

Obituary

‘I cannot say and I will not say that he is dead, He just passed away’.

My dear Brothers and sisters, perhaps these are the sentiments of each one of us, specifically of his spiritual brothers and his family members.

Death is certain but it comes with uncertainty. It embraces all, young and old. Death is blind, for it does not see whom it strikes. Death is deaf for it does not hear the plea of man. That is the mystery death, experienced by our Bro. Ullas Kumar at the age of 22. He was born on 28th April 1989 of Mr. Bernard and Mrs. Annamma in M. Dasapura, Chikmagalur diocese. Among the three children, he was the second. Responding to divine call he entered the Order of Capuchin; he was vested as novice on 15th May 2008 and pronounced his temporal vows on 16th May 2009.



He was a brother with vision and strong determination. He wanted to do justice all the time to the commitment he made to the Lord. We can aptly say that he was a man with a mission. He proclaimed the values of the kingdom through his well reflected writings which flowed constantly in the Kannada magazine ‘Sneha Jyothi’, and ‘Dootha’. He was a man of helping nature, a true brother to his brother.

Br. Ullas, who would ever imagine that we will miss you tomorrow? Your smiling face and your bubbling laughter? Seven years we accompanied you hand in hand in the vineyard of the Lord. And it was unfortunate for all of us, your brothers, to stand by you as dumb spectators while you fought your battle for breath singlehandedly in the spell of the plan of God. Yes, you lost in order to win something greatest, that is, to see face to face the Lord of your life.

Health was your greatest wealth but sinister sickness embraced you mysteriously. On October 30th he complained of cold and fever. Thereupon he was given medical treatment by the doctor who treats us all. As there was no improvement, on November 01, he was admitted to Amrutha Kripa hospital in our neighbourhood. He showed the sign of speedy recovery and was discharged

immediately the very next day. On November 3, he was strong and active enough to participate in community Eucharist. After the holy Eucharist as soon as he entered the room, he collapsed and complained of the severe chest burning. Immediately he was rushed to the same hospital. The same morning, he was diagnosed of suffering from pneumonia. For the sake of better treatment and facilities, he was admitted to the Vikram Hospital the very same noon. To his bad luck, it was a dangerous type of pneumonia, known as 'acute respiratory disorder syndrome'. In common language, it is the total failure of lungs caused by the virulent virus, which meant sure death. For two weeks he fought between life and death. He succumbed to illness on Nov. 17 afternoons.

The funeral rites were held in his parish as per the strong wishes of his parents and relatives on Nov. 18. The Kripalaya community gathered for the exequial Eucharist on Nov. 17 at 6.30 p.m. and Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Vazhapilly presided over it with participation of the many religious from our neighbourhood.

Beloved Br. Ullas, true to your name, you lived a life of happiness just 22 years. You wore always a happy and smiling face for you were God-centered. It is right and just from our part to say: 'Dear Brother Ullas beyond the doors of death there is peace, and for you now there will be no more tears'. With that firm hope, we, your loving brothers of Kripalaya, say Adieu, Beloved Br. Ullas Kumar.

November 29, 2011

Brothers of Kripalaya
Holy Trinity Province Karnataka