

LOCUSTS & HONEY

For Private Circulation

Vol. 2, No. 03

15 January, 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**Mass Schedule:**

Sunday: 6,7,8,9.15 a.m.

5.30, 6.30 p.m.

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.**Mass in Tamil:**2nd Sunday at 10.30 a.m.**Confessions:** Saturday: 6 to 7pm.**Baptisms:** Sunday: 10.15 am**Marriages:** Weekday at 5.15 pm.

Sunday: 5.30 & 6.30 pm

Funerals: Any day: 10 to 11.45 am

4 to 5.00 p.m.

Sacrament of the sick:

Any time 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.

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***A Letter To Families****To Our Beloved Families:*

Aware of the vital importance of the family for the life of the Church and of Society, the Archbishop of Bombay has decided that the coming year, beginning with the Feast of the Holy Family, December 30, 2005, will be dedicated to the "Eucharist and the Family". In this way, the tremendous devotion that Catholics have for the Eucharist, manifested so powerfully in the past two years dedicated to the Eucharist, will flow into family. On this occasion, I as the Chairman of the Archdiocesan Family Commission thought of writing a letter to you.

I begin by expressing my joy at the many positive features of family life in our Archdiocese. Marriage is regarded as sacred. In spite of so many pressures, family ties remain strong. You as parents take care that your children are baptized and brought up in the faith. We are grateful to the Family Movements and Associations, which are helping families to live out their spirituality.

There are, of course, threats and challenges which you as families face today. While the media has brought in benefits, it has also had a negative impact on family life. Advertising has created a craving to possess more, what is often called 'Consumerism' Within the family itself there are causes of stress among couples. We could mention the rushed pace of your life, and in some cases, the long absence of one spouse due to work. There is a growing 'contraceptive mentality', an attitude of being closed to life.

It is in this context, the Year of the Eucharist and the Family could serve as a providential opportunity to strengthen family life. I would recommend that we use the 'Family rituals' that have served in the past as a bonding factor: family prayer, a family meal, blessing of children at night, or as they go to school, etc. Suggestion will be made to parishes in the course of this year, e.g., having a 'Family Day', possibly, deanery-wise families pilgrimage to a shrine, a special Eucharist for parents and students just before they appear for their final exams. Stressful moment in family life could thus be an occasion for closer bonding. Above all, I recommend that during this year, all would avail of at least one of the many Marriage Enriching Programmes that will be organised at various centres in our Archdiocese by Snehalya, our Family Service Centre.

Beloved families, you are, indeed the hope of the Church and of Society. We recall the words of the late Holy Father, John Paul II: 'The future of humanity passes by way of the family'. The Church and Society count on you!

Christmas is very much the feast of the Family when all the members gather to celebrate the birth of the Child Jesus. During this beautiful season, I wish all of you A Joyful Christmas asking the Infant Lord to bless each of you with His gifts of Peace, Love and Joy. May Mary, the mother of Jesus and our Mother help us make of our homes sanctuaries of peace, love and joy like the Home of Nazareth.

+Agnelo Gracias

Chairman, Archdiocesan Family Commission

This week's Announcements, 15 January 2006.

- *The meeting of the CWF committee will be held on Sunday 15th January at 10.30 a.m.*
- *The celebration of the 1st Holy Communion will be on Sunday 29th January at a special Mass at 10.30 a.m.*
- ***There will be a training session for all the zonal coordinators, animators, leaders and parish council members on Sunday 22nd January from 10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Attendance mandatory.***
- ***For Marriage Enrichment Programmes 2006, please, see the church notice boards***
- *Vocation Sunday will be celebrated on 22nd January, 2006.*
- *Christian Unity Week will be celebrated from 18th to 25th January, 2006.*
- *The Vocation Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday 22nd January.*
- *The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs.,24,905.00*
- *The collection from the box in front of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour frame amounted to Rs2,385.00.*
- *Christmas Crib collection Rs. 19,669.00*
- *Collection for Hunger & Disease Rs. 7,295/-.*

16/01 to 22/01 This week's readings:

Mon.	1 Sam 15: 16-23; Ps 49:8-9,16-17,21 and 23; Mk 2: 18-22
Tues.	StAnthony, ab 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 88:20-22,27-28;
Wed.	Mk 2:23-28
Thurs.	Sam 17:32-33,40-51; Ps 143: 1- 2,9-10; Mk 3: 1-6
Friday	I Sam 18:6-9;19:1-7; Ps55:2-3,9-14; Mk3:7-12
Satur.	Sts Fabian & Sebastian I Sam 24:3-21; Ps 56:2-4,6, II; Mk 3: 13-19
Sunday	St Agnes, y, mt Mem 2 Sam 1:1-4,11-12,17,19,23-27; Ps 79:2-3,5-7; Mk 3:20-21
	Jonah 3:1-5,10;1Cor.7:29-31;Mk: 1:14-20

CHILDREN'S CORNER- Bible Study

15-01-06

DEATH [F]

Some of the biblical personalities had peculiar deaths. Match the following:

1. Stephen 2. John 3. Abel 4. Jesus 5. Samson 6. Goliath
7. James 8. Lot's wife 9. Absalom 10. Ananias

a. beheaded b. stoned to death c. sling shot d. building fell on him e. hung on a cross f. fell dead g. hair caught in a tree h. pierced by a sword i. killed by his brother j. turned into a pillar of salt.

=====

WHICH WORD? [G]

One of the given words is not connected with the incident mentioned. Can you find it out?

1. Parable of the Good Shepherd.
Father. Son. Sheep. Heaven
2. Transfiguration.
James. John. Luke. Peter
3. Anointing at Bethany.
Perfume. Powder, Martha, Bethany
4. Story of Nicodemus.
God, Kingdom, Rabbi. Wedding
5. Parable of the Wedding Feast.
Cana, Galilee, Bethlehem. Jesus
6. Bible personalities.
Elizabeth, Ruth. Susanna, Sally
7. The rich young man.
Commandments, Customs, Perfect., Kingdom
8. Story of the wise men.
Gold. Silver, Frankincense, Myrrh
9. Disciples of Jesus.
Peter. Thomas. John, Isaiah
10. Easter story.
Tomb. Garden. Spices, Bethlehem
11. Gospels.
Luke, Mark, James, John
12. Christmas story.
Shepherds, Stars, Manger. Ark
13. Prophets.
Hosea, Micah, James. Isaiah
14. Story of Lazarus.
Tomb, Resurrection, Stone, Pillow
15. Letters of Paul.
Luke, Romans, Timothy, Titus

Children, answer the above quiz and the next quiz on "The Bible" together and give your answer sheets to Sr. Carol, Sr. Ancy or Fr. Victor by 30th January. All prizes will be given away at children's Mass on a Sunday School Day.

---Parish Priest.

**TRAINING SESSION FOR COMMUNITY
LEADERS AND ANIMATORS
ON Sunday 22ND JANUARY, 2006
FROM 10.30 A.M. TO 01.00 P.M.
VENUE: PAVILION.
SPEAKER: CAPTAIN LOBO
SUBJECT: CIVIC & POLITICAL ISSUES.**

All coordinators, animators, PC members, please, note attendance is compulsory.

Christmas Day, 2005.

My dear Fr. Rumao,

Thank You

For giving me the opportunity to join your Team and people in celebrating the Christmas Night Eucharist last night. It was a beautiful experience for me to be with that large congregation and address them about Jesus and his love for us. Thanks for your token of affection. That will go for the poor in whose favour I am beginning to work on a Corpus Fund very soon!

Yours in the Lord,

Sd/- Percial Fernandez

Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay,

Secretary General: Catholic Bishop's Conference of India.



THE PROMENADE ISSUE

A meeting of Joint Action & Awareness Group and other NGOs will be held on 15th January at 10.30 a.m. in the Pavilion to discuss issues such as the proposed promenade and other issues. You are urged to attend this meeting

SHORT TERM COURSES.

New Year's Good News to all those who want to improve their skills. Short term courses in will be resumed from 1st February, 2006.

Course	Duration	Fees
Beautician	2 months – alternate day	Rs. 2500
Indian Cooking	1 month [2 p.m.- 4 p.m.]	Rs..2500
Bakery	1 month [2 p.m.-4 p.m.]	Rs. 2500
Electrician	1 month [7 p.m.-9 p.m.]	Rs. 1200
Plumbing	1 month	Rs. 1200
Fashion		
Designing	2 months 7 to 9 p.m.	Rs. 2500
Icecream		
Making	2 Days [7 p.m.- 9p.m]	Rs.500

Watch out for the admission dates

SNEHALAYA FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE HAS SENT US THE DATES for MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES 2006. All those who are married are requested to participate in at least one Marriage Enrichment Programme during this 'year of the Eucharist & Family. For details log on to our website: www.snehalava.com or look UD the Darish notice board

WANTED URGENTLY
HOUSE MOTHER & COOK
QUALIFICATION - SSC
PLEASE CONTACT :- MR. REGINALD PAIS
"AASARA" TEL:25327142,25327619

RESULT OF THE BIBLE QUIZ

Which appeared in the Locusts and Honey Issues of 27th Nov., 4th Dec., 11th Dec. & 18th Dec.2005

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. 1 st Prize | - | Orianne Fernandes |
| 2. 2 nd Prize | - | Stasha Gonsalves |
| 3. 3 rd Prize | - | Jenny Mandy |

Based on all the four issues

SHORT TERM COURSES
Starting from February 1, 2006

Course	Duration	alternate day	Fees
Beautician	2 months	[2 p.m. – 4 p.m.]	Rs. 2500
Indian Cooking	1 month	[2 p.m.- 4 p.m.]	Rs..2500
Continental / Oriental Cooking	1 month	[7 p.m. – 9 p.m.]	Rs. 2500
Bakery	1 month	[2 p.m.-4 p.m.]	Rs. 2500
Electrician	1 month	[7 p.m.-9 p.m.]	Rs. 1200
Electrician	1 month	[7 p.m.-9 p.m.]	Rs. 1200
Plumbing	1 month	[7 p.m. – 9 p.m.]	Rs. 1200
Fashion Designing	2 months	7 to 9 p.m.	Rs. 2500
Ice-cream Making	2 Days	[7 p.m.- 9p.m]	Rs.500

PLUS

COMPUTER COURSES AT AFFORDABLE FEE

The following computer short-term courses will be introduced at the Short-Term Center in the Special School Building from 1st February 2006.

1] Basic / Office Application: Computer Fundamentals
Operating System , Win98 / XP ., Microsoft Word, Microsoft
Excel Microsoft, PowerPoint Internet
Duration: 3 Months alternate days.
Course Fees: Rs. 2,500/-

2] Designing / DTP: Operating System, PageMaker, Corel
Draw **Duration: 3 Months, Alternate Days.**
Course Fees; Rs. 3,500/-

3] Web Designing: Operating System, HTML,
DHTML, Dream Weaver, Photo shop, FTP
Upload/Download,
Duration: 3 months; alternate days.
Course Fees: Rs. 4,000/-

4] Basic with Tally & Internet: Computer
Fundamentals, Operating System Win XP/98,
Microsoft Word, Microsoft5 Excel, Microsoft Power
Point, Internet, Tally. Duration: Three months,
alternate days ; Course Fee Rs. 3,000/-

Course Batch-timings: from 7.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

For application forms and admissions to any of the above short term courses, please, contact Fr. Joe Rodricks from 20th January, 2006 on weekdays [except Saturday-Sunday] from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon or from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

WANTED: Local computer instructors, fluent in English. Apply to the Manager, St. John's Short-Term Courses Center, c/o St. John the Baptist Church, Jambli Naka, Thane 400 601.

Looking out for a job, please, contact

Mr. Melvin Furtado Tel No is 56211583 &
Mob No 9233179801, with ref. Mrs.
Margaret Pereira.

REPAIRS OF THE CHURCH ROOF

The church roof requires immediate attention before the next monsoon. It has been leaking in several places and a few ceiling planks have given way. The wooden rafters under the tiles may have been eaten up by white ants in some places. The work has to be done during the months of January and February while the heat is not much and the carpenters and skilled workers can comfortably do the job high up there..

The matter has been discussed with the parish team and the finance committee and they all have expressed the same opinion. The work proposed to be done is as follows:

- a. All the old roof tiles to be brought down.
- b. The wooden ceiling and the roof has to be repaired wherever needed. Rafters, planks, rippas which are eaten up by white-ants are to be replaced.
- c. All the fine dust under the tiles etc. has to be removed.
- d. Anti-termite treatment to be given
- e. Water-proofing with the use of fiber glass coating on the wooden surface.
- f. Replacing the old tiles with the new ones.
- g. Cementing tiles fixed against the walls to prevent leakage.
- h. Fixing storm water drainage - nali (panhal) – at the lower end of the roof-slopes.

It is purely a repair work to be done departmentally, i.e. the material will be provided by the owner and the labour will be charged as per the labour contract. The work will be approximately 5000 sft.

If anyone has any suggestions to make for or against or otherwise, you are welcome to do so in good polite language with your signature, address, telephone number latest by 20th January, 2006..

Labour quotations or quotations with material may be submitted to the parish office by 20th January, 2006

TILING THE OPEN GROUND/PASSAGE NEAR THE SACRISTY.

The above topic was published in Locusts & Honey of 25.09.05 and of 27.11.05. The following extract had appeared in the Locusts & Honey of 25.09.05.

After careful thought over this matter, the following is being proposed:

1. The stage that is there between the sacristy and the new school building just behind the parish house serves no purpose. On the contrary it has become a hiding place for young people to loiter there or to sit on the steps and presumably gossip. It is proposed that the stage and the back-stage wall be pulled down to make place for a small garden, thus beautifying the place.
2. The narrow passage between the new school building and the present stage has to be widened a little more to ease the congestion seen between services/Masses.
3. The existing storm-water drainage has to be repaired and done up to keep the place neat..

The old tiles will be removed and replaced with checkered tiles or pavers.

Several people have been frequently requesting the Parish Priest to get the work done as proposed in the above issues. The Bishop's permission has also been received. However, after publication of the above proposal in the Locusts & Honey 27.11.05 issue, a letter written in a very harsh, rough, impolite and ungentlemanly language with all sorts of allegations against the parish priest has been received from a certain parishioner, who states, " ...I object to the removal of the concrete stage, the backdrop and the widening..... I also object to the smoothening of the quadrangleIn case I come to know of any further construction activity or even if a single brick of the present stage is broken, I will personally do what is necessary to be done..... I ...was born and brought up in this parish and so were my parents and grand-parents. The family has donated lands to the church....I will not allow you to continue to undo the good that we have done, even if you have the support of the latest parishioners who are not aware of the sacrifices of the original parishioners."

Parishioners are hereby informed that the work is being delayed, on account of the above defamatory letter, making claims without any documentary evidence.