

#### Congratulations and Best Wishes to MCA-EC





a constant

There are a handful of days in each person's life that start out unremarkable but set into motion a chain of events that will never be forgotten. It could be the day you bought that winning lottery ticket, or the day you find your life's calling, or the day you first set eyes on your better half.

I haven't been around all too long, but I can say with confidence that June 9, 2009 is one of those special days for me. On that very day, a few families came together in a park in Woodbridge, NJ, and took the leap to form the Mangalorean Catholic Association of the East Coast—MCA-EC. There was a vibrant energy in the air, reminiscent of the birds of early Spring, fluttering about in anticipation of the beautiful season to come. Every attendee offered ideas for where this organization could potentially go and shared their dreams of how it could exponentially grow. I know this because I was fortunate enough to be in that number, allowing me to witness the humble beginnings of this group. Having been there, I can say with certainty that this organization has morphed into something far surpassing what those founders fathomed.



In the 10 years since, we have grown our membership upwards of 200 families. Each year, events are larger and grander than the last. More importantly, we have done good for our different communities in so many ways. By charitable contributions, volunteer work, or education programs, the MCA-EC has built up such a positive reputation for itself.

In the following pages of this booklet, you'll see some reflections from my fellow board members on the meaning and value of MCA-EC to them. They share how MCA-EC is an organization that's



built up by and for its members, especially the younger ones. Its benefits are sorely missed when away. These testimonies are just 4 perspectives on what MCA-EC exemplifies for its members; I'm sure a more thorough survey would bring about hundreds of unique, insightful answers.

Do you remember when you were 10 years old? At that ripe young age, it's easy to dream big and see the possibilities. Looking back, I spent much of that age looking forward to one day being President; look where that got me! Now, as we celebrate our 10-year anniversary, I invite every member of this organization to get into that same 10-year-old mindset. Anything is possible for MCA-EC; the last 10 years have been testament to that. So, here's to countless more years of breaking the walls of our expectations and going far beyond our dreams!

Clayton Monis, President, MCA-EC, 2019

## Congratulations to the MCA-EC on its Decennial anniversary!



Best wishes from Dr. Nigel and
Sarah Pereira

## Spiritual Director's Message

I would like to thank the past nine Presidents for their support and good work to uphold the motto of MCA-EC. I would also like to appreciate the contributed duties of the Founding Fathers of this Association and all those who worked towards it making it successful until date. My heartfelt congratulations to the present President of MCA-EC. I appreciate all your work and support in further building this association and making it a strong family.



May MCA-EC help bring all the Mangaloreans of east coast under one roof as one family. As Jesus said, "I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one" John 17:21. I would be delighted to offer my service to all those who need my spiritual guidance and prayers.

May the Lord continue to bless MCA-EC and as Psalm goes "May you live to see your children's children," May God grant us to see the Silver, Golden as well as other Jubilees of the association. I invoke divine assistance upon the association and all its endeavors!

Blessings, Fr. Ron

### MCA-EC's Former Spiritual Directors



Fr. Joseph Lobo



Fr. Arun Lobo



Fr. Augustine D'Souza, OFM Cap



Sister Gretta Fernandes, SSpS



Fr. Wenceslaus Rodrigues



With best compliments from Babco Foods



#### Congratulations to ALL on this momentous milestone!

Success is earned, and the decennial celebration is a testament to the dedication of all its members towards the success and growth of the organization.



Congratulations to MCA-EC on its 10th year! As a family we have been associated with MCA-EC from Year 1. In the last 10 years, we moved to the West Coast spending 3 years in California. Yes, the weather was beautiful, with no shoveling snow and easier commutes, and we enjoyed California, but very soon we realized the value that MCA-EC brings home. When in New Jersey, we had families to connect to; our kids grew up bonding over several summer evenings and weekends. As we contemplated our move back to the East Coast, our MCA-EC families, especially our Vadeyagars, were among the reasons we decided to do so. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as General Secretary in the Decennial year and our family will continue to remain associated with this organization for years to come!





#### - Eric Correa, General Secretary

Being the Treasurer on the 10th Year Anniversary of the Mangalorean Catholic Association - East Coast (MCA-EC) has tremendous significance for me in the sense that I am both thrilled and honored that I am part of the Executive Board on this important milestone of the MCA-EC. The last ten years has seen the MCA-EC grow leaps and bounds both in terms of membership, holding successful social and cultural member events, having members volunteering their services for organizations like Habitat for Humanity, financially giving back to other charitable institutions and getting the Mangaloreans residing on the US East Coast closer to one another.



The MCA-EC has a financially sustainable model of holding successful events and at the same time keeping both the annual membership fees and event fees affordable by raising sponsorship money. It has been a pleasure working with both the 2018/2019 Executive Board and the current Executive Board in serving the members and being responsible for all event operating statements and year-end 501©3 Federal & State financial reporting. What has been most rewarding is meeting the members and hearing them say how great the MCA-EC has been in imparting Mangalorean culture and values to the younger generation. In fact, one member brought it home when she mentioned how she wished that the MCA-EC was existent when her children were being raised in the US. By not having the opportunity of mingling with other Mangaloreans, her now grown children have no idea of their heritage or where their parents came from.

- Ben Sequeira, Treasurer

The first stage of life has passed... The children are all grown up... We have entered in the second stage of life. Let's enjoy the beautiful colors of life together.

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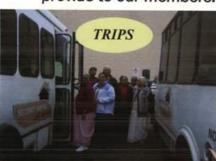


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Happy 10th-anniversary MCA-EC! I am privileged to serve this organization as a regional coordinator for MCA-EC this year. MCA-EC has touched different aspects of our community. The one aspect that I am proud of is the fact that our children have been given a sense of cultural identity. Every day they interact with different cultures at school and the playground. Sometimes it is confusing for them to process why their parents are so weird. Their parents have accents, they have different food tastes, and they talk a different way. They have weird rules in the house. Then they come to the MCA-EC functions and they see that there are other adults who are just like their parents. They understand that they are part of a unique culture. They make friends with other kids. They find that the other kids feel the same way too. This is an invaluable gift for our kids. This gives them stability and comfort in a multicultural country. As Hillary Clinton's book says, 'it takes a village". MCA-EC/vados is the village for our children.



- Jen Fernandes, Regional Coordinator





Best Wishes to MCA-EC on the 10<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary

From

Avis, Norma & Abigail Dsouza





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## AN AMAZING JOURNEY OF 10 YEARS — FROM THE EYES OF CO-FOUNDER, MARK MENDONCA

It was 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009, sunny and 70 degrees. Mangaloreans from all over East Coast of USA gathered in Woodbridge, NJ with one single dream – "Connect with Fellow Managaloreans". I was emcee of the event and kicked off the event right after prayer with the following story. "A holy man wanted to experience heaven and hell. God takes him to a room to see that a group of people sitting around a table with a large pot of stew in front of them. But, these people were thin and suffering. They were holding spoons with very long handles to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful, but because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths. The Lord said, "You have seen Hell." They went to the



next room to see similar setting with large pot of stew and people with similar spoons with long handles, but people were healthy and happy. The Lord said, "This is heaven. It is heaven because these people learned one basic skill - To feed each other."

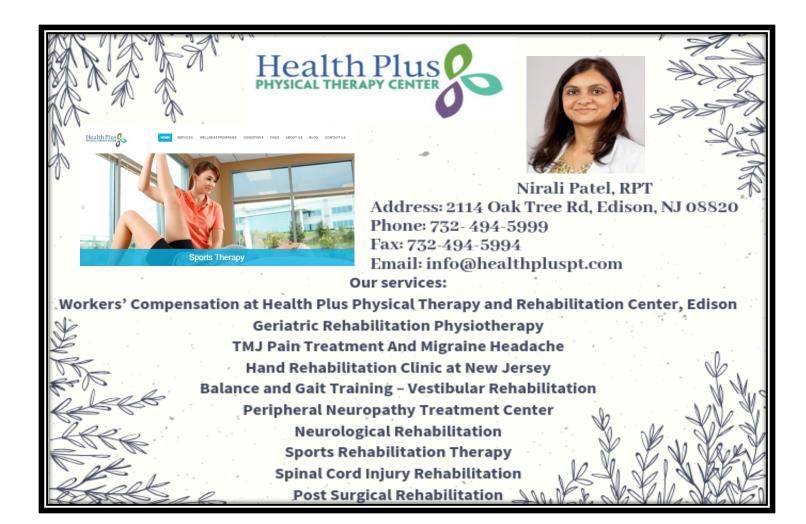
After 10 years, I am so delighted to see that many people in MCA-EC have learned this basic skill to feed one another. We have come together as one MCA-EC "MAKA EK", connected with others across the world, promoted culture through various events, empowered others through educational sessions, served community through charity and philanthropy programs and most importantly we have not forgotten our roots which was

laid on the strong foundation of Prayer and Spirituality. Reflecting 10 years, I never thought an email from me to 8 families to form an organization would be so impactful. As founders (MCA-EC founders listed in a separate page in the souvenir), we created the organization, but you all have nurtured it to take it where it is today.

As you can read in the accomplishments under each of the Presidents in this souvenir, you can very well assert that MCA-EC is following the life cycle of a social organization as laid out by Montalvo Associates (See picture). However, MCA-EC climbed the S-curve to integrate stage and quickly redefined a



new S-Curve by choosing to be a non-profit organization (501c3) in 2015, which followed a transformational MAGICal journey to become a valued organization for its members. Today, members have established a covalent bond, capitalized on business opportunities and thrived in the personal, social, spiritual, and professional front. With tremendous energy of our members, unwavering support from sponsors, and abundant blessings from our spiritual leaders, I am confident that we will continue to march towards our vision converting every stumbling block into a stepping-stone. Thank you all and may Lord continue to bless all of us and take us to the silver jubilee in 2034!



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Wishing MCA-EC Board and all members a Happy 10th Anniversary! We are happy to be part of this association that keeps us connected to our Mangalorean tradition & culture. Long live MCA-EC!



With Best wishes & Prayers: Manoj, Saritha, Macauley, Melody and Matthew Pinto



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# Best Wishes to MCA-EC on its 10th Birthday

From

Philomena Monis & Family





## LAMBH JIYO (LONG LIVE) MCA-EC

#### Merlin Mendonca, Chair, MCA-EC Decennial Committee

I can't believe MCA-EC has completed its 10 years already! It just feels like it was just yesterday that 8 families were discussing to have a Mangalorean Association. I am delighted to see our baby (MCA-EC) growing exponentially! I remember singing the prayer song at the first picnic. The kids were so excited to see so many other kids of their age that they could play with. I can't believe that my nephew Clayton, who was 11 years old then, is the current President of MCA-EC. A lot has happened during the past 10 years. Now MCA-EC has grown by leaps and bounds by connecting people and promoting culture. This was possible only because of the vision of our leaders, their dedication, sacrifice and all the volunteers who gave selflessly for the growth of MCA-EC. I am reminded of a quote by Helen Keller "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much". MCA-EC has conducted several events to empower its members; one being



"Empower Me" series via web where we leverage different speakers from various fields such as health and wellbeing, finance, Education etc. If anyone wants to be a speaker for Empower Me series, please send an email to info@MCA-EC.org. In addition to this, MCA-EC has conducted Konkani classes to promote culture.

I am so fortunate to be the Chair for the Decennial Committee of MCA-EC's decennial event. I have gained extensive knowledge and experience by taking up this role, which has helped me achieve my personal and professional goals. I am very proud and excited to inform you that I have the best team who worked collaboratively by giving countless hours to make this event a grand success. I thank each and every member for his or her dedication and sacrifice. Thanks to the Executive Board for your unwavering support. Below are the heroes of the Decennial Committee, which comprises of 4 sub-committees:

#### Merlin Mendonca - Chair, Decennial Committee

Clayton Monis, President MCA-EC (EB Representative)

#### Finance:

Sunil Lobo (Lead) Ben Sequeira (EB Rep)

#### Food and Logistics:

Eric Fernandes (Lead) Premilla Mendonca Ivan D'Souza

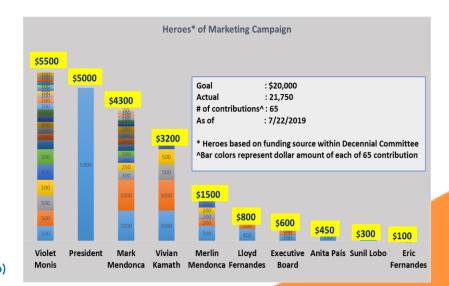
Lloyd Fernandes (EB Rep)

#### Marketing and PR:

Mark Mendonca (Lead)Violet Monis (Lead)Vivian KamathAngela JozsefAnita PaisFr. Ron MachadoMelrin SequeiraNorma RodriguesJosline PintoAnita PintoEric Correa (EB Rep)Anita D'Souza

#### Program:

Angela Jozsef
Fr. Ron Machado
Norma Rodrigues
Anita Pinto
Anita D'Souza
Nisha Lobo
Premilla Mendonca
Vanitha Furtado
Jennifer Fernandes (EB Rep)



"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself"- Henry Ford. As we step forward, let's have the feeling of belongingness towards our Mangalorean culture and help each other grow. I hope to see many more young leaders in the future. Wishing MCA-EC happy 10th birthday and great success for the future. May God bless & long live MCA-EC!

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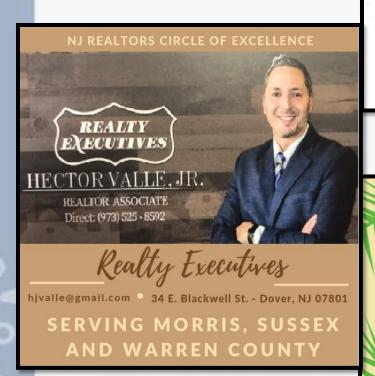
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\*Pick it up at the MCA-EC 2019 Christmas Party





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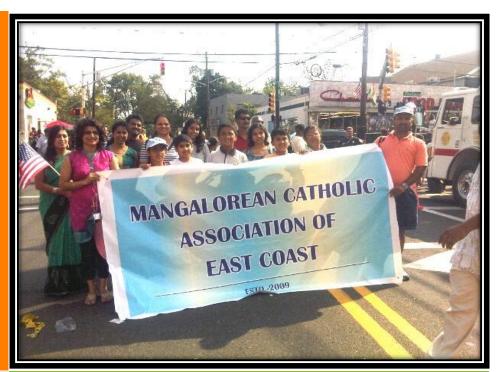
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## MCA-EC Founders

Mark & Merlin Mendonca
Christopher & Violet Monis
Melvin & Premilla Mendonca
Manesh & Mithila Aranha
Wesly & Lorna Tauro
Kevin & Friya D'Costa
Irwin & Lynn D'Souza
Ravi & Roweena Rego



Ex-President's Corner



Inside!

What the

past

presidents

of MCA-EC

have to

say...



Manesh Aranha 2009-10



Mark Mendonca 2010-11 & 2015-16



Gladwin D'Souza 2011-12



Steven Aranha 2012-13



Arun Menezes 2013-14



Roshan D'Mello 2014-15



Aarti D'Souza 2018-19



Bernie Pinto-D'Souza 2016-17



Sydney Lasrado 2017-18

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#### MCA-EC Executive Board 2009-2010



Manesh Aranha, President
Grace Baretto, VP Programs
Kevin D'Costa, VP Membership
Violet Monis, Treasurer
Roweena Rego, Secretary
Lynn D'Souza, VP Public Relations

Congratulations to all members as MCA-EC reaches its 10th year successfully. Over the years, the executive, advisory and volunteer teams generously contributed their efforts and time to help the organization grow from strength to strength. It's humbling to see where we've reached today. MCA-EC began with the efforts of a few families who kept discussing the possibility of bringing together fellow Mangaloreans in the area so to provide a social platform to support one another and keep our traditions alive for generations to come.

With a firm idea of our goals for the organization, a simple structure and full faith in God, we organized the first Monthi Festh followed by the first Christmas gala! What seemed challenging at that time now feels rewarding because we see a growing membership of wonderful and talented people. They not only add to the numbers at our flagship events but bring along and share their talents with one and another providing an enriching experience for all. Our organization is entirely run by volunteers donating their time and effort. Whether as a board member or volunteer, your efforts large or small have helped shape MCA-EC.

My sincere gratitude to all the people who have helped me through my term as President and thank you to all the board members who served with me and to all the board members and volunteers that followed thereafter and kept this organization going.

Dev Boren Korum! Happy Feast!

#### ~ Manesh Aranha



#### MCA-EC Executive Board 2010-2011



Mark Mendonca, President Vanitha Furtado, VP Programs Christopher Monis, VP Membership Marina Correa, Treasurer Bernie D'Souza, VP Public Relations

By the time my board took office, a year had passed since the birth of MCA-EC. Our board leveraged the passion and commitment of our members to the fullest extent to propel the organization to the next level. The year had many debuts – First strategy session was held, First Vado was created, First Gurkar was appointed, First MCA-EC Logo was created, First Newsletter was published, First event chair recruited, First time MCA-EC participated in India Independence Day parade. First cooking contest was held at summer picnic, First variety of cultural program displayed at Monthi Festh, First time strategy sessions, and the list goes on. Our diverse executive board brought several members together and came up with a shared vision for the first time – "Connecting People, Promoting culture" and this was captured in our newly created MCA-EC banner. The year had 3 flagship events (summer picnic, Monthi Festh and Christmas Celebration) and a retreat among others. We managed events efficiently and the surplus

money was deposited into a newly created bank account.

To create young leaders in MCA-EC, I conducted Toastmasters' Youth Leadership Program (YLP) to teach leadership and communication skills for about 23 youths. Many youths and parents testified how powerful impact it had in their lives.

These activities brought members together and we were quickly recognized as a fast growing, vibrant organization of Magaloreans on the east coast of USA.

While enjoying working together, we believe that we made a difference reflecting the words of Henry Ford-"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success"

~ Mark Mendonca





BEST WISHES TO MCA-EC & ITS MEMBERS ON COMPLETING 10 GLORIOUS YEARS!

FROM ARUMUGAM FAMILY



#### MCA-EC Executive Board 2011-2012



Gladwin D'Souza, President Steven Aranha, VP Programs Jaison Banji, VP Membership John D'Souza, Treasurer Diana Lewis, VP Public Relations

Wow. Its been 10 years since a few families came together at a picnic to form our ever growing, fun loving MCA-EC, to promote our culture and values. I remember how my wife pushed me to take our family for the 1st Christmas Dance organized by MCA-EC, held in New York. It was all new to me, meeting new people and watching the enthusiasm of people around me. I got interested and started participating in the events of MCA-EC not knowing that soon I would be thrust into taking up a Leadership role at the 3rd annual picnic. I had not thought about it but neither did I refuse. I believe it was the best decision I made, to get elected as the 3rd President of MCA-EC. That day I made new friends with people whom I had never met before, but ended up making life long friendship. That day, Steven Aranha, John Dsouza, Jaison Banji, Diana Lewis and I formed bond of strong friendship and decided to take our growing organization to new levels. It was a great year for us. We had tremendous support from many people. We launched the New Year with a fantastic Monthi Festh celebration. For the first time I read a prayer in Konkani in front of a crowd, my palms were sweating and I couldn't wait to get off the pulpit.

As a team, we decided to organize the Christmas Dance at Deewan banquet hall in Piscataway. It was so exciting. Brian and his band rocked the show. We had tremendous sponsorship. Steven organized getting Kuswar from India. Ernest Dsouza and many others were a great help to us organizing the event. Our event was sold out within a few weeks. We had a record attendance of more than 350 people that Our tremendous year ended successfully with the annual picnic the following year. It was an unbelievable year for our board, with new people joining our organization, tremendous help from many people in organizing events, new energy and enthusiasm, We knew that we were on the cusp of tremendous growth. It is so exciting to see our dear MCA-EC grow over youth increasing the vears and participation. On behalf of my board, I wish a very Happy 10th Birthday and wish many more wonderful and blessed years to come.

#### ~ Gladwin D'Souza

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Ajay Patel wishes a very happy Decennial Event to MCA-EC and its members!



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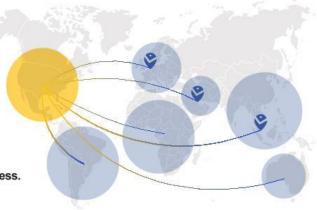


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#### MCA-EC Executive Board 2012-2013



Steven Aranha, President
Merlin Mendonca, VP Programs
Arun Menezes, VP Membership
John D'Souza, VP Finance
Kevin Saldanha, VP Public Relations
Roshan D'Mello, VP Public Relations

2012-13 Executive Board's accomplishments are as below:

#### **Built MCA-EC first Online Portal:**

- 1. Conceptualized the idea of MCA-EC's first ever-Online Portal for Membership and Event registration.
- 2. With Portal mastermind Sunil Lobo's help we obtained domain www.mca-ec.com and built an online portal with flexible configurations benefiting members & non-members with robust online event registration and membership renewal/registration process.

#### **Programs:**

- 1. We moved Monthi Festh to a big setting in Brooklyn, NY and thus had MCA-EC's first ever auditorium setting for Monthi Festh mass and cultural programs, leveraging auditorium's stage, curtains open/close feature for cultural programs. The venue provided a separate Lunch/Cafeteria hall that helped better organize breakfast and lunch with dining tables and seating for all attendees.
- 2. We moved rained out MCA-EC picnic venue due to park closure from flooding to warehouse in New Jersey. Despite torrential rains, within hours the night before the picnic, we successfully contacted close to 300+ picnic attendees with new picnic venue address change and successfully conducted all picnic games, programs as planned for the picnic at the new venue.
- 3. Encouraged vado level activities, cultural programs, Essay contests and introduced awards/medals at picnic.
- 4. Organized an amazing Christmas musical show with MCA-EC kids performing in tandem with carols in background. Conducted Personality contest and Fashion show for kids and couples.
- 5. We were blessed to conduct Spiritual retreats led by Fr. Walter Mendonca in the Fall & by Mr. Colin Calmiano in the Spring that refreshed and revitalized time spent in prayer and contemplation. These retreats helped rekindle and deepened our relationship with God. The retreats allowed us to seek God's healing grace, and thereby attain a degree of spiritual renewal.

Wishing MCA-EC all the success in years to come.

#### ~ Steven Aranha

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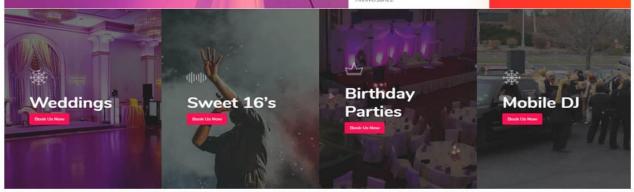
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# Congratulations! MCA-EC on your 10 year Anniversary Best wishes from. Gladson, Zeeta, Giselle and Gwyneth Cardoza.

### MCA-EC Executive Board 2013-2014



Arun Menezes, President Michelle Fernandes, VP Programs Neeta Mascharenhas, VP Membership Eric Fernandes, VP Finance Roshan D'Mello, VP Public Relations

During my term as president, the focus was to bring self-service to some of the manual tasks that were at hand. One of them was to put a technology team together to host an online

payment system for event registrations. The online payment system drove lot of new members to register, and for the first time in MCA-EC history, a trend for all three flag ship events becoming sold out began. Also, to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MCA-EC, my team introduced the anniversary brochure, a digital and printed channel for our proud donors to advertise and contribute funds towards the organization.

#### ~ Arun Menezes





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JD Infolabs is a US based healthcare solution provider, with a Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPO) in heart of Mangalore, India. We cater to individual, small and large practices, hospitals, urgent and long-term care.

Congratulations to MCA-EC on completing 10 years

Arun & Reena Menezes Jayakesh & Maria Nair

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



Our Heartiest Congratulations to Mangalorean Catholic Association - EC, USA on its successful completion of 10 years.

For the love and kindness spread among the members of this association may this community always stay Blessed!!! From

INFANT JESUS VADO



Dinesh Klavin Fernandis Born: 06.03.1969 Gone to the Lord: 31.01.2019

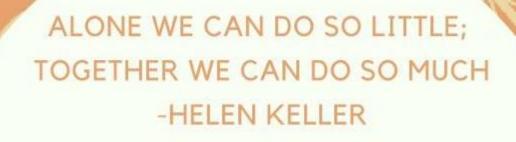
#### **Honoring His Life**

"My mind is at ease; my soul is at rest. Grieve not for me, remember the best times."

With tearful eyes we watched you, And saw you fading away, Although our hearts were breaking, We could not make you stay.

A light from house is gone, A voice we loved is stilled. A place is vacated in our home, Which never can be filled.

O how much we loved you,
Our hearts cannot express.
But God loved you more
And thought it best to take you
To heavenly rest.



# WISHING THE FUNCTION ALL SUCCESS! CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR HARD WORK.

Jovita Crasta, Seeth Vivek and Family

#### MCA-EC Executive Board 2014-2015



Roshan D'Mello, President Michelle Fernandes, VP Programs Gladson Cardoz, VP Public relations John Pinto, VP Treasurer Naveen Sequeira, VP Regional Coordinator

10 yrs. of this association! What a milestone! It was 2014, I was in my 3rd consecutive year as the whimsical MCA-EC Executive Board member and President of MCA-EC for an eventful year of 2014-15 when we five ardent, obsequious, pragmatic, nonpretentious, unassuming Mangaloreans were on the saddle of the MCA-EC Executive Board. Every past board put that one brick to build the association and the association grew in strides. The challenge the association faced then was quite unique, we were a 5 year old entity in 2014 with no scope for IRS tax exemption since we never submitted for tax exempt status since 2009 formation and there were challenges with back taxes.

So the ambivalent dilemma was do nothing or work the hard way with ghoulish gutsy calls for the association's longevity, it's standing as a future contributor towards the community and strong platform for the futures generations of Mangalorean's in the tri state area! So guided by the Word of God as in Jeremiah 29:11-13, we were blessed with wisdom to make appellate decisions and moved forward as God planned. We worked extremely hard for months to better the formation of the association for its secure future and filed back taxes and interests for year 2009 to 2014 and turned the association into IRS recognized 501(c) 3 tax exempt entity. On this odyssey, we were guided by professional certified tax consultants and supported by many members.

By mid-2015 our biggest accomplishment was MCA-EC re-branded as 501(c)(3) an IRS recognized tax exempt entity. The journey to a dignified & IRS recognized, compliant entity was quite phenomenal and sedulous experience. It took several hours of our volunteer time for months especially away from family. We pulled out the impossible! Somewhere in this madness, we organized a couple spiritual retreats, one rocking Christmas Party with PRISM band along with kids musical Christmas play, joint vado stations of cross, created our new association's new logo/banner and of course registered new MCA-EC.com domain

with Google Domains and integrated Google suite of apps supporting business email, online calendar, file storage, docs maintenance, video meetings, surveys and much more. We chiseled the association into a secure association that will do meaningful charity in future, whereby every MCA-EC member would directly or indirectly change needy people's lives both in the US or anywhere around the world. As Francis of Assisi once quoted "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you know that you are doing the impossible." We witnessed great positives during our Executive board term when our association came together for prayer, telephonic rosary sessions and support for Sania Aranha who battled cancer, a fighter and a survivor. Witnessed dedicated charisma of creative editorial services of Diana Lewis as newsletter editor & other volunteers year over year. Witnessed several relationships built by members thereby forging a strong bond while on flip side witnessed some relationships broken by colloquial egos of a few. Witness record attendees for picnic, Monthi Festh and Christmas events.

Today we are immensely pleased to see MCA-EC contributing to charity, helping the needy and making a difference in the community. All this would not be possible by the hard work of many both past and current board members who volunteered time and supported our association over the years. My message on MCA-EC's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary to all members is simple, be involved, come forward, serve and or volunteer and keep this association benevolent on its rails until its next station and many more years of success. On behalf of my 2014-15 Executive board, I wish MCA-EC the very best! God Bless you all and God Bless the MCA-EC!

#### ~ Roshan D'Mello



## MCA-EC Executive Board 2015 -2016

It was a roaring year for MCA-EC and truly a transformational one. Previous executive board worked hard to make MCA-EC a nonprofit charity organization. With the shift of focus from socio-cultural to charity-education, MCA-EC needed the transformational change to create a valued organization to its members. Through a member survey, the executive board developed a multi-year transformational program called **MAGIC** – Mangaloreans Accepting Growth Integrating Culture. The MAGIC included a 3-prong approach – Empower Members, Strengthen Locally, and Serve Community. To accomplish this journey, MCA-EC performed organizational changes by redefining the Executive Board roles, Advisory Council, and Committees (Social/Philanthropic/Public Relations/Special purpose). In addition, MCA-EC strengthened its by-laws to have the right checks and balances. Furthermore, the membership and financial years were redefined for compliances. Through vado level roadshows, the members were made aware of MAGIC program and the value it creates to its members. The MAGIC continued with over 50 Empower me/educational sessions (Empower Members), 25+ philanthropic/charity sessions (Serve Community), and formation of 5 brand new vados (Strengthen Locally) to make it 8 vados.

An innovative initiative that started is "For the Kids, By the Kids", a charity initiative by our kids to fund educational expenses of kids in India through our kids' sacrificial offerings. Parents partnered with kids to double their earnings.

We thank all the members and the executive boards that continued the MAGICal journey into multiple waves making MCA-EC truly a "For the People, By the People" organization.

~ Mark Mendonca

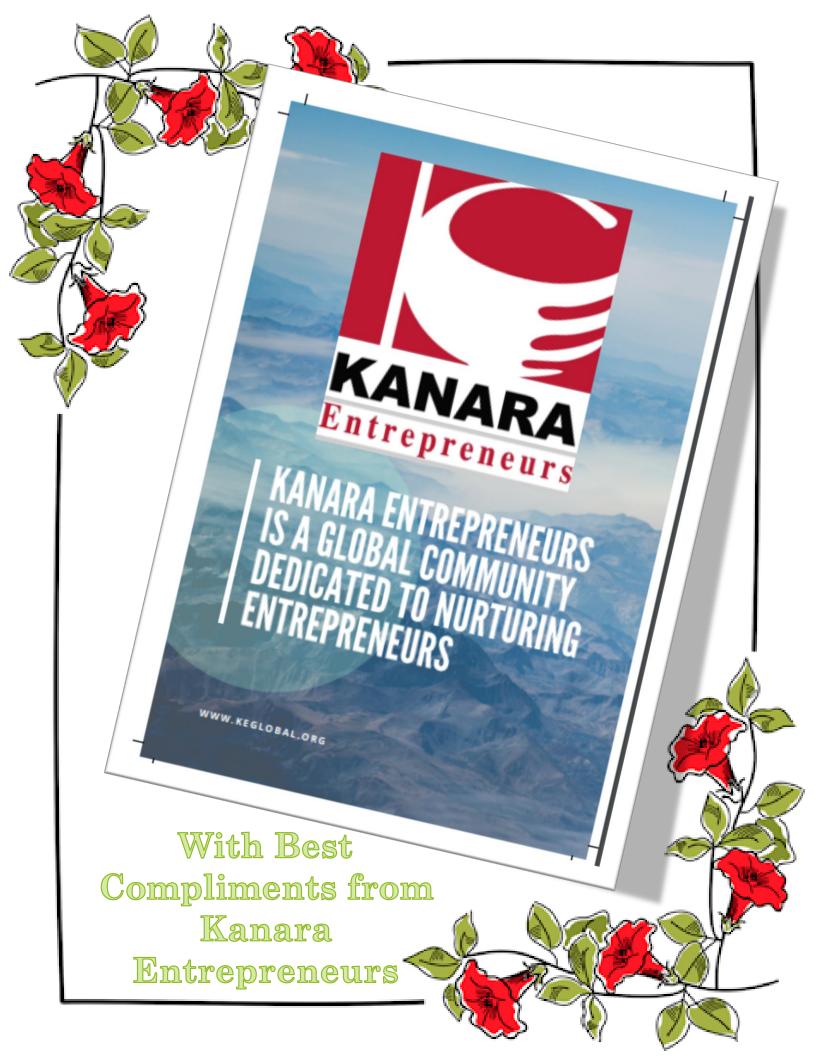
- Mark Mendonca, President
- Arine Aranha, Vice President
- Dylon D'Souza, General Secretary
- Rodney Quadros, Treasurer
- Paul Quadras, Regional Coordinator
- Diana Lewis, Newsletter Editor-in-chief











## **Testimon**ies of MCA-EC Members

It was so amazing to meet a lady after 40+ years at a MCA-EC picnic. I was working at their house in Mumbai as a Nanny for that lady and for her siblings.

Although we are first cousins, we never met in India. At a MCA-EC get together, someone took a picture and posted in social media. A relative recognized both of us and introduced both of us. MCA-EC connected the "Long lost Cousins"

Konkani class conducted by MCA-EC allowed me to connect with more friends and helped me understand what my parents are saying. It helped me use as a secret language when I am surrounded by other people and I want to communicate with my parents secretly.

I had a massive heart attack. It was because of the MCA-EC family that diagnosed the attack and their swift action that followed helped me get to the hospital on time. I got my second life!

charity.

It brings me immense joy to see the hundreds of children in our association, including my own, having so many deep, meaningful friendships formed over faith and

I was new to the county and going through severe family challenges. My sister was able to connect to a Mangalorean family through MCA-EC, who provided me boarding and found a job for me. Now I am settled with my own job and house. Thank you MCA-EC and to the host family.

The one hour excel class conducted through MCA-EC's empower me series taught me tricks that I have never learned in my entire life.

MCA-EC has given me a platform to grow my leadership and communication skills in my personal and professional arena.

As a bachelor looking for a suitable Mangalorean life partner, a MCA-EC event opened a plethora of opportunities for potential matches.

When I came to USA as a student 2 years back, I knew no one. Through MCA-EC, I got connected to a family where I could live for first weeks until I could arrange my own accommodation at school.

The soup kitchen and other charity programs help our children to experience the poverty at first hand and create sense of giving back to community. Thanks to MCA-EC for the opportunity.

The powerful MCA-EC retreat and counseling miraculously saved my family from the verge of collapse.

Having been there for 10 years, I can say with certainty that this organization has morphed into something far surpassing what those founders fathomed.

The Vados members are our new family far away from home. We celebrate birthdays, rejoice in prayers and help each other in their needs. We don't miss home now.

Through MCA-EC, not only have I have had the opportunity to carry on the many parts of my culture that I was not aware of. Through dance and song, I've come to a more fulfilling understanding of my Culture and through it's many events, I've made numerous friendships and important relationships that will last me a lifetime.

## Best Wishes to MCA-EC



From Dominic & Christine Mendonca

## MCA-EC Executive Board 2016 -2017

Four of us had been with the organization since its inception and one was a total Newbie. So, it would seem like running this organization would be a piece of cake. I would be kidding if I said it was. I can now say that success was ours that year only thanks to our integrity, transparency, faith in God and the confidence our members had in us.

Our accomplishments may be small, but every little drop makes an ocean, these are a few of them:

- 1. Selected the perfect venues for Monthi Festh and Christmas parties, which have been constant since then.
- 2. Started the "Amche Kodiyal" group, which is now being used to promote all our events and news to our MCA-EC Facebook family. This was huge, as we were able to reach a wider audience in a fraction of seconds.
- 3. We lived up to our mission statement of promoting culture by coordinating and making possible the first ever screening of a Mangalorean Konkani movie in the USA.
- 4. Our board was the first to coordinate with other Catholic organizations to have a inter community gathering to felicitate Archbishop of Madras and Mylapore on his visit to the USA.
- 5. We put into action the plans of the previous board by successfully executing for the first time a variety of extracurricular summer programs for adults and kids other than sports.
- 6. Facilitated the alliance between FAEE and MCA-EC which is still going strong.
- 7. Introduced the use of the website "www.wildapricot.com" which now makes event registration more easier.

There's no doubt that every board this far has worked tremendously hard to bring MCA-EC to its present glory. The members support has been overwhelming and nothing so far could have been achieved without the help of the volunteers at every event. My sincere thanks to all those who stood by us during our tenure.



President:

Bernie Pinto D'Souza

Vice-President:

Anita Pinto

General Secretary:

Sydney Lasrado

Treasurer:

**Violet Monis** 

Regional Coordinator:
Melvin Mendonca

This Board came together with the conviction that this organization is here to stay and would rise above all differences to make this Mangalorean community a stronger one.

"When the going gets tough, the tough get going" is the adage that would best describe us.

With gratitude always, ~Bernie Pinto D'Souza





# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOUNDERS AND PAST & PRESENT OFFICERS OF MCA-EC!

Best Wishes in the Coming Years for Greater Service to the Community!

Tony D'Silva Kamath, MAI, MRICS
Principal & Managing Director
International Valuation & Advisory, LLC
New York, NY 10018
917-558-1945

Tony.kamath@internationalvaluation.com www.internationalvaluation.com





## MCA-EC Executive Board 2017-2018

Sydney Lasrado, President Royce Macwan, Vice President Shilpa Menezes, General Secretary Reshma Mendonca, Treasurer Premila Mendonca, Regional Coordinator



All throughout the Executive year 2017-2018, the emphasis was on the following three areas –

- Connecting with more organizations,
- Donating more to charities and
- Conducting a variety of programs for our members.

I was extremely delighted to see that we as an organization were able to excel in all those three areas. We started out that year by connecting with Karnataka Cultural Organization Brindavana, where some of our members even had a performance there in April 2017. We then connected with FAEE (Foundation of Advancement in Educational Excellence) in May 2017 and reached an agreement where some of our members would help FAEE in their administrative work. FAEE is an organization that supports underprivileged kids in India to assist them in completing higher education. This collaboration with FAEE continues till date.

Apart from the Major events (Summer, Monthi Festh and Christmas Gala), we wanted to have a number of Programs that would benefit the kids as well as adults. We offered a wide variety of Programs during Summer. They were **Baking Classes**, **DIY session of Best from Waste**, **Yoga sessions** for our members and kids. We also had a **CPA knowledge session** for those who wanted to know the basics of Investing and also had a **Game themed Trading** session for Youth at the end of the year. In August 2017 MCA-EC participated in the **Inter-cultural mass** alongside other Catholic organizations to felicitate the Archbishop of Madras and Mylapore. Another major milestone during my term was that we were able to form the **Princeton Vado** in October 2017. We started off with a few families and now it has already grown to 15+.

As a non-profit organization, another important aspect is Charity. I was proud to lead the team that was able to make a record number of donations that year. The donations were given to Matthew 25:Ministries for Hurricane Maria (\$1000), Catholic Charities: - Houston for Hurricane Harvey (\$500), Legacy of Life foundation (\$1000), Shanti Bhavan children's project (\$1000), Little Sisters of the Poor (\$1000). A total of \$4500 was donated to Charity the past year. This was the *first time* such a high amount was ever donated by MCA-EC and it was only possible due to all our wonderful members. Other charitable work that we did was volunteering at Food drive at Community Bank of NJ. We held the Annual Lenten Retreat jointly with the Goan Association in March 2018, another example of MCA-EC working alongside other organizations.

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## MCA-EC Executive Board 2018-2019

The MCA-EC Executive board 2018-2019 comprised of the following exemplary individuals.

Aarti D'Souza, President Melrin D'Silva Sequeira, Vice President Lydia D'Souza, General Secretary Benito Sequeira, Treasurer Anita D'Souza, Regional Coordinator



Each of us had unique talents, which was showcased through the year. It was a lot of fun organizing the events and we went above and beyond to do our bit, which was evident in all the events conducted.

We had 4 successful events, which were very well organized and planned.

- Summer Picnic in June
- Monthi Festh Mass and Cultural Evening with authentic Mangalorean food in September
- Christmas Gala
- Lenten Spiritual Retreat in April

In addition to the above, we held a couple of charity and humanitarian related activities like visits to soup kitchens, nursing homes, and supported Habitat for humanity. A lot of thought was put in planning and deciding the menu at events to be of liking to our fellow Mangaloreans and appeal to their taste buds. In spite of keeping costs low and without compromising on the quality, we were still able to make enough profit to donate to various charities. I am humbled to say that at least two out of our four donations will be helping the needy in India.

- 1. Catholic Charities of Newark (www.ccannj.com)
- 2. Kal-Pa-Vriksh (www.kal-pa-vriksh.org)
- 3. Missionaries of Charity (www.motherteresa.org/missionaries-of-charity.html)
- 4. Salesian Missions
- 5. Shanti Bhavan Children's Project

Additionally, we purchased Insurance for the event, which is essential to protect the organization and its trustees; this was something new that was started during our tenure.

Kick started the Decennial committee and worked with them till our tenure ended.

Individual vados were encouraged to conduct their own charity related events and as a result Fatima Vado contributed to the St Josephs Shrine in NJ

I thank all our dedicated sponsors for their continued support.

Congratulations to the MCA-EC on its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

~ Aarti D'Souza



## Congratulations MCA-EC

Congrats on your 10th anniversary!

Wishing you much success many more to come!

A wonderful organization that has successfully bridged the east and west.

Cheers!!!



With Best Wishes
The D'Souza Family
Aravind, Rima, Aaron & Neil
2019



MARIAN KAMATH, SELWYN J. BAPTIST,
GLENWYN P. BAPTIST,
ARUN MENEZES AND ALL THE FAEE
VOLUNTEERS

#### Message from Newsletter Editor

Dear MCA-EC members,

There would be no MCA-EC without each and every one of you, so, to each member, I extend a heartfelt congratulations on your 10th Anniversary!

My personal "MCA-EC" story starts with my parents. I was born and raised in New York City to humble Mangalorean immigrant parents with humble means. Still, they did their absolute best to ensure that we daughters knew our roots. My sisters and I had what was at that time a unique experience; we were raised in the most cosmopolitan city in the world, while being raised by parents with village upbringings. We lived a sheltered life, comprising mostly of school and church, and every few years, we would spend our summer with our grandparents. I credit those monsoon summers in Mangalore with helping shape us.



As 1st generation children, many of us struggled with identity. The struggle was that we had nobody to identify with outside of family; we also had limited cultural outlets to give us a sense of tradition. Monthi Festh was only a magical myth in my young mind. Every September, we would receive the blessed grains of rice from the first harvest enclosed in a blue Aerogram from my grandmother; my mom would make us delicious sabakki payasam while my dad would reminisce about what a grand celebration it was back home. However, with school in session in the US, I never had the honor of attending the mythical Monthi Festh.

When I became involved with the Mangalorean Association in Maryland, where we first lived in 2005, and then MCA-EC after we moved to New Jersey in 2010, it stemmed from a desire to ensure that my future children would not have the same experience. Thankfully, this wish has come true. In fact, my oldest daughter took some of her first baby steps at her first authentic Monthi Festh celebration in the US. It was a true blessing on many levels. I am sure that many of you have similar stories to share of milestones experienced only because of the generosity of the volunteers of this association. It brings me immense joy to see the hundreds of children in our association, including my own, having so many deep, meaningful friendships formed over faith and charity.

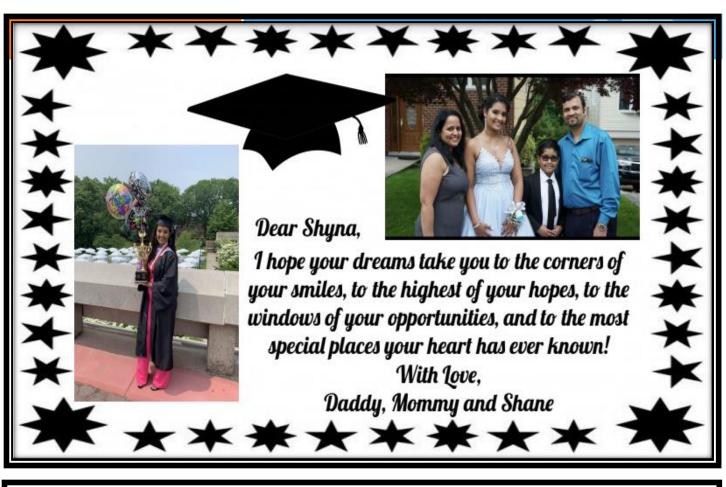
Edition after edition of the newsletter, I am constantly uplifted by the stories of countless members in their fervent missions to fortify their local communities. Year after year, I have been amazed to see each Board increasing the scope and vision of the organization to touch more and more lives, while generating maximum positive impact as a non-profit organization. Still, with as much as has been accomplished in 10 years, as beautifully enumerated in the contributions of each of our past presidents, I strongly believe that the best is yet to come. As long as our compassionate members continue to prioritize the greater good, MCA-EC will continue to be hlessed abundantly. May God bless each and every one of you and your families with a burning desire and commitment to make your communities and the world a better place. Wishing you a divine Monthi Festh!

With Love, Blessings & Gratitude,

Diana M. Lewis, VP of PR 2011-12, MCAE-EC Newsletter Editor-In-Chief 2012-Present

P.S. Many hearty thanks to Melrin Sequeira and Josline Pinto for collating and editing this souvenir booklet!

P.P.S. Immense thanks to every sponsor; your contributions are deeply appreciated for helping the association continue to grow, thrive and create more positive impact.







Visit us for all classical Bridal and party wear!

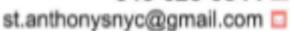






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### M C A - E C

## VADO Reflections



## **MORIYE VADO**

Together we succeed

Moriye Vado is one of the oldest vados of MCA-EC comprising of 23 families.

#### **Latest Accomplishment:**

Konkani classes introduced by Merlin Mendonca

#### What bonds all of us together?

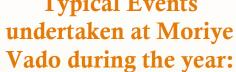
M – Mangalorean

C – Culture that unites

A – Advocates &

E – Empowers/Educates

C – Catholics & Community Service



Stations during lent

Gents & Ladies day outs

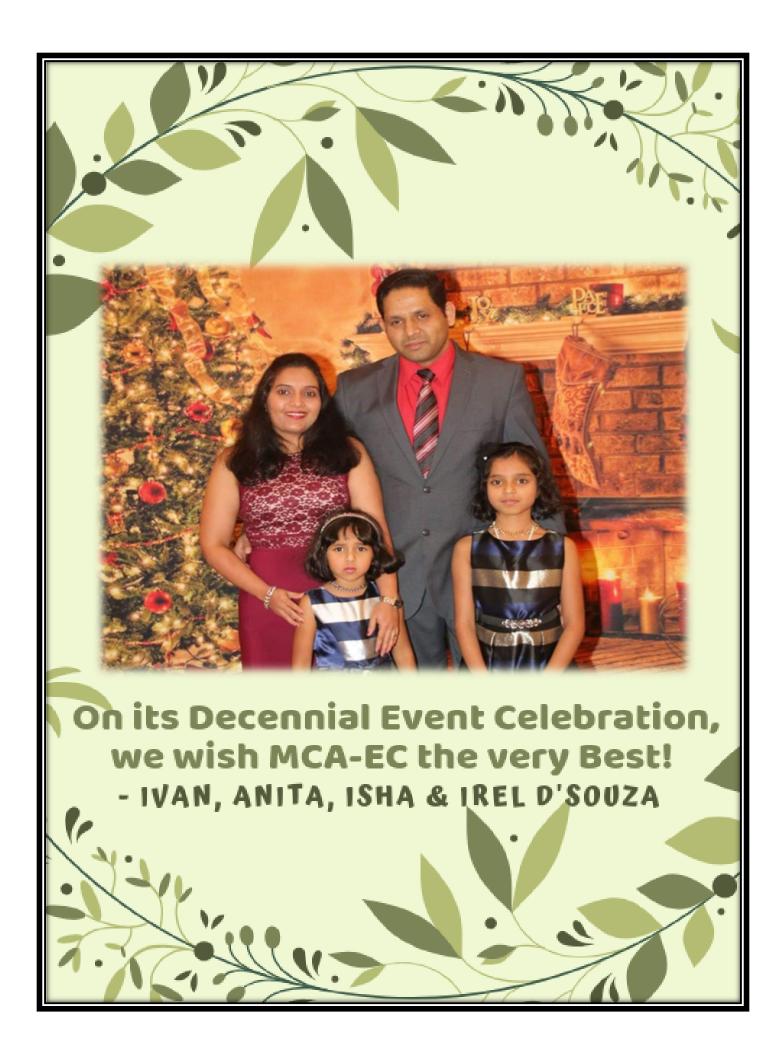
Beach day

**Pool party** 

**Camping** 

**Fruit Picking** 





## **FATIMA VADO**

## What is at the heart of Fatima Vado? Our children: We give them roots so they can reach the stars.

Over the last seven years, Fatima Vado has evolved into an environment where authentic, caring relationships have developed. Our senior members encourage, offer advice, and are always ready to support our activities. Our children, who make up the nucleus of the Vado, bring so many different talents and personalities into the mix. These gifts are nurtured by members of the Vado who help them to share their talents, improve and grow in confidence.

Every member of every family, young or old, has contributed in working together, on both social and spiritually rewarding activities. Our annual events include: Stations of the Cross in Lent, annual picnic, summer beach day, October rosaries, Thanksgiving celebration and most recently, a New Year's Eve blast. We also participate in community service activities such as Christmas caroling at Senior Centers, as well as volunteering at neighborhood soup kitchens.

We are proud to belong to Fatima Vado where we deepen our faith, be a support system to each other, and have fun! Participating in MCA-EC events and activities emphasizes how we are all part of one big family under God.













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Arrangement for morning tea, breakfast, fruits and juices.

Regular exercises.

Availability of Homemade nutritious food.

Facilities for traveling to your home and back.

We offer services for visits to park, picnic, cinema, restaurants.

Only 40 seats are remaining for morning batch.

Registration open for afternoon batch!

## **INFANT JESUS VADO**



"Coming together is beginning, Keeping Together is progress & Working Together has been IJV's Success"

The Infant Jesus Vado has been a few years old now. The Vado began with a few families and more youth living around Jersey City. Ever since the formation of this group, our Vado has grown into a huge family of more than 15 members. Last year, the spirit of Infant Jesus has blessed our Vado with three little toddlers Kian, Aliana and Abigail. These latest additions to our family tree, have brought us all together in Prayers and Spirit.

It has been a very eventful year post the Christmas Gala. We celebrated Easter with thanksgiving to the Lord, followed by Mangalorean Cuisine Pot luck. The Vado members surprised each other with their culinary skills at cooking the most delicious traditional meals.

As a part of the IJV tradition, we welcome the new

Gurkar/Gurkarn with a Handover ceremony, which generally takes place at an overnight trip during summer. This year, we made a trip to Ocean Pines, Maryland with a group 4-5 families. It was a great trip that bought families together, some of the fun activities included catching crabs by our lakeside holiday homes. The children were thrilled to witness the amazing catch of 16 crabs! We had a fun BBQ night by the Bay and went Kayaking the next day.

We also plan to host a Rosary in preparation to celebrate the joy of the birth of our Blessed Virgin Mary and pray for the success of Monthi-Festh that we all are looking forward too.

## Happy 10th Awiversary MCA-EC!

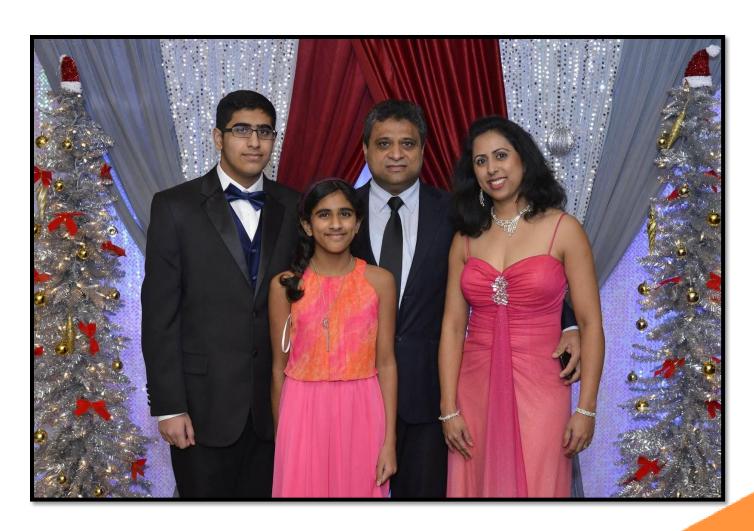


BEST WISHES FROM MELVIN,
PREMILLA, ORRAN & NATHAN
MENDONCA

BEST WISHES TO
MCA-EC AND TO ITS
MEMBERS ON
THIS VERY SPECIAL
OCCASION OF
DECENNIAL EVENT

From John, Michelle, Amelia, Aaron and Alexia

# Congratulations on your 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary MCA-EC!! Wishing you many more years of success, growth, good luck and joy!!



Best Wishes from Vijai, Vanitha, Vinuth and Venora Furtado

## Sacred Heart Vado



Congratulates MCA-CC on this decennial milestone of service to the community and to the faith.

## **SACRED HEART VADO**

## Where Family Values + Culture + Fun = Bonds Made for a Lifetime

Sacred Heart Vado is the newest formed Vado of MCAE-EC and is comprised of families within the Princeton area and beyond. It was formed in October 2017 with 7 families and with open arms is welcoming new families, making the community group continue to thrive and flourish. We now have 14 families in our Vado.

We have had some great meetups so far and have also participated in some fun events that will become cherishable memories. Some of these highlights include potlucks, regular get-togethers, picnic, and bigger events such as the Monthi Festh.







Our biggest achievements have been working together to make each other feel included and organizing events that make our group feel confident and prepared to accomplish anything. Another thing to be considered an achievement is the special bond created between our shared culture, which shines despite any other differences aside.



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## **SANGATHA VADO**

Sangatha Vado, based in Northern New Jersey, was formed because of the efforts of Aarti D'souza. She was determined to start a Vado that was based locally. Sangatha Vado officially came into existence in October 2016. Our families are spread throughout Bergen, Essex and Morris county. We also have a couple of families from Somerset county.

Sangatha Vado has been involved in volunteer/charity events, social and family events. In 2018, we volunteered at St. Lucy's Emergency Shelter in Jersey City. We provided much needed food for 160 people. We had our annual summer picnic, with delicious BBQ, fun and games, capping it off with a beach outing.

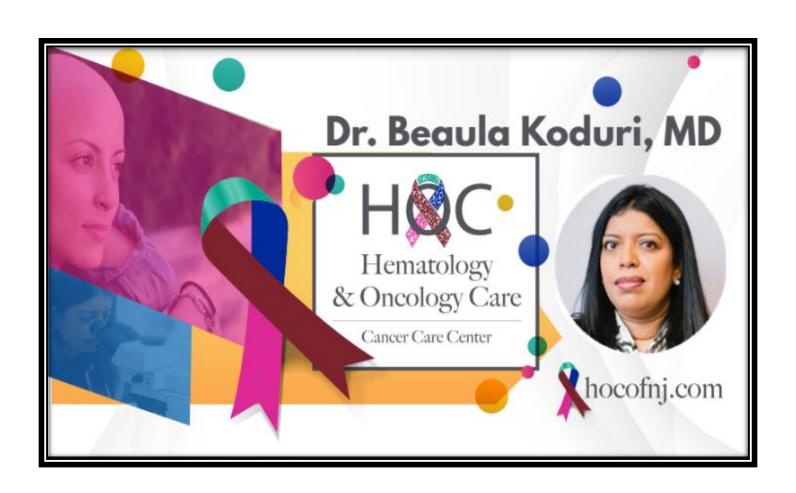
Last year, a group of 6 couples and kids came together for our very first dance performance on the occasion of Monthi Fest. Choreographed by Gayle Menezes, the adults danced to Remo's rendition of Maria Pitache, while the kids performed to Undra Mujhea Mama.

We have also started meeting virtually to recite the rosary once a week, thanks to the resolve of Tina Colaco.

Our Vado is very proud of the fact that we have some prominent members in our group, who have contributed their time and talent to MCA-EC: Aarti D'Souza, President (2017-2018); Jennifer Castelino, Regional Coordinator; Diana Lewis, Editor-in-chief; Ben Sequeira, Treasurer and Eric Fernandes, Committee Lead for Food and Logistics.

This year, in addition to our usual activities, we are trying to complement our spiritual growth by having a reflection session sometime in the Fall 2019. Thanks to MCA-EC, we have formed quite a tight knit group and we look forward to creating wonderful memories together!







Dr. Beaula Koduri, MD



#### ONCOLOGY

Pancreatic Cancer Prostate Cancer Gastric Cancer Ovarian Cancer Breast Cancer Lung Cancer Lymphomas Myeloma and others.

#### HEMATOLOGY

Anemia
Leukopenia
Leukocytosis
Thrombocytopenia
Thrombocytosis
Polycythemia
Vitamin D deficiency
Myeloproliferative Disorders
and others.

## TREATMENTS

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Cancer Immunotherapy
Cancer Molecular Risk Testing
Hormone Therapy
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## **DIVINE MERCY VADO**



Stations of the Cross at Blue Shrine

Greetings from Divine Mercy Vado. It is great to see how our Vado Family is growing strong in faith and love specially in this Decennial year of our organization, year after year during the Lenten season we have gathered together every weekend at a Vado member's home. All the kids and adults took part in the Holy Lenten season. The children were most enthusiastic in leading Stations of the Cross and singing hymns. The Vado members also embarked on a pilgrimage to Blue Army Shrine in Washington Township, NJ. It was wonderful Lenten treat.

As part of the Vado activity, we had the annual soup kitchen Visit to St Mary's Parish in Plainfield, NJ. Kudos to the young vado members for serving the underprivileged.

Our Vado members are excited and looking forward to the Grand Decennial Celebration.



## Congratulations from

## **Bhagevonth Kutam Vado**





As the MCA-EC celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the past 10 years that have led to this day. So many hands and hearts have worked together to make this day possible and we are glad to be a part of this wonderful journey. Happy 10<sup>th</sup> birthday MCA-EC, Cheers to the 10 years of success and let's raise the bar to make the next 10 years even better for we know, TOGETHER WE CAN, TOGETHER WE WILL.

Email: <u>pa.de.vado@gmail.com</u>
Website: <u>https://sites.google.com/view/pa-de-vado</u>

## **BHAGEVONTH KUTAM VADO**

Says Akela the great, in Rudyard Kipling's, the Jungle book "The strength of the wolf is the pack and the strength of the pack is the wolf".

The members of the Bhagevonth Kutam vado are one tight pack.







Bringing together families from Pennsylvania and Delaware region, we help each other grow by devoting our time and talents to plan many meaningful and fun activities during the year. Some examples are charity events & prayer services during Lent, Easter celebration, Rosary and pilgrimage to a shrine of Mother Mary during the month of May, summer picnic, fellowship for youth and our ever-popular annual Yuletide Christmas ball. This gives our vado members lots of opportunities to get together and bond as one family. We celebrate each other's joys and share each other's sorrows. This year we are sending three of our precious youth to college, if it weren't for the formation of our vado 7 years ago, we wouldn't have felt the twitch in our hearts to watch our young birds fly away with dreams in their eyes while we say a silent prayer for them in our hearts.



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## **KURSA VADO**

K - Kutam

U - Ullas

R - Rozar

S - Sombrom

A - Arpan

VADO



Kursa Vado is one of the most talented and vibrant Vados of the MCA-EC and is located in the heart of the New York City and its surroundings. It's one of the largest Vados covering the five Boroughs and Long Island bearing witness to diversity and enterprise. It focuses mainly in building the lives of its members through spiritual and family centered values. Regular gatherings are held with retreats, prayer meetings, festivities, family celebrations, picnics and trips that attract many Vado families to be united and to strengthen the family bonds among them. The talented children of the Vado are our treasure. They compete in many school activities and bring honor and make Kursa Vado proud by winning awards and eash prizes. Our Vado is also blessed with many priests and nuns.

The Kursa Vado is known for its leadership. All the Gurkars, both present and past, have worked hard to keep the Vado united. We are proud to say that Kursa Vado is an ideal Vado.





Long live Kursa Vado

### Celebrating Golden Jubilee of Wedding (1968-2018)

Benedict and Santhan Mendonca, Celebrating 50 years of love and togetherness at St. Francis Xavier Church, Kenha (Mudarangadi) with their children and grand children.



...and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh

- Mark 10:8



We thank God for His choicest blessings upon us and feel so blessed to be associated with MCA-EC since its inception in 2009. Hope to see you all in person at the Decennial Event! — BenSan Mendonca

Best wishes to a long and happy married life! From – Mark/Merlin, Fr. Walter, Violet/Christopher, Clayton, Meldon, Melanie and Cleon.



#### Celebrating 20 years of Priesthood (1999-2019)



Fr. Walter Mendonca, Celebrating holy mass at the occasion of his 20 years priesthood with his family in Shepherds field, Israel on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.



"If you want to walk fast walk alone. But if you want to walk far, walk together" - Ratan Tata

I am reminded of these wise words at this great occasion of the decennial celebration of MCA-EC. The past ten years were indeed a journey together and therefore I am sure it will continue for many more years. It is said that perusing excellence is not a one-time job but it is a way of life. When I see the 10 years journey of MCA-EC, I am delighted to see the path of excellence taken by both office bearers and members as a way of life. Therefore I rejoice with you all in thanking and praising God for 10 years of togetherness, ten years of happiness, ten years of making dreams come true, ten years of sharing and ten years of trust you have put in God and in one another. It is my wish and prayer that the Decennial celebrations of MCA-EC bring abundant blessings to all its members.

- Fr. Walter Mendonca, SVD

# Congratulations to MCA-EC on its 10th Anniversary!



Wishing you a successful journey ahead to reach 25th anniversary and beyond!

- Kenneth, Vandana, Gerard and Min Monteiro



## Message from Souvenir Booklet Editors

Hi Everyone! Oh, don't worry, I'm just here to say a few words. After an action-packed year as part of last year's board I thought I would now have a lot of free time this year, but as the saying goes - 'The reward of good work is more work', here I am again, as the editor for the Decennial Souvenir.

As we celebrate this special year of MCA-EC, as the editor, I loved my little role especially because I could see the wonderful glimpses of everyone (Founders, Presidents, Vados and all members) across the span of 10 wonderful years and how we have evolved. I cannot imagine the efforts, thinking & planning the founder members would have put in to forming this wonderful organization that connects so many of us – fellow Mangaloreans, today! And hats off and a big thanks to all the subsequent board members who have spent their time sacrificially, worked so hard with different milestones achieved every year over the years to build this organization and to make it what it is today!

May God Bless you all and hope you enjoy this special year for MCA-EC!



#### ~Melrin Sequeira



Hearty Congratulations to MCA-EC and a big thanks to all the members for supporting and enriching it year after year.

Our association with MCA-EC has benefitted my family in many ways. We moved to this country 5 years ago and knew just a handful of people. Thanks to MCA-EC, we now have so many friends, which are like family willing to help in every situation, guiding and encouraging our children to stay connected to our roots.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to give back to the organization in small little ways: by being the Gurkarn of Moriye Vado for 2 years (2016-17 & 2017-18) and now as an Editor alongside Melrin Sequeira.

I wish MCA-EC the very best and all you members a Happy Monthi Festh.

~ Josline Pinto





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Congratulations to the MCA-EC on 10 years of service, smiles, and success! We're looking forward to many, many more!



**The Monis Family** 

