



Putting Christ into our Christmas

Commercial considerations today, particularly in the west, have put out of focus the arrival of Jesus at Christmas, and in the process, blacked out the significance of the season of advent. This example brings out what I mean – *"Its two weeks to Christmas. In New York two adolescent girls while gazing at the display of a life size crib in a shop window, comment, "What a shame, now they are bringing religion into Christmas."* What used to be a religious celebration (like Valentine's day, parents' day, mother's day, friendship day etc.) has been hijacked by the commercial world. Advent used to be a season that evoked sentiments of waiting, watching, longing for Jesus' coming at Christmas, it has now been invaded by the world of commerce, which has captured the minds and hearts of Christians and others alike. What do we do?

Let us first put Christ back into Christmas, and then the season of advent comes into proper focus. We then begin to realize, advent is not a just a time, it is not a just a season, it is a signpost pointing to an event of great importance. Advent is all about preparing for the arrival of an important person, Jesus Christ, God's gift to the world. Advent is about creating a space so that the Lord Jesus will find a place in our hearts. From experience, we know that when an important person is expected we do not merely sit back and wait, it is not a passive waiting, we begin to prepare, to clear the rubble of sin, demolish the rot of hatefulness, and create an atmosphere for peace and reconciliation. During these days we step out in faith and reach out a hand that brings others, especially those whom we find it difficult to relate with, into our world



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of relationships. We begin to see that it's more important to prepare a space in our hearts so that the Lord's word and presence can be accommodated and find a place in our life and living.

Material preparations are secondary, but we spend more time and effort in his area, than in preparing for the Lord's coming into our lives. Christmas will come and go, we decorate our homes, put a fresh coat of paint, fairy lights, star, crib, bunting, the atmosphere is good for celebrations. We deck ourselves out with fine clothes, prepare a fine spread, exchange gifts among family and friends, greet all those within our circle of friendship, and enjoy ourselves. But taking stock after Christmas,

we realize that our moral life remains the same, no effort has been made at burying the hatchet and bringing about a reconciliation, our negative attitude towards the poor has hardened, harmful habits still remain deep-rooted, no resolution to build stronger family bonds, the list could get longer. Yet these are the areas in which time and effort should have been invested in, during advent. If our lives are cluttered with sin, unforgiveness, dishonesty, injustice, impurity etc. then there will be no space for the Lord to enter. Advent is a time of preparing, for when the Lord comes he will find us watching and waiting. The fruit of His entry into our lives, will find expression in the way we live.

*Fr. Paul Julius
Parish Priest*



JESUS versus Santa

Santa lives at the North Pole ...
JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh ...
JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa comes but once a year ...
JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies ...
JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited...
JESUS stands at your door and knocks, only entering when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa ...
JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap ...
JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy/girl, what's your name?"...

JESUS knew your name before you did.
Not only does He know your name,
He knows your address too. He knows your history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on your head.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly ...
JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO ...
JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa says "You better not cry" ...
JESUS says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you."

Santa's little helpers make toys ...
JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

Santa may make you chuckle but ...
JESUS gives you "joy unspeakable" - words can't adequately describe the greatness of the joy He gives.

Santa puts gifts under your tree ...
JESUS died on a tree to give us the greatest gift of all: His life for ours.

It's obvious there is really no comparison.
We need to remember WHO Christmas is all about. We need to put Christ back in CHRISTmas, **Jesus is still the reason for the season.**



New Year Resolutions

As the old year bows out and the New Year rings in, most of us resolve to make the year which has just dawned better than the previous one. So, a list of resolutions is decided upon with all sincerity and determination to keep them, come what may – “I’ll go to Mass more often”, “I’ll work/ study harder”, “I’ll control my appetite for food and drink”, “I’ll be more polite/ obedient/ nice” etc. etc. Often, these fine resolutions don’t last long – perhaps for a month, a week, sometimes a day, because as the saying goes “The path to hell is paved with good resolutions”.

However, it is praiseworthy to make resolutions as this practice indicates our desire to improve, our realization of our failures and weaknesses, and also to make the future better for ourselves and others. Rather this than the blasé feeling,



“What’s the use of making resolutions. I’ll break them all too soon”.

Perhaps the best way to ensure that we keep our resolutions is not to make a yard-long list of amending all one’s errors but rather to choose one particular failing of the past – big or small, or one area of our life which needs improvement. Examine ways and means of correction or achievement, even writing down a plan of action, and sticking it on the new Calendar so it daily meets one’s eye. One slip-up on a resolution need not be the cause of despair and hopelessness. Just pick oneself up and start all over again with faith, hope and prayer.

So, here’s wishing all success in making meaningful New Year resolutions and keeping them!

Here’s some good news!

This Christmas and New Year treat your guests and friends with delicious dishes prepared using Mangalore’s famous Bon masala powders superbly blended with convenient packaging and economic prices.

**Powders available for Pork (Sorpotel & Vindaloo), Beef, Mutton, Egg, Chicken and Vegetable curries and dishes. Also, ‘Mit Mirsang’ for Fish fry.
*The only Powders prices of which have not increased.***

**Now available in Mumbai at:
‘New Karnataka Stores’, Station Road, Chembur &
‘Gladnor Cold Storage’, Diamond Garden, Chembur.**

DELICIOUS GOODIES FOR CHRISTMAS AND PARTIES available at Stavva Hospitality (a franchise of Birdy’s) near Ratna Supermarket (Opp. Maitri Park). Proprietor: Anish Kandoth



Faith Refreshers

Special to the Catholic Herald Syro-Malabar Rite

By Fr. Ephrem Pottamplackal, M.C.B.S.

As we start with a new liturgical year I thought it appropriate to give you a vague idea of my original rite — the Syro-Malabar Rite.

The Syro-Malabar Church was founded by St. Thomas the Apostle. He came to Kerala in India in 52 A.D. He preached Christ among Hindus, which is the prevalent community in India. There he established seven churches or communities adapting the local culture and converting their temples into our churches. So we find many churches in Indian or Hindu architecture.

When you get into the church you see no pews. People stand to prayer and the holy Mass the entire time. Kneeling and genuflection are not part of Indian culture. Inside and outside you see no statues, not even a crucifix. We use the St. Thomas Cross.

The sanctuary is separated by a veil. It is only opened during the Mass after the creed until holy Communion time. In the sanctuary the Holy of Holies, there is the holy Altar, the most important thing in the church, and the St. Thomas Cross. Women are not permitted in the sanctuary. In the side chapels, there is the Blessed Sacrament on one side and the holy Bible on the other. That is the setting of the church.

We don't use different colors such as blue for Advent, purple for Lent and red for martyrs. For us the color is always gold representing the kingship and divinity of Christ. We don't have different Masses, such as Mass for the dead, children, etc. We have just one Mass — for the glory of God. You'll see no choir in the church because the whole congregation is singing. A solemn Mass is for three hours, all the time standing and singing. A standard Mass lasts one and one half hours, and the church is fully packed for the service.

The Catholic Church is the communion of churches. It is the garden of God having 21 churches (rites) each with its own specialities and practices. In the Catholic Church there are

seven major rites. They are Alexandrian, Armenian, Antiochene, Assyrian, Byzantine, Chaldean and Roman. Except for the Roman, all the others are called Oriental or Eastern churches. All of these major Eastern churches have sister churches, which make a total of 21 rites. The Syro-Malabar church is a sister church of the Chaldean church.

The Syro-Malabar theology teaches that Christ saved man by his one salvific "act." God has no "acts." Plurality is an imperfection to God. God the Father creates; the Son saves; the Holy Spirit sanctifies.

So the salvific act is one, singular, but it has nine phases or steps: 1) Annunciation, 2) Birth, 3) Baptism, 4) Public life and teaching, 5) Last Supper and institution of Blessed Sacrament, 6) Suffering and death, 7) Burial, 8) Resurrection, and 9) Ascension. Christ's salvific act started with the Father, in heaven. At the command of the Father, his Son leaves heaven and comes to the earth to be born of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And that is the Annunciation. That is the Good News delivered to our mother Mary.

We too were once with God our Father. At the appropriate time, he created me in my mother's womb. We may say he also creates "in" me with new cells, with new spiritual insight, ideas and thoughts, etc. He creates everything new for me because God has no past and future.

The Syro-Malabar theology is rooted in the Gospel of St. John and in Pauline theology where Christ is humble, subservient and glorifying the Father (Jn 4:36; 5:30 and Phil 2:6-8). He, in obedience to the Father:

- * became flesh (Jn 1:14) (full of frailty)
- * remained in the womb of mother Mary for 10 months, was born in a manger (poorest birthday),
- * was considered a public sinner (baptism of John),

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- * was rejected by all (Jn. 5:63),
- * received a most heinous death (crucifixion),
- * was buried in another's tomb (Jn 20:41),
- * became bread and food (Eucharist).

Womb to tomb we see the annihilation of Christ.

The core of Syro-Malabar Mass is the Resurrection of Christ. St. Thomas had a profound and touching experience of the Risen Lord. Just for him, Christ appeared; and Thomas was asked to put his finger into his side (Jn 20:26-28). Thereby he experienced the mystery of Christ.

So the Resurrection of Christ is the most important and the greatest solemnity in the church. And it gives us joy, strength and hope. There is the sense of glorified Christianity. St. Thomas preached the Risen Lord to the Hindus because they are a God-seeking, God-experiencing and religious-minded people. India is the mother (cradle) of the world religions. The Hindus believe in rebirth.

The Holy Spirit is given due reverence in the Syro-Malabar Mass. Syro-Malabar theology teaches that the same spirit that was active in the creation of the world (Gen 1:2) was active in the incarnation (Lk 1:35). The same spirit that raised Jesus from the dead, that transformed the Apostles, now transforms the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ.

So if there is a most important part in the Divine Liturgy (although there is no part as most important, all parts are equal), it is the invocation of the Holy Spirit and that falls after the "Institution Words." There are no "Consecration Words" in our Mass. Consecration and transubstantiation is done by the Holy Spirit. This hints at the mystery aspect of our Mass. The priest stands all the time facing the altar with his back to the people (priest and people marching to one goal), facing east (waiting for the second coming of the Lord).

To experience God is the basic need of all. We search for God in the depth of our heart or meet

him high in heaven. There are two approaches to a high place. Either climb the steps and reach there tired or go round and round up the hill. This takes a longer time, but expends less energy. It is the Indian method.

Repetition is the essential element of Indian prayer. For the Hindus, saying the name of their god (Sahasranama) a thousand times is the prayer. They squat on the floor, close all their senses and say "O...m" a thousand times, going up and up, or deeper and deeper, until they are one with God. And that unity is long-standing. It takes time and practice.

Mass is a prayer. It is the expression of faith, adoration, thanksgiving, humility, entreaty and reparation. It is the acknowledgement of our sonship and of walking in the path of Christ. (That is why we stand, as kneeling is slavish.)

We came from God, were born as human beings in history and baptized into Christ, acknowledging our sinfulness and need of redemption.

In our public life we have our sufferings, death, burial, resurrection and our ascension, by which we will again be with our Father.

So our life, as is Christ's, is a circle. It ends with God. All phases are equally important. We live the Mass. Our life becomes one with Christ. We meditate on it, gain grace and strength from every Mass. We don't go to the Mass to fulfill the obligation.

On any given Sunday only 10 percent of the congregation will receive Holy Communion. Holy Communion is not pressed unless one is adequately prepared (1 Cor. 11:29-32).

The St. Thomas Cross is an icon of the Holy Trinity. God the Father is the foundation. The cross stands for Christ. The four ends of the cross are growing to the four ends of the world and flowering. The dove represents the Holy Spirit. And he makes the cross (Christ) lively. The lotus is the national flower of India. The cross in the lotus flower means Christ is the savior of India.



A Baby's Hug

We were the only family with children in the restaurant. I sat Erik in a high chair and noticed everyone was quietly sitting and talking. Suddenly, Erik squealed with glee and said, "Hi." He pounded his fat baby hands on the high chair tray. His eyes were crinkled in laughter and his mouth was bared in a toothless grin, as he wriggled and giggled with merriment.

I looked around and saw the source of his merriment. It was a man whose pants were baggy with a zipper at half-mast and his toes poked out of would-be shoes. His shirt was dirty and his hair was uncombed and unwashed.

His whiskers were too short to be called a beard and his nose was so varicose it looked like a road map. We were too far from him to smell, but I was sure he smelled. His hands waved and flapped on loose wrists.

"Hi there, baby; Hi there, big boy. I see ya, buster," the man said to Erik. My husband and I exchanged looks as if to say, "What do we do?"

Erik continued to laugh and answer, "Hi." Everyone in the restaurant noticed and looked at us and then at the man. The old geezer was creating a nuisance with my beautiful baby.

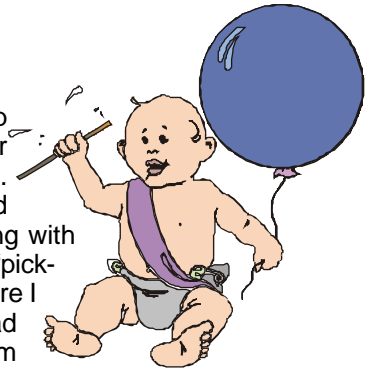
Our meal came and the man began shouting from across the room, "Do ya patty cake? Do you know peek-a-boo? Hey, look, he knows peek-a-boo."

Nobody thought the old man was cute. He was obviously drunk. My husband and I were embarrassed. We ate in silence; all except for Erik, who was running through his repertoire for the admiring skid row bum, who in turn, reciprocated with his cute comments. We finally got through the meal and headed for the door. My husband went to pay the check and told me to meet him in the parking lot.

The old man sat poised between me and the door. "Lord, just let me out of here before he speaks to me or Erik," I prayed. As I drew closer to the man, I turned my

back trying to sidestep him and avoid any air he might be breathing.

As I did, Erik leaned over my arm, reaching with both arms in a baby's "pick-me-up" position. Before I could stop him, Erik had propelled himself from my arms to the man's.



Suddenly a very old smelly man and a very young baby consummated their love and kinship. Erik in an act of total trust, love, and submission laid his tiny head upon the man's ragged shoulder. The man's eyes closed, and I saw tears hover beneath his lashes. His aged hands full of grime, pain, and hard labor, cradled my baby's bottom and stroked his back. No two beings have ever loved so deeply for so short a time. I stood awestruck. The old man rocked and cradled Erik in his arms and his eyes opened and set squarely on mine.

He said in a firm commanding voice, "You take care of this baby." Somehow I managed, "I will," from a throat that contained a stone. He pried Erik from his chest, lovingly and longingly, as though he were in pain. I received my baby, and the man said, "God bless you, ma'am, you've given me my Christmas gift." I said nothing more than a muttered thanks.

With Erik in my arms, I ran for the car. My husband was wondering why I was crying and holding Erik so tightly, and why I was saying, "My God, my God, forgive me."

I had just witnessed Christ's love shown through the innocence of a tiny child who saw no sin, who made no judgment; a child who saw a soul, and a mother who saw a suit of clothes. I was a Christian who was blind, holding a child who was not.

I felt it was God asking, "Are you willing to share your son for a moment?" when He shared His for all eternity.

The ragged old man, unwittingly, had reminded me, "To enter the Kingdom of God, we must become as little children."





Kuch Kuch Ho Raha Hai..... Community Happenings

(September 2006 to November 2006)

We are sincerely grateful to all our Small Christian Community Co-ordinators, Animators & members for their dedicated services in their communities as well in parish activities. We give a brief report of the activities in all our 22 SCCs for the period September 2006 to November 2006: -



Special School. They also planned to celebrate a Mass & conduct a workshop on the Eucharist.

- * Holy Hour in the Church for the month of September, October & November were conducted by the appointed SCCs on the First Friday of the month.
- * In the month of Sept. many communities had the Presentation of the Lord's Prayer (Our Father) for their Confirmation Candidates. One community conducted the session on Sacraments & their Communitarian Dimension and also arranged a talk on the topic "Right to Information Act (RTI)". Visits were made to the families to fix up the dates for the Rosary in their Communities for the October Devotions. One community visited all the families in their community, prepared a list of the sick & the old in families to make arrangements for Holy Communion at home. While another community visited Mount Mary's Church, and made arrangements for a mass in Marathi.
- * In October a Rosary conducted by each community all through the month preceded the daily mass in the Church. Besides, 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 homes and concluded with the Eucharistic Celebration at the end of the month. We are happy to note that one community visited the families in their area and collected a sum of money to sponsor a child in our Sevadaan

* In the month of November one community made a collection towards the Mid-day Meal for our poor children. Another community discussed the topic "Bible to life" with their Core-Group members. We are proud to place on record that the S.C.Cs. of our parish rose to the occasion on the 5th November. Two busloads of parishioners with their S.S.C. Animators along & the Parish Team participated in the Kurla S.C.C. Rally at Holy Family Church, Pestom Sagar. We make special mention of our youth who were there in full strength.

- * One community is conducting Adult Catechesis in their area to prepare people for their 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation. Families were also visited and prayed with. Finally, we thank the Parish Clergy for their visits to the S.C.Cs. along with SCC Animators during the last 3 months. Last, but not least, 3 members of one S.C.C. were elected officers to the Maharashtra Kristi Samaj. We wish them success in their mission.

Wilson U. Patrao

SCC Co-ordinators & Animators please note that the 14th Steering Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9th Jan. 2007 at 7.30 p.m. in the Meeting Room.



Rao & Ashok,
Chartered Accountants

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUSTS ACT, 1950
SCHEDULE - IX
[VIDE RULE 17(1)]

TEL: 6666 943 FAX: 2447 4510
Unit 111, 1st Floor,
Offen Light Industrial Premises
408, Moghul Lane, Mahim - 16

NAME OF THE PUBLIC TRUST : ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR,
CHEMBUR, MUMBAI. Registration No. : D-124 (Bom)
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2006.

EXPENDITURE	RS	RS	INCOME	RS.	RS
To Expenditure in respect of Properties :-					
Rates, Taxes, Cesses	2,988.00		(Accrued)		
Repairs & Maintenance	259,592.00	262,580.00	By Rent -----		111,400.00
Salaries			Realised		
Insurance					
Depreciation (by way of provision of adjustments)					
Other Expenses		NIL			
To Establishment Expenses		NIL	Accrued		
			By Interest -----		NIL
			(Realised)		
To Remuneration to Trustee		NIL			
			On Securities		NIL
To Remuneration (in the case of a math) to the head including his household expenditure, if any		NIL	On Loans		NIL
To Legal Expenses		NIL	On Fixed Deposit	103,926.00	
To Audit Fees		9,918.00	On Savings Bank Account	144,402.00	
To Contribution to Public Trust Administration Fund		NIL	On HDFC	255,993.00	504,321.00
To Amount written off :-		NIL	By Dividend		NIL
(a) Bad Debts					
(b) Loan Scholarship			By Donation & Collection :		
(c) Irrecoverable Rents			Donations	1,331,605.00	
(d) Other Items			Box Collection	106,735.00	
To Miscellaneous Expenses		NIL	Sunday Collection	576,937.00	2,015,277.00
To Depreciation		21,710.00			
To Amount transferred to Reserve or Specific Funds		NIL	By Grants		NIL
To Expenditure on objects of the Trust :-			By Income from other Sources :-		
(a) Religious :			(in details as far as possible)		
As per Annexure 1 attached	1,054,566.90		Church Services	4,930.00	
(b) Educational Aid :			Grave Niches Charges	41,910.00	
Sevaclan Special			Sale of Prayer Books		
School Expenses	15,592		& Magazines	51,518.75	98,358.75
Fees of School Children	29,400				
Educational Aid	11,885	56,877.00			
(c) Medical Relief	91,255.00		By Transfer from Reserve		NIL
(d) Relief of Poverty					
(e) Other Charitable Objects					
Donation & Charities	249,986.87	1,452,685.77			
To Surplus Carried over to Balance Sheet		982,462.98	By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet		NIL
Total Rs.		2,729,356.75	Total Rs.		2,729,356.75

As per Our Report of even Date

* Strike off whichever is not applicable

For Rao & Ashok,
Chartered Accountants.

Partner

MUMBAI : 17th October 2006.

TRUSTEE.

Rao & Ashok
Chartered Accountants

TEL: 5668062/43 FAX: 2474510.

UNIT 111, 1ST FLOOR,
HIREN LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PREMISES,
498, MOCHRU LANE, MAHIM-16.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR, CHEMBUR, MUMBAI.

Community Fund

Receipts & Payments Account for the period July 2005 - March 2006.

RECEIPTS	Rs.	PAYMENTS	Rs.	Rs.
To Interest On Saving Bank Account	11,405.00	By Educational Aid : To Students Of St. Anthony's Girl's High School	29,400.00	
" Donations from the Small Christian Communities of the Parish	931,629.00	Others	1,200.00	30,600.00
		" Medical Aid		5,000.00
		" Donation to Society of St. Vincent de Paul Chembur		91,291.87
		" Bank Charges		110.00
		" Transfer to Church		330,023.97
		" Balance on 31.3.2006 : With Punjab National Bank On Fixed Deposit	141,438.00	
		On Saving Bank Account .	344,570.16	486,008.16
Total Rs.	943,034.00	Total Rs.		943,034.00

MUMBAI : 14th October 2006.

EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT.
For Rao & Ashok,
Chartered Accountants

Mehra
Partner.





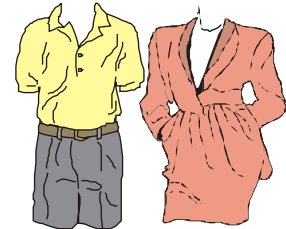
DC

DC? No, it does not stand for District of Columbia (in USA) nor for DaVinci Code. But it does stand for a code – the **Dress Code** recommended for us, especially in Church. Unfortunately, many Catholics are blissfully or purposely unaware of the dress code and attend Church functions dressed most inappropriately. With new clothes planned for Christmas, it would be worthwhile to pay attention, once again, to the Dress Code.

If we were invited to attend a function for the Prime Minister, Chief Minister or Governor, we would certainly look to the propriety of our garments. Yet when we are invited to the presence of our Lord and Saviour at the Eucharistic banquet, we often feel we should be showing off the latest fashions and make the Communion procession a ramp walk.

The men must remember that Church-going is not a tennis match where they must imitate Rafael Nadal in tank-tops and clam-digger shorts or even shorter. Grunge dressing has its place but that place is not the Church. The women, particularly must remember that they are not on the panel for Extraa Innings, a' la Mandira Bedi. If fashion dictates noodle straps then one should at least have the good sense to carry a scarf or shawl to Church. It can be quite distracting to both men and women to see female Church goers scantily dressed, or in form fitting garments.

So, lets cut our coat to a pattern of dignity and decency at all times, but more especially when attending Church.



Area wise Carol Singing

Day & Date	Venue – 1	Venue – 2	Venue - 3
Friday, 15 th Dec	Stars	Perpetual Resort	Torch Bearers
Saturday, 16 th Dec	Our Lady of Victories	Ave Maria, Sangam Morning Star	Harmony
Sunday, 17 th Dec	Divine Providence	St. Francis Xavier Borla Society	
Monday, 18 th Dec	St. Francis of Assisi	Shrinagar	Shellites OLPS Seva-sangam
Tuesday, 19 th Dec	Crusaders	Emmanuel, Dikhush Jeevan Prakash	
Wednesday, 20 th Dec	Disciples, Madonna Archangels, Good Shepherd St. Anthony		

* 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.

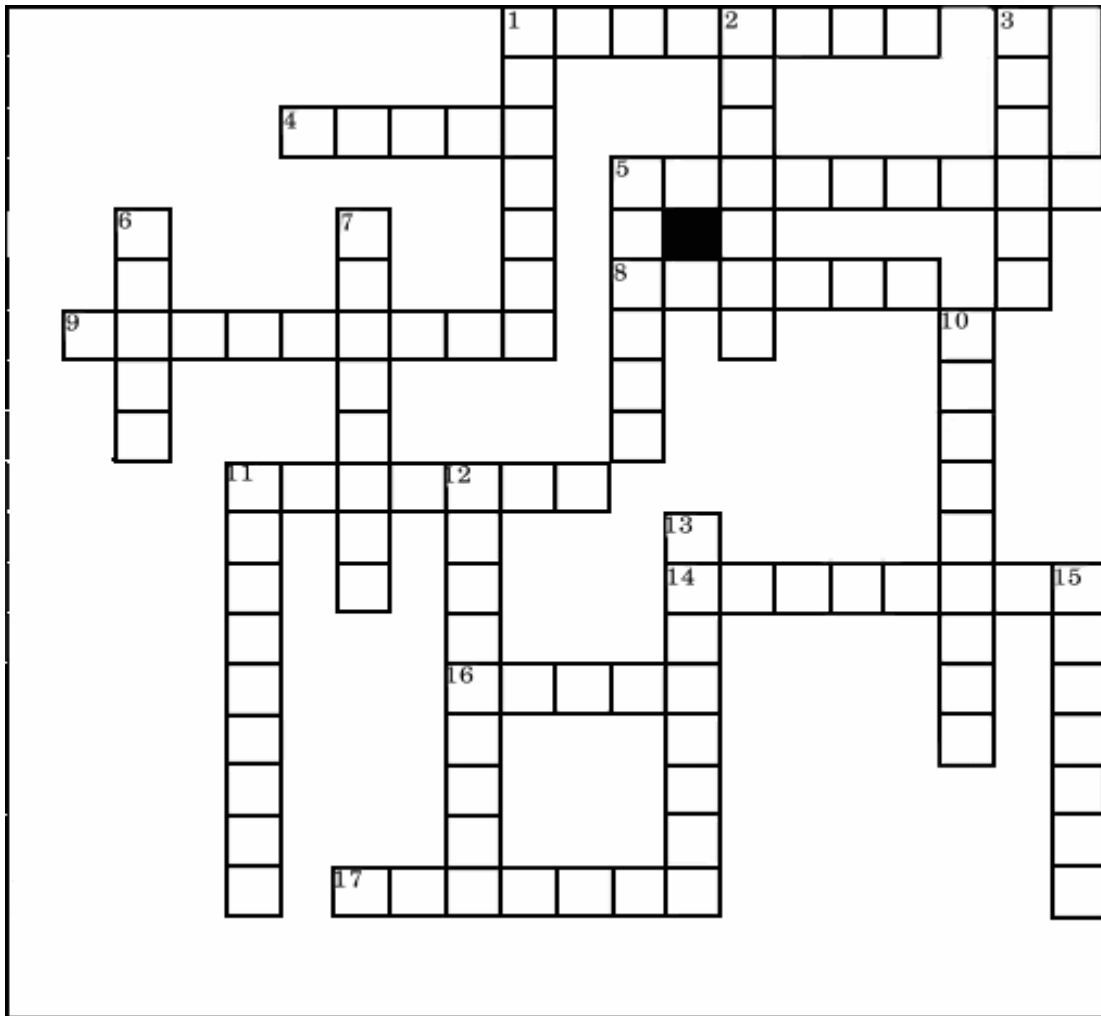
* To send one representative from the community at 7.00pm to take the carol singers at the venue.

* Fr. Aldrin's Cell No. 982 017 0438

Zonal Crib Competition will be held on Friday, 22nd December. Judges will be around from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Kindly get in touch with the Parish Team in case your community is participating



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS	DOWN
1 Elves are busy there	1 Magi
4 He was born on Christmas	2 He was stingy
5 Hung by the chimney	3 Christ was born in one
8 Festive drink	5 Santa's sled
9 Pine tree	6 Santa's helpers
11 Santa slides down it	7 Singing
14 They pull Santa's sleigh	10 Kiss under it
16 Religious ongs	11 December 25th
17 Hangs on the door	12 Where Santa lives
	13 Another name for gifts
	15 Has a shiny red nose



Christmas Programme

Penitential Service

Dec. 16th, Saturday

6.15 p.m. Prayer Service.
Confessions outside the Church
7.00 p.m. Mass as usual

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

Dec. 17th, Sunday

6.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.) Confessions
7.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.)

Dec. 18th, Monday - Dec. 23rd, Saturday

5.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.)
7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.) Confessions

Dec. 24th, Sunday

No Evening Mass

Christmas Service

Carol singing at 10.00 pm followed by Christmas Service on the grounds.

Dec. 25th, Monday

Christmas Day Masses

7.30 am, 8.30 am, 9.30 am & 10.30 am
(Please note there will be NO EVENING MASS)

Dec. 31st, Sunday

No Evening Mass

Thanksgiving hour by Charismatic Group -
11.00pm -12.00 midnight.
New Year's Mass at 12.00 midnight in the Church.

Jan. 1st, Monday

New Year's Day Masses

7.30 am, 8.30 am, 9.30 am, 10.30 am &
7.00 pm in the evening.

Facts in the Bible

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

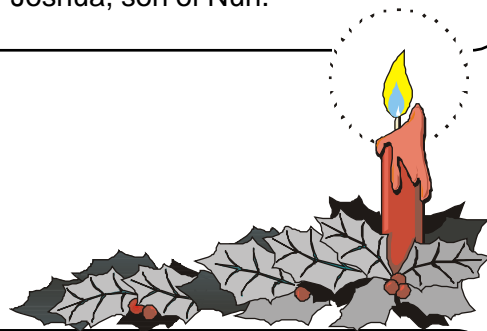
A. God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.



Merry Christmas, Everyone !

Fr. Rector, the Parish Clergy and the Redemptorist Community of Chembur wish each one of you a grace-filled Christmas and a joyful New Year. May the blessings of the Christ Child be with you through all the days of 2007.

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