

The monthly newsletter of St. Mary's JSO Cathedral Youth Association

# yoUth

NOV  
2020



## YOU ARE NEW, NEW AND NEW

By Fr. Jacob Joseph

Once, a Guru wanted to teach a moral to his disciple. "Dress up and go out, but come back exactly the way you go." The disciple felt it silly, thinking that the task is all about keeping his appearance intact. Upon his return, the Guru found his outward appearance exactly the same. "How did you manage this?", the Guru asked. The disciple replied, "I went up to the busy market square and stood for a while under the Banyan tree. And there I stayed in one place without moving and could maintain my appearance as it is."

"Well done!", said the Guru, "But what motivated you to stand in one place?" The disciple replied, "I saw a bird in the banyan tree feeding her little birdies. Suddenly, a thought struck my mind seeing the mother bird flying back and forth for food until the birdies settled. It reminded me of my own mother and her pains in taking care of me during my childhood."

The Guru immediately replied, "See, you have changed internally, though not outwardly. Every situation

changes our lives. If it is with God, however, the changes will bring joy to us."

The fact is that we constantly endure changes. The catch is that if God directs those changes, we experience it as fresh and positive.

We will be surprised to observe that we return home as a new person or a new creation every day – be it from college, workplace, or church. Let us all keep our changes within the experience of God for a life that is always new and blissful.

If this is asked to St. Paul, he will tell you that "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here." 2 Corinthians 5:17.



### NEWSLETTER TEAM

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# A SHOW OF GRAPHIC HANDS AND MINDS!

By Shreya Ann Matthew

The competition for the design of the new official logo for the Youth Association was conducted on 27th September, 2020. It was a fusion of talent, imagination and creativity. The competition brought out the uniqueness in each individual that participated.

The list of the prize winners are as follows-

- Roshan Elias John from team OMG secured first place.
- Sanjana Thomas from team Zion secured second place.
- Manuel Philip from team Antioch secured third place.

Congratulations to each of the participants. We sincerely thank the youth team for bringing out the creative side of its members.



# SAVE MORE, SPEND LESS

By Suzanna Thomas

There's always a time when we crib about our work, be it college work or office work. Some of us are passionate about what we do, some of us do it to support our families, while the rest of us do it just for the sake of it.

Don't you think that the COVID-19 pandemic has made us realise the value of our jobs and studies? As many as 41 lakh youths in the country have lost their jobs due to this pandemic. Also, the estimates indicate that around 8-10 crores of workers were affected due

to lockdown, mostly in the informal sector of non-agriculture nature.

At least now aren't we grateful for the jobs that we have? We don't know when this is going to end, but we can take baby steps towards solving this problem simply by managing the money/ salary that we have in hand. COVID-19 has taught us how to live with minimal expenses. Therefore, let's continue this by spending only on what is essential; use less of your credit cards, save up more and minimize borrowing



unless it's required. Use this period as an opportunity to upgrade your skills and knowledge, which may bring better job possibilities.

Lastly, help those who are facing financial problems. We are blessed with what we have today so let's share this blessing with those who are in need.

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# “UNCLIP YOUR WINGS”

By Joel Yeldo Alias

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# HUMBLE BEFORE THE STUMBLE!

By Teena Kuriakose

After the success of the first virtual youth reconnect, the second meeting was a much anticipated one and was held on 18th October 2020, organized by Team Bethel with an interesting theme, "Humble". The theme was based on the reading from the gospel of Matthew Chapter 23 Verse 12, "Whoever makes himself great will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be made great."

The meeting started off with a prayer by Siby Achen which was followed by a truly melodious song in keeping with the theme, 'Who am I', by Allen Raju, Hannah John and Tania Thomas. Next in line was the gospel reading by Titus Thomas. Our keynote speaker

for the session was Jerry Achen, who gave us an insightful message on the importance of Christian humility and to rely on the grace of God in every circumstance. Achen also reiterated on the effects of the youth indulgence in social media and how it is negatively affecting our social skills and our real-world relationships. Perhaps it's time to disconnect and to reconnect with what truly matters.

Our youth meetings are never complete without a little laughter and competitive spirit and it was just about time for that. Team Bethel's Alan Sabu organized a Bible Pictionary game where the participants had to guess Biblical characters, places and events. It

was absolute fun! For when it comes to activities with the SMC youth, there is never a dull moment!

With a truly inspirational speech and an opportunity to interact and bond with everyone, it was a blessed time together. Kudos to Team Bethel for all their effort to put together this event. It is indeed through our youth meetings that we realize that although the virtual world is our "new normal", we all are together in our journey of faith, prayer and fellowship.

BETHEL REQUESTS YOU TO  
JOIN US FOR A GATHERING OF FAMILY AND  
FRIENDS

# HUMBLE

MATTHEW 23:12 GNB: WHOEVER MAKES HIMSELF  
GREAT WILL BE HUMBLD, AND WHOEVER  
HUMBLES HIMSELF WILL BE MADE GREAT.

ON ZOOM AT 4:30  
**18.10.2020**  
MEETING ID: 825 1138 8153  
PASSCODE:477764

## OUR HUMBLE GUEST SPEAKER

REV. FR. JERRY KURIAN

# SUNDAY SCHOOL - A JOURNEY I'D NEVER FORGET

By Elsa John



Most of us have entered the youth association after a very interesting phase of our lives in the St. Mary's Cathedral Sunday School. My first memory in our Sunday School was a rather peculiar one.

My sister and I would go to a different Sunday School near our house in Basaveshwaranagar. It was small, informal, we learnt lots of songs and had a short Holy Mass. Everything was great! Then one day our parents broke the news to us saying that our going to this church was more a matter of convenience and that we had our "original" church further away. They told us that it was time to switch and promised that it would be fun! My heart sank, and I didn't want to be a part of any new Sunday School.

Reluctantly one fine Sunday we got dressed to go to this new church all the way on Queen's Road. It took much

longer to reach our destination and when we finally did, we entered during the Holy Mass amidst what looked like hundreds of people and we were immediately directed by the amachis to go stand in the front. After the mass we were pushed by our mother to go down to our new, strange Sunday School despite multiple attempts of begging her not to let us go. I was upset and anxious and already decided that I disliked the place. As we entered we saw a classroom full (literally) of children who belonged to all age groups, gathered together and talking loudly; what a ruckus it was! Immediately we were greeted by this sweet girl named Felina and she made us feel so nice and welcome. Soon after that, Chacko uncle, the headmaster back then, made some announcements and let the chechis take over.

What followed was the singing session and this is what won our hearts!

Veenu Chechi, Veena Chechi, Anu Chechi, and Minu Chechi led this sea of children and it was a blast! They sang together so loudly, as though God himself was there. They made us perform action songs, we had plenty of laughs, celebrated birthdays and prayed so passionately. I had never experienced anything like that before. They were fabulous! And I was so glad to be a part of it.

Today, I am proud to say that I was a part of the Sunday School and it gave me so much more than education about Christ. Whatever I am today is because of the influence of this organization and I am eternally grateful for that. I'm sure that a lot of you reading this share the same sentiment. I thank Baby uncle and every teacher for their time, energy and the effort that they've put into our dear Sunday School. It truly is the best!

## REMINISCING...

This section of the newsletter will feature a series of conversations, amongst other things, in an attempt to acquaint the youth members with the times of the foundation of our church, St. Mary's JSO Cathedral. This way we also connect with some of our grandparents and parents, the pillars of our church! We hope you find this interesting!

### Conversation with Mr. Idichandy John

1. Could you give us a brief introduction of yourself, your family and how you came to Bangalore?

A: My home town is Omalloor. I am now settled in Bangalore with my family. After my schooling, I came to Bangalore to pursue my higher studies in the year 1969.

2. Were you a member from the inception of St. Mary's Cathedral?

A: Yes, I was one of the founding members of St. Mary's JSO Church since 1974.

3. Can you tell us a little about your involvement or what you remember when our church was being set up?

A: Right from 1974, I have been very actively involved in Church activities.

Served as a secretary for our church for two terms.

Served as secretary for JSO Society for two terms. During this period we could purchase the # 13 Queens Road land, from BBMP, registered in the year 2006, with a lot of hard work and dedication of the Office bearers of JSO Society.

Served as Vice-president for JSO Society for two terms.

Served as School management committee member for St. Mary's Public School for two terms.

4. How different or similar do you think the church and the people are now in comparison to then?

A: Now it is the duty of the younger generation of our church to take it

forward with lots of dedication.

5. Do you have a message for the young members of our church?

A: I have a message to the younger generation of our church, and that is, you should have a vision in your mind. You should not be spendthrift.

You guys should prove to the elders that you all can do better than what your elders did for you. Yes you can do it. I wish you guys would buy a piece of land and construct a youth center and community hall. All the very best.



By Shreya Ann Matthew

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# BUN AND KAAP! CORNER!

Conversations on a regular pre-pandemic Sunday at #13, Queen's Road.

## COVID ACTION TEAM

Covid-19 has changed our lives dramatically and we don't know when we will be meeting each other again. We hope that all our members and their families are in good health. If in case you need any assistance with regard to the pandemic, a Covid Action Team has been formulated by our church.

Dr. Elsa John, who is a committee member and a part of the Covid Action Team, can be contacted for any queries.

## WHAT'S COOKING?

We have a lot of exciting ideas for what we want to feature in the upcoming editions - walking down memory lane, talent revelations and so much more! However, we are also always open to your ideas.

If you want us to feature your work, if you have any suggestions for us or even if you just want to tell us what you think of the newsletter, please write to [smcyouth.bnglr@gmail.com](mailto:smcyouth.bnglr@gmail.com)

In case you haven't been able to fill the Google form to join the teams yet, this is your chance. Scan the QR code, fill in the form and you're good to go!



All our activities and meets are uploaded on our YouTube channel so that whoever missed out can still catch up. Do check it out!



## BIRTHDAY BABIES OF THE MONTH!

Alina Iype	5th November
Ebin Mathew	17th November
Ashish Mathew	27th November
Rhea Ann Abraham	30th November

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Our friends, Nisha (The daughter of Mr. Sunil P. John) and Sujen are blessed with an adorable baby boy!

## OUR BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR DONATIONS

Name : St. Marys JSO Youth Association  
 Account Number : 0009053000011473  
 IFSC Code : SIBL0000009  
 Bank : South Indian Bank, Bangalore Cantonment

## CONTACT DETAILS

You can contact us only any of our social media handles. We can't wait to hear from you!



Instagram  
@smc.youth



Facebook  
Bangalore St.Mary's Cathedral



YouTube  
SMC Youth Association