

\*Morning Talk – 22 June 2026\*

Fr. John Christy, Rector & Correspondent

Don Bosco Wisdom Town

My dear students,

Good morning to all of you!

Yesterday, we celebrated a very special day — Father’s Day. I am sure each one of you wished your dads, hugged them, and showed your love in your own way. Fathers are truly important in our lives. They guide us, protect us, and help us grow.

Today, I would like to speak to you about a father — the father and founder of this great institution, Father Gerard.

Father Gerard was not just a founder; he is my spiritual father, mentor, guide, and a Salesian whom I admired most. His life story is more thrilling than any movie you watch today.

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He came from Kerala to Chennai Central, as a young boy of just thirteen years, with nothing in his hands. When people asked him, “Where are your belongings?” he simply showed his empty hands. He had nothing — but he had courage, faith, dreams and determination.

He learned many skills — carpentry, carving, youth ministry — and went on to achieve great things in life. Today, this institution, Don Bosco Wisdom Town, stands as a living gift from Father Gerard to all of us — to the people of Vadagarai, Vadaperumbakkam, Puzhal, Redhills, and the surrounding villages.

Father Gerard was:

Courageous,

Kind to the needy,

Intelligent and farsighted,

Motivated and motivating others.

These are the very qualities of a true leader.

As the great Tamil sage Thiruvalluvar teaches in Kural 382,

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a leader must have:

Fearlessness, Generosity, Wisdom, Energy and enthusiasm

Father Gerard lived all these qualities in his life.

My dear children, we have placed a picture of Father Gerard near the KG section. When you get time — during your break or lunchtime — go and see it. Look at his face and simply say:

“Thank you, Father Gerard.”

He always used to tell students: “I love Don Bosco, I love this school.”

This school is your home, your family — a place where you can be happy, grow, and achieve your dreams.

Father Gerard is watching us from heaven, and he will be truly happy when each one of you succeeds, grows, and becomes responsible citizens of our country.

So, my dear children, this week let us:

Remember our fathers

Thank our founder, Father Gerard

And strive to be the best in whatever we do

May God bless you all.

Good morning!