

LOCUSTS & HONEY

For Private Circulation

Vol. 2, No. 29

16 July, 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 & 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.

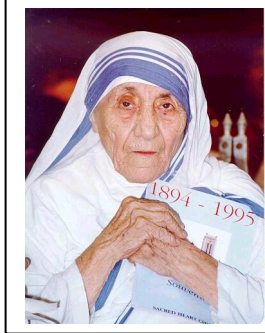
Divine Mercy Devotion: On Fridays at6.00 p.m. except on 1st Friday**Night Adoration:**at 8 p.m. on 2nd Saturday;

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

GOD EMPOWERS

Story is told about St. Francis of Assisi. One day Francis was attending Mass. And the same gospel passage from Mark 6:7-13 was read out at the service. Suddenly Francis was struck with Jesus' instruction to journey forth and preach the gospel, taking nothing for the journey – not even food or money. This instruction gave a whole new direction to Francis' life. He gave up his

hermit's life and journeyed forth, in poverty, to preach the Gospel in towns and villages. The charismatic personality of Francis soon drew other young people to follow him, thus giving rise to the first Franciscan order.

Much similar is the story of Mother Teresa. She too felt a deep irresistible call to care for the dying in the gutters of Calcutta. With merely twenty rupees in hand she dares to leave her Loretta Convent life to go and work for the sick and dying in the precincts of temples. In her own life time, the daughters of Charity became the world famous congregation dedicated to the service of the children of lesser God.

In his book Teresa of Calcutta, Robert Serrou compared Mother Teresa to St. Francis. Both came from comfortable backgrounds. Both were suddenly seized with the same devotion to God's poor.

Both Francis and Mother Teresa are not two comets appeared suddenly on the horizon of human history, stayed there for a brief moment of history and gone into the oblivion. Rather they like their Master are stars shining bright in the thick dark night of poverty enveloping the corrupt selfish inhuman world showing us the escape root to freedom, they found in the love of God.

The world needs people who help the poor, the marginalized in their present situation. The Church of Bombay like Prophet Amos has heard the voice of God, calling the Christian community not to remain as dressers of sycamore trees but to go prophesy to His people in distress.

The prophesying and preaching of Gospel for us would mean like Francis and Mother Teresa alleviate the sufferings of the poor by joining hands with the people committed to the service of the poor and sharing our time and resources with them

15th Sunday of the year – 16th July, 2006.

CHILDREN'S CORNER- Bible Study

LESSON 1

THE BIBLE

1. Which is the largest selling book in the world?
2. What is the Bible?
3. What is the meaning of the word Bible?
4. How is the Bible divided?
5. How many books are there in the Bible?
6. How many books are there in the Old Testament?
7. How many books are there in the New Testament?
8. Since there was no paper in those days. on what was the Bible written?
9. What is the meaning of Septuagint?
10. What is the meaning of Vulgate ?
11. What is the Douay version of the Bible?
12. What is the King James Bible?
13. What is meant by Canonicity of the Bible?
14. What are the languages used in the writing of the books of the Bible?
15. Who divided the books of the Bible into chapters?
16. Who numbered the verses of the Bible?
17. When was the Bible written?
18. Which is the first boole of the Bible?
19. Who is the author of Genesis?
20. Which is th(J last book of the Bible?
21. Who wrote the book of Revelation?
22. Which is the first verse of the Bible?
23. Which is the last verse of the Bible?

LESSON 2

THE NEW TESTAMENT

1. What is the New Testament?
2. How many books are there in the New Testament?
3. Which are the books of the New Testament?
4. When were the books of the New Testament written?
5. Who filed these 27 books to form the New Testament?
6. Who are the authors of the New Testament books?

---Parish Priest.

This week's Announcements, 16th July, 2006.

➤ *The collection at Masses on last Sunday, amounted to Rs.,21,873.00*

➤ *The collection from the box in front of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour frame amounted to Rs2,319.00.*

➤ *Collection from corridor boxes amounted to Rs. 1,215.00*

17/7 to 23/7 This week's readings:

17 Mo Is 1:10-17; Ps 49:8-9,16bc-17,21&23; Mt 10:34-11:1

18 Tu Is 7:1-9; Ps 47:2-3a,3b-4,5-6,7-8; Mt 11:20-24

19 We Is 10:5-7,13-16; Ps 93:5-6,7-8,9-10,14-15; Mt 11:25-27

20 Thu Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps. 101, Mt. 11:28-30.

21 Fr S. Lawrence of Brindisi, pt dr Is 38:1-6,21-22,7-8;
Ps Is 38:10,11,12abcd,16-17a; Mt 12:1-8

22 Sa S. Mary Magdalene ~ mem. Cr 3: J -4a or 2 Cor 5: 14-17;
Ps 62:2,3-4,5-6,8-9; Jn 20:1-2,11-18

23 Su Jer 23:1-6; Ps 22:1-3a,3b-4,5,6; Eph 2:13-18;
Mk 6:30-34

A Thaneite in the Service of the Lord passes away.

Rev. Sister Mary Dorothy, formerly Miss Doris Rebello Ex -Student, Ex-Teacher of St John the Baptist High School expired on 5th July, 2006 at St.John's Convent Karachi and was buried in Karachi on the following day.. She was the daughter of Late Anthony and Lucy Rebello and sister of Late Maurice, Late Franklin, Stephanie and Eric and sister-in law of Late Alda and Late May. She joined the order of Franciscan Missionaries of Christ, the King in the year 1945 in Karachi. A long inning 60 years of dedicated service in the Vineyard of the Lord. She has done proud to Thaneites. She was 85 years old



PARENTS' DAY
ON SUNDAY 30TH July, 2006.

At 7.00 p.m.

Venue – school hall.

Sunday School children will present the program.

15th Sunday of the year – 16th July, 2006.

Adult Faith Formation

Often people ask: why do Catholics attend the Novena devotions? What is the meaning of having nine days of prayers? Does the number nine have any superstitious significance?

Well, the number nine could have a superstitious significance if one wants to be superstitious, but in itself, it is not superstitious. The number nine, as far as I know, comes from the time when the early Church was awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit. After the Ascension of the Lord, the disciples went into Jerusalem, to the "Upper Room". They prayed there for nine days and after nine days, the Holy Spirit came down on them in the form of tongues of fire. Ever since then, the number nine has had a special significance with regard to prayer. It therefore has a Biblical basis.

Now, more important than that perhaps is the idea of perseverance in prayer. Jesus says in Luke's gospel chapter 18 that we are always to pray and not to lose heart. What Jesus means there is that we should persevere in our life of prayer and not grow weary of prayer. Jesus himself, in the agony in the garden, said the same prayer three times over "My Father, if it be possible. let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will. but as thou wilt. " (Mt 26:39). Just as Jesus himself repeated prayers, we too do likewise. In our religion 'as well as in the Russian Orthodox religion, the idea of repeating a prayer very slowly is part of our spirituality. We repeat the prayer again and again. We could for instance take some verse of the Psalm - "Oh God, you are my God, for you I long. " or "Teach me to do your will for you alone are my God" or ".As the deer longs for running streams so does my soul longs for you my God." It is part of meditation actually to repeat beautiful phrases like these which are found in the Psalms again and again and again very slowly, very reverently, and to let them sink into our consciousness. In that way, we absorb as it were, the Word of God. Repetition of the same prayer then is very useful and it has in addition, a long tradition behind it. It is found in the New Testament itself in the practice of Jesus, manifested in the agony in the garden of Gethsemane

CHURCH ELECTRICAL WIRING

We propose to do concealed wiring inside the church for fans, lighting and PA system before taking up the interior painting . Quotations are invited from licensed electricians by 20th July, 2006.

FAITH IN GOD

If it were given to us to know
the whole of life's unfolding plan -
If we could see what waits for us
out there beyond our little span -
there'd be no lovely mystery,
no wonder at the heart of things -
for we with open eyes would see the answer to our
questionings.

It's well God keeps His secrets,
for if everything we knew -
where would be the need of faith
to strive for ends beyond our view?
It is enough to know that He
is there, below and above;
that all the boundless universe
is in His hands...
and He is love.

Anonymous

Smile! Giggle! Laugh!!!

Two not so clever young men went for an interview. As they sat outside the office room, one of them little more clever went in for the interview. The interviewing panel asked him three questions. The first question was, "When did India get independence?" He replied, "not sure. It must be either in 1947 or 1956. I think it was in 1947." The panel then asked the second question - "Who is known as the Father of the Nation." He replied, "Many claim to be the Father of the nation. But I think it is Mahatma Gandhi." The third question asked was "Is there corruption in our country?" to which he answered, "This question I cannot answer off-hand. A research is being conducted, at the end of which I will be able to answer this question." Before he left the office, he promised the panel he would keep total secrecy about the three questions he was asked.

When he came out, his friend asked him, "How was the interview and what questions he was asked." He told his friend that he had made a promise not to talk about the questions. The friend then asked him, "At least let me know the answers you gave." He said, "That I can do, as I have made no promise about my answers." He then briefed his friend, "To the first question, you say, ...it may be 1947 or 1956 not sure, but very likely 1947. To the second question you replied, ... many claim to be Fathers, but I think it is Mahatma Gandhi. To the third question, you say, ... I cannot answer this now; there is a research being conducted. I'll be able to answer this, when the research is over."

The second young man went in for interview. The panel asked him three questions. The first, "When were born? To which he replied, "either in 1947 or may be 1956, not sure, but I think it was in 1947." The second question, "Who is your father?" To which he said, "Many claim to be father. But I think it is Mahatma Gandhi." The third question, "Are you married?" To this he replied, "I cannot answer this question now. A research is being made. I'll be able to answer when the research is completed."

15th Sunday of the year – 16th July, 2006.

A Living Miracle - Praise be to God.

We would like to share our unique experience, of the presence of God in our lives.



Our son, Rojen Olivera who is now 2 years old has been un-well since birth. He was diagnosed with a very rare kind of disease known as

Pulmonary Histiocytosis (this disease is due to the cell disorder being very much similar to cancer, affects 1 in 20 million). In our son case it had affected his Right lung and the middle and lower lobe had to be removed when he was 4 months old. He was being treated at Jaslok Hospital. The remedy was Chemotherapy. We were a little skeptical about starting his treatment, knowing the side effects of chemotherapy. God was our only hope and we left the decision in God's hand. After his 5 cycles of Chemo he was affected with multiple infections, TB and Fungal pneumonia. The doctors were not sure of his survival and told us to be prepared and keep faith in God. We were really very depressed and finally we surrendered our child to God. Miraculously he started improving and his infections got cured, but due to very high percentage of infections his left lung got damaged and he developed Respiratory distress and could not breathe on his own and was put on the Ventilator. Since then he was in the ICU at Jaslok for about 14 months and now we have purchased the Ventilator and our child is back home and breathing thru the Ventilator.

14 months of stay in the hospital that too in the ICU was the worst phase in our life, but it was God who has given us the strength during the hospital stay and it is only because of

God's miracle that our child is alive today and we have full faith in him that one day with his blessing and grace Rojen will able to breathe on his own.

We would also like to thank our church St.John the Baptist for helping us financially for the procurement of the Ventilator.

Our message to our parishioners is no matter what hardships you'll face just keep smiling and leave everything to God. He will take care of everything and never leave us alone.

Ronald & Jennifer Olivera Navasafalya, Lewis-wadi

Wanted a full/part-time professional/ para-professional/ non-professional with some elementary experience in social work - social worker to work for the St. John's Center for Community Organization. Persons semi-retire with VRS knowing typing/ computer data processing also may apply or meet the Parish Priest at the earliest.

EVERY THING I NEED TO KNOW, I LEARNED FROM NOAH'S ARK

- One Don't miss the boat.
- Two Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- Three Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- Four Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do some-thing really big.
- Five Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- Six Build your future on high ground.
- Seven For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- Eight Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- Nine When you're stressed, float a while.
- Ten Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- Eleven No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always rainbow waiting

Visitations Programme of the Parish Fathers in the Month of July will be held on the following Dates

17th, 24th, 31st July
BRINDABAN AREA

Ps: - Visitation of the homes will not be individually but in clusters. The Co-ordinator will explain. Clusters Fathers visited were very enthusiastic about the visits. Fathers also found these visits more purposeful than visits to individual families. All families in every cluster are requestd to remain present for these visits.

CHURCH ELECTRICAL WIRING

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SCHOLARSHIP

The Locusts & Honey would like to give a scholarship to the HIGHEST RANKING Catholic students presently residing in St. John the Baptist Parish who have obtained the highest marks at the SSC/HSC exams 2006. Those who have obtained more than 85% marks may submit their mark-lists with the information on telephone no., address and zone in the parish office by 20th July. A few successful students have submitted their mark-lists and personal information. This is a last reminder to those who have not yet submitted their mark-lists.

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	<i>Dt. Of Baptism</i>	<i>Dt. Of Birth</i>
Chris D'souza	04.06.2006	31.03.2006
Angelina Fernandes	11.06.2006	21.04.2006
Chris D'cruz	11.06.2006	09.04.2006
Leathan D'sa	11.06.2006	03.05.2006

UNITED IN CHIRST

Date	<i>Nridegroom</i>	<i>Bride</i>
04.06.2006	Daniel S. Mhankale	Agnes Mangela

OF LATE MEMORIES

Date	Name
10.06.2006	Hazel Aguiar
16.06.2006	Olive Black

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