



THE PATRICIAN

Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph 4:15)

February 2016

MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

**'So it is written, that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead'.
(Luke: 24:46)**

The Lenten Season gives us the message "to be merciful, attentive and generous". Embrace mercy by reaching out to those in need. Be attentive to Prayer during lent. Be generous and not closed-hearted.

During lent we desire to surrender ourselves to prayer, to fasting and to giving alms. Also, we are called not just to abstain from sin, but to a true conversion of our heart and mind as followers of Jesus. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death, our death to sin and evil, and a new beginning of a life in Christ.

This year, declared by the Church as the Year of Mercy, makes it even more relevant to share my thoughts with you on the meaning of Mercy. We need to seek mercy for our deeds that would have hurt others—our parents, our near and dear ones, anyone that we have known or not known—for what better time can there be to ask for God's mercy than during this season of Lent! At this time, when Jesus through His exemplary life, can help us also to live a spiritual life along with Him.

The significance of Ash Wednesday is that it marks the

LIGHTEN UP!

The Pope goes to Chicago. He is picked up at the airport by a limo and driver. He looks at the beautiful car and asks the driver, "You know, I never get to drive any more. Would you please let me?"

The driver is understandably hesitant. But the Pope persists, "Please?" The driver finally lets up. "Oh, all right, I can't really say no to the Pope."

So the Pope takes the wheel, and boy, is he a speed demon! He hits the gas and goes around 100 mph in a 45 zone. A policeman notices and pulls him over.

The cop walks up and asks the Pope to roll down the window. Startled and surprised, the young officer asks the Pope to wait a minute. He goes back to his patrol car and radios the chief.

beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. Palm Sunday, the final Sunday of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week, commemorates the triumphant entry of Christ into Jerusalem, days before He was crucified. Holy Thursday is the commemoration of the Last Supper of Jesus, when He established the Sacrament of Holy Communion prior to His crucifixion. Good Friday is the day on which we commemorate the death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Let us walk this path of reflection during this Season of Lent—asking for God's mercy on us—in order to strengthen our faith and to become more exemplary persons.

God Bless us all.

Msgr. C Francis
Parish Priest

Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore

Parish Family Book

Parishioners are reminded to kindly update their family records and pay their Church Support for the year at the Parish Office.

Cop: Chief, I have a problem.

Chief: What sort of problem?

Cop: Well, you see, I pulled over this guy for driving way over the speed limit but it's someone really important.

Chief: Important like the mayor?

Cop: No, no, much more important than that.

Chief: Important like the governor?

Cop: Way more important than that.

Chief: Like the president?

Cop: More.

Chief: Who's more important than the president?

Cop: I don't know, but he's got the Pope driving for him!

EDITORIAL BOARD

Rev. Monsignor C. Francis

Ms. Rosaline Farias

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MISSION SUNDAY FOOD FEST

The Mission Sunday Food Fest, held at St. Patrick's Church on 10th January 2016 in support of the Worldwide Missions, saw a large number of people both parishioners and non-parishioners come together to enjoy a day of total relaxation and camaraderie and freedom from kitchen shackles! An initiative on the part of our Parish Priest, Msgr. C Francis, coupled with the support and co-operation of the members of the parish, ensured that the Fest was a grand success.

It was amazing how within a short span of about 10 days arrangements were put in place for this event! The zonal representatives took the initiative to co-ordinate with their members and all seven zones of the parish participated with enthusiasm. With posters all over the premises, announcements in the church and the parishioners themselves spreading the word around, it was obvious that the fete would be well patronised. The expectation was well founded.

The Fete opened with a short prayer and a warm welcome to all. Soon, the emcee of the day took over and did a wonderful job of enticing the people and promoting the products that were on sale. There was a variety of foods to satisfy every palate, and there was clearly no consideration for timings of breakfast or lunch because a large crowd made a beeline for pork and sannas as soon as they managed to get the first coupons! All the counters were well patronised and the menu was exhaustive—Kara Bath and Kesari Bath; Iddiappam & Paaya; Uddin Vada & Chutney; Masala Dosa & Kheema Dosa; Appam & Chicken Stew; Tapioca & Fish Curry; Chicken, Tuna & Chutney sandwiches; Pav & Goa sausages; Cutlets; Burgers; Pan Rolls; Chicken Kababs; Chicken Masala; Beef Kerala style; Biriyanis; Chinese Food; Caramel Custard; Ice Creams & Milk Shakes; Cakes and a large variety of sweets; Samosas; Prawn Balchow; Brinjal Pickle; Coffee, Tea, Juice and some items for the vegetarians among us too. The food was delicious and the sweets very tempting. The stalls also included sale of Potted

Plants (prepared by an elderly parishioner) and Nail Art (executed by two enthusiastic teenagers), which was a flurry of activity—clearly everybody did their bit to contribute towards the “GOOD CAUSE” for which the event was organized. When business was not so brisk, the parish priest stepped in with his experienced sales talk that did not fail to motivate the crowd all over again! It was indeed a heart-warming sight to see the clergy, the religious and the parishioners both young and old, come together and mingle freely. Everybody enjoyed the festive atmosphere.

The youth organized a few game stalls which were a hit. The youngsters thronged these stalls to try their hand at winning prizes with their skills. There was also a travel agent and an apparel dealer who were part of the fair, trying to promote their businesses while giving a portion of their earnings towards the “cause”. The food was all sold out. Patrons had their fill and ensured that they carried home some goodies for the evening and the day after!

It must be mentioned that all items were contributed by the parishioners themselves, whether food preparation or monetary donations. The sincere thanks and warm-hearted appreciation expressed by the Parish Priest in response to all the effort and enthusiasm put into the event, was gratefully acknowledged and accepted by the community. Be assured that this will be an annual event in the years to follow! So, get going to see how you can be an active part of the event next time and look forward to the date, all those of you who sadly missed it this year!

Shirley Job
St. Joseph's Zone

IMPORTANT DAYS IN FEBRUARY

(Italicised items pertain to the Jubilee Year of Mercy)

Feb 02 : World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life;
Jubilee for Consecrated Life

Feb 10 : Ash Wednesday; *Sending out of the 'Missionaries of Mercy'*

Feb 11 : World Day of the Sick (Theme: Entrusting Oneself to the Merciful Jesus like Mary: “Do Whatever He Tells You.” - Jn 2:5)

Feb 22 : *Jubilee of the Roman Curia*

Feb 25 : 19th Anniversary of Archbishop's Episcopal Ordination

OBITUARY

1. Anthony D'souza 8/1/2016 - Marian Zone

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - FEBRUARY

Universal: CARE FOR CREATION

That we may take good care of creation—a gift freely given—cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

Evangelization: ASIA

That opportunities may increase for dialogue and encounter between the Christian faith and the peoples of Asia.

THE SEASON OF LENT

This year the season of lent begins on the 10th of February starting with Ash Wednesday. The season prepares us to celebrate the paschal mystery of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. The Church calls us to a spirit of repentance, above all penance, fasting and almsgiving, which expresses conversion in relation to oneself, to God and to others.

How long does the season last?

The liturgical season of lent extends from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter - a calendar period of 46 days. But Lent itself is 40 days long, as Sunday's are seen as a commemoration of Christ's resurrection and so are not counted as part of Lent.

The Gospels tell us that Jesus himself fasted and prayed for 40 days in the desert, during which time he was tempted by Satan. The Lenten fast we observe mirrors this fasting of Jesus.

What is the significance of ashes that are used on Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. The priest crosses the forehead of the faithful with ash and says the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Gen 3:19). The more recent Roman Missal has introduced the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

The ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. They are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year.

What are the faithful expected to do during the season of Lent?

The faithful are expected to foster the spirit of penance and of reparation for sin; to encourage self-denial, and thus be guided in the footsteps of Jesus. Church law requires the observance of fast and abstinence (CCC 1249-1253).

Abstinence: All persons who have already celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

Fasting: Everyone, from the completion of their 18th birthday to their 59th birthday, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Voluntary fasting on other weekdays of Lent, especially on Fridays, is highly recommended. Fasting is generally understood to mean eating one full meal each day. Two other partial meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken; but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed.

Other forms of "fasting" especially regarding alcoholic drink, needless television, video games, Internet use and social entertainment, is of true spiritual value and is strongly encouraged. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, neither the law of fasting nor the law of abstinence is binding. If in doubt, one's parish priest or confessor may be consulted.

Prayer: In order to deepen one's love for Christ, Catholics are urged to read and pray using sacred Scripture; to study the Catechism of the Catholic Church; to participate in devotions offered by the parish (Daily Mass, Stations of the Cross); and to pray more fervently — individually, as families, and in common with others. The faithful are exhorted to pray the rosary, to make private visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life, for world peace etc.

Almsgiving: All Catholics are urged to support generously the charitable works of the Church. People are also encouraged to assist the sick, the aged, the needy and the imprisoned in other ways. Fasting and abstinence together with works of charity help Catholics live in solidarity with the crucified Christ reflected in the image of our brothers and sisters who suffer.

The Episcopal Conference suggests the following devotions for the season of Lent:

1. Attending Mass
2. Making at least a 15 minute visit to the Blessed Sacrament.
3. Reading the Bible for 15 minutes.
4. Meditation on the Passion of Our Lord for 15 minutes.
5. Making the Way of the Cross.
6. Missing breakfast or any one meal.
7. Taking strictly vegetarian meals (avoiding fish and egg as well).
8. Giving 10% of one's daily earnings to charity.

WHAT DOES THE CHURCH TEACH ABOUT CREMATION?

Many Catholics have questions about the Church's teachings on the growing practice of cremation. This is understandable, since prior to 1963, the Church insisted that Catholics follow only the manner of Christ's burial, by either entombing or burying the body. Even today, the Church acknowledges that "cremation does not hold the same value" as this traditional way of allowing the body to go gently back into the earth (Order of Christian Funerals, Reflections, p. 14).

The revised Code of Canon Law of 1983 helps Catholics understand that the 1963 lifting of the prohibition, forbidding Catholics to cremate their deceased loved ones' remains, was never intended as an endorsement: "The Church earnestly recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the dead be observed; it does not, however, forbid cremation unless it has been chosen for reasons which are contrary to Christian teaching" (Canon 1176). The Church now allows for cremation of the body, providing that family members making that decision are not doing so because they fear the body is lost forever and has no future together in Christ with the immortal soul.

Treatment of Cremated Remains of the Body

Since the human body has an eternal destiny in any form, the Church requires that cremated remains of a body be buried or entombed immediately after the Funeral in the same timely manner as a body.

Cremated remains of a loved one are not to be scattered, kept at home or divided into other vessels among family members, just as it is clear that these practices would desecrate a body in a casket. The Church allows for burial at sea, providing that the cremated remains of the body are buried in a heavy container and not scattered.

All of these teachings on the treatment of cremated remains of the body, correspond with the Christians' foundational belief in eternal life—both body and soul—in Jesus Christ, among the Communion of Saints.

Special Services during Lent

Ash Wednesday: Morning Mass timings are changed and will be as follows: 5.45am - English, 6.30am - Tamil, 7.15am - English. Besides the regular Evening Mass at 5.30pm, there will be an additional Evening Mass at 6.30pm.

Way of the Cross: Every Friday at 6pm. There will be a brief Way of the Cross on Sundays after the Evening Mass.

24 Hour Adoration: At the Convent of St. Brigitta on Brunton Road. 8am to 8pm for the Laity and 8pm to 8am for the Clergy and Religious.

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. Adoration will be shifted to Thursday during the season of Lent.
- 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.
- 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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Please contact us at
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feedback/contributions.

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