

Herald Cafe

Walking as one with the Lord

Uniting for a spiritual renewal during the Lenten season, the devotees especially the youth prayed as one at the 7th Annual Walking Pilgrimage (Bhavarthachi Yatra) at the Old Sancoale Church



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In the dark of the night, the roads leading to the Old Sancoale Church were buzzing with energy as thousands of devotees prayed and sang hymns in unison. Walking nearly ten kilometres, devotees participated in the 7th annual Walking Pilgrimage (Bhavarthachi Yatra) organised by the Archdiocese of Goa and Daman on the First Sunday of Lent. Over 28,000 youth and parishioners from all parishes in Goa commenced their walk from five different places closest to their churches, Bambolim, Neura, Cansaulim, Verna, and Vasco.

Once at the church, the day began with adoration to the Blessed Sacrament was led by Fr Xavier Braganza followed by the Eucharistic celebration, which was presided over by Archbishop Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão, Archbishop of Goa and Daman.

For this Jubilee Year, special emphasis was placed on the Cross and scenes from the Passion of Christ, presented by the youth from various parishes added depth to the solemn occasion.

THE FIRST WALKING PILGRIMAGE

This was my first walking pilgrimage from Bambolim to Sancoale. I felt excited and a little nervous as it was challenging. We left from Bicholim by 12:10 am and reached Bambolim by 1:20 am. We started walking at 1:45 am and reached our destination by 4:20 am. The experience was amazing and spiritual. At first, we all walked in groups to not feel left out and we prayed the Rosary and sang hymns together. As we reached near the flyover at Agassaim, the journey was more challenging. When I got tired, I remembered tough times in my past and told myself, "If I can get through those, I can finish this pilgrimage." As we walked, more people joined us, and we felt a sense of community. During the prayers, adoration and mass, I felt a deep spiritual connection with God. I felt positive and hopeful as I burned my written prayers and petitions. I pray that my wishes and those of my friends and family are answered. I'm already looking forward to next year's pilgrimage.

— Savia Fernandes, Bicholim



WALKING ON THE RELIGIOUS PATH

The walking pilgrimage held in the first Sunday of Lent is a spiritually renewing experience. It is an event which we eagerly look forward to every year and prepare for it well in advance. Both, me and my husband have been participating in the walking pilgrimage right from the beginning. Initially, it was out of eagerness to see what this

pilgrimage is all about. But as we participated in it each year, not only were we spiritually inclined and motivated to go for it whatever situation we might be in, as it increased our faith in God and empowered us to face any untoward calamities which came in our lives. Agreed we do face the challenges of walking, but then when we compare it to the sufferings which our Saviour Jesus Christ had to endure for the salvation

of humanity, we feel our pain and suffering is nothing compared to this. This belief empowers us to participate each year.

— Shamin Sequeira, Bicholim



RETURNING WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

This is my second time that I participated in the Walking Pilgrimage. I had participated in the walk in 2023. I had a few intentions for which I had promised myself of going again. I prayed for it and I got it. Some are yet to be received. I had gone with that intention that whatever the way it is, these things are achieved. It is for thanking God for what he has done for me. This time, the walk began right from the Bambolim church. We finished it faster. Since I am I was the president of the Tropa Church youth committee, I was with Fr Peter Simon Mascarenhas, parish priest of the parish of the Tropa Church and the Dean of Siolim deanery, right from the start. We said the Rosaries and sang hymns. Although our Tropa parish is small, we were a total of 50 people including 19 youth members as the focus this year was on the youth. I don't like to walk because even the distance of 100 meters, I usually cover by the bike. But this was a good experience, I had a bit of pain but now I am fine. It was an enriching experience.

— Austin D'Souza, Tropa, Siolim

VOLUNTEERING FOR A BIGGER CAUSE

This is the second year I have been part of the Walking Pilgrimage. Last year, I was a parish youth member of Goa Velha participating in the walk but this year I was a volunteer and I was stationed at the Goa Velha junction. It was a great experience as I felt like I am walking with Jesus. I was stationed at the junction right from 1.45 am till the last bus of devotees arrived and then we started walking towards the church.

I wanted to volunteer this year and be more helpful to the devotees and guiding them.

— Flocy Da Silva, Agassaim



AN EXHIBITION TO SPOTLIGHT AUSTRALIA'S FIRST NATIONS ART

SWIPE RIGHT

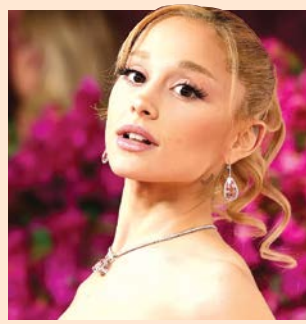
Deepika Padukone shines at Paris Fashion Week

Deepika Padukone's fashion is unmatched. She consistently outshines everyone, and her appearance at Paris Fashion Week was no exception. Representing India at the Louis Vuitton Fall/Winter 2025 show, she exuded high-fashion glamour in an oversized blazer dress paired with statement accessories. She donned a beige oversized dress from the Louis Vuitton Cruise 2025 collection. The ensemble featured full sleeves, a crisp white collar, and dramatic puffed shoulders. The structured yet relaxed silhouette ended at her thighs, striking the perfect balance between sophistication and bold style.



Ariana Grande announces new deluxe album

Ariana Grande is releasing a deluxe version of her chart-topping 2024 album, 'Eternal Sunshine', Republic Records announced. 'Eternal Sunshine Deluxe: Brighter Days Ahead' will feature six new tracks from the



Oscar-nominated, Grammy Award-winning artist. The original album, released almost a year ago to the date, earned the singer her sixth No. 1 album on the Billboard 200 and had two songs 'Yes, And?' and 'We Can't Be Friends (Wait for Your Love)' hit No. 1 on the Hot 100 chart. The 'Wicked' star has had a whirlwind handful of months since the release of the Oscar-nominated film. She earned her first Oscar nomination for her role of Glinda in the adaptation of the hit stage musical; the film's second part, 'Wicked: For Good', is slated to be released later this year.



Best New Artist Grammy winner Chappell Roan was spotted sitting front row at Valentino's Paris Fashion Week show

Spread love, not hatred in families

Pio Esteves

Director: Carmo Pacheco

Cast: Celina, Jasmina, Sandra, Dylan, Benny, Cryuf, Joaquim, Veera, Fatima

Band: Queter Xavier called and team

Stage/Lights: Anthony de Ambaji, John

Kala Academy Goa 50th Tiatr 'A' Group Competition 2024-25 kicked off with the presentation of the tiatr 'Rest In Peace', written and directed by Carmo Judas Savio Pacheco and presented under the banner 'Pacheco's Dramatic and Cultural Association, Curtorim'.

The curtains unveil a scene wherein Pegado (Carmo Pacheco) and his spouse, Jenny (Celina Fernandes) enter their house, celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary. Pegado is a contractor by profession and he has an adopted sister Pinky (Jasmina Fernandes), who is



studying in college. Pegado bows down to all the requests made by his sister and does not disappoint her in any way. But Jenny warns her husband as there are tendencies of Pinky going astray.

Being a childless couple, Pegado and Jenny finally decide to go in for a surrogate mother. As Mesquit (Sandra Colaco) has stepped in as a maid, the twosome ropes

KA's 50th 'A' Group Competition 2024-25 'Rest in Peace'

her in. Despite having a boyfriend, Mesquit obliges, after much hesitation.

Meanwhile, orphan Pitu (Cryuf Pereira), who is unemployed, is madly in

love with Pinky. The latter despises him and equally insults him. Out of frustration, when Pitu attempts to commit suicide, an elderly woman Catherine (Veera Baretto) saves and adopts him.

On the other hand, Pinky finds a mate in Jovito (Benny Mendes). She thinks that he is well off, but does not know with what intention he has made entry into the house. Will Jovito be a true soulmate to Pinky? Or does he have vested interests in mind? Is it a game of love or revenge? Finally, who faces the brunt of a wrong choice in life?

Tiatr 'Rest in Peace' by Carmo Pacheco is a call to live in love and harmony with everyone when living on this earth. After departing, an advertisement on dailies with the title 'Rest in Peace' makes no sense.

The tiatr has twists and turns, with a small dose of suspense, making the entire presentation a complex one. All the artistes have given fine performances on stage. Carmo and Celina are in the lead roles, supported by Jasmina and Cryuf. Jovito is projected as a villain. Other artistes, Joaquim, Veera, Fatima have



extended good support to the main cast.

In the comic acts, there's Dylan Sequeira and Sandra Colaco coming together to entertain the audience with laughter pills, but the dose was too less.

In the section of songs, Swena and Swizel come for the opening song and they render confidently. There are a good number of songs such as solos, duet, quartet and a trio appealing to the ears.

Musicians offstage led by Queter Xavier (first trumpet) and his team Agnelo Lobo (second trumpet), Alister Mascarenhas (bass), Selwyn Mascarenhas (keyboard), Mauvin Mascarenhas (drums) have extended good support to all the singers.

Newton Vaz has assisted with the background music, while the stage sets and lights are by Anthony de Ambaji and John respectively.