GLOSSARY OF CATHOLIC TERMS.

Many English words have a special meaning in Catholic usage. Those relevant to the present study are included in this Glossary.

Abstinence: refraining from meat usually on Fridays.

Administration of Sacraments: the act of conferring a Sacrament.

Advent: period of preparation for Christmas.

All Soul’s Day: the commemoration of the souls of all the departed.

Altar boy: one who assists a priest at Mass and other liturgical or religious ceremonies.

Altar: the table upon which sacrifice is made; the table used for celebrating Mass. A Catholic house normally has a domestic altar before which family prayers are usually said.

Anointing the Sick: one of the seven Sacraments administered to those who are seriously ill.

Apostasy: desertion or abandonment of one’s faith or religion.

Ascension of Christ: the departure of Jesus Christ from this world to heaven after His death and resurrection.

Banns: public announcement that two persons wish to get married.

Baptism: the first of the seven Sacraments; it makes a person a member of the Church.

Betrothal: a formal mutual agreement of intention to marry.


Bishop: one who has received the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders; usually he is the head of a diocese.

Blessed Virgin: a common way of referring to Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ.

Brother: member of a Religious Order for men but who is not a priest or cleric.

Canon Law: the body of laws by the Catholic Church is governed.

Carmelite: a member of a Religious Order, whose complete name is ‘Brothers of the Order of the Most Blessed Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel’.
Catechism: religious instruction.

Catholic Church: also called the Roman Catholic Church because the supreme head is the Pope, the bishop of Rome. The members of the Catholic Church consider their Church as the true Church and other Churches as consisting of those who broke away from the true Church either as heretics or as schismatic.

Celibacy: the state of being unmarried; the state of persons obligated by vow to remain single, such as the clerics and the Religious.

Chapel: a small church a building set apart for public worship, and served by a chaplain.

Choir: a group of men and women who sing at religious ceremonies.

Christening: act of administering the Sacrament of Baptism.

Church: a building designed or adapted primarily for Christian worship, particularly for the celebration of the Mass and the administration of Sacraments.

Church: the body or collection of believers such as the Catholic Church, Anglican Church, Orthodox Church, etc.

Clergy: those who are consecrated to divine service, usually through the Sacrament of Holy orders.

Confession: act of confessing one's sins in the Sacrament of penance.

Confirmation: one of the seven Sacraments; it marks the transition of a person into adulthood.

Congregation: a gathering of the faithful for public worship or liturgy.

Consecration: act of making person, place or thing holy.

Convent: building in which women religious live.

Cross: a representation of the cross on which Jesus Christ died. It can be very small to be worn as pendant of necklace or very large to be displayed in public places.

Crucifix: a Cross on which the figures of Jesus Christ is represented.

Deacon: one who has received the first level of the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

Dean: a priest, usually appointed by the bishop to supervise a group of parishes constituting a deanery; also called vicar forane.

Deanery: a territory consisting of several parishes presided over by a dean.

Decree of nullity: a decree from a competent court that an act is null and void, usually in the case of marriage.
Devotions: prayers, pilgrimages and other religious practices.

Diocesan clergy: clergy belonging to a diocese and distinct from the Religious.

Diocese: a territorial division of the Catholic church headed by a bishop.

Dispensation: relaxation from existing law granted by a superior, especially in marriage cases.

Easter: the Sunday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Eucharist: the most important of the seven Sacraments. Its celebration is called the Mass. The essential rite is the consecration of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Communion is the reception of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Excommunication: a censure by which a person is deprived of the company of other members of the church.

Exorcism: the expelling of evil spirits in cases of procession according to the rite prescribed in the Catholic Church.

Faithful: members of the church.

Fasting: refraining from food; on days of fast only one full meal is allowed, and other meals may be taken according to one's need.

First communion: reception of the Eucharist for the first time.

First Friday: the first Friday of a month.

Godchild: a baptized person in relation to his or her godparents.

Godparent: sponsor of the person who is baptized; Canon Law requires a sponsor at a Baptism, and such a sponsorship creates a spiritual relationship between the godchild and the godparent.

Gospel: the good news or teachings of Jesus; in a restricted sense the accounts of the teachings and miracles of Jesus written by the four Evangelists, namely, Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Grace: a help or gift from God which influences a person.

Holy water: a sacramental; water blessed by a priest to impart God's blessing on those who use it.

Holy souls: souls of the dead undergoing purification in purgatory before entering heaven.

Holy Spirit: the third person of the Divine Trinity, the other two being God the Father, and God the Son who became man as Jesus Christ.

Holy Order: one of the seven Sacraments; a person joins the ranks of the clergy and becomes a priest by receiving Holy Orders.
Hymn: a religious song used in worship.

Immaculate Heart of Mary: the physical heart of the Virgin Mary venerated as a symbol of her love and purity.

Inquisition: tribunal first instituted by Pope Gregory IX in 1229 to deal with heretics, and later established in Spain, Portugal and other countries and places such as Goa.

Jacobites: the Syrian Christians who do not accept the supremacy of the Pope.

Jesuits: a popular title for the members of the Society of Jesus, which is a Religious Order in the Catholic Church.

Laity: members of the Church, excluding the clergy.

Layman: one who is not a cleric.

Lent: the penitential season that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter.

Liturgy: the official worship of God by the Church through the celebration of the Eucharist, the administration of Sacrament, and other prayers.

Martyr: one who has suffered death for the faith.

Mary, Blessed Virgin: the mother of Jesus Christ, usually called the Blessed Virgin, and Our Lady.

Mass: the common word to refer to the celebration of the Eucharist.

Matrimony: the sacrament of marriage.

Monastery: the home of a community of Religious men.

Nullity: a state of non-existence, usually of marriage.

Nun: member of a Religious Order for women, usually addressed as Sister.

Baptism: the wedding ceremony in the church consisting of the exchange of consent in the presence of a priest and two witnesses.

Orthodox Church: collective name given to those self-governing Churches of Eastern Europe and the Middle East which separated themselves from the Catholic Church between 1054 AD and 1472 AD

Padroado: the privilege of patronage granted by the Pope to the king of Portugal, by which the king could present candidates to become bishops, but had the responsibility of providing for missionary activity.

Parish: a community of Catholics usually living in a definite territory and headed by the parish priest.

Parish Priest: the priest in charge of a parish.
Parishioner: a member of a parish.

Pentecost: a major feast celebrated fifty days after Easter.

Pilgrimage: a journey to a shrine for a religious purpose.

Pope: supreme head of the Catholic Church, bishop of Rome.

Priest: one who has received the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

Procession: a religious function by which people and clergy go from one place to another.

Protestant Churches: a generic title applied to all Christian denominations outside the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Churches like the Anglican Church. The Protestant Churches emerged from the Reformation.

Protestant: member of a Protestant Church.

Religious: member of a Religious Order.

Religious Order: an association of persons who make the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and live in communities. Members of Religious Orders for women usually live in convents, and members of Religious Orders for men usually live in monasteries.

Resurrection of Christ: the physical rising from death by Jesus Christ on the first Easter.

Roman Catholic: originally used derogatively by Protestants to describe the Catholic Church, now accepted universally as referring to a Catholic or the Catholic Church.

Rosary: a series of prayers, counted as they are repeated, on a string of beads or a knotted cord. The string of beads itself is called a rosary.

Sacrament: a visible sign instituted by Christ to give grace. There are seven Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and Anointing of the sick.

Sacred Heart of Jesus: the physical heart of Jesus which is an object of devotion as a symbol of his love and mercy.

Saint: a person who is believed to have gone to heaven soon after death.

Second Vatican Council: the council held at the Vatican from 11 October 1962 to 8 December 1965.

Seminarian: a candidate for the priesthood.

Seminary: the institution or house of studies where seminarians undergo training for the priesthood.

Sermon: formal religious discourse, usually given at Mass.
Shrine: a case, box, or niche in which the images of the saints are kept as at the domestic alter; a holy place dedicated to a saint where the faithful gather for devotions.

Sin: a deliberate transgression of divine law.

Sister: member of a Religious Order for women.

Sodality: an association of lay people organized for a religious purpose.

Theology: the science that treats of God and the things pertaining to God. It has a number of branches.

Unction: the act of anointing with holy oils.

Vicar: a cleric who takes the place or acts as representative of another; usually applied to the parish priest who represents the bishop.

Vicar General: a priest appointed to assist the bishop in the administration of his diocese.

Vicar forane: head of a deanery, dean.

Vocation: the calling of every person to a particular state and task in life.

Vow: a voluntary promise made to God.

Vows of religious: public vows made by a Religious.
GLOSSARY OF LOCAL WORDS

There are local words from three languages, some used in all the three, some in two and a few in only one language. This is indicated in the brackets as follows: K = Konkani, Ka = Kannada, T = Tulu. Some Konkani words are very close to original Portuguese words. This is indicated as KP = Konkani-Portuguese.

Ab (K) : father's father, mother's father.
Ad pongot (K) : a cross row or line of persons at a meal.
Adi udak (K) : water from the bottom of tank or well.
Adi nur (T) : water from the bottom of tank or well.
Advent (KP) : season preparatory to Christmas, Advent.
Aji (K) : father's mother, mother's mother.
Akai (K) : father's sister.
Aliyakattu (T, Ka) : lineage of sister's son.
Aliyasanthana (T, Ka) : lineage of sister's son; law of inheritance from a person to his sister's son.
Anas (K) : new moon, from Sanskrit amavasya.
Amase (T) : new moon, from Sanskrit amavasya.
Amori (KP) : prayer called Angelus.
Apoine (K) : vocation.
Aresu (T Ka) : king, ruler of a time or nadu.
Ardra (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Ashtami (Ka, T, K) : eight day of lunar month.
Ashvini (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Ati (K, T) : name of Karkataka (Sanskrit) month, July-August.
Ati kalena (T) : ritual to propitiate bhutas.
Ayurvedic (K, Ka) : of Indian medicine.
Azo (K) : father's father, mother's father.
Bahula paksha (Ka, T) : second and dark fortnight of lunar month.
Bail (T, K) : estate, large cultivated area of wet fields.
Bailu (T, K) : wet fields yielding three rice crops a year.
Ballala (T, Ka) : nobleman, ruler of a magane.
Baplyo (K) : father's brother, mother's sister's husband.
Bappu (K) : father's brother, mother's sister's husband.
Basadi (T, Ka) : Jain temple.
Basava (T, Ka) : sacred bull.
Beedi (T, K, Ka) : a type of cigarette.
Beeda (T, K, Ka) : a type of cigarette.
Besha (T) : name of Vrishaba (Sanskrit) month, May–June.
Beso (K) : name of Vrishaba (Sanskrit) month, May–June.
Bettu (T, K) : fields yielding only one rice crop a year.
Bachi (K) : sister's daughter, husband's sister's daughter.
Bacho (K) : sister's son, husband's sister's son.
Bhara (T, Ka, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Bhav (K) : husband's elder brother, (pl. bhave).
Bhavoz (K) : husband's elder brother's wife (pl. bhavoyyo).
Bhes (K) : state in life.
Bhuta (T, K, Ka) spirit.
Bhutaradhana (T, Ka) : spirit worship.
Bisu (T, K) : first day of solar year.
Bontel (T) : name of Tula (Sanskrit) month, October–November.
Bontingol (K) : name of Tula (Sanskrit) month, October–November.
Casth (KP) : caste, from Portuguese casta.
Catholic Sabha (K) : Catholic Association.
Chai-geni (T, K) : tenancy at will, temporary tenancy.
Chai-genider (T, K) : tenant at will, temporary tenant.
Chamador (KP) : crier, messenger; a parish employee.
Chandraman Yugadi (T, Ka, K) : beginning of lunar year.
Chitra (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Communidade (KP) : village organization found in Goa.
Daij (K) : property, valuable belong to the family.
Daiji (K) : those who have a share in daij, patri-kin within three degrees of descent from a common ancestor.
Dakto bappu (K) : father’s younger brother.
Dan (K) : gift, from Sanskrit.
Dede (K) : companions of a bridegroom, (sing. Dedo).
Deepavali (Ka, T, K) : Hindu festival of lights.
Der (K) : husband’s younger brother.
Dharia (T, K) : lord, master.
Dot (KP) : dowry, from Portuguese dote (gift).
Dvaita siddhanta (Ka) : dualism in philosophy.
Ekadashi (Ka, T, K) : eleventh day of lunar month.
Fagur main (K) : classificatory mother-in-law.
Filia (KP) : godchild.
Ghar (K) : house, household, from Sanskrit Griha.
Ghar-janvoin (K) : son-in-law of the house, daughter’s husband who stays with the daughter at her parental house after marriage.
Gharane (K) : large house, big household.
Gharchhin almaun (K) : souls of the house, ancestors.
Gotri (K) : patriarch, from Sanskrit gotra.
Grama (T, Ka) : revenue village, village; a cluster of urus.
Gunmat (K) : drum to accompany singing.
Gun (K) : quality, qualities.
Gurkar (K) : headman, usually of a ward in the parish.
Gurkarn (K) : fem. Form of Gurkar.
Guttinaye (T) : owner or holder of a guttu.
Guttu (T) : manor house, manor.
Hubba (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.

Igaxz (KP) : church.

Jardo (K, T) : name of Vrischika (Sanskrit) month, November-December.

Jati (T, Ka) : caste.

Janvoin (K) : son-in-law, daughter's husband.

Junta (KP) : assembly of the heads of (Catholic) households in a parish.

Kambala (T, Ka) : buffalo races.

Kariaman (T, K, Ka) : necklace with black and gold beads used by married women.

Kartel (T) : name of Mithuna (Sanskrit) month, June-July.

Karthingol (K) : name of Mithuna (Sanskrit) month, June-July.

Kaveri sankranthi (Ka, T, K) : first day of Bontel (Libra) month.

Kayer (T) : name of Nux Vomica tree.

Kazar (KP) : marriage, from Portuguese casar, to become a householder.

Kazarocho bhes (K) : the married state.

Kharar (K) : contract, marriage engagement.

Khasartachi dotorn (KP) : marriage catechism, religious instruction given prior to marriage.

Kola (T, K) : festival in honour of bhuta.

Kolke (T, K) : third crop of the year.

Kont (KP) : a string of beads used for counting prayers during the rosary, also called rosary.

Korikatta (T) : cock fights.

Krishna paksha (Ka, T) : second and dark fortnight of lunar month.

Krittika (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.

Kuli (K) : lineage, caste, from Sanskrit kula.

Kumadr (KP) : one's child's godmother, one's godchild's mother.

Kumpadr (KP) : one's child's godfather, one's godchild's father.

Kumkum (T, Ka) : vermillion, turmeric powder, used in Hindu rituals.

Kutumb (K) : family, from Sanskrit Kutumb.
Lagn (K) : marriage, from Sanskrit Lagna.

Luvad (KB) : assistant headman of a ward in the parish.

Maga (Ka, T) : son.

Magane (T, Ka) : a territorial and administrative unit consisting of many grāmas (villages).

Magha (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.

Mahanakshatra (T, Ka, K) : lunar asterism with reference to the movement of the sun.

Main (K) : mother, husband’s mother, wife’s mother.

Majal (T, K) : fields yielding two rice crops a year.

Mam (K) : mother’s brother, father’s sister’s husband.

Mami (K) : mother’s brother’s wife, father’s sister.

Mand (K) : platform on which singers sit.

Mandal Panchayat (Ka) : village panchayat.

Marnemi vesha (T, K) : festive dress as tigers and bears worn by dancers at marnemi festival.

Marnemi (T, K) : Sanskrit Mahanavami, a Hindu festival.

Matrimoni (KB) : marriage, matrimony.

Matta (Ka, T) : monastary.

Maulo (K) : mothers’ brother, father’s sister’s husband.

Maun (K) : husband’s father, wife’s father.

Maushi (K) : mother’s sister, father’s brother’s wife.

Mavado (K) : wife’s father’s house.

Mavoln (K) : father’s sister, mother’s brother’s wife.

Mayi (K, T) : name of Kumbha (Sanskrit) month, February–March.

Mhali (K) : middlewoman in marriage matchmaking.

Mhalo (K) : middleman in marriage matchmaking.

Mhirniam (KB) : overseer, sacristan, a parish employee.

Muni (K) : wife’s sister.

Muno (K) : wife’s brother, sister’s husband.
Modoxn (KP) : godmother, from Portuguese madxinha.

Montichen fest (KP) : feast of the Nativity of Our Lady, harvest festival for the Catholics in Dakshina Kannada.

Mriga (Ka, T, K) : wild animals.

Mrighashira (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.

Mul-geni (T, K) : permanent tenancy.

Mul-genidar (T, K) : permanent tenant.

Nadu (T, Ka) : country, kingdom.

Naga bana (T, Ka) : sacred grove dedicated to naga.

Naga (T, Ka) : cobra.

Naga kallu (T, Ka) : cobra stone.

Nagara panchami (T, Ka) : festival to propitiate nagas (cobras).

Nakshatra (T, K, Ka) : star, lunar arist, from Sanskrit nakshatra; there are 27 nakshatras.

Nanand (K) : husband’s sister, (pl. nandyo).

Nandayo (K) : husband’s sister’s husband, (pl. nandaye)

Nat (K) : granddaughter, son’s daughter, daughter’s daughter.

Nathalanchen fest (KP) : Christmas.

Natran (K) : grandchildren, son’s children, daughter’s children.

Natu (K) : grandson, son’s son, daughter’s son.

Nirnal (K, T) : name of Kanya (Sanskrit) month, September-October.

Nithya nakshatra (T, Ka, K) : daily star.

Noven jevychen (K) : eating new grain, formal meal at harvest festival.

Novro (K) : bridegroom.

Okkalu (T, Ka) : family.

Pad-dana (T) : ballads in Tulu language.

Paggu (K, T) : name of Mesha (Sanskrit) month, April-May.

Pan (K) : betel leaf.

Pan-phod (K) : betel leaf and arecanut offered to guests for chewing.
Panchanga (T, K, Ka) : the Hindu calendar.
Paschanchen fest (KP) : Easter.
Pattanaje (T, K) : tenth day of Besha month.
Perardo (K, T) : name of Dhana (Sanskrit) month, December-January.
Pez (K) : rice gruel.
Pirjent (KP) : president, usually of celebrations of parish feast.
Podorn (KP) : godfather, from Portuguese padrinho.
Ponzo (K) : great grandfather, father's father's father.
Puintel (T) : name of Makara (Sanskrit) month, January-February.
Puintingol (K) : name of Makara (Sanskrit) month, January-February.
Punarvasu (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Punnime (T) : full moon, from Sanskrit Poornima.
Punov (K) : full moon, from Sanskrit Poornima.
Purvoz (K) : ancestor, from Sanskrit purvaja.
Puslya (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Rashi (T, K, Ka, Sanskrit) : zodiacal house.
Respex (KP) : nuptial ceremony, from Portuguese responder.
Rohini (Ka, T, K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Sado (K) : bridal sari.
Saheb (T, K) : term used for Deccani Muslims.
Saire (K) : affines, those related through marriage.
Saikik (K) : relationship arising between persons on account of a marriage.
Sankranti (K, T) : first day of solar month, from Sanskrit sankramana.
Sanna (K) : sort of bread prepared from rice similar to idli.
Sarthi (K) : voluntary labour offered by different households in turn for any parish project.
Sasu main (K) : mother-in-law, husband's mother, wife's mother.
Satane (T, K) : name of Alstonia Scholaris tree.
Sauramana Yugadi (K, T, Ka) : first day of the solar year.
Sezar (K) : neighbourhood.
Shukla paksha (Ka, T) : first and bright fortnight of lunar month.
Sime (T, Ka) : kingdom.
Sobha1 (K) : beauty.
Soirik (K) : relationships through marriage, affinal relationship, marriage engagement.
Sona (K, T) : name of Simha (Sanskrit) month, August-September.
Suggi (T, K) : second crop of the year. Name of Mina (Sanskrit) month, March-April.
Terve (K) : prayer called rosary.
Tingode (T) : head of month, first day of solar month.
Tulsi (T, K, Ka) : sacred basil plant.
Tulsikatte (T, Ka) : small platform on which tulsi plant is grown, usually in front of the house.
Tulunadu (T, Ka) : Tulu country.
Tuluva (T, Ka) : land of Tulu speaking people, ancient name of Dakshina Kannada district.
Urku (T, K) : charm, amulet.
Oxmal (K) : turban.
Oru (T, Ka) : village.
Uttara (Ka, T,K) : one of the 27 nakshatras.
Vado (K) : ward, a territorial division of parish.
Varado (K) : deanery, a group of parishes.
Vhodlen fest (K) : big feast, the parish feast.
Vhokol (K) : bride.
Vhordik (K) : marriage.
Vhorest (K) : bridegroom.
Vhovlik (K) : wedding invitation.
Vigar (K) : vicar, parish priest.
Visu (T, K) : first day of solar year.
Vodli main (K) : grandmother, father’s mother, mother’s mother.
Vodlo bappa (K) : father’s elder brother.
Vorn (K) : a porridge like sweet dish.
Warga (T, K, Ka) estate, landed property.
Wargadar (T, K) : owner of an estate.
Yakshgana (T, Ka) : field drama.
Yenel (T, K) : first crop of the year.
Yezman (K) : mistress of the house, wife of the head of the household.
Yezmani (K) : master of the house, head of the household.
Yuvak sangh (K) : youth association.
Zath (K) : caste, from Jati.