

# THE GIFT



**“Every child comes with the message that God is not discouraged of Man”-Tagore**

I am the best gift God could give to my Parents and the world! He molded me in His own image and put His spirit within me so that I may walk His ways. He had just one purpose for having placed me in this beautiful common home- to make it a better place for all his children and the living creatures.

In order to achieve this end, he has given me many beautiful 'Gifts'. Often we take these Gifts for granted without realizing their true value and the great benevolence of the Giver of these 'Gifts'!

This year's Calendar titled 'The Gift' features a few of these prominent 'gifts' from Feb'22- to Dec'22. We are fortunate to have a 'Father' who in His wisdom and bounty provides these and numerous other Gifts day after day throughout our lives. We cannot imagine a life without these Gifts!

Though we owe so much to each of these fleeting gifts for their inherent beauty and blessings, it is to Him, the source of all the Gifts that we owe our thanksgiving and praises now and forever! As our Creator and Sustainer, He is the supreme 'Gift' to humanity, the greatest of all 'Gifts'. The month of January is dedicated to Him as He gives us yet another year with 365 days packed with millions of 'time-droplets' to celebrate them in harmony with the whole creation.

“Life is a precious gift from God! Value and live it to the fullest, becoming all things to all men and women so that we become a **'Gift outright' to Him**”.



**MONTFORT COMMUNITY TRIBAL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

***20 years of committed service to the tribals***



- 2000 - Discovery and insertion of the mission area in the tribal belt of Maramangalam, Yercaud.
- 2001- Humble beginning of the community center and the community school with 7 students.
- 2003 - Recognition of the school by the Government of Tamil Nadu upto std. V - Elevated as high school in the year 2004 and upgraded as higher secondary in 2007. The first batch of students appear for +2 exam.
- After 20 years of struggle and perseverance, today the school has a strength of 854 tribal students with 234 boarders and 60 committed teaching and non-teaching staff members. Coupled with good academic and curricular activities, our tribal students are performing exceptionally well in sports and games. We have already produced four National athletes. The NCC, NSS, Scouts and Guides along with Bulbuls and Cubs have brought accolades to the school.
- Our intervention is slowly and steadily bearing much fruits. A society that has been isolated and sidelined is waking up to join the mainstream of life with hope and enthusiasm. We are ever grateful to our Benefactors, Brothers of the Province, the Govt. of Tamil Nadu and all our well-wishers and friends.

**You are welcome to**

*A land where the stars never cease to shine,  
where the heaven stoops down to touch the earth,  
to see for yourselves God's own children at work and play.*





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**JANUARY 2022**

### My Creator, My Sustainer

Nobody has seen Him face to face in His magnificence and glory.  
From the beginning all the efforts by the virtuous  
and seekers of truth to describe, situate and define His nature  
was a failure leading to the creation of Religions and cults.  
Some pointed to the stars, others to the mountains, rivers and seas...  
And finally we found an answer in the **"incarnated one"**  
who showed us the path to His Father, the Almighty-  
the Creator who continues to sustain us.  
He cannot be fathomed with our little knowledge and understanding-  
He is everything except that which we think He is!  
My **'being'** and my **'life'** is a **'gift'** from Him-

not only me, but every child that comes to this world  
is the continuation of His wondrous act of Creation.  
The richness and the wealth He has put into me is immeasurable.  
I am the most beautiful handwork of the eternal Architect  
I owe everything to Him!  
He loved me and had drawn a marvelous plan of life  
even before He formed me in my mother's womb!  
Nothing happens to me without His knowledge-  
but He respects my freedom of thought and actions.  
In time, He has planted me in His most beautiful garden  
to take root, grow and to produce fruits worth adorning His eternal feet.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31 Birth of St. Montfort St. John Bosco					1 New Year Day Mary Mother of God
2 Epiphany of the Lord	3 The Holy Name of Jesus	4	5	6	7	8
9 Baptism of the Lord	10	11	12	13 Pongal	14 St. Devasahayam	15 Thiruvalluvar Day
16 Uzhavar Thirunaal	17 St. Anthony of Egypt Our Lady, Queen of Peace	18 Thaipusam	19	20 St. Sebastian	21 St. Agnes	22
23	24 St. Francis de Sales	25 The Conversion of St. Paul	26 73 <sup>rd</sup> Republic Day St. Timothy & St. Titus, Apostles	27 St. Angela Merici	28 St. Thomas Aquinas	29
Su M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su
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FEBRUARY 2022	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28					

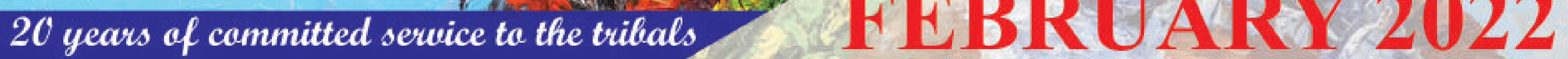


**MONTFORT COMMUNITY HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

KURAVANKADU, KOMBUTHOOKI PO, YERCAUD TK, SALEM DT - 636601. E-mail: comschoolyercaud@gmail.com







to be born of my mother yet again, if ever there is a re-birth!

KURAVANKADU, KOMBUTHOOKI PO, YERCAUD TK, SALEM DT - 636601. E-mail: [comschoolyercaud@gmail.com](mailto:comschoolyercaud@gmail.com)













20 years of committed service to the tribals

**MARCH 2022**

## My Father, My Strength

My father was the strongest man  
I had come across in my childhood days-  
I could jump over his shoulders and pull his ears...  
Always patient, but concerned most  
showing little love externally,  
all his emotions buried deep within.  
I have never seen him cry or shed tears...  
but I know how much he has endured  
for his children and the family.  
Firm and strict, but at the end,  
he did what was best for you!

Responsibility was synonymous with my Dad's name  
He would go to any extent, pleading and bending  
to get his children admitted to good schools,  
colleges and other centers of higher education.  
He emptied his purses in order to place us  
in bright tracks of life without counting the cost.  
All these and more was not for any gratification from us  
as we grow up or when he is old and bed ridden  
with ill health, looking constantly for supporting hands.  
My 'father', an earthly replica of my 'Father' in heaven,  
whom we have not seen except through my 'dad' on earth!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		மாசி 17  <b>1</b> Mahashivaratri St. David	 <b>2</b> Ash Wednesday	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> St. Casimir	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> First Sunday of Lent	<b>7</b> Sts. Perpetua and Felicity	Women's Day  <b>8</b> St. John of God	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	மாசி 30 <b>14</b> St. Matilda	பங்குனி 1 <b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> St. Patrick	<b>18</b> St. Cyril of Jerusalem	 <b>19</b> St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	 <b>22</b> World Water Day	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	 <b>25</b> Annunciation of the Lord	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	பங்குனி 17 <b>31</b>		
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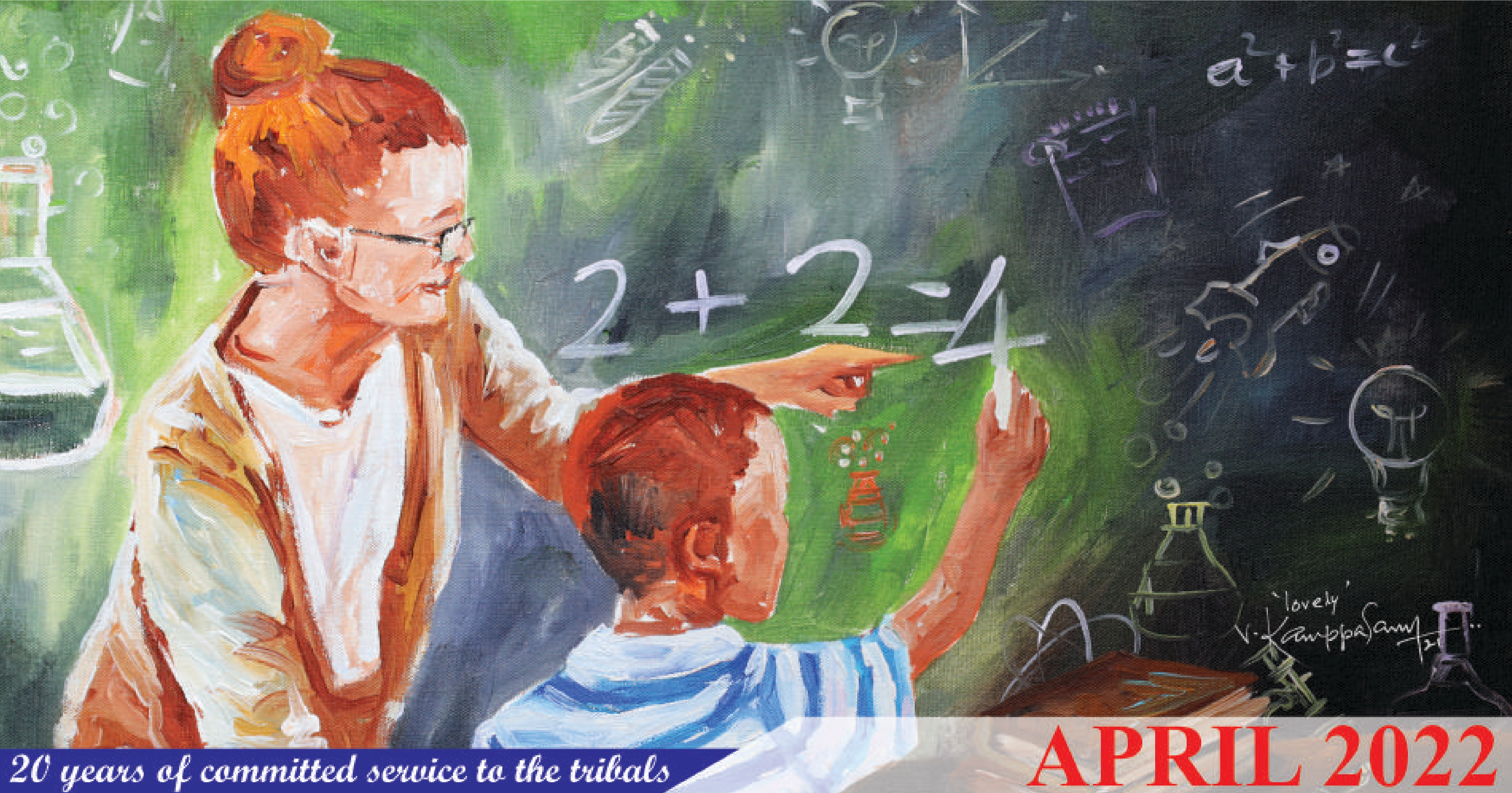


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20 years of committed service to the tribals

**APRIL 2022**

## My Teachers, Guides and Students

Matha, Pitha, Guru, Theivam (Mother, Father, Teacher and God)  
a famous Tamil dictum highlights the hierarchy  
of those to whom we owe our lives.  
If we reverse the order, teachers are only next to God!  
And they shall remain so, forever with a wider significance.  
In spite of the latest trends and use of advanced technology such as  
'online digital classes, robotic teaching and paperless classrooms',  
a good and committed teacher in flesh and blood cannot be replaced!  
Though my parents were my first teachers,  
my teachers from nursery to higher education classes  
continue to accompany me visibly or invisibly

to my grave along with all my genuine guides.  
Even if we lose God, teachers will help find Him!  
Like the great 'Teacher', they continue to guide perpetually  
the destinies of the world, even from their ash heaps.  
When I re-read those lessons taught and infused by my past teachers,  
they appear again before me, never to be wiped from my inward eye!  
They all await my arrival up there, eager to know, how I have traded with  
and multiplied my talents built up in the classrooms.  
My students too taught me many-a-lessons without lectures and books.  
They continue to inspire me brimming with reverence and gratitude  
striving to live the values picked up beyond the lessons and classrooms.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Uruguli 18 <b>1</b>	Telugu New Year  <b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> St. Vincent Ferrer	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> St. John Baptist de la Salle	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
 <b>10</b> Palm Sunday	<b>11</b> St. Stanislaus	<b>12</b>	Uruguli 30 Kannada New Year <b>13</b>	Ajappa 1 Mahavir Jayanthi Tamil New Year <b>14</b> Holy Thursday Dr. Ambedkar Jayanthi	 <b>15</b> Vishu	<b>16</b> Holy Saturday
 <b>17</b> Easter Sunday	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> St. Anselm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> St. George
<b>24</b> The Feast of Divine Mercy	<b>25</b> St. Mark the Evangelist	<b>26</b> Our Lady of Good Counsel	<b>27</b>	 <b>28</b> St. Peter Chanel (Priest) & St. Louis Grignon de Montfort	<b>29</b> St. Catherine of Siena	Ajappa 17 <b>30</b>
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**MAY 2022**

## My Sisters

Elder or younger, I am never complete without my sisters...  
They are entwined with invisible chords of love and care,  
Not visible to the naked eye  
but can never be concealed even before the blind!  
The elder ones cuddled and carried me around on their hips as a babe,  
while the reverse was true of the younger ones.  
Their love and bond is extraordinary, next only to that of my mother.  
As my mum got older and sick,  
my sisters gradually took her place.  
They went out of the way to care for me  
and to keep me happy and smiling...

They would mend my torn outfits, polish the shoes and wash the clothes-  
When in dire need with an empty purse,  
they provide me enough and more squeezing their purses.  
They found joy in giving rather than receiving.  
The question "Who will cry when you die?"  
is nearly answered by our sisters.  
Funerals of persons who were single are devoid of tears and sobbings...  
if there are any, it will be from our sisters!  
You will always find a place in their homes and in their hearts.  
Blessed are they who have sisters  
to love and care until the end of their days.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <b>1</b> May Day, St. Joseph, the worker	<b>2</b>	 <b>3</b> Ramzan St. Philip & St. James, Apostles	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> St. Angelo	<b>6</b> St. Dominic Savio	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> St. Damien of Molokai	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	 <b>13</b> Our Lady of Fatima	 <b>14</b> St. Matthias, the Apostle
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> St. Bernardine of Siena	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	 <b>24</b> Our Lady of the way Mary the Help of Christians	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> St. Philip Neri	<b>27</b> St. Augustine of Canterbury	<b>28</b>
 <b>29</b> Ascension of the Lord	<b>30</b> St. Joan of Arc	 <b>31</b> Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary				
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**JUNE 2022**

### My brothers

Unlike my sisters, they would never cry for me in the open  
but will walk long distances-  
to push me ahead of them in life!

My elder ones accompanied me to School,  
the Church, shops, the hospital and all over.

Even while enjoying a dive in a little pond or the river,  
they would follow with extreme care and caution.

My brothers sacrificed their time and energy for my welfare  
with no regrets they shared with me generously  
even the sweets and little eats!

The younger ones often fought for their supremacy-

constantly wanting the best of everything.

As they grew up, they were equally concerned  
about me like my elder ones!

When my parents grew older and became weary,  
my elder brothers limped behind them  
but the younger ones continued to stand by me,  
like a rock supporting in every way!

Achievements, celebrations, accolades or ill health,  
it is my brothers who make me feel **I am not alone!**

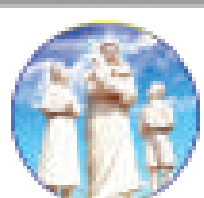
In this world of uncertainties,  
they will certainly be with me always!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 St. Justin	2	3	4
5 Pentecost Sunday	6 The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	7	8	9	10	11 St. Barnabas the Apostle
12 Holy Trinity	13 St. Anthony of Padua	14	15	16	17	18
19 The body and blood of Christ	20	21 St. Aloysius Gonzaga	22 St. Thomas More	23	24 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	25 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
26	27 St. Cyril of Alexandria	28 St. Irenaeus	29 St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles	30 First Martyrs of the Church of Rome		
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**JULY 2022**

### Earth, Nature and Space

Man has not yet succeeded to define the limits of space  
nor account for its composition and the matter it contains.  
Our Mother Earth is just a 'dot' in the ever expanding heavens,  
the seat of our Father we address often unaware of its vast dimensions.  
Space and Nature hold numerous mysteries, yet to be revealed by Him.  
All the physical laws that govern our lives on Earth  
are embedded in the bosom of the Universe.  
The Earth, our common home has been much abused by the stewards  
to whom it has been handed over for preservation and growth.  
For that sage from Assisi, the green Planet was his beloved 'mother'  
and the Sun and Moon his siblings!

He evolved an integrated way of life, striving to lead the creation back to the creator!  
Call it 'Eco spirituality or integrity of creation',  
the earth is gasping with pollution and climate changes  
with very few leaders of the world ready for decisions  
that would protect our only common home and the space around us.  
With alarmingly decreasing oxygen levels,  
the inhabitants and all the living creatures along with the flora  
are being choked with increasing carbon emission!  
'Now' is the opportune time for a positive decision and to act!  
It is for us to choose to die or to live by mending the holes in ozone layers,  
saving the forests and fighting the climate changes with zero emission!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																										
31 St. Ignatius of Loyola					1 17	2																										
3 St. Thomas, the Apostle	4	5 St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria	6 St. Maria Goretti	7	8	9																										
10 Bakrid	11 St. Benedict	12	13 St. Henry	14	15 St. Bonaventure	16 32 Our Lady of Mount Carmel																										
17 1	18 St. Frederick	19	20	21	22 St. Mary Magdalene	23																										
24	25 St. James, the Apostle	26 St. Joachim & St. Anne	27	28 St. Alphonsa	29 St. Martha	30																										
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M										
JUNE			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
AUGUST	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	



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**AUGUST 2022**

## Doctors and Messengers of Wellness

If parents were the instruments in His hands  
to bring me forth in flesh and blood,  
it is the doctors, nurses and health workers  
who keep me healthy, active and kicking.  
They kept track of all the maladies I was subjected to,  
from my conception and birth.  
They continue to do so with patience and dedication  
until I return to His bosom.  
A little cold or a pain due to some imbalance in my body or mind,  
an abnormal growth or a dreaded viral attack,  
it is the doctors and medical workers

who venture to combat them with great success, risking their own lives!  
Pandemic or epidemic, they sacrifice much  
forgetting their families and leisure of life.  
A honest physician of body and mind  
heals the world by patience and deep concern for the sick  
coupled with his/her knowledge of medical findings.  
Committed wellness messengers of the Almighty  
do not sleep nor slumber whenever there is a cry for help.  
They have healed us mostly by their positive approach and concern  
rather than the chemistry of medicines administered.  
May the generations of these healing warriors perpetuate forever!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori	2	3	4 St. John Vianney	5 Dedi. of Basilica of St. Mary Major	6 The Transfiguration of the Lord
7	8 St. Dominic	9 Muharram	10 St. Lawrence	11 St. Clare	12	13
14 St. Maximilian Kolbe	15 Independence Day Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	16 31	17 1	18	19 Krishna Jayanthi St. John Eudes	20
21	22 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	23 St. Rose of Lima	24 St. Bartholomew, the Apostle	25	26	27 St. Monica
28 St. Augustine of Hippo	29 Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist	30 St. Euphrasia	31 Ganesh Chaturthi			
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SEPTEMBER	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					



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the i-pad and i-pod along with the laptop to which we are stuck day and night. If I go beyond the solar system, or to the depth of the blue, they are there with Him on a constant discovery mission! The diseases and pandemic caused by bats, rats, flies and aves along with micro-organisms did get checkmated by these little gods designated by Him, the Eternal Healer. The numerous discoveries and insights made to combat COVID-19 and similar deadly diseases is the best evidence for the same. Economists, poets and writers along with explorers and true leaders of people and Nations have also made this world a better place to live for you and me!







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**OCTOBER 2022**

### Friends and those who walk with Me

Good and faithful friends are our own shadows!  
They are strong pillars at the time of crisis and ghastly winds of life.  
Siblings and kins are by blood but my friends are by heart.  
Friends came into my life from the neighborhood  
even before I entered the classrooms for formal learning!  
Attracted by childhood fascination, they all grew up with me.  
Gladly most of them took divergent paths to ascend,  
while a few others faded away into the oblivion.  
In time, new equations of friendship and contacts emerged fast  
but some of them turned out to be black angels by their own choice!  
Today, my psalms and songs are only for those who are strongly bonded

and continue to stand by me with their unconditional love and support.  
Many-a-times they held me back with care  
from the Labyrinthine ways and led me in wisdom paths  
that were challenging but straight and honest.  
Their touch of love and gift of oneness  
mixed with the pleasure of their consoling company  
helped me to work and reach greater heights in life.  
They held me close to their hearts and walked many distant and extra miles  
with a sense of direction in moments of distress and sorrow.  
As time and circumstances gradually distance me from them,  
I await their return and reunion in His presence!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																							
30	31					1																							
Gandhi Jayanthi  2 Guardian Angels	3	Ayudha Pooja, Saraswathi Pooja  4 St.Francis of Assisi	Vijayadashami 5 St.Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament	6	7 Our Lady of Rosary	8																							
Eid-e-milad  9	10	11 St.John XXIII	12 Our Lady of Pillar	13	14	15 St.Teresa of Avila																							
16	17 St.Ignatius of Antioch	18 St.Luke, the Evangelist	19	20 St.Paul of the Cross	21	22 St. Pope John Paul II																							
23 Mission Sunday	24 Diwali  St.Anthony Mary Claret	25	26	27	28 St.Simon & St.Jude, Apostles	29																							
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SEPTEMBER	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30																												
NOVEMBER	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30																												



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**NOVEMBER 2022**

### *Saints in Heaven and Saints on Earth*

God's faithful ones surrounding Him are busy day and night  
constantly under request and supplications from mortals below.  
Thousands of shrines all over the world  
perpetually evoke His Mother  
and all those who walked His ways.  
Their intercessions and pleading bring down in abundance  
His perpetual blessings for cure of body and soul.  
I have been a great beneficiary of so many of these close friends  
and beloved of the Almighty.  
These little gods had transcended  
religion, race, sex and worldly realities.

Men and women who chose to live by their inner voice  
and walking a path of holiness  
continue to be born amidst us  
to contain and annihilate the evil in the world.  
We can see around us the footprints of these friends of God  
always speaking in His voice and treading His path  
to serve the least of His children without counting the cost.  
I have had the joy of encountering and living with some of them!  
In their company, you feel that you are walking with God!  
They challenge you to be more humane on earth  
before booking a slot in Heaven!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 All Saints Day	2 All souls Day	3 St. Martin de Porres	4 St. Charles Borromeo	5
6	7 Mary, Mother & Mediatrix of grace	8	9 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	10 St. Leo the Great	11 St. Martin of Tours	12 St. Josaphat
13	14 Childrens Day	15	16 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	17 St. Andrew the Apostle	18 Dedication of the church of Sts. Peter & Paul	19
20 Christ the King	21 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	22 St. Cecilia	23	24	25 St. Catherine of Alexandria	26
27 First Sunday of Advent	28	29	30 St. Andrew, the Apostle			

	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M
OCTOBER							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
DECEMBER					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		



**MONTFORT COMMUNITY HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

KURAVANKADU, KOMBUTHOOKI PO, YERCAUD TK, SALEM DT - 636601. E-mail: comschoolyercaud@gmail.com







20 years of committed service to the tribals

DECEMBER 2022

## The Challengers of Life

From the moment I was conceived, life was a challenge...

There were numerous men and women  
who continued to challenge me throughout my life.

Some positively and others negatively...

Shall I call the negatives ones as hostile? Oh, no!

If some of them feel so, it is their problem.

Inspite of my immediate 'not so positive' human responses,

they were powerful Masters and Guides

who taught me much with their wisdom of ignorance!

They brought out the best in me

by being obstacles and rocks helping to play

the varying tunes of gratitude to my Master,

who placed them on my path of flow.

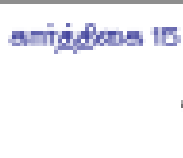



Looking back, I understand why there is evil  
in this world until the end of time!

Often we call the critics and perpetrators of evil as wicked  
and attribute to them the misfortunes and thorns of life.

But they are the hidden secrets of our growth-  
though seldom aware of the good they were doing!

Thanks to all my challengers for strengthening me  
and making me taller with their words and deeds.

I wish that they too had grown with me.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				 1	2	3 St. Francis Xavier
4	5	6 St. Nicholas	7 St. Ambrose	 8 The Immaculate Conception	9	10
11	 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe	13 St. Lucy	14 St. John of the Cross	15	16	17
18 World Migrants Day	19	20	21 St. Peter Canisius	22	23	24
 25 Christmas	26 St. Stephen	27 St. John, the Apostle	28 Holy Innocents	29 St. Thomas Becket	30 Holy Family	31 St. Sylvester
Su M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su	M T W Th F Sa Su
NOVEMBER	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					
JANUARY-23	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					



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