

INTERLINK

TEACHERS' TEAMS – INDIA

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

March 2023



Born: 21-03-1936 Died: 23-01-2023

The Teachers' Teams, National and International are extremely grieved by the loss of dear Fr. Herve Morissette, the pillar and strength of the Teachers' Teams! The TT was associated with Fr. Herve for more than 50 years. The growth and spread of the TTLay Apostolic Movement in India was definitely the efforts and motivation of Father!

This issue of the Interlink is brought out as a memorial to our dear Reverend Fr. Herve Morissette, who left for his heavenly abode on the 23rd of January 2023. This is the first issue of the Interlink without its editor, Fr. Morissette! It's with a heavy heart that I compile all the tributes that I have received for him.

In May 2022, the Teachers' Teams brought out a memoir as a tribute of love to convey what we felt about him. We wanted him to know how people who were associated with him, and known him for a long time really felt about him. Many shared their feelings in that memoir which we released for his Sacerdotal Diamond Jubilee. I'm so glad that we could do it, and he got to read it! He was overjoyed and sincerely appreciated the thought, 'Give people their flowers while they can smell them'! None of us thought that within six months of the release of the souvenir, father would leave us! He was a person who has touched many lives and has without doubt been an inspiration to many more. The tributes that follow in the next pages of this news letter will tell us how much he was loved. I share the eulogy and homily of his funeral. The funeral service itself said a lot about this amazing person. It was such a befitting farewell service! Thanks to the Fathers of the Holy Cross for the memorable farewell. People from far and near and all walks of his life came to bid goodbye.

Father is sorely missed! The TT seems to have come to a stand still, but the show must go on! I ask father.....What is TT without you? His answer.....I won't be far away, for life goes on! Just listen with your heart and you'll hear my love all around you. Yes, he loved the TT passionately!

It's true that the life of one we love is never lost, its influence goes on through all the lives it ever touched! Fr. Herve' Morissette will live through the Teachers' Teams!

Jacinta Pereira

National Coordinator
Teachers' Teams India

INTRODUCTION TO THE FUNERAL MASS

In the Gospel written by Matthew, Jesus asks his disciples this way about John the Baptist: “What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in fancy clothes? People who dress like that live in palaces! What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes indeed, but you saw much more than a prophet.” These words become a reality today once again. Today all of us have come out to bid farewell to a prophet, a friend, and a guru. Fr. Herve Morissette was born in 1936. After joining the Congregation of Holy Cross in Canada, he came to India as a missionary almost immediately after his ordination in 1961. He was assigned to work in the Bengal Mission, and though he did his language studies he could not get the required permissions to work in Mizoram.

Eventually, he was assigned to South India as vocation promoter and formator: A responsibility he would fulfil quite diligently. A good number of the present senior Holy Cross are fruit of his youthful efforts. He would eventually go for higher studies and chose catechetics as his subject. He became a respected scholar in the field, and authored several books that soon became a hit among young seminarians and priests. It is about this time that he began to get involved in animating Teachers’ Teams and Christian Life Movement. He also held responsibilities in formation, including the post of Novice Master.

Towards the second part of his priestly ministry, he entered into ministering to families. What started as a small involvement became his ‘obsession’ especially when it became possible to devote all his time to it. He never gave up his passion for catechetics. His background in catechetics afforded him a unique perspective on what the families were going through, and soon scores of people began to find him and his approach very endearing. This continued for as long as his health allowed him. But even after he moved to the Senior Priests’ home, he continued to write. He continued to contribute until the day he was taken to the hospital a few weeks ago. His health had been slowly deteriorating during the last few months, and he was aware of it. He did not like the idea of staying on using dialysis. Fr. Herve Morissette lived a full life, without regrets.

Our superior general Bro. Paul Bednarczyk writes in his message, “Fr. Herve Morissette’s numerous contributions to the life and mission of Holy Cross regarding education and formation are legendary, and his wisdom and presence will be sorely missed by many. As we commemorate our Founder’s 150th anniversary of his entrance into eternity, it is a time to reflect on the poignancy of this moment as Fr. Herve now follows Father Moreau and so many other French Canadian and Indian confreres who gave their lives for the mission in India out of their love for the Lord, Holy Cross, and the Indian people. May Fr. Herve’s example and the examples of so many more before him continue to inspire us in our own religious lives and ministries.”

Today, people of all walks of life – Bishops, Provincials, confreres, religious sisters, and lay people – have come recognizing what this unassuming ‘grandfather priest’ was able to accomplish in their individual lives. We are here because he touched us in his own unique way. In this Eucharist let us express our love for this man and gratitude for the God who brought him to us.

Today’s Eucharist is presided over by Most Rev. Peter Machado, the Archbishop of Bangalore. Most. Rev. Thomas Macwan, the Archbishop of Gandhinagar and the chairman of the CCBI catechetical commission and the Archbishop of Gandhinagar, bishop Raja Rao, of the diocese of Visakhapatnam, bishop Lumen Monteiro, of the Diocese of Agartala, and Bishop Stephen Rotluanga of the Diocese of Aizawl, Fr. Duming Gonsalves, Executive Secretary of CCBI Catechetical commission, Fr. Arul Raj Gali, Executive Secretary to CCBI Commission for Family, Fr. Simon Fernandis, the Provincial Superior of North East India, Fr. Joseph Gaspar, the Provincial Superior of Tamil Nadu, Fr. Roque D’costa the Provincial Superior of South India, FFr. Walter Dsa, Fr. NI Michael and Fr. Luke will be the concelebrants. Along with the Congregation of Holy Cross, let us celebrate the life lived by Fr. Herve here with us, and commit him to eternity with God.

Fathers of the Holy Cross

EULOGY

People often say that when we are alive others do not say half as many good things about us as when we are dead. I believe Fr. Herve Morissette may have been a poignant exception to it. Even when he was alive most people had only good things to say about Fr. Morissette, and they did have a lot to say. It was not because Fr. Morissette did not have weaknesses, but because in most people's experience his good deeds far outweighed his limitations.

Fr. Morissette was firstly and primarily very devoted to his call to religious life in Holy Cross and priesthood. All those who have lived with him, and especially those who have been fortunate to have been his formees, can vouch for his simple spirituality. His spirituality was lived out in the simplicity of his life, the little things he needed for himself, his regularity for religious exercises, and in his sincere commitment to ministry. On one fine day, in Dahisar Mumbai he discovered that the priest who was to say Marathi Mass could not make it. Rather than canceling the Mass, he went ahead and celebrated the Mass in Marathi. It may still be talked about in Mumbai more for the effort than the outcome. Such was his passion for the ministry.

Most people who have met Fr. Morissette know him as an affectionate, unassuming, and humorous grandfather priest. He was an authority on catechetics, and authored several books on how to make Jesus of the gospels approachable to the young generations. But despite his scholarship in the Bible and catechetics, he liked to prepare his Sunday homilies well in advance. His homily usually would be ready by Wednesday or Thursday. Until Sunday he would meditate over it and even practice it. Such was his respect for those who came to listen to him.

Fr. Morissette interacted with thousands of youngsters during his seminars and workshops. His account of the life of Jesus was always peppered by everyday experiences that ordinary people could relate to. Two things stood out in the way he did catechetics: Firstly, it demonstrated the deep love he had for God and youngsters. Secondly, he made it absolutely accessible to men and women on the streets. His methodology and perspective always remained socially relevant. It was not just his teachings that reflected his love for the ordinary. Though he was born and brought up in a developed country, he truly embraced what India stood for. He desired to live as an average Indian lived. In 1995 he wrote to his superiors: "I wish to inform my superiors that, in such eventuality or at the time of retirement, I would prefer to receive medical care in India and not be repatriated to Canada for that purpose. God willing, I shall pass over "to the other shore" from that land which has always been for me a promised land."

Though catechetics was his professed area of work, he had a soft corner for the Teachers' Teams. He believed in them and valued what these Teams stood for. He would remain happily associated with them for close to four decades.

Fr. Morissette could be tough on his formees when he wanted to be. But no one was left in doubt whether he loved his formees. He introduced a variety of workshops to them, made them in-charges of distributing his books, and ever so gently pushed them to act in English plays that he would arrange for hundreds to watch. Fr. Morissette was a new phenomenon to the formees.

Fr. Morissette loved a good meal, preferably with some eggs and some bread. He had a sweet tooth. He had an extraordinary sense of humor and an infectious laughter that attracted people to him. He loved playing pranks, some quite elaborate, on his friends. Many of his formees will still remember how he fooled everyone through his hypnotism trick. In reality, he always had a trick up his sleeve.

Towards the last few years of his life, he devoted most of his time to reach out to families, and to help them to pray meaningfully. He grew close to the group of families who regularly gathered to pray together in Vivekanagar. He continued to write. He edited the small newsletter 'Family Light' for Holy Cross Family Ministries for many years. He compiled a book of prayers for families. Almost as his last contribution he had just finalized a publication commissioned by the CCBI when he became too weak to write.

Fr. Herve Morissette is no more here. But he is more than 'here'. We are here because of grief and gratitude. We grieve that he is no more with us as he used to be. And yet we are grateful that we had such a wonderful human being with us for many years. Even as we take Fr. Morissette from here and commit his body to the dust where it came from, let us not allow Fr. Morissette to leave our lives. The impression he made, the inspiration he gave and the love and affection he shared with us must live on. I am sure each of us has at least one story to tell about him. He loved stories. He sprinkled them all over in his books and homilies. Let me then conclude with an anecdote: It was one of his birthdays. Fr. Morissette was an assistant formator. The superior of the community delivered a long speech in which an exhaustive list of the positive qualities of Fr. Morissette was sufficiently highlighted. Fr. Morissette was embarrassed, to say the least. Later in his response-speech, he said to the superior, "Thank you for pointing out my qualities. But you missed an important one." As all people looked at him with disbelief, he continued with a mischievous smile, "you missed my humility!"

If he could speak now, I am sure he would have had something humorous to respond to what I spoke. He loved everyone, and was loved by everyone. May God admit him into his eternal love.

Fathers of the Holy Cross

Homily at the funeral Mass of Rev. Fr. Herve Morissette, CSC

(Born: 21-03-1936 Died: 23-01-2023)

It was on January 23rd that Fr. Herve Morissette, CSC, our dear confrere, breathed his last at the age of 87. Today's celebration once more sets before us the reality of death. It renews our sorrow for the loss of those who were dear and good to us. Yet, more importantly, the liturgy increases our hope in the life after for them and for ourselves.

Indeed death brings sadness, because parting is so painful. The passing away of Fr. Morissette, makes us sad; but as our Holy Cross Constitution #118 reminds us: *"We do not grieve as men without hope, for Christ the Lord has risen to die no more..."* The Mass of the Resurrection which we celebrate today is a reminder that in Jesus the sadness of death gives way to the bright promise of eternity. And so as one who "has run the race and fought the good fight" and whom the Good Lord had commissioned to be an ardent missionary as a Holy Cross Priest, may the same Lord now accept Fr. Herve into heaven and into the joy that never ends!

Let me also quote Pope Francis who reminded us on All Souls Day 2017 that *"the faith we profess in the resurrection makes us men and women of hope, not despair; men and women of life, not death; for we are comforted by the promise of eternal life, grounded in our union with the risen Christ. This hope, rekindled in us by the Word of God, helps us to be trusting in the face of death. Jesus has shown us that death is not the last word; rather, the merciful love of the Father transfigures us and makes us live in eternal communion with Him."* Our confrere Fr. Herve Morissette, believed this, preached this, and lived this truth. And so today we rejoice that he is with God.

My association with Fr. Morissette spans over five decades, from the time I joined in Museum Road in 1969, but more closely when I was his Novice at Viveknagar in 1973, and then later on from 1982-1988. He was a community man, cheerful and affectionate. He was a deeply spiritual person, a holy priest, an obedient religious, a gentle human being, and a friend to all. One could truly say of Fr. Herve that he was a priest who gave his life fully for the gospel. He preached the word in season and out of season, when it was joyfully received or when it was cynically rejected. While in need to be ministered himself, he ministered to others; while wounded himself, he healed the wounds and comforted others. Though sometimes broken in heart and spirit, he reconciled, forgave, offered courage and hope to those alienated and estranged. This was the priest, Fr. Herve!

And today we realize how fortunate we were to have him with us for all these many years! His missionary life began when he left Canada and came to India in 1962 and went to then

E. Pakistan, today Bangladesh, and has spent the rest of his priestly life in India. His profile is vast, but let me just mention about his love for India; -- he became an Indian citizen! Here is his testament which was written on August 10, 1995: *"I wish to inform my superiors that, in such eventuality or at the time of retirement, I would prefer to receive medical care in India and not be repatriated to Canada for that purpose God willing, I shall pass over "to the other shore" from that land which has always been for me a promised land. I thank the community of Holy Cross for the various ministries that were entrusted to me during my life."*

His life of prayer, his pastoral zeal, and his passion to be a good Holy Cross religious, are without doubt the legacy that he leaves behind; and we thank him for his exemplary life. His work in Catechetics is well known all over India. The CCBI even honored him a few years ago; and the presence of so many Archbishops, Priests, Religious and Lay people speaks for itself. THANK YOU FR. HERVE.

In his early years he sometimes played pranks on others, and when he succeeded, he laughed a lot, becoming red like a tomato! But when he was angry he would also turn red—and didn't we know that! His famous expression at that time was *"you see, you see, you see Lumen"*! But know this, that after such incidents he would call you to his room and apologize. That was Fr. Herve...very truly human person with a heart of gold!

While I offer my prayers for our revered Confrere, my Mentor and Friend Fr. Herve Morissette, CSC, who has departed from our midst but not from our minds, I consider this time as an occasion to be grateful and thankful to God for having put such a wonderful person in my life's path. Thank you Fr. Herve!

And we pray that God grant you eternal rest.

Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC Bishop of Agartala

AN EXEMPLARY RELIGIOUS

January 23, 2023 – a sad day for the Congregation of Holy Cross, a sad day for Teachers Teams, a sad day for the youth, a sad day for the Church! Reverend Father Herve Morissette bid goodbye to the world this day!

The last words I heard him utter in St. Martha's Hospital were "take me home, take me home". Little did I know that he was talking about his Father's Home! I guess he is now Resting peacefully in the presence of his Creator.

Fr. Herve was indeed a tall figure in the Congregation and in the Church. He left his country Canada and came to live and serve in our country India! There had never been a moment of turning back on that initial commitment. Though English was not his mother tongue, he went on to master it and went on to author many books for the enrichment of the youth, family and adults. Just before he was hospitalized for the last time, he was able to complete a 3-volume catechesis for adults, commissioned by the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India. The three volume textbook "The Emmaus Experience: Catechism for Adults" was released on 28th of January, 2023, during the 34th CCBI Plenary Assembly at St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore. It was released by His eminence, Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrao, President

CCBI and Archbishop of Goa and Daman. He was truly a giant in the field of faith formation!

Fr. Herve wrote not just for others but for himself as well. He not only preached for others but also for himself. He practiced what he preached. He lived a simple life style and made no demands whatsoever for his comforts. As one of his many novices, I learnt a lot from. The classes that he took were reflected in his day to day life. His concern for the poor was seen as we spent time daily constructing mud houses for the homeless. He not just gave instructions but was involved himself in mixing the earth with the available dirty water. Though we were initially hesitant to do that work, yet his example pulled us into it. Truly he was a man of the Gospels – giving 100% in everything he undertook. He never tired of reaching out and doing good!

I am eternally grateful for all his contribution in my life. As a superior/leader he always dealt with others with compassion. As a subordinate, he was always willing to accept whatever was asked of him. WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT! NOW ENTER INTO THE JOY OF THE MASTER!

ROQUE D'COSTA, CSC
Provincial Superior
Province of South India

They say "life is eternal and love is immortal, and death is only a horizon. And a horizon is nothing save the limits of our sights." The horizon beyond which Fr. Herve has gone maybe out of the limits of our sight. But in faith we know and can see him with our Lord, enjoying the place prepared for him, looking at us mourning his death, with that infectious smile and probably saying "You see.. You see.. My work there was done. Now it's your turn."

I remember when I was first asked to be the Chaplain of the TT, Bangalore, I willingly accepted since I was told that Fr. Herve had asked for me. He was my idol, how could I pass an opportunity to work with him?! Especially since I never had a lived experience with him. This was my chance to look at him closely; to learn from him and be like him. And it was indeed a joy working and learning from him. Never was able to be like him a bit though. And so, when the topic of the National Chaplain arose, I said no, I couldn't do it. I wasn't like him. The teachers, I knew were very senior and probably would never accept me. And again, it was that reassuring dialogue with him which laid all my fears to rest.

And now that he's gone, I miss the advisor, the stronghold to whom I could turn and be assured that everything's gonna be fine. And yet I know what needs to be done: Follow his path. Not an easy one, but the one that will ease everything.

Learn patience, let the smile never leave my lips, seek quality not quantity, be persistent, never give up and most importantly: passionately believe!

This is what he was, this is what we have to be. God! That's too difficult. But with Fr. Herve as an intercessor now, it is possible!

Fr. Herve, I thank God for the joyful life u lived. I miss you. But as Thornton Wilder would say, "That place The highest tribute to the dead is not grief, but gratitude." I am grateful to you for everything you were and ever did.

Fr. Sydney Dias, CSC
National Chaplain
TT India

Fr Morrisette in the Ministry of Accompaniment

A priest need not always walk before the people. At times, he needs to walk along with his flock. At some other time, he must walk behind his people. Whenever I think of Fr Morrisette, such a thought immediately comes to my mind.

Through his life and ministry, he has set an exemplary model for the whole people of God. It means he walks before his people. The Sanskrit term Purohit means "one who walks in front of". In this parlance, Fr Morrisette has always walked in front of his people, he walks in front the clergy and he walked in front of his time.

He has spent all his life to be always associated with people. When he attends the National Seminars, we used to watch him busy with planning and executing the agenda of the TT. Not as a performer, but as a silent co-operator. He will be always visible to one and all. Like Jesus on the way to Emmaus, he

accompanies us all.

The ink he used for stimulating the dormancy of the folk is incredible. The PDF version of the Inter Link that we receive every month, is a crystal-clear proof of his commitment towards his vocation. He walked behind us too. He converses with us personally. I would reminisce his warm bond with Fr Ambrose and Thankamma, especially when they turned to eternity.

What I want to underline is that Fr Morrisette is a man of accompaniment. The impression that Fr Morrisette has left on my ministry and life is that, I too should be a man of accompaniment- walking with God and men. I am sure that he will continue his ministry of accompaniment from heaven.

Fr Xavier Sebastian Padiyaramparambil, Austria

Teachers' Teams Kerala Region Former Chaplain (2008-2018)

Fr. Herve Morisette You Still Live In Our Hearts

Fr. Morisette who passed away on 23.01.2023, was a great stalwart of the CONGREGATIO SANCTAE CRUCIS (CSC); in English, it is Congregation of the Holy Cross.

For many of us who worked with him in Teachers' Teams Movement in India, Fr. Morisette is still alive, being a source of motivation and inspiration to carry on the legacy of this great movement he left behind. I had the opportunity to be associated with him for 2 plus decades in the work of Teachers' Teams. His infinite patience, his selfless dedication, his unmatched efficiency and his unassuming simplicity were the hallmarks of a religious life that impacted my priestly ministry.

He was indeed blessed with a great thinking ability with a fast delivery approach. For him, the word 'procastination' did not exist. For this reason, he could achieve with perfection all the major responsibilities entrusted to him. His contribution to the Church in India, particularly in the field of catechetics is immense. Just, so to say, on the eve of his passing away, the CCBI released his book of Catechesis meant for the Youth.

He evinced a keen interest and curiosity in the sessions conducted by him at Regional and National Seminars. He provided us every annual a questionnaire with 12 topics for our meetings. His methodology was very simple and practical too, namely, SEE, JUDGE and ACT.

At Asian Continental and International Conferences He dealt with topics with great acumen and easy so much so he was

admired and appreciated by one and all.

I had the opportunity to attend with him an International Conference in Paris, as well as Continental Meetings in Bangladesh and Kuala Lumpur. I cannot fail to record my gratitude to him. His deep faith in God is exemplary. So also he always obeyed God's will even unto his last. He found fulfilment in his religious life. He lived 67 years of religious life and made India his much loved home.

With great joy he can utter the words of St. Paul : " I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on, a merited crown awaits me " 2 Tim 4 : 7-8.

On the other side God must have joyfully welcomed him, saying, Come my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of God's kingdom, Mt.

25 : 21.

As I pray for his soul, I recall his salutary words, " If you have no joy in your life, there is a leak in your faith somewhere ".

Fr. Morisette, we TT members can never forget you. Shower God's blessings upon us.

Fr. Walter de Sa

Parish Priest

Our Lady of Immaculate Conception,
Panjim, Goa

Dear friends in charge of the Teaching Teams in different countries around the world

Dialogue and Cooperation learned on January 23 of the death of Father Morisette. He was chaplain of the International Office for many years, and chaplain of the Teams in India and on the Asian continent.

I think of all the moments we shared with him during the International Offices, the depth of his reflections, his humour, and above all the exchanges we all benefited from.

I also think of his presence, the help and support he gave to the Teaching Team movement in Asia and India in particular.

We are losing a "great man", and I am sure that he will continue his work where the Father has welcomed him.

Hervé Morisette was for me a great figure of the Teaching Teams in the world.

He did not limit himself to accompanying the Teams in India and Asia. Through his presence in the International Office for several years, he has allowed the Word to be real and shared, while respecting each delegate's cultural particularity.

We have benefited from the many exchanges that he has allowed between team members from all continents.

I think of all the moments we shared during the International Bureaux, the depth of his reflections, his humour. With him, we "made Church universal". He allowed us to live synodality even before we spoke about it. He respected the culture of each continent, and our celebrations were marked by the colour brought by each delegate.

I also think of his presence and the help he was able to give to the Teaching Teams movement in Asia.

Personally, he helped and encouraged me a lot when I was elected as the President of Dialogue and Cooperation.

Let us pray humbly, like Hervé, that his joy in meeting the Father will be perfect.

Suzanne Cahen

President

Dialogue and Cooperation

Having shared several "Bureau International" with Hervé Morissette, his death has touched me greatly.

The first time he came, he was an attentive and discreet chaplain, an observer who did not intervene much and listened carefully. During the following Bureaux, there were more exchanges on work sharing but also on very varied subjects. It was always with empathy and sometimes with a sense of humour that all the participants appreciated.

The shared meals were particularly privileged moments for this.

He had become a friend to all.

Paulette

Member of Board of Directors D&C France

I was informed about the death of Hervé. Very sad, my friend.

Receive my embrace of solidarity, my love and my memories of the team work we did in the Bureau. Heartfelt Condolences to all the teams, especially in Asia and India where he lived.

Maricarmen

Equateur

Latine Amerique

May the Lord welcome him as he deserves in the heavenly father's house and may all the team members feel him as a great friend, especially the team members in India where he gave a great part of his life.

Praying that he may rest in peace and be welcomed into the Heavenly Father's house.

Yvette

(République dominicaine)

Dear friends,

I have much pain. Hervé died. I am with you in this difficult moment and pray with you. We were so glad to give him a personal feast recently. He leaves a great emptiness in our hearts. His words full of hope, wisdom and support were so important for our life. I shall remember each time I shared with him in Manilla and Paris.

I shall be with you when you will accompany him in his last place near God.

Love. Fraternally

Didier Tardif

(Dialogue et Coopération)

Paris, France

In the name of the teaching teams of Burundi and on my own behalf, we offer our sincere condolences to the bereaved family, to the members of the international office, to the team members in India and to all the teaching teams of the world.

May the Lord welcome Father de Morissette into his kingdom.

Justine (Burundi)

On behalf of the continental coordination, the national coordinations of the teaching teams and on my own behalf, I offer my deepest condolences to the teams in India and Asia and to the international office.

Every month we received the newsletter which he generously shared.

Yes, he is a departed figure.

We pray to the God of mercy and goodness to grant him the reward of a good and faithful servant. Union of prayers.

Jean Jacques Fall

TT France

Dear friends, dear team members from Asia and in particular from India,

I would like to personally present you my sincere condolences for the

departure of our brother in Christ, Father Hervé.

I give Thanks for having known him and I thank him for having been a

model of conviction and faith, with a beautiful humility of the soul,

may he rest in peace.

Now père Hervé is watching over you, over us, the Teachers' Teams, in other ways. His spirituality, his work, his impact, his life testimony are and will always be present through each one of you (one if us) because he made you (us) grow, in one way or another and it is a responsibility to each one of you (us), from now, to carry on this work of transmitting the values and principles that live in you and that animate you every day...

Happy birthday Father Hervé and rest in peace while watching over the Teams.

Fraternally yours,

Fanja

Dialogue & Cooperation

France

Oh God! I am returning from the wake of Rosita Gamarra, Peru's first team player, and I come across this news! The loss of Fr.Herve!

Until recently, in December, he sent me the INTERLINK magazine

We thank the Lord for this kind friend on the way, this pastor who wanted to accompany the Teams of Asia and the world, through the Bureau.

A big hug of comfort to all !

Condolences of the Latin American teams to our companions in Asia, especially in India.

With great sorrow

Suzanne, I am sure, like you, that Fr Hervé will continue to watch over the teachers, where he is enjoying the fullness of the Lord.

Pochy

Latine Amerique

A pity! May the soul of the deceased rest in peace and may the Lord welcome him into his Paradise. Union of prayers.

Natacha Gnombou

Afrique

Grieved to hear about the demise of Fr.Herve

It is a great loss for the International Office. May he rest in peace!

Chantal de la Ronde

National Co-ordinator, TT France

For me, Hervé Morissette was a great man, not only physically, but also by his moral stature and his culture, which did not prevent him from being calm and a modest listener, while living a total devotion to his faith, to his Church, to teaching and to the participants in the public school.

It was clear from the texts from India that his health was becoming more and more precarious. The team members there lost a great figure who had brought them strength and generosity. My thoughts are with them.

Mireille

Translator (D & C)

I appreciated very much his measured and timely speech in the international office.

Gabrielle Gaspard

(Member of the French Teaching Teams)

I did not see Father Morissette very often, but I know that André appreciated him. We will pray for him and with him !

Marie-Michelle

(Member of Équipes Enseignantes de France)

Jeanne Bolon (translator)

Yes, I really appreciated his humanity and his analyses. May he rest in peace.

Jeanne Bolon (translator)

Marie-José Acosta (translator)

Let us pray for him and with him!

Fraternally

Marie Jo

Dear Fr. Herve,

For us, Teams in Asia, your death affected us differently, and had a deep impact to each one of us. We felt we lost not only a man we called Fr. Herve, but also your unique way of manifesting God in life. The voice that spoke about God, had been muted. The hands that used to give blessings as we return to our respective countries had turned invisible, and the inspiring words of wisdom you used to share via email and FB no longer fill our inboxes. You left us with numerous memories our hearts will lovingly treasure. Thank you for such an example of living a life full of faith and trust to God's wondrous love. You were an expression of God's loving presence through the Holy Spirit. You exemplify Christ for us in a singular way which touched the life of Asian's Teachers Teams.

Good bye Father Herve. We love you!

Marisol (translator)

I can see how important it was for Teams in Asia to organise, with the support of all the Teams, the Jubilee of the 60th anniversary of his priestly ordination in 2021.

What an openness to cultures as diverse as they are, and with a practice of fraternal, demanding, non-exclusive Church.

Losing Fr.Herve is a great loss to all of us, and especially to the teams in India

Where he lived most of his life. May he rest in peace in Heaven.

Jean Kayser

(Member of the French Teachers' Teams)

Rosalinda Francia

TT Asian Coordinator

A TRIBUTE OF LOVE TO FR.HERVE MORISSETTE

Father grew not by age but by his compassion and vision. He dedicated himself in the service of humanity and thereby the God almighty. The purity in his heart made him stronger day after day which led him through the years. He lived a contented life spreading positive aura around him. So were his thoughts, vivid and crystalline in its actions too. His words were soothing to the distraught mind and comforting to the aching heart. Having an unequivocal faith in the Lord, he remained steadfast during all times. He acted as a median proclaiming God's promise to his people. It was as if he was the God's messenger turning the pages of Bible and comforting those in distress through his gentle and heart touching scripture reading and evaluations.

A God's man so simple to reach, Father was there at every moment one found oneself in hard times- disturbed and broken.

Tribute to Fr.Herve

I take this opportunity to show my gratitude through this tribute to Fr.Herve.

"You will forever remain alive in our hearts and memories".

Dear Father though you are not physically present here with us today you sure have left us with a lot of memories to cherish. We will continue to honour and carry forward your mission through Teachers Team.

Rose Ravi

TT Bangalore

Distances didn't matter to him. He'd send his wishes and blessings through various platforms. Whether a WhatsApp message or an email, it brought him close to the reader's heart. It felt he was sitting next to us helping us gather our strengths. He cherishes our joys and remained a part of us in all times. Father taught optimism. An undaunted spirit of freedom and struggle, he believed life has a purpose: a purpose that is chosen by God almighty. He lived up to it and propagated the others into it.

You will live permanently in our hearts! Your physical presence will be sorely missed!

Usha Rani

National Secretary,
TT India

Our dear Father Morissette, you have not died. You will never die! You live in our hearts, in our memories, in our lives. You will continue to live in each one of us as long as we continue to love you, as long as we remember and follow your message of sharing the love of Christ in our day to day lives.

Leonie Manicame

TT Kariakal

What will remain of you

What will remain of you is everything you gave away
Rather than keep it in some rusty strongbox.

What will remain of you, from your secret garden,
Is a forgotten flower that did not wither.
What you freely gave
Will blossom in others.
Whoever loses his life
Will one day find it again.

What will remain of you is everything you bequeathed
Held in your open arms one sunlit morning.

What will remain of you is everything you have lost,
That you waited for longer than your waking hours.
What you have suffered,
Will find new life in others.
Whoever loses his life
Will one day find it again.

What will remain of you is a fallen tear,
A smile emanating from the eyes of your heart.

What will remain of you is the seed you have sown,
Which you shared with those begging for happiness.
What you have sown
Will bear fruit in others.
Whoever loses his life
One day will find it again.

Simone Weil



“Those who touch our Lives, stay in our hearts for ever”.

The best form of a tribute that one can pay for a great soul is to make his ideals live for a longer time. Rev. Fr Herve Morissette, the great and humble soul, who dedicated a greater part of his life for the cause of “Teacher’s Teams” left fragrant memories in all who moved with him closely, If you can still smell the fragrance in the form of his works, try to infuse life in to them.

It is quiet natural for any organisation or mission works to die down slowly after a decade or two. It is really hard for anyone who tries to replace him, to put on the same vigour to continue his works. Fr. Morissette never worked with lifeless machineries but depended on human souls - the Teachers. But today, to find dedicated Christian teachers who can also fix Christian values in the hearts of student communities is very difficult. The life style scenario of today cares less for others. Everyone wants to live a saturated and easy life. I ask, why should I walk an extra mile for somebody? I am satisfied with what I am and where I am.

We, Teachers of yester years, long retired from our teaching profession, still crave to find ways to reach student communities. But the doors remain closed for us.

Today we are presented with what seems like impossible challenges. How can we find new Christian teachers in Govt/Public schools to continue the works of the teams? Most of us are also members / participants in one or other pious organisation like Legion of Mary, Vincent de Paul, Church Parish Councils, Church Choir Group and there you can find a teacher who is already touched by Jesus. Invite him and arrange a special meeting for him. You can win.

Speak with your Priests, Nuns, Friends and relatives about the need for young Christian teachers working in Govt / Public Schools. Get their help. There you can find one or two teachers. If you cannot see the answer, don’t quit. Keep looking at the problem from a different angle. Take help from several books written by Fr. Morissette. There also you can get clues to face the challenge.

The memory of Fr.Morissette can be kept alive in continuing the work he taught us.

Nothing is impossible. Just believe.

A. Eugene
Kariakal TT

“Those who touch our Lives, stay in our hearts for ever”.

Fr. Herve Morissette was a true disciple of Christ.

I quote the Bible to explain this. Mathew Chap.19:29"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or lands, for my name sake will receive a hundred fold and inherit eternal life." Fr. Morissette lived his life for Christ, for the Church and for the people around him.

I came in touch with Fr. Morissette in one of the National seminars of

The Teachers team Movement .His simplicity, his kindness, his humility and his commitment towards Teaching community is what attracted me towards him and today if I am continuing in this Movement it is because of Fr. Herve Morissette.

Fr. H. Morissette was a good catholic priest, a man of faith who was committed to living the teachings of the Church. He was always there to serve the people and put the needs of others before his own. He was humble and avoided seeking attention or praise for his work, recognising that all good things come from God.

I found him compassionate and empathetic towards those who are suffering or in need of help. He was truly a source of comfort, support and encouragement for those who came to him for guidance.

Through his lectures/ talks in various seminars I could understand that he is well educated in theology, scriptures and church history and was able to apply those teachings into the lives of Teachers team members.

Fr. Morissette was very approachable, making himself available to listen, advise and offer support. He was open to feedback.

His sense of humour was highly appreciated. Our Teachers team seminars was always very lively with his little fun pranks and jokes.

Fr. Morissette always encouraged me to write. He would send me the topics sometimes. His faith in me gave me a sense of pride and motivation. Many years back, one of my articles was selected for an Asian magazine 'Among us' for which he paid me Rs.100/- . I was overwhelmed.

There are many teachers who are inspired by Fr.Herve Morissette in some form or the other. The Teachers team Movement will never be the same again without Fr. Morissette. He is not among us now but I think we should work with the feeling that his presence is around us. I believe He is in heaven with Jesus and will be guiding and taking care of all the activities of the Teachers' team Movement and his blessing will be upon us always

Mary Fernandes
Goa

On the 23rd of January I was taken aback and deeply shocked reading the WhatsApp message about the sad demise of our beloved Fr. Morissette. His death meant to me like the collapse of the main pillar of the main pillar of the Teachers' Team fraternity. And I said to myself " O my God what will happen now?" But then with my eyes filled with tears I heard a voice saying ' you have to carry on as life has to go on and that is the reality of life '. Fr. Morissette was a great inspirer, beacon of light, guide and an exemplary personality. His dedication to the teachers is beyond words. He is the author of many books. My first personal encounter with Fr. Morissette was for a National Seminar at

Bangalore when I approached him during the mid day meal break and told him in brief my personal problems. He patiently listened and asked my children's names and advised me to pray the rosary everyday and he too in turn will pray for them. That's what he was, a fervent devotee of the rosary.

Father I will cherish your smiling face and the sweet memories of your presence among us especially during the National Seminars.

Maria Fátima Gomes
Regional animator North Goa

ATRIBUTE Of LOVE

My Tribute to Our Most Beloved Rev. Fr. Herve Morissette.

No words have I to pay my humble Homage to the Most Humble and Down to Earth Being,

ever met in my life.

My Earnest Prayer to The LORD JESUS CHRIST to Embrace Our Rev. Fr. Herve Morissette in His Heavenly Abode. Amen.

Father, we will Miss You Always.

Justiana Lopes Rodrigues.

TT Goa.

Elegy to Fr. Herve Morissette

Father you have been a pillar and rock of the TT,

Always guiding the teams like a beacon of light.

The TT cannot be the same without you,

How we miss your presence everyday,

Ever so inspiring and motivating you were,

Radiating joy and happiness around.

How time flew and you left us before we knew,

Every moment spent in your presence,

Reminds us of what a lot we learnt from you.

Virtuous, humble and soft spoken,

Epitome of hard work and punctuality.

Many a time we sit and wonder, how

Our Lord handpicked you from a myriad souls,

Rightly to prepare a journey for the TT,

Indebted to you a hundredfold, for

Serving and nurturing the TT like gold.

So always in our hearts we will cherish,

Every moment spent in your presence.

Thank you for the gentle way,

Each time you walked with us through good times and bad,

Thy sunny smile shall be missed,

Every time we feel helpless and sad.

Pamela Gracias

TT Goa

Humble. Gentle. Intelligent. Committed. Pragmatic. The list can go on. These are just a few qualities that our dear late Rev. Fr. Hervé Morissette, CSC, incarnated in him.

I'd gone for the First National Seminar, Trivandrum, where I came across Fr. Morissette. He practiced what he preached. A down-to-earth person. He always called me by name. He gave a personal touch to every relationship. He listened attentively to each one, giving all his time for that person. He conducted his sessions with accuracy. Any contact with him, would never be without his signature French 'politesse' (politeness).

Can anyone forget the evening group songs sessions without

'When someone you love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure!'

Dear Fr.Morissette, I know you are watching us from over the sky. I want you to know

that you are very much alive in our hearts and I'll never let your memories be faded away!

Happy Birthday in Heaven Father! I'm glad that we were together to celebrate your birthday

last year and so many more years before that in Bangalore. I'll cherish the memories always.

M S Jacintha

TT Bangalore

My heartfelt condolences to the TT on the loss of fr.Morissette..

My small tribute to him is that in him I noticed a living Saint, both serene docile and loving, though only few occasions I met him I felt a nice connect with him and loved his teachings and way of life...leading us and guiding us to be better teachers by being a good example himself. Have only one regret that I could not participate in seminars earlier where I could have learnt more from him and have more precious times and memories with him. Sure his blessed soul is enjoying eternal bliss

Love n prayers

Freda

TT Goa

Fr Morissette, the memories are everlasting. You were the backbone of TT in the world. A great organizer, fully successful in his mission. The way he approached any idea during his classes were outstanding. In the 1980's Fr Morissette inculcated the idea of a facilitator rather than a teacher in the class rooms. Through these experiences we got from the seminars, we could develop ourselves. The sense of humour, he had was remarkable. During the seminars all participants were eagerly waiting for the performance of Fr Morissette. The action songs, the skits, the lyrics, ever thing was awesome. In good old days seminars had a number of sessions through which the essence of being a TT member was imparted. Fr Morissette took sessions after sessions. In those days seminars were powerful events. Such a strong personality with a strong desire was Fr Morissette. For me he was a great teacher!

There will not be one more like you! We will miss you!

Jessy James

TT Kerala

“Alouette, Gentille Alouette” !?!

His visits to Goa to conduct retreats for nuns, recollections, and seminars showed his commitment to his vocation. He always used to send me extra rosaries, so that we could have more and more Rosary Rallies.

He was a gem. Good bye to our Leader, our Inspiration, and our Rock.

Will miss you very much Fr.Morissette!

Verediana Dacosta e Rodrigues,

TT Goa

We cherish the fond memories of our spiritual guide Father Herve. The days with him were surely a solace to our desperate and despondent hearts, Let us emulate his cheer and conviction of being a good teacher himself.

May his soul rest in peace.

Jhansi

TT Bangalore



Dear Fr. Morissette,

The first birthday that you celebrate in Heaven! It's your most glorious one in the presence of the Lord.

We never thought that this day would come, at least not so soon! The day we could not wish you with a hug! So, we are sending you our wishes straight from our heart and right up to Heaven.....We Love you dearest Father. Happy Birthday in Heaven!

May you rest in eternal paradise. We know you are watching over us from up there. We want you to know that you are very much alive in our hearts and we miss you everyday. Our special memories together will never fade away!

PRECIOUS MEMORIES

