

LOCUSTS & HONEY



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly

Vol. 3, No. 34

19 August, 2007



JUSTICE SUNDAY

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

Adequate food is a human right, a right of every individual around the world. This has been formally recognised by every country state. But there is a large difference between a country's formal recognition of the right to food and its putting this recognition into practice.

India's track record in this regard is dismal to say the least going by the figures released by the National Family Health Survey (Dec. 2005 to Aug. 2006): • More than 6000 children below the age of five die everyday due to malnourishment • 45.9 per cent of India's under-three children are underweight • 39 per cent are stunted • 20 per cent severely malnourished • 80 per cent anaemic • Infant mortality is 67 per 1000. Overall, India accounts for 57 million of the world's 146 million undernourished children. Shockingly, even sub-Saharan Africa and Pakistan fare better at 30 and 37 per cent respectively.

The Commission for Justice, Peace and Development of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India has taken up a nationwide campaign on the Right to Food. It has focused on the rights of the people over the public distribution system (PDS) and the duties of the government in this regard towards the people. The campaign will involve all the 159 dioceses in the country.

The objectives for the first phase are: • To create general awareness among the people regarding human rights pertaining to food • To conscientise people regarding the orders of the Supreme Court under the Right to Food • To ensure that all those in the B P L get B P L ration cards • To ensure that the poor who have been left out of the B P L list are able to get enrolled.

Plan of Action

In accordance with the objectives of the national campaign, the Justice and Peace Commission, Mumbai, has outlined the following action plan of the first phase for the Archdiocese of Bombay: • Launching of the campaign on Justice Sunday • SCCs/CCOs to identify BPL families in their community/parish • SCCs/CCOs to identify poor families that do not have ration cards • CCOs to assist families in obtaining ration cards • Awareness programmes on the right to food to be conducted in the parishes and deaneries • Sunday school children to be made aware of the right to food through contests, skits, etc.

In short, every citizen must be empowered to ensure that their rights are respected and fulfilled and that the vulnerable in society aged, infants and young children, pregnant and nursing women, disabled and sick, rural people in precarious livelihood situations and marginal populations in urban areas, and victims of conflict, adversity and discrimination - are not denied their inalienable right to food security.

---JEAN SALDANHA

- **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:** at 8.00 p.m. to 11.00 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

19th Sunday -- 12 August, 2007.

***This week's announcements
August 19, 2007.***

1. Today **Justice Sunday** will be celebrated.
2. This Sunday CWF Committee meeting at 10.30 a.m.
3. The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs.28,247.00
4. The collections from Perpetual Succour box amounted to Rs.1650..00.

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

This Week's Liturgical Readings

20/Man S. Bernard ab dr mem Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 105:34-35,36-37, 39-40,43ab&44; Mt 19:16-22

21/Tue S. Pius X, Pp-rnem Jgs 6:11-24a, Ps 84:9,11-12,13-14; Mt 19:23-30

22/Wed The Queenship of Mary - mem Is 9:1-6; Ps 112:1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8; Lk 1:26-38

23/Thu S. Rose of Lima, vg Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 39:5,7-8a,8b-9,10; Mt 22:1-14

24/Fri S. BARTHOLOMEW, Ap - Fst Rev 21:9b-14; Ps 144:101-11,12-13ab,17-18; Jn 1:45-51

25/Sat S. Louis Or S. Joseph Calasanz; pt Or BVM on Saturday Ru 2:1-3,8-11; 4:13-17; Ps 127:1-2,3,4-5a&c; Mt 23:1-12

26/Sun Is 66:18-21; Heb.12:5-7,11-13; Lk 13:22-30.

Smile, Giggle, Laugh!

Aaron was very much upset when he came to know that Pharaoh had broken his promise to Moses for the second time to release the children of Israel from bondage. In desperation he said to his wife, "The Pharaoh is a bastard."

"Aaron, you mustn't talk like that," reproved his wife. "We are children of God. After all, every living person is descended from Adam and Eve. We're all one family - even Pharaoh." "That I know," said Aaron, "I suppose, Pharaoh hails from YOUR side of the family!"

Curate: So you really think you would have run through all your money had it not been for your wife?

Young Man: Sure of it.

Curate: And, my good man, how did she stop your spending it all?

Young Man: She spent it first.

OFFICIAL

The CBCI Commission for Justice, Peace and Development has chosen the theme "Freedom from Hunger" for Justice Sunday, which will be celebrated on August 19, 2007. While we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of India's Independence, and reflect on the country's success and development, we should not close our eyes to the situation of many hungry millions in our country. It is shocking that despite a stockpile of surplus food grains in the country, India hosts 57 million - or more than a third - of the world's 146 million undernourished children (National Family Health Survey). This reveals that the cause of the problem is not a scarcity of resources but a lack of commitment and/or incompetence on the part of the distribution machinery.

As Christians, each one of us is called to reach out to the hungry, the underprivileged and the starving. "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40). The miracle of the loaves and fish is about compassion and faith in action. Jesus says, "I have compassion on the crowd ... I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way" (Mt 15:32).

The Justice and Peace Commission, Mumbai will be sending to our parishes liturgy for the day as well as posters. Deanery programmes relating to the theme are also being organised.

+ Oswald Gracias Archbishop of Bombay,
August 07, 2007

RETREAT FOR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

28TH and 29TH July saw a very different kind of retreat for this year's Confirmands. It was a scintillating retreat for two complete days. 65 Confirmands attended putting aside their college routine work and others chores.

The focus was on God's love and repentance which is the most urgent need of the time for us young adults; some of us had not been to the confessional for years together and here was a chance for us to do so.

Mr. Lenny and his team provided us with vibrant music.

It culminated with the infilling of the Holy Spirit. It touched so many of us bringing the peace and joy of the Holy Spirit into our lives..

We want to thank the Parish Priest, all the fathers and Animators who arranged this beautiful Retreat for us.

Mark Menezes

**NOVENA OF VALANKANI
AT OUR LADY OF VELANKANI,
KOPRI
NOVENA MASS AT 7.15 P.M DAILY**

DAY	DATE	CELEBRANT
WEDNESDAY	29-08-07	FR.VICTOR DALMET
THURSDAY	30-08-07	FR.JOE BORGES
FRIDAY	31-08-07	FR.JOE BORGES
SATURDAY	01-09-07	FR.VICTOR DALMET
SUNDAY	02-09-07	FR.VICTOR DALMET
MONDAY	03-09-07	FR.VICTOR DALMET
TUESDAY	04-09-07	FR.BAPTIST LOPES
WEDNESDAY	05-09-07	FR.EDWARD JACINTO
THURSDAY	06-09-07	FR.EDWARD JACINTO
FRIDAY	07-09-07	FR.BAPTIST LOPES
SATURDAY FEAST	08-09-07	FR.JOE PEREIRA

Attention- Ladies & Gents
St. John the Baptist Polytechnic College
St.John The Baptist Special School 2nd Floor.
T. 64109529

In Association with
**USHA International Ltd (USHA ShriRam
Group)** Manufactures of Usha Sewing &
Embroidery Machines

Announces
DEPLOMA/CERTIFICATE COURSES
in Sewing & Designs

Duration = 6 Months

Fees = Rs.6000/- for full course

Days - Alternate days – 4 hours daily

Program Commences On 1st Sept. '07

Course open to all – ladies and gents

For registration - Contact Ms. Yogita
Kashyap, USHA rep M.9869719773

For Free- demo cum Workshop:

Visit Saturday 25-08-07 &

Sunday 26-08-07

Timing 3 to 5 p.m.

**OFFICE FOR LAY COLLABORTION IN
MINISTRY**

The Archdiocese of Bombay is organizing gatherings of the following Lay Catholic Professionals in the months of Sept. - Dec. 2007: Counsellors, Lawyers, Directors of NGOs, Health Workers and College Professors. Those among you in above categories, kindly submit your information as bellow latest by 31st August 2007 in the parish office, so that the OLCM can send you personal invitations for the gatherings.

LAY CATHOLIC COUNSELLORS /
LAWYERS / DIRECTORS OF NGOs /
HEALTH WORKERS / PROFESSORS.

Name.....

Address.....

Tel.....

Designation.....

PARISH VISITATION

This Tuesday, 21 August Fathers will be visiting Cherai North. Animators are requested to accompany Fathers on their visits to families under your care.

The **Hope & Life Movement** celebrated Parent's day on the 6th August. It was a rainy day and since there were no husbands to assist with scooters and cars, the widows trickled in, with dripping umbrellas, and thus the function began half an hour later than planned.

We began with a Prayer and prayed in particular for a member who was to undergo an operation ...After that we sang some songs and then the Committee Members saw that everyone had their fill of delicious snacks.

We also sang for Alice Serpes who treated us with piping hot samosa to celebrate her –birthday.

We had a game of Housie and also "Breaking the Madka" which was good fun.

Many THANKS to our persevering committee members, Lourdes Annunciation +Fr. J.Rumao who has always been supportive of all our endeavours

Enid Abreo

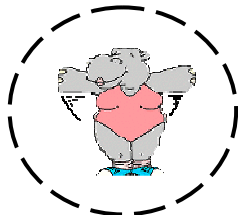
There will be a training programme titled "ADAPTING PAULINE LEADERSHIP OF THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCHES TO TODAY'S PARISH CHURCHES" conducted by the Office for lay Collaboration in Ministry of the Church (O.L.C.M.) for all heads and assistant heads of Ministries /Associations / Cells / Organization on Sunday the 19th Aug 2007 at 10.15 a.m. in the pavillion. Kindly collect you invites from Eustace deCunha, contact 9870263900

SENIOR COLLEGE IN THANE!

[letters to the editor]

Aug, 2007

Olivia D. Fernandes
All 0, Rajanigandha,
Opp Vandana Theatre Agra Rd.
Thane 400 602



To,

The Rev. John Rumao Parish Priest
St. John The Baptist Parish Thane 400 601

Dear Rev. Father,

It will be a great boon if "junior college" is extended to "graduation or post graduation" level. Can you imagine the relief it would be for the growing Christian community in Thane to avoid running around from pillar to post for admission in colleges. There will be absolute reduce in stress and tension for the parents as well as to students.

With this facility they can simultaneously develop in other skills eg, for career, sports, music, and other activities etc. I hope the plan will be implemented as soon as possible.

Your truly,

O~it:::d~

Mr. Nilesh D'Souza
Bakery Bldg, 1st Floor,
Flat No.1, Kolbad, Thane (W)
Dated: 3rd August 2007

*Blessed are
those who
give without
remembering
and receive
without
forgetting.*

Rev. Fr. John Rumao,

The undersigned fully support the idea of our own Degree College as reported in the Locust & Honey dated 15th July 2007.

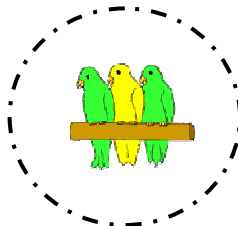
This college will help our parishioners in particular and the people of Thane in general.

Wishing you and your project every success.

Yours truly,

(Nilesh D'Souza)

Dated: 12 August 2007,
Mr. Cedric Pacheco
Bakery Bldg, 2nd Floor,
Flat No. 5, Kolbad Thane(W)



Dear Rev. Father Rumao,

Having a Degree CoUege is a sound idea and it deserves aU support as requested in the 1sm July issue of Locust & Honey. We hereby extend to you the support solicited.

With every good wish for an early establishment of t~.Degree CoUege.

Yours sincerely,

(Cedric Pacheco)

*Blessed are the poor in
spirit. For theirs is the
kingdom of Heaven*

9th August 2007

FRANCIS & MARIA RODRIGUES B
402 PRIY ANKA MHADA LA YOUT
EASTERN EXPRESS HIGHWAY MULUND (EAST)
MUMBAI 400 081

Dear Fr. John Rumao

This refers to the encouraging article in Locusts & Honey about a degree college being planned at St. John's. Thane.

I hope this happens very soon. It will benefit not only our young boys and girls but also the parents and rest of the community in this part of Mumbai.

The college will make it easier for our community children to get admission - this is very difficult in other colleges even after obtaining high marks in the qualifying examinations.

Our children will not have to travel long distances to college - leaving parents anxious, specially when they return late due to extended study hours, extra college classes, unforeseen weather conditions, or in worse cases extremist activities,

Our children will have more time and energy available for themselves which can be utilized towards their career, hobbies and the many social matters requiring attention in our community and neighbourhood.

Our College will foster Christian Spirit-filled values and discipline in our wonderful young men and women who, I believe, hold a rich and promising future in our community, neighbourhood, city, country, continent and the world at large.

G~:umao and your zealous Parish team.

Francis & Maria Rodrigues
(yourex parishioners from Good Shepherd. 4 Bungalows.
Andheri)

402 Serron Villa Charai
Thane 400601 9th August ,2007

Dear Fr. Rumao,

My son is studying in your school and we are happy with the standard of education and the discipline. Having a school so close to our residence is a great advantage.

Having a degree college next door will be an added advantage and most parents will welcome it. I am aware of the problems parents face in getting admission for their children in colleges after the twelfth standard. Now that, that hurdle would be removed parents can breathe a sigh of relief. Thank you for putting me at ease, although it would be some years hence that I may avail of this facility for my son.

Yours faithfully
MRS. AGITA R. DALVI



August 8, 2007 From
IE. Chhadwa
502 Serron Villa Charai - Thane 400601

To
The Manager, St. John The Baptist School &
Junior College Jambli Naka, Thane - 400601

Dear Sir,

Although there are many schools and junior colleges in Thane, there is a shortage of colleges. The growth of colleges in Thane has not kept pace with the growth in population of Thane and consequently there is a wide gap between "demand" and "supply" .

Therefore, I am pleased to hear that you are planning to set up a degree college.

The existing colleges in Thane are not able to satisfy the demand, and I hope that this college will be a great help to the citizens of this city.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs IE. Chhadwa

602 Serron Villa Charai
Thane 400601 9th Aug. '07



Fr. J. Rumao,
St. John The Baptist Church, Thane 400601.

Dear Fr. Rumao,

The rapid urbanization of Thane has brought into focus the inadequacy of its infrastructure. Education is one of the aspects of this infrastructure that is deficient. Hence it makes us feel good that a beginning is being made in addressing this important factor in the realm of human development.

Maybe very little has been done in Thane in the last five years or so in bringing university education closer to the residents of Thane. Therefore the proposed Commerce College needs all our support. We hope that other

popular streams/sister colleges will be added as years pass by.

Yours faithfully,
MRS V.V.DEO



ELDRED A. N. LOBO
A-12 "Debonaire" Almeida Road Thane
400602
31st July 2007

Rev. Fr. John Rumao,

We whole heartedly welcome the proposal to set up a degree college as reported in "locusts & Honey" dated ath and 15th July 2007.

It would be pertinent to t/Jink at this stage itself, a few years ahead when we could have post graduate courses, here in our college, after covering other streams of education at the graduation level.

We wish you success and pray that the proposed college may become a reality in June 2008.

Yours sincerely,
Eldred A.N. Lobo.

Shiraz Mandviwalla
504 New Kadambari CHS Ltd
Dr Lazarus Road, Charai - Thane 400602
August 10, 2007



Fr. John Rumao ,
St. John The Baptist High School & Junior
College Thane 400601

Dear Fr Rumao ,

Educational facilities in a populous and ever growing and expanding city like Thane are insufficient to say the least. University education is even further down the ladder. In this scenario, a new college in Thane is most welcome as it fulfils the aspiration of some of our young boys and girls to get some university education.

At the moment you are going in for a Commerce College I hear, but please don't stop at that. It would be a great blessing if in years to come, you give an integrated institution which will cover arts, science, IT and other sectors as well.

Best of luck

Yours faithfully
Shiraz Mandviwalla



ST.DOMINIC SAVIO ZONE

(Rabodi Zone)

Members of Rabodi Zone are invited for the zonal mass celebrated by Rev.Fr.Victor Dalmet and followed by a get-together on 20th August 2007 at 7.00 p.m. in Holy Cross Convent High School Open Hall

This week's Gospel message:**A BAPTISM**

The words of our Lord in today's gospel reading Luke 12:49-53 are strong ones. "I have come to light a fire on the earth .How I wish the blaze were ignited." He is saying that he came to fire us up, to stir us into living for God; that we are like a fire, like a flame that has nearly gone out, our faith is burning very low, if at all .We are constantly occupied with things of this world, and have very little time to give fuel to that little flame of faith in us.

That fire will purify us, if we let it. It will make us true disciples, true followers of Jesus, ready to go with Him wherever He leads. Jesus also says," I have a baptism to receive .What anguish I feel till it is over!" He speaks, of course, of His passion and death, His cross. Only through that suffering, through that crucible, could he come to the joy of the resurrection and glory.

We, too, must be baptized with Christ in His cross, in His suffering .We must die to self and rise to Christ Jesus .We must deny self and live for others. And we will be in anguish until we arrive there.

Many people want to be healed; they want to be free from the inner chains that bind them; fear, ,worries, anger, anxieties, some of which even cause physical, bodily illness. But they are not willing to go through the crucible ,the dying to self, that they must go through first. So they are in anguish, and they will be in anguish until they are willing to go through baptism. As long as self is in control we will be in anguish, in constant trouble .Once we have died to self. Let Jesus be really in control, our anguish is over and we experience the joy of love, the joy of living for God, for others.

As Jesus says, this fire, this anguish, this baptism, this purification doesn't necessarily establish earthly peace. It may well divide us from loved ones.

--Rev. Fr. Victor Dalmet

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

" Let marriage be held in honor among all....." (Hebrews 13:4)

Feeling stressed ? Irritable? Communication breakdown at home?

OR simply want to make a good marriage even better?

Take a break to relax and reflect. The Christian Life Programme provides this much-needed time for relaxing and introspection.

The Couples For Christ invites you for a unique God experience. Come and experience the Christian Life Programme (CLP) to be held at our Parish from 26/08/2007 after 5.30 p.m. Mass in the meeting room..

HANDS

Hands! Hands! Hands!
Beautiful hands and warped hands
Chubby hands and bony hands
Strong hands and feeble hands
Playful hands and skilful hands
They are hands after all.

Hands that toil to serve,
O blessed hands!
And hands that love to give.
O you are blessed too!
But some hands stretch out to take
Much more than they would love to give,
Beware! For someone watches you.

And there are skilled hands
That can sculpture, paint or draw,
But the sluggard with his lazy hands
Needs to put them to use,
For the world has need of hands
Now other hands are not good hands,
For they sin and cheat and steal and slap
And pain the Lord,
Who never meant them to be so.

Take not your hands for granted,
Use them for what they were meant to be,
First thing in the morning
Fold them to the Lord
In gratitude and prayer.

---Ella



Trip to the Clergy Home –Bandra

A trip to the clergy Home was organised on Sunday 12th August 2007 by the members of DCCWI .About forty five Parishioners visited the clergy Home.

Prayers was offered in the chapel for the retired and sick priests. Many parishioners contributed generously.

This contribution helped to distribute gifts in cash to 23 priests, sisters and domestic helpers. Snacks were also given to the priests.

The parishioners were welcomed with great enthusiasm .The Priest were so happy that they expressed their desire that people should visit them more often and not only on Vianney Sunday

Olive Rebello

NOVENA SCHEDULES		
DATES	CLASS	OFFERING
30.8.07	CONFMN	Rice
31.8.07	IX&X	Wheat
1.9.07	VIII	Sugar
2.9.07	VII	Dal
3.9.07	VI	Tea/Coffee
4.9.07	V	Soap
5.9.07	IV	Stationery-pen,pencil, note book etc
6.9.07	CONFMN.	Coconut oil
7.9.07	IX&X	Tooth paste / Tooth brush
8.9.07	VIII	CASH

On Saturday,25th Aug'07 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion the Parish Youth Group is organizing an awareness programme on SEZ –Special Economic Zones ,with special reference to the Uttan –Gorai –Manori issue .Mr Gordon D'Souza of spotlight ,an activist in the forefront of the movement will be conducting the programme .All are invited to attend .

Mool East Indian Sanghatna Trust invites all

to a Thanks Giving Prayer on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Mool East Indian Sangathana Trust on Wednesday 22nd August 2007 at 6.00 p.m. Followed by a Get-Together at St. Mary's Jr. College Hall, Katina

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--Rev. Fr. Victor Dalmet

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This contribution helped to distribute gifts in cash to 23 priests, sisters and domestic helpers. Snacks were also given to the priests.

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Olive Rebello

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