



# THE PATRICIAN

*Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph 4:15)*

August 2015

## MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings of Love and Peace!

In gratitude, I inscribe a note of 'Thanks' to all the Parishioners of St. Patrick's Church, for the warm welcome accorded to me, as I take on the cloak of responsibility as Parish Priest in a Parish that has a proud and rich history.

St. Patrick's Parish is known for making its parishioners feel at home; for standing firm in faith in times of turbulence; for finding solace through prayer; and for finding joy and contentment through community gatherings! Families and individuals have enkindled friendships and found happiness. This is where generations of our people have made history, by participating in this community with unselfish love and sacrifice. We must continue this journey of faith in which this Parish prides itself, and walk in the footsteps of those who have gone before us.

As we turn each leaf of this Parish's history, we realize just how much St. Patrick's Parish has become a part of our lives. I, too, have now become part of this history and I will strive to assimilate myself in the rich traditions of this Parish.

In this month of August, as we celebrate the Indian Independence Day, we are reminded of the 'free will' we are allowed to exercise in our lives. In celebrating

the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we are assured that Truth and Peace are ever-triumphant. It is also an opportune time to contemplate that man is invited to share in the divine nature of God, primarily through faith.

As I put forward my vision for this Parish, I would like to pen this beautiful quote by Henry Ford - "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." I cannot climb alone the hill which has no steps, but with the help of the Parish Clergy, the Parish Pastoral Council, the Liturgical Committee, the choir groups, various other committee members and each parishioner of St. Patrick's Parish, we will make great strides. I know for sure that this must be my constant thought, to help make my dawn to dusk a gratifying one as Parish Priest of this parish.

I wish every Parishioner a very Happy and Blessed Independence Day and may the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary enhance our Faith and further deepen it, so that we may be true Christians with an abundance of faith.

God Bless You All!

**Msgr. C Francis**  
**Parish Priest**

**Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore**

## THE HEALING POWER OF PRAYER

Long before we were conceived in our mother's womb, we were conceived in the mind of God! (Jer 1:5) It is neither fate nor coincidence that we are alive today. We are here because God willed it. God also willed that Man should be the crown of His creation. Therefore, we can be sure that He is always present, watching over us. Scripture tells us that "the Lord will fulfil His purpose for us" (Ps 138:8)

In order to discern God's purpose for us and to live our life in accordance with His plan, it is necessary that we are in constant communion with Him through daily personal prayer.

God does not promise us a trouble-free life. That

would be unrealistic. Instead, He expects us to take our troubles to Him after doing our own little bit, and then to trust Him completely once we put our problems in His hands! The story of Job's life reveals how desperate and discouraged Job was, yet he found many reasons to praise God, because despite all his misery he could undoubtedly feel the love, the power and the presence of God in every sphere of his life. He was sure that God would not fail him!

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Rev. Monsignor C. Francis  
Ms. Rosaline Farias  
Mr. Larry Furtado

### THE HEALING POWER OF PRAYER (CONTD.)

God gives us sufficient grace to handle our problems when we trust in Him. The words of Job (Job 23:12) "I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured in my bosom the words of His mouth" provide us the assurance that God always keeps His promise when we rely on Him. Prayer and surrender are two important aspects in our relationship with God. Love is the essence of God's character. The Bible says (1 John 4:8) "God is Love" not God has love! And this is our assurance.

Two powerful channels of prayer given to us by the Church are the Rosary and the Eucharistic Adoration. When we pray the Rosary, we invoke the assistance of our Beloved Mother, Mary, to intercede with God for us. The power of the Rosary is gaining more and more acclaim, and that Mary is a powerful mediator is well-known from the scriptures.

Jesus, knowing our weakness and vulnerability, left us the unique gift of His constant presence in the Eucharist! He says (Matt 11:28): "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He knows that we are weak and fragile. Jesus himself suffered tensions and anxieties, betrayals and false accusations during His time on earth. Therefore, He understands what we go through. At difficult moments in His life, He called aloud to His Father for strength and He expects us to do the same. Psychologists

believe that 75% of our tensions and anxieties are connected to events of our past, which no longer exist.

**To relieve your troubled mind and experience the love of God, we invite you to join us every day at 6.00 pm, after the evening Mass, for the recitation of the Rosary. It takes only 15 mins and is precious time spent with our Blessed Mother.**

**On Fridays, after the evening Mass, spending 45 mins before the Eucharistic Lord is refreshing for the soul. Come, surrender to the Lord and feel the difference. The Adoration of the Eucharist, besides the celebration of the Holy Mass, is of infinite importance in the life of the Church. It is available to us free of charge. Let us, therefore, embrace it wholeheartedly.**

**Also, the gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) frees the burden of our sin and the Sacrament of Holy Anointing heals our physical ills.**

**Come, surrender to the Lord and lighten your burdens! Come, experience His Love and share it with others!**

*Cynthia Fernandes  
St. Thomas' Zone*

#### Volunteers for Faith Formation

In Deuteronomy 6:4, God instructs us to teach His commandments diligently to our children. St. Patrick's is looking for volunteers who will carry out this sacred mission by serving as faith formators to the children of our parish.

A training program would first be conducted for all those who volunteer to serve in this ministry. Please contact Ms. Rosaline Farias at +91 9945236389

#### Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - August

##### Universal: VOLUNTEERS

That volunteers may give themselves generously to the service of the needy.

##### Evangelization: OUTREACH TO THE MARGINALIZED

That setting aside our very selves we may learn to be neighbors to those who find themselves on the margins of human life and society.

#### Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered to the youth of our Parish in October 2016. Preparatory Classes for the same have begun and are held every Sunday after the 8.30 am Mass. Attendance at these classes is compulsory for all those intending to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

#### IMPORTANT DAYS IN AUGUST

- 01.08.15 - Feast of St. Alphonsus Mary Ligouri, Founder of the Redemptorist Congregation
- 04.08.15 - Feast of St. John Mary Vianney, patron of Diocesan Priests
- 08.08.15 - Feast of St. Dominic, Founder of the Dominican Order
- 14.08.15 - Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Patron of the Prison Ministry
- 15.08.15 - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 20.08.15 - Feast of St. Bernard, Patron of our Archbishop

#### OBITUARY (16<sup>TH</sup> JUN TO 15<sup>TH</sup> JUL 2015)

1. Irene Mathias - 1/7/2015 - St. Paul's Zone

## THIS IS OUR FAITH: ROLE OF THE LAITY

*Now that Daniel has learnt more about the Catholic faith, he is disappointed to see that his excitement is not shared by his Catholic brethren...*

**Daniel:** I must thank you Theo, for having cleared so many of my doubts regarding our faith. I am now truly beginning to understand the depth of Catholicism.

**Theo:** Oh yes, Dan, Catholicism is such a treasure! If only we experience a fraction of this beautiful jewel that we have inherited from our forefathers, we will be a much more vibrant community.

**Daniel:** But why is it that the world over, especially in developed nations and major cities of any country, the number of people dropping out of church is growing at an alarming rate?

**Theo:** That's a pertinent point that you are making, Daniel. The answer is not a simple and short one; but I will try to start answering that question with one word – 'Disengaged'.

**Daniel:** Disengaged!!?

**Theo:** Yes. Most of us are either thoroughly disengaged or at best partially interested. Some come because they have vested interests, which are other than spiritual. The reasons are many.

**Daniel:** I agree. If only the priests and religious...

**Theo: (Interrupting)** No Daniel, before you even start going that way, let me stop you right there. It's very easy to put the blame on the priests and the religious. Let's first know the role which our Church has assigned to us. The Church clearly teaches in the Catechism that ***"Lay believers are in the front line of Church life; for them the Church is the animating principle of human society. Therefore, they in particular, ought to have an ever-clearer consciousness not only of belonging to the Church, but of being the Church...they are the Church."*** (CCC-899). But let me tell you, while being a lay catholic comes with certain rights, it also comes with certain responsibilities. ***"The faithful should distinguish carefully between the rights and the duties which they have, as belonging to the Church..."*** (CCC-912)

**Daniel:** I did not know that the Church accords such a privileged position to us. But surely, you don't mean

that the priests and religious are not to be blamed for the precarious situation that we are in?

**Theo:** I am not saying that Priests do not make mistakes. But let me ask you a counter question. Where do these priests come from? They don't fall from heaven, do they? They come from our homes, Daniel! From our families! Families are the birth place of future priests. Not seminaries.

**Daniel:** Hmmm. You've got me thinking...again.

**Theo:** And that's another sign of **disengagement**. We want our priests and nuns to be spiritual, holy and perfect, in all senses of the word; but we want our children to become only engineers, doctors and MBAs. In today's world, how many of us parents, encourage our children to discern their call to religious life? And how many of us would jump for joy, if our children felt a calling to be priests or nuns or even lay missionaries?

**Daniel:** That's true! If I had realized it earlier, I would have been more active in Church. But there is so much politics everywhere. I just can't stand it.

**Theo:** What you call 'politics' is nothing but the way people behave everywhere. None of us is perfect. We are all broken people. But that cannot be the reason to not get involved. **If you feel there is something wrong or something which can be done better, get in and be part of the solution, instead of complaining and judging. We should feel privileged and honored to serve the Church, which should be considered an extension of our home and not just a place where we are 'obligated' to go every Sunday.**

**Daniel:** So, where do I start?

**Theo:** Oh, there are many ways we can help. But let me advise you: **the primary motivation to get involved in church activities should be TO SERVE.** There are so many initiatives which our church undertakes; so many associations, spiritual as well as charitable. **Send your children for catechism, volunteer to teach catechism, sing in the choir, be an usher, become a lector...** For starters, Parish Community Week is coming along. Ensure that you and your family participate in it fully. **Move! Get started! Get involved!!**

**Anil Thomas,**  
**Institute for World Evangelisation, ICPE Mission**

## COMMUNITY WEEKEND

The Parish Council welcomes all of you to participate in the celebrations of our Community Week which will be celebrated over two weekends this year, namely 1st/2nd and 7th/8th/9th Aug 2015. The theme for the Community Week is “Joining Hands in Praise, Love and

Service.” The PPC has designed a variety of programmes to suit all age groups and tastes. Please contact your Zonal Representative and participate in as many events as possible. Let's build a strong and vibrant St. Patrick's Community.

	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Sat, Aug 1		1. 5-a-side Soccer for Boys between 10-15 yrs (2pm onwards)	Variety Entertainment (After 6pm Mass - upto 8.30pm)
Sun, Aug 2	1. Carrom (After 8.30 am Mass) 2. Minute to win it (After 9.45 & 11 am Mass)	1. 5-a-side Soccer for Adults (15+ years; After 11am Mass) 2. Dodge Ball for Women (After 11am Mass)	
Fri, Aug 7		-	Movie & Popcorn Night (6.45 pm)
Sat, Aug 8		Housie (5.30 pm)	Bible Quiz (6.15 pm)
Sun, Aug 9	1. Sports for Kids (<15 years - After 8.30 am Mass) 2. Glass Painting and Banner Making (After 8.30 am Mass)	Thanksgiving Mass (5 pm)	1. Bible Fashion Show (6.15 pm) followed by Zonal Choirs 2. Community Dinner (8.15 pm)

## 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. Sunday Mass will be advanced to 5pm on Aug 9.
- c) **Shrine Mass:** Every Tuesday at 10am in Kannada and at 6pm in Tamil
- d) **Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Friday 6pm to 6.45pm
- e) **Adoration Chapel:** Exposition every day 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. Mac Donald Fernandis +91 8971216787)
- h) **Faith Formation for children:** Every Sunday after 8.30am Mass-up to 10.30am. **Preparatory classes for those desirous**

of receiving the sacrament of Confirmation in Oct 2016, are being held every Sunday after the 8.30am Mass. **Attendance is compulsory.** Please note that as part of the Community Week celebrations, parish children will have a Sports programme on Aug 9<sup>th</sup> during the faith formation timings.

- 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. James Sequeira Ph: +91-9341252624)
- 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

Please contact us at  
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feedback/contributions.

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