

## Days to remember

### BIRTHDAY

05.05.18= Fr. Jose Kumar

10.05.18=Fr. Shaju

26.05.18=Fr. Jestin

### ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

03.05.18– Fr. Rojo

05.05.18– Fr. Jose Kumar

08.05.18-Fr. Subesh

Fr. George Mathew

Fr. Yesudss

10.05.18– Fr. Jesuraj

14.05.18-Fr. Britto Rajan

Fr. Valan

16.05.18– Fr. John Britto

19.05.18– Fr. Arul

22.05.18– Fr. Livin

23.05.18-Fr. Enakius

24.05.18-Fr. Stervin

27.05.18-Fr. Bistis

30.05.18-Fr. Edwin

31.05.18-Fr. Jestin

### For Vocation please contact

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## Visit of Fr. Enrico to different places



SOCIETAS SACRATISSIMI CORDIS JESU *Betharam*

ST. MICHAEL INFORMATION LINK

**SMILE**

**SACRED HEART VICARIATE - INDIA**

**01.05.18**

**“The only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint”**

Reading the recent Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis, *Gaudete et exultate*, *Rejoice and be glad*, I was particularly struck by some aspects that I wish to share with you.

This exhortation is about the call to holiness. Pope Francis clarifies his perspective since the introduction: “My modest goal is to re propose the call to holiness in a practical way for our own time, with all its risks, challenges and opportunities. For the Lord has chosen each one of us ‘to be holy and blameless before him in love’” (*Eph 1:4*).

As we know, thanks to his simple style, Pope Francis knows how to touch the heart of all sort of people, even non-Christians and non-believers.

One aspect highlighted by Pope Francis is the fact that holiness is not separated from our mission. Our Rule of Life too places the chapter on the Mission of the religious of the Sacred Heart immediately after the chapter concerning the charism of our congregation. This already tells

REJOICE AND BE GLAD  
GAUDETE ET EXULTATE



In this regard, I find the words of Pope Francis particularly significant. At first he stresses that we are called to see our whole life as a mission: “Try to do so by listening to God in prayer and recognizing the signs that he gives you. Always ask the Spirit what Jesus expects from you at every moment of your life and in every decision you must make, so as to discern its place in the mission you have received. Allow the Spirit to forge in you the personal mystery that can reflect Jesus Christ in today’s world” (n 23).

But immediately he warns us against the risk of making silence and prayer an excuse to avoid the mission: “It is not healthy to love silence while fleeing interaction with others, to want peace and quiet while avoiding activity, to seek prayer while disdain service. Everything can be accepted and integrated into our life in this world, and become a part of our path to holiness. We are called to be contemplatives even in the midst of action, and to grow in holiness by responsibly and generously carrying out our proper mission” (n 26).

Then he encourages us to overcome the temptation of relegating “pastoral engagement or commitment in the world to second place, as if these were ‘distractions’ along the path to growth in holiness and interior peace. We can forget that 'life does not have a mission, but is a mission’”.

A second aspect is the close link that exists between holiness and the community in which I live (family, religious, parish ...). Pope Francis addresses this aspect by commenting on the beatitude of the peacemakers: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God”. Without unnecessary turns of phrase, he reminds us: “I may

## St Michael Garicoits wrote...

*What is this steadfastness which we have spoken so much about? Is it this great gift from God whereby we persevere in holiness until the hour of our death, and which God grants to a saintly life or to the predestined? ... This perseverance and steadfastness is a very special virtue because there is a special cause for goodness. ... Yes, there is a special advantage in carrying on a work despite all the obstacles, despite the boredom, disgust, the wish to change, the wish not to be fickle, to persist, to hold on, that is the particular advantage which makes steadfastness into a special virtue which is distinct from the other virtues. (M 387)*

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### **ST. ANTHONY CHURCH YADAVANAHALLI, PILGRIMAGE TO KERALA**

It was indeed a joyful opportunity for all the members of Ligion of Mary of our parish St Anthony church Yadavanahalli to visit some of the important pilgrim centres of north Kerala during or visit to Kerala between 15-18 of April.

We were a group of twenty two members. During this visit we were fortunate



enough to visit Mary Mata Centre Balaal, where an apparition of Blessed Mother took place some years ago (today it is a diocesan approved pilgrim centre). Even today lots of miracles are happening to those sick people who apply the oil flows from the statue of our mother.

Secondly we visited the famous shrine of St Theresa at Mahi and it was a great experience

for all of us. All the members spent some quality time over there to pray for all. The group was surprised to see the large group of faithful gathering in all the churches and their deep faith.

It was also an opportunity for the members to enjoy the beautiful nature of Kerala and we visited some beaches and rivers over there.

Over all, it was really a spiritual, mental and physical enriching experience for all.

**Fr Rojo Thomas scj  
Parish Priest**

## World Water Day observed at Don Bosco High School, Hojai

Don Bosco High School, Hojai students along with their vibrant teachers celebrated world Water Day on 24 March Saturday. World Water Day was first instituted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993.

This year, Class VIII students of Don Bosco High School, Hojai used their accumulated knowledge to give presentations on water and water conservation to students and parents with their open school painting competition, pluck cards presentations, Sound and light musical presentations and cultural activities. Speaking as chief guest at the cultural function of the World Water Day Mr. Naba Kamal Das, Executive Engineer, PHE, Hojai emphasized and shared with the students the importance of saving water and to have access of safe drinking water.

His speech also focused on the problems and challenges faced to have access to potable water and the impending dangers, especially through chemical contamination. He also expressed concern over the growing iron content in Hojai district.

He said that while having access to water is a challenge, the bigger challenge the country faces is access to safe and potable water. He urged the students to share the information gathered within their families and community.

The students in return took pledge that they will save water and use it wisely. At the end of the programme there was a press meet by the Principal of the school, Fr. Michael Bistis who pointed out that the school is not only for inculcating knowledge but also imbibing social awareness in the young minds in order to form better citizens of tomorrow.



hear something about someone and I go off and repeat it. I may even embellish it the second time around and keep spreading it... And the more harm it does, the more satisfaction I seem to derive from it. The world of gossip, inhabited by negative and destructive people, does not bring peace. Such people are really the enemies of peace; in no way are they 'blessed' ( n.87). We need to be artisans of peace, for building peace is a craft that demands serenity, creativity, sensitivity and skill. Sowing peace all around us: that is holiness" (n.89).

Pope Francis continues: "At times, it may be necessary to speak of the difficulties of a particular brother or sister. In such cases, it can happen that an interpretation is passed on in place of an objective fact. Emotions can misconstrue and alter the facts of a matter, and end up passing them on laced with subjective elements. In this way, neither the facts themselves nor the truth of the other person are respected" (footnote 74).

Here is a last aspect, among many others, that I would like to emphasize. After saying that "Growth in holiness is a journey in the community" and that "Each community is called to create a God-enlightened space in which to experience the hidden presence of the risen Lord", Pope Francis reminds us that "holiness is paying attention to the details: Let us not forget that Jesus asked his disciples to pay attention to details.

The little detail that wine was running out at a party.

The little detail that one sheep was missing.

The little detail of noticing the widow who offered two small coins.

The little detail of having spare oil for the lamps, should the bridegroom delay.

The little detail of asking the disciples how many loaves of bread they had.

The little detail of having a fire burning and a fish cooking as he waited for the disciples at daybreak”.

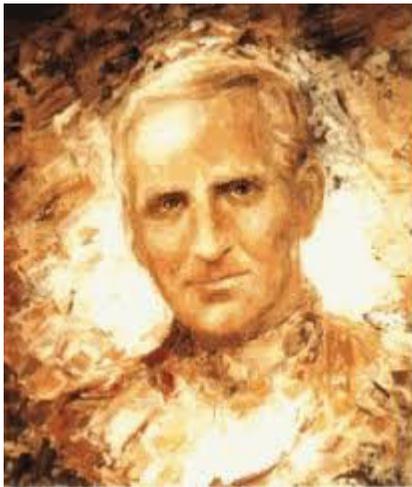
I conclude by wondering what is the detail I must pay attention to in order to be faithful to my mission on the path to holiness and really be a man of community?

**P. Enrico Frigerio scj**  
**Regional Superior**

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## **Saint Michael Garicoits**

**Feast Day - May 13**



At Ibarre, in the mountainous region of south-western France, not far from Lourdes, there lived at the time of the French Revolution a poor peasant family named Garicoits. Their humble cottage was always open to the proscribed priests who came from time to time to minister to the faithful in secret. Michael, the first son of young Arnold Garicoits and his wife Gratianne, was born here on April 15, 1797. As a little boy he had to help earn a livelihood by serving as a shepherd on a neighbouring farm. Often Saint Michael Garicoits expressed the desire of becoming a priest;

but his parents always told him: “No! We are too poor.” However, his grandmother went to the parish priest at St Palais and told him about Michael. This priest had often found a hiding place in the Garicoits home during the Revolu-

tion and subsequent years; and he made arrangements so that Michael could study for the priesthood, first at St Palais and then at Bayonne.

The parents would not have to pay anything, and the boy would earn his expenses by working for the priests and in the bishop’s kitchen outside of school hours. Later Michael studied philosophy at Aire, and theology at Dax. As a seminarian at Dax, where he was nicknamed our Aloysius Gonzaga, he also taught a class in the nearby preparatory school. He was ordained a priest at Bayonne in December, 1823. Michael joined the Third Order Secular of St Francis; and from the beginning of his priestly career manifested unusual apostolic zeal. His first appointment was that of an assistant to the pastor of Cambo, who was in poor health. In a short time the young priest revived religious fervor and effectively combated Jansenism by promoting frequent Communion and fostering devotion to the Sacred Heart. He tackled the freethinkers with such earnestness, that one of them declared: That devil would give his life to save the soul of an enemy.

After two years Saint Michael Garicoits was appointed a professor in the major seminary at Betharram, and after some time rector. Though he filled these offices in an able manner, the bishop suddenly decided to merge the Betharram seminary with the one at Bayonne; and Father Michael found himself more or less stranded. There was a great need of mission work among the people; and he conceived a plan for training priests to do this kind of work. With a few companions he began to live a community life; and with his bishop’s approval he drew up constitutions in 1838. The number of his associates increased; but then the diocese received a new bishop who did not favor the founding of a new congregation. Father Michael’s constitutions were revised; and his community was permitted to work only under the bishop and in the diocese. They were allowed to choose their own superior only in 1852. It was a great trial for Father Michael, but he bore it with patience and left his foundation in God’s hands.

Father Michael died of apoplexy on Ascension Day, May 14, 1863. Saint Michael Garicoits was beatified in 1923, and canonized in 1947. In 1877, fourteen years after the death of St. Michael, the congregation which he had founded received papal approval according to the original plan. It is called Auxiliary Priests of the Sacred Heart, and follows the rule of St Augustine. The members of the society take perpetual vows, and devote themselves to teaching and the care for souls.

from The Franciscan Book of Saints, edited by Marion Habig, OFM