

LOCUSTS & HONEY

For Private Circulation

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15 October, 2006

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:

Mrs. Margaret Mascarenhas.

APC Representative:

Mr. Anthony Alphonso

PPC Secretary:

Mr. Eustace D’Cunha

CWF Secretary: Jessie Sequeira**Sunday School In-charge:** Sr. Ancy**RCIA & School Catechism:****In-charge:** Ms. Ida D’Silva**Mass Schedule:****Sunday: 6,7,8,9,15 a.m. & 5.30, 6.30 p.m.
10.30 a.m. at Kopri Chapel.**

Weekday: 6 & 6.45 a.m., 7.00 pm.

In Holy Cross Convent: 6.30 am.

Mass in Marathi: 3rd Sunday at 7. a.m**Mass in Konkani:** 4th Sunday at 7. a.m.**Tamil Mass:** 2nd Sunday at 11.00 am**Confessions:** Saturday: 6 to 7 p.m.**Baptisms:** Sunday: 10.15 am**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 at6.00 p.m. except on 1st Friday**Night Adoration:**at 8 p.m. on 2nd Saturday;

at 10.30 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.Website: www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com**THREE WISE MEN**

A woman came out of her house and saw 3 old men with long white beards sitting in her front yard. She did not recognize them. She said "I don't think I know you, but you must be hungry. Please come in and have something to eat."

"Is the man of the house home?", they asked.

"No", she replied. "He's out."

"Then we cannot come in", they replied.

In the evening when her husband came home, she told him what had happened.

"Go tell them I am home and invite them in!"

The woman went out and invited the men in"

"We do not go into a House together," they replied.

"Why is that?" she asked.

One of the old men explained: "His name is Wealth," he said pointing to one of his friends, and said pointing to another one, "He is Success, and I am Love." Then he added, "Now go in and discuss with your husband which one of us you want in your home."

The woman went in and told her husband what was said. Her husband was overjoyed. "How nice!!", he said. "Since that is the case, let us invite Wealth. Let him come and fill our home with wealth!"

His wife disagreed. "My dear, why don't we invite Success?"

Their daughter-in-law was listening from the other corner of the house. She jumped in with her own suggestion: "Would it not be better to invite Love? Our home will then be filled with love!"

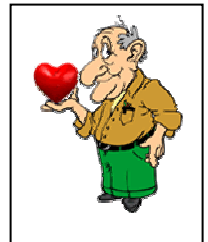
"Let us heed our daughter-in-law's advice," said the husband to his wife. "Go out and invite Love to be our guest."

The woman went out and asked the 3 old men, "Which one of you is Love? Please come in and be our guest."

Love got up and started walking toward the house. The other 2 also got up and followed him. Surprised, the lady asked Wealth and Success: "I only invited Love, Why are you coming in?"

The old men replied together: "If you had invited Wealth or Success, the other two of us would've stayed out, but since you invited Love, wherever He goes, we go with him. Wherever there is Love, there is also Wealth and Success!!!!!"

The story is poignant enough to make us see the futility of wealth or even success from the point of eternal life. Very much the same the Master explains to His disciples in the Gospel passage Mark 10:17-30. You have love in your heart, you have everything, even God on your side. You may be among the top millionaires in the world or may be topmost in success, yet may be far from inheriting eternal life! But when you have love, you have God with you and of course wealth and success.



This week's Announcements, 15th October, 2006.

- October is the month of the Rosary. The Rosary prayer will be recited everyday at 6.30 p.m. in front of the grotto
- CWF Committee will meet on Sunday, 15th October at 10.30 a.m. in the meeting room.
- Sunday, October 22nd will be celebrated as "Mission Sunday." Collections made at Sunday Masses will be sent for the missions.
- *The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs.,.24,436.00*
- *The collection from the box in front of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour frame amounted to Rs2,335.00.*

16/10 to 22/10 This week's readings:

16/Mon St Hedwig, rei, Or St Margaret Mary Alacoque, vg, Gal 4:22-24,26-27,31-5:1; Ps 112; Lk 11:29-32
 17/Tues St Ignatius of Antioch, bp m - mem Gal 5: 1-6; Ps 118; Lk 11:37-41
 18/Wed St Luke, Ev - Fst 2 Tim 4:10-17b; Ps 144; Lk 10:1-9
 19/Thu Sts John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, pts & Comps, mm Or St Paul of the Cross, pt Eph I: I-I 0; Ps 97; Lk 11:47-54
 20/Frid Eph 1:11-14; Ps 32; Lk 12:1-7
 21/Sat Eph.1:15-23;Ps.8, Lk 12:8-12.
 22/Sun Is: 56:1,6-7;Tim 2:1-8;Mk 16:15-20.

St. Michael's Zone

Parish Fathers' visits to clusters.

16th October, 2006 @ 8 PM - 2 Clusters
 23rd October, 2006 @ 8 PM - 3 Clusters
 30th October, 2006 @ 8 PM - 3 Clusters

MISSION SUNDAY

Every baptised Christian is a missionary. Hence every lay missionary is reminded of our commitment to Mission of the Church. With Mission Sunday near at hand, we the Sodalists of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Thane are organising the following activities during the month of October.

1. **Sweets and snacks stall on 14th October 2006 and 15th October 2006.**
2. **Jumble Sale from 18th October to 21st October.**

A door-to-door voluntary collection will also be made by the Sodalists towards this cause. The proceeds of the amount collected will be sent the mission and various charitable organisations

President

Sodality of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception

ATTENTION YOUTH!

The ICYM – BOMBAY is organizing two camps for college youth during Diwali Vacation. Those who are interested kindly contact the Parish Youth Animator, Fr.Victor Or the Diocesan Youth Centre, Bandra. Details are on the Parish notice board.

SERVICE SEEKERS :OCT 25-27 2006- A Mission Experience at Roha, Raigad for Senior College Boys and Girls. The Camp fees are fixed at Rs.300/-per head, with board and lodge and inclusive of travel. Registration forms are available with parish youth animator. The deadline to submit the Registration form to the DYC, Bandra is 16 Oct 2006.

**FUN & FANTASY: 30th OCT. 1st NOV.2006-
At Kune, Khandala**

This is a camp for XI & XII Std Boys and Girls who are members of Parish Youth Movement and Neighbourhood Groups. The camp fees are fixed at Rs.500/- per head, with board and lodge, inclusive of travel. Registration forms are available with parish youth animator. The deadline to submit the Registration Form to the DYC, Bandra is 20 Oct 2006

Smile! Giggle! Laugh!!!

It's never too late
 A YOUNG woman called a card shop, "Do you remember those wedding cards I ordered last week? Well, I was wondering if it is too late to make a few changes in them."
 "Give me the new information, lady, and I shall check," said the shopkeeper.
 "OK. It's a different date, a different church and a different man."

Every evening I turn my worries over to God. He's going to be up all night any-way.
 -Mary C. Crowley

....
 What we are is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift to God.
 -Eleanor Powell

A man with God is always in the majority

Catholic Journalists & Municipal officers!

The Bishops are very keen that Catholic professionals from various fields, exercising their careers in offices and institutions all over this vast metropolis, are given an occasion to assemble, in order to share their experiences as Catholic workers. This Office for Lay Collaboration in Ministry is therefore organizing the following gatherings :

- Sunday, 19th November'06 .. Gathering of Journalists**
- Sunday, 10th December'06 .. Gathering of Municipal Officers**

N>B. Parishioners who are in the above professions are requested to give your name, address and telephone number and the details of your profession in writing to the parish office within a week.

Hindi Mass

In the synod 2001, one of the points raised on the floor of the synod for discussion was 'language Masses.' It was then felt that arrangements should be made not only for the regional language Masses such as in Marathi or Konkani catering to the need of parishioners who mainly speak those languages, but also for a Mass in Hindi our national language. Most people are familiar with it. Besides most of our prayers and worship services are held in English with the result it creates an impression that Christianity is a western religion. With a view of the above, the possibility of a Hindi language Mass was discussed in the parish council. All members univocally have approved of the idea. It was then proposed that the Sunday 7.00 a.m. Mass on every second Sunday of the month be celebrated in Hindi. Most members of the parish council are in favour, while one member is not in favour as it might inconvenience the English speaking people who attend the 7.00 a.m. Mass regularly and have to hear language Masses most of the Sundays. Your suggestions in writing without prejudice are welcome within a week. If the Hindi Mass at 7.00 a.m. on second Sunday of the month is acceptable to all, you may have the opportunity to worship the Lord in our national language from November 2006.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY: THE CHURCH IN MINIATURE

YEAR OF THE FAMILY 2006 :

[Prayer for the Family]

Heavenly Father! You have given us a model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth. Help us, O loving Father, to make our family another Nazareth-where love, peace and joy reign. May Our family be deeply contemplative, intensely Eucharistic and vibrant with joy.

Help us to stay together in, joy and sorrow through family prayer.
 Teach us to see Jesus in the members of our family, especially in their distressing disguise.
 May the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus make our hearts meek and humble like His and help us to carry out our family duties in a holy way.
 May we love one another as God loves each one of us, more and more each day, and forgive each other's faults, as you forgive our sins.
 Help us, O Loving Father, to take whatever you give and to give whatever you take with a smile.

.Immaculate Heart of Mary, cause of our joy.. .Pray for us.

.St. Joseph... Pray for us.

.Holy Guardian Angels...

Be always with us, guide and protect us, Amen.

.Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to...

(Prayer composed by BI. Mother Theres



13 Hours' Adoration

One of the traditional devotions we have all over is the 13 hours adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. One day in a year is set aside in the parish life for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on a pedestal on altar for parishioners turns during and spend an hour in prayer before Eucharist.



The Eucharist: source and summit of Church life, mission

Unfortunately down the years the practice of taking turns and attending an hour of prayer, specially during the noon time is receiving poor response with the result there are hardly any people in the church at these hours.

It has been therefore suggested that instead of having the whole day adoration of the Eucharistic Lord as above, the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament could be held late in the afternoon, say from 5.00 p.m. for two to three hours winding up with a procession, sermon and last benediction followed by Mass in the church, on Christ the King Feast day. The procession is proposed to be conducted from the front of the church into the Ahalyadevi Road in direction of Jambli Naka, winding into the road passing in front of Archie's onto the old Agra Road, taking a turn at the Dagdi Shala, onto the Ahilyadevi Road to enter into the church compound from the front gate.

The subject was discussed at the parish council and has been found favourable. Suggestions from parishioners in writing without prejudice are welcome in a week's time, if the above proposed change in the 13 hours' adoration is acceptable, it will be introduced this year on 26th November, 2006 on the feast of Christ the King.

Our Lady of Hope Church, Ghormal.

September 19, 2006

Dear Fr. Rumao,

It is about the Ghormal Church. Since the more presence we have at the Church the better, before Cardinal Ivan Dias had left I discussed with him the possibility of handing the Church to the Dominican Fathers [Order of Preachers] so that it could be used for Church services frequently. The Cardinal liked the idea and said it would be leased out to them by an Agreement. I cannot see any possibility of us having a diocesan priest ministering to Ghormal on a full time basis. What would be your opinion if we leased it to the Dominicans? Could you discuss the proposal with your parish team and if need be, with your parish council and get back to me?
~ Agnelo Gracias Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay.

This issue was brought up in the parish council for their opinion. One member felt that the Ghormal Church should be in the hands of our diocesan priests, as the Catholics are now moving down to Ghodbandar Road. Most of the members voiced their opinions in favour of leasing it to the Dominicans for more pastoral ministry to the people and for our actual presence there. The Dominicans may be able to render some more spiritual services in the form of retreats, sessions etc. on the hillock.

Suggestions/opinions in writing without prejudice may be directed to the parish office within a week.

Pope Invites Families to Pray the Rosary

Benedict XVI invited all families to pray the rosary for the intentions of the Pope, the mission of the Church and peace. The Holy Father said this today to the crowds gathered in the papal summer residence of Castel Gandolfo to pray the Angelus, on the first day of October, the month the Church traditionally dedicates to the rosary and the missions.



"It is as if every year Our Lady invited us to rediscover the beauty of this prayer, so simple and profound," said the Pope, referring to the feast of the Virgin of the Rosary, observed on Oct. 7.



The rosary, a "contemplative and Christocentric prayer, inseparable from the meditation of the sacred Scripture," is "the prayer of the Christian who advances in the pilgrimage of faith, in the following of Jesus, preceded by Mary," continued the Pontiff.

Benedict XVI invited the faithful "to pray the rosary as a family during this month," and in larger spiritual families, "in communities and parishes," "for the intentions of the Pope, for the mission of the Church, and for peace in the world."