



# TIONIAN

## tw ts

UNITED IN PRAYER, WE BUILD THE BODY OF CHRIST; BY ACTIVELY SPREADING LOVE AND PEACE THROUGH EQUALITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

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A LOT CAN  
HAPPEN  
IN A YEAR!

You know what they said in Lion King: "You can either run away from the past or learn from it!"

FUTURE  
PRESENT

My dear Fr Cajetan and Abbe,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH for having sent me a soft copy of your parish bulletin, TONIAN TWEETS: October 2023 to December 2023.

I must say that the entire bulletin is filled with plenty of activities organized at the parish level and in the SCCs. Your parish is not a sleeping giant, but is always awake and on the go. Celebrating Parents and Grandparent's Day in the various SCCs, the Independence Day celebrations, the outreach to Manipur victims, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Novena on the occasion of the Birthday of Our Lady, clergy day celebrations, etc. The segment on Matters that matter and the report on the World Youth Day offered me much food for thought. The reports of activities in Marathi are also praiseworthy.

Congratulations to you, Fr Cajetan Menezes and to your Clergy Team, not forgetting the Editorial Board and of course to the entire ANTONIAN PARIVAR. God bless you and your parish community.

Yours sincerely,  
Barthol

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THEME FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

### **IS KINDNESS AN OUTDATED VIRTUE?**

Your type-written matter to reach  
toniantweets@gmail.com by 31st March 2024

As the old gives way to the New, let us welcome 2024 with hope and enthusiasm. May the canvas of the New Year be painted with vibrant moments and unforgettable memories.

Wishing that 2024 be filled with Happiness, Love, Joy,  
Peace and Prosperity.

*Happy New Year*  
**2024 from the  
Tonian Tweets Team!**





*From the desk of our Parish Priest*  
**FR. CAJETAN D. MENEZES**

**A lot will happen in 2024 ...**

A lot can happen in a year ... that rings true! As we look back on the past year, we largely take stock of the year gone by and forge ahead with hope and enthusiasm into the New Year. In the New Year, we must never forget to thank God for the past year...for without the steps of the past year, with its fair share of joys and sorrows, we would never have transitioned into the future.

2024. A lot will happen that will be conspicuous with ever so many changes....

Our Parish Church is over 400 years old, but 2023 will be considered a year of changes. A new Parish Priest, a new Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and for first time a separate Small Christian Communities (SCC) leadership structure. We have two leadership teams, the PPC members and SCC coordinators who have to work hand in hand to animate the parish with the Team of Priests and make it a Christ-centric and vibrant parish. We have a new Finance Committee to look after property and financial matters. We are deeply rooted in tradition, and the challenge is how we adapt to change and move forward. We are reminded that we must be united for a common purpose. We are aware of the road-widening project impacting our properties, and how it will alter the landscape of our church compound in 2024.

At the universal level, Pope Francis is inviting us to be a “**Synodal Church**,” where “we walk together” to be a more inclusive participatory church. The theme for our last Parish Family Day in 2023 was “**Community, Divinity, Synergy – Igniting Team Spirit for a Greater purpose**,” which invites us to carry the same spirit into the New Year. May our interaction, collaboration and camaraderie in 2023 bring out the best in each other and ignite better Team-spirit and greater purpose in building Unity and deep bonding among community members. May it inspire and motivate parishioners for self-less service to the parish and good citizenship. What unites us with a common purpose is our Faith, and we belong to the one body of Christ. Let us feel the unity of Christ as we rally around One Faith, One Lord to build One Community – One parish for a greater purpose in 2024.

Happy New Year! God bless you all!

# Celebrating Saints



## Saint Vincent Pallotti

*Our life is: To breathe God in and out. To find God in everything. To reveal God to all.*

**(1795 – 1850) Feast day: January 22**

**Patron Saint of the Catholic Apostolate Center and Vatican II**

Born in Rome in 1795, Vincent was ordained a priest in 1818. He possessed an exceptional love for poverty and penance and was especially devoted to St Francis of Assisi. Vincent worked with the poor of Rome, establishing trade schools to help them improve their material condition. His apostolic zeal is ascribed to the foundation of the Pious Society of the Missions, also called the Pallottine Fathers. The purpose of the society was to arouse faith and charity among Catholics and unbelievers. Vincent placed the organization under the protection of the Immaculate Mother and under submission to the Holy See. He died on January 22, 1850. His body was exhumed 100 years after his death and was found to be completely incorrupt. He was beatified in 1950 and canonized in 1963.



## Saint Gonzalo Garcia

*My good friend, God be with you*

**(1556 – 1597) Feast Day: February 5**

**Patron Saint of the Archdiocese of Bombay and the Diocese of Vasai**

Born of a Portuguese father and a native mother in Bassein (now Vasai) in c 1556, Garcia was trained under the Jesuits in his early years. At fifteen he left for Japan to join the mission efforts of the Jesuit fathers. Garcia served as a catechist for eight years in this mission field. He then betook himself to Alacao to set up a trade. His business flourished but Garcia yearned to be religious. Eventually, he joined the Franciscans. The Japanese shoguns suspected the missionaries of sedition and had them excised. On February 5, Garcia was crucified on Nagasaki Hills with twenty-six of his companions. On June 8, 1862, Pope Pius IX declared Garcia a saint.



## Saint Patrick

*Christ be within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me...*

**(c 385 - 461) Feast Day: March 17**

**Patron Saint of Ireland, Invoked against snakes and sins**

Called the 'Apostle of Ireland', Patrick was born in Roman Britain. At fourteen, he was captured by pirates and taken to Ireland as a slave. In captivity, Patrick turned to God and with His Grace escaped at the age of twenty. On returning to his family, Patrick joined the seminary and was ordained priest by St. Germanus. Later Patrick was appointed Bishop and was sent to preach the Good News to Ireland. St Patrick is best known for using the shamrock to explain the mystery of the Holy Trinity. After preaching for forty years, working miracles, living in poverty, traveling, and enduring much suffering, St Patrick died on March 17, 461.

# Community Collaborations

## Senior Citizens were regaled...



Senior Citizens' Day was celebrated on Sunday, 8th October 2023 at the Infant Jesus Chapel, after the 9.00 am Mass. Zone VI comprising of 5 Communities, viz. Holy Spirit, Holy Family, Holy Trinity, St. Teresa and Divine Mercy organized the event.

The Chapel extension was decorated with balloons and posters of Senior Citizens. After a light breakfast, and a short prayer by Fr Osmand Dsouza, what ensued was pure masti! Fun games, dance and solo singing of Hollywood and Bollywood songs of yesteryears. There was a gleam of joy on their faces while they cherished the time taken to make them feel special.

The major highlight was the presence of a senior police personnel from the Malvani Police Station. He provided useful insights on cyber-crime, Sr. citizen abuse, do's and dont's for senior citizens and the Mumbai Police Helpline

100 & 1090, for emergency.

We settled down for a game of Housie before Lunch. The mouthwatering aroma drew everyone to the lunch table. The meal was painstakingly prepared to suit every

palate from 60 to 80 years.

Happiness was written largely on the faces of all the 58 senior citizens. A special gift was given as a token of love and appreciation to each one!

Feedback from Senior Citizens has been heart-warming - how they enjoyed the day by making new friends, joining in the games, singing and dancing. The smiles on their faces was sheer encouragement to work harder in our communities.

Sincere thanks to the team of coordinators of Zone 6 who made this event memorable for every senior citizen.

*- Clinton D'souza,  
Zonal Head – Zone 6*

## Celebrating our Seniors

Pope Francis established the celebration of World Day for Grandparents and Elderly. The theme for the 2023 Senior Citizens celebration is "His mercy is from age to age." On that note, the Seniors from St Anne's Community, gathered at the Infant Jesus Chapel on 7th October 2023 for camaraderie and prayer, along with games, music, dance, lunch, and birthday celebrations.

About 40 seniors took part in the event, celebrating the



freshness of ageing with grace together with friends and family. Our hostess for the day, Larissa D'mello with her warm and cheerful demeanour created a lively environment. During the event, we also honoured the oldest citizen in the community – a 98 year old! A variety of games and fun activities were organised. Our spiritual Director Bro. Nelson, helped sensitize the need for togetherness. He blessed all the Seniors and presented them with a Rosary on the occasion of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

The children in the community emphasised through a speech how our lives without

our grandparents is incomplete. They were ecstatic in cheering them with placards proclaiming: “We Love U”.

Being grateful for the meal provided, Victor D'Mello led us in prayer. The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Animator Hritu Smith. One of our seniors, expressed gratitude to the Community for making them feel special. All the attendees were presented with a token of appreciation.

*- Joy C'est la vie,  
Animator,  
St. Anne's Community - Zone 7*

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## CELEBRATING SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY



On the 29th of October 2023, the seniors of The Emmanuel Community, were knocked off our feet by the thoughtfulness of our young, vivacious Coordinator, Sangeeta Gomes Tripathy, who organized an eventful get-together. The effort and the planning put in with the help of the animators and her family made the event a grand success.

The games were well planned, especially the memory game. This game made the seniors put on their thinking caps, as a memory test to list the items that were displayed. Prizes were handed over to the winners of the games. It was nice to have new seniors join us. They displayed exceptional talent in singing old Hindi songs, which took us down memory lane. Bro. Nelson Matthew joined us later and distributed communion to those who were unable to attend the Sunday Mass. He also entertained us, with his melodious voice, with Hindi songs of the yesteryears. The giveaways (Holy water and candles) blessed by Fr. Osmand were distributed to each one, to ward off evil in our homes. Snacks, soft drinks and tea were served.

The evening came to an end with each one bidding Au revoir to one another.

One of the seniors appropriately categorized us as “SEASONED” Seniors and not Senior Citizens.

*- Margret Fernandes,  
Member,  
Emmanuel Community – Zone 7*

## COMMUNITY FEAST & SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY

A combined celebration of the Community feast and Senior Citizen's Day was organized on 30th September 2023, in the Mini Hall at 8:00 pm. The animators and members decorated the hall with colourful balloons and lights to give it a festive look. The entrance to the hall was in an orderly procession, singing hymns with the statue of Mother Mary followed with the Rosary.

After the rosary, snacks were distributed. Games and spot prizes were organized. A token of love and appreciation was given to all the Senior Citizens' present. After reciting the grace before meals, food was served. In my vote of thanks, I thanked the animators for their continuous support and the community members for their time.

This evening of togetherness helped to foster a sense of unity, promote social interaction, and strengthen the bonds between community members.



- **Succour Fernandes,**  
PPC Coordinator,  
Our Lady of Velankani Zone 2

## Community Feast – Honouring Mother Mary



On 13th October at 6:30 pm, the community members, animators and coordinator, assembled near the community Grotto and went in procession to the church for the 7:00 pm mass offered by our community.

The Eucharist was celebrated by our Parish Priest, Fr. Cajetan. He delivered an inspiring sermon, emphasizing the importance of unity within the community for its growth and progress. During Offertory, our animators offered fruits and flower bouquets.

Following the Eucharistic celebration, we returned to our community in procession, singing hymns along with the statue of our Lady to the community Grotto, where we prayed the Rosary. Our Spiritual Director, Sr. Rita, along with Sr. Valencia and Bro. Nelson, were present to guide us. We offered prayers for various intentions and concluded with a closing hymn.

Thereafter, snacks and cold drinks were distributed. Our coordinator Gregory Veigas expressed his gratitude to the animators and the community members for their support and cooperation.

- **Anita Cardoz,** Animator,  
O. L. of Fatima Community – Zone 2

## Praying the Rosary

To commemorate the month of the Rosary, different clusters assembled every Monday in the compound of the four societies of our community to pray the rosary. In every society we have 2 or 3 animators who would put in a lot of effort to beautify and adorn the statue of Mamma Mary with flowers and lamps.

This year, Parents' Day was celebrated at the Zonal level and hence Clint D'souza who secured 87% in his tenth board exams could not be felicitated at that function. Hence, on the 2nd of October, the first day of the Rosary held in that society, Clint, also a confirmand, was presented with a gift from the community.

On the last day when the rosary was recited, Annie Lemos, a Coordinator, for two terms (7 years) was felicitated. She was also the Zonal Head and worked selflessly for the community. The rosary service was followed by fellowship.



- **Philomena D'souza,**  
PPC Coordinator,  
Holy Spirit Community – Zone 6



## Rosary Devotion

During the month of October, the month dedicated to the rosary, the recitation of the Rosary was conducted on each Sunday at the residence of two members from our cluster. Around 12 - 15 members including children came and prayed the rosary along with the members of our cluster.

This was made possible through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. After the rosary, light-hearted topics were discussed, especially the upcoming events in the parish, fun n frolic, light bites and laughter. This brought the members of our families together. It was a great bonding experience!

- **Wilma Mascarenhas,**  
Animator,  
St. Teresa of Avila Community – Zone 7



## Celebrating the Month of the Rosary

The Rosary is the most powerful spiritual weapon against evil and temptation. Reciting the Rosary is a way of honouring Mary and the virtues she represents. The Rosary expresses appropriately the principle of solidarity because it transcends the boundaries of culture and language as it contemplates on the spirit of Mary and Jesus.

The families of our community welcomed Our Mother into our homes. The children were encouraged to conduct the daily rosary. This brings families together and fosters a sense of unity and togetherness. The last day of the Rosary was concluded with a special prayer service for the First Holy Communion children and a game of housie with dinner sponsored by our generous member. We thank our Spiritual Director Bro. Nelson for gracing



the service and all the animators for being there daily and supporting and encouraging everyone. May Mama Mary bless and protect us all.

- **Diana Soares,**  
Animator,  
St. Anne's Community - Zone 7



## Rosary Devotion

Come October, the atmosphere was rife with the fragrance of flowers, incense, lighting of candles, melodious singing of hymns, and decoration of houses to invite our loving mother in our midst.

Our community experienced the same devotional feeling: families of the neighbourhood coming together with great reverence to welcome the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in our homes.

Rosaries were recited while dedicating decades for different intentions. Grams, cold drinks and other delicacies were served.

Just like the beads of the rosary, the entire community was bound with love, compassion and respect for our Mother as we proclaimed with one voice, "No one can live as an island, journeying through life alone.... if we have our Mother Mary besides us!

- **Jennifer Caston,**  
SCC Coordinator,  
Our Lady of Velankanni – Zone 3

## Mother Mary visits our homes

October is the month of the Holy Rosary when everyone awaits Mother Mary's entry into their homes to seek her blessings. It is also a joyous time for prayer, thanksgiving, fellowship and togetherness.

On 1st October, Mrs. Sangeeta – Coordinator of Emmanuel Community, initiated the welcoming of our Blessed Mother into her home, followed by other members taking turns each day.

Every day, Mother Mary's statue was carried in solemn procession from one home to another, praying and singing Marian hymns along the way. Some members welcomed our Mother on their birthdays to seek her blessings. Families adorned their homes with flowers, candles, and sweet fragrance creating a warm ambience to welcome her. Every day, members recited the Holy Rosary followed by a special prayer by Auntie Piedade for the intentions of the family and the community.



Thereafter, everyone joined in the fellowship, comprising of delicious snacks and refreshing soft drinks served by the family.

Thus, the entire month of October was a blissful celebration of our Blessed Mother.

**- Maria Rodrigues,**  
Animator,  
Emmanuel Community – Zone 7



## Rosary Devotion

October, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, also celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, on 7th October. It is at this time that families and communities pray the Holy Rosary every day for peace in the world.

Our Community, comprising of about 15 - 25 members - children, youth and elders, attended the Rosary daily. The statue of our Lady was taken in procession while singing Hymns with lighted candles from one family to another. Children took the lead in reciting the Rosary. Every family had the joy of taking Our Lady to their homes. A Spiritual aura came alive while singing the line 'AVE MARIA' after every decade of the rosary. Each Mystery reminded us about the life of Jesus. With each mystery, Our Lady leads us on a journey of Spiritual growth and helps us to know Jesus better. We also had a few Non-Catholics attending the Rosary which gave us immense joy. Through this month of the Rosary, everyone united together as one family to honour, revere and venerate Mamma Mary.

**- Alisha Nazareth,**  
PPC Coordinator,  
Our Lady of the Sea – Zone 2

## Honouring Mother Mary

It was the month of October: a month dedicated to Mother Mary. During this month, Mother Mary visited families, as is customary. This personalized interaction helps create a sense of bonding within the community. The houses were well decorated and the place of honour allotted for the statue of Mother Mary, was always beautifully adorned with flowers, lace and lights.

Every day at 8:00 pm 15 to 20 members of our community which included children, youth and adults walked in procession along with the statue of Mother Mary, singing hymns. The Rosary was prayed with devotion and special intentions made at every decade. At the end of the Rosary, snacks and cold drinks were served to all who participated.



- **Succour Fernandes**,  
PPC Coordinator,  
Our Lady of Vailankanni – Zone 2

## Children's day celebration

The most precious thing in this world is a smile on a child's face. The coordinators and animators of Gift of Peace and the Gift of Goodness communities, came together on 14th November 2023, to bring precious smiles and happiness to the children of our communities. Oriana, our generous animator opened her home for us to have the Children's day celebration. All the kids cheerfully gathered at 7:00 p.m. We started the program with a prayer. The kids enjoyed the fun-filled games: Musical chairs, Bombing the city, Rapid fire quiz based on Children's day, housie etc. Our Spiritual Director, Sr. Valencia graced the celebration by her surprise visit and spoke eloquently about children's welfare. Snacks and

juice was served amidst the games. It was heartwarming to see the children dance and sing while bonding with their friends. The many spot prizes encouraged the children to participate enthusiastically.

Delicious dinner was served, followed by the prize distribution. Carefully selected utility articles were awarded to the winners. Each child received a takeaway box filled with chocolates as a token of love. The coordinators and animators also shared a nice time with the children making the celebration a grand success!



- **Brunta Anthony**, Animator,  
Gift of Peace – Zone 1

## Childrens' Day Party

The news of the children's day celebration on 27th November 2023, was electrifying. As I went to the Chapel, I felt so delighted to see the place decorated with colourful balloons and so many of my old friends. I also made new friends whom I met at the party.

Every time I attend any celebration organised by our community, it is always fun and a new experience. All the aunties organized new games: my favourite game was **bombing the port**. There was peppy music provided by Bro. Nelson and we danced a lot. We had yummy snacks, lovely gifts and surprises. Happiness and cheer was all around.

Mamma always says "If we create beautiful things, it brings joy and happiness."

I thank Maria aunty and all the others who made this day so special. I was left with amazing memories.

Thank you.



- Ronan Smith,  
St. Anne's Community Zone 7

## Community Picnic

Enjoying a picnic with loved ones is always a wonderful experience. A picnic brings a lot of people together for fun, joy and excitement. Keeping this in mind, our community organized a picnic for the members at the 'Samara Gardens' at Madh Island on 20th August 2023.

The day dawned and before starting any event, we begin by giving thanks to Jesus. No picnic or trip can begin without a fun bus ride to the destination. We had many golden age singers on board who made the travel special. We arrived at our destination with full gusto, ready



to make the day a memorable one. Everyone enjoyed good meals offered by the hotel. Before beginning with the main games, we felicitated our retired animator/coordinator, Mr. William Menezes, with special gifts for his dedication to the community for many years. He is a true gem in our community. The games included: housie, bombing the city, passing the parcel and many more. Not forgetting the pool for a time of chillax.

The bonds we create, the memories made and the blessings we receive will always be cherished. At the end of picnic, we thanked God again for an eventful day.

- Zyan Fernandes,  
SCC Coordinator,  
Emmanuel Community – Zone 7

## ADVENT WREATH PRAYER SERVICE

The circular shape of the Advent Wreath symbolizes God's Infinite Love for us.

Our community had the first week Advent Wreath Prayers on 4th December in one of our societies 'Deepmala'. We lit the purple candle of **HOPE**, also known as the Prophet's candle. It symbolizes expectations felt in anticipation of the coming of the Messiah.

The second week we conducted the prayers in the next society 'Prasana Vastu'. The candle of **FAITH** also known as the Bethelhem candle along with the first candle was lit. The third week a pink candle symbolizing **JOY** also known as the Shepherd's candle was lit. The prayer service was held in 'Unity' society. The fourth week prayer service was held in 'Jaydeep' society on 21st December 2023. The fourth purple candle symbolizing **PEACE** also known as Angel's Candle was lit. It reminds us of the message of the angels "Peace on earth and goodwill to men"

All the four societies were well decorated with colourful lights. The prayer service was well attended



with good participation from the respective clusters. We had a fellowship at all the places after the prayer service. After the third and fourth week prayers we had carol singing. All came dressed in Christmas colours and wore santa caps.

- **Filomena Rodrigues,**  
Animator,  
Holy Spirit Community

## Blessed Threads: Bound by Unity and Joy

During 2023, our community witnessed a series of events, each weaving threads of faith, togetherness, and joy. October began with the Rosary to Mother Mary, deepening our spiritual connection. The month also saw home visits to the sick, bringing them much happiness.

November witnessed a vibrant Parish Family Day and the procession to mark the feast of Christ the King, strengthened familial bonds within our community.

December sparkled with Advent Wreath prayers and a touching Christmas carol session with Sneha Sagar Ashram's children.

Adding a dynamic touch, Sports Week saw commendable performances, with Lynden Ferreira and Melwyn Noronha securing notable victories. The year concluded with a Cluster Christmas party, radiating warmth and joy.

As we fondly reminisce about the events that our community organized in 2023, thanks are extended to our vibrant team of Animators, led by the dedicated Coordinator Angel Fernandes and SCC Coordinator Vigil Fernandes. Their unwavering commitment and inspiring leadership played a pivotal role in orchestrating these memorable moments, fostering a spirit of togetherness and joy within the community.

- **Branca Teixeira,**  
Animator,  
Our Lady of Nazareth Community

## Devotion to Mother Mary

On 30th September, the statue of Mother Mary was brought to the community in procession from the Chapel for family visit from house to house. Hymn books and prayer leaflets were distributed to encourage participation and create a prayerful atmosphere. On 1st November the statue was taken back in procession to the Chapel.



## Community Rosary

On 26th October, the community Rosary was organized. Approximately 52 people attended the Rosary. We went in procession from our community cross to the Chapel. The rosary was prayed in English, Marathi and Konkani near the Grotto of Mother Mary. Intentions were offered for various needs of our parish and community with special prayer for peace in Israel Gaza and the entire world. After the rosary fellowship was organized.

- **Meena Patel**,  
Infant Jesus Community, Kharodi

## Senior Citizens' Day



On Saturday 7th October, we felicitated the Senior Citizens' of our community. Twelve Senior Citizens attended the program. Each senior citizen was welcomed by the coordinator.

We began with the opening prayer and Bible reading. This was followed by games and refreshments.

The program ended with a closing prayer by one of the animators, after which, the seniors thanked and blessed the coordinator and animators personally. As a token of Love, a gift was presented to each of them.

- **Bosco Patel**, Animator,  
Infant Jesus Community

## Advent Wreath Prayer Service

Advent wreath prayers were organized cluster-wise, by the Animators.

The coordinator, animators and family members were requested to light the Advent candle and recite the prayer.

The first and the second week's prayers were conducted at cluster level. The third week's prayer was conducted at community level.

It was a marvelous way of preparing for the birth of baby Jesus, through these meaningful services.



- **Sarika Gracias**, PPC Coordinator,  
Infant Jesus Community

# Parish Peeps

## Skills for Animators' Training

Our Archdiocese has been initiating ways to build not only strong and engaging Parishes but also focusing on SCC's - Small Christian Communities.

The Vision Statement has at its core the axiom: "NO ONE IN WANT" - our Mission aims to make a shift from Small Christian Communities to Small Human Communities.

This makes the SCC Animators training even more intriguing, since the focus - bringing communities, at the same time clusters together, has been signaled!

Parishes across Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane - Animators, Coordinators and even a Parish Priest attended. What's interesting to note is the statistics that we have 124 Parishes in our Archdiocese and 11 Deaneries.

The SCC Animators training was spread across 2 days - 28th and 29th October, with Bishop Barthol welcoming the 57 trainees from various Parishes. This included a gamut of activities-Gospel sharing, communication, networking with cells and associations, working in clusters [with a stress on animators and community coordinators focusing towards



building strong personal relationship within clusters] and strengthening communities with emphasis on "No One is in Want" there by helping to maintain and sustain SCCs.

My colleagues Perpetua Fernandes, Johnson Pereira, Claudy Dsouza and I were part of this well organised training, jam-packed with not only prayer and presentations but a balance of interactive sessions that will help each of us take these experiences forward. For those who feel lost at times, this training gives us purpose.

Truly grateful to Bishop Barthol and his ever enthusiastic and amazing team for sharing the knowledge to move onward and upward. "Unity is Strength".

*- Jason Fernandes,  
SCC Coordinator,  
Holy Trinity Community - Zone 6*

## DYD - 2K23



Deanery Youth Day - Dyd 2k23 was hosted by the St. Anthony's Parish, Malwani on 15th September '23.

The theme of the event was 'Beyond Space'.

Youth from the entire deanery of South Borivali led themselves into this wonderful social event fuelled with interaction from the youth of other parishes. The event started off



with a praise session by the 'OLLC Band'. This was followed by an ice-breaker and a march introducing the PYC of each of the seven parishes. Bro. Nelson Matthew presented a motivating speech to 'spark a fire' within the hearts of the youth. The DYC led everyone in an incredible

action song session wherein everyone followed them with great enthusiasm. Not forgetting the mouth-watering snacks and refreshments. Each parish put up a performance to entertain the youth.

The place was wonderfully decorated in keeping with the theme 'Beyond Space'. All credits to the PYC and AYG of St. Anthony's Parish, who worked all day long and nights too, so as to keep to the theme. The outstanding photo booth celebrated India's success in Chandrayan-3 with a model of the Chandrayan and its rover with a beautiful moon at the back.

Is any event complete without a JAM session? Of course not! The JAM session came alive with the spirited music spun by our vivacious Dj. Everyone enjoyed themselves to the fullest- both to the beats of the music and the superb dinner. Truly I say, Dyd - 2K23 was a success.

**- Salvajones Dcunha,**  
Vice President,  
Anthonian Youth Group

## Mission Sunday

Mission Sunday was observed on October 22, 2023. The St. Anthony church and the Infant Jesus chapel premises were buzzing with activities as children and teachers of the JAM (Jesus and Me) as well as Confirmands, came together to raise funds for mission areas. The food stalls set up by JAM offered a variety of food items from different cultures - East Indian, Tamil, Mangalorean and Goan. The lip smacking delicacies were patronized by parishioners after every Mass. Refreshments were served at the stalls to quench their thirst. Confirmation students put up stalls for tattoo, face and hand painting (multicultural) for a small sum. To add to the enthusiasm in children, the event wrapped up with a game of housie which was entertaining. In addition to this, there was a white elephant stall put up by Zone 7. We thank Fr. Osmand for motivating us to exercise



the mission inherited at Baptism, to spread the Gospel by raising funds for the mission areas.

**- Janet Monteiro,**  
Catechist,  
Infant Jesus Chapel, Kharod



## Marian Seminar



On the 28th of Oct 2023, the Bible Cell conducted a Marian Seminar: 'Journeying in Faith through Mary' at the Infant Jesus Chapel, Kharodi. The resource person was Mrs. Carmine Serrao, Word Minister, Bible Cell, and our very own parishioner.

She beautifully explained Mary's life journey and her role in the fulfillment of prophecy as well as her contribution to the early Church. She made us aware of the various titles given to Mary, her ten virtues and why she is called the 'Ark of the Covenant'. All this was conveyed with the help of appropriate slides.

Her vast knowledge helped unfold many Biblical facts about Mother Mary - the tribe she belonged

to, her role from the Annunciation to Assumption. She definitely added value by making the seminar lively.

The session was interactive with questions asked on Mary. Spot prizes were given for the correct answers. Melodious hymns to Mary were also sung. It was indeed a spirit filled seminar. Undoubtedly, we were enriched with all the Marian inputs, especially how she as a beacon of inspiration makes us want to emulate her as our role model.

To appreciate the efforts of some of our parishioners who regularly took part in the online quiz on the gospel of Matthew, Certificates were presented at the end of the Seminar.

The Seminar ended with fellowship. We look forward to more Seminars like this for our spiritual growth and upliftment. God Bless Carmine and the Bible Cell!

*- Freeda Bhoje,  
Member - Bible Cell*

## Outreach to House of Charity, Versova

In keeping with our tradition, St. Anthony's Parish Family cell members, Malwani, bring Christmas cheer to the needy in different ways, every year. As a collective decision, this year, we visited the House of Charity run by the Carmelite Sisters at Versova, Andheri West. This home, which is well maintained, is in proximity to the Versova beach, and is a family to more than 26 individuals of all ages who are physically or mentally challenged.

Prior to our visit we found out the daily needs of the members and we arranged for



Family Cell outreach 27th  
November '23  
HOUSE OF CHARITY



groceries, toiletries, etc. with the help of the contributions received from our generous parishioners. Our team reached there on the morning of 27th November 2023. We handed over the items to the sisters. They thanked us for this gesture as these items were much needed by the inmates. There are a handful of sisters who manage this institution, taking care of their needs with great love and compassion.

Sister Mary, the In-charge, oversees the home. It was very kind of her to brief us about the home and how they manage every function in the home. Attached to the home is a beautiful Chapel where all the inmates

are brought together for the Morning Prayer. As we were talking to the sisters, some of the inmates greeted us. To bring them cheer, we entertained them with Christmas carols, and that definitely made their day! Their faces were alight with joy and happiness and they joined us in the singing. They wanted us to spend some more time with them and requested us for a repeat visit before Christmas. Before we left, some of our members patronized the candles and other articles beautifully crafted by the inmates. These memories will be etched in our minds forever.

*- Shaila Fernandez,  
Family Cell Member*

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## WILL AND DEED



The Senior Citizens' Association organized a session on Saturday, 28th October 2023, for the benefit of our Senior Citizens and Parishioners, entitled: WILL AND DEED.

Advocate Melvyn Pereira was invited to present a talk on the importance of making a 'Will'. It was a very informative presentation. Many of those who attended requested for a format of a Will, and the same was furnished to them. He also briefed the seniors about related matters like Probate, Nominations, Registration of the Will, Gift Deed, etc. Many seniors had questions and Advocate Melvyn patiently cleared all their doubts.

Thank you Melvyn, for your very inspirational session.

*- Jessie Coelho, Vice-Secretary,  
Senior Citizens' Association*

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## DEANERY FELLOWSHIP MEET

On Saturday, 24th October 2023, the seniors transformed to teenagers.

Thanks to the efforts of our President, Mark Hickey, the Silvers of five Parishes, viz. Our Lady of the Forsaken, Our Lady of the Sea, Our Lady of Assumption, Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Anthony's assembled at the Church of our Lady of the Forsaken, Malwani at the behest of Fr. Wilfred Vaz, the Parish Priest, to help form the Senior Citizens' Association in their Parish.



Beginning with the opening prayer by Rev. Fr. Wilfred, a brief introduction by Mark Hickey and the Presidents from two other parishes, ten different groups were formed i.e COCKs, CROWs, LIONs, DUCKs, etc. And then the SILVERS became naughty witty youngsters. Some were barking, some crowing, and some quacking while others were roaring. The laughter and enthusiasm, resounded, nothing short of teenagers. There were light refreshments and then some of our seniors briefed the participants from Our Lady of the Forsaken and

helped them form their Senior Citizens' Association.

Some participants sang devotional hymns and the Senior citizens' talent was evident from their harmonious singing. A game of Housie, without involving cash, added to the cheerful chatter around.

Lunch was served shortly after and we dispersed with a short closing prayer by Rev. Fr. Wilfred. All in all it was a great fellowship organized by the Senior Citizens' Association of our Parish.

- **Jessie Coelho**, Vice-Secretary,  
Senior Citizens' Association

## The Message of the Parables

This initiative of the Parish Bible Cell was conducted by Lancy D'mello, Word Minister, of our Parish. The study was spread over 6 Sessions at the Infant Jesus Chapel, Kharodi, beginning from the 5th of August 2023.

He enlightened us on the meaning of parable, characteristics of parables, what to look for in a parable, why did Jesus use parables and also the parable in detail. The explanation was easy to follow as he simplified the matter and had some simple exercises for better understanding. It was made more interesting as he linked the content with anecdotes from his personal life. Informative slides helped enhance the explanation of the parables.

These sessions provided immense knowledge and energized the soul, while the yummy snacks provided at the end of every session, energized the body.

God bless Lancy and the Parish Bible Cell.

- **Arita Bhoje**  
Our Lady of Fatima Community – Zone 3

## Senior Citizens Christmas Funday



Kudos to the Senior Citizens of the parish - a hat-trick for the Senior Citizens' Association.

23rd December witnessed a foot fall of around 200 seniors who attended the Christmas Funday at the school Annexe with a live band (The Anthonian Youth band) and DJ Ryan who rocked the audience with Christmas Carols and music. Rev. Fr. Cajetan felicitated the 99 year old evergreen Mrs. Lila D'souza.

And yet again "Age is just a number" was proved true. Around 200 young hearts participated whole heartedly in every activity - be it a March, dance or games. And

HURRAY, it was a great success, for every "Silver" left the party with a new sparkle in their eyes and a wide smile on their lips. Rightly said that we don't become old by playing but we turn old when we stop playing.

Congratulations Core Group, for the team effort to infuse the spirit of Christmas into everyone's lives.

It turned out to be a party filled with "Golden Gems".

- *Jessie Coelho, Vice-Secretary,  
Senior Citizens' Association*

## Retreat on Beatitudes

A full day retreat was organized on 2nd October at the Chapel based on the topic "Beatitudes". The programme began with a Walking Rosary in the chapel compound praying for one another. This was followed with Praise & Worship. The lively songs got everyone on their feet dancing joyfully for the Lord. The chapel was filled with the love and joy of our Lord with people, singing, dancing and giving praise. Fr. Francis Rozario OFM, the first preacher of the day, gave us a very important lesson on "Attitudes" of life and explaining the "Beatitudes" through the scriptures. It was a rejoinder of the spirit and gave a deeper message to take home and inculcate in our personal lives.

At 3.00 pm, we were united in praying together the Divine Mercy Rosary, followed by Adoration and Healing Service conducted by Fr. Andrew Rodrigues SJ, the second preacher of the day.



Morning breakfast, lunch and evening tea with biscuits was served to everyone. The programme concluded with the Eucharistic celebration.

- *Meena Patel, Team member,  
Daya Sagar Prarthana Sangh*

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

A wonderful year gifted by our Lord and a joyous evening for us to bring the last Friday of the year 2023, celebrating Christmas and the ensuing New Year with fun, games and a quiz.



The chapel was buzzing with joy with the opening Bible verse "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in Him."

There was a mixed crowd with the youngest at age 4 and the oldest at age 70. The evening began with a game "Burst the Balloon and take away your gift". There was excitement and enthusiasm all around as snacks and soft drinks were distributed. Our guest Priest for the day, Fr. Andrew Rodrigues SJ, was the Judge and distributed the gifts.

"On the spot question" was the next round and

everyone participated with enthusiasm. "Bible Housie quiz" was yet another practical way of connecting with the names from the Bible and learning the importance of the Biblical figure at the same time. We could all

share with each other the Christmas message of "Joy to the world, the Lord is come" in an evening filled with togetherness.

- **Carmine Serrao**, Team Member,  
*Daya Sagar Prathana Sangh*

## Parish Family Day

This year the church came alive with its annual Parish Family Day on 18th and 19th November, keeping the Theme "Community Diversity Synergy- Igniting Team Spirit for a Greater Purpose. The atmosphere was filled with the loud beats of drums as the zones marched with pride down the pitch with flags, dance, and much fanfare. The coordinators, animators and community members danced with great joy representing their community. It was not just all entertainment food and games but a week filled with a variety of sport activities for all ages. Indeed a proud moment for all Antonians. St. Anthony's church is a heritage parish with deep rooted traditions yet an openness to change to new ideas. 'This has been evident in the search of a "New Way of being Church" under the leadership of



our Parish Priest Fr. Cajetan Menezes and our Dynamic Fr. Osmand D'souza who is always in the forefront driving not only the youth but all ages to demonstrate talents. Three cheers to our emcee's Warren and Flavia making sure the flow of events went smoothly and what better way to end the night with singing and dancing to the beats of the Anthonian youth band.

- **Maria Hickey**, Secretary,  
*Parish Pastoral Council*

## Auxiliary Rally of Legionaries



The auxiliary rally of legionaries was held on the 22nd November 2023, at the Infant Jesus Chapel at 10.00 am. The programme commenced with the Holy Rosary and an opening prayer conducted by Br. Douglas. An introductory talk was given by Sr. Felcy about who are the auxiliaries and the mission they are called for ...fyi... Auxiliary members are the ones who support the Legion through their prayer. They pray the entire booklet of the scheduled Legion prayers, the "Tessera", every day. This was followed by a fun-filled programme - many spot prizes, games, snacks and a lot of fun.

We had a special Marian Quiz prepared for all our auxiliaries. This was then followed by the recitation of the Catena prayer. The programme was later presided over by Fr. Victor Dalmet, our priest In-charge, who enlightened us with his words of wisdom and encouraged us to continue our good work of getting people closer to Jesus through Mother Mary.

We then had two exciting games played by all our sporty Auxiliary members who participated very enthusiastically - Bombing the City and Passing the ball! What was interesting, was a special testimony by

Bro. George who shared his experience of being a staunch legionary for several years. The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Sr. Rachel and the concluding prayers. Ave Maria!

- Naomi Pereira

## WORLD INTERCESSION DAY

On 2nd of October 2023, the Hindi-Marathi Charismatic Fellowship group celebrated 'World Intercession Day.' Our



Parish was designated to host this programme for the Marathi-Hindi pray groups of Western Suburban Mumbai. The theme of this rally was "The power of intercessory prayer". This celebration was conducted in the evening at the Infant Jesus Chapel, Kharodi, headed by Fr. Andrew Rodrigues SJ, preacher of this Rally.

The programme started with the Eucharistic celebration followed by Praise & Worship, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Pray intentions from the various participating delegates, team leaders, and group members were lifted up. Inspiring testimonies were shared by guests, encouraging everyone to perceive 'the power of intercession and prayers'.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Bro. Cleaver Rodrigues, Chairman, Hindi- Marathi Charismatic Fellowship Mumbai. He expressed his gratitude to our Parish Priest Fr. Cajetan Menezes, for granting permission to host this programme. He also thanked Fr. Victor Dalmet, Spiritual Director of DSPTS, for his support and for the grand success of this rally. Finally, fellowship snacks were distributed to all the faithful. It was a significant moment for the DSPTS team to serve other parishes.

- Bosco Patel, Animator,  
Infant Jesus Community

## CRIB AND STAR COMPETITION

### Individual: Crib Competition

Winner – Aloysious Gonsalves (Christ the King, Zone 4)

2nd Prize – William Pais (Darya Mata, Zone 2)

3rd Prize – Ethan Godinho (St. Anne, Zone 7)

### Individual: Star Competition

Winner – Johnson Pereira (Holy Family, Zone 6)

2nd Prize – Francis Fernandes (St. Theresa of Avila, zone 7)

3rd Prize – Menino Pereira (Krista Prem, Zone 5)

### Consolation - Individual Crib competition

1. Augustine Rosario (St. Francis Xavier, Zone 4)

2. Anthony Brycen and Anthony Terence (Gift of Peace, Zone 1)

### Inter Community: Crib Competition

Winners – Gift of Peace, Zone 1

2nd Prize – St. Michael, Zone 7

3rd Prize – Our Lady of Forsaken, Zone 2

### Inter Community: Star Competition

Winners – Gift of Love, Zone 1

2nd Prize – Holy Spirit, Zone 6

3rd Prize – Divine Mercy, Zone 6

### Good wishes to all the participants.

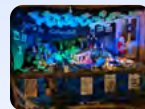
### Congratulations to all the winners.



1st Prize Individual Crib competition - Aloysious



1st Prize Individual Star Competition - Johnson



1st Prize Inter community crib competition - Gift of Peace

1st Prize Inter community Star competition - Gift of Love



# Matters that Matter



# 2024

## A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN A YEAR!

It's New Year, a time of rejoicing and happiness. Some make resolutions at the start of the year but somehow they are forgotten in a few days or perhaps, weeks. We return to being our old self again. The intention to make a resolution is to give 'a new start'- a new beginning! So then, why do we fail? How can Scripture help us to be a better person?

When we enter a church we have to enter through a door to be into the presence of God and in communion with the Holy One. Ps 84:10 "For a day in your courts is better than a thousand outside" The door is a significant metaphor in the Bible. My destiny will be shaped by which door I walk past and which door I walk through. It's the choices we make every day. Ps 24:7 "Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up O ancient doors; that the king of glory may come in". Talking to God, asking Him to help us keep up with the decisions and choices we make is a key to entering doors within. In life, God is the one who opens and closes door. God can give you open doors in response to your prayer. Prayer has been linked to a knock on the door. In Rev 3:7 we read, "When I open a door, no one can close it. And when I close a door, no one can open it!" Resolution combined with wisdom is

a double blessings to journey in the path of life. By staying in God's presence, our lives become full of purpose, meaning, peace, adventure and so much more. We can experience God, as much as we want, when we have an open door with all that He has to offer, the best of which is Him, then why would we set our hearts on any other pursuit? Or fall prey to social vices and convict ourselves into making resolutions which we may not be able to keep up for long? "Without counsel, plans fail. With many advisors, they succeed." With God as your Counsel and Advisor, you will be able to push all pollutants out of your life. In John 10:7 Jesus says "Truly truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep"

This New Year 2024, there is one extra day in count, are you willing to enter the door and lead a spirit-filled life? Let us pray to be obedient to His commands and he will open the doors to fulfil His purpose in our lives. Deut 28:12 "The Lord will open for you his rich store houses, the heavens..." In the 366 days of the year 2024, a lot can happen for you through God and with God.

*- Carmine Serrao, Our Lady of Assumption Community - Zone 7*

## CELEBRATING THE CHRISTMAS MEAL

The family, relatives and friends join in to celebrate Christmas 'The Nativity of Jesus'. His birth place Bethlehem is of great significance. The meaning of the Hebrew word “Beit” means house and “Lechem” means bread. Together meaning “House of Bread”. In John 6:35 & 48 Jesus said “I am the bread of life” and “I am the manna that came down out of heaven” John 6:51. In a Christmas meal the family unity represents in the assembly to celebrate the “*grace before meals*,” a prayer at the table when bread is broken and fellowship happens with Christ’s “bounty.”

### The 4 pillars

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#### 1. Capacity to Love - **Offering**

The body of Christ (Eucharist) is a fence to separate the parts of the self from the ego. It is within this fence that Jesus lives and helps the body from any decay. And the Body of Christ brings us into our wholeness. When Jesus broke his body, he gave us eternal life disengaging ourselves from our physical body to strengthen our sense of identity with the Father in Heaven. LOVE of God binds the family together. The birth of Jesus gives us this power of Love.

#### 2. Sacrifice - **Springing**

Christ gives us the model of the suffering in the garden of Gethsemane. He went through extreme stress when his sweat turns into blood to give us salvation. Parents are gifted beings to take every challenge life demands to nourish the family. At the table, the eternal safety of love itself, which is our true nature as God’s creation comes alive. He taught us selfless love and sacrifice to die unto oneself to give life to others. The birth of Jesus offers life everlasting to us.

#### 3. Virtue and respect - **Embracing**

In the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we learn to respect all relationship, to embrace faults and weaknesses and love one another. It is within the heart of Jesus we take

refuge and learn forgiveness. The mother is a queen of her family, the daughter of Christ chosen by God himself. It is a face to face, heart to heart relationship built by the mother of the family which we imbibe through Mother Mary - mother of us all. A mother instils faith and code of conduct in her children. The simplicity, tolerance, patience and justice to love each family member uniquely is displayed as the mother lays the table and calls everyone to eat together and raises her family to the eternal spirit of Christ.

#### 4. Commitment - **Creating**

The birth of Jesus was a fulfilment for our redemption. The cross of Jesus teaches us our human relationship with God through forbearance of Christ giving his body and blood, he taught us commitment and obedience. When we make the sign of the cross before the grace, let us remember that, “*The Family that eats together, stays together*”. Love of Jesus at the Last Supper comes alive in a family meal, the root of Christian unity with the Body of Christ. In this Christmas meal, as you put each morsel into the mouth and celebrate fellowship with the birth of our Lord Jesus, remember to sing *Emmanuel*, God is with us.

- *Carmine Serrao, Our Lady of Assumption Community - Zone 7*



## I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS....

With the festive season knocking at our door, the air is filled with excitement -the shopping list is endless! What to buy and what not! At this exciting time, my mind has been racing feverishly... it rings in my head: Buy less. Buy smart: think 'green' ...Some holiday gifts fill a practical need must be reconsidered. Is it necessary?

### What if we could all experience a green Christmas?

No, I haven't gone nutty...while singing Jim Reeves, 'I'm dreaming of a White Christmas', I automatically went into lyric change mode and started replacing 'white' with 'green'! I envisaged, what a huge difference that would make in the light of the eco-friendly world which is a pipe dream! That said and done, the lyrics seemed contrived, but you know where I'm heading towards....thoughts of making Christmas a lot kinder to our planet, without cutting down on the fun and excitement!

### Sharing my two-bit thoughts on how this could really happen!

**No more fake Christmas trees...**Let's get the actual Christmas tree with roots and all! At the end of the season, the tree could be re-potted into a bigger pot and ultimately find a suitable place in your garden, so you could decorate the tree in your garden the following year. This comes from my personal experience - when I first bought my real, live Christmas tree, it used to be decorated and placed on my centre table. The next year as it grew bigger, it found a place between the settee and chairs. And still larger, it was placed on my veranda, and finally planted in my garden. Today it occupies a place of pride in my garden and looks ever so beautiful when decorated with fairy lights!

**Gifting could be practical...**how about a TIMECHEQUE to a family who has an older person? Offer an hour of sit-down TIME, to read to the senior person, or just chat, or take them for a stroll in their garden/complex? Help them on a shopping trip? Or maybe help out with a specially-able child, visually impaired, a migrant, an orphan....Invaluable! You would definitely see the face of baby Jesus and experience inner joy!

Or again, gift tickets to an event/activity? Gift potted plants to encourage the environment-friendly concept? The list could be endless....

**For home décor...**reuse fancy alcohol bottles as candle holders/ fitted with fairy lights inside the bottle?

Or create a reindeer from thick colourful fabric pieces, cut-out shapes like snowflakes/ bells and baubles from old cards and enhance with straw or pieces of wood and paint them in bright colours?

Maybe some DIY gift bags from pieces of scrap/old newspaper/calendars and add splashes of paint for aesthetic value?

Pine cones, dried leaves, flowers and twigs, can be great décor strung together to make a streamer to hang in a doorway

Red and white gingham checked pieces of cloth for bows and potpourri pouches of scented flowers for that natural scent?

*There's no end to creativity!*

And what's more important is to motivate your guests to join the eco-friendly spirit - so that their gifts will also be in tune with your



move towards that green Christmas you have planned!

### How can we make Christmas greener?

Apart from the above suggestions, avoid single-use plastic items that cannot be recycled and look for organic-certified food and clothing for the family. Vintage clothes and home furnishings, and refurbished technology can make great sustainable gifts.

**Also consider:** Green represents new beginnings and growth. It also signifies renewal and abundance. Green has calming attributes that we all so badly seek.

**Amidst all this, please don't forget:**

*Christmas is coming, the geese are getting fat,*

*Please drop a penny in the old man's hat!*

Charity brings down immeasurable blessings!

*Guess this write-up is out of place here, it being January....but do remember to consider some of the suggestions for the next Christmas season....*

*Making a difference to an eco-friendly world should not be a mere pipe dream! We owe it to ourselves and the world!*

**- Rudyard Gomes,**

*Our Lady of Fatima Community, Rathodi*



As the old year wanes and the new one rises on the horizon, we are gripped by the familiar feelings of nostalgia and introspection. We contemplate the resolutions we failed to keep and the desires that are yet to be fulfilled. New Year's Eve is usually marked by the awareness of the passage of time – a night when the irreversible past meets the unpredictable future. Amidst this dance of time, isn't it better to surrender and surround ourselves with Christ, the maker of time and of all things new?

To help you out, we have put together a few spiritual resolutions that are easy to keep!

### 1. Ring in the New Year the Catholic style!

For centuries, Catholics around the world have ushered in the New Year with thanksgiving and by singing the traditional hymn the Te Deum. Legends claim that Sts. Ambrose and Augustine composed the hymn to commemorate St. Augustine's baptism on Easter Sunday in 387 A.D. The opening words of the Latin hymn, *Te Deum laudamus*, which means 'You are God, we praise you,' can be sung or chanted as a meditative prayer.

### 2. Know Your Daily Saints

In today's tech-savvy world, this resolution is a no-brainer. Over your morning tea or coffee, take five minutes to learn about the saint of the day. This will serve as an inspiration for the rest of the day.

### 3. Fitness goals for the new year? Follow Jesus and the Apostles

Exercise psychologist Tom Collingwood has written extensively on the relationship between faith and physical fitness. He points out that the way Jesus and his disciples lived their daily lives as described in the Gospels serves as an excellent example of a healthy body-mind-soul integrated lifestyle. To understand more, scroll through the scriptures or try listening to the Bible in a Year Podcast by Fr Mike Schmitz.

### 4. Attitude of Gratitude

While many things in life seem beyond one's control, counting one's blessings will always bring peace. You can also practice gratitude the artsy way. Start a doodle diary, where you draw or sketch little symbols or images representing what you're thankful for.

### 5. The Marian Way

Pope Francis began the new year by urging us to entrust ourselves to Mary, the Mother of God and our mother. *'Mary knows our needs; she intercedes to make grace overflow in our lives and to guide them to authentic fulfillment. Brothers and sisters, all of us have our shortcomings, our times of loneliness, our inner emptiness that cries out to be filled. Each of us knows this well. Who can fill our emptiness if not Mary, the Mother of fullness?'*

As we step into the New Year, we pray for a year filled with God's grace, for opportunities to deepen our faith, strengthen our hope, and enkindle our love so as to live in a blessed present and create a beautiful future. Happy 2024!

- Joynel Fernandes,  
Animator,  
St. Joseph's Community, Zone 1

## ONE PAGE CALENDAR-2024

 <b>DATES</b>					MONTHS						
					JAN APR JULY	OCT	MAY	FEB AUG	MARCH NOV	JUN	SEP DEC
1	8	15	22	29	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
2	9	16	23	30	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
3	10	17	24	31	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
4	11	18	25		THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
5	12	19	26		FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
6	13	20	27		SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
7	14	21	28		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

# Marathi Section

## ज्येष्ठ नागरिक दिन

शनिवारी 07 ऑक्टोबर रोजी ज्येष्ठ नागरिक दिवस साजरा करण्यात आला. ह्या कार्यक्रमाला बारा (१२) ज्येष्ठ नागरिक उपस्थित होते. प्रत्येक ज्येष्ठ नागरिकाचे को ऑर्डिनेटरने स्वागत केले. सुरुवातीची प्रार्थना बायबल वाचनाने करण्यात आली, विविध खेळांचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते आणि अल्पोपहार देण्यात आला. कार्यक्रमाची समाप्ती ऑनिमेटरच्या प्रार्थनेने झाली, प्रत्येक प्रार्थनेनंतर वरिष्ठ नागरिकांनी सर्व ऑनिमेटर्सचे आभार मानले आणि प्रत्येक ऑनिमेटरला वैयक्तिकरित्या आशीर्वाद दिले. प्रत्येक वरिष्ठ नागरिकाला प्रेमाचे प्रतीक म्हणून परतीची भेट देण्यात आली.



- अलोमा गोम्स  
ऑनिमेटर  
बाळ येशू विभाग

## मरियेचा कम्मुनिटीमध्ये आगमन व सामुदायिक जपमाळ प्रार्थना

30 सप्टेंबर रोजी माता मरियेचा पुतळा चॅपल मधून आमच्या कम्मुनिटीमध्ये मिरवणुकीने आणण्यात आला होता. काही कुटुंबांनी आपापल्या घरी हा पुतळा नेऊन माता मरियेचे आपल्यापरीने स्वागत केले. पुतळ्याबरोबर प्रार्थना पत्रके आणि गायन पुस्तके देण्यात आली होती. प्रत्येकाच्या कुटुंबात प्रार्थनेचे वातावरण होते.

1 नोव्हेंबर रोजी परत मिरवणुकीने पुतळा चॅपल मध्ये नेण्यात आला.

26 ऑक्टोबर रोजी सामुदायिक जपमाळ प्रार्थना आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. आमच्या सामुदायिक

लोक ह्या जपमाळ प्रार्थनेला करण्यास उपस्थित होते. आमच्या गावातील कम्मुनिटी क्रॉस वरून ते चॅपल च्या मदर मेरीच्या गोटोजवळ मिरवणूक काढण्यात आली होती. जपमालेची



प्रार्थना इंग्रजी, मराठी आणि कोकणी भाषेत करण्यात आले.

विशेष इस्राईल, गाझा आणि संपूर्ण जगाच्या शांतीसाठी. तसेच रहिवाश्यांच्या विशेष हेतूसाठी व. आपल्या धर्मग्रामासाठी प्रार्थना अर्पण केली. जपमाळेनंतर प्रीती भोजनाचे आयोजन केले होते. प्रीती भोजनानंतर कार्यक्रमाची सांगता करण्यात आली.

- वेलेन्सिया ग्रेसियस  
अॅनिमेटर  
बाळ येशू विभाग

### आगमन काल प्रार्थना

आगमन काल प्रार्थनेचे प्रत्येक क्लस्टर मध्ये आयोजन केले होते. अॅनिमेटरने आप आपल्या क्लस्टर मधील कुटुंबांना आमंत्रित करून प्रार्थना केली.

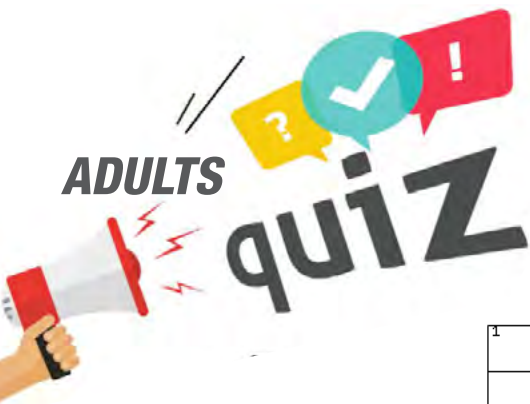
प्रत्येक प्रार्थनेच्या वेळी कोऑर्डिनेटर आणि अॅनिमेटर्ससह व कुटुंबातील सदस्यांनी आगमन काल ची मेणबत्ती पेटवून प्रार्थनेला सुरुवात केली.

पहिली आणि दुसरी प्रार्थना अॅनिमेटर ने कुटुंबीय सोबत आप आपल्या क्लस्टर मध्ये केली.

आणि तिसरी आणि शेवटची प्रार्थना कम्युनिटीची असे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते .



- मेलविना ग्रसियस  
अॅनिमेटर  
बाळ येशू विभाग



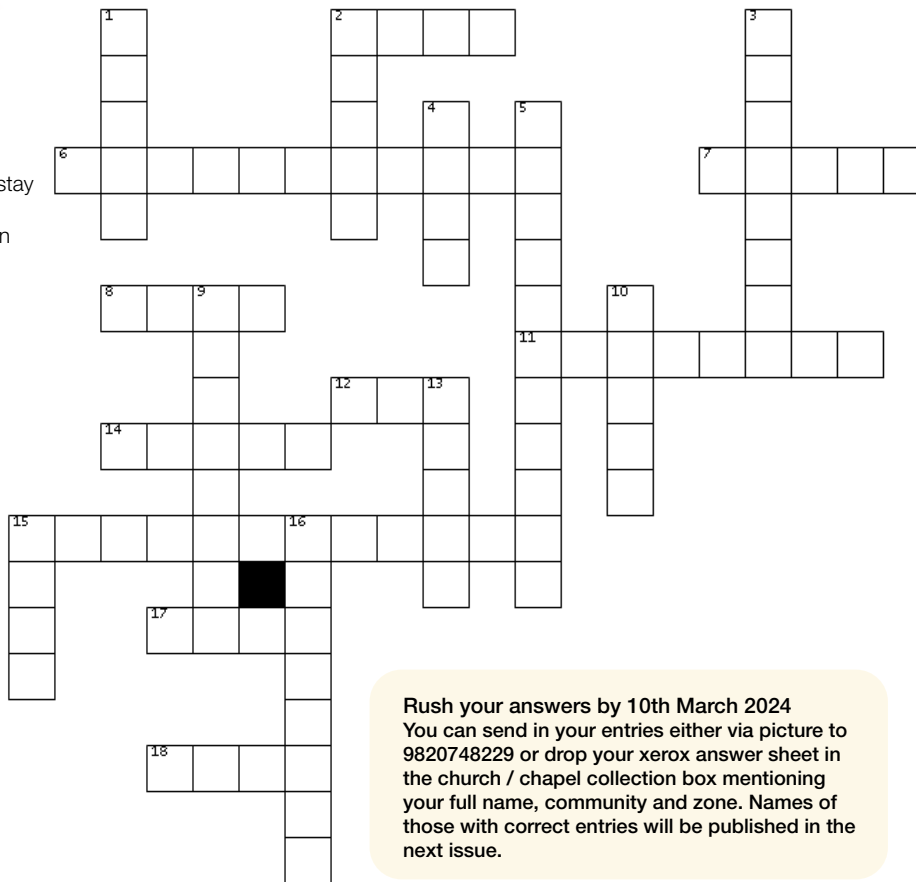
READ THE FIRST LETTER OF ST JOHN TO FIND THE ANSWERS TO THE CLUES GIVEN BELOW

**ACROSS**

- 2. Life
- 6. God grants us this
- 7. The last line commands us to stay away from this
- 8. If you see any one commit a sin
- 11. Already know the Father
- 12. This is complete
- 14. Purifies us from sin
- 15. Only way we can know God
- 17. Perfect love drives this out
- 18. Comes from God

**DOWN**

- 1. Love in ? and deed
- 2. passes with it's attractions
- 3. One who hates his brother
- 4. was made visible
- 5. Son
- 9. If we sin we have an? with the Father
- 10. God is
- 13. Overcome the evil one
- 15. Killed his brother
- 16. Passing away



**Rush your answers by 10th March 2024**  
 You can send in your entries either via picture to 9820748229 or drop your xerox answer sheet in the church / chapel collection box mentioning your full name, community and zone. Names of those with correct entries will be published in the next issue.

**Adult Quiz Answers Oct – December 23**

**ACROSS**

- 1. May it be done to me according to your word Mary
- 5. Speak, for your servant is listening" **Samuel**
- 7. Paul tells him not to let others look down on him because of his age **Timothy**
- 8. Rebuilds the temple, rediscovers the Word of God **Josiah**
- 9. Interpreted dream, spend a night with lions **Daniel**
- 11. I do not know how to speak. I am too young! **Jeremiah**
- 12. Son of the king friend of a shepherd. **Jonathan**
- 13. Wherever you go I will go, wherever you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people and your God, my God. **Ruth**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Shall I go and summon a Hebrew woman to nurse the child for you **Miriam**
- 2. Look, I had another dream," he said; "this time, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me. **Joseph**
- 3. Asked for wisdom instead of wealth and power **Solomon**
- 4. Shepherd, King, Ancestor of Jesus **David**
- 6. Was unharmed even after being thrown in the fire Shadrach
- 10. Queen **Esther**
- 12. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **John**



## KIDDIES CORNER



Use the index of your bible and find the names of 15 Prophetic Old Testament books hidden below

J I S W N A F E Y X G C F B B  
N F F Z F E Z K U M B H X A T  
L R L K Z E H E S T U A Q R D  
F W U M K A G Q E T N B P U W  
S T C I N J E R E M I A H C X  
R P E O C R V M G D Z K H H Z  
I L J W B J P F A E I K W U J  
H S U J X U Q U P L C U A Q M  
A V A M I C A H U V A K M R B  
I D I I K D A W S J C C C G E  
D R N Z A N J I D E V S H I Z  
A R S M I H L E I N A D O I X  
B U Z A I V L C J T V N L M R  
O A H I A G G A H D L Z R H A  
Z E C H A R I A H F V X E A N

Rush your answers by 10th March 2024.

You can send in your entries either via picture to 9820748229 or drop your xerox answer sheet in the church / chapel collection box mentioning your full name, standard, community and zone.

*Called to*  
**Eternal Life**  
*October - December 2023*

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Relation</b>	<b>Area</b>
1	<b>Andrew Fernandes</b>	30-09-2023	73yrs	S/o John Fernandes	Malwani
2	<b>Placy D'souza</b>	03-10-2023	74yrs	W/o Ignatius D'souza	Kharodi
3	<b>Natalia Quadras</b>	07-10-2023	76yrs	W/o John Quadras	Malwani
4	<b>Roselin Chettiar</b>	12-10-2023	55yrs	W/o Joseph Chettiar	Malwani
5	<b>Ivy D'souza</b>	15-10-2023	78yrs	W/o Anthony D'souza	Rathodi
6	<b>John Gayakwad</b>	16-10-2023	72yrs	S/o Ganpat Gayakwad	Malwani
7	<b>Mathias D'souza</b>	24-10-2023	69yrs	S/o Gregory D'souza	Kulvem,Dongri
8	<b>Theresa Coelho</b>	28-10-2023	74yrs	W/o Edmond Coelho	Bhoomi Park
9	<b>Jona Nigrel</b>	29-10-2023	100yrs	W/o Francis Nigrel	Kharodi
10	<b>Paulina Fernandes</b>	29-10-2023	79yrs	W/o Joseph F Fernandes	Margoa
11	<b>Louzia Lobo</b>	23-11-2023	84yrs	W/o Anthony Lobo	Malwani
12	<b>Viman Augusto Soares</b>	13-12-2023	73yrs	S/o Augusto Soares	Malwani
13	<b>Monica John Fernandes</b>	17-12-2023	63yrs	W/o John Fernandes	Malwani
14	<b>Angeline D'mello</b>	18-12-2023	78yrs	W/o Stanislaus D'mello	Kharodi Village
15	<b>Albert Valerio Fernandes</b>	19-12-2023	68yrs	S/o John Fernandes	MalwaniChurch
16	<b>Francisco Xavier Tavares</b>	20-12-2023	69yrs	S/o Pedro Rosario Tavares	Kharodi
17	<b>Fr. Edward D'souza</b>	20-12-2023	93yrs	S/o Ignatius D'souza	Poinsur, Kandivali
18	<b>Amudhini Sandra Dias</b>	22-12-2023	62yrs	W/o Blasio Rosario Dias	Jankalyan
19	<b>Joy John Paul</b>	29-12-2023	43yrs	S/o John Paul	Malwani
20	<b>Rijin Rajan</b>	31-12-2023	37yrs	S/o Rajan A.	Vasai, Palghar



# Forthcoming Events

## JANUARY

- 18 to 25 Christian Unity week
- 21 Sunday of the Word of God (Bible Sunday)
- Republic Day
- 26 Infant Jesus Novena begins.

## FEBRUARY

- 2 Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple  
-The day of Consecrated Life
- 4 Infant Jesus Feast
- 6 PPC Meeting
- 11 Our Lady of Lourdes  
World Day of the sick
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 25 Confirmation – Bishop Dominic Savio will administer the sacrament.

## MARCH

- 5 PPC Meeting
- 8 International Women's Day
- 19 Feast of St. Joseph
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 28 Maundy Thursday
- 29 Good Friday
- 30 Holy Saturday – An Hour with Our Lady
- Easter Vigil
- 31 Easter Sunday

## APRIL

- 2 PPC Meeting
- 7 Divine Mercy Sunday
- 8 Annunciation of the Lord



## NEW APPOINTMENTS by the Cardinal

Pope Francis has appointed **Fr. Bernad Lancy Pinto** (60) as the Coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of Aurangabad.

**Bishop Barthol Barretto** (62), the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Bombay is appointed as the Bishop of diocese of Nasik in Maharashtra





IGNITING TEAM SPIRIT FOR A  
GREATER PURPOSE!

# Memories Of Parish Family Day 2023



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