

DAYS TO REMEMBER— AUGUST

BIRTH DAYS

26- FR. SATHISH

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

04. FR. BIJU PAUL

13. FR. WILFRED

21. FR. PASCAL

22. FR. VINCENT

CONGREGATION FEAST

25. FEAST OF ST. MIRIAM

UP COMING EVENTS

16. ORDINATION OF

DN. SHAMON

25. ORDINATION OF

DN. REEGAN



Friends of Fr. Pascal were organising a fundraising event of cycling 740 km in 6 days, for our Simalaguri mission in Assam The event was taking place in Portugal.

For Vocation please contact

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ST. MICHAEL INFORMATION LINK

SMILE

SACRED HEART VICARIATE - INDIA

01.08.18

ST. MIRIAM

OF JESUS CRUCIFIED

**Holy Spirit, inspire me.
Love of God, consume me.
To the right path lead me.
Mary my mother, look down upon
me.
With Jesus, bless me.
From all evil, all illusion, all
danger, preserve me.**



Miriam Bawardy was born on January 5, 1846, in Ibillin, a small village of Galilea, half way between Nazareth and Haifa. Her parents, strong believers, were unable to have a child who could survive; one after the other, twelve boys died very young. In their deep anguish and trust in God, they went on foot to Bethlehem to pray at the Manger and ask the Holy Virgin for the grace of a daughter. Miriam was born nine months later.

She was baptized and confirmed according to the Greek Catholic tradition of her family. Her mystical life of grace, devoted to the Holy Spirit, began at a young age. As a child she experienced the beauty of Creation. For her, everything spoke of God. There was an incident of two small birds having died in her hands. As she buried them, she heard within herself these words, "Behold everything fades away but if you want to give me your heart, I shall remain with you always."

Miriam was 12 and lived in Alexandria, when her uncle wanted her to get married. She was determined to give herself entirely unto the Lord and so she refused. Threats, humiliations and bad treatment did not affect her decision. She tried to enlist another servant in the house, as an ally, to get a letter to her brother who remained in Galilee. The servant was a Muslim and urged her to leave Christianity and embrace his religion. Miriam declined.

In his fury, the man cut her throat, leaving her body in a dark alley on September 8, 1858. Later she said that she was indeed lifeless at that moment, and it seemed to her as if she had entered into Paradise, seeing the Holy Virgin, the saints, her parents, the glorious Trinity...



But her time had not come. She woke up inside a grotto, next to a young woman who looked like a nun, wearing blue.

“A nun dressed in blue picked me up and stitched my throat wound. This happened in a grotto somewhere. I then found myself in heaven with the Blessed Virgin, the angels and the saints. They treated me with great kindness. In their company were my parents. I saw the brilliant throne of the Most Holy Trinity and Jesus Christ in His humanity.

There was no sun, no lamp, but everything was bright with light. Someone spoke to me. They said that I was a virgin, but that my book was not finished.” She then found herself once again in the grotto with the “nun dressed in blue”.

How long did Miriam remain in this secret shelter? She later spoke of one month, but she was not sure. One day, the unknown nurse prepared some soup for her that was so delicious that she greedily asked for more, and all her life she was to remember the taste of this heavenly soup. On her death bed she was heard to say tenderly,

“She made me some soup! Oh, such good soup! There I was a long time, looking, and never ate soup like that. I have the taste in my mouth. She promised me that at my last hour, she will give me a little spoonful of it.”

After she was cured the nun brought her to a church and left her there at

(So it should not be said that any temptation or trial, whatever it may be, should ever make you doubt for a moment his love and destroy the peace of your soul. Whenever it might seem that you have been unfaithful never let yourself become discouraged, but say in all honesty to Jesus that you will try to do better. Be brave, trust, and be cheerful. This is how He wishes to be served. This trust and confidence which are so glorious and so precious to Him; what good are they unless you can find evidence of them in yourself? Do not change anything in your rule and do not cut down your communions. Make at the beginning of each year a little review of the previous year. But never make an indifferent general confession to whoever it may be. Occupy yourself with good works, without letting them take over, lend yourself to those that divine providence presents to you, and seek advise if you feel there is any room for doubt. The great point and what I recommend immediately is to watch yourself so as to keep that peace, so precious and sweet which the Lord has given you, that peace which is his own, the peace of his heart which he has given you in his will on the eve of his death. So have confidence and let yourself go without any reservations whatsoever into the hands of so good a master! **Here is a prayer; Yes, my Jesus.** Say it in times of trial. This yes which rests in the Heart of Jesus and which he says with so much love to his Father; **Yes my Father!** should rest in your heart and come often to your lips in addressing Jesus. Here is the sure way to peace. Farewell, my good Sister, continue to pray for him who up to the end will be the most devoted of your servants in Jesus Christ. We have not spoken of Mary our dear Mother; but always remember this prayer too; **All through Mary.**



Garicoïts, priest



We both feel blessed after going to Betharram; our mother house before our ordination to priesthood and implored the blessing of our founder. Our only prayer is that we may be simple Betharramites who are the messengers of happiness.

Dn. Reegan

THE RELEVANT LETTER OF ST. MICHAEL TODAY

Letter of St. Michael to an unknown Lady explaining how should she live her family life faithful to her husband and always remain in prayers
(January 1830)

My dear Sister.

I received the letter that you wanted to write some time ago. Be assured I do not need the new year to remind me to pray for you before the Lord. I will never forget what he has done for you, no more than I will forget the faithfulness with which you have responded to his grace. Deepen within yourself more and more that feeling of his goodness. He is your master and he does not call you his servant, but his friend. And he is also very really 6 Correspondence F.V.D. first period: 1825 - 1833 your true spouse; you understand what bonds unite you to him and to his holy Mother.

Alexandria. She then moved about from town to town as a servant.

In Marseille, Miriam got in contact with the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition. She was 19 but looked 12 or 13. She was welcomed as a candidate, and her joy was great to be able to give herself to God. She was always ready for tiring jobs, spending most of her time at laundry or in the kitchen. But every week, she lived the Passion of the Lord, received stigmata, which – simple as she was – she mistook for disease. Some of the sisters were taken aback, and after two years of novitiate, Miriam was not admitted.

Miriam was warmly received in the Pau Carmel, in June 1867, where she found love and understanding in the midst of her experiences. She took the habit in the following month, receiving the name of Sister Miriam of Jesus Crucified. She experienced many mystical phenomena such as the gift of prophecy, ecstasies, attacks of the devil, possessions of the devil, and angelic possessions along with the stigmata and the crowning with thorns. Amid all these graces, she felt that she was nothing with regard to God and referred to herself as the “Little Nothing” or the “Little Arab”. She pronounced her vows on November 21, 1871. Despite the promising beginning among the nuns she was misunderstood because of all the mystical phenomena, which caused people to doubt the authenticity of the extraordinary graces.

In 1870, Mariam went with the first group of Carmelite Apostolic Sisters to Mangalore, India. She served there for two years before returning to Pau. It was there she made her profession of solemn vows as a member of the Order. In September 1875 she helped to found a new monastery in Bethlehem, the first of the Order in that region, where she lived until her death. During her whole life, she experienced periods of religious ecstasy frequently throughout the day.

In April 1878 Mariam played an important role in the identification of the Biblical Emmaus thanks to a private revelation. She returned to Pau, where the Holy Spirit assured her she would found a monastery in Bethlehem. In September 1875 she helped to found a new monastery in Bethlehem, the first of the Order in that region, where she lived until her death. During her whole life, she experienced periods of religious ecstasy frequently throughout the day. She transferred to Bethlehem to live there. She fell while bringing water to workers and broke her arm. Gangrene set in, and she died within a few days at the age of 33. She was beatified on November 13, 1983, by Pope Saint John Paul II. She was the first Palestinian to be

canonized since the early church. Pope Francis canonized her on May 17, 2015.

The significance of Saint Mary of Jesus Crucified, or as she called herself the "Little Arab" or "The Little One", is the reality of the supernatural world.

She exemplifies the transcendence of the love of God and the activity of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church. There exists a supernatural world in which devils and angels and God reign, and her life bears witness to this reality. Her life so affirms the transcendence of divine Love. For her, "God is all things, above all and she is nothing!"

Another aspect of the Little Arab is that she manifested in a striking manner the active presence of the Holy Spirit in the Church. It was the Holy Spirit who gave her the relish for contemplation, also communicating to her a vivid consciousness of the presence of God the Father in the word of God and come down to earth through His Son. It was this same exquisite sensibility and refined tact, which enabled her to discover and feel the presence of God in every creature, in every person, and in every event. Everything was a sign for her. Everything was a grace. Everything was the Word of God. In an era when the Holy Spirit was "the divine Unknown," Saint Mary of Jesus Crucified was His evangelist through her extraordinary devotion to the Holy Spirit.

SHOBHANA SHHAKHA— BANGALORE



The month of July was indeed an auspicious and joyful for the community of Shobhana Shaakha, as we were blessed by the visit of Rev. Fr. Luke SCJ and Br. Akhom from Thailand at the beginning of the month. The community followed its customary spiritual renewal of monthly recollection by Rev. Fr. Shaju SCJ,

who spoke about virtues of Mother Mary, his own life experience and encouraged our students with Word of God: John 15:5 "I am the Vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear



much fruit." Rev. Fr. Joy Sebastian Schp, from Piarist Fathers, Ministered the Sacrament of Reconciliation and guided our brothers, this opportunity made them to grow

spiritually in their day to day life. The message uplifted and encouraged students to come closer to Mother Mary. In preparation for the Feast of Our Lady of Betharram the community began the novena on 20th July 2018 and solemnly concluded on the Feast Day. On 29th July, the community celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Betharram along with Fr. Biju Paul, Fr. Enakius, Fr. Rojo & Fr. George Antony along with our companions of Betharram

" To drink from the same source.."



Shamon and myself had the opportunity to be part of the International Session held at Betharram, last June 21 till July 28.

There were twelve participants including us. The theme of the session was "to drink from the same source". There

were inputs given by various fathers. As per the theme we walked in the footsteps of our Father and Founder St. Michael Garicoits: his spirituality, charism etc..

This session gave us rich experiences with lot of challenges and convictions of our call to the family of Betharram. The message that we carried back home is that our religious life is meaningful if only we encounter Christ daily in our personal life.