

FRANCIS VINEETH VADAKETHALA CMI

Footprints of a Philosopher-Theologian Mystic



Father Francis Vadakethala CMI, my priest-brother came to Mary Hill Manglore, to our novitiate, to see me and wish me for my first profession in 1968. Since he was going to Oxford, he was not able to attend the ceremony of the profession. In the novitiate, I was given a name Jolenta. My priest-brother asked my Superior General whether he could change

Vineetha AC, Shoranur (Sister of Father Vineeth)

My Brother

my name. She gave him full freedom. So, he gave the name Vineetha. *V + aaneetha* – one who is brought to the world in a special way - Our Lady. Since my birthday is on 8 September, at home I was given the name Mary; hence, he said that Vineetha would suit me better. He also suggested me to take my feast on 8 September.

In 2009, I made my *tapas* retreat for 40 days under him in the Ashram; it was from 1 January to 25 February. It was a real prayer experience for me. After a year he asked me whether I can come to the ashram to put order in the Ashram Library. I was at Lady Immaculate Convent, Ottappalam. Although the previous year I had gone for 40 days retreat, I informed my superior about my brother's request. I was touched by her answer, as she instructed me to reserve my ticket to Bengaluru. I went to Vidyavanam Ashram and arranged the books in the library and organized its catalogue.



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Whenever we came home for holidays, we brought him home. He would celebrate Holy Mass for us at home. Three years back I had gone to see my brother Vincent's grandchild Eva. For lunch Father Vineeth, myself, Sister Karuna, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Vincent – all five of us were at the table. Then, Thomas told Vincent's son to take a photo and keep it. He was a real blessing for our family with his spirit of prayer and sacrifice.

Sebastian Payyappilly CMI, IOCL, DVK, Bengaluru

A Man Who Lived What He Preached

Hearfelt condolences at the demise of our great Acharya Loving Vineethachan. It is not only a loss for the Preshitha Province but for the entire CMI Congregation, to the world of philosophy, and Indian spirituality. To my mind, he was indeed an unmatched visionary, original in his thinking, lover of Blessed Mother, explorer of Indian ethos, and, above all, a man who lived what he believed and preached. പ്രണാമം! May his soul rest in peace!

