



THE PATRICIAN

Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph 4:15)

April 2015

MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

Dear parishioners,

I wish you all a very blessed Easter! As St. John Paul II rightly said, "We are the Easter people, and Hallelujah is our song." May the Risen Lord bless each of you, your families and your intentions, as well as the intentions and prayers of the Church and the entire world.

In addition to the Solemnity of Easter, this month we also celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on the 12th. It is a day to remember the immense mercies of God, as the book of Lamentation puts it: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning." (Lam 3: 22-23). It is a good day to take recourse to the mercy of God, especially by praying the very powerful Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, given by Our Lord to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska.

The month of February has been very fruitful for the parish, with several programmes organised such as the Lector's training and the Lenten Mission, preached in our parish between the 23rd and 28th of February by Fr. Agi Paul C.S.C. I am certain that the Mission has led our parishioners to a more fruitful Lent and a more blessed Easter.

PROUD MOMENT FOR ST. PATRICK'S

This month is a historic one for St. Patrick's. Deacon Sandeep Menezes from Marian Zone will be ordained a priest in this very church. Our good wishes and prayers go out to him and his family on this happy occasion. Here he briefly shares with us his inspiring journey.

My name is Sandeep Menezes, a Redemptorist Deacon, and together with you, a grateful parishioner of St. Patrick's. This year has been declared the Year of the Consecrated Life in the Church. Pope Francis, in **Witnesses of Joy**, his recent Apostolic Letter to the Religious says: "To tell our story is to praise God and to thank him for all his gifts." Keeping this in mind, I gladly share the story of my vocation with you, my dear brothers and sisters of St. Patrick's Parish.

It all began during the summer holidays of April 2000. My mother asked me to attend a Bible Convention. At this convention, as I heard the Gospel proclaimed, my faith was renewed. I was convicted of my coldness towards God and my need for conversion. I had an

This month, we at St. Patrick's are proud to celebrate the ordination of one of our parishioners to the priesthood, Deacon Sandeep Menezes. He has written a beautiful article on his vocation, and his call to the priesthood. I hope that his article will lead our youth to discern their vocation earnestly, and to follow the will of God in their lives. I also encourage parents to be open to the vocations of their children, and to promote vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

I also take this opportunity to wish my Assistant, Fr. Mac Donald on the occasion of his birthday on the 9th of April. I also congratulate the members of the Serra Club on the forthcoming canonisation of their founder, Bl. Junipero Serra.

This month features an excellent article on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, written in an engrossing format. I encourage all of you to make it a habit to study the CCC, which is a part of the Sacred Tradition of the Church, and forms an important part of the Deposit of Faith.

May the Risen Lord bless each one of you!

*Fr. A. Sagayanathan
Parish Priest*

encounter with Jesus that convinced me that God had forgiven and accepted me. I was filled with a joy beyond all telling. (Read Jn 15:11) I wanted to share this joy with everyone I met. At the end the priest said: "The Lord is calling some of you young people to serve Him as priests." I remember thinking that it couldn't be me. I asked my mother what she thought. She told me that I could serve the Lord even "in the world." So for the time-being, I put away any thoughts of becoming a priest. However, when I reflected on my life, I felt that I had not responded fully to the love that God had filled me with. (Read Mt 19:21-22) I was not doing what I was supposed to do. I was simply 'following the crowd.'

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BLESSED JUNIPERO SERRA TO BE CANONIZED

The Serrans' prayers have been answered! On his visit to the United States for the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia this September, **Pope Francis is expected to canonize their patron, Blessed Junipero Serra.**

Serra International is named after Blessed Serra, a priest who lived in modern-day California in the 1700s. A Spanish-born Franciscan Missionary, he founded the first nine of 21 eventual missions in California. He worked tirelessly with the American Indians there. He is said to have baptized more than 6,000 people and confirmed 5,000 in his lifetime.

Calling Junipero Serra "the great evangelizer," **Pope Francis will do an "express" canonization of the**

LENTEN MISSION

To help parishioners experience the spiritual fruits of Lent, a Lenten Mission was organized by the Liturgical Committee of our parish between the 23rd and 28th February 2015. It was preached by the dynamic Fr. Agi Paul C.S.C. The program began each day at 5 PM with the Rosary, followed by the 5.30 PM Mass, Praise and Worship, Preaching and concluded with Eucharistic Adoration.

On the first day, Fr. Agi spoke about the power of the Eucharist, by highlighting its Biblical basis as well as several testimonies that demonstrated its miraculous power. The second and third day were devoted to the family. Drawing from his personal experience and using the touchstone of scripture, Father spoke about the roles of children, youth and married couples. On the fourth day he explained the Ten Commandments, and motivated us to conduct an examination of conscience before making a Confession. Inner healing was conducted during the Adoration. On the fifth day, Fr. Agi spoke about various Catholic practices, most importantly the devotion to Mary and the Rosary. He supported his preaching with his inspiring personal testimony. After the Adoration for physical healing, he distributed rosaries to the congregation.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - April

Universal Intention: CREATION

That governments may foster the protection of creation and the just distribution of natural resources.

Missionary Intention: SUFFERING PEOPLE

That the Risen Lord may fill with hope the hearts of those who are being tested by pain or sickness.

18th-century Franciscan friar, which is to say that the normal protocol of verification of three miracles attributed to Padre Serra's intercession will not be required (so far, Serra has two verified miracles to his name). This expedited process, called 'equivalent canonization', is used when "in practice, this person is venerated as a saint," said Pope Francis.

The path to their patron's sainthood has been followed closely by Serrans worldwide and his cause is dear to their hearts. Serrans worldwide wish to **share this thrilling news with others and pray that its positivity will infuse devotion and visible enthusiasm for the Serran Mission for vocations.**

Jeanette D'Souza
President, Serra Club of Bangalore

The final day dealt with various practical suggestions to lead a better Christian life and concluded with the infilling of the Holy Spirit in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Fr. Sagayanathan concluded the Mission by sharing about the devotion to **Mary, Untier of Knots** and distributed booklets about the devotion. He also thanked Fr. Agi for a very effective and inspiring Mission.

IMPORTANT DAYS IN APRIL

Apr 02 - Maundy Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Apr 03 - Good Friday

Apr 04 - Holy Saturday

Apr 05 - Easter Sunday

Apr 12 - Divine Mercy Sunday (II Sunday of Easter)

Apr 23 - Feast of St. George; Patron of the Holy Father

The Patrician wishes
Fr. Mac Donald Fernandis
a very Happy Birthday (Apr 9)

OBITUARY (16TH FEB TO 15TH MAR 2015)

1. Mrs. Francina F.D. (17.2.2015) - St. Anthony Zone

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE ADMINISTERED TO THE CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH ON 7TH JUNE 2015, THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI.

PREPARATORY CLASSES BEGIN ON 1ST MAY 2015. ATTENDANCE AT THESE CLASSES IS COMPULSORY. PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD'S NAME ALONG WITH THE BAPTISM CERTIFICATE AT THE PARISH OFFICE.

THIS IS OUR FAITH: THE CCC

Daniel is now beginning to understand the basics of the Catholic Faith, and he is taking keen interest in studying matters relating to the faith from the right sources. Today, they are taking a walk in a local park and are deeply engrossed in their discussion.

Daniel: Theo, my friend, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) is the best hand book I have ever read. It teaches us not only the 'what' of our faith but also answers the 'why' and 'how' of it.

Theo: That's great! You are getting smarter by the day. And do you know, the CCC as we see it now, is almost 2 decades old? Back in 1985, it was suggested by the extraordinary Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. Work began in right earnest to bring out a document that would be clear, concise and at the same time accurate with regard to the fundamentals of Catholic Doctrine. This catechism was approved and promulgated by the then Holy Father, Pope John Paul II in Oct. 1992. Few years later, further changes were incorporated and the new and improved version of CCC was approved and promulgated once again by the Holy Father, on 15th Aug, 1997. It is now taken as the standard catechism.

Daniel: Hmm...that's some burning of the midnight oil by the Bishops!

Theo: Oh yes! Bishops from all over the world were involved, along with scores of theologians and also lay Catholics, in getting this work finished. It had to be an authentic "reference text" and as the Pope described it, *"a full, complete exposition of Catholic doctrine, enabling everyone to know what the Church professes, celebrates, lives, and prays in her daily life."* He further wrote... it is a *"valid and legitimate instrument for ecclesial communion" and a "sure norm for teaching the faith"*.

Daniel: The idea is to help Catholics understand their faith in the correct manner and from the correct source. Right?

Theo: Yes. And it's also for non-Christians. In today's world, there are so many myths and fallacies which are ascribed to our Church and everything related to her, that it becomes almost impossible to know right from wrong. Even Catholics have fallen prey to certain teachings and practices, which are not in sync with the formal teachings of the Church.

Daniel: And then, there are 'those doubts' ...the grey areas we do not have the answer to.

Theo: The areas which we call grey, Danny, are very

clearly expounded in the CCC. For example, let's take the basic question which mankind has been asking since the beginning... "What am I created for?" The answer to this is given at the start of the CCC, in fact in the prologue itself. Then, matters like "What do we believe in?" are laid out in detail in the first part and forms the foundation for the whole book. The meaning of our Creed (I Believe) is explained at length. The chapters on Sacraments are beautifully elucidated. Sadly, some Christians are still a bit confused when it comes to the Sacraments and can't differentiate between Baptism and Confirmation or do not realize the great importance of Holy Orders. They tend to pay more attention to the form rather than to the substance.

Daniel: I wish to know more about the Church's stand on sin and morality. So much of noise around it nowadays. Where is it in the book?

Theo: The CCC covers this in no less than absolute terms. The CCC has four parts. Part Three known as 'Life in Christ' goes deep into topics such as Man's Freedom, Morality, Moral Conscience, How Conscience is Formed, Sources of Erroneous Decisions with respect to morality etc. Not only that, it also explains how, even though we may have sinned, we are justified and saved by Christ.

Daniel: That's great. Practising the faith is already becoming more meaningful now, as I understand it better. But Theo, I still can't understand why we worship Mary?

(As he finished saying this, Theo collapsed unconscious to the ground. Do you know why he collapsed? If so, please write to patricianblr@gmail.com. Otherwise, you will have to wait until the next edition).

Anil Thomas

Institute for World Evangelisation, ICPE Mission

We are happy to announce the inauguration of the new website (www.stpatricksbldr.com) of St. Patrick's Church, by Msgr. S. Jayanathan, on the feast of St. Patrick this year. The DETAILED PROGRAMME FOR HOLY WEEK AND TIMINGS FOR CONFESSIONS & ADORATION can be found on the website and on the facebook page of the Church.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Special Way of the Cross for children on Good Friday at 9:00 AM at the Mini Hall. CHILDREN PLEASE ATTEND.
- HOLY WEEK English Services will be held at the St. Joseph's Commerce College grounds & the Tamil service will be held in the Church.

SANDEEP MENEZES (contd. from page 1)

I did quite well in my PU studies and entered Engineering College. I secured a well-paying job with a software company at the end of the sixth semester. Then, the Lord changed my mother's heart during her time of prayer. She asked me whether I was still open to being a priest. I told her that I was. By then, however, one of the most difficult things to do was to give up the dream of finding a life partner! I needed the grace to give up this dream. And sure enough, as I made a private retreat, the Lord seemed to ask me: "The grace is always available, the question is *do you want it?*" And with the question came the grace to say a resounding "Yes" to the Lord. (Read Phil 4:13) So, after completing my B.E. Mech., I joined the seminary with great enthusiasm in June 2006.

Dear parents, I share this with you because my response to the Lord would not have been possible if my mother had opposed the inspirations of God. I share this with you my young friends, as a testimony that when we respond generously to God's call, God is able to fill our hearts to the brim with happiness. We need not seek out love or happiness elsewhere. Moreover, the authentic friendships we find in the Church increases our joy. Our total self-giving in service to others brings us great fulfillment. Have you responded fully to the love of Jesus? Don't be afraid to say 'Yes' to a vocation to religious life or priesthood.

*Deacon Sandeep Menezes C.Ss.R
Marian Zone*

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES WITHIN OUR PARISH

- a) **Daily Mass:** 6am, 6.30am (Tamil), 7am, 1.15pm, 5.30pm. **Saturday evening Mass at 6pm (Sunday Liturgy)**
- b) **Sunday Mass:** 6am (Kannada), 7.15am (Tamil), 8.30am (Children's Mass), 9.45am, 11am, 6pm
- c) **Shrine Mass:** Every Tuesday at 10am in Kannada and at 6pm in Tamil
- d) **Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Friday 6pm to 6.45pm (except on Good Friday)
- e) **Adoration Chapel:** Exposition everyday from 6am to 7pm. On Tuesdays, exposition up to 9.45pm.
- f) **Confessions:** Every Saturday 5pm to 6pm at the Adoration Chapel
- g) **Altar Servers Meeting:** Every Saturday immediately after 1.15pm Mass (Contact Fr. Arun Santosh +91-9964729728)
- h) **Faith Formation for children:** Classes will resume in June

LECTORS TRAINING SEMINAR

On 22nd February 2015, the Liturgical Committee of St. Patrick's Church, led by Mr. Mark Braganza, organised a training seminar for Lectors. The session was conducted by Rev. Fr. Joseph Royan C.Ss.R. The objective of the seminar was to create a greater awareness among the lectors regarding their ministry, as well as to render more effective the proclamation of the **Word of God** during the services, so that it may bear fruit in abundance.

Fr. Royan stressed the role of lectors in "evoking faith in others" by their effective proclamation of the Word of God and so exhorted them to prepare well in advance. He also mentioned that it is important for the congregation to "**listen**" to the proclamation and NOT simultaneously read the Word from their Missals or smartphones.

Several practical ideas were also discussed at the seminar, including the preparation of a roster of lectors for each Mass to facilitate their remote and immediate preparation.

The seminar was successful and informative and concluded with refreshments. Those interested in serving in this ministry may **contact Mr. Mark Braganza (+91-9845401680; mark@mabacas.net)**.

2015. However, **Preparatory classes for those intending to receive First Holy Communion in June this year, will begin on 1st May 2015 from 9am to 11am and will go on for the whole month of May.**

- i) **Legion of Mary:** Meetings every Monday at 4.15pm (Contact Ms. M. Menezes + 91-9845426746)
- j) **Legion of Mary (Tamil):** Meetings every Sunday from 8.30am to 9.30am (Contact Mr. John Leonard +91-9916896446)
- k) **St Vincent de Paul:** Meetings every Tuesday at 6pm (Contact Mr. Moses +91-9844178155)
- l) **Ladies of Charity:** Meetings every first Thursday of the month at 4.30pm (Contact Ms. Stella Monga +91 8147971118)
- m) **Counseling Centre:** Open every Tuesday and Friday between 4.30pm to 6.30pm. (Contact +91-80-25587213)

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Saturday: 9am to 1pm
Sunday: 9am to 12.15pm

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feedback/contributions.

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