



Perpetual QUEST

" Like a deer that yearns for running streams so my soul longs for you my God."

REDEMPTRIST PARISH BULLETIN (Private Circulation only) Dec. 2008 Vol. XV/1

PEACE AND JOY TO THE WORLD

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, came into a world where there was little peace for Mary and Joseph. It is good for us to read Matthew 1:18-21. Before their marriage, Joseph discovers that Mary is pregnant. How would any other couple have reacted in such a situation? Joseph and Mary looked forward to bring forth the Saviour of the World. But surely not in a cattle shed? How would any other couple have reacted? They have to flee from a petty tyrant into another country. How would they manage? How would any other couple have reacted?

This Christmas many couples may have to face difficult situations in terms of inadequate housing, lack of finance, little support from relatives and serious misunderstandings. Will they lose the peace and will their relationship suffer? Will they take out their anger and hurt on children or others? What about the rest of us? We live in situations where each of us are challenged by our own deficiencies or unresolved hurts or by those we live and work with, who disagree with us or act in ways that irritate and hurt us. Will we lose our peace of mind and heart? Will that affect our sleep, our health, our well-being and our capacity to be other-centered?

Christmas can be camouflaged by carol singing, midnight Mass, visits to the crib, Christmas sweets, gifts and cards and greetings from others with a veneer of peace while there is a temporary truce for a day. Is it like the peace that is often shared at Mass as a ritualistic sign that is forgotten when Mass ends?

The peace that Jesus brings into the divided world in which we live, cost him his life's blood to the very last drop. It is this covenant in his blood that restores our relationship with Abba Father and between us human beings. To enjoy this peace, each one has to be ready

to die to one's pride, to wanting one's own way at all costs, to manipulating others, to controlling others, to using others as objects or abusing others. Each one has to choose to become a servant who washes the feet of others in imitation of Jesus. Each one has to become life-giving in word and action at the cost of one's time,

money, convenience, pleasure or security. Then, indeed, we will become channels of his peace to others. In giving we will receive. In loving we will be loved. In comforting, we will be comforted. In pardoning, we will be pardoned. In dying we will be born to eternal life.

Christmas may not be without suffering, but there can still be peace and joy to people of good-will. For joy is not an absence of suffering. It is the presence of God. This year, many Christians are experiencing much suffering and persecution and our hearts go out to them. Let us all work together with people of good-will to put an end to communal divisions and suspicion, so that we may live as brothers and sisters, in the peace of Christmas.

Peter de Sousa C.Ss.R.



Christmas gift suggestions:

- To your enemy, forgiveness.
- To an opponent, tolerance.
- To a friend, your heart.
- To a customer, service.
- To all, charity.
- To every child, a good example.
- To yourself, respect.



CHRISTMAS STORY



There is no feast on our calendar, which fills us with such holy sentiments, of peace, joy and goodwill and even nostalgia as does this holy Feast of Christmas. It is an old story which began more than 2000 years ago. All because a little Babe chose to be born in a stable high up in the hills, on a cold winter's night. The birds were returning to their nests, the cattle were grazing on the hillside. The skies were studded with millions of little stars, which shone and twinkled down on the sleeping Babe. But none of these sounds awoke the sleeping Babe because he was no ordinary child but the Son of God himself.

There he lay on his bed of rough hay, wrapped up only in swaddling clothes, which are in reality little pieces of cloth. Why did the Son of God have to be born in such extreme poverty? Even the poor make elaborate preparations for the birth of a new Babe. The reason is simple "there was no room for him at the inn". Mary and Joseph had knocked on the doors of many inns and the only answer they got was no room. One inn Keeper jokingly replied "We are booked right upto Easter". When we hear these rude remarks,

we are filled with a towering rage. But pause a while and look into your own life. Do you make room for him in your life? Do you spare your valuable time to linger in his presence before the tabernacle and are you ready to give effective witness to JESUS in your life? The exchange of greetings and gifts is often marred by a commercial spirit, which robs Christmas of its spiritual meaning. Christmas is a time of deep interior renewal of our Christian life, based on God's infinite message of unconditional love. The utter poverty in which the Christ child is born shows that He identifies himself with the poor and the downtrodden.

The Feast of Christmas brings us face to face with the challenge of sharing our goods. His teaching and his life has stated this very clearly. "I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me". I can meet Christ only in my neighbour who suffers.

May this Christmas touch our hearts and bring God's love to my sisters and brothers in need. May I never let this opportunity pass me by because then I would have missed God's moment of Grace.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Prayerful Christmas.

Olive Da Gama

A Tribute to Frank Toner C.Ss.R - 03.04.1922 to 4.10.2008



Frank Toner came out to India in 1946 with 3 other Redemptorist Seminarians to join our Seminary in Bangalore. He was ordained 2 years later, on 22-5-48. Frank taught in the Seminary, was Prefect of Students twice and was Parish Priest in Holy Ghost Church, Bangalore. But I think the postings he most enjoyed were as Parish Priest of our Church in Chembur from 1963 to 1969 and again from 1975 to 1984. Frank was very popular with all. He was friendly and enjoyed being with people. Many of the old timers will remember a red faced Irishman riding a cycle and visiting all the homes in the parish. He sweated profusely in the hot sun but continued none-the-less on his daily rounds.

As chaplain to the Young Christian Workers, he encouraged our Youth to become Leaders, using Cardijn's "See, Judge and Act" technique. The idea was to reflect on the Gospel and live it in the practical situations of life. Perhaps this led Fr. Frank to start the Neighborhood Groups in the parish. He encouraged neighbors to pray together, reflect on God's Word and apply this to their unique life-situation.

Frank always had a soft corner for the under-privileged. He started Sevadaan Special School to cater to the intellectually challenged and the marvelous work continues till this day. "Whatever you do..."

Frank was a true Redemptorist. His life of prayer and love for Community made him popular with all, especially the younger set. He had a large repertoire of jokes and enjoyed the company of his confreres.

May God grant him now the fullness of life and the crown promised by St Alphonsus to those who are faithful to their vocation.

Peter de Sousa C.Ss.R.



FIVE DECADES AND A GLORIA!



Congratulations to the clergy and parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church for beautifying her in preparation for her Golden Anniversary next year. No Botox, no implants – only the overflowing generosity of her children of the parish, and the enthusiasm and good taste of our former parish priest, Fr. Paul Julius and his dedicated team.

As you enter the marbled portals of the church, with the bronze and white composite marble slabs reflecting the tones of the High altar, your soul is immediately uplifted by the soft roseate sunrise / sunset glow behind the distant altar raising your eyes to the dominating wooden crucifix. The stark white cross which outlines the crucifix further dramatizes and emphasizes the tragedy and glory of the crucifixion.

The polished gleam of the bronze and white marble of the original main altar is echoed in the steps which descend to the present altar, resting on a shivni (white teak) wooden table with a carving of the Last Supper – a representation of the Institution of the Eucharist which is daily repeated on it.

To the south side of the altar is placed the polished Baptismal Font to remind us that we have been born as children of the church of Christ at our Baptism. On the other side, the lectern stands on a wooden pedestal, carved with the symbols of the 4 Evangelists – Matthew by a human, Mark by a lion, Luke by an Ox & John by an eagle. At every mass the gospels of these 4 writers focus our minds on Christ's life on earth.

The wooden panels on the side of the nave of the church have been stripped to reveal the gleaming richness of the original teak wood while the walls have been painted

in a soothing pink and tinted ivory. In fact the delicate shades of tender pink remind us of Her who was called the Mystical Rose.

The stained glass windows depict the 15 mysteries of the Rosary. In order that the pictures can be seen from both outside and inside the church a special type of stained glass, both opaque and transparent, has been used. The side wings have stained glass representations of the Redemptorist saints Alphonsus and Majella. The stained glass at the entrance emphasizes the motherhood of Mary at that heart-rending moment when Christ, despite his agonizing pain on the cross, thought to give her to us as our mother through his beloved disciple John.

Unfortunately, the lovely stonework on the outer walls had been defaced in a previous renovation, leaving only the Monastery walls untouched. Some attempt has been made to remove the ugly encrustations which had surrounded each stone, but one can still see the difference between the stonework of the church and that of the monastery. The latter also needs some cosmetic touches of suitable colours to harmonize with the beauty of the stone-work.

Yes indeed, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour has been given a lovely New Look. It is our pride, duty and responsibility to see that her revived beauty is respected and maintained till she celebrates her Golden Jubilee, and beyond, so that when she celebrates her Platinum Jubilee she will be as beautiful as today - "a thing of beauty and a joy forever"

Dr. Yvonne M. Freitas

P.S. Did this happen during the renovation of our Church?

When the Parish Priest noticed the shoddy painting work that had been done with a diluted paint he admonished the contractor "Repaint and thin no more".

BEATITUDES OF A LEADER

- ♣ *Blessed is the leader who knows where he is going and why he is going and how to get there.*
- ♣ *Blessed is the leader who knows to lead without being dictatorial.*
- ♣ *Blessed is the leader who leads for the good of the most concerned, and not for the personal gratification of his own ideas.*
- ♣ *Blessed is the leader who develops leaders while leading.*
- ♣ *Blessed is the leader who has his head in the clouds, but his feet on the ground.*
- ♣ *Blessed is the leader who considers leadership to be an opportunity for service.*



EVANGELISTS' SYMBOLS

In iconography the evangelists often appear in Evangelist portraits derived from classical tradition, and are also often represented by the following symbols, which originate from the four “living creatures” of the book of Ezekiel (Chapter 1) and the Book of Revelation (4.6-9 and following), though neither source links the creatures to the Evangelists. The meanings accruing to the symbols grew over centuries, and were fully expressed by Rabanus Maurus, who set out three layers of meanings for the beasts, as representing firstly the Evangelists, secondly the nature of Christ, and thirdly the virtues required of a Christian for Salvation.



Mathew the Evangelist, the author of the first gospel is symbolized by a human (not an angel as sometimes thought) – a figure of humanity and reason. Mathew's gospel starts with Jesus' genealogy from Abraham; it represents Jesus' Incarnation, and so Christ's human nature. Christians should use their reason for salvation.

Mark the Evangelist, the author of the second gospel is symbolized by a lion - a figure of courage and monarchy. Mark has John the Baptist preaching “like a lion roaring” at the beginning of his gospel. It also represents Jesus' resurrection (because lions were believed to sleep with open eyes, a comparison with Christ in the tomb), and Christ as king. Christians should be courageous for salvation.



Luke the Evangelist, the author of the third gospel (and presumably the Acts of the Apostles) is symbolized by an ox, bull or calf – a figure of sacrifice, service and strength. Luke's gospel starts on the temple duties of Zacharias in the temple; it represents Jesus' sacrifice in the Passion, and Christ as priest (this also represents Mary's obedience). Christians should be prepared to sacrifice themselves for salvation.

John the Evangelist, the author of the Fourth Gospel is symbolized by an eagle - a figure of the sky, and believed to be able to look straight into the sun. John starts with an Eternal overview of Jesus the Logos and goes on to describe many things with a “higher” level of theology than the other three “terrestrial” Synoptic gospels; it represents Jesus' Ascension, and Christ's divine nature. Christians should look directly on eternity without flinching for salvation.



Each of the symbols is depicted with wings following the biblical sources (they each have six in Revelation), but Matthew is a human not an angel, and Mark is a lion not a Griffin.

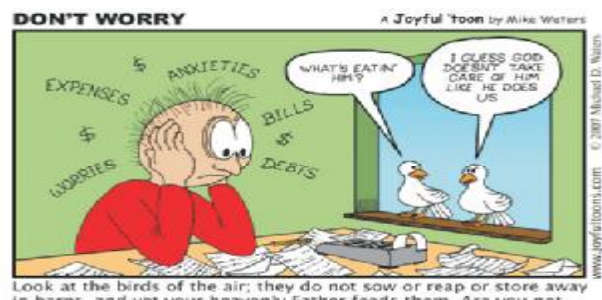
The symbols are shown with or instead of the Evangelists in early medieval Gospel Books, and are the usual accompaniment to Christ the Majesty in the same period, reflecting the vision in the Revelations. They therefore represented one of the most common motifs found on church portals and apses, as well as many other locations. When surrounding Christ the man is usually at top left - on Christ's right hand, with the eagle on the other side, and the two lower beasts below, the lion on the left taking precedence over the ox. This both reflects the medieval idea of the order of the “nobility” of nature of the beasts, and the text of Ezekiel 1.10. From the thirteenth century their use began to decline, as a new conception of *Christ in Majesty*, showing the wounds of the Passion, began to take over. Sometimes in Evangelist portraits they appear to dictate to the writing evangelist.

The attribution of the four animals to individual Evangelist has sometimes been disputed, although it has been mostly regarded as settled for many centuries.

Contributed by Fr. Osie D'souza, C.Ss.R



By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. - ROMANS 5:2



Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? - MATTHEW 6:26-27



THREE JUBILARIANS

Fr. Frankie Menezes

When you think of Fr. Frankie, you think of preacher exceptional, baritone voice, perfect pronunciation, magnetic charisma, simplistic yet powerful sermons, ambitious and forward looking and indestructible fidelity to his vocation. This Billy Graham of India as he is often called has not been the spiritual adviser for the President of the U.S., but has done much more in working with God's people taking his words across miles.

As a Redemptorist, Fr. Frankie has spent 56 years preaching in English across 15 countries. Father served as the Prefect of Major Seminary and as a Professor of Church History in Bangalore. He has succeeded in putting the Redemptorists on the Church map of India through REACH - an Institute for Homiletics in Public Speaking that continues in work on the lines of Alphonsian mission - to share God's word clearly.

Fr. Frankie strongly believes that preaching should change with the times and has succeeded at many levels in bringing traditional preaching to the modern world. To speak and to speak well are two different things and Fr. Frankie speaks well. He has not only the ability to speak well but also with words of substance. People have recognized this ability and have rightly stated that Fr. Frankie is a St. John Chrysostom - The Speaker with a golden mouth and one of the greatest orators of the early church. He speaks with you than to you.

Today Fr. Frankie shares his talents and the knowledge that he has acquired throughout the globe to his students by offering Public Speaking courses that encourage youth and elders to blossom into their own confident personalities.

Father, we wish you many more years of preaching. We hope that we never stop hearing those inspiring words, quick with powerful singing through that rich voice which we have so easily come to know as Fr. Frankie. Congratulations!!!

Fr. James D'Costa

Fr. James D'Costa, who celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his Profession, is one of the six children of Anna Francisca and Joao Lawrence of Nuvem, Goa. His parents are no more but when Father James referred to them at the Requiem Mass of his mother, he said they were simple people with a deep sense of prayer and acceptance of what God willed for them, who worked hard to give their family the very best they could. They provided the fertile ground where the seed of a vocation took root and grew into a priest of God. Fr. James joined the Seminary in 1979 and was ordained on the 25th of April 1992. As assistant Parish Priest some years ago he left his mark on the OLPS Parish.

He came up with a gem of a name for our Parish Newsletter 'Perpetual Quest', which now pays this tribute to him. At OLPS when discussing staff and students, he often comes up with names and particulars of parishioners which he garnered during his house visits and portray him as a people's priest. The lasting marks of his artistic genius and generous heart are his beautiful paintings which adorn many a home in Chembur, the proceeds of the sale of which went to finance the 'Build a Home' project and Sevadaan Special School projects.

Before coming to OLPS as Manager three years ago he had been Parish Priest in Sanquelim, Goa-running the school there and renovating the Church. Perhaps it was these qualifications that made him the ideal choice as Manager of OLPS High school in one of the most challenging periods. He came through as an impartial man of integrity and constructive action who was able to herald unity, cooperation and progress. His tasks still continue as he now serves a second term.

In the parish many may remember his sermons - his 'Our Father' dialogue and his New Year midnight vigil. His most significant role in the Parish was when as Chairperson of the St. Anthony's Co-Operative Society he helped to redraft their bye-laws which has benefited many flat owners.

Fr. James is young, enthusiastic and committed and I am sure he will not be just celebrating his past achievements but also looking forward to scaling greater heights and conquering new lands. We ask for God's Blessings for him in the miles he has yet to go.

Effie Acharya

Fr. Paul Julius

Born in Bangalore, Paul grew up with 2 sisters and a brother. He completed his early & middle school at St. Paul's school, Parel, Bombay.... and then High School at St. Vincent H. School, Pune. He did the Pre-University at Ness Wadia College of Commerce, Pune, and then left for Bangalore to pursue his priestly studies.

Fr. Paul Julius is an affectionate, caring and concerned person. He is intelligent & hardworking, and the parish has seen his involvement and dynamism in different activities. His homilies are thought provoking and inspiring. There is a vibrancy in his actions, which motivates parishioners to enrich parish life. His strong point is getting the church laity interested & involved in civic and political issues. He is also blessed with leadership qualities and organizational skills. The parishioners join me in saying a Big 'Thank you' for having renovated and painted our church. We wish you Fr. Paul, blessings of good health, peace and happiness, and much success in all that the future holds for you.

Dr. Jeanette Pinto

Congratulations!!!

The OLPS, Chembur, Unit of The Bombay Catholic Sabha congratulates Miss. Shoanna Dean on receiving the Academic Excellence Award of the Bombay Catholic Sabha for the year 2007-08 for ranking 2nd in the Maharashtra Board (HSC-Arts Stream).

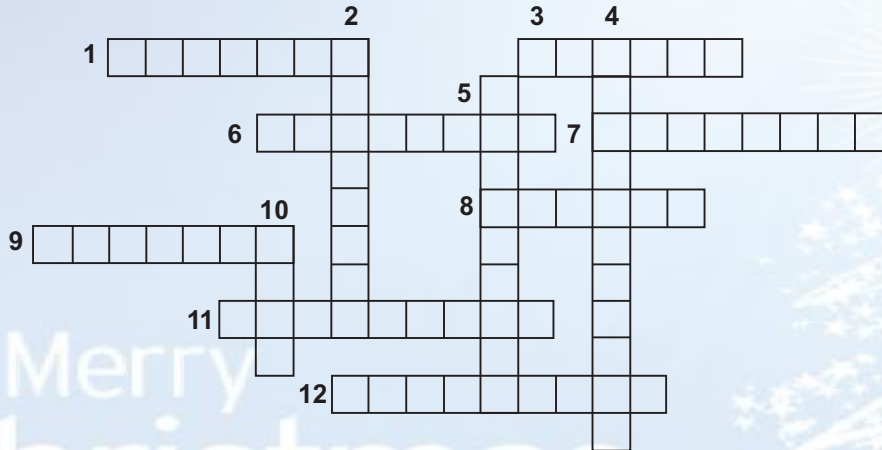
We wish her all the very best for a bright future.

Dr. J.E. Rodrigues.

Chairman, OLPS Unit of BSC



CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



ACROSS:

1. Hangings on Christmas tree
3. Guardians who announce the good news
6. Wrapped with love
7. Jolly old St. _____
8. Dasher, dancer, prance, vixen, _____, cupid, donner, blitzer
9. Warm snacks for Santa

11. Sweet and red and white

12. We wish you a Merry Christmas

DOWN:

2. Keeper of the flocks
4. House made of sweet Treats
5. The _____ were hung by the chimney with care
10. Bright light marks the way.

GLOBAL WARMING

Awareness of global warming or climate change is the need of the hour,
If our generation is to survive and go far.
This change will not only increase sea levels and endanger food security,
But it will also spread incurable diseases and destroy coastal areas globally.

There are a few steps that we as individuals can take,
Not only for the world at large, but also for our own sake.
We must conserve electricity, water & fuel as much as possible,
After all, it's merely a question of enforcing our will.

If we reduce the use of plastic and gadgets and instead grow a tree,
We can have more "carbon sinks" with less carbon emissions, that too for free.
It is in our interest to protect our near-perfect world of 4 billion years,
Rather than continue to live with a myriad problems and fears.

"An Inconvenient Truth", by Al Gore, all must see,
Then and only then will every individual, very alert be.
Reduce, and recycle should now be our watchwords,
If we want to live along with the animals and birds.



Nicola Esteves

(This poem won 1st prize in the Poetry Writing Section of
TALENTZ 'organized by Rotaract Club of Bandra)



INCOMING AND OUTGOING

We have witnessed a number of shifts and changes in the parish recently. A few lines by way of interaction may not be out of place, thus preparing in a way the ground for a hearty, sincere "Happy Christmas" by all the parishioners to our spiritual leaders.

A warm welcome to....

Fr. Merwin Victor (Parish Priest): Fr. Merwin has been in our parish in the past. Today one of the expectations of our people is that the clergy should be visiting their homes as often as possible. Fr. Merwin will satisfy OLPS parishioners to their heart's content. He has been known to visit the parishioners regularly.

Fr. Joe Abraham (Regional Superior and Rector): Fr. Joe comes to us from Goa. He is armed with a three year plan to make the OLPS Parish lively, active and vibrant. He wants to

do it with full, willing co-operation of the laity. He will be visiting the parishioners for this purpose. This will be the phase one of his plan. The next phase will be establishing the contacts and seeking the co-operation of those who practice religions other than Christianity. The third phase will be the actual implementation of the plan throughout the parish.

Fr. Joe's 3- year- plan for the parish will come in handy and make a success of it. In any case a lot of work awaits him. We wish him a success in making the parish vibrant and always waiting to take of.

We require parish priests and co- workers in every in every parish to make the people realize that their duty as followers of Christ is to carry the message to everyone. Such a change in our people will make the people realize what their duty is in the plan of action which Christ left with his people 2000 years ago.

Fr. Peter D'souza (Vicar of W. Region, Asst. to Fr. Joe and Asst. Parish Priest): Who does not know Fr. Peter? He commands attention in his own right! Appointments and postings may have come his way by the dozens both in Mumbai and in other parts of India. But his inaugural sermon recently was need – based: make the sign of the cross in the right, dignified manner becoming of a mature Roman Catholic! His oratory and experience will be of great help to further development of SCCs in the parish.

Fr. Valentine Kandulna : is on the staff and helps out with parish activities. We will be getting to know him better as he continues in Chembur.

Brother Majella: Brother Majella is a man of peace and a quiet worker. He was with us for a long time and his quiet

demeanour endeared him to all of us. Welcome back Brother Majella!!

We bid farewell and wish good health and success to...

Fr. Gregory Noronha: A senior Redemptorist of the Western Region, he was transferred to Sri Lanka to help his colleagues in the smooth running of Redemptorist affairs in the island. He has a gift of making friends with all and retaining them.

We, at Chembur, are without a wise, experienced missionary. We, the parishioners will miss him and his friendship and wish him success in the tasks ahead.

Fr. Paul Julius: Fr. Paul has been with us as our parish priest for 3 years. He has held that office with determination to succeed as a man of peace and love. His tenure of office was a period of quiet, creative work. Work which needs to be

quietly looked at in order to appreciate and fall in love with. He goes again now to Vasai where his work was left half done. Thank you Fr. Paul for our church renovation, so well done. Many more successes in other places where opportunities of this type will come your way.

Fr. Edgar Moreira: Fr. Edgar gentle and ever smiling was always there to attend to the needs of the Tamil speaking parishioners and others. We wish him well in his new assignments in the south and success in all his endeavours.

We are happy that **Fr. James** continues as manager OLPS School and **Fr. Aldrin** as youth co-ordinator and Asst. parish priest.

with inputs from Sarto Esteves.



Christmas time

Its Christmas time again
The season of renewal
Love, faith, charity,
And all that is beautiful
Chimes greatly into every heart
Beating in celebrations
Of Spirit, togetherness, and
affirmation.



Kuch Kuch Ho Raha Hai...Community activities

September 2008 - November 2008

On behalf of the Parish Clergy I would like to thank all the SCC Co-ordinators, Animators and members for very encouraging works carried out in your communities. I would like to share the works carried out in all our 21 SCCs for the period September 2008 to November 2008.

Holy Hour in the Church for the months September to November were conducted by the appointed SCCs on the First Friday of the month.

Many communities had the Presentation of the Lord's Prayer for their Confirmation Candidates & First Holy Communicants. Also, a special session on how to conduct this rite was organized for all the SCC Animators at the Steering Committee Meeting.

The month of October was very special for the entire Parish Community, the reason being, the induction of our new Parish team in a special ceremony by Bishop Bosco Penha. The Responsibles of all the 21 Small Christian Communities participated in this great celebration. We are proud to welcome our new Parish Team, Fr. Merwin Victor as the Parish Priest and Frs. Peter de Sousa, Aldrin Nunes & Valentine Kandulna (Asst. Parish Priests).

In October itself, the first things our new Parish Team did, was to get acquainted with the communities. A priest has been assigned for each community and they have begun their visits to homes along with the SCC Animators.

Also in October some communities had Our Lady's Statue taken in procession from home to home for a day. Families in the community gathered for the rosary in each home. Some communities also prayed the Rosary in their houses and concluded with the Eucharistic Celebration at the end of the month. Besides, Rosary was conducted by each community all through the month preceding the daily mass in the Church. Also, one community is still continuing with the Rosary daily at their Grotto.

One community visited the Municipal Office with regards to shortage of water in their area. The Youth in one community organized a Drawing Competition for the Children of their community. Another community organized a workshop on the topic "Building Communities" conducted by Fr. Peter de Sousa. Besides these, Gospel sharing was organized in 3 Clusters of one SCC.


In November the Peace Rally held at Shivaji Park was attended by a very large number of our parishioners.

Before concluding a very important quote to all our SCC Co-ordinators/Animators : "**Leadership is communicating to people their worth and potential so clearly, that they come to see it in themselves**".

I would deeply appreciate if your quarterly report for the period October 2008 to December 2008 reaches the Parish Office before 10th of January 2009. Blank forms will be available at the Parish Office.

Wish you all a very Happy Christmas & Apostolic filled New Year 2009. May the celebration of Christmas bring hope & peace to you and your loved ones.

Wilson U. Patrao



Dear Parishioners,

Greetings to each one of you as you prepare for the birthday of Our Saviour. Christmas is indeed a season of peace and joy. Christ came to share His peace with us. It is also our obligation to share His peace with everyone. We are called to be channels of Christ's peace.


This year too, our Youth have been working very hard to share the message of Christ, through skits, carols and live orals. Your presence is absolutely essential in your respective communities. The responsibles are making a personal effort to bring this bulletin to you. We, the parish clergy would appreciate your effort to be present in your Communities / areas. It will be a sign of your respect, appreciation and encouragement for our youth and all the effort they have put in.

Also remember it will be a powerful witness to the people of other faiths of our unity and the desire to share Christ's message of peace with them.

We know we can count on your response. May God bless you and may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts and homes.

Wishing you a very Christ-filled Christmas

Your Parish Clergy





Dates for Zonal Carol singing

DAY & DATE	SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
SUNDAY 14-12-2008	1) ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI 2) SRINAGAR 3) SHELLITES & OLPS SEVA SANGAM
MONDAY 15-12-2008	1) BORLA SOCIETY 2) ST. FRANCIS XAVIER 3) DIVINE PROVIDENCE & SHIVPURI
TUESDAY 16-12-2008	1) PERPETUAL RESORT 2) STARS. TORCH BEARERS & OUR LADY OF VICTORIES 3) WHOLE OF SUBHASH NAGAR & ST. ANTHONY 4) CRUSADERS, EMMANUEL, JEEVAN PRAKASH & DILKUSH
WEDNESDAY 17-12-2008	1) SANGAM & MORNING STAR 2) AVE MARIA 3) HARMONY

The community co-ordinators are requested to inform Fr. Aldrin about the venue in advance in order to inspect the venue for any necessary arrangements.

To send one representative from the community at 6.30 p.m. to take carol singers to the venue.

Fr. Aldrin's cell No.
9820170438

Venue and timings will be displayed on the church notice board.

Christmas Programme



Friday, 19th December 2008
Penitential Service Followed by Confessions
7.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.

Saturday, 20th December to Monday, 22nd December 2008
6.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. Confessions will be heard outside the Church

Tuesday, 23rd December 2008
5.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. Confessions will be heard outside the Church

Please note: Confessions for school children will be held during school hours.

Wednesday, 24th December 2008
No Evening Mass & No Novena Services

Christmas Service

Carol singing at 10.00 p.m. followed by the Holy Mass on the ground.

Thursday, 25th December 2008

Christmas Day Masses
6.30, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30 & 10.30 a.m. **(Please note there will be NO EVENING MASS)**

Wednesday, 31st December 2008

No Evening Mass & No Novena Services
Holy Hour of Thanksgiving: 11.00 p.m. to 12.00 midnight
New Year's Holy Mass at 12.00 Midnight in the Church

Thursday, 1st January 2009

New Year Masses
6.30, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30 a.m. & 7.00 p.m. in the Evening

Merry Christmas



Published by: Fr. Merwin Victor, OLPS Church, Chembur.

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