



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

Title of the Event	Seminar on the teachings of Mother Teresa					
Date of the Event	October 16, 2025	Place of the event	St. Vincent College			
Objectives of the Event	To honor Mother Teresa's legacy by exploring her "ethic of proximity" as a moral response to contemporary indifference, and to inspire the college community to translate compassion into everyday action through reflection, dialogue, and lived values.					
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Dr. Sr. Madhuri Brahmane					
A short narration of the program						
<p>Seminar on the teachings of Mother Teresa</p> <p>On Thursday, October 16, 2025—the death anniversary of Saint Mother Teresa—St. Vincent College commemorated her life and legacy with a solemn and reflective lecture titled “Compassion as Resistance: Mother Teresa’s Ethic of Proximity in an Age of Indifference.” The event, organized under the auspices of the Mother Teresa Vidyarthini Manch (MTVM) and spearheaded by its convener, Dr. Sr. Madhuri Brahmane, brought together students, faculty, and members of the college community in a shared moment of remembrance and moral inquiry.</p> <p>The program commenced in the college auditorium with a quiet invocation, followed by the ceremonial garlanding of a portrait of Mother Teresa. Students from MTVM, dressed in simple white saris with blue borders in homage to the Missionaries of Charity, placed floral tributes at the base of the photograph—a gesture not of veneration alone, but of commitment to the values she embodied. The atmosphere was marked by reverence without solemnity, inviting contemplation rather than mere observance.</p> <p>The keynote lecture was delivered by two Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity from the Dhole Patil Road convent in Pune. Speaking with understated grace and profound clarity, they anchored their reflections in Mother Teresa’s lived philosophy: that true compassion begins not with grand gestures, but with the courage to stand close to suffering—without flinching, without agenda, and without expectation of reward. They emphasized that in today’s world, where social distance is often normalized through digital mediation and systemic apathy, Mother Teresa’s “ethic of proximity” constitutes a quiet but radical form of resistance.</p>						



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Drawing from her letters, daily routines, and interactions with the destitute in Kolkata, the Sisters illustrated how she transformed charity from an act of pity into a practice of dignity-restoration.

Particularly striking was their discussion of “seeing the person behind the problem”—a principle that resonated deeply with the commerce and humanities students in attendance. The Sisters linked this idea to contemporary issues such as urban poverty, mental health stigma, and the marginalization of the elderly, urging the audience to cultivate what Mother Teresa called “the eyes of the heart.” They explained, her mission was to love concretely—offering a glass of water, cleaning a wound, holding a dying hand—as an end in itself, irrespective of creed or identity.

Dr. Sr. Madhuri Brahmane, in her introductory and concluding remarks, contextualized the lecture within the MTVM’s ongoing initiatives—ranging from community kitchen drives to student-led empathy workshops—highlighting how Mother Teresa’s legacy is not confined to history but actively shapes campus culture. She reminded the audience that remembrance, to be meaningful, must translate into action: small, consistent acts of kindness that challenge indifference in everyday life.

The session concluded with a moment of silent reflection, followed by a student-led recitation of Mother Teresa’s famous “Do It Anyway” prayer. There were no grand pronouncements or performative displays; instead, the event left a lingering sense of quiet resolve. In its structure, tone, and content, the lecture succeeded not in idealizing a saint, but in making her humanity accessible—and her call to compassion, urgent and actionable for a new generation.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	Mother Teresa Vidyarthini Manch
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	Attendees deepened their understanding of compassion as active, dignified engagement with suffering—moving beyond pity to presence—and were challenged to apply Mother Teresa’s principles to modern social issues through empathy, attentiveness, and small, consistent acts of kindness.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	The MTVM team strengthened their capacity to facilitate values-based programming that bridges spiritual legacy with social relevance, while reinforcing their commitment to embedding compassion, service, and ethical reflection into campus life through meaningful, non-performative commemoration.



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No. of Participants	50+ Students of St. Vincent College
Faculty in Charge	Dr. Sr. Madhuri Brahmane
Documents Attached	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Attendance Sheet2. Geotag photographs3. Resume of resource persons if any4. Copy of remuneration paid if any5. Notice of the event6. Thank you letter to the resource persons