




The Patrician

Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph 4:15)

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DECEMBER 2017

Message from the Parish Priest



Msgr. C Francis
Parish Priest
Vicar General
Archdiocese of
Bangalore

CHRISTMAS –
A day of love
and happiness,

for Jesus Christ is born to enlighten us
each moment of our lives!

It's the month of Carollers with their enduring tunes; Santa's reindeer sleigh adorned with sleigh bells and gifts; alleys decorated with poinsettia; glittering lights all around the churches and streets; the Cribs in all their glory denoting the Birth of the Saviour, Jesus Christ; the aroma of freshly baked cookies; the scent of rum-soaked plum cakes – it is joy and happiness unbounded. It is a reminder of our faith that is being renewed each and every year and a time to thank God the Father, for such a wonderful gift to this world – Jesus Christ, His only Son.

The very thought of Christmas reminds us of the vow that we take, along with Jesus, to spread the joy and happiness in this world. Let our celebrations be so bountiful and our love so inexhaustible in spreading the message of tolerance, love, peace and faith that are so much a part of the spirit of Christmas.

Prophet Isaiah foretold: "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel. For a child is born to us, and a son is given to us, and the government is upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, God the Mighty, the Father of the world to come, the Prince of Peace". Let our faith get stronger as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, our Saviour.

I pray that this Christmas bring joy and happiness to each of our hearts, along with prosperity, good health, families filled with prayers, trust and love. Let us be Santa to everyone that we come across, by gifting them the

immeasurable love that Jesus gives us in our lives. I wish you all a Blessed and a Merry Christmas!

Mission Sunday Food Fete – Change in date

The Mission Sunday Food Fete, to raise funds for the Missions, will be held on Jan 21st, 2018 (not on Dec 10, 2017 as mentioned in the November issue).

Those who would like to participate / contribute either by setting up a stall, cooking some dishes, volunteering, donating funds etc. may kindly contact their respective Zonal Representatives or +91-98440 21493. External Vendors are also invited.

Editorial Board: *Monsignor C. Francis, Ms. Rosaline Farias, Mr. Larry Furtado*

Parish Events



On Sunday, 26th November, the **Lectors** at our parish had the privilege of attending a **training program** from 2 to 6 pm, under the expert leadership of Fr. Ayres Fernandes, National Executive Secretary of the Commission for Liturgy, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI).

Fr. Ayres began by stating that the Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life and the font from which everything flows. Therefore it's of utmost importance that we participate in the Liturgical Worship mindfully and actively. He stressed that the Lectors have an important ministerial role in the Liturgy, which is held in high esteem by the Church, as they proclaim the Word of God. He explained that being a Lector is a solemn responsibility, as we're called to help the community participate fully, actively and consciously in the Liturgical celebration.

Lectors should develop their ability to proclaim the Word by means of prayer, adequate preparation, study and practice. Father stressed the importance of proclaiming the Word of God in a worthy manner, by having a proper formal dress code

for the Lectors and said that they should be dressed in their Sunday best, in order to uphold the solemnity and dignity of the Word of God. Fr. Ayres then went on to give various practical tips and insights into effective reading techniques to employ, and the appropriate body language we need to be mindful of in order to clearly communicate the Word of God. He presented this to us by means of an informative visual powerpoint presentation.

Father recounted incidents and examples from his own experiences in his ministry, to clarify various points he made. He concluded by advising the Lectors to conduct themselves with dignity, confidence, devotion and humility. He also addressed all our questions and concerns in depth and detail.

We look forward to attending many more such interactive and educative workshops in the future too

- Pragma Jain

Important Days to Remember

Dec 03: First Sunday of Advent
 Dec 06: Memorial - St. Nicholas
 Dec 07: Memorial - St. Ambrose
 Dec 08: Solemnity - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Dec 13: Memorial - St. Lucy
 Dec 14: Memorial - St. John of the Cross
 Dec 25: Solemnity - Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)
 Dec 26: Feast - St. Stephen
 Dec 27: Feast - St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
 Dec 28: Feast - Holy Innocents
 Dec 29: Memorial - St. Thomas Becket
 Dec 31: Feast - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Condolence to Monsignor C. Francis

On behalf of the parish, the Patrician team expresses its heartfelt condolences to Monsignor C. Francis and his family on the loss of his father, Mr. A. Chinnappa, on Oct 31, 2017. May our Lord bless and comfort our dear Parish Priest during this time of grief.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - December

UNIVERSAL: The Elderly

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Parish Events

The **World Day of the Poor** is a new event in the Catholic calendar, inaugurated by Pope Francis at the close of the Jubilee Year of Mercy 2015-16. In the document concluding the year, *Misericordia et Misera*, the Pope asked that Catholics celebrate the special day every year on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, which usually falls in November. This year, the very first World Day of the Poor was celebrated on Nov 19th, 2017.



"If we truly wish to encounter Christ, we have to touch his body in the suffering bodies of the poor, as a response to the sacramental communion bestowed in the Eucharist," says Pope Francis. "The Body of Christ, broken in the sacred liturgy, can be seen, through charity and sharing, in

the faces and persons of the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters."

The clergy of St. Patrick's Parish responded to the Pope's call for concrete actions in service of the poor and decided to provide free lunch to around 500 less-privileged members of society. The Society of **St. Vincent de Paul** (SVP) and the **Ladies of Charity** (LOC) of our parish sprang into action to implement this decision. To

raise funds for the initiative, a collection was taken on the World Day of the Poor after each of the Masses. On the following Sunday, the SVP and the LOC organized free lunch for around 400 poor individuals. Besides the lunch, towels were distributed to each of the attendees.

The **Ladies of Charity** (LOC) of our Parish, along with the members of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) visited the **Lourdes Home** for destitute women on 12th of November, as part of an **outreach program**. The home, run by Franciscan sisters, looks after destitute women who are homeless, sick and old. It currently has 21 inmates.



The LOC and CWL members treated the inmates to a lunch, played some games with them and also distributed gifts to each of the inmates.

The **St. Patrick's Youth Group** (SPY) organized a **car-wash** on the first weekend of November (Nov 4th and 5th) to **raise funds for the missions**. As part of this initiative, the youth of our parish, led by an enthusiastic and energetic **Fr. Bala**, washed cars and 2-wheelers of those who attended Mass on Saturday evening and on Sunday.



St. Patrick's is grateful to all those who supported this initiative by getting their vehicles washed and/or by donating funds for the cause.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Every year, the Church in her liturgy celebrates the feast of 'The Holy Family' on the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas. The primary purpose of the feast is to present to us the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a model for Christian families.

Jesus, the incarnate Word, chose to dwell among us in a human family, which Pope Paul VI calls the 'School of Nazareth'. Christ spent so many years among us in the holy habitation of Nazareth. Here, our Lord Jesus Christ

teaches us how to live our own family life by setting an example of caring, loving and obeying God in every situation.

Selfless love, prayer and caring for one another, thus obeying God's truth leads us to holiness. This, Pope Paul VI calls 'The example of Nazareth'. In this profound 'School of Nazareth' is a model for our own family life and it is equally wonderful to emulate Jesus, Mary and Joseph, for we are all here on a pilgrimage. We must set our desires to

carry on our education in God's word in the Gospel.

The Christian family has been a domestic church in Christian traditions. In our life with one another as a Christian family, Jesus is present. We only need the eyes to see him at work, the ears to hear him speak, and the heart to make place for him to dwell, thereby we will continue his mission of redemption within us and through us.

- Tina Fernandez

St. Patrick's Outreach Programme - Update

The SPOP team had a meeting with Fr. Joseph, Parish Priest of St. Anthony's Parish and Sr. Carmela, Superior of the Cluny Convent at Kadisenahalli and discussed the budget and specifics of the proposed rejuvenation of water bodies. Professionals from MYRADA have provided a plan on guidance by Mr. Aloysius Fernandez.

The way forward in strengthening the medical dispensary involving traditional health workers has also been planned.

On November 27th, the second batch of medicines for Kadisenahalli were handed over to Fr. Joseph by Monsignor C. Francis.



Regular Activities within Our Parish

- **Daily Mass:** 6am, 6.30am (Tamil), 7am, 1.15pm, 5.30pm. Saturday evening Mass at 6pm (Sunday Liturgy).
- **Sunday Mass:** 6am (Kannada), 7.15am (Tamil), 8.30am (Children's Mass), 9.45am, 11am, 6pm.
- **Shrine Mass:** Every Tuesday at 10am in Kannada and at 6pm in Tamil.
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Friday 6pm to 6.45pm.
- **Adoration Chapel:** Exposition every day from 6am to 7pm. On Tuesdays, exposition up to 9.45pm.
- **Confessions:** Every Saturday 5pm to 6pm at the Adoration Chapel.
- **Altar Servers Meeting:** Every Saturday at 3pm.
- **Faith Formation for children:** Will be held every Sunday after 8.30am Mass – up to 10.30am.
- **Legion of Mary:** Meetings every Monday at 4.15pm (Contact Ms. M. Menezes + 91-9845426746).
- **Legion of Mary (Tamil):** Meetings every Sunday from 8.30am to 9.30am (Contact Mr. John Leonard +91-9916896446).
- **St. Vincent de Paul:** Meetings every Tuesday at 6pm (Contact Mr. Walter Fernandes +91-9901904718).
- **Ladies of Charity:** Meetings every first Thursday of the month at 4.30pm (Contact Ms. Stella Monga +91 8147971118).
- **Counseling Centre:** Open every Monday and Friday between 4.30pm to 6.30pm. (Contact +91-80-25587213).