

## About the Authors

**Paul Cardinal Poupard** was born in August 1930 in Anjou (France). He was ordained in 1954 and nominated Cardinal on 25 May 1985. He completed 2 doctoral theses at the Sorbonne in theology (on the links between faith and reason) and history (on Church-State relations). He is currently a member of the Congregations for Divine Worship, Evangelisation of Peoples, Catholic Education, and of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. Besides having been awarded various civic, political and religious honours and decorations, he is a doctor 'honoris causa' of several universities including: Aix-en-Provence, Fu Jen, Louvain, Quito, Santiago de Chile, Puebla de los Angeles. He has made numerous contributions to collections and articles in periodicals and encyclopaediae. He was principal editor of the *Dictionnaire des Religions*, now in its 3rd. edition in its French and Italian versions, its 5th. in Spanish.

His own works have been translated into Arabic, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, English, German, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and other languages. Cardinal Poupard became President of the Pontifical Council for Culture in 1988. In 2006 he was also the President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue.

**Oswald Cardinal Gracias** completed his Doctorate in Canon Law, from the Urban University, Rome. He also has a Diploma in Jurisprudence from the Gregorian University, Rome. From 1971-1976, he was Secretary and Chancellor for the Diocese of Jamshedpur. From 1982 to 1986, he was the Secretary to the Archbishop of Bombay. From 1982 to 1997, he was the Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Bombay. From 1988 to 1998, he was the Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese of Bombay. On 28 June 1997 he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay. From 1987 to 1991 and from 1993 to 1997, he was the President, Canon Law Society of India. On 07 September 2000, he was appointed Archbishop of Agra. From 1998 to 2002, he was the Secretary General, Catholic Bishop's Conference of India. From 2005 to 2009, he was the President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India. In 2009, he was re-elected as President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India. On 14 October 2006, he was appointed Archbishop of Bombay and on 24 November 2007, he was created Cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI.

From 2008, he is the First Vice-President, Catholic Bishop's Conference of India. From 2001 till date he is the Vice Chairman, Vox Clara Committee, Congregation for Sacraments, Rome. From 2002, he is the Chairman, C.B.C.I. Commission for Social Communications and Chairman, NISCORT. From 2002, he is the Chairman, C.B.C.I. Commission for Law and Public Litigation. From 06 May 2008, he is a Member of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts.

**Dr. Marie Fernandes.** Principal, St. Andrew's College, Mumbai. She has a Ph.D in English Literature from the University of Mumbai (1991). She is a recognized Research Guide and a Member of the Board of Studies in English, of the University of Mumbai. Several of her research articles have been published in reputed journals both in India and abroad. She completed two courses in Theology for the Laity (1988) organized by St. Pius College, Goregaon.

**Rev. Dr. S.M. Michael SVD**, is Professor of Cultural Anthropology at the Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai. He is the Chairman of the Bombay Archdiocesan Commission for Interreligious Dialogue. He is also a Consulter to the Pontifical Council for Cultures, Vatican City. Among his several books, *Dalits in Modern India: Vision and Values* was the best seller of Sage for the year 2000 and has seen three editions and has been translated into several Indian languages.

**Roberto Catalano**, a member of the Focolare Movement was part of the team which opened the first Centre in India. It was in Mumbai in 1980. He was responsible for the Focolare in India from 1984 to 2004, and was later actively involved in inter-religious activities especially with Hindus, Sikhs and Zoroastrians. Since September 2008, he is the Director of the Centre for Interreligious Dialogue and a member of the General Council of the Movement at the International Centre of the Focolare Movement in Rome.

**Rev. Dr. Jacob Parappally, MSFS** holds a doctorate in Theology from the University of Freiburg, Germany and awarded Professorship by the Vatican in 2000. He was teaching systematic theology at Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth (JDV) Pune where he served as the Dean of the Faculty of Theology. At present he is the Rector of Tejas Vidya Peetha, Institute of Mission-Oriented and Contextual Theology, Bangalore. He is the President of the Indian Theological Association and the author of *Emerging Trends in Indian Christology* and the editor or co-editor of *Theologizing in the Indian Context*, *The Church in India in Search of a New Identity*, *The World as Sacrament* and *Hope at the Dawn of a New Century*. He is the chief-editor of the *Journal of Indian Theology*.

**Rev. Dr. Soosai Arokiasamy SJ** (1937-) is Professor Emeritus of Vidyajyoti College of Theology, Delhi. He has a doctorate in moral theology from Università Gregoriana, Rome. He has served for 13 years as Secretary of the Commission for Clergy and Religious and Doctrinal Commission of Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI). He has been a resource person at three Plenary Assemblies of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC) and has served for seven years as a member of the Office for Theological Concerns (OTC) of FABC. He has been editor of Vidyajyoti Journal of Theological Concern for the

last twenty five years. He has edited half a dozen books dealing with moral and contextual theologies and has contributed close to hundred articles in the area of moral, pastoral and contextual theologies to journals in India and abroad. His doctoral dissertation: *Dharma, Hindu and Christian According to Roberto de Nobili* was published by Gregorian University in 1986.

**Rev. Dr Paulachan P. Kochappilly, CMI**, completed his Doctorate in Moral Theology (1998) from the Accademia Alfonsiana, Rome. His dissertation was on *Celebrative Ethics: Ecological Issues in the Light of the Syro-Malabar Qurbana*. Currently, he is the Dean, Faculty of Theology, Pontifical Athenaeum of Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram, Bangalore. He is a visiting professor at the St. Joseph Major Seminary, Khammam, AP, Good Shepherd Major Seminary, Kunnoth, Kerala and Samanvaya Theological College, Bhopal. He is the Editor-in-Chief, Asian Horizons. Dharmaram Journal of Theology. He is also the Spiritual Director at Dharmaram College, Bangalore.

**Sr. Dr. Teresa Joseph, fma** belongs to the Bombay Province of the Salesian Sisters. She holds a Master's in Science of Education with specialization in Catechetics from Auxilium Rome and a PhD in Missiology with specialization in Inter-religious Studies from the Gregorian University Rome. Besides being a visiting professor to a few Faculties she conducts seminars, orientation programs and retreats for teachers and young people.

She is a freelance writer and contributes articles for various journals in India and abroad. Her published works include *Dream Big Dream True* (BYB Mumbai 2004), *Family of Truth: The Liminal Context of Inter-Religious Dialogue* (Rome 2005), *Teachers are Like Stars* (BYB Mumbai 2009) and *Family of Truth: The Liminal Context of Inter-Religious Dialogue an Anthropological and Pedagogical Enquiry* (ISPCK Delhi 2009). She has launched and co-edited an animation book for the family titled *Stay Connected in the Circle of Love* (Media House, 2007) and another one titled: *Teen Q'S* (Media House, 2009).

**Sr. Dr. Virginia Rajakumari Sandiyagu**, Sisters of St. Anne, Bangalore (SAB), has a B. Th from Dharmaram, Bangalore (1995), an M. Th from St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Bangalore (1997), a Master of Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium (2004), and a Ph. D in Biblical Theology from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium (2008). Her doctoral thesis was on *The Galilean Women in the Redaction of Luke: An Exegetical Study of Luke 8:1-3*. She is a visiting professor at St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Bangalore, Kristu Jyothi College, Bangalore and a few other places. She has a number of publications to her credit.

**Rev. Dr. Shaji Joseph Puykunel SDB** (b.1964) has a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute (Biblicum), Rome (1998) and a

Doctorate in Biblical Theology from Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome (2004). He is currently President of Sacred Heart Theological College, Shillong, where he is Professor of Sacred Scripture and Theology. He is also visiting professor at Kristu Jyoti College, Bangalore.

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## Our Editors

**Archbishop Felix Machado:** He has a Licentiate in Catholic Theology from the Catholic Theological Faculty, Lyon, France (1974-76). He has an M.A. in Theology (with specialization in Catholic Missiology) from the Maryknoll School of Theology, New York, USA (1980). He holds a Doctorate (Ph. D) in Catholic Dogmatic Theology from the Fordham University, New York, USA. He has been Professor of Catholic dogmatic theology, Missiology and formator of future priests at St Pius X College, Mumbai from 1984 to 1993.

From April 1993, he had been called to Rome in order to work in the Roman Curia (Holy See, Vatican) at the Asia Desk of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. On 1 October 1999, nominated Under-Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, Vatican, by Pope John Paul II. This appointment was confirmed by Pope Benedict XVI.

He has been a visiting professor of Catholic dogmatic theology and missiology at: Pontifical Institute, 'Regina Mundi' in Rome; Pontifical Institute of the Sciences of Education, 'Auxilium' in Rome; Rome Centre of the Loyola University in Chicago, USA., and at the Pontifical Urban University, Rome.

He has published three books: *Jñaneshvari*, Path to Liberation; *Journeying Together* (in English, French and Italian), a Marathi translation and short commentary on the Vatican II document, *Lumen Gentium*. He has also published over a hundred articles in various international academic journals of theology.

On 16 Jan. 2008, Pope Benedict XVI has appointed as Bishop of Nasik with personal title Archbishop.

**Rev. Dr. Gilbert de Lima** is a resident Professor of Systematic Theology and Formator at St Pius X College, Goregaon, Mumbai and is at present the Dean of Studies. He has also completed his Doctorate in Systematic Theology from the Pontifical Urbaniana University, Rome. He has authored some books and several articles in theological journals. He is also a visiting professor at some theological Institutes. He is the Director of the Permanent Diaconate Programme in the Archdiocese of Bombay. He was the Secretary of the Archdiocesan Biblical Committee for several years and is at present a member of the Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission and Interreligious Dialogue Commission.

**Rev. Dr. Stephen Fernandes** is resident Professor of Ethics and Moral Theology from St. Pius X College, Mumbai. He has a Doctorate in Moral Theology from the *Accademia Alfonsiana*, Rome, Italy. He also holds a Master of Commerce (M Com) and Bachelor of Education (B Ed) degree from the University of Bombay. For two terms he was the Secretary of the Bombay Priests Council. From the year 2008,

he is the Executive Director of the F.I.A.M.C. Bio-Medical Ethics Centre, Mumbai. From the year 2000, he is Theological Consultor, C.C.B.I. Commission for Doctrine and Theological Consultant, Catholic Medical Guild of St. Luke, Mumbai. He is also a Life Member of the National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC), Philadelphia, USA. He is a Member and Consultant, International Association of Catholic Bioethicists (IACB), Toronto. He is the Secretary, Permanent Diaconate Programme, Archdiocese of Bombay. He has presented research papers on Ethics and Justice issues at local, national and international conferences. He has also printed articles in various journals on Ethical issues and issues of justice and peace. In May 2006, he received the Pope John XXI International Award "Premium Deontologiae" for research on the occasion of the XXII World Congress of the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (FIAMC) in Barcelona, Spain. In January 2008, he received "The Iustitia et Pax Medallion" from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, Vatican City in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the promotion of Justice and Peace.