



LOCUSTS & HONEY



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly Vol. 3, No. 42 14 October, 2007

Parish Team:

- Fr. John Rumao.**
- Fr. John Lopes**
- Fr. Gerry Fernandes**
- Fr. Victor Dalmet.**
- Bro. Oniel Rodrigues** – week-end ministry
- Srs Amala & Joan** – Pastoral Work
- V-President PPC:** Mr. Francis Fernandes
- P' SCC Coordinator:** Mr. Eustace de Cunha
- APC Representative:** Mr. Kirk Gonsalves
- PPC Secretary:** Mr. Anthony Alphonso
- CWF Secretary:** Mrs. Jessie Sequeira
- In-charge: Sunday School:** Sr. Ancy
- RCIA/School Catechism:** Ms. Ida D'Silva

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

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 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

Website: www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com

This week's gospel message:

WHERE ARE THE OTHER NINE?

Tom Hale, longtime missionary doctor to Nepal, says in his book *Don't Let the Goats Eat the Loquat Trees*: "The concept of disinterested love is totally foreign to Nepalis because their primary motive for good works is to acquire merit that will benefit them in the next life. Most of our patients have no sense of gratitude for our services; instead, they expect that we be grateful to them for providing us an opportunity to gain merit for ourselves. This is why 'Thank you' is so rarely heard in Nepal; in fact, the Nepali language has no word for it. It's just as well. We wouldn't last long here if we had come to receive thanks."

What Tom Hale notes in his book is perhaps nothing new. Most priests and genuine social workers will share the same feelings of disappointment and even discouragement. Very rarely you will find someone returning to thank you sincerely for the good you do to help improve the quality of life. Whatever we do is taken for granted. It is rarely appreciated and openly thanked for. At best, some black spots are highlighted to impress us with one's up-man-ship! This may be a phenomenon in the psychi of Indian mind. As Tom says words such as 'thank you, kind of you, nice of you' are rare in some local Indian dialects.

People at large being oblivious of what good done to them does not deter the good Samaritans or those who dare do more than the usual at times with a long-term vision. What perhaps more hurting is that a few will yell at you for no reason or rime. A few others will gatecrash into a meeting, though not invited, raise their voices, shout slogans, disrupt the proceedings and even insult. One would understand this kind of modus operandi from the uneducated, the uncivilized the uncouth. But when it is otherwise, one wonders if all our efforts in doing good in so many myriad ways has failed in its desired impact. Jesus was very much hurt to a Samaritan returning to thank him, while the other nine, who being Jews had Moses and all the prophets to instill in them the grateful heart failed to do so. Where are the other nine?

Gratitude is an acknowledgement of the good others in their capacity attempt to do for us. Gratitude is a deep sincere respect for people placed in certain positions to do good in larger interest of the society, though from the point of a beneficiary it may not fall within the range of his/her personal narrow views. Gratitude is the nobility of heart to appreciate what we ourselves cannot do but someone in a position does for us. Gratitude is certainly not a deliberate obstruction to the good being done, like the pharisees of Jesus' time did. But it is our willingness to extend our assistance wherever and whenever we are asked for.

PARISH VISITATION

This Tuesday Parish Fathers will visit Kopri.

***This week's announcements
October 14, 2007.***

1. *This Sunday Parish Council Meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m.*
2. *Mission Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, 21st. October, 2007.*
3. *Next Sunday the meeting of the CWF committee will be held at 10.30 a.m.*
4. *October is the month of the Rosary. The Rosary is recited at the grotto at 6.30 p.m. Communities/zones may organize daily Rosary at some convenient place and time.*
5. *The collection at Masses last Sunday, amounted to Rs.29,601.00*
6. *The collections from the Perpetual Succour image box amounted to Rs 3270.00.*

This Week's Liturgical Readings

15/Mon S. Teresa of Jesus, vg dr - mem Rm 1:1-7; Ps 97:1,2-3ab,3cd-4; Lk 11:29-32
 16/Tue S. Hedwig, ret Or S. Margaret Mary Alacoque, vg Rm 1:16-25; Ps 18:2-3,4-5ab; Lk 11:37-41
 17/Wed S. Ignatius of Antioch, bp m - mem Rm 2:1-11; Ps 61:2-3,6-7,8c-9; Lk 11:42-46
 18/Thu S. LUKE, Ev - Fst 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 144:10-11,12-13ab,17-18; Lk 10:1-9 19/Fri (G/RfW) Or Ss. John de Brebeuf, Issac Jogues, pts, cornps, inm or S. Paul of the Cross, pt Rm 4:1-8; Ps 31:1-2,5,11; Lk 12:1-7
 20/Sat BVM on Saturday Rm 4:13,16-18; Ps 104:6-7,8-9,42-43; Lk 12:8-12
 21/Sun - Mission Sunday - Ex 17:8-13; 2Tim 3:14-4:2; Lk 18:1-8

Smile, Giggle, Laugh!



AN ENGINEER is standing outside the Pearly Gates. "Sorry," St Peter tells him, "but you're in the wrong place." He snaps his fingers and the engineer finds himself in hell. Dissatisfied with the level of comfort there, the engineer starts making improvements. One day, God phones Satan to ask how things are going.

"Great," he answers.

"We've got central air-conditioning and escalators now. There's no telling what that engineer will come up with next."

"You've got an engineer?" God says. "There's been a mistake. Send him back up here or I'll sue."

"Yeah, right," Satan chuckles. "Where are you going to find a lawyer?"

THE MANAGER called one of his employees into his office and told him, "Jenkins, I've decided to make you the plant manager."

"Gee, thanks, boss," the worker gushed. "What do I have to do?"

"Just water them every day," replied the manager.

WANTED A GRAVE-DIGGER-CUM-MALI:

Anyone willing to work as mali for the garden of the church and ready to dig graves for burial is welcome to meet the Parish Priest.

Life, God's Gift To Man

Life is a journey through earth,
Heaven is the destination we need to seek after birth.

Life has mainly two spheres,
The good and the evil which can never be brought anywhere near.

Life has never been a cup of cream,
Sorrow and happiness keep surfacing on and off on daily routine.

External influences over life are many,
Be alert and do not drift from life's main objective which are predetermined already.

Life has been gifted with a purpose by the Almighty,
It is vital to keep up to His expectation daily.

Man profits nothing when he gains the whole world,
He suffers great losses when he loses his own soul.

Life with freedom is the greatest asset,
Living with faith and not in fear will not make the Almighty upset.

Life is a stage on which man performs,
He is graded by the Creator according to His norms.

Be honest and live God-fearing lives,
Be ready to receive rich dividends when on heaven we focus our eyes.

--**Malcolm Nobre**

WANTED someone with knowledge of Portuguese to translate old baptism and burial records of the church into English. Anyone with fluency of both Portuguese and English please meet the Parish Priest.

**ENCOUNTERING CHRIST IN TODAY'S WORLD
A HOLISTIC FAITH FORMATION
PROGRAM**

Saturday evenings. 5.00 to 7.00 pm

Nov. 17 to Dec. 1, 2007 and Jan 5 to Feb 16, 2008
EMPOWERING THE LAITY FOR DAILY CHRISTIAN LIVING
**AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PAVILIAN,
THANE**

TOPICS & FACILITATORS

S. N	Date	Topic	Facilitator
01	Nov.17	Theological Method	Bp. Bosco Penha
02	Nov. 24	Covenant Understood Today	Fr. Harry Vaz
03	Dec. 1	Lay Collaboration in Ministries	Fr. Aniceto Pereira
04	Jan 5	Christians & the Law of the Church -	Fr. Jervis D'Souza
05	Jan. 12	Social outreach through CCQ's & SCCs	Fr. John Almeida
06	Jan 19	Anger Management	Fr. Patrick D'Mello
07	Jan 24	Understanding Sacraments in Today's World	Fr. Gilbert De Lima .
08	Feb. 2	Christian Involvement in Society	Fr. Alwyn D'Souza
09	Feb 9	Christian Ethics	Fr. Stephen Fernandes
10	Feb 10	Church Teachings on Family	Fr. Cajetan Menezes

The above sessions will held here in the Pavilion specially for the benefit of our parishioners. There is no course fee except a serious **commitment** to attend all the sessions without fail. On completion of the course, certificates will be issued candidates attending the full course. Admissions open to all. Animtors, zonal leaders are specially urged to attend. Please, enroll your name with the parish office during office hours.

Sodality The Sodality will be putting up a sweet & snack on the 20th & 21st October. The collection will go in the Aid of the mission .Please patronize
--Veda Rebello

**ST JOHN BAPTIST POLYTECHNIC
COLLEGE**

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

In Association with USHA International LTD
(USHA Shriram Group) Manufactures of USHA
Sewing & Embroidery Machines.

U S H A

Announces

Diploma & Certificate Courses

1). Sewing & Designing (6 Months)

- Fashion Sketching & Designing (Colure scheme & combination)**
- House hold Items (Apron, Cushion Cover, Multi Panled, Curtain, Wall hanging etc)**
- Women's wear (Blouse, Sal war kurta (5style), Night Wear, Trouser etc.)**
- Men's Wear (Kurta Payjama, Jacket, Shirt, Trouser, Night Suit etc.)**
- Children's Wear (Sun Suit, BabaSuit, Shorts, Frock (Party), Dungarees, Bath gown, Bib, Toddlers frock, etc.**

2). Professional Embroidery Course (6 Months)

GRATITUDE

G for greatness of heart – gratitude makes us magnanimous. No Ego-centered person ever utters 'thanks'

R for respect & reverence - a grateful person respects and holds in high esteem the giver.

A for appreciation - a grateful person appreciates the good and the giver.

T for testimony – Thanking someone is a testimony of what good has happened.

I for imitation - a grateful heart tends to imitate the giver in doing good.

T for tenderness – exchange of gratitude creates tender feeling between the giver and the receiver.

U for Unity - Gratitude is a way of forging unity between the giver and the receiver.

D for divine - Expression of gratitude has a touch of something divine and a sign of holiness. Mother Mary sang the magnificat.

E for ennobled – Being grateful makes the grateful person noble. It enriches him.

28th Sunday -- 14 October, 2007.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH GROUP
KHOPAT / PRATAP COMMUNITY**

Sr.No	Name	Surname	Designation
1	Vinita	D'silva	President Vice
2	Ajinkya	Paralikar	President
3	Sanita	Saldanha	Secretary
4	Julie	Pinto	Treasurer
5	Jude	Goveas	
6	Levin	Braganza	
7	Ernold	Thompson	
8	Brian	D'souza	
9	Joseph	Lobo	
10	Lavina	Vaz	
11	Lavina	Lobo	
12	Alvita	Lobo	
13	Tisha	D'costa -Fernandes	
14	Savio	Gonsalves	
15	Sharmyn	Carvalho	
16	Martin	Menezes	
17	Reshma	Fernandes	
18	Vishal	Fernandes	
19	Alvina	D'souza	
20	Delisha	D'souza	
21	Llyod	Serrao	

EYES

Black, Brown, Grey,
Green or Blue,
Almond eyes or Doe eyes,
Big eyes, Small Eyes or Squint Eyes,
They are all the windows of the soul

The innocent eyes of a child ,
The fierce eyes of the angry,
The tender eyes of the compassionate,
The hardened eyes of a criminal,
The impaired eyes of the blind,
The closed eyes of the dead,
All have stories to tell,

SIGHT- the gift to see light
Could be endangered,
So use the bridle of self-control,
To harness your vision
And keep it in place,
Directing it to see
Only that which its Master wills,

All that calls for compassion
And not the lusts of passion,
Offer them to the Almighty,
As holy and unblemished,
What a pleasing sacrifice. --Ella

LUNCH FOR THE POOR

On "Thanksgiving Day" the 7th October 2007 the Sodalists remembered the poorest of the poor who often go without a meal. Some Sodalist went into the streets in the neighbourhood of the Church to invite them. The food was blessed by Fr.J.Rumao,the Spiritual Director and about 100 men, women and children were served lunch consisting of Vegetable biryani,raita ,pickle ,chole and fruit. The children were also given a packet of sweets. They relished the meal and some even asked to take some food for their other family members who could not come.

This service of providing a lunch is an annual activity done by the Sodality .We need more young people to join us

Veda Rebello

Mission Sunday Leaflets.

A colourful Mission Sunday leaflet has been printed, and is being made available in bulk to the parishes. This leaflet has been prepared as a possible tool to encourage more and more persons to get involved in the Mission of the church, as individuals or as members of Parish Cells. Parishes are invited to set up a t-lission Sunday stall to be organized by Heads of all Parish Cells. At. the stall, the list of cells is put up for public viewing, and members can keep themselves available to speak to parishioners who wish to know more about these cells. Those truly interested in offering their service could be given the leaflets. If they hand In their names as prospective cell members, the Heads will have to follow up with the help of the telephone numbers that have been left behind.

SENIOR COLLEGE

On Sunday 7th October 2007 at 7.00 p. m all those who had expressed their written support for a senior college in the name of St. John the Baptist here in Thane were invited for a get-together in the pavilion. This would offer an opportunity to thank them for their valuable support for the proposal of a senior college. A few from among the invitees were present at the get-together. A few of them were misguided. However, some people other than the invitees, too, came for the get-together stating that they had come on behalf of the invitees who were unable to attend. Among them were Mr. Joe D'Cunha, Ms. Marcia D'Cunha, Mr. Tony Pereira, Mr. Carl D'Cunha, Mr. Floyd Gonsalves, Mr. Victor and one or two more.

After thanking those who had given their written support and reading out a summary of what they had stated in their letters in favour of the senior college, the Parish Priest asked if any one among those present would like to make some positive suggestions for the good of the proposed college. Mr. Joe D'Cunha, Ms. Marcia D'Cunha, Mr. Tony Pereira, Mr. Carl D'Cunha, Mr. Floyd Gonsalves, Mr. Victor, Mr. Kirk Gonsalves and one or two more vehemently said that while they welcome the idea of a senior college in Thane, they would rather have it anywhere else in Thane but not in the premises of St. John the Baptist Church and School. This being the mind and feelings of some of those residing in the neighbourhood of St. John the Baptist Church, the proposal to start the first year senior college classes in June 2007 may not be feasible or may have to be given up for good, as at the initial stage just for one or two divisions any suitable location may not be easily available except in the present set-up of St. John the Baptist School & Junior College where some adjustment can be made to accommodate these classes till a suitable structure can be built with a long term vision in a permanent convenient location not too far.

Parishioners and readers are welcome to suggest in writing your opinions, views or any alternate suggestions you have.

Parish Priest.

RADITING CHRIST

Dear Jesus,

help me to spread thy fragrance everywhere I go;
flood my soul with thy spirit and life;
penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly
that all my life may only be a radiance of thine;
shine through me and be so in me
that every soul I come in contact with
may feel thy presence in my soul.

Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus.

Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine
as thou shinest,

so to shine as to be a light to others.

The light, O Jesus, will be all from thee; none of it
will be mine.

It will be thou shining on others through me.

Let me thus praise thee in the way thou dost love
best

by shining on those around me.

Let me preach thee, without preaching, not by
words but by my example,

by the catching force,

the sympathetic influence of what I do,

the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to
thee. Amen

