

# LOCUSTS & HONEY

For Private Circulation

Vol. 2, No. 35

27 August, 2006

**Parish Team:****Fr. John Rumao.****Fr. John Lopes****Fr. Gerry Fernandes****Fr. Victor Dalmet.****Fr. Joe Rodricks**

Bro. Joseph Pimenta, deacon

**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.**

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

In Holy Cross Convent: 6.30 am.

**Mass in Marathi:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 7. a.m**Mass in Konkani:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 7. a.m.**Tamil Mass:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. &amp; 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 1<sup>st</sup> Friday**Night Adoration:**at 8 p.m. on 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.stjohnthebaptistthane.com)

## TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?

Fifty-six men signed the Declaration of Independence. Their conviction resulted in untold sufferings for themselves and their families. Of the 56 men, five were captured by the British and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the Revolutionary Army. Another had two sons captured. Nine of the fifty-six fought and died from wounds or hardships of the war. Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships sunk by the British navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts and died in poverty. At the battle of Yorktown, the British General Cornwallis had taken over Thomas Nelson's home for his headquarters. Nelson quietly ordered General George Washington to open fire on his own home. The home was destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt. John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their thirteen children fled for their lives. His fields and mill were destroyed. For over a year, he lived in forest and caves, returning home only to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion.

This is the story of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence. It is a story of the high price of commitment. It also the story of Jesus' disciples who paid the high price of commitment. History tells us that they all died because of their witness to Christ.

And so we all are free to go. We may leave right now, but let us ask ourselves: To whom shall we go? He has the words of life eternal.

--Brett Blair,



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**This week's Announcements, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2006.**

- On Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> August the Deanery Youth Day will be celebrated at St. John the Baptist Church, Thane from 4.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. Entry fee is Rs.30/-.
- Novena in honour of Our Lady of Velankani at Kopri will start from 29<sup>th</sup> August. Novena Mass will be at 7.15 p.m. daily.
- Novena in honour of Our Lady of the Mount will start from 30<sup>th</sup> August in our church. The evening 7.00 p.m. Mass will be the Novena Mass.. Parents are requested to encourage your children to attend the Novena Mass regularly.
- Kindly, give your names for the Laity and Liturgical ministry training programs at the earliest. Further information read the Locusts & Honey and also handouts.
- *Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. is the First Friday of the month. A Half Hour Adoration after 7.30 p.m.*
- *8<sup>th</sup> September is "Day of the Girl Child."*
- Hope and Life members are putting up a snacks stall during the 9days of the Novena of Our Lady of the Mount from 30<sup>th</sup> Aug '06 to 7<sup>th</sup> Sep, from 5.00p.m. Onwards at the Auditorium Kindly patronize
- *The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs.,24,337.00*
- *The collection from the box in front of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour frame amounted to Rs2,015.00.*

**28/8 to 03/9 This week's readings:**

28/Mon St Augustine, bp dr - mem, 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11b-12; Ps 95; Mt 23:13-22  
 29/Tue The Beheading of St John the Baptist - mem  
 Jer 1:17-19; Ps 70; Mk 6:17-29  
 30/Wed 2 Thes 3:6-10,16-18; Ps 127; Mt 23:27-32  
 31/Thu 1 Cor 1: 1-9; Ps 144; Mt 24:42-51  
 01/Fri 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 32; Mt 25:1-13  
 02/Sat 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 32; Mt 25:14-30  
 03/Sun Deut 4:1-2, 6-8; Jms 1:17-18,21-22,27; Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23.

**INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2006**

**Holy Father's General Intention:** That those who use the means of social communication may always do so conscientiously and responsibly.

**Missionary Intention:** That in the mission territories the entire People of God may recognize that permanent formation is their own priority.

**NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LADY.**

Date	Theme	Offering
30th Aug.	Mary of the Gospels - Rooted in Faith	Soap
31st Aug.	Mary, The New Eve – Nurturer & Sustainer of Life	Rice
1st Sept.	Ever Virgin Mary - Open to the Spirit	Note Book
2nd Sept.	The Blessedness of Mary- Anointed by God	Coconut Oil
3rd Sept.	Mary's Assumption – The sweetness of redemption	Sugar
4th Sept.	Mary Mother of God – The warmth & comfort of love	Dal
5th Sept.	Mary Spiritual Mother – Refreshment for Body and Soul	Tea
6th Sept.	Mary our intercessor – An instrument of change Pen & pencil	
7th Sept.	Mary and the Family – Layer upon layer of Love/ Rings of love	Wheat
8th Sept.	Mary Girl child - You are a blessing	Cash

**NEW MEMBERS**

NAME	Dt. Of Baptism	Dt. Of Birth
Joshua Rathore	02.07.2006	17.06.2006
Tanay Pereira	02.07.2006	14.05.2006
John Lanjekar	09.07.2006	21.06.2002
Rebecca Rodrigues	09.07.2006	15.06.2006
Christiano Fernandes	12.07.2006	24.05.2006
Larissa Lewis	16.07.2006	18.06.2006
Marika D'souza	23.07.2006	21.06.2006
Synthia Buthello	23.07.2006	16.06.2006
Shania Uppal	30.07.2006	29.06.2006

**OF LATE MEMORIES**

Date	Name
26.06.2006	Dominic A Pacheco
03.07.2006	KolattuKudy P Chacko
07.07.2006	Bernadette Pereira
12.07.2006	Angelica Sacrafamilia
18.07.2006	Lucy Barretto
23.07.2006	Monica Pinto

**HOPE AND LIFE**

- Hope and Life members are putting up a snacks stall during the 9days of the Novena of Our Lady of the Mount from 30<sup>th</sup> Aug '06 to 7<sup>th</sup> Sep, from 5.00p.m. Onwards at the Auditorium Kindly patronize

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the year – 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2006.

**THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE  
CITY OF THANE**

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**Rf./TMC/SVV/Heritage/1726 Date: 14/08/2006.**

**NOTICE**

To,  
St. John's Church, Vir Savarkar Road,  
Cherai – Thane

Subj: Heritage – sites valuable from the point of historic and architectural significance.

Ref.: The Maharashtra Government's Regulations & list No. TPAS-2400/367/P.N. 24/NV-9 dated 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2000.

Sir,

As per the guide lines from the Government of Maharashtra, a proposed list of heritage structures within the limits of TMC has been prepared. In that list, your church structure situate at Thane, TK No. 13/2 on CTS No. 201 has been included.

In this regard incase you wish to make any suggestions or take objections to the inclusion of your church in the heritage list, you are asked to write to or meet the TMC Municipal Commissioner, TMC, Dr. Almeida Road, Panchpakhadi, Thane within 60 days from the receipt of this notice.

Yours,  
Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Town Development Dept.

All heritage structures stated in the government list are graded under three categories, as Grade I, II A & B and Grade III.

- Grade I comprises buildings of **national or historic** importance and of prime importance in the region. No changes to any part of the structures are easily allowed, unless it is absolutely necessary to prolong the life of the structures.
- Grade II comprises buildings of **local** importance etc. Internal and external changes and adaptive reuse may be allowed under strict scrutiny. Extension or additional buildings in the same compound may not be easily allowed.
- Grade III comprises buildings of importance for townscape, evoking architectural, aesthetic or sociological interest. External, internal changes and adaptive reuse would be allowed. Changes can include extensions and additional buildings in the same compound.

St. John the Baptist Church is placed in Grade II/A category and the special features mentioned are “the Church Bell, one of the largest in India, Altar has a timber barrel vaulted roof. Pitched roof over nave. One of the doors is ornate.

Pulpit is ornamental. Dates inscribed on lintel on one of the doors in altar and in the naïve and one on the rood truss. Sole Roman Catholic Church in Thane.”

Given below are some of the regulations and restrictions that apply to the heritage structures.

1. No development, additions, alterations, repairs, renovations including painting of buildings etc. shall be allowed except with the prior permission of the Municipal Commissioner, who in turn has to consult the Heritage Conservation Committee.
2. Heritage buildings or precincts may not be used for any commercial or office purpose without the permission of the Heritage Conservation Committee.
3. Heritage Buildings shall maintain the skyline in the precincts.
4. Regulations existing under covenants, terms and conditions etc shall continue to be imposed.

It appears that The Heritage Conservation Committee will have a lot of power and indirect control over St. John the Baptist Church and the church grounds on which it stands. Any small or major repairs to be done, painting to be done, school extension, parish house, church corridors or any community need-based structure to be done, it will require the prior permission of HCC. . Eventually, the heritage structure of the church may be asked to be kept open for the tourists and the open space round the church may turn into a public park for people to loiter around under the pretext of being tourists. We need to give a very serious and careful thought to the inclusion of the St. John the Baptist church in the proposed heritage list and present our suggestions and objections within the stipulated time. This matter will be discussed in the parish council. Following questions may be given a thought. 1. Our church is a parish worshipping church, not a dead monument; does it have to be in the heritage list? 2. Is inclusion of our church in the heritage list in anyway beneficial to the parish? 3. If the church has to be in the heritage list, should it be placed in the category of Grade III? I invite parishioners' opinions, suggestions or objections both in favour or against, preferably in writing without any prejudice, by 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2006. I also propose to invite Mr. David Cardoz, Architect and ex-Heritage Committee Member(Greater Mumbai) for an open meeting with the parishioners at his convenience.

--- Parish Priest.

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the year – 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2006.

### PRE-BAPTISM CATECHESIS SESSIONS

*On 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2006.*

Pre-Baptism catechesis sessions will be held on 03<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 from 5p.m. onwards in the Parish Meeting Room. All parents –to –be of their first child should compulsorily attend these sessions. The session on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 will have to be attended by the parents along with the child's God-parents chosen for the child. Registration will be accepted in the parish office latest by 01st Septmber, 2006. A Certified copy of the Marriage Certificate should be attached to the registration form.

Fr. John Rumao, (Sp. Director)

### HOLISTIC LAY FORMATION PROGRAMME

*Laity Training Course*

**By Archdiocese of Bombay**

From

**9<sup>th</sup> September to 18<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

**Venue:**

**St. John the Baptist's Church, Thane**

*The proposed timing will be from 5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. on ten Saturdays beginning from 9<sup>th</sup> September.*

*- Eminent speakers will conduct the course.*

*- Register your name in the Parish Office by 15<sup>th</sup> August..*

*- Certificates will be issued on completion of the course*

### NOVENA IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF VELANKANI, KOPRI NOVENA MASS DAILY AT 7.15 P.M.

DATE	DAY	CELEBRANT
29 August	Tuesday	Fr. John Rumao
30 August	Wednes	Fr. Victor Dalmet
31 August	Thursday	Fr. Baptist Lopes
01 Sept.	Friday	Fr. Peter D'Cunha
02 Sept	Saturday	Fr. Victor Dalmet
03 Sept	Sunday	Fr. John Lopes
04 Sept	Monday	Fr. John Lopes
05 Sept	Tuesday	Fr. Thomas D'Souza
06 Sept	Wednes	Fr. Thomas D'Soua
07 Sept	Thursday	Fr. Baptist Lopes
08 Sept.	Friday - FEAST	Fr. John Lopes

N.B. Bus will leave the school premises daily at 6.15 p.m. for the nevena at Kopri Chapel.

#### OLD TILES ON SALE

*Mangalorian roof tiles at Rs.1/- each*

**AND**

*Stone floor tiles at Rs.5/- each.*

*Please, contact the parish office during office time this week.*

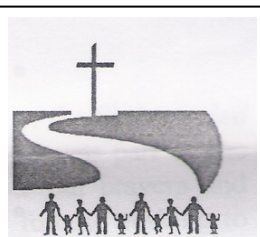
## THE EUCHARIST AND FAMILY

### “Family Pilgrimage”

The year of the ‘Eucharist and Family’ is coming to an end. As the months of September/October are approaching, Bishop Agnelo Gracias advises to mobilize families for a “Family Pilgrimage” to Mount Mary, Bandra or other Marian Shrines. It would be nice if this year every family prepares and undertakes together this Marian Pilgrimage. There is a lot of spirituality attached to Christian Pilgrimages.

A Pilgrimage is a universal religious experience and a typical expression of popular piety. The Church has encouraged pilgrimages throughout her history. A Pilgrimage has various dimensions:

- . The original and essential quality: A pilgrimage, or "journey to a shrine" is both a moment in and parable of our journey towards the Kingdom. It is a journey of conversion: In journeying towards a shrine the pilgrim moves from a realization of his own sinfulness and attachments to interior freedom and an understanding of the deeper meaning of life. The pilgrim returns from a genuine pilgrimage with the intention of "amending his life", and ordering it more closely to God.
- . The penitential aspect of pilgrimage is complemented by a festive aspect which also lies at the heart of pilgrimage. The joy of a Christian pilgrimage is a continuation of the joy experienced in Israel's pious pilgrimage to Jerusalem: "I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'let us go up to God's house'" (Ps 122, 1).
- . Pilgrimage is essentially an act of worship: a pilgrim goes to a shrine to encounter God, to be in His presence and to open his heart to Him. During his visit to the shrine, the pilgrim uses different kind of prayers: prayers of praise and adoration; prayers of thanksgiving; prayers in discharge of a vow; prayers imploring the graces necessary in life; prayers asking for forgiveness of sin. Frequently, the pilgrim's prayers are directed to Our Lady, or Saints who are regarded as powerful intercessors with God.
- . The pilgrim who journeys to a shrine is in a communion of faith and love not only with those who accompany him on the "sacred journey" (cf. Ps 84, 6), but with the Lord himself who accompanies him as he once accompanied the disciples on the road to Emmaus (cf. Lk 24, 13-35).



- --adapted from 'Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy

## CHURCH CHOIRS

### English Choir

Mrs Belinda Lopes, Lily Dias, Rebecca D'silva, Bronwen Desouza, Sapna D'souza, Cassandra D'souza, Dalareen Alvares, Arlene D'souza, Francisca D'souza, Pramila Nunes, Natasha Mary Ann Hendricks, Karen Naadan, Clarissa Alvares, Neha D'cunha, Lavina Pinto, Victor Modeaux, Randal Nunes, Sunil Domingo, Dylan Hendricks, Clifton Almeida, Chris Caubo, Savio Gonsalves, Yoric Hendicks, Agnelo Serpes, Dilip D'souza, Amar Komban, Ian Augustine, Jordana Lobo, Petrina Alphonso, Candy Drego, Princila Jadhav

### Children's Choir:

Mikhail Mascarenhas, Rini Saldhana, Shiny Cardoza, Nikita Noronha, Anesha Lopes, Enlarie Saldhana, Joshua Mendonsa, Julie Rodrigues, Oliver Rodrigues, Ruth Lobo, Shalet D'mello, Linnet D'mello, Clothilda D'souza, Xavier D'souza, Mystica Vaz, Darrin Santa Maria, Joyce Thompson, Cresencia Almeida, Aunty Enid, Martina Martis, Ashieen Vierra

### Konkani Choir:

Mr. Stany Martis, Jesse, Mr Valerian, Mrs Lucy, Mrs Rosy, Mr. Thomas

### Marathi Choir:

Ivan Ferro, Ignatius Bhalerao, Dominic Jadhav, Joseph Rosario, Joseph Fernandes, Anthony Lopes, Reena Rosario, Julie Cardoz, Maria Fernandes, Lizie Saldhana, Barbara Vaz, Alex Miranda, Marcus Alvares

The Locusts & Honey is proud of various choirs who enrich our Sunday Liturgical celebration with their talents for singing and playing keyboards. It also appreciates the singing of those who come forward to sing at the daily Masses. We invite all talented people to come forward, join various choirs and give praise to God. It is said, "He who signs prays twice."