

MISSION | SOLIDARITY | PRAYER |

JUNE 2022



A CCBI INITIATIVE TO ASSIST  
THE CHURCH IN RURAL INDIA.

# HIS GRACE SPEAKS...

## Communio

### The Birth of Something New!

We remember Pentecost as the coming of the Holy Spirit, the gift and the promise of the Father to us but another significant event also happened on the Feast of Pentecost – the birth of the Church. This church that we have received is the expression of God's unfailing love for us and has stood the test of time and human errors.

As a Church, we are now at the crossroads, and we have been presented with the unique opportunity to "build" something new in this post-pandemic era. Not many people get this unique opportunity and like every opportunity we may have challenges but let that not stop us from pressing on.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis challenges us often to build structures that will restore man back to the crown of creation. He urges us to create a culture of encounter and not of exclusion. Church in India is a young Church, a vibrant Church, a Church filled with zealous consecrated and lay people. I present you with this unique task this Pentecost to serve the Church with your time, talent and treasure.

Communio itself was an act of divine providence which grew very much during the pandemic era thanks to your generosity. The word of God in Zechariah 4:10 says "Never despise a small beginning". With Communio, we hope to make many small beginnings which will culminate into one tidal wave that will renew our church. I urge you all to support Communio.

You can share the beautiful one-minute Communio videos you receive on social media, you can promote Communio in your parish and even help us with fundraising for our projects. We invite you to be a 'living stone' in our humble initiative that will build up God's home in this troubled world.

I leave you with this quote from the Holy Father "there is no evangelization without self-evangelization". As Catholics, let us not neglect our own path to God. Each person's journey is unique and I urge you all to invest in your spiritual formation and bring in your undiminished fire into the Church!

**+ George Antonysamy**

Vice President, CCBI and  
Archbishop of Madras Mylapore



An idea is like a tiny seed with huge potential! Communio was born as a **humble idea** in the minds of our clergy



Communio was **inaugurated** during the 29th Plenary Assembly held in Bhopal from 31 January to 8 February, 2017



Communio **started accepting project proposals** from November 6, 2021! This is a huge milestone!



**40 Ongoing projects in India.** Communio is growing and we could not have come this far without your support!

# MISSION STORY



Corpus Christi Feast  
June 19



The Solemnity Of The  
Most Sacred Heart Of Jesus  
June 24



National Thanksgiving  
Prayer Service | CCBI  
June 24



The Immaculate Heart of  
The Blessed Virgin Mary  
June 25



Project Applications Open  
We have 40 ongoing  
projects in India, which  
helps our missionaries.  
Ready to help more



## NORTHEAST MISSIONARY NUN WINS 11TH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

A missionary Nun, **Betsy Devasia**, working in Guwahati, Assam, was conferred with 11th International Human Rights Award for her contribution to women development in the region by Delhi-based International Human Rights Council on 10 December 2021 at the India Islamic Centre Auditorium, New Delhi. Sister Betsy Devasia, born on 1 July 1947 in Kerala's Kottayam district, has been working in Northeast India for the last 30 years.

"I am not sure if I deserve this honour", said the septuagenarian Holy Cross Nun. *"Serving the people of Northeast India in various roles since 1988 and as Director of Women Development Centre (WDC), Guwahati, since 2008, has been the most rewarding experience of my life. That is an award in itself".*

**The WDC, established in the year 2000 as a millennium gift to the women in Northeast India by Archbishop Emeritus Thomas Menampampil, has been catering to the women from rural areas of the region with slew of initiatives to empower them to take their lives forward.**

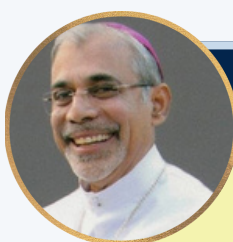
One of the major activities of WDC is educating school dropped out tribal girls to complete their schooling through National Open School. Started with five students in 2005, more than 500 tribal girls from Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram and Assam have completed their secondary education. The current batch has 65 students.

Accepting the award, Sister Devasia said, *"My award is to be able to see the lives of these underprivileged children change completely. The underconfident girls who through our educational portals are never the same. They leave our campus with confidence and courage to face the world to make positive contribution to make it a better place to live in".*

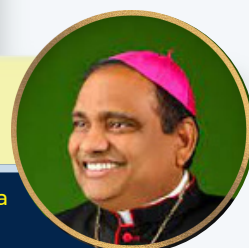
"That these girls are well placed in life is my award" - Sister Devasia.

### CCBI News

Q Cardinal elect



Archbishop Filipe Neri Ferrão  
Archbishop of Goa and Daman,  
President of the CCBI.

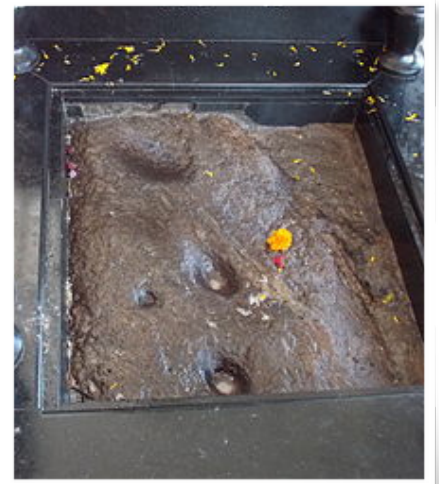


Archbishop Anthony Poola  
Archbishop of Hyderabad.

**On 29th May 2022 Pope Francis announced 2 new Cardinals from India and they will be elevated as CARDINAL on Saturday, 27 August 2022.**



# VIRTUAL TOUR ...



## Tomb of **St. Devasahayam.**

### St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Kottar

The National Thanksgiving Prayer Service from the tomb of St. Devasahayam will be held on Friday, the **24 June 2022**, Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, from **8.30 pm to 9.30 pm**, during which we shall **consecrate all our families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**. This special Prayer Service with a Eucharistic Benediction will be telecast on Catholic satellite television channels like Madha TV, Shalom TV, Goodness TV, Shekinah TV, Divyavani TV, Atmadarshan TV, Ishvani TV, CCR TV and Prarthana Bhawan TV; it will also be streamed through leading Catholic YouTube channels. All families will be consecrated to the most sacred heart of Jesus, requesting all our families to participate in it and to renew their consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



#### **MULTI-LINGUAL VIDEOS**

Mission/Saint videos in 12 Indian languages. To receive them in your preferred language contact us:  
**+91 9901033435**



#### **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION** JUNE 2022 | FAMILIES

For families around the world; may each and every family embody and experience unconditional love, and advance in holiness in their daily lives



# COMMUNIO PROJECT

## CONSTRUCTION OF ST. JOHN CHURCH.

New Vongti Village, Kiphire Dist. Nagaland  
Diocese of Kohima



In the Naga village set up, the Church is a physical symbol of the presence of faith and the rallying point for the community to grow in spirit and faith. The construction of a Church in this village is long overdue. **even after 20 years of their Catholic life, they are not able to have a decent place for worship and gathering. A good church would give them an identity and sense of pride and fulfillment as Catholics.**



**EXISTING CHURCH IN NEW VONGTI VILLAGE, KOHIMA**

### TO ASSIST COMMUNIO:

Account Name: CCBI, Communio India  
Bank Account Number: 0231053000025877  
IFSC/NEFT Code: SIBL0000231  
Name of the Bank: The South India Bank Ltd,  
M. S. Nagar Branch, Bangalore. [www.communio.in](http://www.communio.in)



# COMMUNIO ASST DIRECTOR...



## Fr. G Vignan Das

I come from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh, India. We have been Roman Catholics for the past three generations. At home I have my mother, elder sister and a younger brother. My father, Mr. Devasahayam, passed away in 2015 – he was a righteous man, who preferred living his Christian faith by helping people – he was a Trade Union leader. My mother Mrs. Jhansi Rani is a pious woman, who even though had a protestant upbringing, after marriage started living the Catholic faith. She taught us the importance of personal prayer and Holy Eucharist



Favorite Saint: St. Jerome

## My Vocation Story

My mother gave birth to first male child in 1978-79 and he died immediately after birth, after that God blessed my parents with girl child, my elder sister. Later God heard prayers of my parents and I was born (30 Oct 1982) and my dad gave the name Vignan Das, as he decided for his first born male child. As first born male child of my parents died immediately after birth, when I was born my grandmother (mother's mother – Kandru Karunamma) took me to church and offered / presented me to God according to the tradition / custom of that village (Nidamaru, 20 Kms from Vijayawada) and after presenting me to God; she bought me back by paying some money to the church and gave to my parents. (Like Example: Luke 2:22-24, Ex 13:2, 1 Sam 1:24-28, Num 3:47-48 etc.). I feel, this presentation of mine to God turned to be lifelong commitment to God through Church, as Priest.

## How can a young person support Communio?

Young people have lot of energy, they are fully loaded with creativity, if they are convinced of their mission, they can support the mission of the Church, which we can not even imagine. Young people can reach to the places & situations where clergy and religious can't reach. They can communicate better to the world in the language, terminology which people can easily be convinced. Few possibilities I foresee for a young person to support Communio is by volunteering himself/herself by sharing their talents, time and also taking a commitment for physical presence by taking short/long term missions to spread the kingdom of God in this country, mostly importantly by praying for missions, following example of St. Theresa of Lisieux, Patroness of Missionaries, by doing small things with great love.

<https://linktr.ee/communioIndia>



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To Stay tuned with latest updates scan code & follow our website & social media handles!



#assisttheruralchurch #communio #ccbi



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