

Vol:II.01 ... OCT 24

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- **MGA Montfortian Rosary**

Highlights!

Initiatives thru ideation process among MGAs:

Joe Pathyil 90 Happy Birthday Joe. You are 90 Joe on 4 October 24

MGA MANA Wish Joe MGA Zoom Wishes Joe on 4 Oct 24. MANA meets Joe on 5 Oct 24 Hands over Personalised Birthday Card to Joe

My Life by Joe Pathyil. It is the Musings Of A Wandering Heart that explores life as a journey, and the little treasures that we carry within ourselves in our stride towards our destination.

Felicitations Read the Birthday Wishes and Sing the Birthday Medley

Festive Mood enthralls our hearts,
Lifts our spirits in rhythmic melody
Festive Mood makes us glad

To dance with happiness

For this is Your 90th Birthday...

Joe Pathyil its your Birthday

Joe Pathyil Recalls Joe reminiscences his past and present

Torch Bearers Joe Pathyil and Br Crescentius 1952 batchmates and nonagenarians are our Lighthouse and The Evening Sky.

Visit MGA Website mgalife.org

Thespian Joe Pathyil Turns 90

Joe Pathyil born on 4 Oct 1934 celebrates his 90th Birthday

- MGAs and Brothers join in unison to sing "Happy Birthday Joe" during a Zoom Meet at 18.00 Hrs IST on 4 Oct 24
- A 12 member team of MANA (Malayalee Association of North America) visits Joe Pathyil in his home on 5 Oct 2024 and hands over a loving Birthday Card.
- Joe Pathyil Gifts his Book Guides and Fellow Travellers



Joe Pathyil - Ebullient as Ever ...

Joe Pathyil born on 4 Oct in the year 1934 in Kaipuzha. His life journey begins from 1947 when he went to Coonoor to join the Gabriellite Novitiate. Joe Pathyil continued his Journey thru Time from St. Antony's Coonoor in 1956 - from where the Spirit and Dynamism of Montfort launched him into the Montfortian Brigade in the Education Ministry expanding it to Kazipet, Warangal, Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh till 1967. Responding to the second call, his journey thru time took him to Canada where he continued his mentoring young minds to live a life in Toronto very much like Joseph in Nazareth. He became Carpenter Joe who built homes of hopes and dreams for most of his students wherever they were. He became the unifying force of migrants. He took keen interest in matters of social interest. A fine speaker, he stood tall as an event manager. Prolific in his writings, Joe Pathyil maintained a chronicle of his day to day activities even till today. His book Guides and Fellow Travellers is a unique treasure of his love for fellow beings.

MGA And MANA Meet Joe

MGA holds a Zoom Meet to Wish Joe on his Birthday 4 Oct 2024. A team of MANA visits Joe Pathyil in Toronto and hands over A specially designed Birthday Card to Joe Pathyil on 5 October, 2024

The Book "Guides and Fellow Travellers" by Joe Pathyil and Birthday Card by MGA and MANA are available in the Library of MGA Website: <https://mgalife.org>

Happy Birthday Joe

Wishes from Brothers and MGA

It will be no exaggeration to say that the entire Montfortian Family owes an immense debt of gratitude to our cherished Joe Uncle - Br John Kallarackal Former Superior General SG Hyderabad

Distance doesn't matter; Joe Uncle you touched me from afar, and touched me deeply at heart and in mind. Wilson—Chairman -MGA

I consider it a privilege to wish Joe - Bro. Joseph Louis—MCDS Chennai

I am filled with happy memories. Best wishes on your 90th Birthday. God bless you always to spend the golden years of your life happily and peacefully. " With a grateful heart - B. O. Devassy (Sebastian) – Angamaly

Jospeh Pathiyil (Uppachan) — A Legend. Best Wishes on your 90th Birthday By Cyriac Puthenpurayil from Chicago

Dear Joseph Chettan, You are truly a Role Model. Happy Birthday to You – Jose Oliyanical Chicago

Listening to Bro Patrick speaking about his uncle Joe I used to envy him and wish I had such a great uncle. Happy Birthday – Br VK George Mizoram

have never lived or seen Joseph Pathiyil but I have heard much about him as a man of knowledge and great integrity. Happy Birthday to Joseph Pathiyil - James Thadathil—Chicago

We have come to celebrate your wisdom, fullness of life and your photographic memory With lots of affection from Mathew Illikattil—New York

Let your charisma shine among us for many more years to come- Dominic Chackonal—Atlanta

The man of today, Joseph Pathiyil as he courageously takes another leap into the next decade to complete his centennial year by 2034, represents an echo of deep humanity. Happy Birthday our dearest Joseph Pathiyil – Shaju Nellikkattu New York

Joe Pathiyil treated me more than my parents would do. I am very grateful to you. Happy Birthday – Br John Berchmans – Mysoor

Dear Brother Pathiyil Happy Birthday to you – Thomas Kappen Thodupuzha

Joe Pathiyil was able to keep up the calmness and the serenity in his face even in difficult times. Invoking the blessings from the Almighty on your Birthday Joe Uncle – Thomas CI Chamakala.

A good person with deep spiritual formation, you are my hero in many ways – Sebastian Vattakunnel Australia

Festive Mood.....enthralls our hearts, Lifts our spirits in rhythmic melody...makes us glad to dance with happiness. For this is Your 90th Birthday Joe Pathiyil- God Bless – MG Jacob

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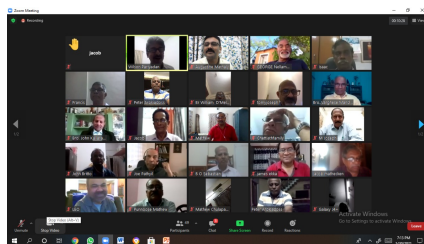
Idea.. Action

Say Yes to Action:

1. Telling Experiential Stories from Brothers and MGAs to share, care and nurture.
2. Inspiring Brothers and MGAs to bring out their talents for greater use.
3. Continuing to remain connected digitally through regular News Snippets
4. Reaching out to all MGAs scattered across countries and provinces: *Each One Bring One* for the Next MGA Zoom Meetings. *Share Joys and Sorrows* Birthdays, Anniversaries etc to greet and be greeted.
5. This issue features *Celebration of the 90th Birthday of our Senior Joe Pathiyil*
6. Jo Pathiyil narrates his experiential encounters with Two Superior Generals - Rev Br Romain Landry and Rev Br John Kallarackal
7. Rev Br John Kallarackal and Senior Brothers and MGAs felicitates Joe Pathiyil
8. This edition has a special section "Our Torch Bearers" on our Senior most thespians Joe Pathiyil and Br Crescentius both batch of 1952.
9. Visit www.mgalife.org to access all MGA info and documents.
10. Montfortian Rosary Designed by L Jeyaraj is available in the Library of MGA website.

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Zoom Wishes to Joe 4 Oct24



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Contact Information:

MGA PD Wilson
Phone +918921756856
wilsonpariyadan@gmail.com

There was informal interaction among the participants who were meeting thru Zoom after quite a long time

Quotes Inspire- For most of us Joe Pathiyil was more than a Parent

"It is easier for a father to have children than for children to have a real father." - Pope John XXIII St.Louis De Montfort

My Life - Joe Pathyil

Joe Pathyil Our Senior Most MGA reflects on his life as he turned 90 on 4, October 2024. Straight from the heart, the words echo a philosophy of life, life learnings, echoes the heartbeats of a Wandering Heart in search of Truth and one's destination. Read on in the words of Joe Pathyil and collect the Pebbles of Wisdom.

0.1 Musings of a Wandering Heart ...



Joe Pathyil ...

The great Depression had affected the whole world, including America, Europe and British India. Hitler was the chancellor of Germany. Mussolini was the dictator of Italy. Stalin was the president of the Soviet Union. Mustafa Ataturk was the president of Turkey. Mao Zedong began the long March north with 100,000 soldiers. Gandhi suspended The Civil Disobedience and resigned from National Congress. The world was slowly, but relentlessly, marching towards another war.

My mother gave birth to her tenth child. Expecting difficult birth, she went to Kottayam to be with her sister Mariamma Makil. Nothing untoward happened that her accompanying mid-wife could not handle. Mother and son returned to Kaipuzha to be baptized in the local parish church. Thus started a pedestrian life.

I was hardly ten years old when, one day, I came home from school for lunch. A wandering soothsayer mendicant was sitting on the verandah. He accosted me and stared in to my eyes. He addressed my mother and said I would go beyond the state of Travancore before long; that I would traverse the seas before I am 33; that I would live a long life.

Years later, when we visited India in 1972, my mother remembered this encounter. A war was raging globally, and the state of Travancore was in the grip of famine, and my family was spared the worst as my father knew how to manage his businesses. A short time after that encounter with the "laada guru", I fell down from a cashew tree and was breathless; my brother carried me home, and a masseur had to treat me to bring me back to good health. I was curious about how long I had to live. But I never imagined that I would last this long. Along with The Good

Lord who has protected me in spite of my unworthiness, my wife of 57 years and children are responsible for the happy life that I have lived.

Herb and Veronica Cook were our friends. We met by chance in August 1967, soon after our wedding, in Expo grounds of Montreal. Herb invited us to their elegant home in Westmount. Thus began a life-long friendship. In 1975 The Cooks invited us and a few others for dinner.

When asked what was the occasion, he said that he wanted to chat with us for one last time. Little did I know that he was suffering from incurable cancer and wanted to bid a final farewell to his friends? He died soon after.

I do not know what the future will be like. But I am glad you accepted our invitation to be present for my birthday. I am honored, humbled, and grateful that you accepted our invitation. We humans need each other. True friendship is absolutely necessary in life. I depend on certain friends for specific advice, whether it be about hearing aid, or kidney dialysis or investing. And there are others who will share their life experiences. Friends are necessary in life.

Eastern thought, whether in India, China or Japan, consider old age as a time of wisdom. Western philosophy is less charitable with old persons. Shakespeare, for instance, speaks about the seven stages of human beings. Of these the last two are:

The sixth age shifts

Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon,

With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,

His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide

For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,

Turning again toward childish treble, pipes

And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,

That ends this strange eventful history,

Is second childishness and mere oblivion,

Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

As You Like It (2.7.143-70).

King Lear is the epitome of old age: Pray, do not mock me:

I am a very foolish fond old man,

Fourscore and upward, not an hour more or less;

And, to deal plainly,

I fear I am not in my perfect mind.

King Lear (2.7.70-4)

Our curiosity about old age is insatiable. Will I be wiser or more foolish?

Would I be wealthy enough to live comfortably?

Will I have my health, or will I be bed-ridden?

Will I have my children with me?

Will I be surrounded by friends?

Will I have my faculties?

Will I be wiser? I really do not think so. I have a few more years of experience than those younger. But wisdom does not grow with age. Stubbornness increases. Wealth does not increase either. But our needs increase. If we do not plan when younger, it is too late. I think we tend to tighten our fists, and keep our money secure in old age, instead of spending it.

Health, as we all know, is uncertain. We are lucky if our children help us. My wife and I are blessed in the love and care of our children.

The most precious blessing, as I said earlier, is true friendship. We are lucky in the number and quality of your friendship: full measure, pressed down, and overflowing. Thank you for that.

Each one of us must accept life as it is dealt for us by Providence. Whatever must be, will be.

*I believe in God, the father Almighty, and I emphasize the word “**Father**”, in the forgiveness of sins, and life everlasting. The God whom I worship is full of mercy and will be compassionate. I believe in a life hereafter. - Joe Pathyil*

Let Us Celebrate . . .

0.2 Festive Mood - You Are 90 Joe!

(Main Chorus Festive Mood...)

This Welcome Medley is a composition inspired from the Novella The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry published 80 years Ago. The Prince comes from a very small planet...The prince travels to a series of asteroids... The main theme of the fable is expressed in the secret that the fox tells the little prince: “It is only with the heart that one can see rightly: what is essential is invisible to the eye.” This is the theme of this Welcome Medley “Festive Mood. . . . You are 90 Joe” with the metaphors from the Little Prince. And Joe Pathyil landed on this planet Earth 90 years ago on Oct 4, 1934 like the Little Prince and remains young as ever

Part A – Main Chorus

Festive Mood enthralls our hearts,
Lifts our spirits in rhythmic melody
Festive Mood makes us glad
To dance with happiness
For this is Your 90th Birthday...
Joe Pathyil its your Birthday
Festive Mood ...enthralls our hearts
Lifts our spirits in rhythmic melody

PART B Stanza By Group 1 & 2

Group 1)

If you love this flower - Joe is this flower
Flower that became 90 - Joe is this flower
Flower of love and service - Joe is this flower
And the star is goodness - And the star is goodness

Group 2)

If you love this flower that shines on a star
It is sweet and sweet to gaze at the sky
At night, at night, at night
All the stars are abloom with this Flower
All the stars are abloom with this Flower

Group 1)

If you love this spirit - Spirit of love and laughter
Spirit of love and gaiety - Spirit of love and laughter
Spirit that lives in 1000 stars - You and I those 1000 stars
Stars that shine with laughter - You and I those 1000 stars

Group 2)

When this gaiety spreads to 1000s of stars
It is sweet and sweet to be in the sky
At night, at night, at night
You will ‘ve stars that can laugh
You will ‘ve stars that can laugh

(Main Chorus Festive Mood ...)

PART C – Welcome Chant)

Group 1)

We are grateful to our God
For the Gift that is Joe
With songs of joy with claps of praise
And prayers to protect Joe

Group 2)

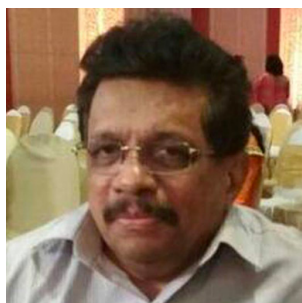
We are glad that you have come
‘tis with pleasure we welcome
With open arms – with flowers of love
And sense of gratitude

(Both Groups Together)

We wish to welcome you -
Joe’s Guides and Fellow Travellers

We wish to welcome you –
 Joe's Parents, Peers and Teachers
 We wish to welcome you –
 All our honoured Guests.
 With open arms- with flowers of love
 And sense of gratitude
 We wish to welcome you
 Our Dearest Senior Uncle Joe Pathyil –(2)
 We wish to welcome you
 Swagatham (4) Swagatham (4) – (2)

(Composed By MG Jacob Mathecken MGA Hyderabad)



MG Jacob Mathecken. . .

NOTE:

1. Can be sung or recited in groups along with choreography and visuals if needed

(optional) lyrics of stanzas can be rendered or sung in rap style along with interlude if needed to give special impact (this can be rendered in multi languages).

0.3 Joe Uncle the Power Bank of MGA

Salutation on the 90th Year of Your Sunshine Day

I am with a sort of awe feeling that I jot down these lines; inhabitant, yet compelling within, because it's YOU, dear Joe Uncle, the subject.

It's YOUR day, a wonderful day, the 4th of October, on which the history marks the 90th year of sunshine on an admirably towering personality, named Joe Pathyil. The universe had pre-arranged your visit to this planet earth on a day that is befitting your arrival, the day dedicated to a most unassuming soul, St. Francis of Assisi, his Feast day.

Distance doesn't matter; you touched me from afar, and touched me deeply at heart and in mind. It was the day you spoke to me, for the first time, just you and I, after the MGA online meet in 2020. You asked me, as the meeting was being concluded and all others were leaving the meeting, to stay on. That one to one conversation for an hour or so, between the two unknown individuals then, extends to eternity now. All credits to you alone, uncle.



PD Wilson Salutes Joe . . .

Filled with gratitude I must say that you make me comfortable, confident and encouraged; it's a feel that a powerful hand is always open to which I can run to hold for guidance and solace. That's me, love you uncle. Wilson.

PD Wilson, 4th Oct 2024.

0.4 Joe Pathyil - our Constant Beacon



Br John Kallarackal . . .

Br John Kallarackal opens up his heart of love for Joe

Dearly beloved Uncle Joe,

I deem it a privilege indeed to join your beloved family and the multitude of friends in offering you my sincere congratulations on the joyous and momentous occasion of your 90th Birthday. May your Birthday be just the beginning of a year filled with happy memories, and may you continue to be blessed with good health and happiness, peace and contentment.



Sharing the Joy . . .

I have fond and vivid memories of my first interaction with you as tiny teenager, way back in 1962, when you stood tall, not just in stature but in your virtues as my awe-inspiring Headmaster. Your storm of wisdom, your unyielding spirit was like a beacon of inspiration for us, the teenage kids.

My continued association with you, especially during the past 4 decades, has strengthened the bond, and increased my admiration for your qualities of the head and the heart. Today we celebrate not just your nonagenarian milestone but the indomitable spirit, the immense wisdom interlaced with your genuine and warm interpersonal relationship - qualities that have shaped and molded all your friends and well-wishers over the years.



Privileged to be with . . .

With my long association with you, with the fond memories of your occasional visits to India, and the privilege I had to experience your hospitality whenever I visited you and your beloved family in Toronto, I feel confident to say, that the description of a successful man by Robert Louis Stevenson fit you well: *“That man is a success, who has lived well, laughed often and loved much; who has gained the admiration of great people and the love of innocent children; who has left the world better than he found it. His memory is a benediction”*.

It will be no exaggeration to say that the entire Montfortian Family owes an immense debt of gratitude to our cherished Joe Uncle. Your earnest efforts have nurtured this family, and one could effortlessly observe the robust bonds that now exist, notably stronger than before. Your encouraging words and your life's works continue to resonate among us, serving as a constant beacon, guiding us to live purposefully and foster the virtue of brotherhood in society.

As we celebrate the 90th year of your incredible journey, we also honor and cherish the steadfast flame you have lit in all our lives. Happy Birthday, beloved Joe Uncle! May this day bring you all the blessings of God's endless peace and boundless joy.

Br. John Kallarackal, SG Hyderabad

0.5 Celebrate The Marvels God Has Worked on Joe

CONGRATULATIONS to Joe Pathiyil for reaching 90+.

It is full life with 10 years to celebrate the marvels God has worked in him.

May the unique PARADIGM of 90+ world unfold with intrinsic joy and international vistas as being experienced in the celebrations.

The SIGNICONTEXT is beyond human grasp and articulation. May the smile of Joe Pathiyil be immortalized to transcend time and space.

May the spiritual inheritance of Montfortian life manifest its fullness as stars on the crown of 90s that will blossom during the next 10 years.

Br Mani Mekkunel

0.6 Let your Smile Shine

Message from Antony Moreli—Lucknow

Wishing Joe Pathiyil a joyous 90th Birthday.

May this special day be filled with love, laughter and celebration.

Great to remember your ever smiling face.

Let your Smile Shine Dearest Joe pathyil

Antony Moreli, Lucknow, UP, India

0.7 Guardian Angel of MCDS

A Tribute by Bro. Joseph Louis—MCDS Chennai.

Br. Eugenis was my Head Master when I joined St. Antony's, Coonoor in 1957 till I passed out in 1960. He was a towering personality with a height of 6 feet or more. He was my English Teacher in addition to Head Master. I had the credit of scoring the highest mark in English in SSLC.

MCDS (Montfort Community Development Society) started by Bro. Gerard Patrick, the nephew of Joe Pathiyil in 1996, was initially supported by Joe Pathiyil through The Cardinal Leger Foundation, Canada for more than 10 years. Joe Pathiyil, thus becomes the Angel Guardian of MCDS having nurtured it to reach the level of sustainability.

After the untimely demise of Bro. Gerard Patrick, the Congregation has decided to take over the management of MCDS and the mantle of continuing this noble work has been entrusted to me and continued to be so for the last 10 years.

As the present head of the organization and his past pupil, I consider it a privilege to wish Joe, A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY and hope to join the celebrations after 10 years, when he hits a century.

I am extremely impressed to know that as Ex-Montfortians you are assembling at his home to honor him.

Bro. Joseph Louis - MCDS Chennai, Tamilnadu, India

0.8 With A Grateful Heart

Birthday Greetings from B. O. Devassy (Sebastian) - Angamali

Looking back to those happy days in St. Anthony's Coonoor, I am filled with happy memories.

" You were my Head Master and English teacher. You were one of those who had inculcated the basic knowledge and to love English. Till date, I continue to be an English teacher.

Thank you Brother.

My prayers and best wishes on your 90th Birthday. God bless you always to spend the golden years of your life happily and peacefully. " With a grateful heart".

0.9 Joe Pathyil - A Legend

A Tribute to Josphe Pathiyil (Uppachan) — A Legend By CYRIAC Puthenpurayil from Chicago

Joseph Pathiyil was born on Oct 4 th , 1934, in Kaipuzha to Pathyil family to Abraham and Naithy Pathyil. In 1947, at the age of 13, he joined the juniorate in Coonoor, Tamil Nadu for his high school education.

In 1950, he joined the Novitiate with the intention to become a Montfort brother. After two years of religious training he took his religious vows and assumed the name "Bro. Euginius". He then was sent to Loyola College for 4 years of education to get his Bachelors Degree and later took Bachelor of Education Teacher's Training course from Palayamlottah College in Tamil Nadu.

At the age of 23, he was appointed as the Head Master of St. Antony's High School in Coonoor. He was well respected and known as a resourceful person. He was also a strict disciplinarian.

In 1962, he was transferred to St. Gabriel High School in Kazipet. in the state of Andhra Pradesh (now Telangana) as the principal of that school. In 1962, he was also invited to Europe, to spend time in studies and recollection.

In 1967, after an internal struggle, he decided to leave the congregation. In 1967, he came to Canada and married Josphine who was a military nurse. They have two boys named Frank and Vincent.

He was involved in the education system of Canada and held many prestigious positions. He was also involved in the Knanaya Community and served as the Chairman of the KCCNA (Knanaya Catholic Congress of North America) for the Convention in Toronto Canada. He is a person of great character and integrity.

We wish him a Happy 90 th Birthday.

0.10 You Are Our Role Model

From JOSE OLIYANICKAL—CHICAGO

Dear Joesph Chettan!

You are truly a Role Model for all of us. Your leadership quality is well appreciated by all at large. There is a lot to learn from you.

I am sure your training during early years of life helped you to become what you are today.

Happy Birthday Greetings to You. May the Almighty God keep you healthy and well for years to come.

Jose Oliyanickal- Chicago

0.11 Tribute from Mizoram Via Chennai

Here is a Tribute from Bro. V K George and from a most unlikely place - Mizoram and from one who has not seen Joe Uncle!

I am so glad to know that you Montfort Associates of North America is going to Celebrate the 90th Birthday of legend Joseph Pathyil who was known as Eugenius in our congregation.

I know him only through Bro Patrick. Bro Patrick had great love and respect for Mr. Joseph and considered him as a role model for him.

Listening to Bro Patrick speaking about his uncle I used to envy him and wish I had such a great uncle. He used to speak about him often and used to tell me that Mr. Joseph was a great motivation force in his work with the disabled children.

I join you all with my congratulations to Joe Pathyil. I know that Bro Patrick will be joining in the celebration from heaven.

I also wish All the best for the event and congratulations to you MANA and MGA for taking the initiative to make it a memorable one. Kindly give my greetings to all our Montfortians. Many of you are known to me and I keep you all in my heart and prayers. Love Bro VK George.

0.12 A Philanthropist

Wishes From James Thadathil—Chicago.

I have never lived or seen Joseph Pathyil but I have heard much about him as a man of knowledge and great integrity. I understand he did an outstanding contribution to the Ontario KCCNA Convention as the Chairman.

The opinion of people who know him make me to believe that he is gifted with organizational abilities, leadership qualities and Pathyil is a philanthropist with a heart of gold to give back to the community.

I am glad to be part of this 90th Birthday organized by Montfortian Associates of North America (MANA).

Happy Birthday to You Joseph Pathiyil.

0.13 A Joy to Celebrate

With lots of affection from Mathew Illikattil—New York
HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY TO YOU BRO. JOSEPH PATHYIL
We have come to celebrate your wisdom, fullness of life
and your photographic memory.

You are a walking history book about the evolution of
our congregation from the days of St. Montfort through
the centuries, from the French renaissance to the days of
Voltaire, to the French Revolution to the French mission-
ary movement to India, to days of Bro Eliezer and your
days in Madras Loyola.

You saw our congregation multiplying in so many ways in
India. We are so lucky to have known you. We are lucky
to come from far away places and be with you on this
historical special day. Happy birthday.

0.14 Let Your Charisma Shine

From Dominic Chackonal—Atlanta.

A very happy Birthday to you dear Joseph Pathiyil, whom
I admire and consider as a role model in my life. I am so
happy to be with you on this day, along with my Montfor-
tian Associates from North America (MANA).

I have heard of you from Brothers like Dominic Savio,
Bro Patrick, and Bro. Oliver with whom I lived. From
them I understand that you are a great noble personality
with wisdom and intelligence. You were appointed as the
Principal of a school, at a very young age, proving your
talents and abilities as an administrator.

After coming to America, We talked over phone few times
and our bond grew. Your role is significant in forming the
Montfort Global Associates (MGA) expressing your love
for the Montfortian roots. Let your charisma shine among
us for many more years to come.

0.15 Joe - An Echo of Deep Humanity

Tribute from SHAJU NELLIKATTU—New York.

The man of today, Joseph Pathyil as he courageously takes
another leap into the next decade to complete his centen-
nial year by 2034, represents an echo of deep humanity.

We believe that this celebration with his friends from dif-
ferent places in North America sets a prelude to a major
milestone yet to be celebrated.

After joining the Monfort Brothers of St. Gabriel in 1947,
Joe made impressive strides both as a missionary and a
visionary. Through the years in Madras Loyola, Coonoor,
Kazipet, and several other places as student, teacher, head-
master, and administrator, he has earned several accolades
to his legacy.

Personally as a witness I remember very well in 1985 how
Joe directed a church full of mourners and students the
solemn funeral service of Fr. Philip Cherukara.

Joe's unparalleled gift as a vivid historian, philoso-
pher, great storyteller, charismatic leader, a music lover,
sportsman, and a great orator with razor sharp memory,
is part of the art of life that is ever growing and contin-
ues to evolve even at this age. While his service to the
communities of Montreal and Toronto is noteworthy, his
contributions and commitment to the Knanaya community
is deeply ingrained.

We the Montfort Associates of North America (MANA) is
privileged and honored to celebrate your 90th birthday in
your hometown. We wish Joseph Pathyil continued health,
happiness, and liberty to live to the fullest and that legacy
will be the gift from you to us along with the lessons of
how to profit from your business of staying young. Happy
Birthday our dearest Joseph Pathyil.

0.16 Joe - More a Parent than my Parents

Tribute from Brother John Berchmans-Mysoor.

Our former Brother Eugenius—Joe Pathyil, was my Head-
master in St. Antony's High School Coonoor, just after his
passing B.T, He was also the Headmaster at St. Gabriel's
High School , Kazipet , when I was in our Scholasticate,
studying in the Govt. College, Subedari, Warangal. He
was very good to me, and always called me by my name.
I spent one week with him at Toronto, in 1987. He treated
me more than my parents would do- more a parent than
my parents.

He would leave me at the metro, giving me his mobile
phone, to call him , on return. Since my niece missed one
flight, on her return from home after the funeral of my
eldest brother, and her father, Mr. Joe Pathyil and his wife
took me to the Niagara waterfalls. Just for my sake . They
waited outside for half a day till I was back after my visit.
He treated me so very well, more than my own parents
would do.

I am very grateful to You, and never forget your hospitality.
I keep on praying for you, and I am sure that God will
take care of You and family.

God bless us too.

0.17 Man of Wisdom

Greetings by Thomas Kappen from Thodupuzha

Dear Brother Pathyil

Happy Birthday to you dear brother.

Man of wisdom,

Man who inspired thousands,

Man who moulded

Montfort provinces into fineness and greatness

Through his contributions through the 'Rule of Life'.

Once again, Happy Birthday to you dear Brother.

0.18 Calm And Serene In Difficult Times

Tribute from Thomas Chamakala (Thomas C I) - Dallas

Best wishes to Joe Pathyil, my principal at St Gabriel's Higher Secondary School, Kazipet from 1963 to 1965 on the occasion of celebrating his 90th birthday.

May the good Lord bless him spiritually, mentally and physically. He is from my own place (Kaipuzha) and has influenced me in my life in several ways.

His father was a good friend of my father and his younger brother Mathaikunju has taught me in the school. When I saw Joe Pathyil in Kazipet, he was such a handsome person around 30 years of age with a stout personality. At such a young age, it was unthinkable to become a principal of a large school and a director of a large community of Brothers. The superiors who appointed him at this young age as the principal and director did not make any mistake as he was a mature young man and a multi talented person with a far reaching vision and with a lot of charisma and vibrant.

Whatever he touched, it was turned into gold. During our juniorate days we were taken out for a walk on Sundays.

On one occasion we were taken to the Railway High school near Kazipet railway station. At the end of the walk as we were resting under a tree in the railway school premises we found our Hindustan car being driven and it was going to Kazipet station.

A few minutes later it returned and as we were watching we found the car engulfed by heavy dust. So we all rushed to the spot and we found a person coming out of the overturned car from the driver's side smiling and with bruises and blood all over his face. It was none other than our Joe Pathiyil who was able to keep up his smile in the midst of this bad situation. He was able to keep up the calmness and the serenity in his face even in difficult times.

Another experience that I had with Joe Pathyil was in the year 2003-2004. He was the chairman of the convention of the Knanaya Catholic Association of North America held in Toronto, Canada in 2004. He came to New York for a function which had "chenda melam" in which I was also a part of it.

He was enamored and taken up with the performance of the chenda melam. Hence he asked me to organize this kind of chenda melam for the convention.

I was not very happy about it as it involved a lot of time and energy to coordinate. But he saw the potential in me and wanted me to take care of it. In the end on his advice we tuned the chenda beats, burned the CDs and sent them to different units in New York, Florida, Detroit, Chicago, Houston and California for practice. The technology in those days was not developed as today, hence we had to burn the CDs. From that day onwards there is an organized chenda melam including the competition for every convention. It was his will power and his encouragement which made me do and I am happy and proud of it. There are a lot of other great things that can be written about Joe Pathyil popularly known as Joe Uncle.

Let me again wish him a happy birthday invoking the blessings from the Almighty, the prayers from St Montfort and the intercession from Mary, our Mother.

0.19 Felicitation from Australia

I did not live with Joe Pathyil to know him better and so I cannot write about him I met him in 1963 when I came to Kazipet juniorate and he was our principal. We used to call him huge man I admired his knowledge of English and his management of a big school with English and Telugu Media school. After our one year of stay he was transferred to Kothakudam and again he was sent to Rome for second novitiate. Later on I heard that he left the congregation to work in a developed school in Canada he was a wonderful person who loved the poor people around him.

From his writings I understand that he had a habit of diary writings about events and people around him he was very good at studies so he was sent to Loyola college Madras and he was made headmaster in many schools.

A good person with deep spiritual formation, Joe would be delighted to see how I have followed his foot steps - not at all by my design...but by God's design.

He was my hero in many ways I too went to Loyola college Madras and then worked for 6 years at Montfort School Yercaud.

It was from Yercaud that I left Montfort brothers company went to Delhi to work in a private school from there went to Zambia and again to South Africa Presently I am retired and staying in Australia with two of daughters one is a medical Doctor and the other one is a manager of a big company.



Sebastian Vattakunnel . . .

I was keenly following the writings of Joe he had a habit of writing diaries about people and events I hope he is still doing that he is a fountain of knowledge and people. To me Joe Pathyil is a good mannered person with a heart for the poor. God had given this long life to enrich the lives of many.

Many people are not blessed like Joe. May the Lord bless You Joe further. You are an institution so keep the good work you are doing.

Joe Pathyil influenced me in my outlook on life and my

determination to achieve what is good.

Let me wish him a very happy 90th Birthday and many more years to serve actively for our society. I am glad many of our Ex Montfortians are visiting him on his birthday.

Sebastian Vattakunnel Australia

0.20 Have A Fantastic Day

Tribute from Fr Abraham Kottooparampil—Kottayom

I join all the Montfortians and all the well-wishers of Mr Joe Pathiyil to wish him A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND MAY HE LIVE TO HIT A CENTURY. He was my Headmaster at Coonoor and Bro. Patrick being his nephew and my classmate. He had a special regard for me and whenever he visited his sister Pennamma at Paravanthuruthu he made it a point to pay a visit to me. That shows his love and regard for others. Have a fantastic day.

With love and prayers Fr Abraham Kottooparampil

0.21 Positive Energy Radiates From You

Dear Joseph chettan! You are always an amazing individual who was real inspiration to me since I have known you. I had the rare opportunity to work with you with the community organization KCCNA. You were the final word in many discussions.

As you are entering in to your prime age of 90 gracefully I thank the Lord for the gift of you to your parents family Montfort Brothers, your students and your friends at large.

Everyone who came in contact with you left with a positive energy from You. Wish you a very Happy Birthday day. George Nellamattathil

0.22 His Blessings Upon You

Prayerful and Respectful Happy Birthday Greetings to you beloved Montfortian Associate Joseph Pathyil. I wish you many many returns of the same. May God continue to shower His Blessings upon you. Joseph Varkey Chamakala

0.23 Citation From MGA And MANA

Happy 90th Birthday to a True Legend Joe Pathyil

Dear Joe! Today, we celebrate an extraordinary milestone—the 90th birthday of a remarkable person, a true legend.

Over the course of nine incredible decades, you have lived a life filled with wisdom, grace, and inspiration, touching the hearts of everyone fortunate enough to know you.

Your life has been a shining example of perseverance, kindness, and strength.

Through your achievements, your generosity, and your unwavering spirit, you have left a lasting legacy in your family, your community, and beyond.

The stories of your journey, your leadership, and your character continue to inspire all of us, generation after generation.

As we celebrate this special day, we not only honor your 90 years of life, but also the countless lives you've impacted.

You are a pillar of wisdom and a source of strength for all who know you. Your presence lights up every room, and your words carry the weight of experience and love.

May this milestone birthday bring you as much joy and happiness as you've given to others throughout your life.

We are all grateful for the gift of your presence in our Community.

May God bless you with continued health, peace, and happiness in the years to come.

Here's to celebrating 90 years of an extraordinary life and looking forward to many more years of joy and blessings!.

With deepest respect and admiration, Montfort Global Associates (MGA)

Montfortian Associates of North America (MANA)

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Celebrations in Canada ...

The Celebrations of the 90th Birthday of Joe Pathyil lasted three days.

0.24 Celebrations 4 October 2024

October 4 is the 90th birthday of former Bro. Eugenius and now Joe Pathyil uncle. Joseph Pathiyil was born on Oct 4 th , 1934, in Kaipuzha to Pathyil family to Abraham and Naithy Pathyil.



The Birthday Cake ...

The three-day celebrations began with a Zoom Web meet, on 4 Oct 2024 1800 hrs IST by the larger Montfortian family(Brothers and MGAs) world over. This felicitation meet lasted about two hours.

Every participant had a one-to-one interaction with Uncle Joe Pathyil. It was amazing to see and hear Joe Pathyil recall his memories with crystal clarity. Joe Pathyil brought out the treasures of goodness, talents and capabilities he saw in each one of us who participated.

Recalling the summer picnics to Ramappa and Parkal Lakes, Joe Pathyil narrated how he pushed into the water

a student Robert Fernando. Robert Fernando who was scared water had no choice but to swim...and later on he became a national swimming champion in Mauritius.

All participants without exception told how Joe Pathyil touched their lives one way or the other. Joe Pathyil was seen more as a giver to others. It was thrilling to listen to how he instilled hope and confidence in their lives one way or other; how he sowed in us the awareness and importance of social etiquette, elegance in behaviour, enthusiasm in every task of ours. One of the participants narrated an incident that happened two months ago and mentioned how calm and composed was Joe Uncle when he asked *What happens when we die?* during a whatsapp chat. It takes courage and ocean of stillness within oneself to ask this ; may be Joe Uncle was seeking to learn from others.

It was amazing to observe that the spirit of happiness to see and hear Joe Uncle remained intact all these 70 years.

Joe Uncle thanked everyone for their love and affection and acknowledged the birthday greetings and prayers. The Zoom Meet concluded soon after Joe Uncle bid us bye promising to be in touch and proceeded to receive the Holy Communion and to attend the next event of the tridium of celebrations of his 90th Birthday.

Then the celebrations continued with a Eucharistic celebration (morning 1000 hrs, the Canadian time, at his Parish, with close relatives and friends.

0.25 Celebrations 5 October 2024

On 5th there was a grand celebration at noon with over 100 relatives and friends of Joe Uncle.

The Celebration was followed by and culminated with the "Great Visit" of friends and relations from United States, and quite a number of them. This visit took the celebrations to its top gear.

A team of MANA and MGA from the US travelled all the way to the home of Joe Pathyil to visit him and express their affection and wishes. Friends, relatives, students such as Philip Parett, Mathew Edapurath, Thomas Chamakalayil(CI Thomas) , Thomas Madathiparambil, Mathew Illikattil, Cyriac Puthenpurayil, George Nellamattom, Shaji Nellikattil, Jose Olyanickal, Dominic Chackonal and James Thadathil reached at 1730 hrs and lasted about 2 hours.

According to Dominic Chackonal, Joe Pathyil was extremely happy and overwhelmed to see his students and coworkers coming to his house singing "Glory to thee, Montfort the loving preacher".

The Montfortian spirit was very much visible all through the time. Everyone shared their experiences and pay their respects and tributes to uncle joe whose contribution to our society was appreciated. *We remembered many senior brothers and acknowledged the role of congregation in our lives. The nostalgia kindled the bond between each one of us remarked Dominic which was echoed by one and all.*

This how the Marvellous Magi from the US came to the Bethlehem of Joe Pathyil in Toronto with gifts of Love, Gratitude and Prayers. The journey began thus:



The Magi from the West The Journey begins ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...



Sharing the Joy ...

The event was well organized by George Nellamattom. Cyriac Puthenpura thanked everyone who came specially Joe family who arranged the marvelous dinner.

This how the Marvellous Magi from the US came to the Bethlehem of Joe Pathyil in Toronto with gifts of Love, Gratitude and Prayers and returned.



The Magi Returns with Joy ...

Thank You Friends and Fellow Travellers

Draft Talk to Montforian Friends on Oct 5, 2024 By Joseph Pathyil

Friends and Fellow travelers:

I am sincerely glad that you decided to have a special session of the group. I am eternally grateful to the Society that formed me and shaped my life and thinking during the most crucial years of my life.

I have done well, and earned praise and esteem in several endeavours. The prime reason for the success was the years I spent in the congregation. Yes, we served the com-

munity, and in schools and institutions associated with the congregation. But we also benefited from our years in the society.

I remember a session in Rome with the then Superior General (Louis Bertrand) whom I thanked for everything that the congregation did for me. Instead he thanked me for all my service to the Society. I was taken aback, and told him that I was totally surprised that a Superior General would say that . That was an era when we were taught that anyone who left the society, was going straight to hell.

The decision to leave was no easy task. In retrospect, I think those of us who decided to leave needed guts and bravery. If instead of leaving, I had stayed, it would have been a life of hypocrisy and self-deception.

The freedom that I felt – that we all felt- in spite of the fear of uncertainty of the future, was no mean feeling.

After almost 60 years, I am thankful for the years in the congregation. I am happy to be associated with the Montfortan group, and I have no qualms in saying that the society shaped me, and formed me. In you my Friends and Fellow travellers I have found a happy group .

Thank You All! Friends and Fellow Travellers!

0.26 Celebrations 6 October,2024

The celebrations of joy and thanksgiving on the occasion of Joe Pathyil's 90th birthday continued on 6, Oct 2024.

On October 6, Sunday closing ceremony of 90th Birthday celebrations culminated with the Thanksgiving Holy Mass followed by 'Fellowship meal' for members of the parish.

That's it. The Celebrations weren't in vain. An appropriate one for a life well lived with honesty, integrity and purpose.



The Birthday Cake . . .

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Joe Pathyil Recalls . . .

Joe Pathyil narrates the significance of May 8 and the MGA. He recalls his interaction with former Superior Generals- Rev Br Romain Landry and Rev Br John Kallarackal. Joe Pathyil reminisces his life journey.

0.27 8 May - A Memorable Date



Joe Pathyil Narrates . . .

Let us begin with the late 30's: The only Tamil medium High school that the Brothers ran was St. Antony's High School Coonoor. The Juniorate was attached to the school. The Novitiate and Scholasticate were in the same campus.

Coonoor, a jewel of the Nilgiris, was a favorite summer residence of the British Raj. From March to June, there was no other place like Coonoor to enjoy the salubrious climate. Temperature never goes above 20. The parks and gardens are in bloom; the hiking trails are picturesque, the tea estates, the falls, and mountain ranges are breath taking.

Almost all the Brothers working in various parts of India came to Coonoor in summer for a few days of relaxation. For the seniors it was a good time to spend a few days with their friends and exchange news. Everyone knew everyone . They had their annual retreat in the first week of May.

At the end of the retreat the postulants would shed their civilian cloths and wear a soutane with Rabat bleu, shed their family name and would be given a new name. The novices would pronounce their first vows and receive a mantle. Others would renew their annual or three-year vows.

Those who were professed for six years would take their vows for perpetuity. The ceremonies that accompanied the religious event were solemn. As the congregants sang "Veni Creator Spiritus" goose bumps covered the body. One was about to take a life changing step.

From the early 40's May 8 was a special date in our calendars. " Obediences" , (appointments and transfers) were announced on May 8.]par When the novitiate shifted to Eachinkadu in 1952, the tradition continued. Even though all the Brothers did not attend the annual retreat in May, the postulants and novices had their ceremonies on May 8. I do not know if that tradition still continues.

May 8 is etched in our memory.

(Joseph Pathyil)

Gratitude is Mutual

I left the congregation in January, 1967. I was in Rome and was due to fly to Canada on January 31. I went to see

Reverend Brother Romain Landry, the Superior General. I started by asking for his blessing.

He embraced me and told me how he and the congregation was grateful for my services to the congregation, especially the province of India. I was taken aback by his words.

I told him I was beholden to the congregation for my formation, for my education, for entrusting me with responsibilities, for the nurture and consideration of local and major superiors.

Br. Landry said that *all what I said was true. But I had given my youth and my talents in the service of the congregation.*

We had a long chat. I told him how during my formation I was led to believe that anyone who left the society even from a house of formation, was betraying one's calling, and that the Novice Master had once mentioned that one of the early Superior Generals had an apparition of Our Lady who promised him that anyone who dies in the congregation was certain to get to heaven. There was an implication that the reverse might end in perdition. At least that was the attitude of the Brothers in India.



Rev Br Romain Landry . . .

Bro. Landry, a Canadian, was thankful to me genuinely for my service. Second Vatican Council had brought about many changes in the mindset of priests and religious. In France and in the rest of Europe, as also in Canada, it was not uncommon to see former Brothers teaching and administering schools of the Brothers. Brothers in India would have thought of such an appointment as unthinkable. But I remember several professors and lecturers and tutors in Jesuit colleges were former Jesuits. I had asked my mentor Fr. C. Leigh S.J. about this. His reply was that *the Jesuits had trained these people and it would be a pity not use them in Jesuit institutions.* And other Jesuits did not fear the influence of former Jesuits. However, at least

in my time, Brothers in India did not have the courage to have anything to do with the "traitors".

Obligation of the former Religious to the Society that educated him, that instilled values in him, that formed him spiritually, is obvious. As Bro. Landry said, *the congregation will not be diminished in acknowledging that the former Brothers served the congregation, for however long or short a time. Gratitude should be mutual.*



Sharing the Joy . . .

The present Superior General is fully cognizant of this mutual indebtedness. If I may reveal something: a short time after Bro. John was elected Superior General, he called me to say that he would like to visit me and spend some time with me. I was very pleased to welcome my ace student.

We spent a couple of days in intense communion, the content of which will remain with us. I am grateful for his confidence and his regard, and his fraternal solicitude. In my turn, I have been concerned about his cardiac issues, since I have had experiences with that too. But we hope and pray that he will remain healthy and hearty for many more years.

(Joseph Pathyil - 8 May 2021)

0.28 Joe Recalling Joe

My parents were my first instructors. In spite of the busy day of my mother, she found time to instruct her children.

My father was my mentor and guide for many years. I, in turn, was his greatest admirer. Even after I left home, he continued to correspond with me, giving me not only news from home, but instructing me in life's journey.

My superiors and elders took personal interest in my formative years and beyond. Several of them bestowed particular attention in my training. I, in turn, observed these elders and tried to learn from them.

At home and in schools I had many companions with whom I interacted.

We studied together; we played together; we laughed and joked together; we prayed together; we commiserated together.

All my elders have gone to their heavenly reward. Most of my companions too have gone. I had written about some of them, as I remembered them.

There were nine of us who took vows in 1952. We were given the names Camillus, Cyriac of St. Symphorosa's

seven sons - Crescentius, Julian, Nemesius (Br Robert/ VK Stephen), Primitivus, Justinus, Stractus and Eugenius (Joe Pathyil). Today we two - Br Crescentius and Joe Pathyil remain.

I do not pretend to write biographies of my elders and companions. These are sketches and memories. A few autobiographical articles are included as an eBook called Guides and Fellow Travellers.

The eBook also contains a couple of journals that I am in the habit of keeping while on journeys. I have others that I did not include due to their length.

I have written several short and long articles and tracts about the Knanaya community, of which I am a member. I have not included them in this book. That is for another time, and another readership.

I am grateful to The Almighty for all the Blessings through my life. I am also grateful to my wife who accompanied me all these years. My sons and daughter in law have humored me in my crazy hobbies.

To all, my affectionate thanks.

(Joe Pathyil)

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Our Torchbearers . . .

For us MGAs and the Brothers there are two thespians who have lived nine decades and the senior most today - Our Joe Pathyil Uncle and Our Br Crescentius. Indeed by God's Design both belonged to the same batch of 1952 when they took the vows. Today 7 decades later, they still stand tall like Torchbearers in our Lives. This section of Thanksgiving is a tribute to them.

0.29 The Lighthouse And The Evening Sky

Joe Pathyil and his fellow colleague Br Crescentius have been walking ahead of us all Nine decades ahead. Both joined to tread of footsteps of St Montfort.

Both have some commonalities like their height, graciousness, magnanimous, integrity, honesty, sense of humour and fearlessness.

They are the Lighthouse and Evening Sky for all MGAs and the Brothers of the Congregation in every way.

The lives of Joe Pathyil and Crescentius are like the evening sky with the hues of red yellow and blue

They walked together for nearly two decades when Joe took a different path while Br Crescentius continued the path of Community Living. Yet both continued the Montfortian path in different contexts.

Walking ahead of us in every sense and leading us with their lives with unabashed faith, courage and gaiety, Joe has been touching and enlivening lives of hundreds across the continents while Br Crescentius has been enabling the members of the Congregation.



Joe Pathyil The Lighthouse and Evening Sky . . .



Br Crescentius The Lighthouse and Evening Sky

. . .

One has to just read the Easter 2024 reflections of Joe Pathyil to realise how tall he is thought and belief.

Easter 2024-Personal Easter Reflections by Joe Pathyil

The Catholic Church's teachings on the Resurrection of the Lord provide a profound and hopeful message for the 90 -year old man reflecting on Easter. Here is a summary of the key points :

The Resurrection is the Crowning Truth of our Faith - The Resurrection of Jesus is the central and most important truth of the Christian faith.

1. It is the culminating event of the Paschal Mystery.- Christ's death and rising to new life.
2. The Resurrection is not just a past historical event, but a living reality that transforms our lives and gives us hope.

The Resurrection Conquers Death - Through his Resurrection, Christ has defeated the power of death and sin. As St. Paul proclaimed, " O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?(1 Cor 15:55) The Resurrection assures us that death doesnot have the final word – it is gateway to eternal life with God.

The Resurrection Gives Us New Life - By being united with Christ in Baptism, we already participate in the new life of the Risen Christ.

The Resurrection is not just a future hope, but a present reality that empowers us to "walk in the newness of life (Rom 6:4). Through faith in the Risen Christ, we can overcome the power of sin and death in our own lives.

The Resurrection is Our Hope - The Resurrection is the

firm foundation of the Christian's hope in eternal life. As Pope Benedict XVI said, "The Resurrection of the Lord is our hope."

For the 90-year-old man, the promise of the Resurrection assures him that physical death is not the end, but the entrance into the fulness of life with God forever. In the face of death, the Church proclaims with confidence: "Christ is risen! Death is conquered, life is won!" This is the joyful message of Easter that gives hope to believers of every age. (Joseph Pathyil) - Canada

The Lighthouse and Evening Sky



The Lighthouse For Us . . .

In a small but sure manner, both Uncle Joe Pathyil and Br Crescentius have led us like Late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI - with deep reflections, instilling hope and courage in each one of us.

In a brief letter released February 8, 2022, Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI gave deeply piercing reflections which also included a brief remark about Benedict's preparation for death. His reflection can serve in our own preparation for the day that will one day come to all of us, when we go to stand before the Creator.

The Pope Emeritus, aged 94 then, wrote:

Quite soon, I shall find myself before the final judge of my life. Even though, as I look back on my long life, I can have great reason for fear and trembling, I am nonetheless of good cheer, for I trust firmly that the Lord is not only the just judge, but also the friend and brother who himself has already suffered for my shortcomings, and is thus also my advocate, my "Paraclete."

In light of the hour of judgement, the grace of being a Christian becomes all the more clear to me.

It grants me knowledge, and indeed friendship, with the judge of my life, and thus allows me to pass confidently through the dark door of death.

Both Joe and Br Crescentius, in their own unique ways, have been leading us folks in our pilgrimage on this earth and exodus to the promised land. Like the lighthouse, Joe and Br Crescentius stand tall like the proverbial Lighthouse to spread their light of faith and courage across for us all to see in the dark sea of our lives in our exodus to the promised land. The lighthouse they are, Joe and Br Crescentius are there showing the light to all of us to cross thru the darkness and the dark door of this life without fear.



The Evening Sky . . .

The Lives of Joe and Br Crescentius are like the Evening Sky glowing with joy hope and peace.

Their lives like the Evening Sky become each of us to the relish the joy of living free without any fetters of worry or fear and beckoning us to rise and fly to the realm of pure happiness after having crossed with the help of the lighthouses they are.

The Caravan moves in our exodus to the promised land with the Lighthouse guiding us in the darkness of our lives and the dark door of transition; the Evening Sky raises our hopes to step into our promised land with songs of hope and joy even as we sing along with Joe Pathyil and Br Crescentius:

We gather each day in The Father's love

We gather with Jesus His Son

We gather in faith with the Spirit of God

We gather together as one

We offer our peace, we offer our love

We offer the good deeds we've done

Bread blessed and broken for all to share

When we gather together as one

When we proclaim the Good News of God

We pray for the old and the young

We share in the gift of the lamb of God

When we gather together as one

There are no borders, no distance too great

No matter where we come from

We are all neighbours, wherever we live

When we gather together as one

We raise our hearts, we celebrate

The family of God we've become

The spirit unites us, in joy and in faith

When we gather together as one

Thank You Joe and Thank you Br Crescentius for being our Lighthouse and the Evening Sky in our Lives even as we await to celebrate Br Crescentius Birthday on 25 January 2025.

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Montfortian Rosary ... -End

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