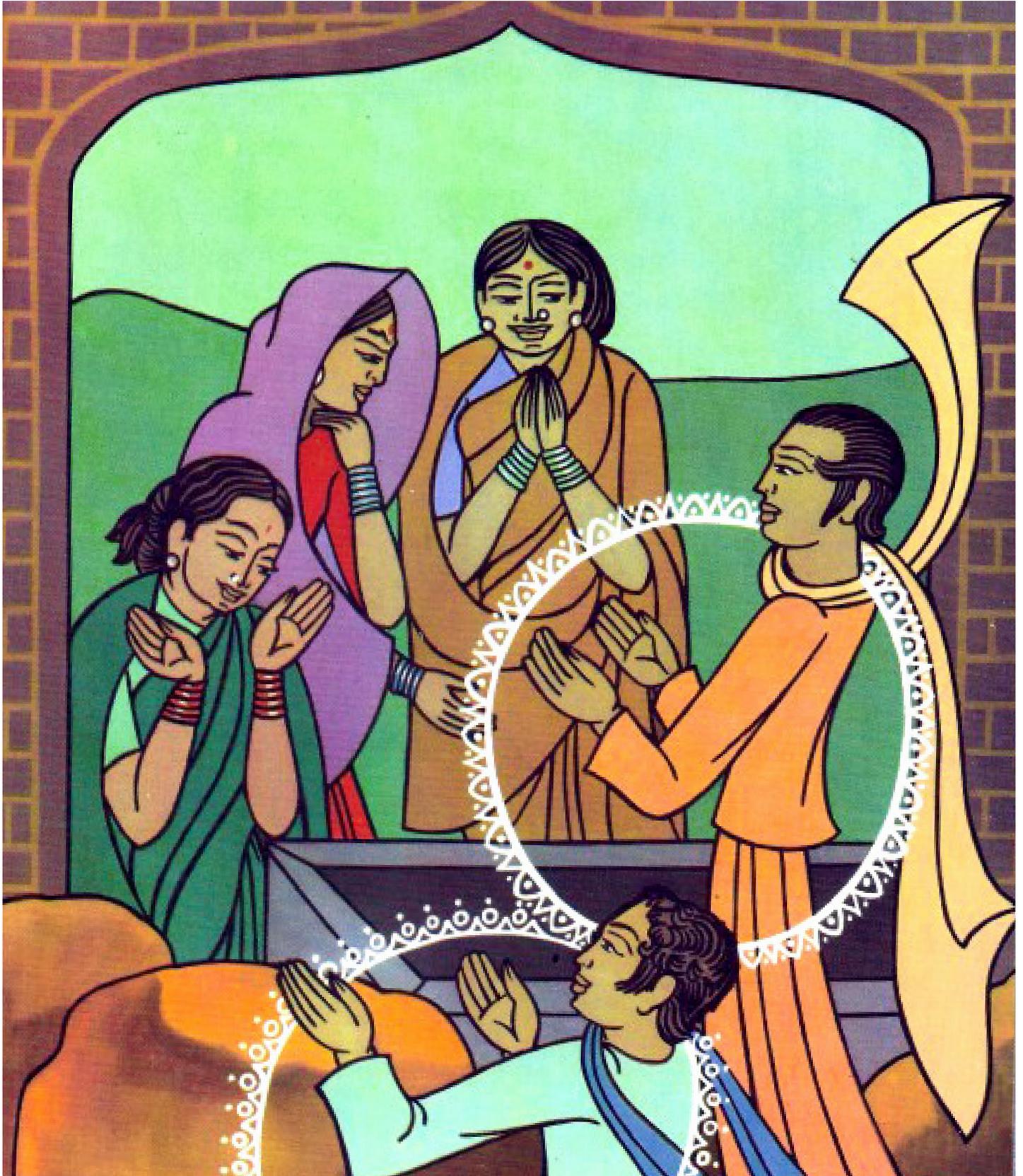




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Newsletter of St Pius X College - Archdiocesan Seminary April 2018 | Vol. XVII, Issue 3



Fr. Hans Zollner SJ - *Session on Protection of Minors*

On 26th February 2018, *Rev. Fr. Hans Zollner SJ*, Vice-Rector of the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, addressed the St. Pius X Community on the issue of *Protection of Minors*. Fr. Zollner, a German Theologian, Psychologist, and Consultor of the Congregation of the Clergy, is a member of the *Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors* (PCPM) since 2014.

Fr. Zollner, who is on the mission assigned to him by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, travels around the world discussing the issue of protection of minors. He believes that the protection of minors has to be an integral part of the mission of the Catholic Church.

During his session he expound these two points:

1. **Listen:** We need to 'listen to victims of abuse.' We as Church, as a mother, cannot ignore victims of abuse. Pious platitudes to victims won't do. We need to listen with our mind, heart and soul, and act.
2. **Do whatever you can to protect children:** Ensure that there are safeguarding policies in place. Safeguarding should be an integral part of mission: education, social and pastoral. Open your eyes and ears to signs of abuse, like children becoming aloof and depressed.

Fr. Zollner, in trying to expound on these two points stressed the need to re-evaluate Human Formation in our Seminaries. Within the core aspects of Human Formation, he mentioned that we as pastors and seminarians need to discover our identity and understand the vocation and calling from God. There is a grave need to grow in maturity both at Human and Spiritual levels. He also proposed that the formation be more attuned to the pastoral realities within the diocese and the Church at large. Fr. Zollner insisted that in trying to protect minors and vulnerable adults, we must first purify our understanding of sexuality. One of the driving points used by Fr. Zollner was point number 202 from the document, *The Gift of the Priestly Vocation*, which highlights the need for greatest attention to be given to the protection of minors.

This interesting and challenging session was an eye opener for the St. Pius X community in understanding the realities of our role in protection of minors and vulnerable adults. As pastors this becomes an integral part of our mission as a Church, which must be facilitated with ongoing formation for all seminarians and priests.

- Br. Leon Viegas



Medical Camp at St. Pius X College



An initiative undertaken by the doctors affiliated to the St. Luke's Guild, along with the infirmary department, headed by the Rector of our Seminary was a sterling success.

On the 4th of March 2018, we had 26 highly skilled doctors across different specializations offer consultation and conduct routine checkups for the Priests, Sisters, Brothers, Staff and others who are part of the St. Pius family. Around 83 persons in all benefitted from the facilities organized through the medical camp, and the doctors were generous in making themselves available for any needed follow-up. The event started off gracefully, with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by Fr. Stephen Fernandes, ecclesiastical advisor to St. Luke's Medical Guild. The Camp ended on a grand note with a special dinner for all the doctors. It was definitely a moment to savour. We look forward to many such interactions in the future.

-Br Ivel Matthias

NOTE TO READERS

In case you wish to receive an e-copy of the Semachar, kindly write to us at stpius.semachar@gmail.com

Ordinandi



Dn. Joseph Mathew

The priesthood is itself a conduit of God's love that flows into the veins of the Church and the world. It is awesome to be instrumental in bringing disparate people together in the name of Jesus to form a covenant of love. This essential dimension of communitarian spirituality helped me greatly in my priestly formation in the seminary of St. Pius X. I truly believe this seminary has been a home away from home; the warm nature of the formators, brothers and the employees went a long way in making my stay here a happy one. The seminary has enhanced my understanding of the priesthood and equipped me to face its challenges in the

future and to make a genuine contribution in the Church and society. I am blessed to be here at St Pius X seminary because it gives us a holistic formation. It nurtures and moulds us into responsible and integrated human beings and at the same time into ardent and dedicated followers of Jesus Christ. The Seminary formation has helped me to discover my potential and helped me to grow in confidence, with leadership qualities. I thank the Lord for journeying with me in my formative years. I am also grateful to all my professors who helped me to grow as a person in Christ.



Dn. Joel Fernandes

When I joined the seminary one of the senior brothers told me that eight years seems to be too long, but 'once your seminary formation begins these eight years will pass away swiftly'. It really seems to me that the eight years of my seminary formation have gone by swiftly and now I'm standing on the threshold waiting to be ordained a priest. When I look back at my formation years in the seminary there are many moments that I cherish. The seminary gave me a chance to grow and flourish. It helped me to understand and deepen my vocation. The seminary formation in the areas of academics, spiritual, pastoral and human formation deepened my faith and

broadened my mind and the way I think. The moderators and spiritual directors in the seminary chiselled me, moulded me and polished the rough edges in me in order that I may be a good priest after the heart of Christ. In the seminary I made many friends and they too have in some way or the other contributed to forming me. I will cherish the good times that I spent with my fellow brothers in the seminary. It will be hard for me to bid farewell, but deep down in my heart I know that we will definitely meet each other at some point in life. I thank God for being with me and journeying along with me, all through my formation years in the seminary.



Dn. Savio Lobo

As it is rightly said, "God does not call the qualified, but qualifies the called." I believe that this to a great extent has been true in my case. Right from my childhood days, I felt that I had the seed of a vocation in my heart, because of my passive encounter with the Lord during Mass. I also felt how unworthy I am. Yet, today I have realized that no matter where you are in life WITH GOD, He is qualifying you for his service because you are CALLED. He helps you to overcome your limitations.

Since I was never active in Church, not even an altar server and moreover had stage fright, I felt all the more unworthy. My family's encouragement and my trust in God gave me strength to join the seminary. And since then I have experienced the generous hand of God and till date I continue to experience His loving presence in my life. Life in the seminary has always had its challenges. However in the seminary I got chiselled by the entire St. Pius family which in turn helped me to become a responsible and integrated

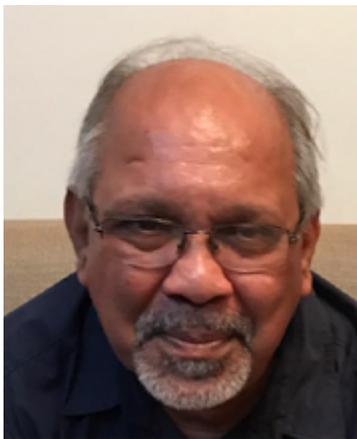
human being and at the same time an ardent and dedicated follower of Jesus Christ. My seminary professors have always been very helpful and it is because of their guidance, I am what I am today. My fellow seminarians too have been instrumental in my formation. So I feel privileged to be a part of the St. Pius family. A lot of people have prayed for

me, especially my parents who still continue to pray for me; without their prayers I wouldn't have been able to see my ordination coming through.

Experience of seminary formation

Roque Lobo

(Candidate for the Permanent Diaconate)



I am grateful for what my parents inculcated in me and my other four siblings: faith in God that slowly shaped our young lives. My early education started at St. Joseph's School, Vikhroli. I continued my higher education in Mumbai University and successfully completed my post-graduation in Physics (Electronics). Further I

did a diploma in computers. Studying has always been a passion, apart from my interest in sports, music, drawing and painting.

During my college years I was drawn to the Legion of Mary at St. Joseph's Church, Vikhroli. I served in the Legion for a few years. This stint in the Legion of Mary did help me grow spiritually. My working experiences have mostly been in the computer field. I loved my job and the challenges I had to face. During my working stint in the Middle East, I had to interact with people of many nationalities.

I returned to Mumbai at the end of 2000 and thought of taking life easy. But God seemed to have other plans for me. I saw God's awesomeness unfolding in my life when he sent the right people to journey with me in encountering Him. I was elected to lead my community as a Parish Council

member in June 2010 and was also appointed to be a part of the executive committee. In June 2011, I became the leader of the Prayer Group at St. Pius Church, Mulund. Being in the prayer group further helped me grow spiritually. I believe it was a little gift of Grace of God to inspire me to respond. Witnessing the conversion story, reconciliation and growth in faith had given me clearer signs that God must have reasons for showing me all these.

I applied to become a candidate of the Permanent Diaconate in 2013 and was the only candidate selected. Managing full-time studies in the seminary and family life was a challenge but praise God, I have made it. For me the seminary formation has looked like a long journey but the years have flown by. The seminary helped me, guided me, trained me and made me spiritually and pastorally strong. Regular recollections and retreats helped me to reflect on my life. The seminary formation has exercised a holistic approach towards me. It has helped me to recognize the challenges of the world and prepared me to face them. The Philosophy and Theological studies have enhanced my understanding of my vocation and deepened my spirituality, broadened my horizons and equipped me to face the challenges that lie ahead. The pastoral courses additionally helped me to reflect theologically on my pastoral experience. I thank my Spiritual Director, the Rector, the Dean, the staff, the priests at various parishes and all others where I was posted for my pastoral work. I will be obtained a Permanent Deacon on April 28, 2018.

Fishers of Men



12th February was indeed a memorable day for the community at St. Pius X College. It was time for the much awaited annual picnic. After celebration of Mass at 6.15am, the community munched on some tea and snacks before we could take the train to Bhayandar. From there we boarded boats for our destination Uttan, which is home to many brothers in the seminary. This was an exciting attraction, especially for the 'first-timers', thanks to the brothers who made arrangements for the same. We were warmly welcomed to a sumptuous breakfast on the boat, with music that lit up the mood for some song and dance. We then moved to a resort where the community sipped on coconut water while others jumped into the swimming pool water. Everyone had their share of fun in the water and then we moved to the parish church of St. Andrew. Here a homemade lunch, mostly comprising sea food, was waiting for us. We are very grateful to the parish priest Fr. Don John and the parishioners who saw to it that we had a good time. After lunch, we had some tele-games that made sure all the fish had settled to the bottom of our tummies. We also had some of our members singing and dancing to some folk music to entertain us. As all good things come to an end, our picnic too was about to end. We thanked the community at St. Andrew's Church for hosting us that afternoon. After some hot piping tea with snacks, we took the bus for Bhayandar station and the return to our homeland at St. Pius. The memories of this day will be cherished by all for a long time to come. Finally, we thank God for bringing our family at St. Pius community closer than ever before. It was a time of bonding, fellowship and fun.

- Br. Joyous Koreth

semachar

*Wishes it's readers
The Peace and Joy of the Risen Lord*

Can It Be Pleasant Again?

How pleasant it was to sleep under the sky,
Where we could see the stars flying high.
The fresh air, clear sky during the day,
All on earth was like heaven's stay.

The cool water's flowing from the mountains,
We cherished and enjoyed with our cousins.
The moments that we shared with loved ones,
All mixed with joys and pain under the sun.

So much the earth cared for me,
Gave me all I needed to be.
Just like mother eagle protects its offspring,
It kept me under its own wing.

What have I done in return?
Only led the earth to burn.
Many things done for my own,
But nothing for the next generation sown.

There comes my ego and my pride,
Commanding me to conquer and stride.
But a thought comes asking me,
Where will all this lead me?

A strange voice deep inside,
I hear it day and night.
It is not yet too late,
Before, you become your own bait.

As I stand under the cloud,
I see nothing but only drought.
Oh! What have I done?
Is there a chance to return?

Then I heard a voice crying aloud,
My son come under my shroud.
I can still protect you,
If you are willing to.

I really don't know how,
It can protect me now.
And a thought always comes by,
Can it be pleasant again to sleep under the sky?

- Br. Denvel Nunes

Contemplation

As Holy and Spotless as Thou art, O Lord,
A sinner am I, there is no doubt.
I trip and fall at every stone,
And in these failures, feel I am alone.

When times get tough, to Thee I crawl,
And at Thy feet cry, babble and bawl.
But, when Thou O Lord, send joy my way,
I never thank Thee nor gratefully pray.

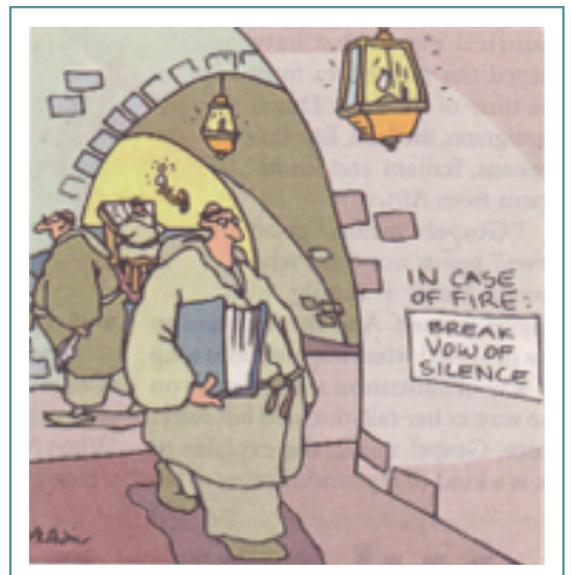
Immersed in all the pleasures of life,
I lose my way and end up in strife.
Even in these times Thou didst abide,
Waiting for me, to return to Thy side.

"Thou didst come, O incarnate Word,
To be my Redeemer, Saviour and Lord."
Absolve me Master, for i have sinned,
in my weak body, my spirit is pinned.

I need to break the shackles of temptation,
And be Thy child, not an abomination.
Help me Lord, to rise from my fall,
Above these worldly ways, to stand up tall.

Lord, hold my hand and guide my path,
From where i fell, please let me restart.
Yes, a sinner am i there is no doubt,
But i realize You love me, within..... without.

- Br. Aoussie Paul





Acceptance of Candidates for Holy Orders



Ministry of Lectors



Vesting Ceremony



A band consisting of the Bombay Seminarians and Priests



Annual Sports day



Marc Fromager sharing his experience as the French director of the Aid to the Church in Need



St Gonsalo Garcia Feast Celebration



Book exhibition by the Library



Pongal Celebrations - Blind Pot Challenge

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