



ST PIUS X PARISH MULUND, NEWSLETTER

COM-UNION

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APRIL 2025



*The Resurrection,
My Hope*





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CAVEAT

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The Resurrection - My Hope

In this Jubilee Year, I present to you the 'Com-Union' of Hope. The world today has evolved into a world of war and destruction, hatred and division and amid such discouragement and despair, the Catholic Church ushered in hope for a suffering world when the Holy Father announced 2025 as the Holy Year of Jubilee, themed "**Pilgrims of Hope**". A jubilee year is a year of grace, offering an opportunity to renew our faith through prayer and acts of charity, thus invoking special graces that strengthen our wounded souls in the fight against sin.

The theme of this issue of our Parish bulletin is '**The Resurrection – My Hope**'. We are pilgrims here on earth. Our eternal home is in Heaven. During our pilgrimage here on earth we experience suffering and pain.... But there is HOPE. The Lord promises us a place after our suffering and death. "And as I go now to prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you also may be" (John 14:3). Again, Jesus gave us His assurance when He said to His disciples "In my Father's house, there are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you" (John 14:2). St. Paul reassures us, "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived; **the things God has prepared for those who love him**" (1 Corinthians 2:9). Every word of Jesus our Lord will be fulfilled... "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (Matthew 24:35). The faith we have in

the word of our Lord is further established by Scripture "The grass withers, the flower fades: but the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isaiah 40:8).



The Resurrection of Jesus gives us HOPE of our own resurrection after our sojourn in this valley of tears - and **this hope will never disappoint**. We profess this every time we say the Creed "I believe in... the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting."

During this Season of Lent, as a Parish we have journeyed together in hope preparing for the solemn feast of the Resurrection of our Lord through practices of piety, as individuals and as a community. This Com-Union magazine presents how different groups and communities in the Parish have enriched themselves during this Season of Lent.

Our Parish is privileged to having our **new Archbishop John Rodrigues** in our midst, as the celebrant for the solemn service on Good Friday. We welcome him to St. Pius X Parish.

May the sacred Triduum of the Holy Week prepare us to 'Rise with Hope in Him'. Wishing you a season filled with faith, hope and love.

HAPPY EASTER

Fr. George Athaide
Parish Priest

Hope of the
RESURRECTION



THE RESURRECTION, MY HOPE!



The 1986 Italian movie, *The Inquiry*, features a Roman soldier, Tito Valerio Tauro, sent by Emperor Tiberius to investigate claims of the Resurrection of Jesus. Tito, a skeptic, begins his investigation as objectively as possible. He encounters Pontius Pilate, Caiaphas, Peter and his companions, Saul and Mary Magdalene, those who witnessed the life, death and burial of Jesus. As he slowly starts understanding the story of Jesus, he makes the decision to stand by the narratives held in reverence by Jesus' followers and to defend the Resurrection. Ultimately, he is faced with the choice of defending the Resurrection at the cost of his own life. Tito's famous dialogue encapsulates the faith of many who seek meaning in life: "Every answer I find only leads to more questions."

The Resurrection of Jesus in the New Testament is proclaimed in various passages, some in the form of preaching and professions of Faith, others as Resurrection Narratives in the four Gospels, speeches in the Acts of the Apostles, and a profound theological argument by St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:12-58. However, this rich treasure in the New Testament emerged from personal and communal encounters with the Risen Lord.

St. Augustine writes, "One needs to be a friend before knowing someone." The two-way dynamic of knowing and loving is essential for understanding the meaning of the Resurrection. A Christian, or anyone claiming to know Jesus, who does not reflect His life and message makes a weak claim to truly know Him. At Easter, the Church completes the cycle of knowing and loving Jesus while journeying with Him, witnessing His message, mission and miracles, and becoming part of His movement: the Kingdom of God. Anyone who answers the call of Jesus – "Follow Me", embraces the

mission, understands the miracles and walks alongside others in the Jesus movement. It is a personal and transformative invitation, and the Gospels present numerous experiences of this call, making Faith a deeply personal and communal journey.

One passage in the New Testament that illustrates the message of Easter is found at the moment of Jesus' death in Matthew 27:51-54. At that moment, something significant happens: the curtain of the Temple is torn in two, the earth shakes, rocks split, tombs open and the dead are raised to life. The death of Jesus becomes the beginning of New Life for the saints. The five signs at Jesus' death carry a message for us:

- 1. The torn veil in the Temple** - A new way to approach God is opened through Jesus Christ; He invites us to come to God as a Father, a friend and a guide.
- 2. The earthquake** - The earth mourns the death of its Creator and Master, a symbol of solidarity with all those who mourn and suffer.
- 3. The rocks splitting** - A realignment and shifting to make way for new realities of life.
- 4. The tombs opening** - The dead end becomes a new road.
- 5. The saints being raised** - Those who died doing good are finally rewarded.

Easter can be truly experienced through these signs: tearing, trembling and shattering - symbols of life's struggles, losses and sufferings. Easter connects our pain with the death of Jesus, offering a path towards New Life and Resurrection. The tearing, trembling and earth-shattering experiences of daily life - our failures, fears and falls - are all means through which we encounter the Resurrection.



There is an interesting commonality in the discovery and naming of America, Rio de Janeiro, Australia and New Zealand. They were discovered and named due to navigational mistakes by famous explorers. The moment they reached what seemed to be the “end of the road” became the moment of discovering new territory. This is the story of

Easter - what seemed to be the tragic end by betrayal and death got transformed into a path to new beginnings for all who believe. You can make your own story of hope this Easter and make a new beginning.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Norbert D'souza



RESURRECTION - *Symbol of Hope and Renewal*



The Resurrection is a symbol of **Hope and Renewal**. Our Lord rose in such a way that He has defeated death forever - a renewed spirit of love for our God. Christian Hope is grounded in **God's Faithfulness and the Resurrection of Christ** (Romans 5:5, Hebrews 6:19). The Church's teaching on Christian Hope is rooted in Scripture and Tradition. Pope Francis has designated the 2025 Holy Year as a time to renew ourselves as **'Pilgrims of Hope'** through reconciliation, pilgrimage and home coming.

Hope keeps us human and persevering. St. Paul says that all of us are saved in hope and trust in the Lord (Rom 8:18-24; 1 Tim 6:17). CCC 1843 explains – “By hope we desire, and with steadfast trust await from God, eternal life and the graces to merit it.”

“Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness...it keeps us from discouragement; it sustains us during times of abandonment; it opens up our heart in expectation of eternal beatitude.” (CCC 1817,1818)

We cannot live without hope. We must have some purpose in life, some meaning to our existence. We need to aspire to something. Without hope, we begin to die. Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, before he was elected as Pope Benedict XVI said in 1985, “Hope is not just one virtue among others; it is the very definition of Christian existence....

To be a Christian is to be one who hopes; it is to situate oneself on the foundation of a sure hope” (Ref - Eph 2,12; 1 Thess 4:13) and this hope comes from the Resurrection of our Lord. The Holy Spirit will awaken in us a lively hope that we “will one day be admitted to the heaven of surpassing peace and happiness in their (our) homeland radiant with the glory of the Lord.” (Gaudium et Spes, 93)

Christian hope is animated by perseverance and constancy through difficulties of all sorts, which put obstacles in the way of Christian holiness. CCC 1821 explains that “we can therefore hope in the glory of heaven promised by God to those who love him and do His will” (also refer Rom 8:28-30; Mt 7:21) Hence our hope should be firm, strong and unshakable. Those who hope in the Lord will attain eternal life like the good thief on the cross. At the same time, **Christian hope does not exempt anyone from the duty of working for God and for one's neighbour** (Ref Gaudium et Spes, 43). Hope is transformative – it shapes life, giving meaning and direction and Christians can endure suffering because hope assures them of God's final justice and redemption. (Spe Salvi)

Pope Francis says, “Christian Hope is greater than any situation in life, because hope has its foundation in God, not in other people. What seems impossible for human beings is possible

for God (Mt 19:26).” The Holy Father further explains “**Hope does not disappoint us**’ (Rom 5:5), but strengthens us in times of trial,” - the profound role the Church accords to the theological virtue of hope in moments of illness and suffering.

When one lives a good Christian life, one fulfils the obligation of making acts of hope (Council of Trent). People living without God are exposed to despair (Lumen Gentium, 16 and Gaudium et Spes, 21). Let us strive to avoid the sins of Despair and Presumption, which are the opposite of Christian Hope.

These can be avoided by:

- Having firm faith in the Mercy of God
- Meditating on the divine promises (Hebrews 10:23)
- Imitate the lives of the Saints, who were victorious in their battle against sin
- Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and to Mother Mary
- By practicing Humility
- Meditating on the inscrutable Judgement of God

We must not place our hope in material things. Material things can never satisfy us. St. Augustine says: “Our hearts are restless until they rest in God.” Hope is like an angel that always goes by the side of a Christian on the road of life:

- ❖ to wipe away her / his sweat and tears,
- ❖ to support her / him in her / his weakness,
- ❖ to reinforce her / his courage,
- ❖ to extend to her / him a helping hand and
- ❖ to dress her / his wounds.

Hope indeed is the greater gift that God had given all of us. Lack of possessions is temporary, but God is eternal. Remember even when we are inclined to lose hope, miracles do happen, for nothing is impossible under the eye of God. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

So, as pilgrims of hope, let us embark on this meaningful journey of faith, hope and love as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!

Dr. Johnson George (Catechist)



THE RESURRECTION... *Hope of My Life*



God the Father, in “his great mercy gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from death.” (1 Peter 1:3b)

Jesus Christ “by his Resurrection opens for us, the way to a new life. This new life is above all justification that reinstates us in God’s grace, ‘so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life’ (Rom 6:4).” (CCC 654)

“This fills us with a living hope... to look forward to possessing the rich blessings that

God keeps for his people in heaven, where they cannot decay or spoil or fade away.” (1 Peter 1:3c-4)

Through our faith “they are kept safe by God’s power for the salvation, which will be revealed at the end of time.” (1 Peter 1:5)

The risen Jesus has proved that man, together with Him, can have power over sin, and therefore over death.

The Resurrection gives hope for sharing in



the life of the Trinity forever. We can face death without fear and look forward to being with Jesus in heaven. It invites all who seek peace to join in true discipleship. It offers a new beginning, with God awakening a new life in us.

“Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises and relying not on our own strength,

but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. ‘Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful’ (Heb 10:23).” (CCC 1817)

“Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation.” (Rom 12:12) **Hope is expressed and nourished in Prayer.**

Polly Paul, Community F

FROM ‘HIS PASSION’ TO ‘COMPASSION’

The Universal Church has dedicated this year as ‘**The Jubilee Year**’, where we all are invited to be ‘**Pilgrims of Hope**’.

Who could give us a better example of being Merciful, from which flows ‘Hope’, than God our Father, Himself? His boundless ‘Love’ and ‘Mercy’ is seen in the gift of Jesus, who was sent to dwell among men and to redeem us from the bondage of ‘sin’ and ‘death’. The Bible testifies - “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him...” (Jn 3: 16-17)

This eternal plan of God was brought to fulfillment by His Son, Jesus, Our Lord, Redeemer and King. So, the acts of ‘Love’ and ‘Mercy’ (the 2 main ingredients of Hope) initiated by our heavenly Father were well imitated and propagated by our Lord Jesus while on earth. He looked with mercy and compassion on the poor, the lowly, the broken-hearted; even the sinners found a special place in His merciful heart. In short, to all those neglected, condemned and / or abandoned by men, **Jesus was always the true source of HOPE.**

In all that Jesus preached and practiced, He was always filled with ‘Love’ and ‘Compassion’. He desired that we too should do likewise. His message was simple and straight “But go and learn what this means: **‘I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,’ for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**” (Mt 9:13) By His thoughts, words and deeds, Jesus taught us that all that our Heavenly Father desires is a Merciful and a Compassionate heart ... and not mere sacrifices. He wants us to ‘Practice’ our faith, which is indeed the best way to ‘Live it’. His Love, which was unconditional, aptly reflected the Love of His Father.

Jesus manifested this love on the Cross. His death on the Cross was a testimony of the pain and agony He bore for our sake **His Passion should indeed inspire and teach us to display Compassion to all our fellow beings.**

This Lenten Season, Jesus invites us to have Compassion, at all times... for this pleases our Heavenly Father. By having ‘Compassion’ for others we can experience true Joy and PEACE. A simple formula to experience this PEACE is:

P.E.A.C.E. = Practice Everything About Christ Everyday!!!

Bonnie D’Mello, Community I



VISION OF THE PRIESTHOOD



Back in 2017, I remember myself as a young adult quite engrossed in the hustle and bustle of life. It was an intriguing time juggling professional and personal commitments. In this mix there also was a burning zeal to serve the Church and her ministry. I was torn apart balancing all of these and often ended up sacrificing one at the cost of another. I was earnestly seeking a way in which I could achieve a win-win scenario consistently. It is against this backdrop, that I found myself discerning my vocation to the priesthood.



I then joined the seminary in June 2017 with the vision - **to give without counting the cost.** Priesthood presented me the opportunity to live out a longing within me to reach out to anyone who asked of it. The vocation to the priesthood did not only liberate me from the pressures of conforming to a stereotypical lifestyle and expected milestones set by society, but also empowered me to truly fulfil my heart's desire of reaching out in service to all without discrimination.

This vision successfully motored me through my years of formation in all the ministry work assigned to me in the parishes I was appointed. But these same years of formation, the new learnings in the fields of philosophy and theology, varied life experiences and interaction with the laity, called for a relook at the vision I set for the priesthood awaiting me. And so, I hit the drawing board to begin from scratch for a revised vision of the priesthood that would be inspiring and meaningful.

Ever since my early days in the seminary, I was fascinated by the revelation given to us in Genesis 1:26, that we humans, are all created in the image and likeness of God. The Bible goes on to narrate metaphorically and analogically,

the story of how we humans had this image and likeness tarnished and how God worked a way for us to restore it by granting us the opportunity to model ourselves on Jesus - the true and incorrupt image of the Father. I also learnt that try as we may, we humans could not achieve this restoration by all our 'doing', but rather by simply 'being' the true children of God, remodelled on the person of Christ.

I realized my former vision of the priesthood was focussed on a lot of 'doing'. Not that it was wrong in any way, but it seemed inadequate as it focussed more on the 'doing' of reaching out, perhaps, even at the cost of the 'being', that of reaching within. The process of priestly formation taught me that being a priest would not exclude me from the need of personal restoration on the model of Christ, but that as a priest, I too would find myself in need of the same. Hence, in this revised version, I would have to articulate a vision that would reflect my brokenness and need for restoration, yet being a beacon of hope and a shepherd, who would lead those entrusted in my care to the Master.

This revised Vision of the priesthood, inspired from 2 Corinthians 3:18, I am working towards is: **to be a mirror that reflects Christ.** This has a two-fold implication. First, that every interaction I have with others may offer them an encounter with Christ and second, that these encounters, may awaken our awareness of Christ's presence within us, thereby, guiding us all to restore ourselves in His image and likeness.

It is my prayer that as I will be ordained in this Jubilee Year, the graces of this blessed time may help the process of journeying together with all whom I interact with, as pilgrims of hope, in being aware of Christ's presence in

each other and of restoring ourselves on the model of Christ to conform to the image and likeness of God, who we were created in.

These eight years of formation in the seminary have been an incredible **journey from ‘doing’ to ‘being’**. I am eagerly waiting to see how the coming years play out and how this vision develops and transforms me as a person and

those around me for the better. I pray that this vision of the priesthood may inspire all who interact with me. As my batchmates and I step into the challenging yet wonderful and fascinating world of the priesthood, I urge you to pray that we may be effective and loving shepherds of the flock of Christ.

Fr. Kenneth Pinto



THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Through the Sacraments, the Church manifests and celebrates its Faith and communicates the saving Grace of God. The Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist, **initiate the faithful into Jesus Christ**, to His Mysteries and His Church, and become the foundation of a Christian life.

The word ‘Confirmation’ comes from the Latin word *confirmare*, *con-* (“with”) + *firmare* (“to make firm, to strengthen, to ratify, to prove, to declare.”) The Sacrament of Confirmation further strengthens the faithful by imprinting on the soul an indelible spiritual mark - the **Seal of the Holy Spirit**. It completes the initiation of the Christian and brings an increase and deepening of the Grace received at Baptism.

Role of the Family: The family plays a vital role in helping a child develop his or her Christian identity – that of being a Child of God. Parents need to give prime importance to the Sacraments of Initiation, instilling in their children their true meaning, so that instead of them becoming just ostentatious events, their children may carry within themselves the Grace received from the Sacraments for the rest of their lives, growing closer to Christ and His Church. We urge our parents

to encourage their teenagers to actively attend the Confirmation catechesis in our Parish, which is usually held from June / July to January each year.

The Gift of Special Strength: Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, those who have been born anew in Baptism receive the inexpressible Gift, the Holy Spirit Himself. “They are more perfectly bound to the Church by the Sacrament of Confirmation, and the Holy Spirit endows them with special strength, so that they are more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith, both by word and by deed, as true witnesses of Christ.” (Lumen Gentium, 11)

It is this special strength that Pope Francis reminded the youth of, in March 2024, which will enable them “to bear witness before everyone to the joy born of friendship with Christ.”

Celebration of Confirmation

Canon 881 of the Code of Canon Law states that “it is desirable that the Sacrament of Confirmation be celebrated in a Church and during Mass...” “The celebration of Confirmation during the Eucharist helps underline the unity of the Sacraments of Christian initiation.” (CCC 1321)

Matter: Anointing with **Holy Chrism oil on the forehead and the laying on of hands.**

Form: “Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”

The **ordinary minister** of Confirmation is a **Bishop.**

Who can be Confirmed:

Canon 889 (1) prescribes that every baptized person, who has not yet been confirmed, can receive confirmation.

Requirements:

- ✓ Properly instructed (they are to receive appropriate formation)
- ✓ Be in a state of grace (should receive the Sacrament of Confession)
- ✓ Be able to renew one’s Baptismal promises

Sponsor (God parent) – requirements and roles

Canon 892 states “Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; the sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this Sacrament.”

To be a sponsor, you must:

- ✓ Be at least 21 years of age

- ✓ Have received Baptism, consistently receive the Eucharist, and be Confirmed in the Catholic Faith
- ✓ Be an active Catholic, consistently attending Sunday and Holy Day Masses and generally participating in the Sacramental life of the Church
- ✓ Live a life consistent with the views and teachings of the Catholic Church and to be an up-close-and-personal witness of the Christian life to your candidate
- ✓ Be available to meet once a month with their Confirmation candidate (whether in person, over the phone, etc.)
- ✓ Should not be the candidate’s parent, guardian, or boyfriend / girlfriend
- ✓ Sponsors are to help the candidate (who becomes in a very real sense, your “spiritual child”) in preparing for Confirmation and realize the duties and obligations and commitment taken through this Sacrament.

Note: Adult catechumens are ordinarily admitted to Confirmation and the Eucharist at the same time as they receive Baptism after their RCIA programme.

Dr. Johnson George (Catechist)

GOLDEN LEGACY; BRIGHT FUTURE (1973-2023)

The Golden Jubilee of St. Mary’s Convent High School, was a momentous occasion, the celebrations spanning two days of joy, reverence and reflection.

The celebrations began with great fervour on 12th December 2024, with an impressive Guard of Honour by the School Band to



welcome our distinguished guest, His Eminence Cardinal Oswald Gracias, and the grand inauguration of the new St. Mary's ICSE building.

A solemn Holy Mass at St. Pius X Church was celebrated by His Eminence, thanking God for the school's journey, its



achievements and blessings received, and its commitment to faith, knowledge and service. The choir's melodious singing added to the prayerful atmosphere. The Mass was attended by the entire school community including the school's Pioneers, former Managers, Principals, guest sisters, former teachers and alumni.

After Mass, the Sisters of the Congregation of Jesus organized a short felicitation and cultural programme. A sumptuous dinner followed to celebrate this glorious and historic milestone.



The second day kicked off with the 'Jubilee Fiesta'. The chief guest was Dr. Mushtaq Shaikh, Educational Inspector, North Zone, Mumbai, and the Guests of Honour were Sr. Shraddha CJ, Regional Superior, Bangalore region, and Fr. George Athaide. The event was also graced by the presence of special guests, local dignitaries, alumni and parents. A captivating video presentation chronicled the school's history, showcasing significant milestones and accomplishments over the past 50 years.



The evening concluded with a Dance Drama, which honoured the school's journey from its humble beginnings to its current status as a beacon of education in the region. The audience was treated to a beautiful display of talent by the students that reflected the vibrant spirit of the school. A Commemorative Souvenir was also released, which included photographs and a kaleidoscope of memories from the past 50 years.



The Golden Jubilee celebrations were a fitting tribute to the school's five decades of educational excellence. It was a time to reflect on the past, celebrate the present and look forward to a bright future.

With plans for continued academic innovation, community outreach and spiritual development, St. Mary's Convent High School, is poised to continue its legacy of excellence. We acknowledge the school's visionaries, both past and present for their dedication to nurturing young minds.

We salute the efforts of our present Manager Sr. Anisha, Principal Sr. Sherly and the Management for facilitating the actualization of the Golden Jubilee celebrations. We also laud the contribution of the Staff of St. Mary's in the accomplishment of our vision.

*Cheers to the past and all we've done
And to a future well begun!*

*Philomena Gilbert Fernandes,
Supervisor of St. Mary's Secondary Section*

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION 2024 *A Decade of Witnessing Christ to the World*

"Some seed fell on good soil and brought forth grain a hundredfold." - Mt 13:8

Inspired by an experience at Mount Mary's Basilica, Bandra, one of our parishioners set out in faith with a dream - to share the Good News of the birth of our Lord to all who visited our Church on Christmas Day.

It was a call that required courage, sacrifice and dedication - to proclaim Christ to people of different faiths, offering up family time while the world celebrates, and to be actively present even if the turnout was poor. The challenges were many, but the Spirit that fuelled this dream was much stronger.

As with most initiatives, the programme began on a small scale, with a couple of volunteers, a projector and a screen to tell the story of Jesus' birth to those who came seeking him. The response was positive - **people who visited our Church on Christmas day to look at the Crib and pray at the grotto of Mother Mary stayed back with interest to watch short videos in different languages on the life of Jesus. This was an encouraging start!**

Over the years, more volunteers joined in, and a core group of dedicated members from our RCIA and Prayer Group enthusiastically offered their time and talents between 4:30 pm and 9

pm on Christmas Day to keep the dream alive. They put up festive banners around the Church compound, brought cake and sweets, sang Christmas carols, distributed free pocket Bibles and leaflets, answered questions on the Faith, and helped families, youth and children pray in the Church. Youth from our Confirmation batches of the past two years also came to help, and were amazed to witness such faith in action. Even the COVID-19 pandemic could not dampen the volunteers' spirits. Word spread, and more people, both Christians and those of other faiths, kept coming in larger numbers.

25th December 2024 marked the tenth anniversary of a dream come true. This pioneering initiative is now being adopted in other Parishes as well. What makes this celebration unique is that there is no Santa Claus, Christmas tree or gifts. **The focus is solely on the great truth at the heart of Christmas: Emmanuel - God is with us.**

If you would like to know more or be a volunteer, drop a message to Smita Anthony (98202 89094 | smitaa@hotmail.com) or Gregory Fernandes (98927 33930).

Rhea Pinto, St. Pius X Parish Choir



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DAY



15th December 2024 was a joyous day for our Parish as 40 of our young children received Jesus for the first time in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. They share their wonderful memories of this very special day of their lives and how they prepared themselves for it.



Over the last few months, I have learned so much about Jesus and His great love for me, how He gives Himself to me in Holy Communion, so that He can always remain very close to me.

My First Confession, was a special moment for me. At first, I was nervous, but my Catechists and parents guided me and reminded me that confession is about telling Jesus we are sorry for our sins and asking for His forgiveness, just like telling a friend. **After my first confession, I felt so happy and light.**

As the big day came closer, I was filled with excitement and joy. I practiced my prayers and action songs that we learnt in the intensive week. I understood that **First Holy Communion is not just a celebration, but the start of a deeper friendship with Jesus.** When I received my First Holy Communion, I was overjoyed to receive Jesus in my heart, I felt very close to Jesus.

Anaya D'mello

Sunday School classes helped me realise how much God loves me. During the intensive week of preparation, I learnt about the different parts of the Mass and all that takes place on the Altar during Mass. The assignments and activities given to me for every lesson helped me start praying daily and to read the Bible.

At the First Holy Communion Mass, all of us

were given the chance to say one prayer. I read the Prayer of the Faithful. I thoroughly enjoyed practicing with all my friends to make our First Holy Communion truly special and memorable.

Jacob Michael

Our First Holy Communion has been the most wonderful day for us and our Parents. We had to attend special Catechism classes for months to prepare our minds and hearts to receive Jesus.

We learnt that God speaks to us in the Readings and the Sermon during the Liturgy of the Word. In the Liturgy of Eucharist, the bread and wine offered become the Body and Blood of Jesus during Consecration. Jesus becomes part of our lives when we receive Him in Holy Communion.

Our teachers worked very hard to make us understand all this during the classes. They taught us how to make our Sacrament of Confession slowly and nicely by preparing well.

When we received our First Holy Communion, we knew that from now on Jesus is living in us. Our hearts are full of happiness and thanksgiving. Now we must be more like Jesus with our good actions and good words.

Reuben and Bryan Velho



CONFIRMATION 2025



Faith grows when it is lived and shared. Confirmation is the moment we say ‘yes’ to this mission.

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, we **receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit** and **commit ourselves to living as true disciples of Christ**. It is a time of spiritual growth, deepening our Faith and preparing to take on the responsibilities of being active members of the Church.

We were blessed to be guided by Fr. Aaron and the Confirmation team of animators, who helped us grow in our Faith. Every Sunday became something we looked forward to, not just as a class, but as a chance to strengthen our relationship with God.

We explored topics like **Marian Dogmas, the Sacraments and other Doctrines of the Church**, relating them to our personal experiences through Faith-filled discussions. Along the way, we formed new friendships, deepened old ones, and together, we spread the love of Jesus through our words and actions.

We participated in programmes like Parents’ Day and completed our service hours with dedication, learning that **Faith is best lived through service**.

One of the most profound experiences was our three-day retreat at St. Mary’s Villa, Khandala. Surrounded by peace and nature, we spent time reflecting, praying and encountering Jesus in a deeper way. The praise and worship, the healing service and the powerful sessions touched our hearts and helped us welcome Christ in a new way.

Finally, on 18th January 2025, we received the Sacrament of Confirmation, ministered to us by His Lordship, Bishop Dominic Savio Fernandes. It was the day **we wholeheartedly said ‘yes’ to God’s call**. As we stood together, we reflected on the journey of the past year - the friendships we built, the lessons we learned and the Faith that now strengthens us.

Jessalyn Joseph,
Confirmation Batch 2024-25



MARATHON BIBLE READING



For the first time St. Pius X Parish, Mulund witnessed ‘**Marathon Bible Reading and Singing of Psalms**’ in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. This was held on 25th January 2025 as a part of the Jubilee Year Celebrations, in preparation for Word of God Sunday the next day.

An initiative of the Bible Cell, this programme bore fruit because of the spiritual support and guidance of the Fathers and the team effort of the Lectors, Cantors and SCC Community Coordinators.

Following the example of Ezra, after the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and

the Enthronement of the Bible, the **Word of God was proclaimed continuously from 7 am to 6 pm**. We read in Nehemiah 8:2-3 *“Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, ...He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday...and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.”*

For ease of flow, time-slots were allotted to each community. Throughout the day, parishioners came, listened to God’s Word and adored Him in the Blessed Sacrament.

The Readings were taken from the Gospel of St. John, Gospel of St. Luke, The Acts of the



Apostles and the starting chapters of The Book of Revelation. Over 90 people came forward to proclaim God's Word, some of whom had never read in Church before. Around 15 people were involved in singing the Psalms. The Word of God was also proclaimed in Konkani, Tamil and Hindi.

Testimonies

"I participated in the event having many questions in my mind, especially 'How will I read?' But the organizers were kind enough to clear all my doubts. As my turn came, I walked up, read my passage and sat down, contemplating how effortlessly the event took place."

Ancy Louis, Community M

"As I read Luke's account of Jesus' birth, I was struck by Mary's courage and obedience. Her willingness to trust God's plan, despite the unknowns, inspires me to surrender my own fears and doubts. The image of Jesus, born in a humble manger, reminds me that God's power often manifests itself in weakness and simplicity."

Anita Mendonca, Community J2

"This was the first time we had an opportunity to hear the Word of God being proclaimed the entire day with singing of a Psalm in between. We not only listened, but also participated in singing the Psalms."

Hyacinth Rebeiro, Community E

"Reading the Word of God from the pulpit in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament was indeed a wonderful experience. Also listening to others reading the Word, followed by the singing of the Psalms was truly an enriching experience for me. I would like to thank the Lord that I was a part of this spiritual journey in our Parish for the Jubilee Year Celebration."

Rowan D'Souza, Community C



"The Bible Marathon was a new experience. It was very good that the readings were read one after the other continuously without a break, and read in different languages. We were proud to read God's Word in Tamil."

Nixon, Tamil Group, Community T2

"Thanks to our Parish team for planning the Marathon Bible Reading. It was a different experience of listening to the Word of God, and Psalms sung in different languages and by different groups. It was a day well spent."

Henry D'Souza, Konkani Group, Community K

"As I read the Bible silently, along with the person who was reading from the Ambo, I was filled with joy and wanted to keep going. I came to spend one hour, but sat down in the Church for nearly two hours. It was difficult for me to leave. May the Word of God reach the ends of the world."

Annam Justine, Community A

The Bible Cell



BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING OF ST. MARK



The Bible Study, conducted by Fr. Aaron, on the Gospel According to St. Mark began on 2nd March and continued for a week.

To better understand the Sacred Scriptures, our study began with an introduction to Typology, which revealed the rich connections between the Old and New Testaments. We explored the map of Israel in the 1st century, tracing the movements of the people and gaining insight into the historical context of Jesus' life and ministry.

We also delved into God's Covenant relationships, from Adam to Jesus, which deepened our understanding of Bible History, the wars and invasions. We examined the nature of sin, including its actions, intentions and situations. Furthermore, we discussed the Church in its three states: Triumphant, Militant and Suffering.

With this foundational knowledge, we embarked on our Bible Study, using the following resource materials:

- The Holy Bible (Catholic Edition)
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)
- Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, New Testament

According to Catholic Tradition, Mark, was a disciple of St. Peter. Mark's Gospel is deeply

rooted in the Old Testament. **It portrays Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah, the Anointed King of Davidic descent and the Son of God.** The Gospel highlights Jesus' ministry - His teachings, exorcisms, healings and miracles, demonstrating His power and compassion.

Mark emphasizes the Atonement, central to Jesus' mission, and the Salvation offered to His followers. The Gospel calls believers to faith and cross-bearing discipleship, following Jesus' example of serving others. Mark's Gospel is known for its fast-paced narrative, focusing on Jesus' actions, rather than lengthy discourses.

Jesus is portrayed as a servant, not a king, as seen in Mark 10:45. **The second half of Mark's Gospel focuses on the way of the Cross,** highlighting Jesus' suffering and death. The discovery of the empty tomb signifies Jesus' resurrection and victory over death.

Thank you to Fr. Aaron for the incredible class on the Gospel According to St. Mark. The way he presented the material was engaging and interactive. Fr. Aaron's passion for Scripture is contagious and he inspired a hunger and thirst for God's Word in all 72 of us. His ability to make the Gospel come alive and connect it to our daily lives is a gift.

Jennifer Fernandes, Community A



CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH A Spiritual Journey for Men



“Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do.”
(Genesis 41:55)

The Jubilee Year 2025 calls for a time of renewal and restoration in the Church, a time when the Holy Father exhorts us to

be “**Pilgrims of Hope**” and journey with Christ. As a worthy answer to this call, the Parish of St. Pius X embarked on a spiritual pilgrimage of the **33-day “Consecration to St. Joseph”** – a prayer crusade for men above the age of 21. Fr. Aaron's heartfelt invitation



felt like a personal call from God, prompting impressive number of 70 men to join this sacred journey. Consecrating oneself to St. Joseph basically means acknowledging St. Joseph as your spiritual father, asking for his fatherly protection, prayer and mentorship, while imitating his virtues. As St. Teresa of Avila once said, “I do not remember ever having asked him (St. Joseph) for anything that he did not obtain for me.”

The “Consecration” was a personal spiritual exercise guided by **Fr. Don Calloway’s book – “Consecration to St. Joseph”**, and designed and animated by Fr. Aaron. It helped us to understand and accept our vocation as men and as earthly fathers, and what we ought to do for the salvation of our families, with the help of St. Joseph, who was entrusted the greatest responsibility of taking care of the “Holy Family”. We were given the Consecration book, the Flame of Love bookmark, a Miraculous Medal of Mama Mary and a St. Benedict Medal. We formed a peer accountability group, where we encouraged and motivated each other to be regular and committed to the prayer, readings and reflection assigned for the day.

The introductory session on 9th February, set the tone for this transformative experience. We were reminded of the sacredness of marriage vows, the responsibility men bear for the salvation of their families, and the call to reject today’s negative depiction of men, husbands and fathers. St. Joseph, the humble yet mighty protector of the Holy Family, was presented as the sure beacon of faithfulness, obedience and fatherly love.

The consecration officially began on 15th February (Day 1), with daily readings, prayers and reflections, which gave us a deeper understanding of the role of St. Joseph and his uniqueness in salvation history. Each of us had to **examine our manhood in the light of**

St. Joseph’s just and righteous character.

Intercessors prayed daily for the participants of the Consecration, using a specially prepared prayer format called the **Warriors Prayer** comprising of the Flame of Love Rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, Unity Prayer, St. Gertrude’s Prayer for souls in Purgatory and St. Michael’s protection prayer.

The Consecration program was interlaced with informative and inspiring talks, sharings, movie-time, Adoration and ministering, inner healing, mentoring and Sacramental Confession, besides the daily personal reading, reflection and prayer of the consecration book.

The 33-day intensive, yet enjoyable retreat-like experience ended on 19th March (Day 33), the Feast of St. Joseph. This day was marked by a personal act of entrustment to St. Joseph’s spiritual fatherhood.

The Thanksgiving Day for the Consecration to St. Joseph was held on 23rd March, with Adoration. Heartfelt testimonies highlighted the transformative power of this Consecration, as men shared how St. Joseph’s intercession and example inspired them to embrace their roles as protectors and providers for their family.

A few testimonies:

- “My relation with my spouse and children was enriched.”
- “My long-standing need for a house was resolved.”
- “I have been able to revive my prayer life.”
- I was able to present this prayer exercise to others in need.”
- “Trials and challenges of life seem more manageable now.”

This Consecration experience was so enriching that we have decided to meet once a month

to nurture our spiritual growth. Immense gratitude to the Parish Clergy and Fr. Aaron for bringing us under the fatherly protection of St. Joseph. Truly a revival has been ushered this Lent in the hearts of many men.

“Fiat voluntas Domini.”

Compiled by the St. Joseph Consecration team of the Parish



PILGRIMAGE TO DON BOSCO, KARJAT



“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.” Luke 9:23

Our Parish organized a Lenten pilgrimage on 14th March 2025 to experience God’s divine presence amidst the breathtaking mountains of Karjat.

Don Bosco, Karjat offers a **unique Way of the Cross experience** with 14 Stations leading to a 15th Station on top of a hill, featuring life-size statues at each Station.

After a light breakfast, we started our journey up the hill. We took turns carrying the cross and wearing the crown of thorns. This helped us to **experience in a small way the pain that Jesus underwent**. The climb got tougher with each Station.

When I took the cross on my shoulder and the crown on my head, I felt the humiliation, in mind I started thinking... *“when walking with a few of my parishioners, I felt the humiliation.*



In my mind I started walking in that scorching heat, with the Heavy Cross, Crown of Thorns and blood all over His body... what must the Lord have felt? And most of all his Sorrowful Mother, accompanying Him. And all this for our sins.”

Each Station of the Cross was prayed meaningfully with a hymn, a short prayer and a time for silent reflection. Walking with the cross and crown, **we could feel the divine presence of the Lord walking with us.**

As we proceeded uphill, we could see at every Station people from different Parishes carrying the crosses and praying. We were blessed to experience this divine journey, it helped us to recall the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

After making a meaningful Way of the Cross, we took part in the Holy Eucharist. We had a simple lunch and some fellowship in the open wooded area with some adventure games. We returned home filled with gratitude for this divine journey.

A Parishioner



Hallelujah

“You have nothing to worry about. The LORD is taking care of you on this journey” (Judges 18:6)

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 - ★ Church of Bethphage
 - ★ Garden of Gethsemane
 - ★ Mary's Well - Nazareth
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 - ★ Dominus Flevit Church
 - ★ Chapel of the Ascension
 - ★ Wedding Church at Cana
 - ★ Pontius Pilot's Judgment Hall
 - ★ Church of the Flagellation
 - ★ Ein Karem - Visitation Church
 - ★ Jezreel Valley & Mt. Precipice (view)
 - ★ Cenacle - The Upper Room
 - ★ Bethlehem Nativity Church
 - ★ Palm Sunday Hosanna Path
 - ★ Church of Dormition Abbey
 - ★ Mt. Carmel - Bahai' Gardens
 - ★ Dead Sea floating experience
 - ★ Church of St. John the Baptist
 - ★ Boat Ride on the Sea of Galilee
 - ★ Mt. Zion-St. Peter in Gallicantu
 - ★ Stella Maris Church-Elijah Cave
 - ★ Nazareth - Annunciation Church
 - ★ Church of the Primacy of St. Peter
 - ★ Mt. Tabor-Transfiguration Church
 - ★ Mt. of Beatitudes - Sermon on the Mt.
 - ★ Tabgha - Church of the Multiplication
 - ★ Benedictine Monastery in Abu Ghosh
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“We place our destiny in the hands of the LORD, not in human hands, because HIS Mercy is as great as HIS Majesty”
(Sirach 2:18)

T & C Apply



CHURCHES OF VASAI - A Lenten Pilgrimage to Remember



On 14th March 2025, forty-eight senior parishioners, accompanied by Sr. Vivian and Fr. Norbert D'Souza, embarked on a spiritual Lenten pilgrimage to Vasai.

The group visited seven historic Churches, beginning with St. Gonsalo Garcia Church near the Bishop's House, followed by Mother of God Church, Palle, Our Lady of Grace Cathedral, Papydy and St. Thomas Church, Sandor. We **celebrated the Eucharist at Sandor** and enjoyed a delicious lunch. After lunch we resumed our journey with the Chapel within Vasai Fort, Our Lady of Remedy Shrine and concluded our journey at St. Francis Xavier Church, Giriz.

At each Church we prayed two Stations of the Cross. At every stop we were warmly welcomed by the priests. Fr. Norbert shared fascinating insights into the history of each Church. The **beauty and immaculate upkeep of the Churches in Vasai left everyone in awe**, while the life-sized statue of Jesus depicting His Passion in every Church deeply moved the pilgrims.



The hospitality of the Vasaikars was unforgettable. Mr. David Athaide, from Vasai guided the group tirelessly on his motorbike, despite the scorching heat.

For many visiting Vasai for the first time, this pilgrimage was a profound spiritual journey that deepened their faith and appreciation for Vasai's rich heritage. The parishioners expressed heartfelt gratitude to Fr. George and his team for organizing this memorable experience. Truly, it was a pilgrimage to cherish for the seniors of our Parish.

Catherine Raj - Community A



SHADOWS OF THE PASSION - A Tenebrae Experience



On Sunday, 23rd March 2025, the Newman Choir presented "**Shadows of the Passion: A Tenebrae Experience**", a poignant spiritual journey, at St. Pius X Church, Mulund. This prayerful performance guided the audience through the **'seven shadows' of Good Friday**, symbolizing pivotal events / facts of the Passion of Jesus.

The evening began with Fr. George's opening prayer, blessing the choir's performance. The 50-member choir led by Edward Mendes and Celeste Cordo, mesmerized the congregation with their enchanting voices.

"I stepped into the Church, unsure of what to expect. What unfolded over the next hour was nothing short of transcendent. From the moment the first notes filled the air; I was drawn into a deeply moving tapestry of sacred music and narration of the Passion of Christ."

The seven shadows explored in "Shadows of the Passion" included:

- Betrayal
- Fear and loneliness
- Desertion





- Condemnation and humiliation
- Suffering and exhaustion
- Separation and failure

The Church was packed with parishioners eagerly anticipating this unique performance. Through song and Scripture, **the choir led the audience on a powerful journey through Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection.**

"The ensemble of voices accompanied with the modulation of the highs and lows created a sombre environment that took me to Calvary,

expressing every emotion - sorrow, hope and reverence, and thus helped me connect to the Lord."

The Tenebrae-inspired service featured candles lit in the darkened Church. After the recital of each shadow, a candle was extinguished. The last candle, however, was not extinguished. It serves as a **beacon of hope, representing Christ's promise of Resurrection.** The program concluded in solemn silence, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

A Parishioner



THE CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION (CCO)



The Parish Centre for Community Organisation (CCO) reaches out to the poor irrespective of caste or creed. Our motto is **Service to the Poor Children of God.**

Tuition Cell

The CCO has a Tuition Cell, mainly for children of uneducated parents. From Monday to Friday, a group of self-sacrificing teachers, **help the children in their studies,** while inculcating right values.

Senior Citizens Group

The Senior Citizens Group, with Fr. Norbert as the Spiritual Director, conducts various activities every two months. On 2nd October, we **celebrated Senior Citizens' Day,** with the Holy Eucharist, followed by games and lunch. On 23rd January, Fr. Norbert gave a practical and much appreciated session, **'Golden Years'**, to 108 senior parishioners. On 14th March, we went on a pilgrimage to the Churches in Vasai.

The Physio Group, made up of senior citizens, keep themselves fit with appropriate exercises and a lot of activities, like outings, visits to pilgrim places, etc.

Children's Day

This year, we **celebrated Children's Day on 17 November**, with a half-day programme attended by 159 marginalized children from our locality. The programme began with an input session, followed by a magic show, games, spot prizes and ended with lunch. Each child was given a take-away hamper of study material and various provisions.

Christmas 2024

Our Christmas Sale in the Parish began from 1st December. With the help of a parishioner, we made and sold Christmas wreaths, which doubled the income we got from the sales. The proceeds, together with a generous donation from a business family and the help of a kindhearted contractor, were used to renovate a badly depleted house of a parishioner, who had recently lost a dear one.



We celebrated Christmas with the Tuition Cell children on 19th December 2024. It was **a time to spread the message of Jesus** to the children of other faiths. Fr. Nobert addressed the children and handed over the gifts. We also had Christmas parties for volunteers of the Christmas Stall and the Tailoring Section, in addition to the CCO Christmas Get-together. This Christmas, we gifted ten poor Catholic families with a cake, Christmas decorations, food items and sarees.

Outreach

In collaboration with the Lion's Club of Mulund and other individual sponsors, the CCO reached out to people in need, providing food, medical supplies and other equipment. On 30 August, the CCO conducted an **awareness programme for marginalized women** at Prarthana Mandir, Goshala Road.

This year, we have started an initiative to adopt a few families. With the help of generous donors, we have begun providing ration to the families.

Community Service

The CCO has many volunteers helping with medical aid, rations, collection and distribution of used clothes to the needy. The Marriage Bureau and Legal Cell are availed by both parishioners and non-parishioners. The CCO provides full time workers to take care of the sick, and house maids to take care of babies.

We have wheelchairs, walkers, walking sticks, chairs to hold commodes, etc. for parishioners, who need them. We have



also been donated with an expensive stone bed, which can be warmed up through electricity, for people with a backache.

From helping a Catholic boy complete his driving class and obtain a driving license to helping a four-year old boy with kidney

problems, the CCO, with the grace of God Almighty, continues its mission to reach out to everyone in need.

We thank our sponsors and volunteers, who help to make all our programmes a success.

Sr. Vivian



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- 21st August 1967:** Born to Late Stanley and Corinne Rodrigues at Bandra, Mumbai
- 18th April 1998:** Ordained Priest
- 2000 to 2002:** Licentiate in Systematic Theology, Pontifical Lateran University, Rome
- 2002 to 2011:** Professor of Systematic Theology, St Pius X College, Goregaon
- 2010 to 2013:** Secretary, Priests' Council, Archdiocese of Bombay
- 2011 to 2013:** Dean of Studies, St. Pius X College
- 20th April 2013:** Rector, St. Pius X College
- 15th May 2013:** Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay
- 29th June 2013:** Ordained Bishop at St. Michael's Church, Mahim
- 24th May 2023:** Installed as Bishop of Poona
- 30th November 2024:** Appointed Co-adjutor Archbishop of Bombay
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Farewell

Sr. Anisha



Sr. Anisha has served as a SUPERIOR of St. Mary's Convent for three years. She now moves to Kerala.

Congratulations

Sr. Lima



Sr. Lima came to Mulund first time in 1983 as a young nun. She has served in Mulund for 21 years in various capacities at various times, including being Principal of St. Mary's Convent school. She will take over as SUPERIOR from 1st May 2025

Sunday School Picnic 2025





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HAPPY EASTER TO YOU & YOUR FAMILY



Sunday School Mission Sunday Outreach



Bombay Catholic Sabha – Voters Awareness Programme



Christmas 2024



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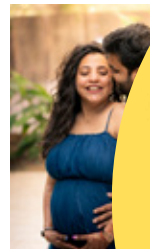
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Team St. Pius – Runners Up at the Archdiocesan Bible Quiz



100% Attendance at the Children's Mass



Jubilee Mass For Young Couples



Lenten Pilgrimages to Karjat & Vasai



Shadows of the Passion - The Newman Choir



Zone 1 & Legion of Mary – Celebrating Mama Mary’s Birthday



SPARC Walking Pilgrimage to the Basilica of Mount Mary

**FOR
EVERY HOUSE
IS BUILT BY
SOMEONE, BUT
THE BUILDER OF
ALL THINGS IS
GOD. HEBREWS 3:4**

†JMJ†

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Community Feast Day Celebrations



THE FAMILY CELL

Strengthening Bonds in the Domestic Church



The Family Cell, under the spiritual guidance of Fr. Norbert, is a team of parishioners from various Small Christian Communities (SCCs), Associations and Cells. It serves the ‘Domestic Church’ by addressing diverse aspects of family life, including married couples, children, singles, widowed or separated individuals, interfaith families, differently-abled persons and the sick or homebound.

With the various activities like, the intercessory ‘Letter to St. Joachim & Ann’ card on Parents and Grandparents Day in July 2024, the Food outreach to Tata Cancer Hospital patients in September 2024, the World Marriage Day Celebration in February 2025 and the Special Jubilee Mass for Families in March 2025, the Family Cell has been growing in its one-on-one interaction with couples and families.

World Marriage Day (9th February 2025) -

A Celebration of Love and Commitment that brought together couples of all ages to renew their marriage vows. The Liturgy and the session that followed left a lasting impact on the participants.

“I was moved to tears seeing young couples seek blessings from the elderly couples. It’s a powerful reminder to respect and learn from those who came before us. A sacred tradition that passes on love, wisdom and kindness to the next generation.”

– Nancy Menezes, *Community H*

“Surrounded by loving couples and uplifting music, we felt our bond grow stronger. The inspiring words from our priest reminded us of the beauty and importance of our commitment to each other. We left feeling rejuvenated, grateful and thankful!”

– Immaculate and Jason, *Community G*



“A beautiful take-away message from the resource persons, Deepa and Paul: ‘Pray to the Holy Spirit for your spouse to be blessed. Husbands should be wise and wives should be patient.’”

– Shamir and Reena Poddar, *Community A*

The Jubilee Mass for Families (16th March 2025) - Newly-weds and young couples (0-5 and up to 10 years of marriage) were personally invited by the Family Cell and SCC Coordinators.



“We felt truly enlightened and blessed to attend this Mass. Fr. Norbert’s sermon stressed the importance of love: feeling loved by each and every member of the family, and the adverse effects of neglect and indifference.”

– Alita and Dylan Rasquinha, *Community H*

“A beautiful reminder of God’s love and faithfulness. We lifted up the struggles faced by families, entrusting them to God’s loving care. A truly uplifting experience, filling our hearts with gratitude and renewed commitment to walk in His light.”

– Cynthia and Neil Parmar, *Community N*

“The pictorial description of the Prayers of the Faithful added a unique depth to the celebration, making the Mass feel more alive and meaningful. A beautiful celebration of unity and faith.”

– Nicole and Neil D’Souza, *Community H*

“Deeply moving. The reading of Abraham’s faith and trust in God was a powerful reminder of the strength that comes from placing our families in God’s hands.”

– Mishal and Xavier Fernando, *Community M*

“A meaningful and joyful occasion. A time of reflection, prayer, celebration of love and family life. The sense of community, support and shared faith made it a special event for us.”

– Lorraine and Clint D’Souza *Community C*

“A beautiful and soulful experience, a meaningful reminder of love, commitment and God’s grace in our relationship.”

– Allen and Carina Shirodkar, *Community K*

“Well animated. Very happy to see many Family Cell members helping. The Church was full, and many young couples attended. The homily by Fr. Norbert was excellent and meaningful.”

– Joy Sequeira, *Community L*

Our upcoming initiatives:

- A “Token of Love” – A hamper filled with medical items and goodies sponsored by parishioners for our Homebound.
- A special Mass for young couples on Divine Mercy Sunday, 27th April 2025 at 6 pm.

Compiled by Reena Poddar, Family Cell



EMPOWERING CHANGE *The Legacy of the Bombay Catholic Sabha*



For 35 years, the Bombay Catholic Sabha (BCS) has been a driving force in empowering our community across civic, social and educational sectors. In 2024, BCS continued this mission with impactful initiatives.



In August, BCS met with Mr. Sanjay Patil, MP from SS(UBT), to address urgent local issues, like road repairs, hawker regulation and illegal parking near the Church. In the spirit of patriotism, we distributed flags at all masses on 15th August. In partnership with the Lions Club, BCS organized a **free medical camp** later that month, providing over 140 people with crucial health services, including blood sugar and eye tests.

In October, a **Voters Awareness program** educated over 75 parishioners on the importance of voting, with speakers like Teesta Setalvad and Dolphy D'Souza emphasizing civic responsibility.

BCS also recognized the academic excellence of our students through the Centre for Excellence. In December, **in collaboration with the Prison Ministry, BCS brought Christmas Joy to 100 children at the Dongri Correction Home.**

In January 2025, another medical camp served over 150 individuals, reaffirming BCS' commitment to the health and well-being of our community.

Through these efforts, BCS continues to build a brighter future, making a lasting impact on the lives of our parishioners.

Shanti Coutinho, Grace Tressler and Melwyn Fernandes,
Bombay Catholic Sabha



SENIOR CITIZENS' VISIT TO A CARE HOME



On 12th December 2024, the Senior Citizens' Committee of our Parish organised a visit to a care home run by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Mahakali, Andheri, for the aged. 20 of us went on this visit to spread the Christmas cheer.

Fr. Nobert, our spiritual director, gave us his blessings, and Sr. Vivian conveyed her prayers and best wishes.

The residents of the home were very glad to see us. **We prayed with them and**

sang Christmas Carols to bring in the Christmas spirit. We had a Santa Claus, who distributed chocolates to them. We danced and sang songs in different languages.

We played a game of Housie, which is their favourite pastime. A happy time spent together!

We received the following letter of appreciation:





Dear Senior Citizens Friends

We are ever grateful for all your Love and Concern you shared with all of us in the Home. We sincerely appreciate all the gifts, the joy you gave to our Residents by dancing and singing for them in different languages and making them so happy. May the Good Lord Bless and keep you and your Families in Good health and grant all your intentions.

Yours gratefully,

All of us at the Home.

Sr. Hilda (Mother Superior)

Franklin D'Silva,
Senior Citizens' Committee



FAITH CELEBRATION DAY



The Sunday School students of grades 7 and 8 participated in the Deanery Faith Celebration Day on 09th February 2025 at St Pius X School Hall. The theme was 'Teach us to Pray'. They recount their learnings from the Programme.

I was eagerly looking forward to spending time with friends, making new friends from other Parishes and learning more about our Faith at this year's Faith Celebration Day.

I learnt that there is more than one way to pray and everyone has the freedom to pray when and how they like. We also learnt about instances in the Bible that explain the different reasons to pray. **The session encouraged me to pray more regularly and try the different methods of prayer.**

We played a team game, which got us all excited and energized and gave us an opportunity to get to know one another. We had a team quiz to test our knowledge on all that we had studied at

Sunday School this year. The questions had us all on our feet, eager to work with each other to ensure that our team wins. It was a fruitful and enjoyable time spent together.

Jeslin Paul (Grade 7)

At the start of the Programme, all the participants, which included students from five neighbouring Parishes, were divided into six groups. Engaging games about prayer, including putting together the 'Lord's Prayer' with the word chits, fostered interaction among us.

Fr. Robinson led a session on the significance of prayer, teaching us how to pray effectively and meaningfully. He taught us to **begin our prayer with gratitude, thanking the Lord for His past blessings, before presenting our needs and to conclude with the Our Father and Hail Mary.**

While prayer can be done anywhere, a

silent and peaceful atmosphere enhances its depth and meaning. Prayer should extend beyond personal needs to include others, as interceding for them not only helps them, but also brings us abundant blessings. I have now started praying regularly.

The Programme concluded with a meaningful Holy Mass. The Faith Celebration Day was an enlightening and inspiring experience for us all.

Marc Rebello (Grade 8)



SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC 2025



On 2nd February 2025, the Sunday School visited 'Paradise Funland' for their annual Picnic and they had one big splash of a time! There's so much that they would like to say:

We went to a water park for our much-awaited picnic this year. The slides were extremely fun and I enjoyed the wave pool. There were lifeguards everywhere and we felt very safe. This was a good opportunity for us to enjoy with our friends.

Isaac Fernandes (Grade 3)

We had a great time at the waterpark. The water slides were thrilling and I loved racing down with my friends. The wave pool was the most exciting attraction and we felt like we were in the middle of an ocean. We enjoyed trying new rides and different types of water slides. The delicious candy floss was yummy!

Kiara and Karen Noronha (Grade 4)

On the morning of the picnic, we attended Mass. After a round of snacks, we were all excited for the bus to take off and take us to Paradise Funland. Once there, we all decided

to jump into the water right away. We had fun in the amusement park and ate cotton candy. By evening, we were thoroughly tired, but returned home with beautiful memories.

Leora Dsilva (Grade 5)

The first thing I did when I got to the Picnic spot, was to grab some cotton candy. It was so delicious that I just couldn't stop myself from a few more helpings! The ice gola was so refreshing, because the weather was really hot. But the best part of the picnic was the wave pool! It was huge and the waves made it feel like we were at the beach. It was such a great day, filled with fun, laughter and yummy treats.

Ivana Savio (Grade 6)

'Picnic' this word excites me no end! This Picnic was so much fun, splashing around with friends. Visiting the water park was the perfect way to beat the summer heat and create lasting memories. I can't wait to go back again.

Mylan Coutinho (Grade 7)

Our Sunday School Picnic, a day filled with joy, laughter and happiness, started off with the blessings of the Almighty during the Eucharist. At the waterpark, the variety of slides and different pools were an amazing experience. To wrap-up the day, we had a fun game of Housie. The memories of this Picnic will be forever remembered and cherished in our hearts.

Karen Salins (Grade 8)





Oh! the picnic - tasty breakfast, various rides and pools and a delicious meal in the afternoon.

In a quiet corner of the park, we noticed some cows peacefully resting. It was a unique experience to feed the cows. Spending a moment with these gentle animals was calming and beautiful.

Later in the day, some of us won amazing prizes like chocolates and lunch boxes at the game of Housie. There were also spot prizes for lucky winners, adding an extra spark of excitement!

Lanice Pinto and
Deona Mendonca (*Grade 9*)



ALTAR SERVERS *A Privilege to be of Service to God*



We are privileged that now both boys and girls are given the opportunity to be Altar Servers. Being an Altar Server makes us feel blessed as it **gives us an opportunity to be close to God by serving Him at the Altar.**

Every Thursday, the Altar Servers' meeting is held at 5 pm in the Church, where the importance of the Eucharist and other aspects of the Mass are explained to us. When the schedule for the week is made, we get to choose the Masses we would like to serve. After we put on our vestments, we say a short Altar Servers Prayer in the Sacristy.

Our Spiritual guides Fr. Aaron, Deacon Karthick, and our teacher Mrs. Susie Gomes, have taught us the basic principles of serving at the Altar: **Discipline, Reverence, Decorum and Piety.** They also clear the various doubts

and questions we have with regards to our Faith. We enjoy various inspirational movies, with snacks throughout the year. After our Thursday meetings, we play football and badminton as a part of the fun activities.

We accumulate points for the Masses we serve, and at the end of the month, three children with the highest points receive a prize. The most exciting part of the fun activities is that every year the Altar Servers go for an enjoyable picnic.

Being an Altar Server has made me reverent, observant and prompt. It has got me more involved in the Mass and helped me discern my vocation better. It has made me a better human being.

Aldora and Adoncia Leitao,
Altar Servers



WALKING PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF MOUNT MARY



It all began at 5 am on 15th September 2024, when we gathered for a walking pilgrimage in honour of Mary, our Mother. Though the local train was packed with early commuters, our enthusiasm remained unwavering. Upon reaching Dadar station, Fr. Aaron shared an insightful reflection, reminding us that this was more than just a walk; it was **a journey of Faith and Devotion.**

Dividing into groups of four, we prayed the Rosary as we walked. Surprisingly, the miles passed effortlessly, it truly **felt as if Mary and Jesus were walking beside us**, uplifting our spirits with every step.

Our first major stop was St. Andrew's Church Bandra, where our own Fr. Clifford greeted us warmly. He provided us with some refreshments and a moment of rest. Feeling refreshed, we continued our journey in silent contemplation toward the Basilica of Mount Mary.



Attending Mass there was a deeply moving experience after the beautiful walk. The energy of the congregation, the beauty of the choir and Fr. Aaron's impromptu concelebration made it all the more special.

After Mass, we enjoyed a simple meal and took a moment to capture group photos. The excitement didn't end there, we wandered into the fair and were drawn to the Ferris Wheel. Watching the cityscape from above, we couldn't help but feel a sense of peace, knowing that our prayers had just been lifted up at the Basilica.

As the afternoon faded, we made our way back home. The train ride was a mix of laughter and silent reflection. Looking back, the day was not just about the walk itself, but about the moments of Faith, friendship and renewal that made it truly unforgettable.

Karen Ivy D'costa, Community P



TREK KOTHALIGAD *A Journey of Adventure & Fellowship*



On Sunday, 22nd September 2024, SPARC, the Parish youth group, embarked on an exhilarating trek to Kothaligad, organized in collaboration with The Storytellers Trek Group. The adventure began at 5:30 am as the group gathered at the Church premises, filled with excitement and anticipation.

After a scenic and lively bus ride, we reached the base of Kothaligad at 8:30 am ready to take on the day. The first stop on the way up was the breakfast point, where we enjoyed a much-needed break around 10:30 am, fueling ourselves for the more challenging part of the trek that awaited us.

After an hour, we reached the top of Kothaligad. The panoramic view was simply breathtaking, and the hour we spent at the summit was filled with laughter, awe and a sense of peace. Whether it was capturing the moment through pictures and reels, or simply soaking in the beauty of nature, it was a time to be cherished.

One unique aspect of the descent was the suggestion to carry gloves, a surprise for most of us. As we made our way down, we were saddened by the sight of litter along the trail, which we picked up.

Post noontime, we were all hungry and exhausted, so the lunchbreak was a welcome



relief. We ate quickly, rejuvenated ourselves, and prepared for the remainder of the descent. We reached the base feeling accomplished.

The journey back was a mix of fun and fatigue, with everyone sharing stories and reliving the

day's highlights. We arrived back at St. Pius, exhausted, but filled with gratitude for the day.

Honbrie Mendonca, Community G

KAIROS PONDICHERRY YOUTH CONFERENCE

Fourteen youth from our Parish, along with our spiritual directors Fr. Aaron and Dn. Karthick, had the incredible opportunity to attend Kairos 2024, the Youth Conference organised by Youth United for Christ (YU4C) and the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) at Pondicherry, from 31st October to 4th November. It was a powerful spiritual journey filled with worship, learning and deep reflection.

Each day was packed with **inspiring sessions and talks designed to guide the youth in the Faith**, led by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) and renowned resource people. The evenings were especially memorable, with a Gospel band leading us in Praise and Worship, bringing us closer to God. **Daily Mass was a cornerstone of the Conference and each day felt like a step towards a deeper spiritual connection with God.**

The Counseling Sessions provided a safe space to ask questions and seek guidance about our doubts and uncertainties. Confessions enabled us to unburden ourselves, leaving us with peace and a renewed relationship with God. Through the various sessions, **we learnt more about our Catholic Faith, explored contemporary issues and how we could stand up for our Beliefs.**

Beyond the sessions, the Conference was also about fellowships in Christ. From traveling together on trains, playing card games and praying the Rosary in the bus, to collecting our Kairos Kits and attending impactful discussions, every moment was filled with joy and meaning. The final day was spent visiting places like the beach and the market.

Kairos 2024 was a journey of Faith, friendship and personal growth that left a lasting impact on all of us.

Honbrie Mendonca, Community G

ARCHDIOCESAN BIBLE QUIZ 2024-25

The Thane Deanery Bible Quiz organized by the Bible Commission of the Archdiocese of Bombay was conducted on 27th October 2024 at St. Pius X Church, Mulund.

Nine teams from across the Thane Deanery competed in the quiz, **based on the Synoptic Gospels and Dei Verbum.** The various rounds of the quiz, both written and oral, wonderfully showcased the skillful and creative nature of the questions that were asked, as well as the

preparedness, Scriptural knowledge and quick thinking of each participating team.

By the end of all the rounds, the **St. Pius team emerged as winners of the Thane Deanery Quiz** and qualified to compete at the Archdiocesan level. The contest was followed by a time of prayer, fellowship and lunch among the participating teams.

The final round of the Bible Quiz was on 19th January 2025 at St. Pius X Seminary, Goregaon as



part of the Jubilee Year Celebrations. St. Pius X Church, Mulund represented the Thane Deanery and competed with eight other Deaneries.

Each round of the quiz was remarkably crafted, consisting of Rapid Fire, Double Trouble, Jumbled Words and Audio-Visual rounds among others. The lifelines provided to each team added an entertaining twist, as well as encouraged participation from the seated audience.

By the end of the five rounds, through all the high-pressure moments and minor setbacks, **St. Pius X Church bagged the Second Place at the Bible Quiz 2025.** The contest truly was an incredible demonstration of profound knowledge of Scripture, teamwork and dedication.

We glorify God for revealing Himself through Scripture and for drawing us closer to Him.

Rachel D'costa, Community C

MY EXPERIENCE AT THE ARCHDIOCESAN FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

We, the Altar Servers of St. Pius X Church, had the incredible opportunity to represent our Parish in the Archdiocesan Altar Servers Football Tournament held between December 2024 and January 2025. It was an amazing experience to be a part of this team, playing alongside friends and representing our Parish with pride.

To qualify for the Finals, we first competed in a knockout stage, playing against other Parishes in our Deanery. The matches were held at Holy Trinity Church, Powai, where we secured a victory and earned our place at the Diocesan level.

The Finals were on 12th January 2025 at St. Pius X Seminary, Goregaon. Despite being a player short, we remained determined and prepared ourselves for the challenge ahead. With only six players and no substitutes, we put up a spirited fight, giving it our all.

We won against Holy Trinity, Powai, and secured a solid 3-0 victory, which boosted our morale and confidence. This win earned us a spot in the semi-finals.

In the semi-finals, we lost 1-0 to St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road, who went on to lift the trophy that day, but we walked away with our heads held high, knowing that we had given our best in the tournament.

We had an amazing coach, Dwayne Pereira, whose leadership, guidance and strategic game plan helped us fight fiercely against stronger teams. We are also grateful to Fr. Aaron and everyone who supported and encouraged us.

We learned valuable lessons about teamwork, perseverance and resilience. With the experience we have gained, we are confident that St. Pius X Parish will lift the cup in the future!

Joshua K.V, Altar Server



INTER-PARISH WOMEN'S THROWBALL TOURNAMEN



For the first time, our Parish participated in the Inter-Parish Women's Throwball Tournament hosted by St. Michael's Church, Mahim on 9th March.

The team of nine players, captained by Malaika Fernandes, **fought fiercely displaying exceptional catch and throw skills to secure the fourth position** among 12 Parishes from across Mumbai.

Congratulations Team St. Pius on this well-deserved success! May this be the first of many more milestones and an encouragement for more of our women parishioners to play the sport.

Team Members: Lydia Dsouza, Anu Antony, Sarah Lobo, Mellissa Rodrigues, Reshma Sequeira, Laveena Pinto, Ambika Kala, Tania Pereira and Malaika Fernandes. Bravo!



Anu Antony, *Community N*



ACTIVITIES OF INFANT JESUS COMMUNITY



Our Community 'C' activities in January and February 2025 were filled with joy, unity and celebration.

January 2025 - Christmas Party Celebrations

In January, our community gathered for a **vibrant Christmas party**, brimming with festive spirit and excitement. The event featured engaging group games for all ages, with special activities tailored for children. A highlight of the evening was the grand arrival of **Santa Claus**, whose dance-filled entry brought immense joy to everyone.

Adding to the celebrations, were the **Christmas Carols harmoniously sung** by community members, who were divided into color-coded teams. Delicious snack boxes filled with delightful treats, further enhanced the festive cheer. The evening fostered a deep sense of togetherness, making it a truly memorable occasion.



February 2025 - Feast Day Celebrations

We celebrated the **Feast of Infant Jesus** with great enthusiasm and joy. Community members of all ages took part in engaging and interactive games, with Housie being the highlight of the evening. Exciting prizes made the game enjoyable, adding to the lively atmosphere.

To complement the festivities, we had a sumptuous spread of snacks and dinner. A special addition to the event was the beautifully



designed Infant Jesus card that was distributed to all families in the community. Additionally, unique bows were created for the Animators, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the event.

These events strengthened our bonds and reinforced the spirit of togetherness within the community.

Joylynn Sequeira, Community C



ST. JUDE COMMUNITY



Community Feast

In preparation for the **Feast of St. Jude**, our community's Patron Saint, we got together at Shiv Darshan Society to pray the Novena to St. Jude from 19th to 27th October 2024.

The Feast Mass was celebrated on 28th October 2024, followed by a get-together in the school hall that was attended by 64 members. Our youth organized some innovative and fun games that involved all age groups. The lively music had everyone moving their feet to the beats. The games were followed by some scrumptious snacks and dinner. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had a wonderful time.



Community Star and Crib

The star was prepared with the theme '**HOPE**', which was displayed in the Church compound during Christmas.

The **Crib** was prepared with the support of all members of the community along with members of Shiv Darshan Society. The Crib, which was set up at the entrance of the Society, was placed in an Orb, decorated with lights and surrounded by grass. It was an amazing experience to work together, which united us even more as a community.

Maria Rita Mascarenhas, Community F



COMMUNITY J1 *A Journey of Faith, Love and Service*



We are a close-knit community of 70 families, bound by faith, compassion and a shared purpose to service. Like threads woven into a beautiful tapestry, we find strength in unity and grace

in our collective devotion. Every gathering, whether in prayer or celebration, deepens our bonds, reminding us that true fellowship thrives when hearts and hands come together.

The Pilgrimage to Mount Mary on 7th September 2024 was a spiritual ascent, a search for God's guidance amid life's complexities. Marian Rosary in October, when the statue of Mother Mary visited our homes, was a reminder that grace flows in the warmth of humble households.

We observed World Day of the Poor on 16th October 2024. The act of distributing blankets to security personnel was more than charity; it was an acknowledgment of unseen labour, a gesture of solidarity with those who guard us in silence.

Children's Day on 10th November 2024, with its vibrant Fancy Dress Competition, celebrated innocence and creativity, reminding us of the Divine spark within each child.

On 5th January 2025, the Feast of the Three Kings, we gathered around the Crib to pray the Rosary, bringing forth the essence of Christmas - humility, joy and hope.

The Feast celebration of our community patron, St. John the Evangelist, on 26th January 2025 embodied fellowship, where shared laughter and communal joy bridged the gap between us.



As a Lenten activity, on 9th February 2025, we visited the Children of God Foundation (COGF) Ashram for destitute children picked up from the streets. We provided lunch for the children and gave the ashram a love offering. We witnessed resilience and healing at the ashram and learnt that true service is found in listening, understanding and embracing.

These experiences were not just events, but echoes of a higher calling - to walk together in faith, love and service.

Jasmine Cardoz, Community J1

JOY IN TOGETHERNESS – ST. VALENTINE COMMUNITY



As a family, we at St. Valentine Community, find joy in meeting people and serving them.

On 25th February 2025, we visited G.O.D.S (Groups of Disabled) Abode in Airoli run by the MBA (Mutually Beneficial Activities) Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of individuals with special needs and supporting their families in coping up with related challenges.

We were delighted to see the care and services provided to both children and adults with special needs. They receive training in various skills, including baking, stitching bags and crafting small purses and pouches. Spending time with them was a rewarding experience,

and seeing the joy in their eyes as they shared their work with us was truly heartwarming.

On 6th March 2025, we celebrated Women's Day at The Little Sisters of the Poor - The Society of The Home for the Aged in Andheri. We carried with us provisions for the home and a bouquet of red roses. The elderly residents were overjoyed to receive a rose, Their happiness was evident in their broad smiles.

The Little Sisters of the Poor welcomes the elderly, aged 65 and above, providing them with food, clothing and medical care until the end of their lives. They rely entirely on charitable donations and the generosity of benefactors.



We appreciate our community members who accompanied us and generously contributed their time and resources.

Veronica Dias, Community L



VIBRANT ST. NICHOLAS COMMUNITY



Our dynamic community embarked on a picnic to Patharewadi, Vasind in July 2024. It was a fantastic way to energize the group and encourage active participation in SCC.

In August 2024, we enthusiastically took part in all the Parish Feast competitions, including cake decoration, chaat-making, youth photography, monsoon wipeout, children's art and group singing. Our collective efforts earned us an impressive **2nd place overall!** The excitement didn't end there - using the prize money, we treated all the participants to a "**Biryani Party**", filled with fun and games.

September 2024 was a month of devotion, as we prayed the **Rosary every week** at different



members' homes. October 2024 brought a special blessing, when **Deacon Karthik visited every family** in our community.

December 2024 was the highpoint as we joyfully celebrated the **Feast of St. Nicholas**. For this annual gathering, we assembled in the school hall under the theme, "**Perfect in Pink**". In an overwhelming show of unity, 90% of the attendees, including the gentlemen, dressed in



pink. With 120 people in attendance, the event was filled with great fellowship and enthusiastic participation.

As Christmas approached, our community members creatively designed a **Christmas Star** that was displayed in the Church compound. What made our star unique was the addition of 93 tassels hanging from the corners, each bearing the name of a family in our community. The message on our Star was:

“There’s room...

in 93 homes for Baby Jesus!”

Grace Tressler, Community N

ARE YOU EXPECTING A BABY?

A Pre-Baptism Catechesis is planned for you.

This course is for all expectant parents, who are required to register and undergo the Pre-Baptism Catechesis by the 4th / 5th month of pregnancy.

Our Parish conducts this course in February, June and October every year.

The next course begins on 1st June 2025. So, if you are in a family way, please register in the Parish office with a copy of your marriage certificate by mid-May 2025.

Godparents’ session is held on the 4th Sunday of those months.

The Pre-Bap course helps you raise up your child in the Faith.

*Assumption Menezes,
Pre-Baptismal Ministry*

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CONGRATULATIONS PROFESSOR RITIN FERNANDES!!!



We congratulate Professor Ritin Fernandes, daughter of late Mr. Santiago Dsilva and Mrs. Brigid Dsilva from Community B, and an alumnus of St. Mary's High School Mulund, for being included among the top 2% of Research Scientists worldwide in



Stanford University's prestigious 2024 List, which featured a record 5352 Indian Scientists. Professor Ritin's recognition is a testament to her unwavering dedication to advancing global healthcare standards.



DENTAL DISASTERS The Do's and Don'ts of Emergency Care



Dental emergencies are scary, and it's often difficult to stay calm during such situations. However, staying calm is precisely what you need to do.

You need to know when emergency dental care is required, so you can visit the dentist as quickly as possible. In most cases, delaying treatment can have serious consequences.

1. What NOT to do in case of severe dental pain?

When you're experiencing dental pain, it's hard to think about anything else. As a result, many people reach for over-the-counter pain relievers to ease their discomfort until they can see a dentist.

- Do not self-medicate
- Do not use home remedies like clove,

nail polish, ice water, salt gargles or even tobacco / alcohol. This might just make your pain worse.

2. What to do in case of severe bleeding from the tooth socket after a fall?

When someone is bleeding in their mouth or has had a tooth knocked out, apply direct pressure to the injury site with a clean and cool washcloth. They should lean forward (not back) to keep blood from flowing down their throat.

3. What to do if your or your child's permanent tooth is knocked out or broken?

DON'T put a knocked-out tooth in your pocket and don't scrub it. Grab it by the crown (the portion visible above the

gumline). Find the tooth or its broken pieces (in case of a clean break) and put it in a cup of milk, since this increases the likelihood that the dentist will be able to put it back in place successfully. Bring it to your dentist within an hour and the tooth should be able to be repaired and reattached.

4. **DON'T ignore a cracked tooth (even if it doesn't hurt)**

A cracked tooth definitively constitutes a dental emergency. Cracks and fractures often expose the living tissue within your tooth. If the crack or fracture is not repaired quickly you may develop an infection and require a root canal or tooth extraction.

5. **Untreated cavities**

Cavities do not go away on their own and they do not cause pain in early stages. Decay in the tooth eats through the protective enamel, leaving the inner layers of the tooth exposed, which lead to infections, abscesses (pus) and excruciating pain.

6. **Lost fillings or crowns**

A lost or broken filling or crown needs to be treated right away. Otherwise, the affected tooth may sustain further (and irreparable) damage. Since the inner layers of the tooth are exposed when a filling or crown falls out, your tooth is also vulnerable to infection.

7. **Broken orthodontic brackets / wires**

Braces are designed to withstand daily wear and tear, but they're not indestructible. Mouth injuries, eating

hard or sticky foods, aggressive brushing and poking at them with a toothpick can all cause braces to break. Broken wires and loose or dislodged brackets are sharp enough to slice up the inside of your mouth if you don't act quickly.

So, what to do if this happens? Try to push the broken wire into a more comfortable position that protects your cheeks and gums. Alternatively, cover the exposed end with orthodontic wax, a small cotton ball, or a piece of gauze and visit the dentist immediately.

8. **Dental abscesses / pus**

Dental abscesses are a very serious threat to your oral and overall health. If untreated, the infection will spread to the surrounding teeth, jaw and gum tissue. Severe gum disease, untreated cavities and broken teeth can cause dental abscesses to form. They often look like a white boil on your gums and can be accompanied by a fever and swollen gum.

How to Avoid Dental Emergencies

- Brush your teeth twice a day and floss once daily to remove plaque.
- Wear a protective mouthguard during sports, which has been fabricated by your dentist to give the perfect fit.
- Don't open things with your teeth - Your teeth are strong, but they are not bottle openers.
- Visit your dentist regularly, which is biannually.

Dr. Sejal Samson,
BDS, MDS, MCP, PGDMLE



EASTER 2025 QUIZ



- I) Maundy Thursday: where does the word Maundy come from?
- 1 - from an old French word meaning “to mourn”
 - 2 - from an old Anglo-Saxon word meaning “mundane”
 - 3 - from an old Latin word meaning “command”
 - 4 - from an old Greek meaning “supper”
- II) What is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday called?
- 1 - Shrove Tuesday
 - 2 - Fat Tuesday
 - 3 - Pancake Tuesday
 - 4 - All of the Above
- III) What Christian practice is observed on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday?
- 1 - A festive meal with family and friends
 - 2 - Empty out all open bottles of strong drink
 - 3 - Stop subscription to entertainment channels
 - 4 - Make one’s Confession
- IV) When are the Holy Oils used in the Sacraments blessed?
- 1 - Palm Sunday Mass
 - 2 - Maundy Thursday
 - 3 - Chrism Mass
 - 4 - Good Friday
- V) The Easter Triduum is one celebration over three days. How many Masses are included in it?
- 1 - One Mass
 - 2 - Two Masses
 - 3 - Three Masses



VI) In the Easter Vigil Mass up to seven Old Testament Readings are prescribed. However, if there is a shortage of time up to five can be omitted. Name the OT Reading that cannot be omitted.

VII) What is the colour of the Vestment the Celebrant uses for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses?

1 - Golden, White

2 - White, Red

3 - White, Golden

4 - White, Violet

VIII) Palm Sunday is also known as _____ Sunday.

IX) Which Greek letters are marked on the Paschal Candle?

X) Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus wrapped Jesus' body in linen and spices according to the Jewish burial custom. What were the spices used and how much?

Answer the quiz, tear off this sheet and put it in the box outside the Parish Office by 30th April 2025.

Name: _____, **Mobile:** _____

Community: _____

Winners of "Quiz on the Holy Eucharist" – August 2024

Nathan Cherian (Community I), Joylynn Sequeira (Community C),
Nathan Dsouza (Community H)



WELCOME TO THE ST. PIUS FAMILY



PARENTS' NAMES	CHILD'S NAME	BAPTISM DATE
Lenine Nadar and Arockiya Selvi	Jadon	15.09.2024
Akshay Sequeira and Simonne Lobo	Asher	20.10.2024
Denius and Sonali Phillips	Aaren	27.10.2024
Sydon Pereira and Caroline Mathias	Luke	03.11.2024
Jackson and Sharlet Fernandes	Andrea	17.11.2024
PT Rajnikanth and Virginia	Darren	01.12.2024
Firoz Khan and Islamunnisha	Altaf	01.12.2024
Pradeep and Meenakshi Sharma	Pooja	08.12.2024
Craig and Christina Rozario	Richie	08.12.2024
Mark White and Binsy Anthikatt	Adora	29.12.2024
Suhvinder and Juby Arora	Jake	29.12.2024
Roshan and Sharmila Fernandes	Nesha	29.12.2024
Vijay and Reena Kadam	Reeya	12.01.2025
Dylan and Alita Rasquinha	Caelyn	02.03.2025
Gary and Diana Monteiro	Dorothea	16.03.2025



WISH YOU A HAPPY MARRIED LIFE



NAMES	WEDDING DATE
Hemant Kondibhau and Mary Ann Avelina Fernandes	28.12.2024
Delroy Joseph Santos and Rochelle D'costa	30.12.2024
Swamahia Rosario Rayen and Ramona Viola Pinto	04.01.2025
Brian Clinton Lobo and Sejal Puthenveetil	17.01.2025
Brendan Pereira and Camellius Dias	01.02.2025
Alister Stephen Nazareth and Pooja Sharma	02.02.2025
Wilson D'costa and Malinee Dhende	15.02.2025
Adal Russel Pinto and Vaibhavi Thakkar	01.03.2025





MAY YOU REST IN PEACE



NAME	AGE	RETURNED TO GOD
Angeline Euleen Pinto	83 yrs	11.08.2024
Xavier Rozario Dias	92 yrs	06.08.2024
Gracy Francis Lewis	84 yrs	24.08.2024
Vincent Pereira	68 yrs	25.08.2024
Vincent Paul Mathew	80 yrs	23.08.2024
Richard Gasper Lobo	63 yrs	02.09.2024
Harman Jasin D'souza	77 yrs	07.09.2024
Edwin Bernard Fernandes	82 yrs	28.09.2024
Allwyn Gabriel Fernandes	47 yrs	11.10.2024
Jason Joe Berry	48 yrs	15.10.2024
Treesa. J. Anthikat	79 yrs	08.11.2024
Walter Terence Couto	82 yrs	13.11.2024
Juliana Alice Coutinho	92 yrs	18.11.2024
Jennifer Mariano Saldanha	69 yrs	08.12.2024
Leonard Dominic D'souza	84 yrs	28.12.2024
Stephen James Sequeira	73 yrs	07.02.2025
Cheryle Michael Dsouza	71 yrs	08.02.2025
Mariakay Neville D'silva	70 yrs	15.02.2025
Allen Daniel Moses	31 yrs	21.02.2025
Lucy Silva	89 yrs	12.03.2025
Paul Denis Moraes	66 yrs	13.03.2025
Mellisa D'monty	54 yrs	19.03.2025
Belvoire Lula D'Souza	85 yrs	31.03.2025

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90% OF PEOPLE ARE LOSING MONEY EVERY YEAR.



ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?

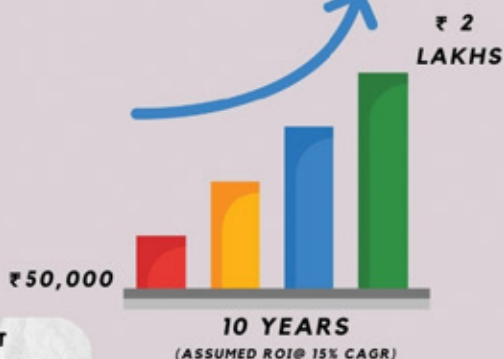
🔥 COMMON MISTAKES PEOPLE MAKE:

- ✗ KEEPING MONEY IN SAVINGS? INFLATION IS EATING AWAY ITS VALUE.
- ✗ RELYING ONLY ON FDS? YOU'RE BARELY KEEPING UP WITH RISING COSTS.
- ✗ AVOIDING GOOD INVESTMENTS? THE RICH INVEST, THE POOR HESITATE.

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CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

Melwin Pinto
Local Guide · 49 reviews · 139 photos
★★★★★ 3 year ago

WealthifyYou doesn't just mean to make you wealthy but guides you to build a better financial stability. Denzil is an expert financial advisor. He doesn't sell his financial services instead understands his clients needs & goals first, analysis them and then guides them through the right approach of investments that can be done to have stable financial background. He has great skills regarding market and has various options and strategies to help you build good financial future. Whether be it your dream house, children's future, retirement goals or healthy lifestyle etc one must consult Denzil before investing elsewhere. I can personally vouch for him since he has guided me well for my future plans.
Thank you Denzil and Team.

Amit Joshi
Local Guide · 78 reviews · 15 photos
★★★★★ 5 months ago

Denzil is a rockstar, I recently had to undergo a stressful situation with a hospital and he made it smooth for me and my family. Thought the services would end after we have bought the insurance like other sales guys but he proved me wrong, repeatedly.

Roshan Dalva
Investor
★★★★★ 1 year ago

I just wanted to drop a Thank you and appreciation note to tell how great Denzil Dsouza from WealthifyYou has been in handling my investments needs since 2017. The sound financial advice he gave me helped me to achieve my financial goals. Denzil has attended to my requests and questions expeditiously and effectively. I never have to worry about anything being forgotten or dropped.

He spent considerable time understanding my goals and also advising me on the right approach to investments. Using financial research that he had done, he was able to let me know which were the right mutual funds to invest in and allowed me to make the choice. The in-depth insights and clarity towards the markets helped me invest soundly.

Thank you for having such a wonderful person working with WealthifyYou & I would strongly recommend WealthifyYou to anyone requiring a proactive and professional investment planning service.

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Hallelujah

"You have nothing to worry about. The LORD is taking care of you on this Journey" (Judges 18:6)

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- Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua
- Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore
- Basilica of St. Mark & Trevi Fountain
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- Old Town Square
- Our Lady of Tyr Church
- Infant Jesus of Prague Shrine
- Our Lady of Snow Church & The Astronomical Clock
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- Vltava River Cruise

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CROATIA

PORTUGAL : Fatima - Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem

- Ancestral house of three Shepherd Children & Candle Light Procession

FRANCE : Lourdes - Nevers - Rocamabour - Paris (Eiffel Tower)

- Sanctuary of Our Lady of Rocamabour • Notre-Dame Cathedral
- Marian Candle Light Procession (A chance to participate for 2 days)
- Sanctuary of St. Bernadette Soubiroux Tomb in Nevers & Birth place
- Blessed Sacrament Procession & Way of the Cross in the Sanctuary-LOURDES
- Church of St. Catherine Laboure, Miraculous Medal • St. Vincent de Paul Chapel

SLOVAKIA : Bratislava

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- Jungfrau by Train • Rhine Falls • Interlaken

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We place our destiny in the hands of the LORD, not in human hands, because HIS Mercy is as great as HIS Majesty"

(Sirach 2:18)

*T & C Apply