



# THE PATRICIAN

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

July 2016

## MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

"Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29)

It would be apt to declare this month as the month of faith, trust and belief as we celebrate the feast of St. Thomas, the Apostle. Thomas, who had doubted at first that his companions had seen the Lord, was allowed to put his finger in Jesus' wounds when Jesus appeared to them again. This experience transformed his faith, which became so deep and so strong that he exclaimed "My Lord and My God." Our ignorance often leads to blind denial and a lack of conviction leaves us wondering "what the truth really is!" This is human folly. It is FAITH that secures our belief; our pursuit to attain the immortal truth of divinity—the covenant of God the Almighty with humanity.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> is the day we commemorate and remind ourselves of the FAITH and how blessed we are for not having seen, yet our belief in Jesus is so potent that we recognize the power of His Divinity.

This month, on July 16<sup>th</sup> we also celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, commemorating one of the Marian apparitions, when Mother Mary gave us the message to lead a life of Prayer and Contemplation of

### Death Announcement

We regret to inform our parishioners of the passing away of Rev. Fr. Patrick Digby on 26th June 2016 at the Clergy Home of the Archdiocese. He served as Parish Priest of St. Patrick's for 6 years, from 1997 to 2003. May his soul rest in peace!

### Senior Citizens' Day

Senior Citizens' Day for our parishioners will be celebrated on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July - one day before the feast of Ss. Joachim and Anne. There will be a small get together at 4pm in the mini Hall followed by Holy Mass at 5.30pm. Senior citizens are invited to participate and may kindly give your names to your respective Zonal representatives.

### St. Patrick's Community Week

St. Patrick's will be celebrating its Community Week between the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. The detailed schedule will be announced shortly.

Faith and Trust in God and Jesus Christ. I pray for all the parishioners of St. Patrick's, as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel to bless us all.

Another reason that makes this month special, is that I along with all our parishioners, are happy to warmly welcome our new assistants Rev. Fr. Bala Francis and Rev. Fr. Julius Kumar to St. Patrick's Church. New visions, new ideas and thoughts always sprout a fresh chapter of growth! Let us all cooperate and coordinate with these two young priests and wish them luck and render our support, to make St. Patrick's Parish a community filled with togetherness and holiness.

"Be not afraid to tell Jesus that you love Him; even though it be without feeling, this is the way to oblige Him to help you, and carry you like a little child too feeble to walk."

God Bless us all.

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

**Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore**

## LIGHTEN UP!

A priest was visiting the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but there was no answer to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote 'Revelation 3:20' on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the Mass offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, 'Genesis 3:10.' Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up into gales of laughter. Revelation 3:20 begins 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.' Genesis 3:10 reads, 'I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked.'

### EDITORIAL BOARD

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



## PREPARATION FOR THE MASS

If only we understand the true meaning of the Mass, then we would look forward to every Mass we could attend and take in every moment of it. The Council of Trent taught that the Mass is the same as the sacrifice of Calvary, “only the manner of offering being changed” from bloody to unbloody. The Second Vatican Council described the Eucharist as the “source and summit of the Christian life” (LG 11). Since Jesus commanded us to celebrate the Eucharist in his memory, and since Jesus is present with us in the Eucharist, “to the end of the age” (Mt 28:20), it is important for us to participate wholeheartedly in the Sacrifice of the Mass. Quoting the Second Vatican Council again, “The Church, therefore, earnestly desires that Christ’s faithful, when present at this Mystery of Faith, should not be there as strangers or silent spectators; on the contrary, through a good understanding of the rites and prayers, they should take part in the sacred action, conscious of what they are doing.” (SC 48) In order to participate intensely at Mass, it is also necessary to prepare well for the Mass.

Here are some practical ways to prepare for Mass.

- Try your best to **make it in time for Mass**. It is always a good habit to arrive a few minutes before Mass, to spend some time in prayer and dispose yourself to the Holy Sacrament you are about to participate in.
- **Avoid unnecessary chatter or any other distractions on your way to Mass**. For example, if you are driving, avoid turning on the radio or playing music in the vehicle.
- **Prayer is one of the best ways to prepare**. Spend time in prayer before Mass and ask God for the grace to participate devoutly. Some suggested and much-loved prayers before Mass are the Examination of Conscience, the Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas

and the Prayer of St. Ambrose.

- **Familiarize yourself with the liturgy of the day’s Mass**. Go over the Readings and Prayers, and if possible, some information about the feast or liturgy being celebrated. This should be a piece of cake with the numerous books, pamphlets, websites and apps available within our reach.

If you intend to receive Holy Communion at Mass, ensure that you fulfil the **four requirements of the Church for receiving Communion**:

1. Being in the state of grace (free from mortal sin)
2. Belief in the doctrine of Transubstantiation (the change of bread and wine into Christ’s Body and Blood),
3. Observing the Eucharistic Fast, and lastly,
4. Freedom from any ecclesiastical censure (i.e. those who are excommunicated, interdicted or those who obstinately persist in manifesting grave sin - CIC 915).

### Honour for Meritorious Students

The Archdiocesan Board of Education will honour the meritorious catholic students who have secured more than 80% marks in SSLC/ICSE/CBSE/XII/II PUC Examinations. Eligible students are requested to enroll their names with The Secretary of the Archdiocesan Board of Education, 1st Floor at Pastoral Centre with a copy of the Provisional Marks card/Internet copy duly attested by respective school authorities along with a letter from the parish priest.

### Warm Welcome

The Patrician is pleased to welcome Rev. Fr. Julius Kumar M.S.C, to St. Patrick’s Church. Fr. Julius is from the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and will serve as Asst. Parish Priest at St. Patrick’s.

### **Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions - JULY**

Universal: INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

That indigenous peoples, whose identity and very existence are threatened, will be shown due respect.

Evangelization: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

That the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of her mission to the continent, may announce the Gospel with renewed vigor and enthusiasm.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS IN JUNE**

July 03: Solemnity of St. Thomas, Apostle of India

July 26: Ss. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

July 31: Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola

### **OBITUARY (16<sup>TH</sup> APR TO 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016)**

1. Tina Prabhu - 4/6/2016 - St. Thomas’ Zone



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

"Into my heart, into my heart; Come into my heart, Lord Jesus; Come in today, come in to stay; Come into my heart, Lord Jesus!" These are the opening lines of a hymn sung by children at their First Holy Communion, and so did our children too at St. Patrick's.

Normally, the First Holy Communion service at St. Patrick's Church coincides with the Feast of Corpus Christi, which usually falls in the month of June. However, this year, as the feast of Corpus Christi was celebrated in the month of May, the First Holy Communion service was held later, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has this to say about Holy Communion (CCC 1391) - "Holy Communion augments our union with Christ. The principal fruit of receiving the Eucharist in Holy Communion is an intimate union with Christ Jesus. Indeed, the Lord said: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him."

Preparations for the First Holy Communion commenced with the Catechism classes that the children were required to attend every weekday, through the month of May. The formation of the children was done by a dedicated and competent team of teachers who deserve a big 'thank you' and great appreciation for the sacrifices they made over a whole month in order to prepare our little ones for receiving the Sacrament. The curriculum was extensive and covered the importance and meaning of the sacraments, with special emphasis on the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. Also included was the explanation and preparation for the Holy Mass and Communion service.

Paragraphs 1384 and 1385 of the CCC have this to say about preparing for receiving the Eucharistic Lord: "The Lord addresses an invitation to us, urging us to receive Him in the sacrament of the Eucharist... To respond to this invitation, we must prepare ourselves for so great and so holy a moment. St. Paul urges us to examine our conscience: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the Body and Blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to communion." To

prepare themselves fully for their First Holy Communion, the Communicants received the Sacrament of Reconciliation a day earlier at the church.

The main celebrant at the service, Rev. Fr. Xavier Manavath, gave an enlightening homily. He defined what sin is i.e. anything that goes against love is a sin. He explained why we can't see God- for He is neither male nor female; we imagine God as a man with a big beard. But God can take any form. He spoke to the parents of the Communicants and charged them with the task of being good examples to the children. He spoke about the role of God-Parents in faith formation. He explained why God doesn't enter our hearts and hurt us but comes in the form of Bread and wine which can permeate every fibre of our being.

After the service was over, the children and their parents were joined by their near and dear ones to celebrate the memorable occasion of the coming of Christ Jesus into their children's hearts for the very first time!

Attending the service at St. Patrick's reminded me of my own First Holy Communion. I was dressed in white and held a candle. But that was many years ago. Today, after all these years, I'm still very particular to attend the Sunday Mass and receive the Body and Blood of Christ which sustains me. The First Holy Communion photograph is very special and even today I treasure it. I am sure it will be the same for the children - many years later they will look back nostalgically on this day and will be grateful for all the strength and hope that this sacrament has provided them.

One of our august parishioners once told me that we have two lives - one human and the other divine. When we go to Church we pay more attention to things supernatural and divine. The Church obliges the faithful to receive the Eucharist at least once a year, if possible during the Easter season. But the Church also encourages the faithful to receive the Holy Eucharist on Sundays and feast days, or more often still, even daily.

I congratulate the little boys and girls who received Jesus for the first time, and pray that they grow closer and closer to Jesus through daily Mass, as they journey through life.

**- Sunil D'souza**  
**St. Paul's Zone**



### ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

The Catholic Church celebrates the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July. St. Ignatius is the founder of the Society of Jesus (also called the Jesuits) - the congregation that runs the St. Joseph's School on Museum Road and on Vittal Mallya Road, besides a number of other educational institutions within our parish boundaries and in our Archdiocese. Moreover, our present Pope, Holy Father Francis, is a Jesuit.

Saint Ignatius was a Spanish knight from a local Basque noble family. At the age of 30, he was injured in battle by a cannonball that wounded one of his legs and broke the other. The injury forced him to return to the castle of his father, where he had several surgical operations. During this period of convalescence, he read the *De Vita Christi*, a work that influenced his own life. He became fired with an ambition to lead a life of self-denying labour and to emulate the heroic deeds of St. Francis of Assisi and other great monastics. He resolved to devote himself to the conversion of non-Christians in the Holy Land. Upon his recovery, he visited the Benedictine monastery, Santa Maria de Montserrat, where he hung up his military garments before an image of the

Blessed Virgin. He then traveled on foot to the town of Manresa (Catalonia) and spent several months in a cave nearby, where he practiced rigorous asceticism.

From 1522 to 1524, Ignatius of Loyola wrote *Spiritual Exercises*, a simple 200-page set of meditations, prayers, and various other mental exercises.

By 1534 he had gathered six key companions, all of whom he had met as fellow students at the University of Paris — Francis Xavier, Alfonso Salmeron, Diego Laynez, and Nicholas Bobadilla, all Spanish; Peter Faber, a Frenchman; and Simão Rodrigues of Portugal. Later, he was joined by Saint Francis Borgia, a member of the House of Borgia, who was the main aide of Emperor Charles V, and other nobles. "On the morning of the 15th of August 1534, in the chapel of the Church of Saint Peter, at Montmartre, Loyola and his six companions, of whom only one was a priest, met and took upon themselves the solemn vows of their lifelong work." Ignatius of Loyola was the main creator and first Superior General of the Society of Jesus. He was beatified and then canonized and received the title of Saint on March 12, 1622.

*The Patrician wishes  
Fr. Julius Kumar (Jul 4<sup>th</sup>), Fr. Paul Raj (Jul 22<sup>nd</sup>)  
and Fr. Edward David (Jul 25<sup>th</sup>)  
a Very Happy Birthday*

### 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.
- 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.
- 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 +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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