

Biography

“Arockia D. Rayappan aka Ray is a Ph.D. candidate in the INDI Program at Concordia University. He volunteered for the *Pontificium Athenaeum Pooniensis Tsunami Relief Team / Jnana Deepa Relief Team* as an undergraduate. He volunteered for Open Houe and the Hive Free Lunch & Breakfast at Concordia University. He is a volunteer for the upcoming Theology in the City 2024. His hobbies are listening, reading, writing, and teaching. He is a lifetime-member of the Golden Key International Honour Society and the Golden Key Academy. He has been honored with 2023-2024 Steven Goldberg Graduate Scholarship, 2022 Golden Key Graduate Scholar Award, 2022 Concordia Doctoral Fellowship Award, and 2022 Concordia International Tuition Award of Excellence. He is a priest of Delhi Archdiocese. His research explores practical, resourceful, and sustainable ways to foster social and religious harmony through Basic Ecclesial Communities in the contemporary Indian multi-cultural, pluri-religious, social, economic, and political milieu.

Ray dedicates this article to the parishioners and priests of the Delhi Archdiocese and the Kottar Diocese, his late parents, Michael Rayappan and Antonyammal Barnabas, as well as his spiritual guides: Archbishop Emeritus Vincent Concessao of Delhi, Bishop Ignatius Mascarenhas of Simla-Chandigarh, Delhi Priest George Manimala, the late Father Lionel Mascarenhas SJ, the Late Father Joseph Neuner Sj, the late Kottar Bishop Leon Augustine Tharmaraj, the late Delhi Archbishops Angelo Fernandes, and Alan de Lastic, the current Delhi Archbishop Anil Couto, and the Delhi Archdiocesan Priests. Finally, the author would like to thank his three Ph.D. supervisors at Concordia University, namely, Professor André Gagné, Professor Lucian Turcescu, and Associate Professor Christine Jamieson. He gratefully acknowledges their mentorship and guidance.”