

LOCUSTS & HONEY

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THANE.

For Private Circulation Parish Weekly Vol. 2, No. 48 26 November, 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 at

6.00 p.m. except on 1st Friday

Night Adoration:

at 12.00 **midnight** 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

Christ the King: Born to Testify to the Truth

The highest point of the Gospel’s irony is seen in today’s reading, Jesus before Pilate. Pilate was the representative of Rome. His palace, his garb, his demeanor radiated the power of the Roman Empire. Jesus was a commoner, an itinerant preacher, a carpenter. There was nothing about him that would throw a powerful man in fear. Jesus held no titles. He was not supported by an army. He didn’t even wear armor or carry a sword. So here was this weak Jesus, standing before the powerful Pilate. Was Pilate mocking Jesus or intrigued when he asked him, “Are you a king?” We don’t know. But we do know that Jesus’ answer threw Pilate for a loop: “You yourself say that I am a king. For this I have come, to testify to the truth.”

To testify to the truth. That is what true royalty is about. This Feast of Christ the King is about testifying to the truth. It is about integrity.

There is a great scene in the play A Man for All Seasons that fits so well here. You might remember that the play was about the determination of St. Thomas More to stand for the faith against the persuasion and eventually persecution of Henry VIII of England. In the scene I’m referring to Henry VIII is trying to coax his second in charge, Thomas More, to agree with him that it is proper for him, the King, to divorce his wife Catherine since she was his sister-in-law and since she did not give birth to a male heir to the Kingdom. After the King made all his arguments, Thomas More said that he himself was unfit to meddle in this argument and the King should take it to Rome. Henry VIII retorted that he didn’t need a pope to tell him what he could or couldn’t do. Then we come to the center point. Thomas More asks the King, “Why do you need my support?” Henry VIII replies with words we would all love to hear said about each of us, “Because, Thomas, you are honest. And what is more to the point, you are known to be honest. There are plenty in the Kingdom who support me, but some do so only out of fear and others only out of what they can get for their support. But you are different. And people know it. That is why I need your support.”

In the presence of integrity, Henry VIII knew who was King and who was subject.

This gospel, this feast of Christ the King reminds us that each of us was born for this same reason: to testify to the truth. And what is the Truth, and the Way and the Life.





Announcements, 26 November, 06.



- Today, 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.
- Monday, 27th Naupada II zonal Mass at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion. All are cordially invited.
- Thursday, 30th Novembe Cherai North Zonal Mass at 7.30 p.m. at Maveli Mandal Hall, Dhobi Ali.
- Friday, 1st December is First Friday of the month. Half Hour Adoration after 7.00 p.m. Mass
- Sunday, 3rd December is first Sunday of the Advent Season. It is also the feast of St. Francis Xavier, the patron of the Archdiocese. The morning 9.15 Mass will be in Konkani. The Utalsar Zone will be celebrating their annual zonal Mass on the occasion of the feast of the patron saint, St. Francis Xavier at 6.30 p.m. Mass in the church.
- The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs.,.19,842.00
- The collection from the box in front of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour frame amounted to Rs1,890.00.

27/11 to 03/11 This week's readings:

27/Mon	Rev 14:1-3,4b-5; Ps 23; Lk 21:1-4
28/Tue	Rev 14:14-19; Ps 95; Lk 21:5-11
29/Wed	Rev 15:1-4; Ps 97; Lk 21:12-19
30/Thu	St Andrew, Ap - Fst Rm 10:9-18; Ps 18; Mt 4: 18-22
01/Fri	Rev 20: 1-4, 11-21:2; Ps 83; Lk 21: 29-33
02/Sat	Rev 22: 1-7; Ps 94; Lk 21: 34-36
03/Sun	Jer.33:14-16;Thess.3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28,34-36

HINDI MASS

The subject was once again discussed in the parish council and it has been agreed upon that on the fifth Sunday of the month, the Sunday morning 7.00 o'clock Mass will be in HINDI.

Today is the feast of Christ the King.

It will be the day of XIII hours' adoration.

The zone-wise adoration visits will be as follows:

10.30 to 11.30 a. m.	Kopri / Parish Pastoral Council
.	Lewis Wadi / Society of St.Vincent the Paul
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 Fr. Patrick D'Mello 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 church Road near the Lourdes' Grotto entering via front of the church 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.

AN INVITATION TO ALL COUPLES

This year, 2006, **Engaged Encounter** is celebrating its Silver Jubilee. To mark this occasion **Engaged Encounter** is planning to have a special Thanksgiving Eucharist followed by an Evening of fellowship, games and dinner on *Sunday, 10th December 2006, at St. Joseph's High School Hall, Hill Road, Bandra.*

Invitation cards at Rs.50/- per couple, are available at the Retreat House, Bandra or with anyone of the following couples:

John & Merlin - 2665 1681/982078 81 80 James & Bernice - 2851 3451

Sylvan & Leela - 2521 3446/9869 0 1 21 84

Floyd & Maljorie - 9322 15625

To enable proper catering, please collect your invitation cards at the earliest. It will be a memorable evening for couples. Come and you will not be disappointed!

+ Bishop Agbelo.

Smile, Giggle, Laugh!

The forgetful pastor looked anxiously round the vestry, after Sunday service, and asked the associate pastor, "Did you see where I put my gown?"

"You have it on, reverend."

"Thank you very much for telling me. Otherwise I might have gone off without it."

*

Distraint Parson (leaving the church): Who's the absent-minded one now? You left your umbrella back there and I not only remembered mine, but brought yours too."

Wife (gazing blankly at him): But neither of us brought one to church

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

One of the items that take at least five minutes at Sunday Masses is 'weekly announcements.' Though these announcements are published in the Locusts & Honey –weekly bulletin, the request is still made for announcing the forthcoming events not once but twice from the altar at Sunday Masses. It has been noticed that a few people walk out the moment the announcements are read out. A suggestion was put forth to the parish council for its suggestions, if the announcements could be read before the Mass begins, as it is done in most of the parishes in the States. The parish council has welcomed the suggestion. Hence from the Advent Sunday, the announcements will be read first, then the introduction to the Mass followed by the introductory hymn and procession to the altar. Please, be in time for the precious announcements!



General Intention: That Christ, meek and humble of heart, may inspire those responsible for nations to use power wisely and responsibly.

Missionary Intention: They in every part of the world missionaries may live out their vocation with joy and enthusiasm, faithfully following in Christ's footsteps

CHRISTMAS BUMPER ISSUE

Articles, Essays, stories, poems – original creation welcome. Best opportunity to pay tribute to the loved ones with their photographs in a quarter page just for Rs.200/-. Hurrv, the last date is 10-12-06.

34th Sunday of the year

CHRIST , UNIVERSAL KING + 26 November, 2006.



ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE
November 16, 2006

To:

The Rev Parish Priests / Priests-in-charge in the
.Archdiocese of Bombay

My dear Father(s),

The accident that took place in the early hours of Sunday morning at Carter Road, Bandra touched the Catholic community deeply as the six occupants in the car involved in the accident were Catholics. It was a tragic event resulting in the death of seven people and injury to eight. As a community, we express our sympathies and our support to the families of the victims.

At the same time we, as a community, would like to reach out to the six occupants of the car and their families. It is surely a traumatic time for them While we expect the police to investigate the accident and the law of the land to take its course, as followers of Christ our attitude is not one of condemnation but of helping in whatever way possible. We recall the words of Jesus when the Pharisees brought to him the woman caught in adultery: "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her" (John 8:7).

In this connection, we would mention that the report which appeared in the November 14 issue of the Mumbai Mirror distorted what our spokesman, Fr. Tony Charanghat, said on this issue. A clarification will appear in the coming issue of The Examiner.

I am writing to request that prayers be offered in all our Churches at the weekend Masses to pray for the victims of the accident and their families, as also for the youth involved and their families that the God of all consolation may help all of them at this time of stress and trauma (2 Cor. 1 :3-5).

This incident could have involved any community. But since it involves us Catholics, it could be an occasion for our families and parishes to reflect what we could do to safeguard our youth so that such incidents never recur.

With every good wish, I remain
+Bishop Bosco.

NEW MEMBERS

Name	<i>BaptismDate</i>	<i>Birth Date</i>
Cinthya Edwin	08.10.2006	07.08.2006
Katrina Vaz	15.10.2006	31.08.2006
Ashley M.D'silva	22.10.2006	29.09.2006
Areeyan Gonsalves	22.10.2006	16.09.2006
Nikita Noronha	29.10.2006	15.09.2006

JOYFUL NOISE PARTY

On Sunday, 12th Nov.06 the Youth of the Prayer Group of our parish organized a program called the Joyful Noise Party. Music being the path to the hearts of the youth, attracted 204 youth including youth from Kalva, Majiwada, Pokran and St. Lawrence parishes.

It was conducted by the Joyful Noise Team, which works under the aegis of the Archdiocesan Family Commission. A presentation of the Rock and Ruin, which showed the various types of music, their lyrics and impact on today's generation was shown. They were then introduced to "Gospel Music", a music that shows the way to life enriched with the love of God and His Holy Presence. This was followed by a jam session where the youth enjoyed dancing to Gospel music. Different types of songs where the youth jived, hip hopped etc. a variety of gospel music was played. After a few games and snacks a Loving Message was shared asking the youth to choose Jesus as their Lord n Master instead of the world.

We thank God, our Parish fathers and all the prayer group youth who helped make this day a wonderful experience.

ELMA LOBO
Youth Leader.



Excellence in Sports!



Master Shreyas Khadi of St. John the Baptist High School of Std.VIII .E was honoured for his excellence in Junior Athletic State Level Championship held at Pune from 13th Nov to 15 Nov. and has been awarded a Golden Trophy, 2 certificates and cash prize of Rs300/- having secured 1511 points on an average for Long Jump, 100m.Run and Shot-put all in the 1st Place.

He is selected to participate at the national Level Athletic Championship scheduled to be held at Bangalore from 25th to 29 th Nov.2006

Principal
St. John the Baptist



34th Sunday of the year *FEAST OF JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING + 26 November, 2006.

Dalmet who accompanied the pilgrims. A special thanks to Mrs. Lucy Alvares of XYZ Travels for providing buses.

UNITED IN CHRIST		
Date	Bride	Bridegroom
22.10.2006	Jennifer Saldhana	K.Wilsom Chettiar
28.10.2006	Susan D'Lima	Savio Marquis

OF LATE MEMORIES	
Date	Name
05.10.2006	Carmelin Fernandes
08.10.2006	Lionel J.F. DeCunha
15.10.2006	Eva D'Cunha
19.10.2006	Victor Rodrigues
29.10.2006	Tony Fernandes

**PILGRIMAGE to
Our lady of Vailankanni Shrine,
Bhate- Uttan on 19th November, 2006**

At the announcement of a pilgrimage our parishioners came flocking on Sunday morning to the church for their pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Vailankanni at Bhate – Uttan . More than 550 set out for the Shrine at Uttan in 9 buses leaving St John's Church at 8.00 a.m. and returning at 1.00 p .m. On the way the pilgrims in the buses recited the rosary dedicating each decade to a particular petition followed by singing hymns to Our Lady. On reaching the church the pilgrims again recited the Rosary as one whole congregation followed by the Eucharist, which was concelebrated by Fr. John Lobo and Fr. Victor Dalmet.



Fr. John Lobo during his homily stressed the value and importance of prayer to Mary, the Mother of God through whom many favours and miracles are begotten. On the return journey the pilgrims interacted with each other sharing their spiritual experiences. It was a truly memorial

experience with many expressing the desire for another.

The pilgrims are thankful to our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. John Rumao who mooted this idea of parish pilgrimage and organized the event. Thanks also to Fr. Gerry Fernandes who got the pilgrims organized in the buses and to Fr. Victor

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE
TO BHATYA - UTTAN**



Christ
the King

34th Sunday of the year *FEAST OF JESUS CHRIST , UNIVERSAL KING + 26 November, 2006.