



# THE PATRICIAN

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

June 2016

## MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

**"I'm most proud of the blessings that God has bestowed upon me, in my life. He's given me the vision to truly see that you can fall down, but you can still get back up. Hopefully, I'll learn from my mistakes and have the opportunity to strengthen and improve the next thing I do."** - *Martin Lawrence*

With the blessings of God the Almighty, Jesus his only Son, our beloved Mother Mary and all the saints and angels, let us begin the busy schedules that will be ahead of us—the start of the academic year in schools and colleges, and our students building their careers. I pray that all the goals, interests, ventures and dreams that all you children set are achieved with divine blessings!

This month also being the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Anthony, as we celebrate these feasts, let us invoke the blessings of the most Sacred Heart of

Jesus and ask Him to bless our families and keep us united in the faith. Let us pray that our faith may be deep-rooted and strong, so that in times of joy and struggles we may not be overwhelmed and that our faith may sustain us. Let us pray also to St. Anthony, to intercede with Jesus, to protect us from all harm and evils and keep us together in times of turbulence.

It is my great pleasure and happiness to thank each one of our parishioners for their wonderful support and cooperation in our parish. This indeed helps us to keep this big family united, and together achieve the milestones that this parish of St. Patrick's has reached.

I wish the children of our parish all the best as they begin their new academic year at their respective schools and colleges.

God Bless us all.

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

**Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore**

## GOODBYE AND WELCOME

The Patrician bids farewell to Fr. MacDonald Fernandis and Fr. Sunny Richard, both of whom will be leaving our parish in early June.

**Fr. MacDonald Fernandis** has been transferred as Parish Priest to St. Francis Xavier's Church, Somanahalli; and as Manager and Correspondent of St. Francis Xavier High School. He has served our parish for the past 2 years in various capacities and was primarily in charge of altar servers and the Liturgy.

**Fr. Sunny Richard** will be moving to Kerala to do his Masters in Theology in Family Studies. Fr. Sunny has served our parish for the past one year and had taken charge of the Youth Group and the boarding, besides several other responsibilities.

We thank them both for their sincere service to our parish and for blessing us with their wonderful homilies. The Patrician would also like to specially thank Fr. MacDonald Fernandis for his contributions to this newsletter.

We also welcome **Fr. Bala Francis Kumar C.** who has been appointed as Asst. Parish Priest at our parish. We wish him a fruitful ministry at our parish.

## PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Here are some promises given by Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary for devotees of his Sacred Heart.

I will give them all graces necessary for their state of life.

I will establish peace in their homes.

I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.

I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.

Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in my Heart.

Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.

Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Rev. Monsignor C. Francis

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## BRINGING ALIVE THE FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

The involvement of Fr. Sunny Richard at the Faith Formation classes over the last academic year was indeed very welcome. He brought with him many positive changes from his experience of earlier years and a new routine, beginning with an assembly of the children at the school quadrangle. At the assembly, the children say a common prayer composed by one of the faith formators. This is followed up with some important/current Catholic News from around the world. A Saint of the Month is chosen and some details on the inspirational life of that saint are shared with the children. Announcements if any follow, after which the children and teachers move to their respective classes.

Fr. Sunny's idea was to introduce a more inter-active classroom instead of the chalk-and-talk method of teaching, in order to make the Catechism class different from any other regular school classroom. This style, he said, would get the children more interested and relaxed and they would find it easier to express themselves.

Accordingly, various activities were undertaken in the course of the year and these were covered in the earlier issues of the Patrician. Special Days and Special Masses were celebrated on several occasions. November was marked as the Bible Month, for which a detailed programme was drawn up by Fr. Sunny. The first 5 books of the Bible - The Pentateuch - were chosen for study. Biblical characters, chapters, topics, stories were clearly marked for each week. All classes had to concentrate on these 5 books of the Bible and important events from these books were highlighted.

The children were divided into 5 groups, each named after one of the 5 books - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Each group concentrated on one book for their group activities. Groups consisted of children between 4 and 16 years of age.

2 teachers were in charge of each group. During the month of November children met together in their groups (and not their regular classes) in order to practise for their competitions to be held on the Final Day.

Children from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> standards took part in the Bible fancy dress competition. They chose from characters allotted to their group like Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Moses, Pharaoh, Noah, animals on Noah's ark etc. Parents took the trouble to ensure their kids were dressed well and so did the sisters from St. Patrick's Boys' Home.

Children from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> standards took part in the storytelling competition which comprised of 2 rounds because many were very keen to take part. The best of these were chosen and narrated their stories on the final day. It was interesting to hear their versions of the stories which were related with much imagination and without inhibition, and kept the audience totally enthralled!

The older children put up skits based on the topics assigned to them. They came up with wonderful and innovative ideas. There was good team work as each helped the other. The groups practised every Sunday in the month of November. They worked on their story, script, narration, dialogues, costumes, props, acting, singing, music, expression, power point presentation etc. with much enthusiasm and dedication. Many talents came to the fore!

The aim of the Bible Month was to familiarise the children with the great characters of the Bible, the first 5 books in particular, in a fun and unconventional way. By the end of the programme, even the smaller children knew the names of the 5 books well, even though they struggled with pronunciations initially eg:

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### Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - JUNE

Universal: HUMAN SOLIDARITY

That the aged, marginalized, and those who have no one may find-even within the huge cities of the world-opportunities for encounter and solidarity

Evangelization: SEMINARIANS AND NOVICES

That seminarians and men and women entering religious life may have mentors who live the joy of the Gospel and prepare them wisely for their mission

### IMPORTANT DAYS IN JUNE

June 03: Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

June 04: Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

June 13: Memorial of St. Anthony of Padua

June 19: First Holy Communion

June 24: Nativity of St. John the Baptist

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

1. Wilhel Mlna Miranda Shenoy -2/5/2015 - St. Joseph's Zone

### BRIDGETTINE CONVENT: CROWN OF SANCTITY TO BLESSED MARIA ELIZABETH

Tucked away in a quiet corner of St. Joseph's Zone, of our parish is the Convent of St. Brigitta. The inhabitants of the convent are in a celebratory mood as on June 5<sup>th</sup>, our Holy Father, Pope Francis will be canonizing the foundress of their order, Blessed Maria Elizabeth Hesselblad.

Ble. Maria Elizabeth, the foundress of the revived Bridgettine Order, was born the fifth of thirteen children into a Lutheran family in Sweden in 1870. At the tender age of 18, she set sail for New York, in search of work to support her family. However, once there, she was often sick because of her frail health, and was soon hospitalized. It was then that Ble. Maria Elizabeth chose to dedicate her life to the care of the sick and the abandoned, whereupon she experienced a profound miracle, and was cured of her illness. Thus touched by God's hand, she pursued her studies in nursing, and worked at the Roosevelt Hospital in New York City. It was at this hospital that she encountered the Catholic faith. At the same time, she was still perplexed by the various sects and denominations in the church, and set about to find the true one. On this matter, she later recalled -

*"As a child, going to school I saw that my companions belonged to many different churches, I began to wonder what was the true Church, because I had read in the New Testament that there would be one sheepfold and one shepherd. I prayed often to be conducted at that sheepfold and the memory of having done it especially on an occasion when, while walking under the big pines in my native country, especially I looked skyward and said: Dear Father, who art in heaven, where is the sheepfold where You want us all together. I thought that a great peace came into my soul and a voice respond to me: O, my daughter, one day we'll show you. This security accompanied me in all the years that preceded my entry into the Church."*

Her determination to find and experience the true fold was rewarded when she was baptized into the Catholic Church with the guidance and help of Fr. Giovanni Giorgio Hagen, S.J, who also became her spiritual director. Later, after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in Rome, her vision of Christian unity began to take shape, and she decided to dedicate herself to bringing together all members of the faith. She also visited the church and house of Saint Bridget of Sweden (1373), where she received a deep and lasting message: "It is in this place that I

want you to serve me."

In 1906 Pope Saint Pius X allowed her to take the habit of the Order of the Most Holy Saviour of Saint Bridget, and profess vows as a spiritual daughter of the Swedish saint. Through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and in response to requests from below and signs from above, she reconstituted the Order of Saint Bridget in 1911. This she did while staying true to the Brigittine traditions of contemplative nature and solemn celebration of the liturgy. The great ideal of "Ut omnes unum sint" (They all may be one) inspired her apostolate, from which she drew the inspiration to dedicate her life to uniting Sweden and Rome in God.

During and after the Second World War, Ble. Maria Elizabeth performed great works of charity on behalf of the poor and those who suffered because of racial laws. She promoted a movement for peace that involved Catholics and non-Catholics, all the while multiplying her ecumenical endeavors. For the many people who belonged to other religions or other Christian confessions, she became part of their journey towards the Catholic Church.

Her life was marked by continuous charity. During the Second World War she gave refuge to many Jews who were fleeing Nazi persecution, and turned her home into a place where her daughters could distribute food and clothing to those who were in need.

On April 24, 1957, after a long life marked with sanctity, she died in the house of Santa Brigida in Rome. She left behind a great legacy of holiness among her spiritual daughters, the clergy, and among the poor and simple people who venerated the Mother of the Poor and model of religious.

So great was her reputation for holiness, that the cause of her beatification commenced soon after her death. She was proclaimed Venerable by St. John Paul II on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March, 1999, and was beatified on April 9<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

All the while her legacy grew. Today, her many daughters, known as the Bridgettines, minister to God's people around the world, in 55 houses spread across 17 countries. In India, the Bridgettines serve in 21 houses throughout the southern states, as well as in Mumbai, Delhi, Goa and Bihar.

*-Bridgettines, Bangalore*

## BRINGING ALIVE THE FAITH FORMATION

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“levicut-us” for Leviticus etc. The Bible Fest helped children bond with each other across classes and also with teachers. The little ones cheered enthusiastically for their teams as their team members performed. It was a good experience for the teachers as well.

Role playing/acting helps children identify with the characters they portray, making it easier for them to learn and remember. Strengths and weaknesses of the Biblical characters were identified and the children chose to emulate those characters that impressed them. They may not remember lectures in a classroom but they will always remember the character that they have played. The cooperation and participation of the parents too was much appreciated.

The children enjoyed the programme so much, that they missed meeting together in their groups when regular classes resumed the following month. It was truly an enjoyable experience both for students and teachers.

*The Faith Formation Team  
with special inputs from Fiona D'souza*

## 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 (Contact Fr. Mac Donald Fernandies +91 8971216787).
- h) **Faith Formation:** Faith Formation classes will commence

*“If things created are so full of loveliness,  
how resplendent with beauty must be the  
one who made them!”*

*- St. Anthony of Padua*

*“If he who was without sin prayed, how  
much more ought sinners to pray?”*

*- St. Cyprian*

Feast of St Anthony the Wonder Worker (13<sup>th</sup> June)

10<sup>th</sup> June 2016 - Flag hoisting followed by Holy Mass in Tamil.

10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June (Triduum Programme): 10:00 AM Mass in Kannada, 6:00 PM Mass in Tamil.

Feast Day (13<sup>th</sup> June): Mass at 10:00 AM in Kannada, 11:30 AM in Tamil (special Mass for the sick). Mass at 6:00 PM in Tamil followed by a Car Procession.

First Holy Communion will be administered to the children of our parish on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

- 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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Sunday: 9am to 12.15pm

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