

morto 2.12.1996 96.

a MYSORE (India)

REV. FR. (C.M.) JOSEPH MALIEKAL, SDB. - RIP

On Sunday, 1 December Fr. Maliekal went by Scooter to say Mass in a Convent nearby (about 1.2 km away). Around 8.45, while returning from the Convent, he fell down from the Scooter hitting his head on the road. What really happened, no one knows. His body was found about 10 feet away from the scooter, as if thrown off the vehicle, and in a pool of blood. The road was clear, and there was no traffic.

A neighbour who heard the noise rushed to the spot and informed the Sisters from whose convent he had just come out. Meanwhile we came to know of the fall and we rushed to the spot, and luckily a passer-by rushed him in a car to the best hospital in City. He was absolutely unconscious and was bleeding profusely from mouth, nose and ears.

Once in the hospital they did the scanning and the doctors told us that it was impossible to save him - most of part of the brain was badly damaged, there was excessive internal bleeding, too. He died on 2 December at 8.45 pm, exactly 36 hours after his fall. Since it was a scooter accident (though self), it became a police case and post mortem had to be done. We got the body back only on Tuesday around 2.30 in the afternoon. Then we handed it over to some Sisters for preparing. We brought the body to Don Bosco around 5.45 and we had a mass for him that evening itself, with over 200 people, mostly members of the nearby convents.

The funeral was on Wednesday at 10 am with the Bishop of Mysore as the main celebrant. Fr. Rector gave the homily during the Mass, Fr. Provincial conducted the burial services and spoke at the grave on behalf of the Salesians. Fr. Maliekal is buried in Don Bosco itself, very close to the entrance to the building.

Then the scooter had to be surrendered to the police and finally we got it out only on 7th. On 8th Sunday we had the 7th Day commemoration of Fr. Maliekal.

Thank God, everything went well. We are writing this to you because we want you to pray for him. RIP.



