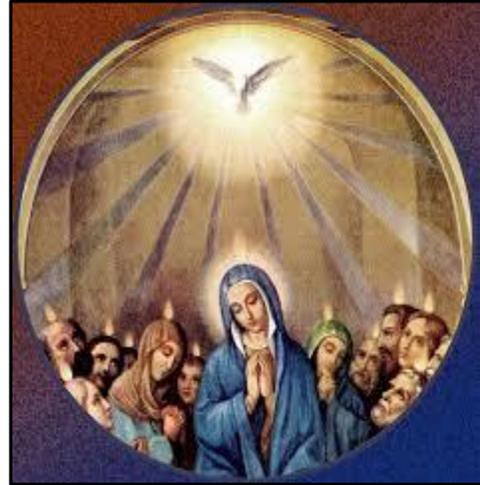


THE FEAST OF PENTECOST



To
All CEC Directors and Staff

Dear Friends in Jesus,

Wish you all a Happy Feast of Pentecost. It is our feast, the CEC Feast.

01. Fill Us with Your Spirit, O Lord.

As every organization has a special Feast Day and special patrons, so also we must have our special feast-day. Pentecost is our feast; St. Paul, St. Thomas, and St. Francis Xavier are our patrons. Because with the Spirit of Pentecost and with the life-witnesses of these Saints, we are called to share the Gospel.

It is good to ponder specially on the Feast of Pentecost, as it is celebrated by the Church as a great feast. We must realize that it is the culmination of the salvation history enacted by the Father through his Son and his Holy Spirit. Our salvation was promised to our first parents, then fore-told by the patriarchs and prophets, then actualized by the birth, preaching, miracles, passion, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord, and was crowned by the event of Pentecost. Just as Jesus rose from the tomb, on the day of Pentecost the scared disciples came out of their closed room to proclaim in public and to the public that Jesus is the Messiah of Jewish expectation and the fulfillment of all the prophesies.

It is the power of the Holy Spirit which enabled the apostles and the first disciples to proclaim the truth of Jesus' life, mission and his sacrificial death at the cost of their lives. And through the power of the Holy Spirit, the history of the Church tells us, that the preaching and witness to Jesus has continued in every age. Now it is our turn to teach the Gospel and bear witness to the Gospel in our time. But this is not possible for us unless we are filled with Holy Spirit.

Reflecting on Christian life, I have come to realize that a true Christian is the one who is overshadowed by the Holy Spirit. He or she is a person in whom the Holy Spirit lives. He or she is guided and led by the Holy Spirit. Hence, to be a true Christian and an evangelizer, it is inevitable that we be filled with the Holy Spirit. In order to get a share in eternal life, the divine life of God, we need to be filled and transformed by the Holy Spirit. Without the Spirit of God dwelling in us, we are nothing but mere mortals. Without the Holy Spirit we remain mute rather than out-spoken messengers of God's salvation through his Son and the Spirit. So, let us implore the Holy spirit to come into our hearts and minds so that we may live, proclaim and witness to the love and mercy of God. Let us be conscious of the need of the Holy Spirit in our lives for our life and for our mission to share the Gospel.

02. The 14th ACECI General Body Meeting:

It is never too late to thank any one. I wish to thank again all those participants from 17 CECs who came and actively participated and shared their evangelical efforts to make Jesus and His Gospel known, especially to people of other Faiths. We are also very grateful to our resource persons, Most Rev. Anil Couto, Archbishop of Delhi, Fr. Faustine Lobo, Director of Pontifical Mission Organizations, Bangalore and Fr. Biju Mandapathil SVD, from NISCORT. I thank Mrs. Veena Chandran for her witnessing and Mr. Siby Moolekunnel for his sharing on Bible distribution. I am sure you have received the printed report of this meeting. In case you have not received a copy of it, kindly contact the ACECI National Office by writing a post-card, SMS, e-mail or by a phone call. It is good to get a copy and read it. The Association of Catholic Enquiry Centres is a communion of evangelists in our time, it is a national Catholic network to share the Gospel with our brothers and sisters who are seeking to know Jesus. Hence the CECs should communicate with one another and get united with one another to strengthen our evangelical efforts. It is only the Holy Spirit of God who can unite us as comrades for the Gospel.

03. Enquirers are inspired and prompted by the Holy Spirit.

Recently, I was surprised to receive an e-mail enquiry from Sri Lanka, through our ACECI website: www.knowlordjesus.org. Our website is bringing several persons to do our Bible Courses. Hence it is important that we publicize our Centres, through bill-boards, Calenders, picture-cards, contact-cards and even by New-paper and magazine publicity. We receive enquirers from all parts of India as CECs have no geographical boundaries but only linguistic and limits. Hence, let us communicate and share the Gospel with anyone and everyone who wants to know something about Jesus Christ and Christianity. And all those who contact us, are inspired and prompted by the Holy Spirit. So let us not take our enquirers lightly, as they are gifts of God to our CECs.

04. ACECI Website: www.knowlordjesus.com/org

Recently we have uploaded 2 articles on Pope St. John XXIII and Pope St. John Paul II as Christian witnesses of our time, in English. We have also uploaded a short introduction to Bible in Hindi – “Sampoorna Bible ka Samkshit Parichaya” (A short Introduction to the whole Bible). We must have a website in every language in our country. If you would like to upload an article on Jesus in any language, e-mail a scanned copy of it to us. We are happy that we have covered Gujarati, English, Hindi and Urdu languages so far, though they need to be further developed by more and more uploads. CECs belonging to same language groups could come together and build up websites in other languages too.

Let us continue to pray, **“Fill us with your Spirit, Lord, that we may proclaim your Word everywhere”-**

Fr. Varghese Nediakalayil SVD,
Executive Secretary,
ACECI National Office, New Delhi

To All CEC Directors

The Exposition of the Sacred Relics of St. Francis Xavier:

(An occasion for CECs to share the Good News)



Dear Friends in Jesus,

You might already know that His Grace Filipe Neri Ferrao, Archbishop of Goa, Daman and Diu has declared that there will be a solemn exposition of the Sacred Relics of St. Francis Xavier, once again from 22nd November 2014 to 4th January, 2015. And the preparations are already on. It is said that during the last exposition 2.25 million people (both Christians and others) visited the relics of St. Francis Xavier and venerated the saint.

I called up to Fr. Savio Bareto SJ, the Rector of Bom Jesus Basilica and made some suggestions to him. He was open to my suggestions and asked me to contact Fr. Mario Saturnino in this regard. I made the following proposals to Fr. Mario, who is also the director of our Goa CEC .

- 01.** Exhibition of Christian literature (lessons and books being used by CECs) in various languages and free distribution of them at Bom Jesus premises on the days of exposition, and requested a place to set up our stalls. I requested them to give free accommodation and meals for those who come to be at the stalls.
- 02.** I also asked for a place where we can show Christian films free of charge to the pilgrims, as it is being done at Bandel Basilica.
- 03.** I also proposed them to invite Christian publishers and boo-sellers to put up stalls on a rental basis.
- 04.** I also suggested to make a short leaflet on the life, mission and miracles of St. Francis Xavier and distribute it free of charge to pilgrims with an advertisement of CEC Goa and the of National Office as places to approach for more information about Jesus Christ, Christianity and St. Francis Xavier.

Fr. Saturnino after consulting the Exposition Committee wrote me back with a positive note, the following :

DCMA-CEC:

25.02.2014

Dear Fr. Varghese,

I thank you for your letter dated 14/2/2014. I thank you also for appreciating our magazine, "Celebrate God's Love".

Coming to the various proposals made by you in connection with the Exposition of the Holy Relics of St. Francis Xavier, I wish to inform you that I discussed the matter with our Exposition

Committee of which I am also a member and this is what I can communicate to you as a result of our interaction at the committee meeting.

- 1) The committee welcomes the idea of distributing in various languages free literature on Christian Faith to those interested. However the committee felt that we could not place at the disposal of the C.E.Cs twelve rooms or cubicles, because it will need a lot of space. They suggested that they could make available one large room or space where all the C.E.C.s could expose the literature in the respective language for which tables could be made available to them or perhaps the C.E.C.s could make their own arrangement to expose their literature.

They also have difficulty to give free accommodation and meals to the various representatives of these C.E.C.s; however, they could provide accommodation and meals if the C.E.C.s are willing to pay. Perhaps some concession for accommodation and meals could be thought of. In this case we need to know how many people from each Centre will come. The other suggestion is that the various C.E.Cs. send their materials to our Centre and we display their materials at a place given to us. In this case probably we could ask some sisters who know different languages to help us.

- 2) The idea of inviting Catholic and Christian publishers is also welcomed. However they should not be too many; perhaps one or two, and they should get in touch with the Exposition Committee for the allocation of the place, which may not be in the prime place of the area. Naturally they will be charged and be asked to sell their materials at a subsidized rate.
- 3) The idea of showing Christian movies or DVDs on the life of Christ, Saint Francis Xavier, Saint Ignatius, Blessed Mother Theresa and others is also welcomed and a place will be allocated for this purpose.

You were kind to offer your services to support this venture and I ask you to kindly give this information to the various C.E.C.s and they could contact me for further clarifications. I like to ask you also to contact the Basilica of Our Lady of Bandel in Calcutta to make available for us the various movies you mentioned.

Thanking you again and with prayerful best wishes,

Fraternally yours,

Fr. Saturnino Dias

(Director, DCMA-CEC)

Invitation to All Catholic Enquiry Centres

to join this Exhibition and free Christian Literature Distribution in various languages of India

This is to invite every Catholic Enquiry Centre to join this CEC exhibition and literature distribution at the time of the Exposition of the holy relic of St. Francis Xavier. I request you to inform Fr. Saturnino Dias and me as to whether you would be able to participate in this Exhibition programme.

Kindly inform:

- 01.** Whether you will be able to join this exhibition program
- 02.** Whether you will be able to send a person from your CEC at least for some days.
- 03.** Whether you will be able to provide any film on Jesus or Saints in your language
- 04.** If you would require accommodations and meals, then inform for how many persons and as to how many days.
- 05.** Inform - in how many languages you can provide Biblical, Catechetical and other Christian literature
- 06.** CECs working within a certain language-group could consult one another and combine their efforts in gathering literature and preparing other communication materials like contact cards, picture-cards and leaf-lets for free distribution. They could also send different persons from different Centres for a certain language CECs so that people have access to CEC personnel from every language.

As it is a mega event, let us plan it well and execute it with determination, to follow the foot-steps of St. Francis Xavier in preaching the Gospel. If you have any other enquiry or proposals, kindly contact Fr. Saturnino, the Director of Centre for Missionary Animation & Catholic Enquiry Centre, Goa or ACECI National Office, New Delhi.

We look forward to your co-operation and support to this national exhibition and literature distribution during the Exposition of the relics of St. Francis Xavier.

The ACECI President and Vice-president have been already consulted on this matter and they do appreciate this project and have given their approval and support to it.

Contact Addresses:

- Fr. Mario Saturnino Dias
Director, Centre For Missionary Animation & Catholic Enquiry Centre,
Opp. Basilica of "BOM JESUS",
Old Goa, Goa-403 402.
Phone/(M): 0832-2284149, 08322284149. 09921321402
E-mails: dcma.cec2010@yahoo.com, diasmario2002@yahoo.com

- Fr. Varghese N. SVD,
Executive Secretary,
Delhi-110 001 ACECI National Office,
10, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, New,
Phone/(M): 011-23361264, 09968150441
E-mails: aceci@rediffmail.com, aceci.nationaloffice@gmail.com,
varghesensvd@rediffmail.com, Website: www.knowlordjesus.com/org

- **Fr. Varghese Nediakalayil SVD** (ACECI Secretary & Executive Secretary)