

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. 48 25 November, 2007

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

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 10th December, 2007.

PARISH VISITATION

This Tuesday Parish Fathers will visit K'Villa .

The Kingship of Christ

Probably the first time that most of us encountered the word king was when our elders narrated to us stories about kings and queens. The next we heard about them was in school through our history text books. From this we can deduce that kings existed in antiquity. They no longer exist today. Then why do we still keep on celebrating the feast of "The Kingship of Christ?" Jesus Christ is indeed a King in every sense of the word.

To be called a king one has to be the best. In the animal world, Lion is known as the king of the jungle. Gold is considered king among metals. Mango is the king of fruits. Analogically, by virtue of his pre-eminence and ennobling leadership Jesus is a King par excellence.

In his Encyclical Letter *QUAS PRIMAS*, promulgated in 1925, Pope Pius XI says, Jesus Christ is given the title "King," because of the high degree of perfection whereby He excels all creatures. So He is said to reign "in the hearts of men," both by reason of the keenness of His intellect and the extent of His knowledge, and also because he is the very truth, and it is from Him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind. He reigns, too, *in the wills of men*, for in Him the human will was perfectly and entirely obedient to the Holy will of God, and further by His grace and inspiration He so subjects our free-will as to incite us to the most noble endeavors. He is *King of hearts*, too, by reason of His "charity which excels all knowledge," and His mercy and kindness which draw all men to Him, for never has it been known, nor will it ever be, that man be loved so much and so universally as Jesus Christ. The Pope further adds that if we ponder this matter more deeply, we cannot but see that the title and the power of King belongs to Christ as man in the strict and proper sense too. For it is only as man that He may be said to have received from the Father "power and glory and a kingdom," since the Word of God, as *consubstantial* (same nature as the Father), has all things in common with Him, and therefore has necessarily supreme and absolute dominion over all things created. (4th Lesson)

Again, the Kingship of Christ consists in the three-fold power which is essential to lordship. Scripture testifies to the universal dominion of Christ as our **Redeemer**, and moreover it is a dogma of faith that Jesus Christ was given to man, not only as our Redeemer, but also as a **law-giver**, to whom obedience is due. **Executive power**, too, belongs to Christ, for all must obey His commands; none may escape them, not the sanctions He has imposed. (5th Lesson)

Joseph Crehan, S.J., in his article "Prophet, Priest, Kingship" says, "The laity share in the kingly office of Christ because "Christ through death...entered into the glory of His Kingdom, and all things are made subject to Him. This power he shares with His disciples, so that they too may be established in kingly freedom. Their kingship is exercised over temporal affairs, ordering them towards the Kingdom of God. They may also rule by serving their brethren, for the leading of others to Christ is a kingly task, to save him is to reign."

Further, the encyclical *Redemptoris Missio* says: the Church serves the Kingdom by spreading throughout the world the "Gospel values" which are an expression of the Kingdom (R.M.20). Among the values of the Kingdom, which it is her task to promote are "peace, justice, brotherhood, etc." (R.M.17).

34th Sunday -- Jesus Christ the Universal King -- XIII Hours' Adoration - 18 November, 07. 1

This week's announcements
November 25, 2007.

1. *This week Tuesday Fathers will visit K'Villa.*
1. *Sunday, 25th November is the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the Universal King. It is also the day of XIII Hours' Adoration of the Eucharistic Lord. The adoration turns are given separately in this bulletin. Please, adhere to your turn.*
2. *The collection at Masses last Sunday, amounted to Rs.25,137 00*
3. *The collections from the Perpetual Succour image box amounted to Rs.1,525.00*

This Week's Liturgical Readings

26/Mon Dn 1:1-6,8-20; Ps Dn 3:52,53-54,55-56; Lk 21:1-4
 27/Tue Dn 2:31-45; Ps Dn 3:57,58,59,60,61; Lk 21:5-11
 28/Wed Dn 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28; Ps Dn 3:62-63,64-65,66-67; Lk 21:12-19
 29/Thu Dn 6:12-28; Ps Dn 3:68,69,70,71,72,73,74; Lk 21:20-28
 30/Fri S. ANDREW, Ap - Fst Rm 10:9-18; Ps 18:2-3,4-5ab; Mt 4: 18-22
 1/Sat Or BVM on Saturday Dn 7:15-27; Ps Dn 3:82,83,84,85,86,87; Lk 21:34-36
2/Sun: 1st Sunday of Advent – Is 2:1-5;Rom 13:11-14;Mt 24:37-44.

Smile, Giggle, Laugh!



A small boy leading a donkey passed by an anny 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?"

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."

XIII HOURS' ADORATION

November 25, 2007

The zone-wise adoration visits will be as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 10.30 to 11.30 a. m. | Kopri / Parish Pastoral Council /Lewis Wadi / SVP members |
| 11.30 to 12.30 p.m. | Shrirang, Satguru, Anand Park, Azad Nagar / Lectors |
| . | Khopat, Pratap./ Hope & Life Movement / Women's Cell |
| 12.30 to 01.30p.. m. | Rabodi 1&2 / Youth NaupadaII / Charismatic Prayer Group |
| . | |
| 01.30 to 02.30 p.m. | Mahagiri and K'Villa / Legion of Mary Cherai North |
| . | |
| 02..30 to 03.30.p. m. | Cherai, South Naupada / Divine Mercy Prayer Group |
| . | |
| 03.30 to 04.30 p. m. | Kolbad / Ladies / Men Sodality |
| . | Utalsar, Vikas, Sumer / Sacred Heart League |
| 04.30 to 05.30 p. m. | Brindavan / Eucharistic Ministers |
| | Common Adoration for all |

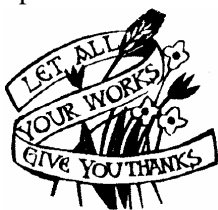
AT 5.30 P.M. MASS IN THE CHURCH, followed by Concluding Service – Procession, Sermon by Rev. Deacon and Final Benediction.
NO 6.30 P.M. MASS.

*N.B. please, note the procession will start from the church main door, move onto the Ahilya Devi Road towards Jambli Naka, turn left via Archie's onto the old Bombay-Pune Road, move towards the Dagdi Shala, enter into the Ahilya Devi Road, moving eastward to enter the church premises from the gate near the Christ the King Statue and assemble on the quadrangle for final preaching and benediction. There will be **NO MASS in the church after the final Benediction.***

N.B. Parishioners will club together zone-wise and walk in the procession with the banners of their respective zones leading them in the procession.

**SENIOR COLLEGE
Queries.**

With regard to the proposed Catholic minority senior college in Thane and its sojourn on the premises of St. John the Baptist High School & Junior College, till alternate accommodation/place is found for it, four letters have been received from Mr. Aubrey Rebello, Mr. Hector Colasco, Mr. Tony Pereira and Mr. Joseph Devassy expressing their disfavour to having it in the present high school and junior college premises or constructing any further accommodation for it. Parishioners' views in favour or against are welcome. They will be placed on record. A few clarifications have been presented in the earlier articles in the Locusts & Honey issues. However the question is asked if the decision to go ahead is already taken. The answer is the decision is being arrived at. It is a process. It involves several elements/stages, which when fall into their places, the decision will emerge as a result. The following points will go into the final decision – to be or not to be: 1. the proposal for a senior college has been already made by four parishioners by their memorandum to the Bishop; 2. Several written supports have been published in the Locusts & Honey issues; 3. the bishop's preliminary approval has been received; 4. an application to the University of Mumbai has been made in prescribed form within the stipulated time; 5. Efforts are being made to look for a plot reserved for school/college; 6. Opinions are sought to accommodate the senior college at the initial stage on the St. John the Baptist High School/Junior College premises; 6. the University of Mumbai may/may not give permission based on the merits/demerits of the applicant institute and its plans to spread higher education equitably in all the regions; 7. The State Government may or may not give its approval; 8. the availability of staff, accommodation and infrastructure to run the classes etc. at the time of its inception.



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,
Embrassing 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

Dear Father(s),

The Diocesan Human Life Committee (DHLC) has teamed up with the Centre for Gandhian studies at K. J. Somaiya College to organize a Symposium on the Value of Human Life at the Prayer Hall of K. J. Somaiya College, Vidyanagar, Vidyavihar, Mumbai on December 1, 2007 from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. The topic will be treated from the medical, legal and ethical points of view.

Parishioners wanting to attend the Symposium, may give their names to the DHLC Office on 2281-5762 during office hours.

In Christo,

Agnelo Gracias
Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay

JESUS CHRIST
THE KING OF KINGS

What a king! Who never lived as one,
 Who chose an obscure life,
 No royal family or palace,
 Just a carpenter's son,
 Born in a stable
 With barely enough clothing
 To keep Himself warm.
 Philippians 2:5-11 tells us
 Of the Son of God
 Who came down from heaven,
 Emptying Himself of all power
 And humbling Himself as a slave,
 Taking an a human form,
 To offer Himself to his Father
 As an unblemished sacrifice,
 To be lashed for our sins
 And die as a criminal,
 Laying down His life for us His beloved,
 That we might be saved.
 This obedience to His Father's will.
 What a king!
 No comfort of an earthly throne,
 But a king who travelled on foot,
 Who fasted and prayed
 As He showed all men
 The Way to the Father.
 He was the Truth
 That led all men
 From darkness to Light.
 He went about doing good,
 Healing and comforting,
 Casting out demons,
 Forgiving sinners
 And working miracles and wonders.
 JESUS CHRIST – You have touched men's lives
 More than any king has done
 Or ever will do,
 O King of Love and Compassion!
 Your name rises above every other name,
 O King of kings –JESUS!
 To you be ALL Glory ,All Honour,
 All POWER and All praise
 Forever and Ever!



Ella

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
HEALTH CARE CENTRE

The Free Eye Check Camp that was held last Sunday on 18th November 2007 from 9.30 AM to 4.00 PM in collaboration with Fullerton India and Sight Savers Organisation was a huge success. The Camp began with a formal inauguration and lighting of the lamp by Fr. John Rumao our Parish Priest in the school auditorium.

In all 329 people were checked at the camp for vision and cataract. 167 of them were detected with vision problem and were recommended spectacles which will be distributed on 24th November – Saturday at 11.00 AM free of cost. 21 people were detected with cataract and will be operated free of cost at the K. B. H. Bachooali Charitable Ophthalmic and ENT Hospital Parel. There was a free pick and drop facility on Tuesday 20th November, only 5 people took up this offer.

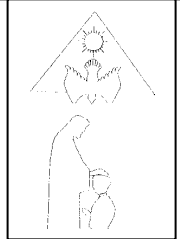
We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to Fr. John Rumao for taking such a keen interest in all the activities of the Health Cell and giving us the encouragement and support in all our endeavors.

We also thank Mr. Nazir of Awaz Decorators for the excellent arrangement, Mr. Panto for the catering and the health cell members.

Percival J. E. Fernandez
 Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay

November 14, 2007

My dear Fr. Rumao,



I want to thank you for sending me a copy of LOCUSTS & HONEY, your Parish Weekly regularly. Every issue of your Weekly is well brought out and makes good reading. Please convey my greetings, good wishes and gratitude all those who are responsible for "Locusts & Honey" !

With love and respect!
 +Percival Fernandez
 Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay

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

All Christian Denominations, Institutions and NGOs of Mumbai Coming together on (N) 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