



FAMILY LIGHT

Newsletter of Holy Cross Family Ministries, Province of South India



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings from Holy Cross Family Ministries!

As you read this edition of Family Light, I thank God for the many ways He continues to strengthen our families through prayer, faith, and the loving intercession of Mother Mary. The inspiring events featured in these pages—from Rosary Rallies and Marian celebrations to pilgrimages, children's faith formation, and family outreach—reflect our shared commitment to keeping Christ at the centre of every home.

The reflection on the Luminous Mysteries reminds us that the Rosary is not merely a prayer to recite but a path to encounter Jesus and to renew our family life through His Gospel. Every family that gathers in prayer becomes a beacon of hope, love, and peace in today's world.

Inspired by the vision of Venerable Patrick Peyton, let us continue to proclaim with conviction: **"The Family That Prays Together Stays Together."** May Mother Mary accompany every family, strengthen our faith, and lead us always closer to her Son.

May God bless you and your families abundantly.

Fr. Johny Thekkemaly CSC
Director, HCFM
Province of South India



The Luminous Mysteries: A Light for Family Life

Walking with Mary through the Luminous Mysteries to renew family life in Christ.

Reflecting on luminous mysteries in context of family life takes my mind over to what Jesus's own family life would have been like - a doting stay at home mother devoting her full time & attention to her precious child, preparing nourishing meals & teaching him the holy scriptures, guiding him with patience. A father who worked hard to earn a living, protecting his family from danger & leading them into safety. Then i look at how family life is now - mothers completely exhausted trying to juggle successful careers as well as childcare, fathers believing that providing money for their children is more important than spending time with them & children hyped up with sugar & screentime.

Meditating upon the mysteries of the rosary daily helps my family to understand the message of the gospel in a world where the dignity of human life is measured solely on a person's ability to earn money & financial success is the yardstick that measures a person's self worth.

1. The baptism of Jesus gives us hope that renewal & transformation of a person is possible at any stage of their life. The call to salvation through baptism is open to everyone until their last breath, such is the great generosity of our Lord.
2. The wedding of Cana tells us that God gave us a mother who is always looking out for the needs of her children & reminding us to "do whatever He tells you" (not whatever makes you happy as the world often screams). When the Mother of God intercedes for her children, miracles happened 2000 yrs ago as they still continue to happen now. In a world where marriage is just a piece of paper, Jesus blesses it & upholds it as a sacrament.
3. The proclamation of the Kingdom reminds us of our own Christian duty as lay people to evangelize the culture (often beginning with ourselves), to share boldly the good news & make disciples by sowing seeds and accompanying people in their own difficult journeys.



Mrs. Zubie is a member of **St. Thomas More RC Church, Bexleyheath, London.** After converting to Catholicism seven years ago, she left her banking career to dedicate herself to motherhood and Church ministry. She currently serves as the President of the Legion of Mary Praesidium in London and is the Parish Lead for Evangelisation in the Southwark Diocese. She is also a Eucharistic Minister, First Holy Communion and Confirmation catechist, and a catechist for children, teenagers, and youth. She has successfully pioneered two different youth ministries in her parish. In her previous parish, she helped establish the first parish nursing ministry in the UK as part of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. As a trained end-of-life companion, she also volunteers with Age UK, providing support and companionship to elderly people living alone. Above all, however, she cherishes her vocation as a mother to her nine-year-old son.

4. The transfiguration of Jesus challenges us to ponder over how we react when God reveals himself to us in all his glory & splendour. Do we "listen to Him" entirely or do we follow our own hearts to cherry pick from the Bible whatever suits us. Do we focus only on our own mountain top journey or are we also prepared to carry our own & others crosses while going through the valley?

5. The institution of the Holy Eucharist fills up our heart with gratitude on the source & summit of our Catholic life where God gives us his own real body & blood to nourish our own frail bodies and how fortunate we are to participate in this Holy celebration ultimately pointing us towards the eternal banquet that awaits us.

Reciting the rosary without meditating deeply upon its mysteries puts us in danger of the "vain repetitions" that Jesus warned of. The rosary is our cherished daily devotion because in it is engulfed the whole summary of the good news that we ought to proclaim.

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"UNNIYESHU MAYANGIYA NENJIL":

A MALAYALAM CATHOLIC DEVOTIONAL SONG CELEBRATING MARY'S LOVE

Holy Cross Family Ministries proudly presents Unniyeshu Mayangiya Nenjil ("Upon the Chest Where the Infant Jesus Slept"), a beautiful Marian song for children produced by the Congregation of Holy Cross, South India. Written and composed by Anoop Thomas Punnakkuzhiyil and beautifully sung by Kedarnadh and Esther Sajiv, the song gently introduces children to the loving care of Mother Mary, who continues to guide every child to her Son, Jesus Christ.

Inspired by the tender relationship between the Infant Jesus and His Blessed Mother, the lyrics remind children that the same hands which held Jesus now lovingly protect, guide, and comfort them. Through its gentle melody and heartfelt prayer, the song encourages young hearts to trust in Mary's maternal care, seek her intercession, and grow in faith as disciples of Christ. The beautiful background score by Jinoy Freddy and the captivating visuals make it a delightful experience for children and families alike.

Coordinated by Fr. Johny Thekkemaly CSC, with video by Rijo Thayyil, editing by Jobin Thayyil, and subtitles by Fr. Pinto Paul CSC, Unniyeshu Mayangiya Nenjil is more than a children's song—it is a faith-filled invitation for families to rediscover the beauty of Marian devotion. May this inspiring musical offering help children experience the loving embrace of Mother Mary and draw them ever closer to Jesus.



**Scan to watch
the Song**

Lenten Pilgrimage and Rosary Rally at Biligundlu, Tamilnadu



As part of the Lenten observances of 2026, members of the Holy Cross Prayer Group from Fr. Peyton Centre, Bengaluru, undertook a Pilgrimage and Rosary Rally to Biligundlu, Tamil Nadu, on 1st April 2026. A group of 26 pilgrims journeyed together in a spirit of prayer and fellowship to this beautiful parish, situated near Hogenakkal, on the border of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Upon their arrival, the pilgrims received a warm welcome from the Parish Priest, Fr. Henry, who expressed his joy at their visit. The day began with a Rosary Rally, during which the faithful prayerfully processed through the parish, witnessing their devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and praying for families, peace, and the intentions of the Church. The pilgrimage continued with the Holy Eucharistic Celebration, with Fr. Antony Chellapandi as the main celebrant. In his homily, he encouraged the faithful to embrace the Lenten season as a time of conversion, prayer, and service, drawing inspiration from the Blessed Virgin Mary and the teachings of Venerable Patrick Peyton on the importance of family prayer.

As an expression of Christian charity and solidarity, the Holy Cross Prayer Group, Viveknagar, sponsored and donated statues of the Blessed Mother Mary and St. Antony to the parish. The group also provided meals for the faithful and distributed educational kits to school-going children, bringing joy and encouragement to the parish community.

The pilgrimage concluded with hearts filled with gratitude, strengthened faith, and a renewed commitment to prayer and service. It was a grace-filled day of worship, fellowship, and outreach, reflecting the true spirit of the Lenten season.



Marian Rosary Rally, Eucharistic Celebration, and Healing Service

On 1st May 2026, Holy Cross Family Ministries (HCFM), Province of South India, in collaboration with Sacred Heart Church, Richmond Road, organized a Marian Rosary Rally, Eucharistic Celebration, and Healing Service to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. The prayerful gathering brought together nearly 1,800 faithful, who united in faith to seek the loving intercession of Mother Mary and to renew their commitment to family prayer.

The programme began with the Holy Rosary, prayerfully led by the faithful, creating an atmosphere of deep devotion and spiritual reflection. This was followed by the Holy Eucharistic Celebration, with Fr. Antony Chellian as the main celebrant. In his inspiring homily, he reflected on the exemplary life of Mother Mary and encouraged the faithful to imitate her virtues of humility, faith, and obedience. Drawing inspiration from the life and mission of Venerable Patrick Peyton, founder of Holy Cross Family Ministries, he reminded the congregation of the timeless message: "The family that prays together stays together," urging every family to make the Rosary a daily prayer in their homes.

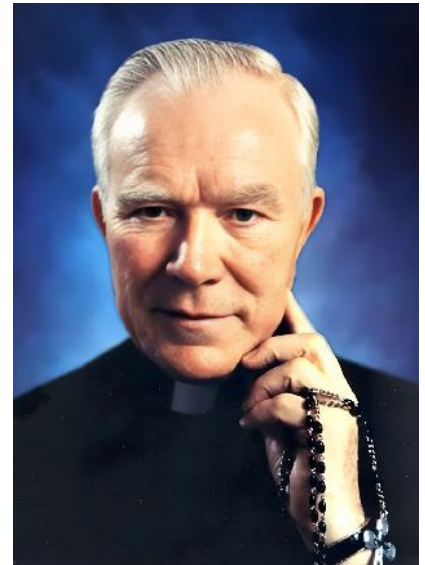
The Holy Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Manu Praveen, Fr. Joel Menezes, Fr. Antony Chellapandi, Fr. Naresh, and Fr. Johny Thekkemaly, Director of HCFM, Province of South India. Following the Eucharistic celebration, the faithful participated in a solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a Healing Service, offering their prayers and intentions before the Lord. The moments of silent adoration, worship, and healing prayers brought spiritual comfort, hope, and renewal to all those present.

The celebration concluded with hearts filled with gratitude and renewed faith. The gathering served as a powerful reminder of Mother Mary's loving intercession and the importance of prayer in family life, inspiring all to continue living the Gospel with trust, hope, and devotion.



Death Anniversary of Venerable Patrick Peyton

Venerable Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. (1909–1992), affectionately known as the "Rosary Priest," was the founder of Holy Cross Family Ministries. A man of deep Marian devotion, he dedicated his life to promoting the Rosary and strengthening family prayer across the world. Through his famous message, "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together," he inspired millions of families to place Christ at the centre of their homes through the daily recitation of the Rosary. His tireless missionary zeal, innovative evangelization through radio, television, and large-scale Rosary rallies, and unwavering trust in the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary continue to inspire people of all ages. Declared Venerable by the Church in 2017, his life remains a shining example of faith, prayer, and service.



Tomb of Ven. Patrick Peyton

To commemorate the 34th Death Anniversary of Venerable Patrick Peyton, Holy Cross Family Ministries, Province of South India, organized a prayerful celebration at the Fr. Peyton Centre, Viveknagar, Bengaluru, on 3rd June 2026. The programme began with the Holy Rosary, during which the faithful gathered in prayer, remembering the life and mission of Venerable Patrick Peyton and seeking his intercession for families around the world.

The celebration continued with the Holy Eucharistic Celebration, with Fr. Chinnaiah Saripudi as the main celebrant. In his homily, he reflected on the inspiring legacy of Venerable Patrick Peyton, emphasizing the transformative power of family prayer and encouraging everyone to keep alive his vision of building holy and united families through the Rosary.

Following the Holy Mass, the faithful participated in a reverent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, spending time in silent prayer and thanksgiving. The celebration concluded with renewed commitment to continue the mission of Venerable Patrick Peyton by fostering devotion to the Rosary and strengthening family prayer, keeping alive his timeless message: "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together."

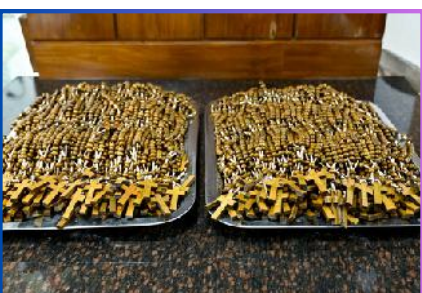


Holy Cross Family Ministries Co-organises ICYM Udupi Deanery Rosary Rally 2026

Holy Cross Family Ministries, Province of South India, was privileged to collaborate with the ICYM Udupi Deanery and the ICYM Katapadi Unit in organising the ICYM Udupi Deanery Rosary Rally 2026, held on 30 May at St. Vincent De Paul Church, Katapadi. Bringing together more than 320 faithful, including youth and parishioners from across the deanery, the rally became a joyful witness to Marian devotion, family prayer, and the unity of the Church.

The celebration began with the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Steevan Fernandes, Youth Director of the Diocese of Udupi, together with Fr. Rajesh Pasanna, CSC, Parish Priest, Fr. Preetham Menezes, CSC, Fr. Jijo Sebastian, CSC, Fr. Vincent Suares, and Fr. Stephan Rodrigues. The deanery youth animated the liturgy with great enthusiasm. In his homily, Fr. Preetham Menezes highlighted the Rosary as a powerful source of grace for families and communities, echoing the timeless words of Venerable Patrick Payton: **"The family that prays together stays together."** He encouraged every family to make the Rosary a daily source of strength and spiritual renewal.

Following the Eucharistic celebration, participants prayerfully processed from St. Vincent De Paul Church to Holy Cross Students' Home, Katapadi, carrying candles and rosaries while singing Marian hymns. A beautifully decorated statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and banners honouring Our Lady added to the reverent atmosphere. As Holy Cross Family Ministries continues the mission inspired by Venerable Patrick Payton to promote family prayer and devotion to the Rosary, the rally served as a powerful witness to the Gospel and a reminder that families and communities are renewed when they gather in prayer with Mary, leading hearts ever closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.



Rosary Rally for Children was conducted by Teachers Team on 28 May 2026 at St. Paul the Hermit Church, U. Nagenahalli, Bangalore.



Rosary Rally for Children was conducted by Teachers Team on 30 May 2026 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Kanakanagar, Bangalore.



Rosary Rally for Children was conducted by Teachers Team on 31 May 2026 at St. Ann's church, Mastripalya, Bangalore.



New Mission and Marian Centre at Khammam Diocese on 31 May 2026.





Peyton Institute for Families

Happy, Healthy, and Holy Families

Upcoming Residential Workshops

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| 31 AUG - 4 SEP | Introduction to Family Counseling |
| 12 - 14 SEP | Built for Good - Family Enhancement Training |
| 19 - 20 SEP | Healing through Yoga Therapy |
| 23 - 27 NOV | Pre-marital Guidance & Counseling, Couple Counseling |
| 14 - 18 DEC | Handling Addictions in Individuals and Families |

Certificate Courses

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| 22 AUG - 14 NOV | Marriage and Family Counseling Skills (Saturdays Only)
Venue- Brothers of Holy Cross, St. Mark's Road, Bangalore |
| 17 - 29 SEP | Basic Counseling Skills, Mumbai
Venue- Daughters of St Paul, 143, Waterfield road, Bandra West, Mumbai |

One-Day Workshops

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| 07 OCT | Visualization & Imagery Techniques |
| 17 OCT | Gestalt Therapy |
| 24 OCT | Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse |
| 14 NOV | Partnering to be Parents - Positive Disciplining |
| 12 DEC | Rebuilding Trust between Couples |



Peyton Institute for Families

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www.pifindia.org

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Prayer for a Favor through Venerable Patrick Peyton, C.S.C.

God, Our Father, your wisdom is displayed in all creation and the power of your grace is revealed in the lives of holy people, who inspire us to trust you more fully and to serve others more generously. In a unique way, you blessed the life and work of your servant, Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., and made him a fervent apostle of Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary and Mother to us all.

Through his intercession, we ask for this favor.... Please grant it, if it is for your honor and glory, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary (3 times), Glory be.... Amen.

*For further information or to report any favour received through Ven. Peyton's Intercession please contact: **Father Peyton Centre, Holy Cross Family Ministries, Viveknagar, Bengaluru - 560047***



PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF VEN. PATRICK PEYTON

Dear Jesus, Father Peyton devoted his priestly life to strengthening the families of the world by calling them to pray together every day, especially the Rosary. His message is as important for us now as it was during his life on earth. We beg you, therefore, to hasten the day of his Beatification, so that your faithful people everywhere will remember his message that the family that prays together stays together, will imitate him in his devotion to your Mother and ours, and will be inspired by his holy life to draw ever closer to you with childlike confidence and love. Amen.

Global Rosary for *Peace*

In the tradition of
Venerable Patrick Peyton,
join hundreds of thousands
of Catholics praying for
Peace on the Feast of
St. John Paul the *Great*.



October 22, 2026

10:00 a.m. Eastern Time

4:00 p.m. Rome Time



HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES



PrayForPeace.org

Colour the Sheet



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