

## About the Editors

### Our Editors

1. **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, he was nominated Under-Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, Vatican, by Pope John Paul II and confirmed by Pope Benedict XVI.

He has been 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: *Jnaneshvari, 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 Nashik with personal title Archbishop. He is now Archbishop of Vasai Diocese.

2. **Rev. Dr. Stephen Fernandes** is resident Professor of Ethics and Moral Theology at St. Pius X College, Mumbai. He has a Doctorate in Moral Theology from the Academia 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 Centre (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 to his credit published 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.

- 3. Dr. Sr. Teresa Joseph fma** is a Salesian Sister of the Bombay Province who holds a Masters’ degree 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. Teresa has authored several books and has contributed numerous articles for various journals in India and abroad. One of her books *Dream Big! Dream True* is a best seller published by Better Yourself Books and has just gone for the 7th print.

## Note on the Contributors

1. **Fr. Cajetan D. Menezes** is the Director, Family Apostolate (Archdiocese of Bombay) and Director & Managing Trustee of Snehalaya Family Service Centre, Mumbai since 2003. He is the Coordinator for the Family Ministry for the Apostolic Vicariate of Southern Arabia since 2010, and Trustee and Governing board member of Kripa Foundation (India's largest NGO for Addiction & HIV/AIDS) since 2014.

A trainer and counselling psychologist who has presented several research papers at conferences in India and abroad. He has four published books to his credit. He has co-authored the best seller book "Creative Love" and authored "Family Pages – The Church Teaching on Family, "Family Perspective" and "Joyful Family - Learning from Pope Francis and *Amoris Laetitia*." He is an alumni of the John Paul II Pontifical Institute for Marriage and Family Studies. Besides a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the Mumbai University, he has Master's in Marriage and Family studies from the Lateran University, Rome and post-graduate studies in counselling psychology from Xaviers College, Mumbai. He is currently guiding several family ministry teams in India and in countries overseas that includes the Vicariates of Northern and Southern Arabia [Middle-East Asia] and Sri Lanka. In October 2014 Pope Francis invited him to participate in the III Extraordinary Synod of Bishops' on Family in Rome. He is also a Core Team member and Resource person for the CCBI (Episcopal Conference) Family Commission in India.

2. **Irfan Engineer** is Director from 1995 till date, Centre For Study of Society and Secularism, **Editor**, *Indian Journal of Secularism since 1996*, **Editor**, *Secular Perspective a fortnightly*. He holds a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc), University of Mumbai, May 1983 and L.L.B. University of Mumbai, May 1986. **Associations with social organizations / trusts / Institutions: General Secretary**, *Centre for Development Research and Action* and **Trustee**, Parvaaz, Ahmedabad. Irfan Engineer is Awardee: Peace Ambassador by Universal Peace Foundation. He has three books: Surat Riots, *Centre for Study of Society and Secularism* (1997), Bangladeshi Immigrants in Mumbai (Co-authored with Prof. Shama Dalwai) and *Issues of Communal Violence: Causes and Responses*, published by Institute for Peace Studies

and Conflict Resolution, Mumbai, 2013. He also has 18 articles published in Indian journals.

3. **KapiladevaDasa** joined ISKCON as a full time volunteer in 1984. He has been primarily associated with the Bhaktivedanta Institute (BI), Mumbai, the science, academic and research wing of ISKCON. The BI runs an M.S. /Ph.D. program in Consciousness Studies in collaboration with the Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS) Pilani. At present he is the Rector of the Bhaktivedanta Swami Mission School, Lokhandwala, Andheri. Here he oversees the project of incorporating vedic values into the current education system. He is also a Vice President at ISKCON Juhu, Mumbai.

Prior to joining ISKCON KapiladevaDasa did his B.E. (Hons.) in Chemical Engineering from BITS, Pilani. He then worked as a Project Engineer with Batliboi & Co. in their Air Pollution Control Division at Mumbai till 1984, after which he joined ISKCON.

4. **Dr. Astrid Lobo Gajiwala** is a medical scientist and bioethicist who established India's first Tissue Bank at the Tata Memorial Hospital in 1987 at a time when few in the country knew what a Tissue Bank was. She pioneered the use of radiation for the sterilization of biological tissues, and in 2004 gave India its first ISO certified Tissue Bank which has a place in the Limca Book of Records.

Dr. Astrid was the first woman President of the Asia Pacific Association of Surgical Tissue Banks (APASTB) breaking a glass ceiling that had been in place for 19 years, and in 2006 she organized India's first International Tissue Banking conference. She also served as National Project Co-ordinator for Tissue Banking for an Inter-regional Project of the UN that covered the Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Africa and Europe.

In 2010 she was invited by the Parliamentary Standing Committee, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, to make recommendations for amendments to the law governing the donation and transplantation of human tissues, and subsequently contributed to the development of Rules for the amended law.

Alongside her professional career Dr. Astrid is passionately engaged in the struggle for women's rights in the Catholic Church and is a founder member of *Satyashodhak* a Mumbai based feminist collective that has contributed significantly to the empowerment of women in the Indian Church for the past three decades. She is also a founder member of the *Indian Women's Theological Forum* (IWTF) and a member of the *Indian Theological Association* (ITA) and *Ecclesia of Women in Asia*, a group of Asian women theologians.

Currently Dr. Astrid is serving on the advisory bodies of a few *International Reform Groups* as well as the *Jesuit Conference of South Asia* (JCSA) engaged in the restructuring of their Assistancy and the *Jesuit Faculties' Forum for South Asia* (JFFSA) set up to re-orient Jesuit institutes of Philosophy and Theology.

She is in interfaith marriage with a Hindu for over 25 years and is a mother of 3 children.

- 5. Dr. Marie Fernandes** is Principal of St. Andrew's College, Mumbai. She was also a member of the Board of Studies in English at the University of Mumbai and is a recognized Research Guide. The title of her PhD thesis was "*The Animal Fable in Modern Literature*". This was subsequently published in 1996. She has to her credit a number of research articles published in journals both in India and abroad. She was awarded the prestigious – 'International Visitor's Leadership Award', funded by the US. State Department.