

# 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. 53 30 December, 2007

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### 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:** 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](http://www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com)



**Ms Anola D'Souza's  
Creation.**

## THE HOLINESS OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The church once again celebrates the feast of The Holy Family of Nazareth. I was wondering as to why is this family called 'Holy' and not just the family of Nazareth. In the book of Leviticus we are told "You should be Holy, for the Lord your God is Holy." (Lev. 19:2) Thereafter the book of Leviticus lays down the stipulation of the covenantal Law. The 'will of God' is mirrored in the stipulations of the covenantal Law. It follows that those who wish to be holy should observe the stipulations of the covenant. In other words the precepts of the covenant serve as a yardstick for one's holiness. The life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was replete with holiness because they all did the will of God.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we are told that Joseph was a righteous man. (Mt 1:19) The evangelist Matthew borrows the term righteousness from the Old Testament. Matthew uses the term righteousness in anthropological sense. That is, for Matthew a person is said to be righteous when s/he does the will of God or lives one's life as God wants him/her to live. In short, righteousness for Matthew consists in being faithful to God and to one's neighbour. Joseph was a righteous man for he not only obeyed all that the angel commanded him to do but also behaved in the right manner with Mary when he discovered that she was with child. Mary too obeyed the will of God because when the angel Gabriel announced to her that she was to be the mother of the Saviour (Lk.1:31) Mary promptly replied, "I am the Lord's servant, may it happen to me as you have said."(Lk. 1:38) Again in the Gospel of Luke we are told that when the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival, the boy Jesus was lost and they found him in the Temple amidst the Jewish teachers going about his Father's will. (Lk. 2:49) Further we are told that Jesus went back with his parents to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. (Lk 2:51)

In a nutshell, holiness consists in doing the will of God. By giving us the model of the Holy Family of Nazareth the church exhorts every Christian family to emulate the holiness of the Holy Family of Nazareth. That is, we are called to obey and do the will of God and not our own will. In order to do the will of God we should diligently pray for the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This reminds me of the old adage, the family that prays together lives together and grows together in holiness.

*Dn. Oniel Rodrigues*



**Holy Family Feast - 30 December, 07.**

*This week's announcements*  
December 30, 2007.

1. Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. there will be Christmas Family-Day celebration for all parish families at 7.30 p.m. in the quadrangle. Entry passes/coupons are available at the Legion Stall.
2. Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. there will be **no** 7.00 p.m. Mass. Holy Hour and Mass in the church at 9.45 p.m.
3. Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January – Masses at 6.00, 7.00, 8.00 and at 9.15 in the morning and at 7.00 in the evening. In the evening New Year's Blast in the quadrangle organized by the Youth Group. Entry passes are available with the youth members outside after Mass.
4. Sunday, January 6 at 4.00 p.m.– house-workers' party. To register your house-worker please, contact your zonal leader.
5. *The collection at Masses last Sunday, amounted to Rs.24,939 00*
6. *The collections at Christmas Midnight and Day Masses amounted to Rs. 1,09,134.00*

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

31/Mon 1 In 2:18-21; Ps 95:1-2,11-12,13; Jn 1:1-18  
 1/Tue MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Sol.) Nm 6:22-27; Ps 66:2-3,5,6,8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21  
 2/Wed Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen (Mem) 1 In 2:22-28; Ps 97:1,2-3,3-4; In 1:19-28  
 3/Thu 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 97:1,3-4,5-6; Jn 1:29-34  
 4/Fri 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 97:1,7-8,9; Jn 1:35-42  
 5/Sat 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 99:1b-2,3,4,5; Jn 1:43-51  
 6/Sun The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-6; Mt 2:1-12

**JANUARY 2008**

**Holy Father's General Intention:** That the Church may strengthen her commitment to full visible unity in order to manifest in an ever growing degree her nature as community of love, in which is reflected the communion of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Missionary Intention:** That the Church in Africa, which is preparing to celebrate her second Special Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, may continue to be the sign and instrument of reconciliation and justice in a Continent still marked by war, exploitation and poverty.



**Holy Family Feast - 30 December, 07.**

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 " **NEW YEAR'S BLAST 2008.** "  
 " **The Youth Group will be organizing a New** "  
 " **Year's Dance on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2008.** "  
 " **Venue: St. John the Baptist Quadrangle** "  
 " **Time: 7.30 p.m. onwards** "  
 " Entry Passes Rs. 50/- per child below 10 yrs "  
 " Rs. 75/- per adult. "  
 " Passes are available at the Youth Stall outside "  
 " after every Mass on Saturday/Sunday, Dec. "  
 " 15/16, 22/23 & 29/30 "  
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***Smile, Giggle, Laugh!***



Then, there, :as the panic stricken man who rang the Fire Station to inform them that his house was on fire. "How do we get there?" enquired the fireman who took his call, "My God!" eXclaimed the distraught man, "don't you have a fire-engine?" .

\* \* \*

A woman rushed into a shop and said, "Please give me a mouse trap and make it quck, I have to catch a bus." "Sorry," said the shopkeeper, "we don't have any that big."

\* \* \*

Diner : "I have a complaint."

Waiter :. "This is a restaurant, not a hospital."

\* \*

The judge asked a Witness her age.

The woman stubbornly kept silent.

The judge threatened and Said. "If you don't answer, I'll ask the audience for an estimate."

Our Mission Experience to Khopoli

The students of Std. VII and VIII along with their Catechists set out for a Mission Experience to Khopoli on 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. The children were 54 in number who were divided into various groups and was placed in 5 villages. They were in the midst God's loving people who are mostly tribal without education, housing and food. The children were given the projects such as taking survey of the village, teaching the women to sign and interactive sessions with the children. Our children indeed surprised us with their enthusiasm and involvement to do something better. Appreciation goes to the

group leaders and teachers who took the responsibility and made a difference in these people's lives.

The children meaningfully animated the liturgy on 4<sup>th</sup> for the parish of Holy Redeemer Church. After the rich experience they did have a fun filled time as they enjoyed the beauty of nature through hiking.

"I would like to thank Fr.Rumao for giving us such a wonderful opportunity to visit the village and know the people and their lifestyle. I would also like to thank the teachers who accompanied us all through and gave us a meaningful learning experience".

Miss Erica – Std. VIII

"The people we met were all warm and friendly inspite of all their hardships. They were all willing to learn. They were very happy people. I must admit that it was an experience of learning to be happy in life".

Miss Mystica Vaz – Std. VIII

"I realized that we are fortunate and have so much while there are people who are not so fortunate and have very little. I must not waste anything and help others always".

Naomi Gonsalves – Std. VII

"We must not only enjoy the riches we have, but be sensitive to the poor around and help them to enjoy life".

Sandean Fernandes – Std. VII

Thanks to Fr. Antony Lopez ( Parish Priest), Sisters of the Cross, Sisters of Carmel Convent and the parishners of Khopoli for making this mission trip possible with their co-operation and arrangements.



### **LORD HAVE MERYC!**

Lord, we see the curtain  
Closing down on 2007,  
Going, going  
And soon 2007 will be gone,  
Into a year of the past.  
Lord,we see You stand in judgement  
Before us,  
Asking us,  
To render an account of our stewardship  
For 2007

Have we lived according to Your expectation of us,

Or, have we ruled our lives  
According to our own expectation?  
We know many a time  
We have sinned, been stubborn,  
Pardon us, Lord,  
Forget our past  
And remember our sins no more.

Lord, it is true  
That we take our life into our hands,  
And fail to think,  
About the breath of life,  
Gifted to us by You,  
That may suddenly cease.  
Oh yes, we will draw  
Very close to you  
And cling to you,  
When on our death bed,  
But we need to be Holy  
Right now,

Lord, to some of us You say,  
'Well done, good and faithful one'  
But others experience a shiver down their spine,  
At the sound of Your voice  
Questioning, 'Quo Vadis?' "Whither goest thus?"  
Direct our steps, Lord,  
That have erred and treaded the wrong path,  
Do not be to us a Judge,  
But only a Saviour,  
Mercy Lord ,Mercy!

We hear you convict us, Lord,  
Of bad tempers, indiscipline, disobedience,

Hatred and resentment,  
Unforgiveness, selfishness and greed,  
Much wasted time and money,  
Sins of lust and pride,  
Shortage of love, indifference to injustice  
And disturbing peace,  
Of moving with the whims and fancies of the world  
And neglecting giving You Your due  
We haven't been showing  
The Christ in us to others.

In Your kind mercy  
May we see the dawn of 2008.  
Please give us a second chance,  
Renew our minds,  
Change our hearts,  
Humble us, strengthen us

And push us through yet another year,  
And all it holds,  
Lest we weaken and backslide  
And miss what is in store for us,  
By falling back on evil ways.

Please give us a Second Chance, Lord.  
Lord, do help each of us to be  
'A BETTER ME'

For 2008

And as time moves on Closing 2007. Opening 2008  
We bow down in Holy Adoration,  
Praising You and thanking You,  
For all we have received  
From Your kind bounty,  
Through Christ our Lord  
And through the Intercession,  
Of our Beloved Mother Mary  
Amen  
Ella

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	The 1% tithing contributors are requested	
	to collect their copy of the calendar for	
	the year 2008 from the parish office	
	during office hours during this week	
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### Gratitude – The Language Of The Heart.

On behalf of the team, we wish to thank all those who made this Christmas celebration a joyful experience for us. Our thanks go to all the choir members for their angelic singing under the direction of Ms. Clarissa Alvares, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, Ms. Anola D'Souza for the beautiful back-drop, to Mrs. Margaret Menezes, sisters, sacristy ladies and Sacristan Anthony for altar decoration and other liturgical requirements, Mr. Eustace de Cunha, the Kolbad group and volunteers for presenting a noval crib, Mrs. Martina & Stanny Martis and the children for carol singing and presenting a skit-dances choreographed by Sweetie Sonia Joshi & Sonia D'Sa at Christmas mid-night Mass, to youth for decorating church, Mr. Ignatius Fernandes and his men for TV screen in the church, to Mr. Norbert Pillai and his men of In-Cable TV for live telecast on local TV channel, Mr. Deepak Dias and his men for getting the church and the premises cleaned up, Mr. Marcus Alvares and ushers, Mrs. Lucy Alvares for bus-service, Mr. Nazeer of Awaj Radio for stage set-up, chairs arrangement and lighting, Mr. Johnny Pereira for sound system, Mr Savio for his sound system for Christmas week celebrations, Volunteers in charge of various programs, Naupada police and to all of you for your support.

**A PEACEFUL 2008  
TO ALL PARISHIONERS!**

### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH HEALTH CELL .....

The Mobile Dental Clinic – “Hello Doctor” a project of St. John the Baptist Church - Health Cell will be formally launched on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2008 at 2.00 PM sharp in the Church compound. Dr. Meroin D'Costa of Naman Dental Clinic will be attending to the patients. The aim of the project is to make dental care available to the general public at minimal cost. All types of dental problems will be attended to and further specialized treatment will also be done at St. John's on Saturdays from 10.00 to 12.30 PM. Registration will be done at Rs.20/- and a card will be issued for one year. The various treatments will be charged at a subsidized rate, there will be no compromise in the quality of treatment. Only 10 to 15 patients will be treated daily on a first come first served basis, tokens will be issued. Appointments can be taken and names can be registered with Sr. Amala at the Health Cell to avoid inconvenience. The rate card for the various treatments is available at the St. John's Health Cell.

A study reveals that most of the health problems arise due to poor oral hygiene; hence good dental care will definitely be of help in ensuring good health for the New Year. Parishioners are urged to make the most of this facility and inform other people in their area and help us in reaching out to the poor and the marginalized irrespective of caste and creed. All parishioners are invited for the inauguration of this clinic on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2008. Volunteers who would like to help once a week on Wednesdays 2.00 to 4.30 PM or Saturdays 10.00 to 12.30PM kindly contact Clara, Sr. Amala or the Church office.

The mobile Dental Clinic will also be visiting other parishes too....

Mondays –	St. Lawrence , Wagle Estate	2.00 to 4.30PM
Tuesdays –	St. Pius ,Mulund	2.00 to 4.30PM
Wednesdays-	St. John's	2.00 to 4.30PM
Thursdays-	St. Francis Xavier, Kanjurmarg	2.00 to 4.30PM
Fridays-	Our Lady of Fatima, Majiwade	2.00 to 4.30PM
Saturadys-	St. John's	10.00 to 12.30PM



Wish You all  
a Very Happy  
and Healthy  
New Year!

**PRO-CANA GATHERING**  
Organised by Thane Deanery  
. for

**BACHELORS ' & SPINSTERS**

around 35 years around 30 years

Venue: St. John the Baptist School Hall, Thane  
(west)

Date: 26th January, 2008 from 8.30 p.m, to 3.30  
p.m,

Registration :. Rs.150/ .. (One hundred fifty only  
Last lateforregistration :-10thJanuary, 2008  
Contact: Mr. Desmond D' Silva on M. 986 924  
3203

### **The Family**

The concept of a family is most dear to the Lord,  
Parents and children living together which to  
humanity is the greatest gift of  
all .

The husband becomes the head of the family,  
The wife submitting herself to him promising all  
her life to give him company.

Both accept children most willingly from God,  
With great responsibility they bring them up under  
all odds.

The children must obey their  
parents no matter what the  
situation may demand,  
They must respect Mom and Dad  
as it is God's command.



Parents must not force their  
principles on the little one,  
Though little children they have the right to express  
feelings of their own.

Praying together as a family pleases the Lord,  
Showers of blessings are poured down from heaven  
strengthening the  
family bond.

Dinning together at the supper table brings family  
members closer,  
This unity thus nurtured will help encounter twists  
and turns in life now and later.

Sons and daughters help one another and do not  
quarrel on petty matters,



Relationships are  
more important than perishable earthly valuables.

Look after your aged parents yourselves today,  
Tomorrow your children will do the same without  
fail.

Let us together mend our incomplete and broken  
family,  
In the New Year this will be our wonderful gift to  
the Almighty.

**Malcolm Nobre**

### **CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MAS**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

URGENT VACANCIES WITH REPUTED CLIENTS OF  
DON BOSCO RECRUITMENT SERVICES -  
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

**1. OFFICE ASSISTANT:**

Smart, fresher, HSC/SSC. Candidate should have computer knowledge, Handling of petty cash, banking work.

**2. ACCOUNTANT:**

B.Com., tally, knowledge in scrutiny and follow-up of bills required.

**3. CUSTOMER SERVICE EXECUTIVE/BACK-OFFICE EXECUTIVE**

With good MS-Office skills,

**4. FRONT OFFICE EXECUTIVES:**

Graduate/under graduate with good communication skills and pleasing personality.

**5. RECEPTIONISTS/TELEPHONE OPERATOR:**

Candidates having good command over English. Freshers are welcomed. Age below 35 Years.

**6. SECRETARIES: (M/F)**

Knowledge of shorthand and proficiency in computers.

Age:below 35 years. . .

**7. EXECUTIVES / MARKETING:**

Sales professionals with pleasing personality having 2-3 years selling experience in leisure related services.

**8. BANQUET SALES EXECUTIVE/ BANQUET AND F & B EXECUTIVE:**

Hotel Management graduate with F & B background having atleast one year banquet sales experience.

**9. HOUSE-KEEPING SUPERVISOR: S.S.C or R.S.C.**

with minimum one year

**10. FITNESS INSTRUCTOR:**

Certified fitness instructor with atleast one year's experience.

**11. FITTER/TURNER:**

S.S.C., ITI course, should be able to read drawings and have atleast 2 years experience.

**12. JR. MECHANICAL ENGINEERS/ ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS/ DESIGN ENGINEERS.**

Experienced/Freshers are welcome.

**13. DATA ENTRY OPERATORS:(M/F)**

Graduates(English-medium) with good Typing speed.

**14. DRIVERS:**

Heavy/Light vehicle drivers with 1-2 years experience will be preferred.

**15. NETWORK ENGINEERS: With CCNA having 6 months experience.**

16. MALI: With 1 year experience. Freshers are welcome.

17. PACKERS: With 2-3 months experience.

18. HOUSEMAIDS: Full-time (Day & Night) Part-time 7:30 am to 8:00 pm.

19. OFFICE BOY/ PEON: With minimum knowledge of English /Hindi.

20. HOSTEL WARDEN: With 1 year experience.

Graduates preferred .

**Venue: Don Bosco Recruitment Services Youth Services Bldg., Ground Floor, Matunga - East, Mumbai - 400019.**  
Tel. Nos. : 24118282/24154646 Timing : 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m, 2.30 p.m, - 05.30 p.m, Monday to Friday E- Mail :  
dbrs \_ bosco@rediffmail.com OR dbrs@vsn1.net

- 30 December, 07.