Joby Ayithamattathil, Rev. Fr. Sinto Pulikkottil
RECONCILIATION FORUM	V. Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Kadankavil, V. Rev. Fr. Biju Kollamkunnel, Rev. Fr. Shaibu Paul Malethadathil, V. Rev. Fr. Kuriakose Kalaparambath, Rev. Sr. Marykutty Michael ASI Rev. Fr. Joby Ayithamattathil, Rev. Fr. Sinto Pulikkottil
Mar Thomas Elavanal Bishop of Kalyan	

Cordial Counselling Forum

The ministry of counselling was part of our pastoral care services from the very inception of our Eparchy. A few years ago it was officially constituted as a forum. I am grateful to those who have generously offered their services to address to the needs of many people through this ministry.

Now this forum is re-constituted with more counsellors and is named as Cordial Counselling Forum (CCF). Through this ministry we wish to be CORDIAL (Consoling, Orienting, Renewing, Directing, Inspiring, Animating, Listening) and offer psycho-spiritual and therapeutical counselling to the families as well as persons who are in need. I exhort you to avail this facility for a better healthy life.

The co-ordination office will be at Marian Enclave, Badlapur, Thane. To avail the services, contact: Tel. Nr. 7977124850 & and email. cordialkalyan88@gmail.com

In the love of Christ Jesus,

Mar Thomas Elavanal

Bishop of Kalyan

N.B.: This Circular shall be made know to the faithful.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS AND ONLINE STREAMING

My dear Rev. Fathers and Sisters and respected faithful of our Eparchy, The following are certain directives regarding the liturgical celebrations during this Covid 19 Pandemic situation.

- (1) Regarding the liturgical celebration this directive from the Government is still in effect: "Use of mask is mandatory in all religious places. If it is found that masks are not being used and more than 50 people are found gathered at the same time, then the concerned persons will be fined. In order to monitor all places of worship, women marshals will also be deployed along with male marshals. Roaming without a mask, gathering of more than 50 people at a time or any such violation will lead to punitive action".
- (2) In the Presbyterium held on 15th Dec. 2020, we decided to stop the common online streaming of the Holy Qurbana after Christmas 2020. It was also mentioned that those needy faithful could depend ON the Shalom TV or Goodness TV or any other media. However in the present context, as there are limitations introduced by the Government, we are forced to increase the number of the celebrations on Sunday and other important days. As it is observed, many of our faithful would be still deprived of the Holy Qurbana, as per the suggestions of the Eparchial Consultors, it is decided that on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sundaythere will be common online streaming under the aegis of KMC as for each parish it would be difficult to organize. If there is situation of continuing the online services, the matter will be discussed in the Presbyterium.
- (3) Extra care shall be taken to organize and conduct all our liturgical celebrations including dispensing the sacrament of confession respecting the Covid protocol.
- (4) On the Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday, the main ceremonies shall be conducted only once. But you may increase the number of Holy Qurbana celebrations as per the requirement.
- (5) Regarding the Holy Thursday, please note the direction of the Major Archbishop. "As per the liturgical tradition, we celebrate only one Holy Qurbana on Holy Thursday. But because of Covid – 19 situation, this year we can give permission to priests to celebrate more than one Holy Qurbana. As you know on Holy Thursday, all our people would like to participate in the Holy Qurbana and receive the Holy Communion. To respond to this rightful desire of the people, it is our pastoral duty to make necessary arrangements for as many people as possible to participate in the Holy Qurbana. It is enough to have the ritual of washing the feet only once."
- (6) In the rite of washing the feet, after washing with soap you can avoid kissing the feet.
- (7) Adoration on Holy Thursday can be conducted as usual with extra care.
- (8) Appammurickal being a family tradition shall be encouraged to be conducted in the families and conducting it in the parishes shall be discouraged in this context.
- (9) On Good Friday, after the ceremony of reading the passion narrative once, the way of the cross can be organized units wise or group wise. If such activities are held in the Churches, the rite of communion shall be conducted if needed.
- (10) As the religious gatherings and processions are not allowed, way of the cross in the public places shall be avoided.

In the love of Christ Jesus,

Mar Thomas Elavanal

Bishop of Kalyan

N.B.: This Circular shall be made know to the concerned persons.

DECREE OF CONSTITUTION

IV Year Programme as part of Minor Seminary Formation

As per the Charter for Priestly Formation in the Syro-Malabar Church (2007) which is prepared in the light of Pastores Dabo Vobis, Minor Seminary is an institution which provides opportunity to explore one's vocation. It is the time of the basic priestly formation that takes place before one begins the Philosophical studies. In the Syro-Malabar Church, there existed a Malpanate System in the spirit of the Indian Gurukulam where the disciples learnt from the Guru.

The formation given in the minor seminary should be integral and effective comprising human, spiritual, intellectual, pastoral and missionary dimensions (The Charter, No. 51). As part of the Formation programme the Syro-Malabar Synod proposed, "It would be advisable to have four years of training in the minor seminary" (The Charter, No. 66.1). In the past few years, a good number of the Syro-Malabar Eparchies have started IV year programme and found it very effective and fruitful. This programme was suggested in our eparchy too, since many years.

Having received this proposal from the Seminary Formators and after having discussed it in the Eparchial Consulters meeting held on 17th March 2021, I hereby constitute the IV year Formation as part of our minor seminary programme. This will be conducted in the Minor Seminary itself until we make other arrangements. The IV year programme will include prayer, work, study, with activities for deepening and interiorizing the spirituality, character formation and other elements explained in the Charter for Priestly Formation.

The students can undergo 1st year orientation programme during the first year itself, higher secondary studies during 2nd and 3rd years and second year orientation programme during the 4th year along with the candidates joining seminary after completing higher secondary (The Charter, No. 66.1).

The IV year programme will come into effect from June 2021 and I request all concerned for its effective execution and faithful adherence.

May God bless you all,

Mar Thomas Elavanal Bishop of Kalyan Fr. Joju Arackal Chancellor KALYAN LANTERN APRIL-MAY 2021

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