

LOCUSTS & HONEY



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly Vol. 3, No. 25 17 June, 2007

Parish Team:

Fr. John Rumao.

Fr. John Lopes

Fr. Gerry Fernandes

Fr. Victor Dalmet.

Srs Amala & Joan – Pastoral Work

Vice-President PPC:

Mr. Francis Fernandes

Parish 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 [Eng.]

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:

at 10.00 p.m. on last Saturday

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

WHOSE TEST?

"A certain Pharisee invited Jesus to dine with him." We read elsewhere in the Gospels that the Pharisees invited Jesus to their homes so that they could watch Him closely, so that they could put Him to the test, so they could pass judgment on Him. Here Simon the Pharisee sits in judgment on Jesus - so he thinks! He says to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what sort of woman this is that touches him-that she is a sinner."

What irony that such men can presume to sit in judgment over the Eternal Judge of all the living and dead. It is not Jesus who is being tested and judged; it is those around him. People like Simon, who at that very moment is failing the test. People like the "sinful woman". Who at the same moment is passing the test beautifully. For the universal Judge, the Son of God, here declares to the woman, "Yours sins are forgiven. Your faith has been your salvation."

By failing the Lord's test, Simon the Pharisee is a warning to us. He show us how it is not enough to be physically close to Jesus, it is not enough to be called a Christian, or to do God the overwhelming favour of appearing in His Church .Simon sits right next to Jesus. Yet that great blessing is lost on him spiritually.

By contrast ,the poor woman is a great consolation to us .She shows us how to benefit no end in approaching Jesus .She scores at the top of the class because she knows herself clearly ,honestly, and humbly. She knows Jesus in the same way, and approaches Jesus with love and worship and repentance, and she places all her trust in Him. She is not bothered by the arrogant judgment of the big-wigs at the dinner. She instinctively understands that the true judgment of her case belongs to Jesus, and knows whose side God is on. She responds well to the movements of God's grace in her life. Jesus declares. "Her many sins are forgiven because of her great love."

Fr. Victor Dalmet

.Dare to be dfferent. Dare to take a stand for what you know is right

This week's announcements
June 17, 2007.

1. **Inter-zonal football and throw-ball tournaments will be held on 17th & 24th June, 2007. Forms will be available with zonal leaders and at the Parish Office.**
 2. Sunday School, Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion classes will begin from Sunday, 17th June. Children who are in Std. IV will give their names to Fr. Victor for 1st Holy Communion classes and the teen-agers who have completed Std. 10th will give their names for confirmation classes to Fr. Gerry during this week.
 3. Those who want to join the youth group are requested to come for the meeting which is held on every Saturday at 7.p.m. in the meeting room
 4. Saturday, 23rd June, there will be a recollection for the Eucharistic Ministers from 5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. in the pavilion.
 5. Sunday, 24th June is the solemnity of the Birth of St. John the Baptist. It is also the parish feast. The feast Mass will be at 9.15 a.m. Rt. Rev. Bishop Agnelo Gracias will be the main celebrant. Parish Council members, Eucharistic Ministers and heads of all associations/cells will be inducted at the feast Mass. In the evening there will be the 5.30 p.m. Mass as usual; there will be NO 6.30 p.m. Mass; At 6.30 p.m. there will be 'TELE-GAMES' entertainment for all parishioners in the quadrangle. All are invited.
1. *The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs 25,425.00*
 2. *The collections from Perpetual Succour box amounted to Rs2,420.00*

Joseph Cardijn Technical Institute (JCTS) offers 2 year ITI course in the trades of motor mechanics, electrical and fitter trades. SSC passed students can apply for admission. The course can help students to set up their workshop or gain suitable. technical job here or abroad.

JCTS also offers Certificate Courses for anyone who has not passed the X std. (and below) in the technical trades of Carpentry, Welding, Wireman, Motor Mechanics and AIC Refrigeration. Course duration extends from 3 months to 1 year. For details, kindly see the Notice Board or Contact the Institute at Dadar (East), opposite St. Xavier's Grounds. Admissions begin from 15th June onwards.

Smile, Giggle, Laugh!

3-year-old Reese:

"Our Father, Who does art in heaven,
Harold is His name.
Amen."

~~~~~  
A little boy was overheard praying:

"Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it.

I'm having a real good time like I am."

~~~~~  
One particular four-year-old prayed,

"And forgive us our trash baskets
as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

~~~~~  
A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service,

"And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

One bright little girl replied,  
"Because people are sleeping."

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

|        |                                                                                                                 |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18/Mon | 2Cor6:1-10;Ps97:1,2-3ab,3cd-4;Mt5:38-42                                                                         |
| 19/Tue | S. Romuald, ab 2 Cor 8: 1-9; Ps 145 :2,5-6ab,6c-7,8-9; Mt5:43-48                                                |
| 20/Wed | 2Cor9:6-11;Ps 111:1-2,3-4,9; Mt6:1-6,16-18                                                                      |
| 21/Thu | S. Aloysius Gonzaga, rel-mem 2 Cor 11:1-11; Ps 110:1-2,3-4,7-8;Mt6:7 -15                                        |
| 22/Fri | S. Paulinus of Nola, bp/ Ss. John Fisher, bp & Thomas More, mm 2 Cor 11:18,21b-30; Ps 33:2-3,4-5,6-7; Mt6:19-23 |
| 23/Sat | 2 Cor 12:1-10; Ps 33:8-9,10-11,12-13; Mt6:24-34                                                                 |
| 24/Sun | <b>THE BIRTH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST</b> Is 49:1-6;Act13:22-26;Lk 1:57-66,80.                                   |

Mrs. Vida Rebello has served as Eucharistic Minister for over 15 years taking communion to the sick and the homebound in Cherai. She has stepped down owing to health reason. We thank her and place on record her dedicated services.



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**The Novena in honor of our patron, St. John the Baptist commencing on 15th June 2007**  
**General Theme: "A WAY TO HOLISTIC LIVING".**  
**Allocation of themes to the SCC's**

| Day                           | Allotted to SCC                                 | Theme                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> June | K'villa                                         | Alcoholism                    |
| Saturday, 16 June             | Louiswadi & Rabodi                              | HIV / Aids                    |
| Sunday, 17 June               | Cherai (South)                                  | Stress (Emotional Management) |
| Monday, 18 June               | Kopri & Utalsar                                 | Blood Pressure                |
| Tuesday 19 June               | Cherai (North)                                  | Cardiac Arrest                |
| Wednesday 20 June             | Vrindavan                                       | Mental Health                 |
| Thursday 21 June              | Khopat & Srirang / Satguru / Anand & Ritu Parks | Respiratory Ailments          |
| Friday 22 June                | Naupada I & II                                  | Drug Addiction                |
| Saturday 23 June              | Kolbad                                          | Cancer                        |
| Sunday 24 June                | PPC (Liturgists)                                | "A WAY TO HOLISITC LIVING"    |

**Note to all SCC coordinators & those preparing the liturgy for the above days:**

1). Suggested format for the days' liturgy is as under:

- **Introduction** to the day's theme & liturgy.
- **Penitential Rite** (optional).
- **Reading/s** of the day (Select lectors from the ministry or at least get trained (last resort).
- **Prayer** of the Faithful: In line with your allotted theme..
- **Sign of Peace.** (You are exhorted to be creative rather than the customary neck swirl with joined hands).
- **Thanksgiving Prayer:** In line with your allotted theme and your SCC's.
- **Choir:** Localise it to the talent in your SCC.( Should external assistance be required, please arrange with Fr.Gerry at least 5 days in advance)..

2). Presentation of your daily themes may be done with the help of visual aids such as charts / 3D models / Audio -Visuals or other such captivating & soul stirring media...

3). If your content, OR presentation requires an outsider speaker (from another SCC maybe) then please arrange to have the same done with prior intimation.

*(Issued in the interest of the faithful to emulate the and actualize the VOICE in the WILDERNESS in preparation & celebration of his 2007 birth anniversary.)*

Fr.Gerry Fernandes. Sp. Dir – PLT.

| PARISH COUNCIL 2007 to 2010 |                            |                                              |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| SS.N                        | ZONES                      | REPRESENTATIVE                               |
| 001                         | Parish Priest              | Fr. John Rumao                               |
| 002                         | Assist Priest              | Fr. John Lopes                               |
| 003                         | Assist Priest              | Fr. Gerard Fernandes                         |
| 004                         | Assist Priest              | Fr. Victor Dalmet                            |
| 005                         | SCCcoordinator             | Mr. Eustace de Cunha                         |
| 006                         | Superiors                  | HCC Superior – Sr. Norma                     |
| 007                         | HCC Principal              | Rev. Sr. Veron                               |
| 008                         | DC Sister                  | Sr. Joan                                     |
| 009                         | CCO                        | Sr. Amala                                    |
| 010                         | <b>Z one 1 – Brindavan</b> | <b>Mr Francis Fernandes, Vice President</b>  |
| 111                         |                            | <b>Mr Larry Gonsalves</b>                    |
| 112                         | <b>Zone 2 – Cherai N</b>   | <b>Mr Ignatius Bhalerao</b>                  |
| 113                         |                            |                                              |
| 114                         | <b>Zone 3 – Cherai S</b>   | <b>Mr.Cyril Fonseca</b>                      |
| 115                         |                            | <b>Mr.Kirk Gonsalves, APC Representative</b> |
| 116                         | <b>Z 4/Horta-M</b>         | <b>Ms Monisha Alvares</b>                    |
| 117                         | <b>Zone 5 – Khopat</b>     | <b>Mrs. Lidwin Fernandes</b>                 |
| 118                         |                            | <b>Mrs Mercia D'silva</b>                    |
| 119                         | <b>Zone 6 – Kolbad</b>     | <b>Mrs Linda Miranda</b>                     |
| 120                         |                            | <b>Mrs Jessie Sequeira</b>                   |
| 221                         | <b>Zone 7 – Kopri</b>      | <b>Mr.Gilbert Fernandes</b>                  |
| 222                         |                            | <b>Mr.Nickel Susai</b>                       |
| 223                         | <b>Zone 8 – K'Villa</b>    | <b>Mr. Francis Vaz, Jt. Secretary.</b>       |
| 224                         |                            | <b>Mrs. Lourdes Almeida</b>                  |
| 225                         | <b>Z9 Louiswadi</b>        | <b>Mrs Rosie Rodricks</b>                    |
| 226                         | <b>Z/10 Naupada I</b>      | <b>Mrs Hortencia Barretto</b>                |
| 227                         | <b>Z/11 Naupada II</b>     | <b>Mrs Juliana Aguiar</b>                    |
| 228                         | <b>Zone 12 – Rabodi</b>    | <b>Ms. Veena Crasto</b>                      |
| 329                         |                            | <b>Mr. Ashley Raivellor</b>                  |
| 330                         | <b>Z 13 S/ A P</b>         | <b>Mrs Ruby D'souza</b>                      |
| 331                         | <b>Zone 14 – Uthalsar</b>  | <b>Mrs Iris Soeiro</b>                       |
| 332                         |                            | <b>Mr.Oliver Fernandes</b>                   |
| 333                         |                            | <b>Mr. Nazareth . D'Penha, SVP</b>           |
| 334                         | <b>Lay Associations</b>    | <b>Mrs. Brenda Fernandes, CPG</b>            |
| 335                         | <b>Nominated</b>           | <b>Mrs. Lucy Srinivasan, Adorers</b>         |
| 336                         |                            | <b>Mr.Ryan Andrews-youth</b>                 |
| 337                         |                            | <b>Mr.John D'Sa – C/P - Cell</b>             |
| 338                         | <b>Co-opted</b>            | <b>Mrs. Margaret Mascarenhas</b>             |
| 339                         |                            | <b>Mr.Anthony Alphonso, Secretary</b>        |
| 340                         |                            |                                              |

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
POLY TECHNIC COLLEGE**

Venue – St John's Special School 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Jambli Naka Thane(W) Tel. 64109529

**Announces Short- Term (6- months)  
Week End Programme (Sat& Sun  
Management Programs from June 2007**

**I. FASHION DESIGNING  
II. COMPUTER COURSES**

**After- Any Graduation**

**After- H SC**

Duration = 6 Months Twice a week 3hrs a day  
Course Fees= 500/ p.m  
Contact Prof. S.C.Kopra, Fashion  
Designer Mob.9322875500  
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Traineeship Programme – The College has  
partnered with Leading Garment & Export Houses  
and I.T. Corporates.Under this Programme  
Students get the opportunities to work part-time as  
trainees while studying and after successful  
completion of the Course ,student are offered full  
time / part-time employment by the Corporates .

For Admission & trainees Programs information  
Contact: - Prof. S.C. Kopra Fashion Designer  
Mob: - 9322875500 / 64109529

"On the occasion of the Year of Health in our  
Archdiocese we are attempting to help people  
afflicted with alcoholism. If you are aware of  
such cases please do refer them to the  
Alcoholic Anonymous who conduct meetings  
regularly in this Parish on the terrace of  
Special School Building.

**GRATITUDE TO PROMENADE FIGHTERS.**

The proposal of constructing an elevated  
promenade on Ahilya Devi Road between the  
Masunda Lake and St. John the Baptist Church and  
School was weighing on our minds for quite some  
time. And now that it had to be abandoned for  
technical reasons has given us a big relief. All of us  
who worked hard to express citizens' displeasure  
towards the proposed promenade will certainly be  
happy that our efforts have been amply rewarded.

As head of St. John the Baptist Church and  
School, on behalf of the parish team and the

parishioners, Rev. Fr. John Lopes, Principal and I  
deem it our privilege to express our sincere  
gratitude to you and to all those who took initiative  
to combat the evil of the proposed promenade in  
front of the church and the school. Had it not been  
for citizens' struggle to ward off the permanent  
nuisance that the promenade would pose not only to  
the regular traffic on the road but also the noise  
pollution and immoral & commercial activities the  
devotees and the school children would be  
constantly subjected to. It is on behalf of such  
citizens who would have to face ill consequences of  
the proposed promenade I write this note of  
gratitude to you.

Among hundreds and thousands who rallied  
round this cause, I take liberty to state following  
people: Mr. Milind Pathankar, the seating  
corporator who corresponded with the various govt.  
Departments and authorities to get the proposal  
rejected on technical grounds; the JAAG NGO who  
conducted several meetings, created awareness  
among the citizens and held a day's demonstration  
in front of the TMC ; parents, teachers and PTA  
members of St. John the Baptist High School and  
Junior College; Holy Cross Convent School Sisters,  
teachers and students, parishioners and Parish  
Council members of St. John the Baptist Church,  
citizens and well-wishers from all over Thane, who  
all actively supported the citizens' struggle for  
justice. May I take liberty to gratefully make  
mention of some individuals who either in their  
own private capacity or jointly worked to build up  
the momentum of protest against the promenade.  
Among these are Advocate Mr. Joaquim Reis, Ms  
Bernadette Pinto, Mr. Sanjay Mango, Mr. P.  
Indurkar, Mr. J. Khairchia, Mr. Sanjaivani, Mr. G.  
Bhave, Mr. Phansikar, Mr. Joe D'Cunha, Justice  
Suresh, Justice Daud, Mr. Dolphy D'Souza, Capt.  
Baba Chavan, Mr. Ravi Rao, Ms. Tryti Das, Ms.  
Clara Correia, Mr. Roy Alphonso, Advocate Mrs.  
Karnik, Adv. Mrs. Jaya Nair, Mrs. Louisa  
Gonsalves, Mr. John D'Sa, Mr. Ganesh Iyer, Mrs.  
Florina D'Sa, Mrs. Vishaka Rebello, Mrs. Salita  
Carvalho, Mrs. Emily Sequeira, Dr. Harshad  
Nakhwa, Mrs. Ajit Karekar, Mrs. Kalpana Patil,  
Mrs. Asfia Shaikh, Mrs. Leticia Pinto, Mr. Francis  
Vaz, Mr. Brevin Master Mark Menezes, and a host  
of volunteers, well-wishers, whose names are not  
within my reach. A big thank you to all of you.  
United we stand, divided we fall. Citizens' struggle  
is the only way to ward off evils besetting us at the  
civic life. May God bless each one of you who have  
been part of the struggle against the menace the  
promenade would have been if it had seen the light  
of the day!

Parish Priest/Trustee/Manager  
St. John the Baptist Church/School/Jr. College.

**ST. JOHN'S HEALTHCARE CENTRE**

*Blood Donation Camp on Sunday,  
June 17<sup>th</sup> from 7.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. in  
the pavilion.*

12th June, 2007.

The Parish Priest  
St. John the Baptist Church Thane.  
Dear Rev. Father,

It has been observed that children are playing foot-ball and other games on the grounds near the entrance of the Church (Cherai Gate) when it is time for the 7.00 p.m. mass to start and people are entering the church compound to attend the mass.

On several occasions, senior citizens & others have been hit by the ball causing them injury.

May I request you to take suitable remedial action please so that such mishap could be averted in future.

Thanks

A Parishioner.

*N.B. Children and grown up youths playing on the church and school grounds while parishioners walking on the premises and getting hurt has been frequently noticed and complaints are heard. I invite comments and suggestions from parishioners as to how to address this problem..*

*--Parish Priest.*

Ms. Tiara Pereira also obtained  
78.50 % marks and stood 1st  
among the Commerce students of  
St. John the Baptist Junior College  
at the HSC Exam. March 2007.

**PARISH FEAST CELEBRATION**

*1. Inter-zonal football and throw-ball tournaments will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2007. Forms will be available with zonal leaders and at the Parish Office*

*2. Sunday, 24th June - The feast Mass will be at 9.15 a.m. Rt. Rev. Bishop Agnelo Gracias will be the main celebrant. Parish Council members, Eucharistic Ministers and heads of all associations/cells will be inducted at the feast Mass.*

*3. In the evening there will be the 5.30 p.m. Mass as usual; there will be NO 6.30 p.m. Mass; At 6.30 p.m. there will be 'TELE-GAMES' entertainment for all parishioners in the quadrangle. All are invited.*

**OFFICIAL**

**Lay Ministers and Laity Sunday**

It has been suggested that once a year every P'nish have a public commissioning of the heads of cells/teams/associations (generically called extraordinary Lay Ministers). I am therefore requesting all our Parishes to publicly commission. During the Eucharist at the main Mass on Laity Sunday i.e. 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2007 the heads or cells/teams/associations that are functioning effectively in our Parishes and whose coordinators give a good account of themselves.

Archbishop of Bombay.  
May 24, 2007.

*N.B. With regard to the above an urgent meeting of all the heads of Cells/Associations/Ministries will be held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 p.m. in the meeting room. Attendance mandatory.*