



# LOCUSTS & HONEY



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.**

*PVS: Family as a bond between God & Community in Service*

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly Vol. 3, No. 49 02 December, 2007



## MUMBAI GETS NEW CARDINAL

### Mass Schedule:

**Sunday: 6,7,8,9.15 a.m. & 5.30, 6.30p.m**

**At Kopri: Every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.**

Weekday: 6 & 6.45 a.m., 7.00 pm.

and at 6.30 a.m. in Holy Cross Convent

**Mass in Marathi:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 7. a.m

**Mass in Konkani:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 7. a.m.

**Mass in Hindi:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 7.00 a.m.

**Tamil Mass:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 11.00 am

**Confessions:** Saturday: 6 to 7 p.m.

**Baptisms:** Sunday: 10.15 a.m.

**Marriages:** Weekday at 5.15 p.m.

Sunday: 5.30 p.m. & 6.30 pm

**Funerals:** Any day: 10 to 11.45 a.m. &

4 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

**Sacrament of the sick:** on request.

**House Blessing:** With prior arrangement.

**Novenas:** St. Anthony's: Tuesday 7.30pm

**Perpetual Succour Novena:**

After 7 p.m. Mass on Wednesday.

**Charismatic Prayer Service [English]**

On Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m.

**Divine Mercy Devotion:** On Fridays

at 6.00 p.m. except on 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

**Sunday School:** after 8.00 a.m. Mass

**Night Adoration:** Last Saturday @ 11 pm

**Office Timings:** 9.00 a.m. to 12.30

5.00 p.m. to 07.00

Sunday: 9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

**Parish Tel. No. 2534 8671; 2543 5411**

Website: [www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com)



OFFICIAL

## Annual Advent Campaign against Hunger and Disease 07

Jesus' words, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these brethren, you did it to me." (Mt. 25:40) takes on a special significance when we show concern for those afflicted by suffering or deprivation.

The United Nations together with the World Health Organization has declared the year 2007 as the "Year of Violence Prevention". Having this in mind, the Advent Campaign organized by the Bombay Archdiocesan Centre for Social Action (CSA) has taken as the theme for the campaign "Stop domestic violence: You and I can ....".

Today violence against women, children and the elderly is a universal phenomenon but at the same time it often remains invisible. Domestic violence which occurs within the four walls of the house is even more harmful for the victim in terms of health and life. It cuts across social, cultural, economic and religious barriers and manifests itself in various forms i.e. it could be physical, psychological and emotional violence.

The major lacuna in addressing this issue has been the lack of knowledge about this topic as well as not adopting the right methods to deal with it. The need of the hour is therefore to sensitize people so that they can identify the problem and deal with it. The CSA intends to create awareness and build linkages with various Iikeminded voluntary and government organizations to prevent the occurrence of domestic violence.

I whole heartedly endorse this Advent Campaign for the above-mentioned cause. I urge our faithful to contribute generously through the Parish Priest or directly to the Director, "Centre for Social Action", Eucharistic Congress Building No. III, 5 Convent Street, Mumbai 400 001. Your contribution could be sent either in Cash or Cheque/Draft drawn in favour of "Centre for Social Action". Those donors contributing Rs 10,000/- and above, are requested to please mention your Permanent Account Number (PAN), along , with the cheque. Donations made to this cause have exemption from Income Tax under Section 80G.

*+Oswald Gracias*

+Oswald Gracias,

Archbishop of Bombay

November 12, 2007

***This week's announcements  
December 02, 2007.***

1. *The season of Advent begins with 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2007. For the Annual Advent Campaign against Hunger and Disease 07, a box is kept on the side altar for your generous contribution towards it.*
2. *Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Mass at Ghormal at 10.00 a.m.. A bus will leave the school premises for Ghormal at 9.00 a.m.*
3. *Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December is the feast of St. Francis Xavier.*
4. *This week Tuesday Fathers will visit Horta Mahgiri..*
5. *Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> December is the first Friday of the month. There will be a half hour adoration of the Eucharistic Lord after 7.00 p.m. Mass.*
6. *Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, the Parish Council meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m.*
7. *The collection at Masses last Sunday, amounted to Rs.24,187 00*
8. *Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December will be the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady.*
9. *The collections from the Perpetual Succour image box amounted to Rs1,301.00*
10. *The collections from the corridor boxes amounted to Rs. 732.00*

***This Week's Liturgical Readings***

3/Mon ST FRANCIS XAVIER, (Sol.) Jer 1:4-8; Ps 70:1-6.15&17; 2 Cor 4:7-15; Lk 10:1-16  
 4/Tue John of Damascene Is 11:1-10; Ps 71:1-2.7-8.12-13.17; Lk 10:21-24  
 5/Wed Is 25:6-10a; Ps 22:1-3a.3b-4.5.6; Mt 15:29-37  
 6/Thu Nicholas Is 26:1-6; Ps 117:1&8-9.19-21.25-27; Mt 7:21.24-27  
 7/Fri St Ambrose (M) Is 29:17-24; Ps 26:1.4.13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
 8/Sat IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Sol.) Gn 3:9-15.20; Ps 97:1.2-3ab.3cd-4; Eph 1 :3-6.11-12; Lk 1 :26-38  
 9/Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Is2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

**Holy Father's General Intention:** That human society may be solicitous in the care of all those stricken with AIDS especially children and women, and that the Church make them feel the Lord's love.

**Mission Intention:** That the Incarnation of the Son of God which the Church celebrates solemnly at Christmas, may help the peoples of the Asiatic Continent to recognize God's Envoy, the only Saviour of the world in Jesus

**CHRISTMAS 2007 TENTATIVE PROGRAM**

DATES	DAY	TIME	PROGRAMS
Dec. 16	Sunday	6 - 11.30am & 5 to 8 pm	Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 20 Dec. 21 Dec. 22	Thursday Friday Saturday	5 to 8 pm	Confessions
Dec. 24	Monday	07.00 p.m. 09.30 p. m. 10.00 p.m.	No Evening Mass Carol Singing & Skit <b>MID-NIGHT MASS</b>
Dec.25	Tuesday	06.00 a.m. 07.00 a.m. 08.00 a.m. 09.15 a.m 09.00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass Prison Mass No Evening Masses
Dec. 26	Wednesday	04.00 p.m.	Sunday School X'mas Tree & Fancy Dress
Dec. 28	Friday	05.00 p.m.	Senior Citizens' X'mas Tree
Dec. 29	Saturday	10.00 a.m.	Healing Mass & X'mas party for the sick & Homebound
		12.00 noon.	Lunch for the poor
		7.30 p.m.	Food, games stalls & spot contest
Dec. 30	Sunday	7.30 p.m.	Food, games stalls & spot contest
Dec. 31	Monday	07.00 p.m. 09.45 p.m. 10.45 p.m.	No 7.00 p.m. Mass Holy Hour New Year Mass
Jan . 01	Tuesday	06.00 a.m.	New Year Mass
		07.00 a.m	New Year Mass
		08.00 a.m.	New Year Mass
		09.15 a.m.	New Year Mass
		07.00 p.m.	Evening Mass
		08.00 p.m.	New Year 2004 Blast

*N.B. There will be also crib, star and rangoli contests in addition to the above two day X'mas 2007 Fete. The Zones are to take part in all the above contests. Zonal leaders and coordinators will, please, start working on it. More information will be available with Fr. Gerry, Sports & Cultural Committee and in-charge people.*

**NEWS FROM ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
HIGH SCHOOL & JUNIOR COLLEGE**

*The Locusts & Honey congratulates Ms. Clara Correia on her appointment as Asst. Head Mistress of Junior College and Mr. V.J. James as Asst. Head Master of the High School with immediate effect. The Locusts & Honey wishes them both successful service in their new positions.*

**Smile, Giggle, Laugh!**

A small boy leading a donkey passed by an army camp. A couple of soldiers wanted to have some fun with the lad. "Why are you holding your brother so tight, Sunny," asked the soldiers.

"So that he won't join the army," answered the quick thinking lad.

\*\*\*

Two men were playing cards with heavy stakes in a pub. One of them said, "I win. I have four aces." "No," said the other, "You don't. I have three kings and a loaded gun."

"Oh Yes," said the man. "Of course you win. How come you are so lucky?"

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To the sound of breaking glass, a house agent told a couple who were visiting one of the houses for sale, "You'll be happy to know that we're only a stone's throwaway from the local school."

All Christian Denominations, Institutions and NGOs of Mumbai Coming together on (ON ONE platform ...

To Declare and Celebrate Jesus' Birth and Mumbai Christian Unity with fellow ship On Sunday, December 9, 2007 from 5.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. at Girgaum Chowpatty, Mumbai.

A Grand Musical Evening with Celebrated Artists and Choirs Presenting the Gospel Message of Love, Joy and Peace through Songs, Skits & Drama \_--

For Details Contact: Rev. Dr. Victor Gollapalli - General Secretary Cell: 9322868935 Email: revdvictorg@vsnl.com

***SPECIAL CHRISTMAS ISSUE!***

We propose to bring out a special issue of *Locusts & Honey* at Christmas. Original articles, essays and poems of about 300-350 words will be published in the issue. Zones are welcome to present reports of their activities and progress in the issue. All written material preferably on CD should reach the parish office latest by 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007

**To Thee My Majesty**

Born of a woman in a little town of Bethlehem,  
Thou obeyed Thy Father to save man from sin.  
To Thee My Majesty

Being the Son of God Thou became known as a  
carpenter's Son,  
Performing miracles and curing one and all leaving  
aside none.  
To Thee My Majesty

Thou loved sinners and dined with them,  
Winning over their hearts desperate to get them  
back to the path of heaven again.  
To Thee My Majesty

Thou art the only King to have worn the crown of  
thorns,  
Facing insults of thy own people who had once  
called Thou their own.  
To Thee My Majesty

The throne of gold Thou did not accept,  
Embracing the old rugged cross which Thy  
heavenly Father before Thee had set.  
To Thee My Majesty

Thou bore the burden of sin on Thy shoulder,  
Bringing salvation to man who otherwise would  
have been lost forever.  
To Thee My Majesty

Thou art so good and amazing,  
Forgiving Thy very  
own enemies who on the cross left Thee dying.  
To Thee My Majesty  
To a King there can be no greater a victory,

Liberating mankind from the devil's slavery.  
To Thee My Majesty  
On this day to Thee my Majesty,  
I will fall at Thy feet and forever I will worship  
Thee.

**Malcolm Nobre**

***PARISH VISITATION***

*This Tuesday Parish Fathers will visit  
Horta Mahagiri.*

## Advent

Advent is the period preceding the [Christmas](#) season. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle, and covers four Sundays. Because the day it begins changes from year to year, so does the length of each [Advent](#) season. In 2007, Advent begins on December 2.

The word [advent](#), from Latin, means “the coming.” For centuries, Advent has been a time of spiritual reflection as well as cheer and anticipation. Even as the Christmas season has become more secular-with advertisers urging holiday gift-givers to buy and buy some more-Advent still brings joy and the observance of ancient customs. Christian families find quiet moments lighting candles in the Advent wreath, and children use Advent calendars to count the days until Christmas.

### The History of Advent

Advent has probably been observed since the fourth century. Originally, it was a time when converts to [Christianity](#) readied themselves for baptism.

During [the Middle Ages](#), Advent became associated with preparation for the Second Coming. In early days Advent lasted from November 11, the feast of St. Martin, until Christmas Day. Advent was considered a pre-Christmas season of Lent when Christians devoted themselves to prayer and fasting. The [Orthodox Eastern Church](#) observes a similar Lenten season, from November 15 until Christmas, rather than Advent.

Many Christians still view Advent as a season to prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus. In the last fifty years, however, it has also come to be thought of as a time of anticipating [the Nativity](#), on Christmas Day.

### A PIECE OF HEAVEN IS ON THIS EARTH

A piece of Heaven is on this earth,  
It was delivered in time  
To celebrate the Saviour's birth.  
Someone is among us  
And we know him not,  
He's so filled with heavenly grace,  
It bursts forth from his glowing face.  
God must have been in a very good mood  
The day he created him,  
For He let go of excesses of fruits the Holy Spirit  
As He filled him.  
He's one of the strongest messengers  
I've ever known.  
What wisdom!  
What self-control!

What peace and calm!  
When everywhere is strife,  
Surely the Power of the Holy Spirit Personified  
He is among us  
When the Church needs him most.  
He plunges into the deep  
Trusting God, himself  
And his fellowmen too,  
He's a guiding light  
Teaching the Church  
How to go about.  
He's taught us the secret of living,  
Better to laugh it out  
Than feel defeated and cry.  
What an example for us to  
emulate!

You'll know him when I say,  
'Purple-clad'  
So to his Eminence  
Our very precious  
Cardinal Dr.Oswald Gracias  
CONGRATULATIONS

&

HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
For 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2007

Ella



### 1% tithing contribution to CWF.

We grateful acknowledge the generosity of the parishioners. Your contributions are put to good use to the service of the needy.

7-Apr	83,913.00
7-May	86,291.00
7-Jun	79,460.00
7-Jul	102,963.00
7-Aug	110,066.00
7-Sep	74,033.00
7-Oct	87,242.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>623,968.00</b>

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE AT 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER

**Names of the Students who are regular for Sunday School**

### Std I

1. Maria Sunny
2. Lita D'souza
3. Paul Jimmy
4. Ahisa D'Souza
5. Fabial D'Mello (B)
6. Bakhita D'costa
7. Sheldon Mathias (B)
8. Chelsea Andrades
9. Krizanne Vaz

### Std II Angela

10<sup>th</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept

1. Nefrette D'Cunha
2. Rosita Menezes
3. Danalia Mascarenhas
4. Aliza Pereira , 1 Absent
5. Gayil D'souza, 1 Abs.
6. Ryal Santamaria 2 Abs
7. Elroy Sequeira 2 Absent
8. Ancyl D'souza 2 Absent

17<sup>th</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> sept

1. Alicia Noronha 1 Absent
2. Bonita Veigas 1 Absent
3. Abigail Kumar 1 Absent
4. Jewellyn Crasto 2 Absent
5. Jason Menezes 2 Absent
6. Glann D'souza 2 Absent
7. Desmond D'souza 2 Absent

### Std III Leona

1. Ancilla Menezes
2. Melanee Miranda
3. Eliza Lobo 1 Absent
4. Venesaa D'sa 1 Absent
5. Sasha Pais 1 Absent
6. Leah Noronha 1 Absent
7. Kevin Fernandes 1 Absent
8. Dominic Lobo 1 Absent

### Std IV Sr. Ana Maria

1. Jason Crasto
2. Clinton Pereira
3. Samson Ferrao
4. Victor A. Baptista
5. Justin Iyangan
6. Clavet Fernandes
7. Clyde Monteiro
8. Lenon Fernandes
9. Angelica Fernandes
10. Sharon Lobo
11. Sahiban Crasto

### Std IV Mrs Cynthia D'souza

1. Ralston D'sa
2. Clement Fernandes

3. Glen Coutinho
4. Allister Sequeira
5. Stanley Mergulho
6. Alric D'souza
7. Trevor Alvares
8. Jake Furtado
9. Lenwyn Lobo
10. Krysh Freese
11. Paltron Fernandes
12. Angeleena Pereira
13. Anisha D'souza
14. Alisha Baretto
15. Melina Lutchmaya
16. Julia Fernandes
17. Lovita Mahale
18. Sharon Cardoza
19. Riana Pinto
20. Jennifer Jose
21. Sharon Braganza

### Std IV Nisha John

#### Boys

1. Russell Fernandes
2. Kristin Paul
3. Calvin Galbow

#### Girls

1. Velicta D'souza
2. Roselle D'cruz
3. Jane Fernandes
4. Rebecca Biju

### Std V

1. Elton Coutinho
2. Vishwai Roy
3. Orwin D'souza
4. Marc Gonsalves
5. Joy George
6. Barret D'sa
7. Cyrus Gomes
8. Elroy Pereira
9. Joel Shetty
10. Elliot Koli
11. Bilton Vitus
12. Olivia Crasto
13. Oshil Dias
14. Faviola D'silva
15. Ginelle D'souza
16. Swizel D'souza
17. Ayesha D'souza
18. Corina D'souza
19. Suzalle Fernandes

### Std VI

#### 100% presenty

1. Sharon Mathias , Renita Alva
2. Sharon Noronha
3. Ruth Lobo
4. Betty Thomas

#### 85% presenty

5. Zayceann Alvares
6. Orianne Fernandes
7. Stacy D'silva
8. Carol Martis
9. Priscilla D'sa
10. Lavina D'souza
11. Rhea Worlikar

#### Below 85%

1. Dillen Soeiro
2. Jordan Carvalho
3. Glenn Rodrigues
4. Euan Sequeira
5. Juston D'souza
6. Melroy Quadros
7. Joseph Aranha
8. Joren Fernandes

### Std VII No of Days present

1. Naomi Gonsalves 18 Days
2. Sharol Monteiro 17 Days
3. Juann Serpes 17 Days
4. Steffy Simon 17 Days
5. Shareen Walter Vaz 17 Days
6. Karisa Correa 17 Days
7. Shine Coutinho 15 days
8. Jeanet D'souza 15 days
9. Rhea D'souza 15 days
10. Benny Charly 14 Days
11. Calida Pereira 14 Days
12. Carol D'souza 14 Days
13. Venessa Veigas 14 Days
14. Astrid Pereira 14 Days
15. Ruby Mathias 14 Days
16. Nicola Pereira 14 Days

### Std VIII Above 80%

1. Miss Castelino Karen
2. Miss Colaco Nisha
3. Miss Coelho Jennifer
4. Miss D'Mello Shalet
5. Miss D'souza Veldina
6. Miss D'souza Shanel
7. Miss D'souza Aarushi
8. Miss D'silva Alyssa
9. Miss Fernandes Flavia
10. Miss Farro Sejal
11. Miss D'souza Linet
12. Miss Monteiro Clarice
13. Miss Menezes Priya
14. Miss Iyer Namita
15. Miss Serpes Caronelle
16. Miss Sequeira Ericka
17. Miss Vaz Mystica
18. Miss Lavina Martin D'souza
19. Mst. Crasto Melford
20. Mst D'souza Denvor
21. Mst D'souza Esmond
22. Mst Lobo Egan
23. Mst Mascarenhas Mikhail
24. Mst Pereira Jonathan
25. Mst Pimenta Sahil
26. Mst Macaulay Hendricks

*Parents are requested to take personal interest in your children's regular attendance at the children's Mass and the Sunday School. The Sunday school not only prepares your children for sacraments but also instills in them the values of the Kingdom of God. A big thanks to Sunday school teachers.*

November 19, 2007

To Parish Priests/Priests-in-Charge in the  
Archdiocese

Our New Cardinal

Archbishop Oswald Gracias will be created a Cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI at the Consistory in Rome on Saturday r November 24. I request all our parishes to offer special prayers, at the weekend masses, for our new cardinal, for his health and welfare, that the Lord may give him the strength to carry out effectively his ministry as Cardinal which will extend to the Church in India and to the Universal Church. Not an easy task! Let us support him with our prayers and intercession.

After the Consistory I Archbishop Oswald has other meetings in Rome and so he will only return to India on Friday, December 7. Unfortunately, his flight only reaches r.lumbai at around 11.00 p.m. so it will not be possible, at such a late hour, to organize an extensive reception at the airport. However, I will lead a delegation of representatives from the Archdiocese to meet, greet and welcome him back as Cardinal.

The Archdiocesan felicitation will be held on the evening (6.30 p.m.) of Friday, December 14 at Don Bosco Grounds, Matunga. It will begin with the celebration of the Eucharist followed by a cultural programme. Each parish will be permitted to send a contingent of fifty parishioners to attend the function.

Bishop Bosco Penha

Auxiliary Bishop Archdiocese of Bombay