



THE PATRICIAN

Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph 4:15)

March 2016

MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.” — John Paul II

Come March, and we see children busy winding up their revision and soaked up in preparation for their final exams, the mind-grilling board exams and competitive exams.

I wish all the children of our St. Patrick's Parish “Good Luck” in their exams and I ask all of them to pray and ponder for a moment every day, before their day begins, so that they may be more successful and write their exams well.

Easter Sunday comes each year as a reminder of renewal, of life restored. The natural sense of the coming of spring mingles with the Christian promise of eternal life, through Jesus' Death and Resurrection.

After 40 days of Lent and the solemnity of Holy Week, we understand that suffering can indeed have meaning - that we can be restored and even increased, through pain and sacrifice. The noble truth is, that to live is to suffer. Easter is a balm for that. Many of us, whatever our beliefs, will spend the day celebrating life.

It is a great season, which reminds us of the beauty of life and how much more beautiful it can be with Jesus Christ as our guide, and His power which keeps us engaged in the true faith of being Christian.

I happened to come across this beautiful prayer in one of the journals, which I would like to share with you all:

“Father God, there is sometimes controversy about

how, when and what to call the remembrance of the greatest day in history - the day Jesus Christ, your Beloved Son, rose from the dead and brought the gift of your forgiveness and eternal life to all who would like to receive it - the New Covenant. Please pour out your Holy Spirit on all who believe in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and put us on our knees before you with thankful hearts, for your great love for us. You, oh God, have given us victory over sin and death, and the promise of never leaving us or forsaking us for eternity. Help us to be the Body of Christ, the Church, united in awe of how you saved our unworthy souls ... your Body and your Blood as a sacrifice for us. Help us to bring this message to all who will listen. Help us to love like you love. Thank you forever! Amen.”

Once again, best wishes to all the children of our parish for their exams and **A HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER TO ALL** - the celebration of renewal of life.

God Bless us all.

Msgr. C Francis
Parish Priest

Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore

Census Forms

All parishioners are reminded to kindly fill up the Census Form and return the same to the Parish Office or to your Zonal representative by March 31st. Please consider this reminder as **MOST URGENT**.

Parish Family Book

Parishioners are reminded to kindly update their Family Records and pay their Church Support for the year at the Parish Office. Also, please fill in your CENSUS FORMS and submit them to the Parish Office. Kindly treat this as **MOST URGENT**.

Simple Math

“2get” and “2give” creates many problems.

So, just double it...

“4get” and “4give” and solve many problems.

EDITORIAL BOARD

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

MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2016 - "I DESIRE MERCY, AND NOT SACRIFICE."

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, titled his Message for Lent 2016, as, *"I Desire Mercy And Not Sacrifice"* - *The works of mercy on the road of the Jubilee*, focused on three themes:

1. Mary, the image of a Church which evangelizes, because she is evangelized.

After receiving the Good News told to her by the Archangel Gabriel, Mary, in her *Magnificat*, prophetically sings of the mercy whereby God chose her. The Virgin of Nazareth, betrothed to Joseph, thus becomes the perfect icon of the Church which evangelizes, for she was, and continues to be, evangelized by the Holy Spirit, who made her virginal womb fruitful.

2. God's covenant with humanity: a history of mercy.

The mystery of Divine Mercy, is revealed in the history of the covenant between God and his people, Israel. God shows himself ever rich in mercy, ever ready to treat his people with deep tenderness and compassion, especially at those tragic moments when infidelity ruptures the bond of the covenant, which then needs to be ratified more firmly in justice and truth. Here is a true love story, in which God plays the role of the betrayed father and husband, while Israel plays the unfaithful child and bride. These domestic images - as in the case of Hosea (cf. *Hos* 1-2) - show to what extent God wishes to bind himself to his people.

Mercy "expresses God's way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 21), thus restoring his relationship with him. In Jesus crucified, God shows his desire to draw near to sinners, however far they may have strayed from him. In this way he hopes to soften the hardened heart of his Bride.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - MARCH

Universal: FAMILIES IN DIFFICULTY

That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

Evangelization: PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

That those Christians who, on account of their faith, are discriminated against or are being persecuted, may remain strong and faithful to the Gospel, thanks to the incessant prayer of the Church.

3. The works of mercy.

For all of us, then, the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year is a favorable time to overcome our existential alienation by listening to God's word and by practicing the works of mercy. In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited; in the spiritual works of mercy - counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer - we touch more directly our own sinfulness. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated. By touching the flesh of the crucified Jesus in the suffering, sinners can receive the gift of realizing that they too are poor and in need. By taking this path, the "proud", the "powerful" and the "wealthy" spoken of in the *Magnificat* can also be embraced and undeservedly loved by the crucified Lord who died and rose for them. This love alone is the answer to that yearning for infinite happiness and love that we think we can satisfy with the idols of knowledge, power and riches. Yet the danger always remains that by a constant refusal to open the doors of their hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor, the proud, rich and powerful will end up condemning themselves and plunging into the eternal abyss of solitude which is Hell. The pointed words of Abraham apply to them and to all of us: "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them" (*Lk* 16:29). Such attentive listening will best prepare us to celebrate the final victory over sin and death of the Bridegroom, now risen, who desires to purify his Betrothed in expectation of his coming.

**THE PATRICIAN WISHES ALL PARISHIONERS
A VERY HAPPY
ST. PATRICK'S FEAST! MAY THE INTERCESSION
OF
ST. PATRICK BE WITH US ALWAYS.**

IMPORTANT DAYS IN MARCH

Mar 04-05: '24 Hours for the Lord' initiative in Dioceses across the world (Jubilee of Mercy)

Mar 13: Anniversary of Pope Francis' election (2013)

Mar 17: Feast of St. Patrick, Patron of the Parish

Mar 19: Solemnity of St. Joseph

Mar 20: Palm Sunday

Mar 24: Maundy Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Mar 25: Good Friday

Mar 26: Holy Saturday

Mar 27: Easter Sunday

NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL INDUCTED AT ST. PATRICK'S

The concept of the Pastoral Council was first articulated in the 1965 Vatican II Decree (Christus Dominus, 27) on Bishops. The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is an important body in each Parish. It serves the Parish Priest in a consultative capacity and exists to help and support him in the accomplishment of the pastoral objectives. The PPC represents the entire Parish Community, i.e. the Clergy, the Religious and the Laity.

Their main functions, as laid out in the Pastoral Handbook of the Archdiocese of Bangalore, are:

1. Effective Spiritual Renewal of the Parish.
2. Co-ordination of the activities of the various Parish Organizations.
3. To help organize the Liturgical Celebrations and in promoting active participation of all parishioners at such celebrations.
4. To arrange for periodical Holy Communion to the bed-ridden and for the Anointing of the Sick.
5. To create and avail of the opportunities for serving the Parish Community, particularly the youth, the aged, the poor and the weaker sections of society.
6. Taking a Census of Parishioners and making an assessment of their needs.
7. Take up activities for the Development of Mission in the villages and slums within parish limits, with a special concern for the poor.
8. To assist the Parish Priest.

The newly elected Parish Pastoral Council of St. Patrick's was inducted on 21st February, 2016 at the 9.45 a.m. Parish Mass. The term of the Council is for a period of 2 years. A member may serve on the council for two consecutive terms, which is a period of 4 years. Accordingly, while some members were newly elected, the others opted to do a second term. The members of the present council are as under:

Zonal Representatives

St. Joseph's Zone	-	Ms. Shirley Job
St. Peter's Zone	-	Ms. Bernadette Pinto
St. Paul's Zone	-	Mr. Peter Prabhu
St. Thomas Zone	-	Mr. Brian D'Lima

St. Anthony's Zone	-	Mr. Clinton Louis
Francis Xavier Zone	-	Ms. Daisy Daniel
Marian Zone	-	Ms. Wilma Pinto

Others

Liturgy	-	Mr. Mark Braganza
Kannada	-	Ms. Padma Henry
Sr. Citizens	-	Ms. Jenny D'Lemos
Ladies of Charity	-	Ms. Lynette Tharaken
Cemetery	-	Mr. Dilip D'souza
Patrician	-	Mr. Larry Furtado
Youth	-	Ms. Sushmita Vincent
Faith Formation	-	Ms. Rosaline Farias
Ecumenism	-	Mr. Cherian Ramapuram

While welcoming and congratulating the members of the PPC at the start of their 2 year term, Msgr. C. Francis reminded them that being on the Council is a responsibility to serve, and not a position to dictate or dominate. He said that their main role was to help implement the vision of making the parish community more spiritually active, alive and vibrant.

The immediate business of the Council was to elect a new Secretary, to replace **Ms. Rosaline Farias** who had completed two consecutive terms. The zonal representative of Marian Zone, **Ms. Wilma Pinto**, was elected as the new Secretary.

The contact details of the PPC Members are available at the Parish Office and on the Parish website.

Scripture says, the Church is the Body of Christ - so when one serves the Church, one serves Christ. The Patrician team congratulates the newly inducted PPC and wishes them success in their roles. We pray that they may be guided by the Spirit to work with a true sense of service and help the Parish Priest to make St. Patrick's a **spiritually active, alive and vibrant Parish.**

Msgr.C. Francis would like to place on record his appreciation and sincere thanks to the PPC members who have stepped down after having completed their terms. May they, and their families, be blessed abundantly for having given generously of their time and talents for the service of the Church.

I resolved always to prefer labours to comforts, contempt to honours. And, in particular, if on one side a kingdom were offered and on the other the washing of dishes, I would refuse the kingdom and accept the dishwashing so as to be truly like Christ, who humbled himself. - St. John Berchmans

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday (Mar 20, 2016)

8.30am: Blessing of Palms before the 8.30am Mass at the Parking Lot, followed by a solemn procession to the Church. Blessed Palms will be distributed outside the church after the 9.45am, 11am and 6pm Masses.

Maundy Thursday (Mar 24, 2016)

6pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper with washing of the feet. After the Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be kept at the Altar of Reposition for public adoration. Adoration in different languages will be as follows:

Kannada	:	7pm to 8pm
Konkani	:	8pm to 9pm
Tamil	:	9pm to 10pm
English	:	10pm to 11pm
Malayalam	:	11pm to midnight

Good Friday (Mar 25, 2016)

Timings for Way of the Cross

8am	:	Konkani
9am	:	English
9am	:	Special Way of the Cross for Children in the Mini Hall
10.30am	:	Tamil

6pm: Liturgy of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday (Mar 26, 2016)

9pm: Easter Vigil Service

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

Masses on Easter Sunday (Mar 27) will be as per the regular Sunday schedule.

Please note that the Holy Week Triduum Services in English will be held at St. Joseph's Commerce College Grounds.

Timings for Confessions during Holy Week

Tuesday, Mar 22nd & Wednesday, Mar 23rd from 10am to 1.00 pm and 4pm to 6pm.

Thursday, Mar 24th from 10am to 1.00pm.

Special Services during Lent

Stations of the Cross : During the season of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be conducted as follows:

Tamil : Every Friday at 10.30am, followed by the Holy Mass in Tamil.

Konkani : Every Friday at 4.30pm

English : Every Friday at 6pm (after the Evening Mass). 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.

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- h) **Faith Formation:** Faith Formation classes close on 28th Feb and will resume in June.
- 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)

St. Patrick's Church
15-K Brigade Road, Bengaluru
Phone - +91-80-25587213
Email: st.patricksbblr@gmail.com
Facebook.com/stpatrickss.church.9
Twitter.com/patrickschurch
Website: www.stpatricksbblr.com

Office Timings:
Daily: 9am - 5pm;
Lunch timings - 1pm to 2pm;
Saturday: 9am to 1pm;
Sunday: 9am to 12.15pm

Please contact us at
patricianblr@gmail.com for any
feedback/contributions.

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