



**FRATELLI DI SANGABRIELE**  
**Casa Generalizia**  
**Via Trionfale, 12840 - 00135 ROMA**  
**Italia**

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**Tel : (39) 06 30 35 90 1**  
**Fax : (39) 06 30 35 90 56**

Dear Bro. George Kalangod,

Greetings from Rome. I was shocked to hear about the sudden and untimely death of my dear friend, Bro. Gerard Patrick. I offer you, the Brothers of the Province of Yercaud, all his family members, relatives, all his friends and well wishers, my heartfelt condolences. May God give all of you strength and Christian fortitude to bear this great loss.

I had the opportunity to know Bro. Patrick since many decades. A passionate lover of outdoor activities, especially sports and games, he was an inspiration to all his students and colleagues. He had the great capacity to motivate and inspire others, especially his students and, at the same time, he was a 'no nonsense' man, who never brokered mediocrity. He always believed in confronting people with whom he had issues, rather than cribbing behind their backs, which certainly did not endear him to some.

The full blossoming of Bro. Patrick's personality happened during the past twenty years or so, when he started working with the poor for their upliftment and development. He was as passionate about this mission as he was about sports and games in his earlier days. He also, being in contact with the poor, mellowed down in spirit and became more compassionate, understanding and kind.

My only regret is that I could not communicate with him during the last few months of his life, though I tried. Farewell, my dear loving and encouraging friend. May God receive you with open arms into His paradise.

Bro. K.M.Joseph  
Assistant General