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## PARISH INFORMATION

### PASTORS AT YOUR SERVICE:-

Fr. Antonio Lourenco Fernandes:-	Parish Priest- 9822687171
Fr. Walter de Sa :-	Chaplain of Our Lady of Candelaria Chapel Porvorim-9822150868
Fr. Urbino Monteiro:-	Priest at Home- 9637439390

### OTHER STAFF AT YOUR SERVICE:-

Senita Ivie Dias:	Secretary- 9158094570
Augustinho Magalhaes:-	Sacristan- 9822597492

### OFFICE TIMINGS:-

Monday to Friday:-	09:30am — 12:30pm
Saturday & Sunday:-	Office Closed

### MASS TIMINGS:-

<b>Church:-</b>	
Saturday:-	06:00 pm Anticipated Mass of Sunday (English)
Sunday:-	07:00am Konkani — 09:00am English
Week Days:-	07:00am
Wednesday:-	06:00pm
Catechism for Children:-	08:00am — 09:00am — Mass
PPC Meeting:-	1st Sunday of the Month at 10:00am
Catechism Meeting:-	2nd Sunday of the Month
Youth Meeting:-	3rd Sunday of the Month
SSVP	4th Sunday of the Month & Collection

### Candelaria Chapel Porvorim:-

Saturday:-	06:00 pm Anticipated Mass of Sunday (English)
Sunday:-	07:00am Konkani — 08:30am Konkani
Catechism:-	09:30am
Week Days:-	07:00am

### Remedios Chapel Vaddem:-

Sunday:-	07:00am
Week Days:-	07:00am

Our Lady of Succour Church, Zoswaddo, Socorro, Bardez, Goa- 403501

0832-671938

socorrochurch@gmail.com

<http://socorrogao.wix.com/socorro>

## ST. THOMAS – THE APOSTLE OF INDIA

Feast Day – July 3rd



Most of us have heard the phrase "Doubting Thomas" and have perhaps used it in figurative speech. It refers to someone who doesn't believe something unless they see proof. This saying comes from St. Thomas, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. He attained this title for his refusal to believe the Resurrection of Jesus until he saw and touched Jesus himself.

When Jesus appeared to the apostles after His resurrection, Thomas wasn't there. Later, Jesus came again and invited Thomas to touch His wounds. Only then did Thomas truly believe and said, "My Lord and my God."

St. Thomas was a simple fisherman from Galilee. He was called by Jesus to be one of His 12 Apostles. Even though he is known for doubting, he actually loved Jesus very much, and this can be seen in the Bible. We can see that he was brave and ready to go with Jesus, even when it was dangerous.

After Jesus' ascension, the apostles went to different places to spread His message. St. Thomas came to India in 52 A.D. He first arrived in Kerala, at a place called Muziris (now Kodungallur). He preached about Jesus and started some of the first Christian communities in India. It is said that he built seven and a half churches and converted many people.

Later, St. Thomas went to Tamil Nadu, where he continued his mission. Sadly, he was killed there in 72 A.D. in a place called Mylapore, which is now part of Chennai. Today, the Santhome Basilica (Chennai, Tamil Nadu) stands over the place where he is believed to be buried.

St. Thomas is remembered as the Apostle of India, and many Christians in India, especially in Kerala, look up to him as the one who brought the Christian faith to their land. Thomas the Apostle founded the Syro-Malabar Church in southern India, in the present state of Kerala. At the time, the people referred to themselves as St.



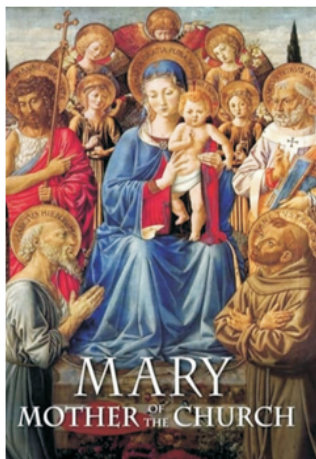
Thomas Christians. The Syro-Malabar and Syro-Malankara Churches are considered part of the legacy he left behind. These churches still follow the traditions believed to have started with him.

The story of St. Thomas reminds us that it's okay to have doubts, as long as we keep searching for the truth. In the end, St. Thomas went from doubting to believing deeply, and he gave his life for what he believed.

*By Reuben Dalgado, Porvorim*

## MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

On February 11th, 2018, the 160th anniversary of the first apparition of the Virgin at Lourdes, Pope Francis decreed as an obligatory memorial to be celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost. Through this memorial, he desired to encourage the growth of the maternal sense of Church in pastors, religious and the faithful. He also desired a growth in Marian piety.



At the foot of the Cross, in a moment of pain and love, Jesus gave Mary to us as our spiritual mother. From that moment on, she cares for the Church with a mother's heart. Through her wholehearted yes to God, Mary brought salvation for the whole world. Mary was always faithful to this Yes, even if it cost her much pain and sorrow. Thus Mary became the true Mother of the Redeemer and the Mother of all who live in Christ. Mary remains a model of love, trust and steadfastness in doing God's Will. She constantly intercedes for her children as she stays at crossroads of pain, uncertainty and anxiety.

As we celebrate the feast of Mary the Mother of the Church may we see Mary not as one distant from our lives and our circumstances but one who accompanies and stays besides us. Her love for us can enable us to come closer to Her Son Jesus. May we through her intercession grow in love for Her Son and for His Body the Church.

*Violet Fernandes*

## EMBRACING FAITH: REFLECTIONS ON MY CONFIRMATION DAY

My Confirmation was a deeply meaningful and memorable occasion in my life, marking a significant step forward in my spiritual journey. As I stood in the church, surrounded by my family, friends, and fellow candidates, I was filled with an overwhelming sense of happiness, peace, and gratitude. It was a moment I had been looking forward to for many months, and experiencing it in such a sacred and joyful setting made it truly unforgettable. I felt a strong connection to my faith and a renewed commitment to live out the values and teachings of the Church.

The journey leading up to the day of Confirmation was both enriching and enlightening. Our catechist teachers played a vital role in preparing us not only for the ceremony itself but also for the responsibilities and spiritual growth that come with receiving this Sacrament. Through their dedication, they provided us with a solid understanding of the significance of Confirmation, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the importance of embracing our roles as active members of the Church. The classes were well-structured, engaging, and deeply reflective. Each session helped to build our knowledge, strengthen our faith, and encourage personal reflection.

In addition to the lessons, our teachers were always ready to support us through discussions, answering our questions patiently, and encouraging us to think deeply about our relationship with God. They made the preparation process not only informative but also inspiring. Their passion for teaching and their genuine care for our spiritual well-being were evident in everything they did. There were also a few esteemed guest speakers who spoke about the importance of spiritual presence in our lives as well as the importance of being responsible and how to manage the different emotions we experience as young adults in our growing years.

On the day of the ceremony, everything was beautifully organized and perfectly executed. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to our Auxiliary Bishop Simiao Purificação Fernandes, who led the Confirmation Mass with great warmth and reverence. His sermon was uplifting and filled with wisdom, reminding us of the importance of faith, service, and commitment. Also, I would like to

thank our parish priest Father Lourenco for his unwavering support to me and my fellow students. From guiding us spiritually to being there for our practices he has truly been a pillar of strength for all of us. The entire parish community came together to support us, and that sense of unity made the occasion even more meaningful.

In conclusion, I am truly grateful to my teachers, Fr. Lourenco, the Auxiliary Bishop Simiao Purificação Fernandes and all those who were involved in helping us prepare for and celebrate our Confirmation. Their guidance, support, and dedication have left a lasting impact on me, and I will always remember this special day with great joy and appreciation.

*Virika Mascarenhas*

## AITARACHEA MISANCHI MANDDAVOLL

05-07-2025	6:00pm	Anticipated Mass (English)
06-07- 2025	7:00 am	Konkani Mass-vaddem5
	9:00 am	English Mass-Catechism Children
12-07-2025	6:00 pm	Anticipated Mass (English)
13-07-2025	7:00 am	Konkani Mass-Zoswaddo
	9:00 am	English Mass-Catechism children
19-07-2025	6:00 pm	Anticipated Mass (English)
20-07-2025	7:00 am	Konkani Mass-Carrem 1
	9:00 am	English Mass-Catechism children
26-07-2025	6:00 pm	Anticipated Mass (English)
27-07-2025	7:00 am	Konkani Mass-Carrem 2
	9:00 am	English Mass-Catechism children.
02-08-2025	6:00 pm	Anticipated Mass (English)
03-08-2025	7:00 am	Konkani Mass- Vaddem 1
	9:00 am	English Mass- Catechism children.

## STS. JOACHIM AND ANNA

On July 26 the Roman Catholic Church celebrates 'Grandparent's Day', commemorating the parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anna. The couple's faith and perseverance brought them through the sorrow of childlessness, to the joy of conceiving and raising the immaculate and sinless woman who would give birth to Christ.

The couple was said to be childless for years, in traditional society this was seen as a social stigma as not bearing a child was looked at as a stain. However, the couple did not lose faith although they were much past child- bearing age. They were ardent worshippers of God and made offerings to God. They went into prayer and fasting until one day they both received a message from God that they were to bear a child- Mary.

Mary's parents, Saints Joachim and Anna demonstrate an example of exceptional parents. It is through them that Mary understood and grew to love God. They loved her, raised her, and offered her to God. Saints Joachim and Anna brought Mary to the temple due to a vow made by them when she was at the young age of three. This Presentation of Mary in the Temple is a liturgical feast as also mentioned in the Holy Rosary.

There is so much to learn and understand from Saints Joachim and Anna. Their devotion, faith and love to God which led them to bear a child. Their perseverance teaches us that the love of our God is limitless. It also teaches us that we need to be patient and not give up hope.

Saints Joachim and Anna are role model parents as it is their nurturing, love and teachings that brought Mary to be worthy of the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. It was their teachings that led her to respond to God "Let it be done to me as you will" and their foundation of courage and strength that led her to stand by the cross while her son, Jesus Christ, was crucified.

The feast of Saints Joachim and Anna is celebrated every year on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July in the Catholic Church especially across Goa as Grandparent's Day. While we celebrate and pray to the couple who has gifted us with their child, Mother Mary, we also pray for the well-



being of our grandparents.

It's a day for us to not only remember our grandparents but also express our gratitude to them. It is they who, in addition to our parents, shower love on us, inculcate values in us, mould our personality and do much more than we can remember. The Church tells us to pray for the well-being of our grandparents. Let's interact with them in a special way on this year's Grandparent's Day.

**Quote:** "Today the Church celebrates the parents of the Virgin Mary, the grandparents of Jesus, Saints Joachim and Anne. In their home, Mary came into the world, accompanied by the extraordinary mystery of the Immaculate Conception. How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith!" **Pope Francis, Angelus, July 26, 2013**

*Meena Desouza*



## **PRISON MINISTRY INDIA CELEBRATES PRISON SUNDAY ON THE FEAST OF ST. MAXIMILLIAN KOLBE.**

The Theme for the year is:

**"FALLEN HUMANS MAY RISE UP AGAIN ON WINGS OF PRAYER."**

Welcome to the Prison Ministry India Goa-----a ministry for the welfare of inmates in prisons, their families and the families of the victims. Prisoners in particular, those convicted and sentenced, have a great need to look forward to the day of release when they can walk the streets once again as free men and women.

A second chance is what they cry for. They say, "Give us a second chance." Hope is vital component for prisoner's psychology." It is hope which motivates and inspires them to live out their sentences in a dignified and uplifting manner and become better men and women. PMI is based on the solid foundation of prayer, fast and sacrifices advocated by the founding fathers and continued by many of our volunteers. We pray before entering the gates of the prison.

Every year Prison Ministry India- Goa has celebrated the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Our Patron Saint. It is celebrated on the second Sunday of August, although the feast is on 14<sup>th</sup> August. St. Kolbe would always comfort the prisoners with the words "Hate is not creative; our sorrow is necessary so that those who live after us may be happy."

PMI is a response of the Church to the words of Jesus, "I was in prison and you visited me." We all know that the Prison Ministry in Goa was started by Sr. Mary Jane SFN and under her guidance the Ministry grew. We the volunteers are still inspired by her, under the guidance and supervision of Caritas Goa.

The "PMI VISION" is to restore freedom, honor and dignity. In the "PMI MISSION" volunteers commit themselves to the Release, Renewal and Rehabilitation of our brethren behind bars. These 3 "R" Theory proposed by Rev. Fr. Varghese Kerripery, one of our founding fathers, help inmates to lead a better life. We follow the principle of Trust in God's Providence, Inconvenience is our convenience and begging our life style in order to form a new society. Our late Pope Francis and our Archbishop His Eminence Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão in this Jubilee Year 2025 with the theme 'Hope does not disappoint us' (Rom.5:5), reminds us of our mission towards

prisoners. In his concern towards prisoners Late Pope Francis opened one of the Holy Doors in a prison, inviting the prisoners to look to the future with hope and a renewed sense of confidence. Whereas our beloved Archbishop has come up with practical suggestions meant for prisoners, and their families in his pastoral letter 2025-26 (Section 1.2. Practical Suggestions)

This year the PMI may select your parish to celebrate “PRISON SUNDAY “on 10<sup>th</sup> August. We feel the need for funds that will be spent on welfare activities such as, fellowship celebrating birthdays, festivals and days of National and International importance. We impart education specially to read and write. We have opportunity to teach music and drawing and painting and of course, we extend help in providing security deposits for inmates going on Parole/Furlough. Prison Ministry comes to their aid. We have Rehabilitation homes for released prisoners and we also have Kolbe Homes for housing the children of convicts. The children are sent to schools.

It is a benevolent gesture of our donors/ well-wishers that make it possible for PMI to carry on with the welfare activities. We also invite parishes to perform programs for the inmates. Recently, three Parishes celebrated Easter. It was a grand success. The inmates enjoyed every moment. It is our earnest desire to be with the inmates to give them the hope which they require.

Prison Ministry India Goa, pray for our benefactors who mean so much to us as they make it possible for us to have welfare activities for the least, last and the lost. God Bless them.

*Felix Barros, PMI Volunteer.*



## MINUTES OF THE SOCORRO PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2025.

The Socorro Parish Pastoral Council meeting was held on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2025 at 10:00am in the Church Hall, in the presence of our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Lourenco Fernandes. 18 members were present for the meeting.

**Introductory proceedings:** Mr. Neville Fernandes welcomed everyone present and began with the meeting. The proceedings continued with a prayer led by Mrs. Alzira D'souza from Vaddem 4.

Reading of the minutes: The Secretary read out the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025, which were subsequently put forth for approval. Mr. Seby Cardoz proposed the passing of the minutes and Mrs. Mercy Coelho seconded the same.

### **Matters arising from the Minutes:**

Fr. Lourenco our Parish priest spoke concerning:

1. Easter blessing of Home

Fr made a request to PPC members to inform him if any home in their Somudais left unblessed.

2. Census Forms

Data from the census forms will be compiled and forwarded to PPC members to check if any members name is missing.

### **Matters To Be Discussed**

1. Auxiliary Bishop's visit and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025. Fr informed PPC members of the sacrament of confirmation to be held in our Parish on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 at 9:30 am. Auxilliary Bishop Simao Purificação Fernandes will confer the sacrament upon our 58 children. Fr requested PPC members to take part in the Eucharistic celebration.

### **A.O.B**

- Fr. Informed that catechism classes will commence from 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025.
- Fr also informed that there will be a PPC day out. Fr has a venue in mind, he will confirm the date and inform the members.
- Once again it was brought to the notice of ppc representatives to check with the date allotted to each somudai to take responsibility of allotment of readings, cleaning the church, flower arrangements etc.

Meeting ended with the final prayer and blessings by Fr. Lourenco.

*Secretary*



**MHOINEACHI KARIAVOLL****1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 – 05<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

Date	Day	Masses	Time
01-07-2025	Munglar	S/o Antonio Luis De souza & Fly-Zoswaddo	07:00 am
02-07-2025	Budvar	S/o Jose Vincent De Souza & Fly-Zoswaddo	06:00 pm
03-07-2025	Brestar	S/o Ferdinand De Souza- Zoswaddo	07:00 am
04-07-2025	Sukrar	S/o Peter Marcus Vaz	07:00 am
05-07-2025	Sonvar	S/o Simon Joaquim Correia- Ambirna	07:00 am
		3rd Death Anniversary of Lourdine Vaz- Maina	08.30 am
		Anticipated Mass	06:00 pm
06-07-2025	Aitar	KONKANI MASS	07:00 am
		ENGLISH MASS	09:00 am
07-07-2025	Somar	S/o Lawrence Athaide-Porvorim	07:00 am
08-07-2025	Munglar	S/o Brigida Athaide -Porvorim	07:00 am
		1st Death Anniversary of Joaquim Dias-Porvorim	08:30 am
09-07-2025	Budvar	S/o Conceicao Fernandes- Zoswaddo	06:00 pm
10-07-2025	Brestar	Dhinv. Mis. For Good health of Clotilda De Souza-Zoswaddo	07:00 am
11-07-2025	Sukrar	2nd Death Anniversary of Francis Caraciola D'souza- Lima Vaddo	07:00 am
12-07-2025	Sonvar	Dhinv. Mis for good health and well being of Floyd De Souza & Fly-Zoswaddo	07:00 am
		1st Death Anniversary of Cicilia D'souza- Carrem	08.30 am
		Anticipated Mass	06:00 pm
13-07-2025	Aitar	KONKANI MASS	07:00 am
		ENGLISH MASS	09:00 am
14-07-2025	Somar	S/o Januario De Souza & Fly-	

		Zoswaddo	07:00 am
15-07-2025	Munglar	S/o Paul De Souza - Zoswaddo	07:00 am
16-07-2025	Budvar	Dhinv. Mis of Sabby Almeida - Birthday -Vaddem	06:00 pm
17-07-2025	Brestar	Agapita De Souza-Zoswaddo	07:00 am
18-07-2025	Sukrar	Thanksgiving for Good Health - Off by Joan Pereira- Maina	07:00 am
19-07-2025	Sonvar	S/o Lourdina Dalgado- Porvorim	07:00 am
		Anticipated Mass	06:00 pm
20-07-2025	Aitar	KONKANI MASS	07:00 am
		ENGLISH MASS	09:00 am
21-07-2025	Somar	Dhinv Mis SuccurSaibin - Off by Vera- Zoswaddo	07:00 am
22-07-2025	Munglar	S/o Julia Barreto- Porvorim	07:00 am
23-07-2025	Budvar	S/o Apolinario Fernandes- Parra	06:00 pm
24-07-2025	Brestar	Dhinv. Mis St. Anthony - Off by Xavier Fernandes -Zoswaddo	07:00 am
25-07-2025	Sukrar	S/o Assis Fernandes- Maina	07:00 am
26-07-2025	Sonvar	Dhinv Mis St. Anne	
		Off by Clara Barcelos- Maina	07:00 am
		Anticipated Mass	06:00 pm
27-07-2025	Aitar	KONKANI MASS	07:00 am
		ENGLISH MASS	09:00 am
28-07-2025	Somar	S/o Peter Marcus Vaz	07:00 am
29-07-2025	Munglar	S/o Liban Correia- Maina	07:00 am
30-07-2025	Budvar	S/o of Rubertina Correia- Ambirna	06:00 pm
31-07-2025	Brestar	S/o Crispin Fernandes- Maina	07:00 am
01-08-2025	Sukrar	S/o Marie Felis Fernandes- Maina	07:00 am
02-08-2025	Sonvar	S/o Julia Barreto- Porvorim	07:00 am
		Anticipated Mass	06:00 pm
03-08-2025	Aitar	KONKANI MASS	07:00 am
		ENGLISH MASS	09:00 am
04-08-2025	Somar	S/o Raphael Fernandes-Maina	07:00 am
05-08-2025	Munglar	All souls of Purgatory- Off by Rosa Maria Coelho- Maina	07:00 am

## THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY



*Lourdin Vaz*

(Maina- Socorro)

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

-John 11:25-26

Three years have passed since you went away,  
But my love for you grows every day.  
You were my strength, my gentle guide,  
Life feels so empty without you by my side.  
Your smile, your touch, your calming grace-  
No one could ever take your place.  
I carry you in all I do,  
Forever missing and loving you.  
Mom, we miss your hugs so tight,  
You're our angel, our guiding light.

There will be a Eucharistic celebration for the soul of **Mrs. Lourdin Vaz** on **5<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 8:30a.m** at Our Lady of Succour Church, Socorro. Offered by her sorrowful **Husband Francis Vaz , Children and Grandchildren.**

## 2nd Death Anniversary

*In Loving Memory of*



**FRANCISCO C. D'SOUZA**

(Ex-Aramco, Saudi Arabia)  
Lima Vaddo, Porvorim

*And the dust returns to the earth as it was,  
and the spirit returns to God who gave it  
- Ecclesiastes 12:7*

There will be a Eucharistic Celebration  
for the soul of our beloved **Francisco**  
on **Friday, 11th July, 2025 at 7.00 a.m.,**  
at **Our Lady of Succour Church, Socorro**  
followed by prayers at the grave.

Offered by his **sorrowful wife** Especiosa D'Souza,  
**Children** Peter/Rovina and Jessie/Assis Cardozo,  
**Grandchildren** Aaron, Jarvis and Angelisia.