



# Lux Carmeli

Sadbhavana, Carmelite Provincialate, P. B. 5602, Rajajinagar I Block,  
Dr. Rajkumar Road, Bangalore - 560 010, Karnataka  
E-mail: ocdkgprovince@gmail.com | Web: www.carmelbangalore.com

VOLUME - 15

NUMBER - 08

DECEMBER - 2025

## A. ECHOES FROM THE PROVINCE

### 1. Five Carmelites Ordained Deacons at Infant Jesus Shrine, Mangaluru

Five Carmelite brothers, Brs. Alwyn D'Souza, Elston Monteiro, Stin George, Loy Jackson Crasta, and Hilary Bodtol Rodrigues, were ordained deacons by Most Rev. Peter Paul Saldanha, Bishop of Mangalore, at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte on October 03, 2025. The Bishop urged the *ordinandi* to live lives of humble service and steadfast prayer, warning against worldly temptations. The solemn liturgy, was animated by Fr Roshan Monteiro. A short felicitation followed, marking the occasion with joy, gratitude, and fraternal celebration.



### 2. Ordination of Br Ruban KV to the Order of Diaconate:



The parish of Santa Maria a Ripa, Empoli, Florence, celebrated a grace-filled moment on October 19, 2025 with the diaconate ordination of Br. Ruban Karikaparamb Vargees, conferred by Most Rev. Gherardo Gambelli, the Archbishop of Florence. The event also marked 25 years of Carmelite presence in Empoli. The faithful and many Carmelite friars participated

joyfully in the solemn liturgy — a rare event for the parish. The Archbishop emphasized prayer as the deacon's strength. The celebration concluded with heartfelt gratitude for Br. Ruban's vocation and his generous commitment to serve the Church.

### 3. Memorial Service for Miss. Helen Chua Tiampo, Benefactress of the Province:

The memorial and funeral of Miss Helen Chua Tiampo, beloved benefactress of the Province and especially the Canadian Provincial Delegation, was held on November 03, 2025 at the Little Flower Monastery, Fraser Valley. Over 200 people, including 17 priests, gathered for the solemn rites, which included prayers, Rosary, hymns, and the Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Rudolf V. D'Souza. Heartfelt tributes, including a moving eulogy by her nephew, honoured Helen's faith and generosity. She was laid to rest in the monastery crypt—a rare grace reflecting her immense contribution. Her legacy continues to inspire all who visit and remember her.



### 4. CarmeLight – Sports Meeting at Londa



CARMELIGHT 2025, the interschool sports fest of six Mount Carmel Schools, was held with great excitement at Mount Carmel CBSE School, Ramnagar, on November 17-18, 2025. The event opened with a vibrant march-past and a ceremony led by Fr. Pius James D'Souza, the General Definitor and Fr. Silvestre D'Souza, the Provincial Superior. Students

competed in athletics, team games, box cricket, and a science exhibition. Kadaganchi won the exhibition, while Ramnagar emerged 'Over-All Champions,' lifting the CarmeLight Rolling Trophy. The two-day celebration highlighted teamwork, talent, and the Carmel spirit of striving for excellence. Excluding Fr Pius James and Fr Silvestre, the following dignitaries were present: Fr. Alphonse Britto OCD, Fr. Prakash D'Cunha OCD, Fr. Joachim Rodrigues OCD, Mr. Benoy Rafael, Mr Shivaji Gosavi, President Gram Panchayat, Ramnagar, Mrs Shreya Sawanth, Vice President, Mr Vinod Desai, Member of the Locality, School Managers and Principals. The entire event was organized by Rev. Fr Joachim Rodrigues, Fr Anthon Souz, Fr Movin Periera, Br Wilton Fernandes and the staff at Mount Carmel School, Ramnagar.

## 5. Feast of St Teresa of Avila, Solemnised!



Sadbhavana celebrated the solemn feast of St. Teresa of Avila, patroness of the Province, on November 16, 2025. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Arokia Raj Satish Kumar, the Auxiliary Bishop of Bangalore, who highlighted St. Teresa's call to radiate Christ's light in a darkened world. The Mass was concelebrated by several Carmelite priests, and clergy from the neighbouring religious communities and parishes. Sisters from various congregations, benefactors, and friends also participated. A heartfelt vote of thanks was delivered by the Provincial, Rev. Fr Silvestre D'Souza. The celebration concluded with a festive meal shared in gratitude and fraternity.

## 6. Young Priests Meeting at Sadbhavana

The Young Priests' Meet was held at Sadbhavana from December 01-04, 2025 bringing together 16 priests for formation, sharing, and fellowship. The programme began with sessions on cyber law, offering practical guidance for ministry in the digital age. On the second day, the participants met the Provincial for interaction and personal sharing. The third day featured an outing to Bannerghatta Zoological Park and Vidhana Soudha, fostering fraternity and relaxation. The meet concluded with a session of sharing and a meeting with Fr Archiebald Gonsalves, the Councillor in-charge of formation and ongoing formation, helping the priests reflect meaningfully on their experiences.



## 7. Biblical Symposium at Xellim



The Karnataka-Goa Province, in collaboration with the Diocesan Centre for Biblical Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Goa and Daman, organized a Bible Symposium at Divine Springs Retreat Centre, Xellim-Loliem, from August 27-29. The event, themed 'Biblical Text in its Context in the Digital and AI Age,' marked the Jubilee Year 2025 and the Centenary of St Thérèse's Canonization. Most Rev.

Simião P. Fernandes, the Auxiliary Bishop of Goa and Daman, himself a Scripture scholar, inaugurated the symposium. The Provincial, Fr. Silvestre D'Souza presided over the concluding Eucharist. Renowned Carmelite, diocesan, and international scholars led sessions and workshops on online resources, AI tools, and essential biblical software. Kudos to the organizers, especially Fr. Dr. Richard F. D'Souza, Professor at Teresianum and the local community, led by Fr Rovel D'Souza. It was a unique programme which was appreciated by the participants.

## 8. Carmelite Social Mission Meeting

The Carmel Jyoti Social Mission held its annual meeting on September 01, 2025, at Sadbhavana, Carmelite



Provincialate; it was attended by friars involved in social apostolates. Frs Ivan Robert D'Souza, Nelson Pinto, and Stifan Perera, were special invitees, as they are also involved in some way, in this apostolate. Fr Joachim Rodrigues extended words of welcome and Mr. Anthony Kanickaraj highlighted government schemes and strategies to leverage CSR funds for our mission's growth. The Directors of each unit presented their reports, and Fr Provincial thanked everyone for their

commitment to serving the poor and marginalized. Some new strategies and plans were discussed and drawn up, to further enhance our social outreach.

## 9. Release of Books

The following books, which bring out the spiritual and intellectual depth of the Friars of the Province, were released at various occasions. The necessary support was rendered by Dhyanaavana Publications, the Province's Publishing house, in its collaboration with the authors to bring out the best for the readers:

1. *Hope Nurtures Life*, Fr Gregory D'Souza
2. *The Crucible of Suffering*, Fr Rudolf D'Souza
3. *Carlo's Highway to Heaven*, Fr Jocy Siddakatte
4. *Spiritual Elevator*, Fr Richard D'Souza
5. *Hope Helmet of Salvation for Spiritual Battle*, Fr Richard D'Souza
6. *Beyond The Horizon's of Love*, Fr John Sequeira
7. *Climbing The Mountain of The Lord*, Fr John Sequeira



**Plenary Council 2025 held in Kihonda, Tanzania.  
The Concluding Mass was celebrated by Fr. Philbert Namphande OCD, Definitor General**

# PROVINCE IN CELEBRATION: A 100 PETALS FOR ST THERESE









## B. DISPATCHES FROM OUR DWELLING PLACES

### I. Asha Deepa, Madanthyar

#### 1. Br Avin Dias Brings Laurels to the Institution:

Br. Avin Dias brought laurels to the house and the college by securing first place in the Commerce Quiz Competition organized by Sacred Heart Degree College, Madanthyar, in which nearly eight colleges participated. He also won second place in the Product Launch Competition held at Milagres College, Mangalore. His creativity, knowledge, and presentation skills were highly appreciated. We appreciate his dedicated efforts and congratulate him on these remarkable achievements.



#### 2. Br Aman D'Souza Excels in Athletics:

Br Aman D'Souza has made us proud, by excelling in athletics, securing second place in the 800 meters running race and second place in the relay at the taluk-level athletic meet held at SDM College, Ujire. His hard work and sportsmanship were commendable, and we congratulate him on his remarkable performance.



### II. Carmel Ashram, Koteswar

#### 1. "Kani Kani Kantha 2025" – Kundapur Edition at Carmel Ashram



On September 28, 2025, the Kundapur edition of "Kani Kani Kantha 2025" was held at Carmel Ashram, Katkere, hosted by Catholic Sabha, Koteswar Unit. Around 25 children participated, delivering heartfelt storytelling performances judged by Mr. Alwyn Danti and Mrs. Judith Mendonca. The event was graced by Fr Praveen Pinto, Fr Joe Tauro, and Fr Ivan D'Souza, who inaugurated and felicitated winners across three categories. Launched in 2018, the initiative celebrates Konkani storytelling, preserves cultural heritage, and offers young talents a platform, with winners from four centres advancing to the grand finale in Mangaluru.

#### 2. "Kani Kani Kantha 2025" – Udupi Edition Held at Anugraha

The "Kani Kani Kantha 2025" storytelling competition (Udupi edition) was held at Anugraha Pastoral Centre, Udupi, on October 04, 2025. Organized by *Naman Ballok Jesu* in collaboration with Daiji Dubai, the event saw 25 enthusiastic participants showcasing their storytelling skills. Mr. Leslie Arouza inaugurated the programme, accompanied by Fr Ivan D'Souza, Editor of *Naman Ballok Jesu* and Fr Praveen Tauro, President of Daiji Dubai, Mangalore Unit. Dr. Rayan Mathias and Mrs. Laveena Fernandes judged the event. Winners across four categories were felicitated in a joyful ceremony that celebrated Konkani culture and youthful talent.



#### 3. Koteswar Youth Shine Bright at ICYM Annual Meet 2025

On October 12, 2025, the ICYM Koteswar Unit excelled at the ICYM Annual Meet 2025 of Kundapur Deanery, held at Byndoor. The vibrant event showcased their talents across various contests, including Grotto Making, Cooking Without Fire, Reel Making, and a Talent Show. Demonstrating creativity, teamwork, and dedication, Koteswar youth achieved top positions: First in Grotto Making and Reel Making,



Second in Cooking Without Fire and Talent Show, and clinched the Overall Championship Trophy. The youth expressed their gratitude to their animators, Parish Priest, and well-wishers for their support and guidance.

#### 4. Six OCDS Members Make Temporary Profession at Carmel Ashram, Katkere

Six members of the Infant Jesus Community, Koteswar, made their Temporary Promise in the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCDS) during a solemn Eucharistic celebration at Carmel Ashram, Katkere. The professed were Wineetha Almeida, Lenny Crasta, Voilet D'Sa, Irene Monteiro, Geetha Rasquinha, and Roshny D'Silva. Rev. Fr Deep Fernandes, OCD, Delegate Provincial to the OCDS, received the vows. He urged them to embrace contemplative life in family and work, to draw inspiration from St John of the Cross. Fr Joseph Cyril (OCDS Spiritual Assistant), Fr Praveen Pinto (Superior), and Fr Joe Tauro graced the event.



### III. Carmel Bhavana, Huvina Hadagali

1. Carmel Jyothi Public Charitable Trust, Hadagali, distributed tailoring certificates to 33 students who have successfully completed their six months course at Uppanayakanahalli.

2. On August 10, 2025, Carmel Jyothi Public charitable trust Hadagali sponsored school fees to the poor children.

3. The Parish community along with its faithful celebrated Monti Fest on September 15, 2025. Festal mass was attended by all the friars, and nuns from the convent. The faithful participated in the 9-days Novena by bringing flowers to honour Mary. There was a vegetarian meal with different items made by the parishioners on the feast day, which was served to a total of 150 people.

4. October, the Marian Month, was celebrated with great devotion in Infant Jesus Church, Hadagali. The statue of Mary was taken to every house in turn and Rosary was prayed. All the friars along with parishioners and boarding boys visited the families and prayed for their intentions.

5. On October 31, 2025, the Youth of the Parish participated in the Diocesan Jubilee Quiz competition at CRI level at Hospet.

6. A school picnic was arranged for the MCS, Huvina Hadagali, teachers from October 09-12 at Ramoji City, Telangana. A total of 25 teachers enjoyed the scenic and picturesque beauty of the film city. The days were full of fun and merrymaking.

7. A remarkable milestone at MCS, Hadagali, is the newly installed lift. It was a requirement demanded by the CBSE board, which we successfully completed on September 25, 2025. Additionally, a 58 kV generator has been installed to electrify the building during power-cuts.

8. MCS, Hadagali, has also constructed a kitchen-cum-dining room for the use of teachers during midday food. Furthermore, a cycle stand has been erected for students and teachers to park their cycles and bikes.



# RUN, RISE, SHINE: CARMELIGHT 2025





## IV. Carmel Nivas, Londa

### 1. A Dream Fulfilled: St. Joseph Chapel Now Secure Within God's Shelter



A long-standing dream of having a protective compound wall around St. Joseph's Chapel, Ramnagar, was realized in October 2025. Addressing concerns over trespassing and misuse of the sacred grounds the construction work began early in July. The new wall, a tangible sign of God's sheltering care, was solemnly blessed by Rev. Fr Cyprian Fernandes, OCD, with Rev. Fr Joachim Rodrigues, OCD, inaugurating the gate in the presence of the benefactor Mr. Shivaji Igle. A thanksgiving Eucharist followed the blessing, and benefactors were felicitated for their support in preserving the chapel's spiritual sanctity.

### 2. Inauguration of Little Flower Auditorium!

A long-cherished dream became reality with the inauguration of the Little Flower Auditorium on November 18, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. The Definitor General, Rev. Fr Pius James D'Souza OCD blessed the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the auditorium, while the Provincial, Rev. Fr Silvestre D'Souza OCD inaugurated it by cutting the ribbon and unveiling the plaque. A special blessing dedicated the space for future educational and cultural programmes. During the stage programme, the management honoured the dignitaries and gratefully acknowledged the benefactors and construction workers whose support made this milestone possible.



### 3. Bethany Sisters' Recollection in Ramanagar



On December 03, 2025, Mount Carmel Hostel, Ramanagar, hosted a recollection for 15 Bethany Tertian Sisters engaged in mission exposure in nearby villages. The programme began with a recollection talk by Fr Movin Pereira, followed by adoration and confessions. The day's spiritual zenith was the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr Joachim Rodrigues, celebrating St. Francis Xavier. The sisters later visited Mount Carmel School before returning to their mission stations. The

community offered prayers and good wishes for their mission, perseverance, religious journey.

## V. Carmelite Monastery, Margao

### 1. Margao Celebrates St Thérèse's Centenary with Joy

The Carmelite Monastery, Margao, along with the Carmelite Family, celebrated the centenary of the canonization of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus on October 01, 2025. The solemn Eucharist was presided over by His Eminence Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão, Archbishop of Goa and Daman. Highlighting St. Thérèse's virtues of love, humility, and compassion the Cardinal urged all to become instruments of holiness. The celebration also included competitions, a vibrant cultural programme by Carmelite brothers and Secular Carmelites, and concluded with a fellowship dinner, radiating joy and gratitude.



## 2. Celebrating 100 Years of The Canonisation of St. Thérèse of Lisieux:



The Carmelite Monastery, Margao marked the Centenary of the Canonisation of St. Thérèse of Lisieux with two meaningful celebrations. On November 02, 2025, a special film on St. Thérèse was screened for the catechism children at the Carmelite Monastery. The programme included a welcome by Mrs Elizabeth Santos OCDS, a prayer by Mathil Jane, and a vote of thanks by Mrs Dorothy Gomes, concluding with chocolates for the children. Earlier in October, the OCDS community gathered for prayer, a film on the Little Flower, and a lively quiz, joyfully celebrating her enduring “Little Way” of love and trust.

## VI. Dhyanashram, Rajodi

### 1. Free Medical Camp conducted at Dhyanashram Rajodi:

On August 10, 2025, Dhyanashram hosted a Free medical camp organized by the Ekta Patpedi Bank. This camp was inaugurated by the Chaplain of Our Lady of Good Health Church, Rajodi along with Fr Peter Pereira, the Superior of Dhyanashram and other esteemed members of the bank. Hundreds of people benefitted from this Medical camp. The news of this Medical camp was also published in the newspaper “Pudari.” The organizing committee thanked the Dhyanashram Fathers for their support and the Camp ended at 5.00 p.m.



### 2. One day Marathi Retreat at Dhyanashram:



On August 17, 2025, for the first time, Dhyanashram Retreat Center organized One day Marathi Retreat. The retreat began at 9.30 a.m. with registration followed by talks, adoration and confessions. The retreat ended at 05.00 pm. This retreat was preached by Fr Macson Dabre OCD and Fr Glen Fernandes OFM cap. There were altogether 130 participants. Most of participants had come to Dhyanashram campus for the first time. They thanked the Dhyanashram Retreat Center for the renewal programme and asked the center to organize more similar events in future.

### 3. Retreat for Franciscan Brothers!

Dhyanashram Retreat Center caters to the spiritual needs of the Priests, Religious and laity through their spiritual activities. Franciscan missionary Brother (C.M.S.F) held their annual retreat at Dhyanashram preached by Fr Pradeep Pinto OCD. The annual retreat was held from September 21 - 29, 2025. The participants appreciated the spiritual insights and experience shared by Fr Pradeep Pinto and thanked the Dhyanashram community for their accommodation and hospitality. All together there were 21 participants for the annual retreat.



### 4. Centenary Celebration of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus at Dhyanashram, Rajodi



On September 30, 2025, the Community at Dhyanashram, Rajodi, celebrated the Centenary of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus under the theme “A Sign of Hope.” The solemn Eucharist was presided over by Most Rev. Thomas D’Souza, Bishop of Vasai, along with several concelebrating priests. In his homily, the Bishop highlighted St. Thérèse’s simplicity and humility as an enduring inspiration. The

faithful, religious sisters, benefactors, and well-wishers participated in the celebration. The evening concluded with a monastic meal, fostering fellowship, gratitude, and communal joy among all present.

## 5. One day Marathi Retreat at Dhyanashram

On October 12, 2025, Dhyanashram Retreat Center organized its second one day Marathi retreat. The retreat began at 9.30 am with registration followed by talks and adoration. The retreat was preached by Fr Macson Dabre OCD and Fr Brain Dais, a Diocesan Priest. There were altogether 120 participants. Many gave their testimony which was recorded by Fr Naveen Lobo OCD.



## 6. Annual Retreat for Capuchins!



Dhyanashram Retreat Center hosted retreat for the Capuchins of the St. Bonaventure Province Maharashtra. It was a province retreat held in two batches. The first batch had their retreat from October 19-24, 2025 and second batch, from October 26-31, 2025. The retreat for the batches

was preached by Fr John OP and Fr Stephen Matthew OFM Cap. respectively. The Provincial Fr Brain Bandaya thanked the Dhayanashram community for accommodation and hospitality.

## 7. Two days Seminar for Charismatic Prayer Leaders of Bombay Diocese

Dhyanashram hosted two days' seminar for the Charismatic Prayer Leaders of Bombay diocese. The seminar began on November 08 and ended on November 09, 2025. Altogether there were 65 participants. All appreciated the campus and were thrilled with the Carmelite hospitality. They returned to their parish with renewed Spirit.



## 8. OCDS Regional Gathering 2025



Dhyanashram, Rajodi hosted the OCDS Regional Gathering from 21-23 November 2025, with 71 participants from various communities of the Karnataka-Goa Province. The meet opened with the lighting of the lamp by Fr Silvestre D'Souza, Provincial Superior, together with Fr Deep Fernandes, Delegate Provincial for OCDS, and other Carmelite fathers and

Provincial Council members. On November 22, Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza, Bishop of Vasai, presided over Mass. The three-day gathering concluded on November 23, with a vote of thanks by Mrs. Jubilee Cardoza OCDS, of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity community, Mira Road.

## VII. Divine Springs, Xellim

### 1. Spiritual Pathways at Divine Springs, Xellim

Divine Springs Retreat Centre hosted a one-day retreat and a three-day residential retreat in August 2025. Participants engaged in praise & worship, Inner Healing, Adoration, anointing, and the Holy Eucharist, conducted by Fr Joseph D'Souza, Brs. Dominic, Clinton, Alex. Around 30 participants from Margao participated in the residential retreat, led by Fr Rovel D'Souza. Both retreats provided opportunities to renew faith, deepen relationship with Christ, and experience God's healing and mercy, concluding with joy and spiritual enrichment.

## 2. Waves of Grace at Divine Springs Retreat Centre, Xellim

A series of spiritual events were hosted in Divine Springs Retreat Centre, late September, offering renewal to faithful, religious, and clergy. On September 24, a one-day retreat featured praise and worship by Br. Dominic, preaching by Fr Joseph and Br. Alex, healing, adoration, and Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr Rovel D'Souza. From September 26– October 04, a week-long retreat for forty priests of the Missionaries of Compassion and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny was conducted at the Retreat Centre which stirred a spiritual renewal. Participants left spiritually nourished, renewed, and inspired.

## VIII. Grace Villa, Pune

### 1. The New Community at Pune Blessed with a New Chapel

The Grace Villa Community, Pune, celebrated a joyful milestone on December 06, 2025 with the inauguration and blessing of its newly renovated chapel. Delegated by the Provincial, Fr. Daniel Christian OCD presided over the Holy Eucharist dedicating the sacred space for prayer and worship. Community members, Frs. Lancy Mendonca, Roshan D'Souza, and Vishan Monis, along with close friends, graced the occasion, adding warmth and fraternity.



## IX. Pushpanjali, Vadodara

### 1. Feast of the Assumption, Independence Day & Women's Day Celebrated

The parish celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary together with Independence Day and Women's Day with devotion and enthusiasm. The day began with a solemn Eucharistic celebration at 8:00 a.m., attended by a large number of faithful. After Mass, the national flag was hoisted, followed by a patriotic dance by the catechism children. In the evening, the Women's Cell organized Women's Day with cultural programs, games, and singing, concluding with a fellowship dinner that fostered joy, unity, and gratitude.

### 2. Feast of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus Celebrated with Devotion

The community joyfully celebrated the feast of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, its patroness, on October 01, 2025. The celebration began at 7:30 p.m. with a meaningful prayer service, joined by priests and religious from the deanery. A good number of the faithful participated with devotion, adding solemnity to the occasion. After the service, a sumptuous meal fostered fraternal sharing and joyful fellowship. The community expressed heartfelt gratitude to all who attended, making the feast a memorable and grace-filled celebration.

## X. Pushpashrama, Mysuru

### 1. Faith and Freedom Unite at Pushpashrama

On August 15, Pushpashrama celebrated with devotion and patriotism the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary alongside India's 79th Independence Day. The day began with a solemn Thanksgiving Mass, offering gratitude for God's blessings upon our nation. After the Eucharist, the community and devotees of Infant Jesus joined for the flag-hoisting ceremony led by Rev. Fr Lancy Lewis. Br. Glavin shared an inspiring message on true freedom rooted in truth and love. The event concluded with patriotic songs honouring India.



## 2. Inauguration of Talent's Day at Pushpashrama



Talent's Day at Pushpashrama was inaugurated on a festive note at 9:30 a.m., beginning with a prayer invoking God's blessings. Rev. Fr Oswald Crasta, Rector, presided and inspired the brothers to view the event not merely as a competition but as an opportunity to discover and nurture their God-given gifts. He encouraged wholehearted participation and community spirit.

With the formal declaration open, the campus came alive with energy as a series of sports, cultural, and intellectual events fostered joy, unity, and celebration.

## 3. Teachers' Seminar on "De-stressing Education"

The Pushpashrama Institute of Philosophy and Religion, Mysore, hosted a dynamic half-day seminar on "De-stressing Education" on August 23, 2025, drawing over 300 teachers committed to fostering joy and balance in teaching. Organized under the guidance of Rev. Fr Wilfred Rodrigues and inaugurated by Rev. Fr Oswald Crasta, the programme featured expert speakers — Dr Lancy D'Souza, Dr Asha Pathrose, and Dr Hita Claudia Rao — who shared practical strategies to reduce stress among teachers and students. The enriching discussions and collaborative spirit encouraged educators to build classrooms rooted in peace, creativity, and holistic growth.



## 4. Golden Birthday Celebration of Rev. Fr Lancy Lewis



Pushpashrama was filled with joy and gratitude as the community celebrated the 50th birthday of Rev. Fr Lancy Lewis on August 24, 2025. The day began with a thanksgiving Eucharist, offering praise to God for his life and dedicated priestly ministry. In the evening, Fathers from the Mysuru region joined a heartfelt felicitation, appreciating his humility, service, and commitment to formation. Fr Lancy expressed

deep gratitude to God and all who support him. A festive meal concluded the celebration, marking fifty years of faith, friendship, and God's enduring fidelity.

## 5. Monthi Fest Celebration at Pushpashrama

Pushpashrama celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Monthi Fest*, with devotion, fraternity, and joyful sharing. The afternoon featured the traditional Nove Jevan, where the brothers prepared 29 dishes, reflecting the spirit of communion. At 6:30 p.m., a solemn Eucharistic celebration honoured the Blessed Mother, with flowers offered in devotion and active participation by the faithful. The festivities concluded with a shared meal, generously sponsored by donors, fostering fellowship, gratitude, and strengthening bonds among the community.



## 6. Celebration of Patroness Day – St. Thérèse of Lisieux



On October 01, 2025, the Pushpashrama community joyfully celebrated the feast of their patroness, St. Thérèse of Lisieux. The day began at 11:30 a.m. with a Thanksgiving Eucharist, presided over by Rev. Fr Alfred Menezes, OCD, Novice Master, who reflected on St. Thérèse's enduring spiritual legacy and its relevance for religious life today. Several priests from the Mysore region and

the family of Br Nihal D'Souza joined the celebration. The Eucharist was followed by a fellowship meal, fostering joy, fraternity, and gratitude. The feast provided an opportunity to renew devotion to St. Thérèse and recommit to living her "little way" of love and trust in God.

## 7. A Day of Joy, Talent, and Team Spirit at Pushpashrama



On December 5, 2025, Pushpashrama buzzed with excitement during the Pushpashrama Premier League (PPL) grand finale and Talents Day. Energy, creativity, and brotherhood shone through as Rev. Fr. Amruth Raju Vellaturi (Andhra-Telangana Provincial Superior), Rev. Fr. Jeyaraju (Tamil Nadu Provincial Superior), Rev. Fr. Archibald Gonsalves (Karnataka-Goa Vicar-Provincial), and Mysuru Carmelite Fathers joined the celebration. Brothers dazzled with songs, dances, skits, and performances showcasing unity and talent. The day ended joyfully with

PPL prize distribution, forging stronger fraternal bonds and cherished memories.

## 8. Carmel Sings, Heaven Rejoices

As Christmas melodies fill the air, Pushpashrama bursts with joy and gratitude. Our brothers achieved a remarkable double victory, winning first prizes in both English and vernacular carol singing at the Diocesan Catholic Association, Mysuru, and Carmel Catholic Association, Mysuru. Their harmonious voices, deep spirit, and dedicated preparations touched hearts and impressed judges, restoring Pushpashrama's glory. Heartfelt congratulations to all participants and supportive staff! May this success inspire continued proclamation of Christmas peace, unity, and joy.



## XI. St Joseph's Monastery, Mangalore

### 1. Brothers Receive Ministries of Lector and Acolyte

On August 4, Rev. Fr. Silvestre D'Souza, OCD, Provincial Superior, conferred the ministry of Acolyte on Brothers Wilson Rodrigues, Riksan Moras, and Innocent Minj (Tamil Nadu Province), and the ministry of Lector on Brothers Vinod Pais, Aldrick Shawn Xavier, Melrick Rodrigues, and Criston Fernandes. The rite took place during morning prayer, where Fr. Provincial highlighted the sacred responsibility entrusted through these ministries. He urged the brothers to serve faithfully, handle the mysteries of the Lord with reverence, and prepare sincerely for their future priestly ordination. The celebration marked a significant step in their spiritual and ministerial journey.



### 2. Called to Bring Hope Behind Bars



In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we are called to become instruments of hope, reminded Most Rev. Peter Paul Saldanha, Bishop of Mangalore, as he reflected on St. Maximilian Kolbe, who gave his life for a fellow prisoner in Auschwitz, shining light into profound darkness. Prison Ministry India, Mangalore Unit, marked its Annual Day on August 14, 2025, at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte. The Bishop presided over the Eucharistic celebration in honour of St. Maximilian Kolbe, patron of the ministry. A brief felicitation and cultural programme followed in the Shrine hall, concluding with a warm fraternal meal.

### 3. Honouring Freedom with Grace and Gratitude

The 79th Independence Day celebrations at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte, were enriched by the presence of Ms. Remona Evette Pereira, Mangaluru's "Golden Girl" and world record-holding Bharatanatyam artiste. Serving as chief guest, she hoisted the Tricolour in the presence of clergy, devotees, and well-wishers. The National Anthem echoed through the Shrine, stirring deep patriotic pride. Ms. Remona Pereira, recognised for her 170-hour Bharatanatyam marathon by the Golden Book of World Records, dedicated her achievement to the nation, drawing inspiration from the resilience, sacrifice, and unwavering spirit of India's freedom fighters.



### 4. Eco Initiative Takes Root!

A new organic manure production unit was established at St Joseph's Monastery on August 19, 2025. With Carmel Hill generating substantial wet waste - leaves, twigs, husks and other biodegradables - the initiative aims to convert this material into nutrient-rich manure through scientific vermicomposting. Under the guidance of Fr Deep Fernandes, who takes a keen interest in organic farming, the collected waste is placed in designated pits where earthworms are introduced to aid decomposition. Within three to four months, the waste transforms into high-quality organic manure, now being used to enrich the plants and greenery around the monastery.

### 5. Papaya Promise: Monastery Community Plants for the Future



St Joseph's Monastery celebrated Vanamajothsava on August 20, 2025, with a vibrant papaya tree-planting initiative in the open yard between the Refectory and the Jubilee Block. Focused on fostering a greener environment and boosting self-sufficiency in fruit cultivation, the event saw every brother of the community plant a sapling and make a personal pledge to nurture it. The joyful gathering reflected unity, responsibility, and care for creation. Through this simple yet meaningful act, the community reaffirmed its commitment to the values of

*Laudato Si'*, transforming concern for the environment into concrete, life-giving action.

### 6. PMI Conducts Medical Camp for Prison Inmates

Prison Ministry India (PMI), Mangalore Unit, in collaboration with Father Muller Medical College Hospital, organised a special dermatological medical camp at the District Prison on August 20, 2025. Inmates participated wholeheartedly, making use of the free consultations and check-ups offered by the medical team. Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, Spiritual Director of PMI Mangaluru, expressed sincere gratitude to the jail authorities for their constant cooperation and support. The camp highlighted PMI's mission of promoting health, dignity, and humane care within prisons, reinforcing its commitment to the reformation and well-being of inmates.



### 7. A Precious Planting: Miyazaki Mango Sapling Takes Root

On August 22, the community of St Joseph's Monastery gathered to plant a special memorial tree beside the Community Chapel - a rare Miyazaki mango sapling worth ₹1,500. Known as one of the world's most expensive mango varieties, the Miyazaki originates from Japan's Kyushu region, developed in the 1980s through collaboration between

Miyazaki University researchers and local farmers. Its fruit is globally renowned for its exceptional quality, fetching up to ₹2.7 lakh per kilo in Japan and around ₹1.5 lakh per kilo in India. The planting marked a meaningful and memorable moment for the community.

## 8. Three Grace-Filled Pilgrimages to Kerala

Infant Jesus Shrine, Mangaluru, organized three batches of pilgrimages to sacred sites in Kerala on August 27, August 30, and October 2. Pilgrims visited the tomb of Venerable Maria Celine at Payyambalam, Christ the King Church in Vilakkannur - site of the first Eucharistic miracle in India, the tomb of Servant of God Mother Petra in Pattuvam, and the tomb of Servant of God Fr Maria Minus Zuccol at Mariapuram. Nearly 500 faithful participated in three groups, making the journeys moments of grace, devotion, and spiritual renewal.



## 9. Shrine Committee Gears Up for Infant Jesus Feast 2026



On August 30, the Infant Jesus Shrine Committee held its meeting for evaluation and planning of the Feast. The meeting is convened periodically to review activities and offer suggestions for the smooth and effective functioning of the Shrine. Shrine Director Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, presented a detailed report on recent initiatives and spiritual programmes. Discussions also focused on preparations for the upcoming Infant Jesus Annual Feast 2026. Rev. Fr. Provincial chaired the meeting, expressing gratitude to

all members-especially the local community-for their dedicated support and valuable contributions toward the Shrine's mission.

## 10. Monti Fest: Faith, Flowers & Sharing Hope

The Infant Jesus Shrine celebrated this year's Monti Fest on Sept 8, 2025 with deeper meaning and community outreach. Over nine days of novena, the faithful brought flowers along with grocery items as acts of gratitude. These essentials were later distributed to centres caring for the elderly, the mentally challenged, residents recovering from addiction, and persons living with HIV. On the feast day, devotees joyfully shared Novem mixed in Payasam, strengthening the sense of family and tradition. This year's festive offering became a beautiful expression of faith in action and compassionate service.



## 11. A Joyful Family Feast: Monti Fest at Carmel Hill



The St. Joseph's Community at Carmel Hill celebrated Monti Feast with great joy on September 8, cherished as the "family feast" among Konkani Christians. After a solemn Mass, the Fathers and Brothers joined hands to cut vegetables and prepare nearly 13 traditional dishes. A stunning pookalam adorned the centre of the refectory, adding festive beauty. At noon, the community and domestic staff gathered for the family meal, preceded by heartfelt prayers offered in

various languages. Fr. Superior then mixed the novem with milk and distributed it to all, marking a warm and memorable celebration of unity and gratitude.

# CELEBRATING LIFE, LOVE AND GOD'S FAVOUR



50th Birthday Celebration of Fr. Lancy Mendonça at Cloistered Carmel, Pune



75th Birthday Celebration of Fr Charles Serrao



Fr Charles Serrao's 75th Birthday at Sadbhavana



Birthday celebration of Fr John Clifford Rodrigues



Birthday Celebration of Fr Henry Moras and Fr Jason Tellis



Birthday Celebration of Fr Wilfred Frank



Birthday Celebration of Fr Richard Saldanha



Birthday Celebration of Frs. Prakash D'Conha, Vinod Lobo and Richard Saldanha



Fr Lancy Lovis' 50th Joyous Celebration at Pushpashrama



Birthday Celebration of Fr Joseph D'Souza



Golden Birthday of Fr Dolphy Dsouza, Geddalahalli



Birthday Celebration of Fr Nelson Pinto and Fr Ronald Pudthado



Birthday Celebration of Fr Isidore D'Silva

## 12. Empowering Evangelisation Through Digital Creativity



Carmel Kiran Media organised an online workshop on Canva, an AI-powered design tool, on September 14 to strengthen digital evangelisation. Resource person Mr. Leo Victor guided participants in creating impactful posters and videos for effective media ministry. In a generous gesture, he also offered a free annual Canva subscription to all attendees. Around 15 priests from our Province took part in the session, gaining practical skills to enhance their pastoral communication.

## 13. Serving Together, Celebrating Together

The various volunteer groups of the Infant Jesus Shrine came together to share the traditional Novem meal on Sept 12, symbolising unity and family spirit. Members of Ballok Jesu Kutam, the Infant Jesus Auto Drivers' Association, the Secular Carmelites, and the Infant Jesus Jevna Samithi were present for the celebration. Rev. Fr. Joe Tauro, OCD, encouraged everyone to continue serving with a spirit of family and harmony. Shrine Director Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all volunteers for their dedicated and selfless service to the Shrine community.

## 14. PMI Mangalore Shines at State Convention

The Mangalore Unit of Prison Ministry India, led by Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, actively participated in the State Convention of PMI held at Divine Call Centre, Mulki, from September 16–17. The gathering featured insightful sessions on present-day challenges, evolving approaches to prison ministry, and reports from various units. Former inmates also shared powerful testimonies of PMI's transformative impact. The Mangalore Unit contributed a well-received hour-long cultural programme, highlighting themes of hope and rehabilitation. The convention strengthened collaboration and renewed the commitment of volunteers to serving those behind bars with compassion and dignity.



## 15. Ayudha Puja Blessings: A Day of Faith on Wheels

On October 1, the Infant Jesus Shrine marked Ayudha Puja with a massive vehicle-blessing ceremony, a cherished tradition among Mangaluru's Catholic community. From 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., vehicles were blessed at regular ten-minute intervals as hundreds of faithful brought their two-wheelers, cars, and autos for God's protection. Beyond this annual event, many Catholics bring newly purchased vehicles to the Shrine for blessings. Priests also visited shops, offices, and factories to bless workplaces, invoking God's guidance and safety.

## 16. Carlo Acutis Vocation Camp Inspires Youth at Carmel Hill

The two-day "St. Carlo Acutis" Vocation Camp, held on October 3–4, 2025, at St. Joseph Monastery, Carmel Hill, Mangaluru, gathered 55 young participants discerning God's call. The camp was inaugurated by Frs. Melvin D'Cunha, Deep Fernandes, Stifan Perera, and John Pinto, with Fr. Archibald Gonsalves speaking on the Carmelite vocation. Sessions included reflections on St. Carlo Acutis,



vocation testimonies, action songs, games, and stage events that built fraternity. Community fathers, theology students, and deacons guided the participants. The camp concluded with prize distribution and a closing ceremony led by Fr. Joseph D'Souza, encouraging deeper discernment.

## 17. Magnificat 2025: A Day with Our Lady of the Rosary



A one-day Marian Magnificat was held on October 7, 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, drawing nearly 1,000 faithful for a day of reflection, praise, and worship. Rev. Fr. Augustin Valooran led the congregation with powerful teachings on Mary's role in salvation history and her maternal presence in the life of every believer. The Faith Band from Goa animated the gathering with uplifting praise and worship, helping participants enter deeply into prayer. The English charismatic convention became a grace-filled moment of renewal and Marian devotion for all who attended.

## 18. A Millennial Saint for Today: "Carlo's Highway to Heaven" Released

"Carlo's Highway to Heaven," a Konkani book on the life and spirituality of Millennial Saint, Carlo Acutis, was released on October 7 during the Marian Magnificat. Authored by Fr. Jocy Siddakatte, the book vividly presents Carlo's inspiring journey, his deep Eucharistic devotion, his love for the Church, and his use of technology to bring Christ closer to young people. Carlo, who died at just 15, continues to inspire the world and was canonised on September 7. Fr. Jocy's work, enriched with relevant images, two-colour design, and an engaging layout, stands as a meaningful contribution to youth evangelisation.



## 19. Cyber Safety Awareness at the Shrine

On October 9, the Infant Jesus Shrine organised a brief yet impactful awareness programme on cybercrime for the general public. As October is observed as Cyber Safety Month, officers from the Kankanady Police Station led the session. Following the 6 p.m. novena Mass, devotees gathered in front of the Shrine, attentively listening as the police explained how cybercriminals target unsuspecting individuals through online scams and fraudulent schemes. Practical tips and preventive measures were shared, helping people recognise threats and protect themselves. The initiative offered valuable guidance, empowering the faithful to stay vigilant in an increasingly digital world.

## 20. Sent Forth to Serve: St. Joseph's Community Bids Farewell to Deacons



On October 12, the St. Joseph's Community fondly bid farewell to five deacons completing 3.5 years of theological formation. They are now assigned to various communities to gain pastoral experience and embrace the challenges of ministry. Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, Shrine Director, presented them with the liturgical rituals essential for their diaconal service. Rev. Fr. Melvin D'Cunha, OCD, Superior, expressed gratitude for their dedicated service to the community and the Shrine, while extending heartfelt wishes for their future ministry. The send-off marked a moment of blessing, encouragement, and joyful missionary readiness.

## 21. Oasis 2025: Fanning the Flame of God's Spirit

Oasis 2025, the three-day charismatic convention held from October 20–23 at the Infant Jesus Shrine, drew nearly 5,000 participants. This year's theme, "Fan the Flame of God," focused on reflections from the Pastoral Letters of the New Testament. Carmelite and diocesan priests from Mangalore, Udupi, Karwar, and Shimoga delivered inspiring talks that deeply resonated with the faithful. Br. Prakash D'Souza from Bandra led powerful adoration, while Fr. Prithesh Carasta enriched the



sessions with music and brief catechesis, keeping the gathering spiritually engaged. Participants shared overwhelmingly positive feedback, making Oasis 2025 a spirit-filled and transformative experience.

## 22. Praying for the Faithful Departed on All Souls' Day



On November 2, All Souls' Day, the Infant Jesus Shrine guided the faithful in a solemn commemoration of the departed. After the morning Mass at the Shrine, Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, Shrine Director, led a prayer service at the Monastery Cemetery, where devotees gathered to intercede for their loved ones. The liturgy invited the faithful to remember the Christian departed with hope and trust in God's mercy. Surrounded by prayerful silence, the community offered heartfelt petitions for all souls, renewing their faith in the promise of eternal life.

## 23. Bethlehem Cross Installed at Infant Jesus Shrine

In a moment of grace, Most Rev. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, Bishop Emeritus of Mangalore, blessed and installed the Blessed Cross from Bethlehem at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte on November, 06, 2025. The Cross, brought from the birthplace of Christ, was placed in a specially prepared altar for public veneration. After Mass, the Blessed Sacrament and the Cross were carried in a devout procession, accompanied by a brass band and numerous faithful. The Bishop urged the congregation to spend time in silent adoration and to frequently receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, commending the Carmelites for their dedicated ministry.



## 24. The Centenary Celebration of the Canonization of St. Thérèse of Lisieux



The Carmelite family joyfully celebrated the Centenary of the Canonization of St. Thérèse of Lisieux at St. Agnes College Auditorium. Jointly organized by the OCD, AC, CSST, and BS congregations, the event began with a solemn Eucharist led by Most Rev. Peter Paul Saldanha, the Bishop of Mangalore. A vibrant cultural programme followed, featuring a choral piece, welcome dance, and

brief addresses by congregational leaders. Four books inspired by Theresian spirituality were released on the occasion. The evening concluded with the Konkani drama Mogacha Vaten and a fellowship meal, honouring the Little Flower's enduring legacy.

## 25. Ray of Hope: Art Illuminating Faith

"Ray of Hope," a unique art exhibition, was held on November 13 at the Infant Jesus Shrine. Inspired by Pope Francis' declaration of the Jubilee Year themed Pilgrims of Hope, artist Mr. Shaji, a layman, expressed the message of hope through his vibrant paintings. The collection featured scenes from both the Old and New Testaments, each depicting biblical moments that inspire trust and renewal. Devotees attending the Thursday Novena experienced spiritual enrichment as they reflected on the artwork. Through his creative vision, Mr. Shaji offered a powerful reminder that hope continues to shine through God's saving story.



## 26. Renewed in Commitment: Brothers Profess Their Vows on Carmelite Saints' Feast

On November 14, the Feast of All Carmelite Saints, Brothers Riksan Moras, Wilson Rodrigues, Vinod



Herold Pais, Melrick Rodrigues, Aldrick Shawn Xavier, and Cristan Fernandes renewed their religious profession in the hands of Fr. Ivan Robert D'Souza. The meaningful liturgy, held during evening prayer, included a brief and inspiring catechesis by Fr. Ivan on the significance of religious vows and fidelity to Christ and Carmel. He encouraged the brothers not only to renew their vows in words but to deepen their commitment daily. Fr. Pritesh Crasta guided the brothers in their spiritual preparation, making the celebration truly grace-filled.

### 27. A Day of Joy for the Hands That Serve

On November 21, the Infant Jesus Shrine organised a refreshing outing for the Ballok Jesu Kutam, the dedicated volunteer group that serves faithfully as ushers and parking assistants at the Shrine. The group spent the day at King of Kings Backwater Resort in Brahmavar, enjoying a well-deserved break from morning to evening. Volunteers relaxed, bonded, and enjoyed the water activities, celebrating their unity and commitment. The outing offered a joyful pause for those who tirelessly serve the Shrine, strengthening fellowship and appreciation among the team.



### 28. Journeying Through the Land of Jesus: A Pilgrimage of Faith



The Infant Jesus Shrine, in collaboration with Globe Travels, organised a memorable pilgrimage to the Holy Land, covering Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt. A group of 48 pilgrims-including four priests, one religious sister, and lay faithful - journeyed through the sacred sites connected to the birth, childhood, ministry, and passion of Jesus. Daily Mass enriched their spiritual experience as they renewed their baptismal vows at the River Jordan, floated on the Dead Sea, and renewed marriage vows at Cana. Carmelites Fr. Wilson Tauro and Fr. Shabas Crasta accompanied the group, offering spiritual guidance throughout this grace-filled pilgrimage.

### 29. New Devotional to honour Infant Jesus

A new Konkani devotional hymn, "Mariye Salkka Jezu Balka," was released on Nov. 20, 2025 at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte, Mangaluru. The launch took place in the presence of clergy and faithful, including Rev. Fr. Alwyn Aranha, OCD, currently serving in Italy; Rev. Fr. Stifan Perera, OCD, Director of the Shrine; and Rev. Fr. Melvin D'Cunha, OCD, Superior of St. Joseph's Monastery. Filmed entirely on the Shrine premises, the video beautifully highlights its serene ambience. Choreographed by world-record-holding dancer Remona "Golden Girl" Pereira, whose 170-hour Bharatanatyam endurance feat is widely acclaimed, the video blends devotion with artistic grace.



### 30. Ballok Jesu Kutam Marks 11 Years of Faithful Service

The Ballok Jesu Kutam, the committed volunteer group of the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bikarnakatte, celebrated its 11th anniversary with reverence and gratitude on Nov 20, 2025. The day began with a solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. Melvin D'Cunha, OCD, Superior of St. Joseph's Monastery. A brief ceremony welcomed

the group's newest member, Mrs. Flora D'Souza, who was vested with the Kutam sash, signifying her dedication to service at the Shrine. Rev. Fr. Stefan Perera, OCD, Shrine Director, preached an inspiring homily. The celebration concluded with a joyful fraternal breakfast.

## XII. St Mary's Nivas, Hegde Nagar

### 1. Parish Feast



St. Mary's Church, Hegde Nagar, celebrated its Annual Feast on October 12, 2025, with the theme Mary, Pilgrim of Hope. The day began with English, Kannada, and Tamil Masses, celebrated by Carmelite priests Fr. Rudolf Pinto, Fr. Wilfred Rodrigues, and Fr. Antony Swamy. The solemn evening Mass was celebrated by Fr. Wilfred with several concelebrants; the celebration was enriched by the parish choir and volunteers. A grand candlelit car procession in honour of Mary followed. The feast concluded with adoration and benediction.

### 2. New Chapel at Cemetery

On November 02, 2025, All Souls' Day, St. Mary's Cemetery, Hegde Nagar, witnessed the blessing and inauguration of its newly built chapel. The ceremony was presided over by parish priest Fr. Boniface D'Souza, followed by a solemn Mass concelebrated by Fr. Ivan Sanctis and Fr. Selva Kumar. The liturgy offered the faithful a moment of prayerful remembrance and hope in the resurrection. In his message, Fr. Boniface thanked all who contributed to the chapel's completion, including workers, sisters, choir members, and parishioners.



### 3. Mission Sunday


Mission Sunday was celebrated at St. Mary's Church, Hegde Nagar, on November 16, 2025. Parishioners gathered in large numbers, supporting the mission cause through coupon sales, homemade food stalls, and lively interactions. Pork curry with sannas, breakfast items, cakes, and sandwiches made the community smile. Youth and parish associations added cheer with engaging games throughout the day. After the 6:00 PM Mass, a well-attended "Housie" game brought the celebration to a close. The event highlighted the community's unity, generosity, and missionary spirit.

## XIII. Infant Mary Church, Bajjodi



1. The parish solemnly observed Independence Day on August 15, which comprised a Holy Mass followed by the customary flag hoisting ceremony. Later in the month, the Young Christian Students (YCS) members organised “Konkani Manyata Diwas” to commemorate and celebrate Konkani culture and language.
2. The community celebrated Teacher’s Day. A Holy Mass was offered, and the parish honoured its teachers for their invaluable service and dedication to society.
3. The Feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary was marked with a solemn mass presided over by Rev Fr Jocy Siddakatte, OCD. Following the service, the traditional ‘new meal’ was served as the faithful sought the blessings of Infant Mary.
4. The Legion of Mary unit of the parish celebrated its decennial anniversary. The occasion was celebrated with a solemn mass and a subsequent cultural program.
5. The parish dedicated a day to its seniors, celebrating Elders’ Day. There was a solemn mass, followed by a time of fellowship that included dancing and singing.
6. The OCDS (Secular Members of the Bajjodi Unit) marked their decennial celebration. During this event, four members made their definitive promises. The mass was presided over by the Provincial, Rev. Fr Silvestre D’Souza, the Provincial Superior, and was attended by priests from neighbouring communities. The day concluded with a short cultural program.

SILVER JUBILEE SILVER JUBILEE SILVER JUBILEE SILVER JUBILEE SILVER JUBILEE



Dear Frs. Ronald Manoj Sequeira, John Cyrus D’Souza and Stifan Alvin Perera

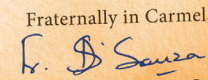
**Greetings of PEACE!**


With hearts full of gratitude and joy, we join you in celebrating the Silver Jubilee of your Religious Profession—twenty-five years of faith, fidelity, and fruitfulness in the vineyard of Carmel. On this day of grace, we thank God for the beauty of your consecrated life and the witness you continue to offer to all.

In Carmel’s shade your heart was sealed,  
 With love divine, your life revealed.  
 Through silent prayer and daily grace,  
 You’ve sought the Lord in every place.  
 The lamp you lit still brightly gleams,  
 A sign of hope, of heaven’s dreams.  
 Your “YES” resounds through years gone by,  
 A hymn of love that will never die.  
 Now silver crowns your faithful way,  
 God’s promise shines in bright array.  
 May every dawn new joy renew,  
 As Christ walks ever close to you.

With hearts full of gratitude and joy, we join you in celebrating the Silver Jubilee of your Religious Profession—twenty-five years of faith, fidelity, and fruitfulness in the vineyard of Carmel. On this day of grace, we thank God for the beauty of your consecrated life and the witness you continue to offer to all.

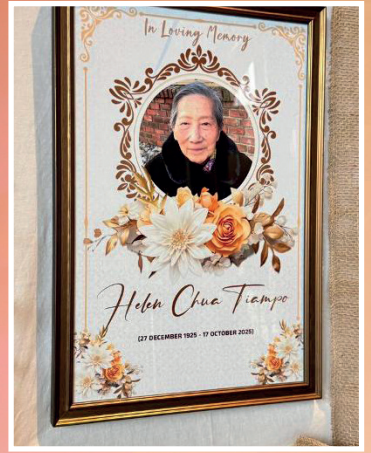
*Congratulations and best wishes as you move onward—towards gold!*

Fraternally in Carmel,  
  
 Fr Silvestre D’Souza OCD  
 Provincial Superior



*Always in  
our hearts!  
Gone, but  
not forgotten*





## C. ACROSS SEAS AND CONTINENTS: NEWS FROM COMMUNITIES ABROAD

### C1. From the Eternal City - Italy

#### Solemnity of St. Teresa of Jesus Celebrated at Santa Maria a Ripa, Empoli:



On October 15, 2025, the Carmelite family gathered at Santa Maria a Ripa, Empoli, to celebrate the Solemnity of St. Teresa of Jesus. The Eucharist was presided over by Fr Deepak Tauro, with Fr Elias D’Cunha and Fr Roshan Lobo concelebrating. In his homily, Fr Deepak invited the faithful to embrace Teresian spirituality by entering the “inner room” where God dwells. A special grace was the presence of four cloistered Carmelite Sisters from the African Federation, whose silent witness enriched the celebration.

### C2. Voices from the Northern Vineyard - Canada

#### I. Guardian Angels’ Church, Vancouver

##### 1. Conclusion of Jubilee:

On October 05, 2025 Guardian Angles Parish concluded the year-long celebration of its 75th Jubilee. The event coupled with the titular feast day celebration, highlighted the recognition of the benefactors and volunteers. This is to appreciate the contribution of their resources, talents and time through the ministry they serve. Fr John Pinto, Pastor, presented the certificates to these individuals



##### 2. Three OCDS members made their first Promise:

On Oct 11, 2025, three OCDS members were vested. They were Cyrena Matteson, Salvacion “Sally” Santiago, and Funadi Wongso, all from St. Teresa of Jesus Community, attached to Guardian Angels Parish. Fr Ronald Sequeira officiated the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and led the ceremony. Fr Mario Fernandes delivered an inspiring homily. Fr Victor Fernandes and Fr John Pinto concelebrated at the Holy Mass.

##### 3. Living Rosary:

On October 26, 2025, the Legion of Mary group organized a Living Rosary for peace and healing. The event was to conclude the Holy Rosary Month in October. Many parishioners attended the event and participated in the recitation of the Holy Rosary. A big Rosary that stretched the whole space of the church was prepared and carried to the Church while processing and praying the Holy Rosary.



#### II. Little Flower Monastery, Deroche

##### 1. Centennial of Love – Little Flower Monastery Honors St. Thérèse



On September 28, Little Flower Monastery celebrated the Centennial of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Fr Vincent D’Souza was the main celebrant, while Fr Mario Fernandes preached a reflection on “Living the Love of God in Small Acts” through the ‘Little Way,’ highlighting St. Thérèse’s virtues. The celebration concluded with a fellowship potluck meal, generously contributed by families, fostering joy, community, and gratitude for the saint’s enduring spiritual legacy.

## 2. A Decade of Grace and Growth: Decennial Celebration of the Little Flower Monastery and the Feast of St. Teresa of Avila:



The Little Flower Monastery at Carmel Hill, Deroche, celebrated its 10th anniversary along with the Feast of St. Teresa of Avila on October 15, 2025. The solemn Eucharist was presided over by Fr Vincent D'Souza, who welcomed the assembly and recalled key benefactors and priests who contributed to the monastery's growth. Members of the OCDS communities, Carmel Friends, and 52 students joined the celebration. In his homily, Fr Mario Fernandes reflected on St. Teresa's call to holiness through prayer and self-knowledge.

### III. Mount Carmel Spirituality Centre, Edmonton

#### 1. Triduum Marks the Close of St. Thérèse's Centenary at Edmonton

To conclude the Centenary of the Canonization of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, a Triduum was held at Mount Carmel Spirituality Centre, Edmonton, preached by Rev. Fr Rudolf D'Souza. His reflections explored The Greatness of Littleness, The Dynamism of Suffering, and The Vocation to Love, offering profound insights into Thérèse's spirituality and its relevance amid modern challenges. The faithful joyfully celebrated her feast on October 01, marking the culmination of the Centenary Year. The community also celebrated Fr Jerome Moras' birthday on September 30, joined by guests from Calgary and Spain. Gratitude was expressed to Fr Rudolf and the Mount Carmel community for organizing this grace-filled event.



### IV. St Aloysius' Parish, Kitchener



#### 1. Feast of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus :

On October 01, the Feast of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, the Little Flower, was celebrated at the Carmel of St. Joseph, Discalced Carmelite Nuns Monastery, St. Agatha, Ontario. Most Rev. Wayne Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton, was the main celebrant. He was joined by Rev. Fr Melvin Pinto, Superior of St. Joseph Community, Kitchener and Fr Rajesh Madtha.

### V. St Edmund's Church, North Vancouver

#### 1. Fr Cannio's New Book Unveiled at St. Edmund's

On September 14, following the Holy Mass at St. Edmund's Parish, North Vancouver, Fr Cannio Cardozo unveiled his latest book *All I Have Is Them (Flora and Fauna)*, completing his trilogy. The book was unveiled by Fr Steny Mascarenhas, with facilitation by Fr Jeevan D'Almeda. Fr Cannio expressed gratitude to Rev. Fr Silvestre D'Souza, Fr Alexander Braganza, his fellow priests, and community members for their support, and thanked the parishioners for their encouragement, making the occasion a memorable celebration of faith, literature, and community.



### VI. St Patrick's Parish, Caledonia, Ontario

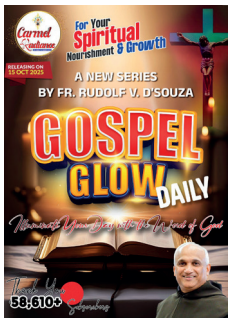
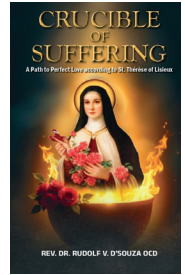
#### 1. New Book – *Crucible of Suffering: A Path to Perfect Love According to St. Thérèse of Lisieux*

Rev. Fr Rudolf V. D'Souza's new book explores suffering as a pathway to perfect love, drawing on St. Thérèse of Lisieux's "Little Way," Carmelite spirituality, and biblical teachings. It emphasizes finding

# CALLED TO THE QUIET: FRIARS IN SACRED PAUSE



love in everyday sacrifices, transforming personal trials into opportunities for union with God. The text examines St. Thérèse's life, including her losses and spiritual struggles, highlighting her embrace of weakness and ordinary suffering.



## 2. "Gospel Glow Daily" – Bringing the Gospel to Your Morning

A new spiritual initiative, "Gospel Glow Daily", will inspire viewers with daily reflections on the Word of God, starting October 15, the Feast of St. Teresa of Ávila. The series, led by Fr Rudolf V. D'Souza, offers short, insightful meditations on each day's Gospel reading, inviting audiences to start their mornings with light, hope, and spiritual renewal. The reflections aim to nurture faith, warm hearts, and illuminate daily life through God's Word.

## 3. Haldimand Parishes Pilgrimage

On October 04, 2025, around 60 faithful from the Haldimand County parishes came together for a spiritual pilgrimage under the theme "*Faith is the Seed, Love is the Power, Hope is the Light, Joy is the Flower.*" Organized by the CWL of St. Mary's and St. Ann's Parishes, Hagersville, under the leadership of Fr Stephen Lobo, OCD, the pilgrimage united four parishes through prayer, reflection, and song. The journey concluded with pilgrims creating a symbolic cross of stones, each bearing

a personal message—an inspiring sign of unity, faith, and joy in Christ.



## 4. Retreat:

Fr Rudolf V. D'Souza, preached a retreat on St. Therese of Lisieux from September 29 to October 01 at Mount Carmel Spirituality Center, Edmonton.

## C3. Carmel Under the Baobab - Tanzania

### 1. Three Deacons Raised to the Order of the Melchizedek

The Vicariate of Tanzania rejoiced as three deacons—Benedict Maziku Thomas, Patrick Bonaventure Soffu, and Edgar Charles Mbambura—were ordained priests on August 30, 2025 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Kihonda. Most Rev. Lazarus Vitalis Msimbe SDS, the Bishop of Morogoro, presided over the ceremony, urging the new priests to serve God's people with fidelity and Christ-like dedication. Carmelite friars, family members, and parishioners graced the celebration. With these ordinations, the Vicariate now has 21 indigenous Carmelite priests, a sign of God's abundant blessing and the steady growth of vocations in the Vicariate of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus.



### 2. Silver Jubilee Celebration of St Peter Claver Parish – Mbezi Louis, Dar Es Salaam



St. Peter Claver Parish, Mbezi Louis, celebrated its Silver Jubilee on September 02, 2025 with a solemn Eucharist presided over by Most Rev. Jude Thaddeus Ruwaichi, the Archbishop of Dar Es Salaam. The celebration included the blessing of a new Adoration Chapel, a permanent Jubilee memorial. In his homily, the Archbishop urged the faithful to remain firm in faith and grow in spiritual maturity. Carmelite representatives expressed gratitude for the Archbishop's support, while the parish community thanked all who contributed to the event. The parish, rooted in a small 1964 prayer centre, has grown steadily and was officially entrusted to the Carmelites in 2000.

The parish, rooted in a small 1964 prayer centre, has grown steadily and was officially entrusted to the Carmelites in 2000.

### 3. Malisho Community Celebrates Silver Jubilee

The Malisho Carmelite Novitiate Community celebrated its Silver Jubilee on October 01, 2025, concluding a year of spiritual preparation marked by daily Jubilee prayers, talks, and a novena. Most Rev. Gervas Nayisonga, the Archbishop of Mbeya, presided over the solemn Mass, concelebrated by two Provincial Councillors from India and priests of the Vicariate. The Jubilee Candle was extinguished, marking the year's close. A brief program honoured former formators, featured a jubilee song by the novices, and a skit by Carmel School children. Leaders expressed gratitude for the community's growth and mission. The celebration ended with a festive meal for all gathered.



### C4. Stories from the South: South Africa

#### I. Chapel of Our Lady of Loreto, Kempton Park



1. Jubilee: On September 14, the Health Care Provider's jubilee was celebrated. They were appreciated and honoured for the service they give to the society.
2. Enrollment Ceremony: On September 20, members of Daughters of St Anne sodality from the deanery parishes had the enrollment ceremony of their members at our parish. Forty-two women were enrolled as permanent members of the sodality.
3. New Sodality: On September 21, the new sodality of Daughters of St Anne was established in the parish. 14 members joined the sodality.
4. Car wash festival: On September 21, the Men's group with the collaboration of the Youth group of the parish organised the car wash festival. Though it was for the first time such an event took place it was a great success in building the community and financially.
5. Heritage Day: On September 28, Heritage Day was celebrated. It was a day to exhibit the unity of our diverse parish. Leaders from 11 communities (countries) walked together in procession with the flags of their respective countries. After the mass there was entertainment by all the communities of singing and dancing. Variety of food was cooked by all the communities. It was a feast for the eyes to see them in their beautiful traditional dress.
6. Visit of the Provincial: On October 19, Provincial Superior, Rev Fr Silvestre D'Souza visited the parish as he carried out the Pastoral visitation of the mission. He also celebrated the 35th anniversary of his religious profession.
7. Confirmation: On October 23, twenty-one candidates received the sacrament of confirmation. His Eminence Stephen Cardinal Brislin, Archbishop of Johannesburg conferred the sacrament. It was his first visit to the parish.

8. Ending the Rosary month: On October 31, concluding mass of the month of Rosary was celebrated. At the end of the mass there was a procession with the statue of Mother Mary.

## II. Our Lady of Mt Carmel Shrine, Benoni

### 1. Solemn Celebration of St. Teresa of Jesus at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine, Benoni, South Africa:



On October 15, the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine joyfully celebrated the Solemnity of St. Teresa of Jesus. The Eucharist, presided over by Most Rev. Buti Tlhagale, Archbishop Emeritus of Johannesburg, brought together all Carmelite friars serving in South Africa. Fr Silvestre D’Souza, Provincial, preached an inspiring homily on St. Teresa’s enduring call to prayer and renewal. Archbishop Tlhagale released the 9th edition of the Springs of Carmel Bible Diary

2026. The community also congratulated Fr Silvestre, Fr Mari Joe, and Fr Boniface on their profession anniversaries. The celebration concluded in gratitude, unity, and renewed commitment to the Carmelite mission.

### 2. Celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession of Fr John Cyrus D’Souza:

The Silver Jubilee of the Religious Profession of Fr John Cyrus D’Souza was joyfully celebrated as a moment of gratitude and remembrance at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine, Benoni. Marking twenty-five years of faithful commitment to religious life, the occasion honoured his journey of dedication, service, and perseverance. It served as an opportunity for the community to thank God for the gift of vocation and to acknowledge the quiet yet enduring witness of a life given in service.



Krista Jayanthi Sarva Dharma Samanvaya Samarambha in Prerana, Jagalur



Prison Ministry of India celebrated Christmas at Madikeri Prison



46th ordination anniversary celebration of Fr. Faustin Crasta



Regional Recollection in Bangalore - Dec 2025



## D. HIDDEN HALLELUJAHS - CLOISTERED SISTERS

### I. Carmel Matha Ashram, Hassan



#### 1. Seminar on the Relevance of St. Thérèse in the Modern World

A one-day seminar on *"The Relevance of St. Thérèse in the Modern World"* was held at Carmel Matha Ashram, Hassan, jointly organized by the Cloistered Carmel Sisters and the Carmelite Friars of Belur. The event was inaugurated by Rev. Fr Archibald Gonsalves, Vicar Provincial. The event included enriching sessions by Frs. Archibald Gonsalves, Jeevan Tauro, and Joseph D'Souza, highlighting St. Thérèse's faith, simplicity, and enduring message for today's world. The day concluded with a symbolic act—rose petals strewn in honour of St. Thérèse—and a solemn Eucharistic celebration. Longtime staff member Mrs. Mary and benefactor Mr. Naveen were also honoured for their dedicated service.

### II. Cloistered Carmel Convent, Christ the King, Bangalore

1. Sr Mary of the Passion was called to eternal rest on Nov 08, 2025. The funeral service was held at the Bangalore Cloister Convent at 03.30pm the next day. Most Rev. Joseph Susainathan, Auxiliary Bishop of Bangalore, presided over the Funeral Mass and the rites.



### III. Cloistered Carmel, Bunda, Tanzania

1. Election Results - November 29, 2025: **Mother Prioress:** Sr. Lisbeth of the Trinity; **1st Councillor:** Sr. Celine of Immaculate Heart of Mary; **2nd Councillor:** Sr. Teresa Beatrice of Jesus.

2. Sr Nirmala Therese of the Trinity returned to the house of her Lord on December 10, 2025. Her passing marks the completion of a life faithfully offered in prayer, service, and quiet dedication. The community remembers her with gratitude, entrusting her soul to God's loving mercy and giving thanks for the witness of her consecrated life.



### IV. Cloistered Carmel, Mysore

#### 1. A Heartfelt Thanksgiving Mass



On October 13, 2025, Most Rev. Bernard Moras, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Mysore, visited the Cloistered Carmel, Bogadi, to celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass with the Carmelite community. During the Eucharist, Archbishop Moras prayed for the sisters, expressing gratitude for their constant intercession for the diocese and his ministry. The sisters, in turn, thanked him for his dedicated service and assured him of their continued prayers.

#### 2. Centenary Celebration of the Sainthood and Solemnity of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

On October 01, 2025, the Cloistered Carmel, Mysuru, celebrated the Centenary of the Sainthood and Solemnity of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus with devotion and joy. The Holy Eucharist, presided over by Rev. Fr Archibald Gonsalves, OCD, inspired the faithful to embrace St. Thérèse's "little way" of love and trust in God. Rev. Fr Oswald Crasta, OCD, highlighted the relevance of her poems, accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation. The celebration was enriched by Pushpashrama Brothers' chorus, Bethany Sisters' prayer dance, CSST Sisters' intercessions, and a short video on St. Thérèse, creating a prayerful and harmonious tribute.



### 3. A Grace-Filled Milestone – Silver Jubilee of Sr. Jacintha of Jesus

On October 11, 2025, the Cloistered Carmel of Mysuru joyfully celebrated the Silver Jubilee of Sr. Jacintha of Jesus, marking twenty-five years of faithful consecration. The Solemn Eucharist, presided over by Rev. Fr Archibald Gonsalves, OCD, with Rev. Fr Oswald Crasta, OCD, concelebrating, honoured her life of prayer, sacrifice, and service. Family, friends, and benefactors joined in thanksgiving.



### 4. The Shepherd of Mysore Diocese Visits the Cloistered Carmel, Mysore:



On October 15, 2025, the Cloistered Carmel in Mysuru joyfully welcomed the new Bishop of Mysore, Most Rev. Francis Serrao, SJ, who celebrated the festal Mass of St. Teresa of Avila. In a heartfelt homily, he highlighted St. Teresa's enduring example of prayer, contemplation, and total surrender to God. Before the Mass, he was felicitated by Fr Archibald Gonsalves and Sr. Carmen Maria. After the celebration, the Bishop met the sisters in the parlour, sharing a fraternal breakfast and expressing gratitude for their constant prayers. His visit strengthened the bond between the Diocese and the Cloistered Carmel.

### V. Monastery of God the Father, Pune

1. To mark the Centenary of the Canonization of St Therese, the Cloistered Carmel of Pune has been preparing and distributing Chaplets of the Little Flower, consisting of 24 beads on which 'Glory be to the Father...' is prayed in honour of the 24 years of her life on earth. Many have experienced miracles through the praying of this chaplet. We have witnessed an increase in the devotion to St. Therese. The Nuns also distributed Rev Fr Nicholas Macedon OCD's books to First Holy Communion children in a few parishes in the Diocese.



### VI. Prabhu Prakash Camrel Ashram, Raipur

Election Results - November 13, 2025: **Mother Prioress:** Sr. Elizabeth of the Trinity; **1st Councillor:** Sr. Mary of Jesus; **2nd Councillor:** Sr. Mary Angel of the Blessed Sacrament; **3rd Councillor:** Sr. Usha Mary of the Sacred Heart

### VII. Prem Jyot Carmel Ashram, Baroda

1. Prem Jyot Carmel, welcomed a new member in August—Sr. Anjali Maria, a junior cloistered Carmelite preparing for her solemn profession. When Sr. Marie Therese was later hospitalized, the community could proceed with their scheduled contemplative retreat, preached by Fr. Alvito, thanks to the helpfull presence of Sr Anjali.

2. Sr Marie Therese of the Cross, aged 84 years, was called to her Eternal Abode on August 24, 2025. The funeral rites, held on the same day, was presided over by the Most Rev. Sebastiao Mascarenhas SFX, the Bishop of Baroda. Her three sisters, many religious and priests came to bid their final adieu to Sr Marie Therese.



3. On October 01, the community celebrated the feast of St. Thérèse in a creative manner: the Sisters were given three tasks: to sing a four-line song inspired by the saint's life or writings, arrange a bouquet of wild garden flowers in her honour, and draw a symbol dear to St. Thérèse. The day felt like a true "holy day," inviting all to rediscover the grace of her canonisation and renew our own call to holiness.

4. Early on in November, the community welcomed Sr. Pushpa, a Dominican Sister who arrived for a 'Come and See' experience. Her presence was a timely blessing, as two of the junior Sisters were engaged in their ten-day retreat in preparation for their solemn vows.

5. On November 19, Baroda Carmel welcomed two CCR Sisters celebrating their Golden Jubilee. One of them, a General Councillor, wished to mark her jubilee in the Cloistered Carmel. Thus, together with the Gorwa Fathers and with Fr. Pradeep Pinto OCD as the main celebrant, the community celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Sr. Clare, former Provincial of the Mumbai Province.

6. November 21 was a red-letter day for Carmel Baroda, as two Sisters-Sr. Anjali Maria and Sr. Hemangini Maria-made their solemn profession on the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lady and Pro Orantibus Day. The celebration was made more meaningful by the presence of two bishops: Most Rev. Sebastiao Mascarenhas SFX, the Bishop of Baroda and Most Rev. Thomas Macwan, the Archbishop of Gandhinagar, who had played a pivotal role in Sr. Hemangini's journey of faith. Fr. Prakash D'Cunha, who represented the Provincial Administration, addressed the gathering and warmly felicitated the newly professed Sisters.



## VIII. Sacred Heart Monastery, Mangalore

### 1 Feast of St. Mary of Jesus Crucified Celebrated with Devotion



On August 27, the Sacred Heart Cloistered Carmel Monastery, Mangalore, celebrated the Feast of St. Mary of Jesus Crucified. Rev. Fr Joseph Cyril D'Souza OCD led the Holy Hour, with Br Loy Crasta guiding the choir. The Eucharist was concelebrated by Rev. Fr Rajesh Rosario, Rector of Jeppu Seminary, Carmelite Fathers, and Jesuits, highlighting prayer, love, and contemplation. Organized by OCDS members under Fr Deep Fernandes, the event concluded with fellowship, distribution of prayer cards, books, and relics, and devotional time at the saint's

beautifully decorated shrine, despite the rain.

### 2. Silver Jubilee of Sr. Sophie Therese, OCD

The Cloistered Carmel Sisters of Mangalore had the double joy of celebrating the 50th Birthday of Sr Sophie Therese which occurred on September 05, 2025, along with the Silver Jubilee of her religious profession on October 04, 2025. The solemn Eucharist, presided over by Most Rev. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, Bishop Emeritus of Mangalore and concelebrated by six priests, was a heartfelt thanksgiving for her 25 years of consecrated life. In his homily, Fr Archibald Gonsalves, OCD, reflected on God's faithfulness and the quiet strength of contemplative life. The celebration concluded with a cake-cutting, fellowship meal, and moments of joy shared with family and community.



### 3. Grace-Filled Centenary Celebration of St. Thérèse at Sacred Heart Monastery, Mangaluru



The Sisters joyfully marked the Centenary of the Sainthood of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus from September 28 to October 1, 2025. The celebration featured a special exhibition on the saint's life and a prayerful Triduum in preparation for the feast. On October 01, Fr Ligoury Crasta led Eucharistic Adoration, followed by a solemn Eucharist presided over by Very Rev. Fr Pius James D'Souza, OCD, Definitor General.

### 4. 96th Birthday of St Mary Frances

On the eve of November 15, the Holy Eucharist was celebrated in honour of the 96th birthday of Sr Mary Frances. The next morning, there was a cake cutting ceremony and wishing before breakfast. The celebration ended with a solemn breakfast. It was a day of joyful thanksgiving and rejoicing for the gift of a robust and long-life God had bestowed on her.



# LIVING THE FRATERNAL LIFE



## E. HEARTS WITH A CARMELITE HUE - OCDS

### I. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Community, Margao-Aquem

#### 1. Preparation for the Feast of the Assumption – OCDS Margao, Goa

On August 10, 2025, the OCDS Community of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Margao, prepared spiritually for the Feast of the Assumption with a prayerful evening. The gathering began with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Vespers, and a dramatized reading of Luke 1:39–56. Members reflected on Mary's Assumption and renewed their consecration through a Scriptural Rosary and a Marian procession led by Fr Diogo Proenca. The evening concluded with the creative fellowship activity "Mary's Crown – A Gratitude Chain," tea, and the singing of *Salve Regina*.



#### 2. Together in Faith, United in Celebration



On August 16, 2025, the OCDS communities of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Margao, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel celebrated the Temporary Promises of four members. The Eucharist, presided over by Rev. Fr Deep F. Fernandes, OCD, Delegate Provincial, was concelebrated by the communities' Spiritual Assistants. The members publicly pledged to live the Carmelite spirit in their secular state. The celebration

concluded with fellowship, speeches, tokens of appreciation, and a joyful communal moment, reflecting unity, gratitude, and commitment within the Carmelite family.

#### 3. Cyber Hygiene Awareness Program – Promoting a Safe Digital Community

On September 07, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel OCDS Community, in collaboration with Rotary Club Margao Sunrise, Goa Police Cyber Cell, and ISEA, hosted a Cyber Hygiene Awareness session. Mr. Allen Pauly Payappilly, ISEA Ambassador, addressed over 80 participants on cyber safety, covering cyberbullying, phishing, online frauds, and safe social media practices. The program began with prayer and hymns, included interactive discussions, and concluded with refreshments. The event empowered attendees to foster a safer digital environment, while highlighting the mission of the OCDS community.



### II. St Elizabeth of the Trinity Community, Mira Road

#### New Members to Carmel



On November 06, 2025, the Carmelite Family in Mira Road rejoiced as two OCDS communities welcomed new members into the Teresian way of life. During the Evening Prayer and Meeting, the St Joseph OCDS Community admitted Mrs Agnes Corda into the Novitiate, while Mrs Rita Matthews, Mrs Celine Gonsalves, Mrs Anita Machado, and Mrs Philomena Olivera were received into the Aspirancy. On the same occasion, the St Elizabeth of the

Trinity OCDS Community also celebrated the admission of Mrs Susan D'Souza, Mrs Fatima Fernandes, Mrs Keya Gomes, and Mrs Vaishali Raphose into the Novitiate. Additionally, Mrs Teresa D'Souza, Mrs Sudha D'Souza, Ms Marissa Britto, Ms Merryn D'Silva, and Mr Wilson Miranda began their journey in the Aspirancy.

### III. St Teresa of Avila Community, Mangalore-Bikkarnakatte

#### 1. Touching Lives with Love – A Memorable Visit to the Elderly by OCDS Bikkarnakatte:

The Secular Carmelites spent a joyful and meaningful afternoon with the residents of the Old Age Home run by the Sisters of St. Ann's Providence on 18 October 2025. The group enjoyed a lively interaction marked by prayer songs, cheerful conversations, and entertaining games organized by Mrs. Jane Sequeira OCDS, with prizes for the winners. Charity contributions collected by the OCDS members were handed over to Sr. Superior, who gratefully acknowledged their generosity.

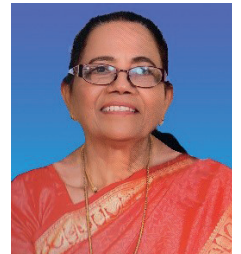
#### 2. Pre-Annual Day Fun Games – St Teresa of Avila Community, Bikkarnakatte



The OCDS Community organized a vibrant series of fun games on November 14, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. as part of the preparations for the upcoming Annual Day. The event saw enthusiastic participation and warm camaraderie among members. Ten creative games filled the afternoon with excitement. The programme was inaugurated by Rev. Fr Ivan D'Souza, OCD, Spiritual Assistant, and conducted under the leadership of Mr. Herald Gratian D'Souza, OCDS, President, and coordinated by Ms. Laveena D'Mello OCDS and Ms. Sharlet Mary Rasquinha OCDS.

#### 3. The Passing of Mrs. Amy Fernandes

With fondness, the community remembers the person of Mrs. Amy Fernandes OCDS, who was called to eternal rest on November 26, 2025. The seventeen years, she lived in the Secular Carmelite Order was one of commitment, generosity, and warmth! May God grant her soul, rest in the embrace of God.



### IV. St Teresa of Avila Community, Mapusa

#### 1. Mission Sale by the Mapusa OCDS Community



On October 12, 2025, St. Teresa of Avila OCDS Community, Mapusa, organized its first Mission Sale at the Carmelite Monastery, Mapusa, Goa, inspired by their patron saint's call to acts of love. Following Sunday Masses, members offered a variety of homemade delicacies, including Goan Sorpotel, Sannas, ribbon sandwiches, beef chops, chicken spring rolls, prawn rissois, and desserts like brownies, doughnuts, and rum balls. Parishioners enthusiastically supported the initiative, and all items were sold out by noon. Proceeds will aid Carmelite charitable works, particularly assisting the poor and needy, making the sale a joyful expression of service and love.

### V. St Therese of Lisieux Community, Margao-Lar

#### 1. Recollection Day – St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus OCDS Community

The St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus OCDS Community, Margao, held a half-day recollection on August 15, 2025, at the Monastery Chapel, attended by 30 members. Rev. Fr Don Tony D'Souza, OCD, spoke on the theme "*How to Live a Spiritual Life!*" Drawing from St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians and Church documents, he highlighted the family as a domestic church called to holiness through love, sacrifice, and unity with Christ. The recollection concluded with the Holy Eucharist and joyful fellowship.



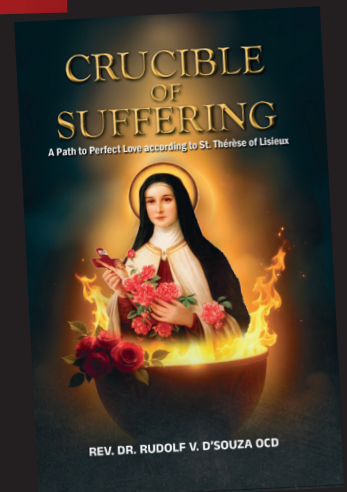
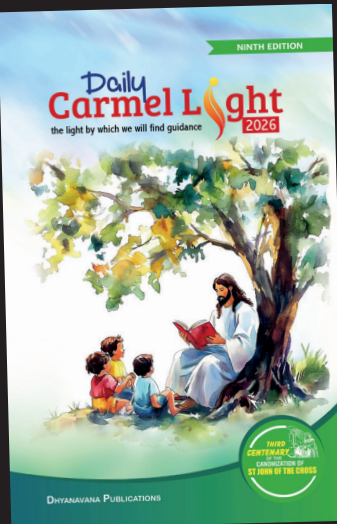
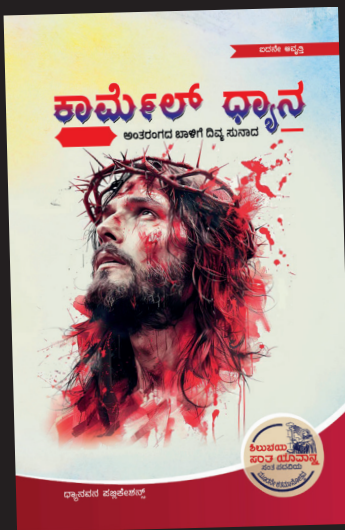
### 2. Celebrating St. Thérèse’s Legacy



On September 14, 2025, the St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus OCDS community, Margao-Goa, organized an inter-school exhibition-cum-elocution contest commemorating the 100th anniversary of St. Thérèse’s canonization. Twelve schools participated, showcasing creativity and eloquence. The event, inaugurated by Rev. Fr Marlon Rodrigues OCD, included keynote reflections on the “Little Way” by Fr Don Tony D’Souza OCD. Certificates and prizes were awarded to top performers, with the winners later to receive recognition from Cardinal Filipe Neri Ferrao.

### 3. Savor Every Bite for a Cause: Mission Sale by St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus OCDS Community, Lar de Santa Terezinha, Margao:

The St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus OCDS Community, Lar de Santa Terezinha, Pajifond–Margao, held a Mission Sale on October 19, 2025 at the Carmelite Monastery. With the theme “Savor Every Bite for a Cause,” members prepared a variety of homemade delicacies, creating an atmosphere of joy and fellowship. The community showed gratitude to all benefactors and well-wishers who made the event possible.



## IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Fr Charles Serrao, OCD, has been appointed Apostolic Assistant to the Carmelite Monastery, Thanjavur, tasked with accompanying the community in implementing Vultum Dei Quaerere and Cor Orans, alongside his role as Pontifical Commissary of the Rosarians.
- **Placement of Deacons:**
  - ◆ Br Alwin D'Souza – Carmel Home, Belur
  - ◆ Br Hilary Rodrigues – Stella Maris, Matadakeri, Honnavar
  - ◆ Br Loy Jackson Crasta – Pushpashrama, Mysuru
  - ◆ Br Stin George M. R. – Krista Shanti Dham, Mira Road, Mumbai
  - ◆ Br Elston Monteiro – Carmel Ashram, Koteswar
- Fr Rayan Pinto, OCD, secured the highest marks in Environmental Law among 108 colleges at the 7th KSLU Convocation on November 05, 2025, receiving the award from the Governor of Karnataka in Hubballi.
- Fr Ronald Canute Tauro successfully defended his doctoral thesis on Well-being of Mothers of Children with ASD on November 20, 2025, becoming the Province's new Doctor in Psychology.
- Fr Boniface D'Souza has been appointed Vicar for Religious in the Archdiocese of Johannesburg by Cardinal Stephen Brislin.
- Fr. William Miranda was honoured by the District Health Department for his work against tuberculosis in Aland Taluka.

## KEY UPDATES

**Transfer:** Fr Vijay D'Costa: transferred from Carmel Niketan, Gedalahalli to Pushpashrama, Mysuru.

### Results of singing competition held in honor of the Centenary Celebration of the Canonization of St. Thérèse:

#### Friars

- Fr. Noel D'Cunha – I Prize
- Fr. Roshan Lobo – II Prize
- Fr. Pranay Periera – III Prize

#### Scholastics: Philosophy & Theology

- Bro. Mark Murali (Philosophy) – I Prize
- Bro. Melroy Crasta (Philosophy) – II Prize
- Bro. Cristan Fernandes (Theology) – III Prize

#### Brothers: PUC, Postulancy & Novitiate

- Bro. Flen Pinto (Novitiate) – I Prize
- Bro. Rohak Z. Saldanha (PUC) – II Prize
- Bro. Wilson D'Souza (PUC) – III Prize

#### Cloistered Carmel Sisters

- Sr. Reena – Hassan – I Prize
- Miss Azelia Carvalho – Mangaluru – II Prize
- Sr. Mary Agnes – Mangaluru – III Prize

## TRAVELS

### Arrivals

July 16, 2025: Fr Wilfred Pais from Tanzania  
 September 08, 2025: Fr Ajay Nazareth from Spain  
 September 19, 2025: Fr Manoj Braganza from Rome  
 November 15, 2025: Fr Alwyn Aranha from Rome  
 November 16, 2025: Fr Reevan Cutinha from Rome  
 December 28, 2025: Fr Stephen Lobo from Canada  
 December 28, 2025: Fr Vijay Martin from Canada  
 December 26, 2025: Fr John Alex Pinto from Canada  
 December 31, 2025: Fr Vincent D'Souza from Canada

### Departures

September 15, 2025: Fr Godwin Pinto to Canada  
 September 18, 2025: Fr Wilfred Pais to Tanzania  
 September 25, 2025: Fr Ajay Nazareth to Spain  
 November 19, 2025: Fr Manoj Braganza to Rome

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME, AND CONSOLIDATED PROGRAMME

### PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

#### January 2026

01-02 – Sadbhavana, Bengaluru  
 03 – CCR Golden Jubilee of Novitiate, Pune  
 04 – Infant Jesus Feast, Pushpashrama.  
 05-08 – Sadbhavana, Bengaluru  
 09 – Mangalore  
 10 – Goa  
 11 – Elections Chicalim Carmel  
 12 – Mangalore  
 13 – Carmelite Fraternity Day, Carmel Hill, Mangalore  
 14-15 – Infant Jesus Feast, Carmel Hill, Mangalore  
 15 – Nuptials at Belthangady  
 16 – Goa  
 17 – Major Superior Meeting with the Archbishop of Goa  
 18-19 – Goa  
 20 – Festal Mass of St Sebastian, at Arpora, Goa  
 21 – Definitive Promises, St Teresa of Avila OCDS, Bikarnakatte  
 22-24 – Provincial Administration Excursion  
 25 – First Profession at Hassan Carmel  
 26-30 – Sadbhavana, Bengaluru  
 31 – OCDS Regional Gathering, Divine Springs, Xellim

#### February 2026

01 – Sadbhavana, Bengaluru  
 02-05 – Annual General Assembly CRI Priests Section, DBI, Guwahati  
 07-08 – Provincial Council, Sadbhavana.  
 09-14 – Junior Priests Meeting, Divine Springs, Xellim

**March 2026**

- 19 – Definitive Promises, Mira Road, Mumbai  
 21 – Convocation, Dhyavanava, Mysuru

**Consolidated Programme****January 2026**

- 04 – Infant Jesus Feast, Pushpashrama, Mysuru  
 11 – Elections of Chicalim Carmel, Goa  
 13 – Carmelite Fraternity Day, Carmel Hill, Mangalore  
 14-15 – Infant Jesus Feast, Carmel Hill, Mangalore  
 17 – Infant Jesus Feast, Koteshwar  
 21 – Definitive Promises, St Teresa of Avila OCDS, Bikarnakatte  
 25 – First Profession, Hassan Carmel  
 31 – OCDS Regional Gathering, Divine Springs Xellim

**February 2026**

- 07-08 – Provincial Council, Sadbhavana, Bengaluru  
 09-14 – Junior Priests Meeting, Divine Springs, Xellim

**March 2026**

- 19 – Definitive Promises, Mira Road, Mumbai  
 21 – Convocation, Dhyavanava, Mysuru

Thanking you

Fraternally Yours in Carmel,

*Fr. D. Souza*



**Fr Silvestre D'Souza OCD**  
 Provincial Superior