



## Book Reviews

**M. D. Joseph. *Thrown into the World: An Existentialist Approach to Life*, EBH Publishers, Guwahati, 2016, pp. 352+xxii, Hardbound, price 1450. ISBN: 978-93-83252-55-8**

Existentialism is an elusive notion, escaping all definitions. It is surrounded by a certain amount of confusion and ambiguity since it includes widely disparate philosophies. It is not a system of philosophy, rather a way of philosophizing. This book is an attempt to elucidate the profound notion of existentialism and make it available to ordinary readers. This volume makes us aware of our existence as our essential human nature. It deals with issues like human freedom and facticity in the world of humans.

The book carries a foreword from Honorable (late) Janaki Ballv Patnaid, Governor of Assam who says “the author has been very consistent and precise in bringing out to light human essence in its centrality and totality.”

His Excellency Salvatore Pennacchio, Apostolic Nuncio released the book on 24th November at the diamond jubilee celebrations of Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune and gave the first copy to His Eminence Cardinal Oswald Gracias of Bombay,

The author of the book Fr Jose MD (Mannukulangara) is a priest of the Archdiocese of Guwahati, Assam and is a scholar who has graduated from Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune.

The book is a worthwhile contribution to research libraries and for all serious students of philosophy, who want to update themselves with the latest trends in philosophy. **Kuruville Pandikattu SJ**

**Francis Gonsalves, SJ. *Feet Rooted, Hearts Radiant, Minds Raised: Living Sacraments in India*, Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, Anand, 2015 pp. 314. ISBN: 978-81-927387-0-3.**

As the title suggests, this book is basically on sacraments made relevant for our contemporary situation in India. It aims at evolving an Indian view of sacraments, which also applies to other contexts. Specifically, it unearths the treasures of an Indian way of viewing reality and understanding the sacraments, so as to suggest ways and means to live the sacraments more meaningfully and effectively. It book suggest three integral, inseparable dimensions of sacramentality. Indian contextual sacramental theology must necessarily be rooted in Indian soil (context), enlightened by Scripture interpreted in Indian idiom (word-text) and heart-warmingly celebrative of the stirring rhythms of Indian life (spirit).

The book has eight chapters. The first one begins with our quest for sacramentality. Then the symbols and sacraments for life are elaborately studied. Then the next chapter deals with sacraments as communitarian symbolic acts. From this background the author goes on to study different sacraments: “Eat, this is my Body,” (Eucharist), “Flow, Rivers of Living waters” (Baptism and Confirmation), “I Desire Mercy, not Sacrifice,” (Reconciliation and Anointing), “No Greater Love than This,” (Marriage and Holy Orders). Finally the author reflects on the cosmic sacramental (“That They May Have Life.”)

This book is a welcome addition to every library on philosophy and theology. It is highly recommended for theology students. -**Shabin V**

- "Newness often makes us fearful, including the newness God brings us, the newness God asks of us. We are like the apostles in the Gospel: often we would prefer to hold on to our own security, to stand in front of a tomb, to think about someone who has died, someone who ultimately lives on only as a memory, like the great historical figures from the past. We are afraid of God's surprises." — Pope Francis, *The Church of Mercy*
- "Brothers and sisters, let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened, and sad? Do we feel weighed down by our sins? Do we think that we won't be able to cope? Let us not close our hearts, let us not lose confidence, let us never give up." — Pope Francis, *The Church of Mercy*
- "Let us remain with Christ—abiding in Christ—and let us always try to be one with him. Let us follow him; let us imitate him in his movement of love, in his going forth to meet humanity. Let us go forth and open doors. Let us have the audacity to mark out new paths for proclaiming the Gospel." — Pope Francis, *The Church of Mercy*

The Editorial Board of AJRS wishes all its Readers a **Happy Christmas** and **Fruitful New Year, 2016**. We wish **Papal Seminary** on its diamond jubilee in Pune.