

LOCUSTS & HONEY



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.

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

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly

Vol. 4, No. 14

6 April, 2008

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: 3rd Sunday at 7. a..m

Mass in Konkani: 4th Sunday at 7. a.m.

Mass in Hindi: 5th Sunday at 7.00 a.m.

Tamil Mass: 2nd Sunday at 11.00 am

Mass at Ghormal – every Sunday at 10 a.m.

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.

Biblical Intercessory Prayer –Mondays 7.30pm

Divine Mercy Devotion: On Fridays

at 6.00 p.m. except on 1st 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

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TOMB OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Every year the Pro-Life Day is usually celebrated on the feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord to remind us that God so loved the world that He gave us His only Son to be born of a woman for our salvation. It also reminds us of the words of Rivndranath Tagore, who so well puts it, that every time a babe is born it is a reminder that God trusts us. This year, however, the Pro-Life Day is celebrated on Sunday, 6th April 2008 and the theme is "Tomb of the Unborn Child."

Life is precious. All of us know that. Still we find daily hundreds and thousands die of accidents, homicides, persecution, ill-treatment, negligence, poverty, hunger, famine, unattended health problems, frequent wars and militant attacks on the innocent. Add to this, thousands and millions are not allowed to see the light of the day. They are crushed in the millstone of abortion and destruction in the mother's womb - the very haven of life, turned into a tomb!

Any attack on life has its long-term immoral effects. The world today if it is so very negative, perverse and actively anti-life, it is because the cries of unborn children storm heaven for justice. Already the heat of imbalance in nature is ringing the alarmbells of danger to human life not only on account of glaciers melting but also on account of failing man-woman ratio disproportionately, thereby raising moral issues in social life. You may play with fire, but not with nature seems to be the imminent concern to all of us.

Life is basically a sharing; sharing one's being not only with one another in cordial relationship, but also giving it to a new life. Jesus came as Life to give it to us in abundance. He emptied it totally for our sake on the Cross. But He didn't stop at that. He rose from the dead to continue giving us in a new form in the spirit. We Christians therefore are by our faith in the risen Lord pro-life people and it is but natural that we share everything to promote and protect life no matter in what form it is, be it in the womb or nearing the tomb. Care, concern of the sick or the disabled in the womb or after birth is what being a Christian.

--Parish Priest.



3rd Sunday of Easter – 06 April, 2008 .

This week's announcements
April 6, 2008.

1. *Today's Sunday, 6th April is celebrated as Pro-life Sunday in the Archdiocese.*
2. *There will be Mass at 10.00 a.m. at Our Lady of Hope Chapel at Ghormal on Sunday, 6th April. A Bus will leave the church premises at 9.00 a.m.*
3. *Sunday, 13th April is the Day of First Holy Communion. The First Holy Communion Mass will be at 10.30 a.m.*
4. *Don Bosco is organizing four camps this summer. For details, kindly, check the Notice Board.*
5. ***No permission has been given to collect donations on behalf of the "Immaculate Heart of Mary Trust", Bangalore.***
6. *Steering committee meeting will be held on Saturday 5th April at 6.30 p.m.*
7. *The collection at Sunday Masses, amounted to Rs28,680.00*
8. *The collection from the Statue of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour amounted to Rs. 3,105.00*
9. *The collection from the Lenten alms boxes amounted to Ra.12,542.00.*

This Week's Liturgical Readings

7 Mon John Baptist de ta Salle, Acts 6:8-15; Ps 118:23-24,26-27,29-30; Jn 6:22-29
 8 Tue Acts 7:51 - 8:1a; Ps 30:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
 9 Wed Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 65:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; In 6:35-40 10 Thu (W) Acts 8:26-40; Ps 65:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
 11 Fri St.Stanislaus, Acts 9:1-20; Ps 116:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59
 12 Sat Acts 9:31-42; Ps 115:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69
 13 Sun Act 2:14,36-41; 1Pet 2:20-235 Jn 1-10.

FOR YOUNG COUPLES

Snehalaya Family Service Centre is offering a new marriage enrichment programme for married couples called "TFE Basic Weekend".

on 19-20 April, 2008

at St Pius College, Goregaon.

To help couples:

- to enrich the marital relationship
- to make a good marriage better
- to overcome vexing marital issues

Enrollment Forms will be at the parish office.

Smile, Giggle, Laugh!



Hubby comes home and tells his wife about a recent research finding. "Darling," he says, "the behavioural researchers have found that on an average husbands use only 15,000 words a day, and the wives 30,000 words!

Wife: I know why it is so darling.

Husband: Why deary?

Wife: Because we wives have to repeat everything we tell our husbands twice!

Husband: What did you say?

contributed by Percy

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.A man visiting a graveyard saw a tombstone that read: "Here lies John Smith, a lawyer and an honest man."
 "How about that!" he exclaimed. "They've got three people buried in one grave."

***OUR LADY OF HOPE
 CHURCH, Ghormal***

***Feast on Sunday,
 27th April, 2008.***

***Masses in English
 at 8.15 & 9.30 a.m.***

***FEAST MASS IN MARATHI,
 At 10.45 a.m.***

Tamil Mass at 12.30 p.m



**HOLY CROSS CONVENT SCHOOL
 Jr. K.G. ADMISSION**

"Application Forms for Admission to the Jr. K G. Holy Cross Convent Thane will be distributed on Saturday 12th April 2008 from 8.30 a.m. to 10.00 a. m. Please see the Notice board in Holy Cross Convent High School for further details."

HELLO DOCTOR MOBILE DENTAL FACILITY IS AVAILABLE IN OUR PARISH ON WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS.

Quality treatment is provided at concessional rates and is open to all .We require a band of good volunteers to support this project. Those desirous please give your name to Rev. Sr. Benedicta or Ms. Clara Correia

HOBBY COURSE (TECHNICAL) FOR SSC/HSC/COLLEGE STUDENTS

Joseph Cardijn Technical School offers a month long technical trade training especially for those who have appeared for their SSC/HSC exams and also for college going students who are on vacation, to know the basics of welding/ fabrication, electrical, car repair and carpentry which will give them an orientation into the technical field.

THE BATCH WILL START FROM

7th. April 2008 to 2nd May 2008 (Man -:Fri from 1 pm to 4 pm) - Certificates given on 3Td May

5th May 2008 to 30th May 2008 (Man -:Fri from 1 pm to 4 pm)

- Certificates given on 31st May

Fees: Rs. 1250/- per candidate.

Registration/payment at at Joseph Cardijn Technical School, Khashaba Jadhav Marg, (Near St. Paul's Church, Dadar East

ST JOHN BAPTIST POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

St John the Baptist Special School 2nd Floor
Thane (W)

Announces

FREE ELEMENTARY

Sewing & Tailoring (one Month)

From 1 April onward

FOR OFFICE INQUIRY EITHER MEET IN PERSON OR

Contact

Or Sr. Bena on 64109529/25348671-256

Or on Cell 9867252981

On Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Timing – 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

In the Polytechnic office on 2nd flr of St. John the Baptist Special School, Thane

DON BOSCO YOUTH SERVICES - RECRUITMENTS

YOUTH SERVICES, 1ST FLR., MATUNGA (E), MUMBAI-400 019. PHONE: 24118282/24154646

E-mail: dbrs@vsnl.net/dbrs_bosco@rediffmail.com

URGENT VACANCIES WITH REPUTED CLIENTS OF DON BOSCO RECRUITMENT SERVICES, MATUNGA- APRIL / MAY 2008

1. FRONT DESK EXECUTIVES (M/F): (7 nos.)

Graduate/under graduate with good communication skills and pleasing personality.

2. RECEPTIONISTS / TELEPHONE OPERATOR (Female) : (4 nos.) Candidates having good command over English. Freshers are welcomed. Age below 35 years.

3. HOUSEMAIDS (Female): (8 nos.) Full-time (Day & Night) Day-time 7:30 am to 8:00 pm.

4. BLOOD BANK TECHNICIAN (MIF): . (3 nos.) With 1 year experience in Pathology.

5. HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR (M/F) : (2 nos.) Graduates with 1/2 years experience in Administrative department.

13. STEWARDHELPERIATTENDANTS (Male) :(8 nos.) S.S.C. with good communication skills. Experienced are welcome. .

14. DATA ENTRY OPERATORS (M/F): (20 nos.) Graduates with computer knowledge.

15. DRIVERS (Male): (3 nos.) Heavy/Light vehicle drivers with 1-2 years experience will be preferred.

16. HOUSE-KEEPING / (6 nos.) HOUSE-KEEPING

SUPERVISOR (M/F) : S.S.C or H.S.C. with minimum one year experience.

17. BACK OFFICE EXECUTIVE (M/F): (150 nos.) Domestic Call Centre requires Graduates / Undergraduates with good knowledge in computers. I

18. SALES GIRLS / SALESMEN: (8 nos.) Full-time 9.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Part-time 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. S.S.C. with good communication skills.

190 NETWORK ENGINEERS (Male) ~ (4 nos.) With CCNA having 6 months experience.

20. PROGRAMME OFFICER (MIF) : (9 nos.) MSW OR MASTERS. Age 25 yrs. ~ 35 yrs.

21~ OFFICE ASSISTANT (MIF): (5 nos.) Smart, fresher, SSC / HSC. Candidate should have computer knowledge, handling of petty cash, banking work.

22. FRONT OFFICE EXECUTIVES (MfF): (3 nos.) Graduate / Under graduate with good communication skills and pleasing personality.

23. ACCOUNTANT (M/F): (2 nos.) B.Com., tally, knowledge in scrutiny and follow-up of bills required.

24. SECRETARIES (MIF): (3 nos.) Preferably Graduates with good speed of shorthand & typing and proficiency in computers. Age: below 35 years.

25. Carpenters: (5 nos.)

26. FITNESS INSTRUCTOR (FIM) : (1 no.) Certified fitness instructor with at least one year's experience.

27. FITTER / TURNER (Male) : (3 nos. each) S.S.C., ITI course, should be able to read drawings and have at least 2 years experience. Freshers are welcome.

28. MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST (M/F): (15 nos.) Graduates with good listening skills.

29. DELIVERY BOYS : (9 nos.) Min. S.S.C. required.

30. GARDEN SUPERVISORS (Male) : (5 nos.)

31. MALIS (l~ale): (13 nos.)

32. Ayahs: (7 nos.)

33. Security Officers: (3 nos.) HSC / Graduates. Ex-Service men will be preferred.

**ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR
INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE**

Gyan Ashram, Mahakali Caves Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 093 Tel.: 2832 5046 has organized "**Diploma in One Year BASICS OF INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE**" course for Catholic Adults, specially meant for Parish Inter-Religious Dialogue Cell members, Animators of SCCs and Teachers of Value Education in Schools.. The course content consists of History and theology of the Church's approach to other religious traditions, proclamation of the Good News, Inculturation, etc. The Creed, Code and Cult of India's major religions like Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism etc. including field trips to various shrines. Registration by 30th June, 2008. Contact Fr. S.M. Michael, svd on T. 2832 5046. Scholarship will be provided.

SUMMER CLUB

The Youth of St. John's Church are organizing a Summer Club for your children and we wish to make their holidays memorable. We would appreciate it if you let your child join THE CLUB.

Club Duration: May 1st-June 3rd.

Timings: 9. 30am -12. 30 p.m. & 4. 30 p.m. -7.30 p.m.

Venue: St . John the Baptist Pavilion.

To enroll and for further details contact: 9820843089, 983-3233959, 9920212986

**MASS-TIMINGS IN THE MONTH OF
MAY 2008 from 1st May to 31st May 2008**

On Sundays: at 6.00, 7.00, 8.00 & 9.15 in the morning and At 5.30 in the evening.

There will be no 6.30 p.m. Mass and no 10.30 a.m. Mass in Kopri Chapel.

**On Weekdays: Masses at 6.00, 6.45 a.m.
and at 7.00 p.m.**

No 6.30 a.m. Mass in the Holy Cross Convent.

The Cruellest Stage

In the journey of life
Ageing is the cruellest time
When your body and mind
Are on the decline

Your steps are unsteady

3rd Sunday of Easter –

Faltering and slow
No way of making yourself
As strong as before

Your mind goes meandering
You begin to forget
The time and the day
And the people you've met

You repeat the same question
O'er and o'er again
And the people around
Think you're going insane ...

It's really traumatic
In the state that you are
Those who died young
Are better by far

--Dorothy Serpes, (Age 83) March 2008



Listen Young People

Listen dear youngsters
And try and understand
What the aged are going through
Give them a helping hand

You'll need a lot of patience
It's not an easy task
To put up with eccentricities
And the questions that they ask

You know they cannot help themselves
No matter how they try
Their lives are ebbing slowly
See the tear drop in their eye

So be more sympathetic
And do the best you can
Tomorrow they will not be here
They'll be gone to "The Promised land" "

--Dorothy Serpes (Age 83) March 2008

**EDUSERVE TECHNOLOGIES BUSINESS
PROCESS OUTSOURCING company** to recruit
back office support staff as well as field sales
staff for their growing operations
414 Shrikant Chambers, Next to R.K. Studios,
Sion Trombay Road, Chembur, Mumbai 400 071
Office no. 91 22 6770 4462/ fax no. 91 22 6770
4464
Mail id: info@eduservetech.com
**CONTACT PERSON: Ms. Radha Sridhar / Ms.
Lakshmi**
DATE: March 14, 2008

The Catholic Population in the World: Vatican

Vatican: On Sunday. Monsignor Vittorio Formenti, who compiled the Vatican's newly-released 2008 yearbook of statistics, said Muslims made up 19.2 % of the world's population and Catholics 17.400.

He said that if all Christian groups were considered, including Orthodox churches, Anglicans and Protestants, then Christians made up 33% of the world's population-or about 2 billion people.

The Vatican recently put the number of Catholics in the world at 1.13 billion people.

Formenti said that the number of Catholics as a proportion of the world's population was fairly stable.

Gospel festival

During this year of the Word of God we hope to have two Gospel Festivals. The first: one is being held on the evening of Sunday, April 20, on the grounds of St. Paul's Parish, Dadar East. It will begin at 5.00 p.m. and last approximately two hours, The theme of the festival is "Your Word is a lamp for my Steps and a light to my path . (Ps. 119: 105).

The components are as follows: 1. Opening Praise and worship - 2. A dance based on the Scriptures - 3. A play based on the Bible - 4. Scriptural teaching - 5. Action songs based on the Bible etc.

We hope the evening, whilst being enjoyable and entertaining, will also help us to deepen our love for the scriptures. .

Gratefully,

+Bishop Bosco Penha,

President, Christian- life Commission

*N.B. Those wanting to attend the above "Gospel Festival" may please give your names to Parish Office latest **by 9th April, 2008.***

Immaculate Heart of Mary Appeal with a picture!

Parishioners hereby informed that an appeal for donation to 'Immaculate Heart of Mary Trust', 838/2, III Cross Road, K.N. Extension, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore – 22, with the picture of 'the Immaculate Heart of Mary' is being circulated among the parishioners, without permission for appeal. Please, note there is no official sanction for collection of funds through that appeal.

--Parish Priest. **ster – 06 April, 2008 .**

Give up smoking



To The Smoker

Smoking is a habit too bad to cultivate, Making it life's companion has been too costly for the smoker till date.

Do you smoke for status symbol ?

Do not try, with your life it is not right to gamble !

Do you smoke because you are stressed ?

There are other good and useful means providing your mind and body with rest.

Has addiction made you a chain smoker ?

Try to combat it as you cannot be a loser.

Smoking due to any reason is unhealthy,

How could you risk your life gifted to you by the Almighty ?

Your life is precious as well as of those around you, My friend, your cigarette smoke chokes their lungs too.

The quality of life you live becomes poor, You will be at an increased risk of physiological complications later.

If you are the father, the responsibility of your family you have to bear,

Being a son the cross of your aged parents you have to share.

Life is a stage and you have to play your character, Being ABBA's most loved child you cannot displease the Creator.

May the good Lord give you the strength to give up smoking,

Take the initiative, have a strong desire in your heart to quit and you will find your life worth living.

Malcolm Nobre



A brief on Murpphy Land Sale.

The S. No. 118/2, City S. No. 1118, TMC final plot 223 admeasuring 1500 sq. mtrs. The property had been on the schedule of the Trust,

mentioned in the Certificate of Exemption under ULCA. There were plans to develop it in 1971, which were rejected. An MOU had been signed for sale/development in consideration of Rs. 1,30,000/- in 1980. As a result the property became suit land, owing to the claims put by the purchaser/developer. There were suits and counter-suits. The final outcome was in favour of the church trust in 2001 after a prolonged litigation. The TMC was to hand over to the trust the final plot 223, all cleared of encroachment, which never happened in spite of the trust filing a writ-petition in the Bombay high Court against the TMC over its lethargy and obtaining a court order in favour of the Trust in 2003. Almost 1/3 of the property adjacent to the road on the western side had already been encroached upon by scrap dealers and other encroachers. A boundary wall on the remaining three sides secured the rest of the property some extent. In 2002, a security was planted to keep a watch on further encroachment. Meanwhile, encroachment could not be restrained in spite of the best efforts on the church front. Rumours were making rounds that encroachment was partly encouraged by some people having vested interest, who would cover up encroachment for some paltry sum by way of rent or the kind.

The sale of this property was under consideration for over a period of time. This matter had come up for discussion several times in property committee and finance committee meetings, resolutions to alienate the said property were taken and signed by the then members of the committees, correspondence with the Archbishop's House was done, offers from prospective buyers were invited through public notices and proposals to sell it for consideration of Rs. 50 lacs, then 65 lacs were thought to be the best offer at the time of sale.

From the above in June 2002 when the change of guards took place and the present Parish Priest took charge of the parish administration, it became very clear that the said property cannot be retained under our custody in the face of growing encroachment and hence it had to be alienated for the best offer before it is lost for good. Toeing the line of the earlier thinking, the Parish Priest once again tried to get the best offers. Public notice was issued in news papers. Accordingly, an offer for almost triple the amount of the market value came from a reliable person and the deal was finalized in 2003 with the approval of concerned authorities.

Objections were raised by some parishioners on the grounds that the consideration on sale was not adequate and should be much more. Those who objected were given a grace period by

Bishop Agnelo Gracias to find buyers who would raise the amount to their expectation. The grace period got over with no visible outcome. As a result the deal was struck for the best bid at the time. It would not have been possible for the church to get rid of the encroachment or protect the property intact till some future possibility of realizing the objects of the trust on that property. Meanwhile the proceeds from the sale of the Murphy Land is invested as 'Corpus Fund' on instructions of the Charity Commissioner and the interest thereof is used for the objects of the trust. We must all gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the trouble taken by previous parish priests, committees and parishioners involved in protecting the said property in the present condition at the time of sale. The whole deal has been very very transparent. God being witness to this transaction, it would be very uncharitable and a grave sin against an individual's right to a good name, to deliberately spread any misgivings or rumours spoiling the good name of people involved with the alienation of the above property.

WOMEN'S DAY BLAST

The Women's Day Blast on the 29th of March had just one objective - to get every woman to express her uniqueness, uninhibitedly, The enthusiasm of the women who responded to the Parish Women's Cell invitation, encouraged and supported by our parish priest, en masse, was encouraging. There were close to 200 women who gathered in the Parish School Hall.

The quiz that was handed out at the beginning of the evening tested people's knowledge about Women who have made Thane proud and forced the group to think of alternatives to exclusive words in the English language. Scarlet & Marina were the winners. The friendship bands had a dual purpose - to wish each other a Happy though belated Women's day and to form groups based on the colours of the ribbon. The games that followed tested the creativity, innovative costuming, acting, singing and dancing skills, And the terrific performances kept everyone entertained. Heather & Linda gave a dance demo and got the group grooving to the Fox-Trot, the Jive, the Cha Cha Cha and the Bus-Stop. DJ Francis (one of the only 3 men in the hall) had the satisfaction of seeing his music truly appreciated and the masala could have gone on and on but for the 10 o'clock deadline. Hy-Cyl Caterers saw to it that the dinner that followed was as enjoyable as the evening itself.

The Women's Cell invites all women to continue the journey towards re-discovering your strengths in yourself and in others at the next Women's Cell Meeting on Sunday 6th April, at 5 pm in the meeting room