



THANKS GIVING MESSAGE from FR. FRANCIS SERRAO, SJ
Ex-Rector, St. Aloysius College; currently Provincial, Karnataka Jesuits

On the happy occasion of Thanksgiving Day I am really thrilled to send these few warm words of felicitation to all our alumni/ae in USA, as they join their fellow citizens in the land of the free and the land of the brave in expressing their deepest sentiments of gratitude to the Almighty for the bountiful favours received from His Divine Providence in countless ways and forms.

As you decorate your homes and join all your family members in common prayers and family dinners, you, as the alumni of St Aloysius College, Mangalore, will surely have many memories of the blessings and graces received from God in your own sojourn in this great land of myriad opportunities. The Alma Mater is truly proud of you and rejoices in your successes. Like the Pilgrim Fathers of America who are remembered on Thanksgiving Day, your Alma Mater too had its origins with a handful of courageous and committed men from Italy landing on the Idgah Hill, to give their vision a concrete shape in the form of your flourishing Centre of education for all the young people of all communities, castes, creeds and cultures in the coastal areas of Karnataka. Today, looking back on the tiny seed that was sown more than 130 years ago and seeing how it has now grown into a mighty banyan tree, one cannot but let one's heart burst forth with songs of praise and thanks. That is why I feel very close to each one of you on this truly significant and solemn occasion.

May this annual observance further deepen the sentiments of love and loyalty that you feel towards your adopted land and all its people, while at the same time bringing you closer to your native land and its people too.

Here is wishing each one of you and your dear ones a very happy Thanksgiving Day

Francis Serrao, SJ
 Provincial, Karnataka Jesuits