

# LOCUSTS & HONEY

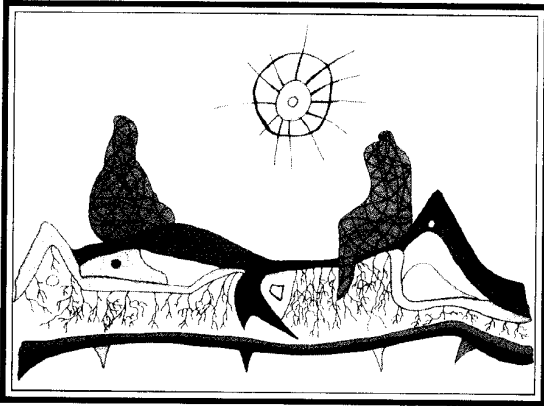


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly

Vol. 3, No. 31

29 July, 2007



## Prayer for Parents

O God, whom we obey in honouring our parents, look down mercifully, I beseech you, on those to whom in your providence owe my being.

May they grow daily in faith, hope and charity. Implant deeply in their hearts the conviction that you are as the beginning of all things so to you must all return.

Condone their frailties, pardon whatever excessive indulgence for me they may have shown, and impute not to them my waywardness, my sloth, my weakness of will.

Grant them health and prosperity while life lasts, pour down upon them the abundance of your grace. Defend and preserve them by your all-powerful hand. May my Christian life, in meeting their fondest expectations and fulfilling their hopes, be the consolation of their last years. May they die the death of the just. May they pass quickly to their heavenly home, and may I join them there, their dutiful child for all eternity. Amen.

HAPPY PARENTS' DAY TO THE PARENTS



### TO MY PARENTS

*From baby step to grown up stride  
You held my hand, stayed by my side  
For this I'd like to thank you*

*For calming fears, for drying tears  
For loving me throughout the years  
I'd like to thank you*

*For crossroads turned,  
for lessons learned  
For satisfying the love I yearned •  
I'd really like to thank you*

*For teaching me to walk the line  
For showing me the world was mine  
I'd truly like to thank you*

*For being there through all my pain  
For nursing me to health again  
I'd like to thank you*

*For staying awake when I was late  
To see me safe home you would wait  
For this I'd like to thank you*

*For everything that you have done  
To help me find my place in the sun.  
I'd like to thank you*

*For the smiles through tears as you stood  
by my side  
When I said "I do", to my lovely bride  
I'd like to thank you*

*For filling my whole life with love  
For my faith in God above  
How can I ever thank you*

*And though I never can re-pay  
All you have done each and every day  
There's just one thing  
I'd like to say "I Love You" --N. WATTS  
[by courtesy of the Examiner, July 21, 2007.]*

*Between the child and God stands the parent: a separating wall or a connecting link.*

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Parents' Day - 29 July 2007.

***This week's announcements  
July 29, 2007.***

1. *Today morning 7 o'clock Mass will be in Hindi.*
2. *Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> July will be celebrated as Parents' Day. The 6.30 p.m. Mass will be specially offered for all parents. There will be a special entertainment for Parents in the school hall at 7.30 p.m. Parents are asked to attend the Parents' Mass and join in the celebration. Entry passes are available with the youths outside the sacristy.*
3. *On 2nd August 2007 Lewiswadi Zone is having their Zonal Mass at 7.30 P.M. in the pavilion. All members of the Community must attend this mass.*
4. *Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August is the First Friday of the month. A half hour adoration at 7.30 p.m.*
5. *Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> August will be celebrated as Vianney Sunday. Please pray for your priests.*
6. *The collection at Masses last Sunday, amounted to Rs.26,424.00*
7. *The collection at Masses previous Sunday, amounted to Rs.24,926.00*
8. *The collections from Perpetual Succour box amounted to Rs. 2,112..00.*
9. *The collections from Perpetual Succour box during previous week amounted to Rs.2,635/-*

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

30/Mon S. Peter Chrysologus, bp dr Ex 32:15-24,30-34; Ps 105:19-20,21-22,23;Mt 13:31-35  
 31/Tue S. Ignatius Loyola, pt - mem Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9,28; Ps 102:6-7,8-9,10-11,12-13; Mk 13:36-43  
 01/Wed S. Alphonsus Liguori, pt dr - mem Ex 34:29-35; Ps 98:5,6,7,9; Mt 13:44-46  
 02/Thu Or S. Eusebius of Vercelli, bp Or S. Peter Julian Eymard, pt Ex 40:16-21,34-38; Ps 83:3,4,5-6a&8a,11; Mt 13:47-53  
 03/Fri Lv 23:1,4-11,15-16,27,34b-37;Ps 80:3-4,5-6ab,IO-llab; Mt 13:54-58  
 04/Sat S. John Vianney, pt - mem Lv 25:1,8-17; Ps 66:2-3,5,7-8ab; Mt 14:1-12  
 05/Sun Qh 1;2;2:21-23; Col 3:1-5,9-11; Lk 12:13-21.

***N.I.O.S***

Admission to the Secondary and Sr. Secondary of National Institute of Open Schooling has already begun at Holy Cross Convent High School, 'K' Villa, Thane. For details contact N,I,O,S, office on any working day [Monday - Friday] from 5:15 pm to 6:45 pm, Telephone No, 25449893,

**PARENTS' DAY**

**29 July, 2007**

**Programme**

**6.30 p.m. – Special Mass for parents**

**7.30 p.m. – entertainment in the hall.**

Entry passes at Rs.15/- per person.

*N.B. Entry is restricted to parents only.*

**SEZ: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE**

The Govt. of India has marked out certain areas to be developed for Recreation and Tourism. Amongst these are areas that fall in the Uttan - Gorai belt. This has been allotted to Pan India Paryatan Ltd. (PIPL), the group that owns Essel World and Water Kingdom. If this project is executed, the locals, 90% Catholics, consisting of Farmers, fisher-folks and Salt pan owners will not only lose their land and livelihood but also be tom away from their home, neighbourhood and culture.

10,000 objections to the Givt. Notification were filed by the locals through the recently formed Dharavi Beth Bachao Smiti (DBBS). But upto date no reply has been given by the Govt. said, Mr. Joseph Gonsalves PresidentofDBBS.

The residents have participated in various protest meetings and rallies held at Gorai, Uttan, Vile Parle and especially at Azad Maidan on 5th April 2007, where the locals organized 45 bus loads of people from the villages. The Bombay Catholic Sabha heard the grievances of the locals at a meeting at Our Lady of Salvation, Dadar. The Sate Minorities Commision and The Bombay Catholic Sabha have also taken this issue with the authorities.

We all well-meaning good citizens are appealed to come forward to support the efforts of the local people with our prayers and active involvement in the fight against the SEZ proposal that will uproot several villages in Uttan-Dharavi Island.

Fr. Edward

***PARISH VISITATION***

***This Monday, 30 July Fathers will be visiting Cherai North. Animators are requested to accompany Fathers on their visits to families under your care.***

### AUGUST INTENTIONS

**Holy Father's General Intention:** That all those who are going through moments of inner difficulty and trial may find in Christ the light and support which leads them to discover authentic happiness.

**Missionary Intention:** That the Church in China may bear witness to ever greater inner cohesion and may manifest her effective and visible communion with Peter's Successor

#### 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:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 7. a..m

**Mass in Konkani:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 7. a.m.

**Mass in Hindi:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 7.00 a.m.

**Tamil Mass:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com)

### *Smile, Giggle, Laugh!*

A MALE AND female driver are involved in a horrific collision. As they crawl from the wreckage, the man sees the woman is blonde and beautiful. She turns to him and gushes breathily; "We shouldn't have survived that. Maybe it's a sign from God that we're meant to be together!" The man stammers back, "Oh yes, I agree completely!" "And look," she continues. "Though my car was destroyed, this bottle of wine is intact, too! It's another sign. Let's drink to our love!" "Well, OK!" says the man. She offers him the bottle, so he downs half and hands it back.

"Your turn," he says.

"No, thanks," says the woman, "I think I'll just wait for the police."

## SENIOR COLLEGE IN THANE!

[letters to the editor]

Dear Fr Rumao,

The idea of having a full fledged college as proposed by some of our parishioners is excellent, It will cater to the academic needs of our parishioners also parishioners from other parishes as well as students in general.

May this vision of those who have initiated this idea be able to see it blossom into a reality .. The church has always taken great initiatives in the area of education and healthcare.

May this initiative bring glory to God and a blessing to the people of Thane

Sanjay Almeida

\*\* \*\*\* \*\*

Long Live Fr. Rumao.....& his Team !!!

It has been a great pleasure to have Fr. Rumao with us. He has completed 72 on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2007 and still going strong.

I was so happy to hear that Fr. Rumao is going to start a Senior Commerce College, as many children will benefit once started. So, I decided to write this letter.

When my son finished his XII in Commerce from St. John the Baptist with 66.50%, I had tough time, going to different colleges, getting the forms, filling it and submitting the same, after standing for hours in the long serpentine queues. I had to take special leave from my office, to do all these things. I felt it very much, because till XII I did not have to stand in long lines. When we are faced with such problems, it is only then we realize the importance of having Catholic schools and colleges, which we otherwise take for granted.

Coming back, to starting a Senior Commerce College in St. John's, only a person like Fr. Rumao will be able to do it, as he has done the same for the Vasai Parish and which is running very successfully.

I take this opportunity to thank Fr. Rumao for all the wonderful work he has done in our Church, right from the total renovation of the Pavillion Hall, the sponged kneelers which make it easier to pray for longer periods and other renovations. Special mention should be made here regarding the recent renovations of our church, which now looks much brighter, cleaner and has the right ambience for prayer and worship. I look forward to the altar section being renovated.

Last but not the least, Fr. Rumao has always been generous to the needy, for no one going to him has been sent away empty handed.

If I go on to write about Fr. Rumao & his team of fathers, there will be no end, so I now end this letter with sincere gratitude and with hope in my heart, to have the same team of fathers for many years ahead.

Mrs. P. Gonsalves  
Kopat-Pratap Zone

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Rev. .Fr. Rumao,

I am Irene, a parishioner of St. John's, Thane for the past -40- years, resident of Naupada -I zone. and I wish to bring to your kind attention the following -.

Thane is a fast developing suburb with all modern amenities / facilities. However ,when it comes to education for the

minorities, we have one convent for girls upto S.S.C. and one co-ed school with jr. college.. Catholic students, once they are out of 10-12 std, do not find a place in this competitive field of academics. Though there are many reasons for this complacent attitude of the Catholics towards academics, we ,as a community are best able to address this problem with a suitable solution.

Your leadership in Thane parish has worked wonders ,which is well appreciated by like minded parishioners. You have always been innovative in your ideas and their implementation. You have never left any task unfulfilled, be it the promenade issue, or the church property. Of course, there will not be 100% consensus on any issues, However, you have at your age accomplished so many tasks, which any ordinary man of the same age would not think of venturing and that too for the welfare of the community at large!

In this context I feel you are the right person whom I can put up a suggestion. My son passed his S.S.C this year and though he wanted to join Xavier's or any other senior college in Mumbai, he could not stand a chance . thanks to the high cut-offs. St. Johns came to the help. After 12th I do not know who will help. There are many more in our parish who sail in the same boat as I. .If a proposal to have a senior college in arts, science and commerce is put up before the ABE, for the benefit of the minority as well as thaneite`s, this city of thane will ever be grateful to you and remember you. Father, only you have the calibre , capacity and courage . Hope you will not disappoint us .Our support / prayers are with you.

yours cordially

Mrs. Irene Joseph Pinto,  
2, sonal apts, 1st floor, opp.vandana hsg.soc.,

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Rev. Father John R.

This is in reference to the article in Locust & Honey planning for a degree college at St. John's. If it happens it will really be a boon to your community children who at present inspite of grasping high percentage are finding very difficult to get admissions.

I Pray it works out very soon.

With Regards

Yours dear parishioner

Brevin Sequeira

=====

· "Lily Niketan"

36 K'Villa, Thane 16th July,07

Dear Fr. Rumao,

This is with reference to the article published in "Locust & Honey 8th July, 07.

We fully support a Degree College in our parish. As Oliver Colaco mentioned in his article "Locust & Honey 15th July, 07, a degree college will benefit the children of our parish and also the neighbouring parishes. At present College students waste precious time travelling to colleges outside Thane. This travel time could be put to better use.

We hope "His Lordship begins the process of obtaining the necessary permission to commence the project as soon as possible. We pray that this will materialise and become another jewel in the crown of St. Johns.

Yours truly,

Yorrick Hendricks & family

The Sisters of Good Shepherd Convent are organizing

**WELCOME TO THE DIAMOND BONDING – a get together** - for all eligibles with a view to marriage. (Spinsters above the age of 30 years old and Bachelors above the age of 35 years old) on Sunday August 12,2007 from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.at Good shepherd Convent hall, Four Bungalows Road, Andheri -west, Mumbai - 400 053. Contact Sr. Helen on Ph. No.2637 2422/ 2637 1863

### Making The World Disease Free

Human suffering is on an ever rising trend,  
Precious lives cannot be lost to diseases, my friend !

HIV AIDS has cast its dark spell on mankind,  
The world has still to find a cure, we need to wait till then.  
The HIV virus will have no hold over this land,

It is only man who has to strictly follow the directives in the prevention plan.

Diabetes is more prevalent among Indian,  
Work it out tactfully and make it your own companion.  
Have a tight control over your daily sugar intake,  
Exercise regularly in moderation without taking any break.

Fear prevails as cancer remains the most dreaded,  
Periodic medical check-ups is what is actually needed.  
Make fruits and vegetables part of your diet daily,  
Be more environmental friendly and live a life much healthy.

Cardio deaths contribute significantly to the mortality chart,  
It is stress and lifestyle changes from whom we need to depart.  
Keep a check on your cholesterol and give up smoking,  
"Do not be too ambitious, life is most precious", is a wise man's saying.

GOD, the Father is a perfect Designer,  
Not a single life can any disease conquer.  
If man remains alert and acts in a responsible manner,  
No disease can take his life in the near future.

Malcolm Nobre

### THANKING LETTER

Date 23.07.07

We the members of S.V.P thank Fr Rumao for arranging Recollection on 21<sup>st</sup> July 07 and Fr. Dion Lobo for conducting the same. It was very well managed .All members who participated appreciated very much. In all 30 members attended.

Thank you, Fr.Rumao

Thank you Fr.Dion

Sub: STARTING OF A SENIOR COLLEGE.

This is The DIRE NEED OF THE HOUR "to establish a Degree College in Thane" by St. John the Baptist Parish.

It will not be pertinent to state that putting up a Degree College will have fourfold advantage:

- a) The students of Thane will not have far to commute, thereby saving time and expenses.
- b) Taking into account the rigours of traveling.
- c) Students of Thane will not have to run around seeking admission, reducing stress and strain, including that of parents.

If we go about this with a positive frame of mind, much can be achieved. We do have the infrastructure and the resources and the will to implement this proposal.

Unforeseen teething trouble and challenges are expected, such as, administration, having competent staff which we will have to focus upon from the very inception.

If you accept that EDUCATION IS A MUST, then why not seek this opportunity to set up a Senior College which will benefit the students of Thane Parish and other neighbouring parishes and ultimately be a boon to the parishioners of Thane at large.

Anticipating a favourable response.

Horace Soeiro,  
Parishioner - Utalsar Zone.

\*\*\*

Cyril Benny D'Souza Mana Co-Op Hsg. Society Flat A-2,  
Ground Floor sector 7 • ShIre Nagar Wagle Estate,

Date: 11th July-2001.

Dear Fr. Rumao,

While going through the Locusts & Honey' dated 15th July 2007 the write up "A Degree College" caught my attention.

Being a parishioner of St Lawrence Wagle Estate, I was particularly delighted to read that the benefit of a degree college at St. John's will be extended to other parishes too.

May the seed that is being sown, grow into a mighty tree and in due course become a post graduate college as much as a college is not available in this area.

I wish this venture success and wish to thank all those who are involved in it  
With best wishes.  
Yours truly,  
Cyril Benny D'Souza.

\*\*\*\*

Date: 16th July, 2007 To,

Fr. John Rumao Parish Priest

St. John the Baptist Church Thane

<p><b>Parish Team:</b>  <b>Fr. John Rumao.</b>  <b>Fr. John Lopes</b>  <b>Fr. Gerry Fernandes</b>  <b>Fr. Victor Dalmet.</b>  <b>Srs Amala &amp; Joan – Pastoral Work</b>  <b>Vice-President PPC:</b> Mr. Francis Fernandes  <b>Parish SCC Coordinator:</b> Mr. Eustace de Cunha  <b>APC Representative:</b> Mr. Kirk Gonsalves  <b>PPC Secretary:</b> Mr. Anthony Alphonso  <b>CWF Secretary:</b> Mrs. Jessie Sequeira  <b>In-charge: Sunday School:</b> Sr. Ancy  <b>RCIA/School Catechism:</b> Ms. Ida D'Silva</p>
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## 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= 750/ p.m

Contact Prof. S.C.Kopra, Fashion

Designer Mob.9322875500

\*\*\*\* \* \* \* \* \*

For Admission & trainees Programs information

Contact: - Prof. S.C. Kopra Fashion Designer

Mob: - 9322875500 / 64109529

.July 25, 2007 .

The Parish Priest,  
Thane.

Dear Rev. Father,

Re: ARTICLE IN THE LOCUST & HONEY DATED 8m  
JULY, 2007.

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Parents' Day - 29 July 2007.**

This publication of 'Locusts & Honey' which has graduated from a monthly to a weekly is able to reach out, to all parishioners seeking their support to a degree college. Would there be any dissenting voices? Probably not. This is for the common good and let us all support a good cause. A big "thank you" to all those involved in this task.

From  
Oliver Fernandes

\*\*\*\*

ARNOLD SERRON 201 Serron Villa, Charai,

Thane (W), 400601 16th July 2007.

Rev. Fr. John Rumao Parish Priest

St John The Baptist Church Thane (W), 400601.

Dear Rev. Father,

The prospect of a degree college for the benefit of Thaneites as reported in the 15th July issue of "Locusts & Honey" was sweet music to the ear.

The college should have been founded long back; may be after founding the junior college in the 80s. However, today when some parishioners have come out with this proposal with your blessing and co-operation, we cannot but laud the idea.

We are aware that the colleges in Thane are not able to cater to the needs of Thaneites. The proposed college will go a long way in meeting this need of Thaneites and our parishioners in particular. We are sure that the dedication and high standard maintained by our institutions will attract students from all over Thane.

We wish the college every success.

Arnold Serron.

\*\*\*\*

"Lily Niketan" 36 K'Villa, Thane 16th July,07

Dear Fr. Rumao,

This is with reference to the article published in "Locust & Honey 8th July, 07.

We fully support a Degree College in our parish. As Oliver Colaco mentioned in his article "Locust & Honey 15th July, 07, a degree college will benefit the children of our parish and also the neighbouring parishes. At present College students waste precious time travelling to colleges outside Thane. This travel time could be put to better use.

We hope "His Lordship begins the process of obtaining the necessary permission to commence the project as soon as possible. We pray that this will materialise and become another jewel in the crown of St. Johns.

Yours truly,

Yorrick Hendricks & family

9/7 Jawahar Jyothi Soc,  
Louiswadi

Thane West 400604  
15<sup>th</sup> July 2007

Dear Fr. Rumao

Let me share with you and with my fellow parishioners my recent experience.

My daughter passed her tenth standard board examination from St. John the Baptist High School with 85.38%. She got enrolled at St. John the Baptist Junior College on the very first day of admission. It was an anxiety free admission process.

Looking back, the other college in Thane and Mumbai, which we had eyed closed admission on percentages bordering on 90%. Although 85.38% is fairly good, it is not good enough today. To such students, a degree college of our own will help a great deal in preparing them for a career.

A certain degree of guarantee in admission, a fairly high standard of education and the good Catholic atmosphere of the college is what we parishioners would be looking for.

May this dream come true.

Yours Sincerely

Alphonse D'souza

Mr. Ronald A. Saldanha.  
8, Highway Ashirwad CHS Ltd.  
Opp. Nitin casting Co.  
Thane (West) 400604  
Dated 16.07.2007

Dear Rev Fr. Rumao

Sub: Opening of Senior College

I the undersigned Mr. Ronald A. Saldanha parishioner of your parish affiliated to Lewiswadi zone residing at the above address suggest that our parish should at all cost go for a Senior College as it is the need of the hour.

There are many Catholic in and around Thane, who find difficult to come across a full fledged Christian College which can cater to the need of Christians.

Fr. We are quite confident and whole heartedly give full support for your venture, which is not new as I have been told from reliable sources that you have been promoting education from the time you were elected to the Pastoral office.

May the good Lord Jesus keep you going from strength to strength for the good work you are doing.

Thanking you

Your's faithfully

Ronald A.Saldanha  
(Lewis wadi zone)

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To,  
Rev.Fr. Rumao  
Parish Priest  
St.John the Baptist Church  
Thane

Respected Fr. Rumao

I Mrs Gail Serpes a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Church fully support the project of having a full fledged degree college to take care of the university education of our children. I promise to lend my support to this project.

Thanking you

(Gail a. Serpes)  
55 K'villa  
Thane