



# THE PATRICIAN

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

November 2016

## MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

**"This is peace with dignity. This is peace with commitment. This is our gift to our peoples and the generations to come...It will be real, as we open our hearts and minds to each other."** - *King Hussein of Jordan*

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." My thanks to all the parishioners and to all those who have gone out of their way in coordinating and helping to make the celebration of the 175th year of St. Patrick's Church a great success and a very memorable one! Thank you all!

Lord God, you are the glory of believers and the life of the just. Your Son redeemed us by dying and rising to life again. Since our departed brothers and sisters believed in the mystery of our resurrection, let them share the joys and blessings of the life to come! All Souls Day on 2nd November...let faith be our guiding source.

1st November 1973 was a historic day for Karnataka as the State was given an identity of its own individuality. The people of Karnataka live together in unity, but more importantly with the secular thought of being proud Indians! I wish each one of you Happy Karnataka Rajyotsava. We remember with great appreciation all those who contribute to the State's technological growth, and all the farmers who continue to sustain us.

## CONFIRMATION AT ST. PATRICK'S

The sacrament of Confirmation was administered to our children on the 9th of October by his Grace Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras, Archbishop of Bangalore.

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and His entire mission was carried out in communion with the Holy Spirit. On several occasions Jesus promised the outpouring of the Spirit; a promise which was fulfilled first on Easter Sunday and then again at Pentecost. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles began to proclaim the mighty works of God. Those who believed and were baptized received the gift of the Holy Spirit. From that time on, the apostles, in fulfillment of Christ's will, imparted to the newly baptized by the laying on of hands, the gift of the

Jawaharlal Nehru - the first Prime Minister of independent India. His love for children was so immense that he wished he was a child himself! He believed that the innocence of a child is what defines the purity of thought. He wanted to be among them, talk to them and play with them. The children also loved and respected him and called him CHACHA NEHRU.

I have a message to all the children of our parish - God has showered on you the spirit of truth and innocence. Let that spirit be always shared and let all be inspired by your truthfulness. Please be obedient to your parents and study well, as education is the core foundation that will make us strong and intellectual in this competitive world. Parents are your inspiration and guidance. Make prayer your source of strength to your inner self. I wish all the children best wishes for their exams.

**"In my deepest, darkest moments, what really got me through was a prayer. Sometimes my prayer was 'Help me'. Sometimes my prayer was 'Thank you.' What I've discovered is that intimate connection and communication with my creator will always get me through, because I know my support, my help, is just a prayer away."** - *Iyanla Vanzant*

God Bless us all.

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

**Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore**

Spirit that completes the grace of Baptism.

Here's what a few of the children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation had to say about their experience.

### Alena Maria Danny

A few years ago, when I received my First Holy Communion after a month of preparation, I was very excited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ (the Holy Eucharist). When I started preparing for my

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## SPY GETTING SPORTY

A sports tournament organized by the St. Patrick's Youth (SPY), to mark the 175th year celebration of St. Patrick's Church was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. The highly anticipated sporting extravaganza saw the participation of over 15 churches in basketball, football and throwball. It brought together youth from all parishes and enthused in them the vibrant spirit of sportsmanship.

The first day began with the inauguration ceremony at the venue which was the St. Joseph's College of Commerce grounds. This was followed by football and basketball matches that took place simultaneously. The basketball team of St. Patrick's Church progressed steadily to the finals, but unfortunately the football team was knocked out of the tournament following their quarter-final loss.

The second day began with the throwball event for the girls. Six teams from various churches across Bangalore participated. The finals of the event saw the St. Patrick's Church team taking on the very formidable Christa Prabhalaya team. Although our parish team gave it their best shot, they had to settle for the 2nd place. The football final was played between Our Lady of Velankanni Church and Our Lady of Fatima Church. The match was well fought with both teams playing equally well. At the end of the first half, the match remained tied with both teams being unable to score. However, the team from Our Lady of Fatima Church managed to get one past the opposition, just minutes before the final whistle and took home the trophy.

The much-anticipated final of the basketball tournament was the last match of the sports fest. Our parish team was to take on the team from St. Mark's Cathedral. What made this match all the more exciting was the old rivalry that existed between the two teams. In fact, this was the second time the two

teams were meeting in a final; the first encounter being in a basketball tournament recently organized by St. Mark's Cathedral. Our parish team was determined to avenge their loss in that last encounter.

And so the match began... the first two quarters were shockingly a one-sided affair, with the hosts not being able to score even a single point and their opponents taking the lead by 16 points! Just when all seemed lost, a sudden turn of events saw the St. Patrick's team slowly start putting a few points on the board in the third quarter. With tremendous support from the cheering crowd, the hosts suddenly found their rhythm and caught up with their opponents. The game remained neck-to-neck through the fourth quarter. It was indeed a nail-biting finish and what some would describe as a 'miraculous comeback' by the hosts. With just a minute to spare in the fourth quarter, the hosts managed to take the lead by one point and maintained the lead to finally win the match and the basketball tournament.

The sports fest was the first event of many being organized by the St. Patrick's Youth (SPY) for the 175<sup>th</sup> year celebrations of St. Patrick's Church. Special thanks to the sponsors of the tournament, and to all the youth who lent their time and energy in making it a grand success. The next scheduled event is the Bible Choreography event (to be held on November 14<sup>th</sup>). We look forward to your presence in making this next event an even bigger success.

*-Dr. Richard Lurshay*

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN NOVEMBER

- Nov 01:** Solemnity of All Saints
- Nov 02:** Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)
- Nov 09:** Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
- Nov 12:** Anniversary of the Consecration of St. Patrick's Church
- Nov 20:** Solemnity of Christ the King; conclusion of the Jubilee of Mercy
- Nov 21:** Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Nov 22:** Memorial of St. Cecilia, patroness of Church musicians
- Nov 27:** First Sunday of Advent, beginning of the new liturgical year (Year 'A', Cycle 'II')
- Nov 30:** Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle

### Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - NOVEMBER

#### Universal: COUNTRIES RECEIVING REFUGEES

That the countries which take in a great number of displaced persons and refugees may find support for their efforts which show solidarity.

#### Evangelization: COLLABORATION OF PRIESTS AND LAITY

That within parishes, priests and lay people may collaborate in service to the community without giving in to the temptation of discouragement.

**CONFIRMATION AT ST. PATRICK'S (CONTD. FROM PAGE 1)**

Confirmation, I was not very sure how I would receive the Holy Spirit-maybe because there is no outward sign. But as the days went by, and we attended Confirmation class every Sunday and learnt more about the Church, the Bible and the life of Jesus, we began to prepare earnestly for our own journey of Confirmation, to become soldiers for Christ!

The Holy Spirit has been with us since our Baptism. As we prepared for our Confirmation we freely and sincerely were able to seek a greater awareness and openness to the same Spirit. Our faith formator guided us and shared his story of faith with us. He also assured us that after Confirmation we could always go back for guidance.

Initially, some of us wondered why the classes extended over a period of one and half years, but now I feel that the duration was just right for learning about and growing in our awareness of the Holy Spirit.

During these classes, we were asked to observe our daily actions and thoughts and correct ourselves when we were led in the wrong direction. We were also given an insight about opening our heart to the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

On behalf of all the candidates, I would like to thank the Almighty for showering His abundant blessings on us during the entire course of preparation.

**Maria Jose Ramapuram**

I have to admit, that at first I thought that Confirmation would make no difference to my life, and that after I received Confirmation I would just go back to my old "routine" life. However, after attending the Confirmation classes at church for over a year, I realized that I barely knew anything about my faith and my beliefs! Each session that I attended helped me dig a little deeper into my faith and learn and understand more about it. Through various examples in my own daily life, I learnt that no matter what we do, what decision or choice we make, God is always with us, inspiring us to achieve and become the "best version" of ourselves. As St Paul tells us in the Bible: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17.

After receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, I personally feel that God has rekindled the fire of the Holy Spirit within me, helping me to differentiate right from wrong and good from bad. I know that God is

always working within me, helping me to achieve the "best version" of myself, and that He will always be with me, guiding me throughout my journey of life.

**Prithvi Daniel Noronha**

I received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 9th of October this year. It was a blessed and joyful day for me, knowing that I was to be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. It was the fruitful end of a year of preparation and eager waiting. It all began with the special faith formation classes every Sunday morning, where our faith formator taught us the meaning of Confirmation and what we would become after we receive this sacrament.

The Sunday faith formation classes were the best part of my Confirmation experience, without doubt. I enjoyed each one of those sessions as well as learnt many good things. Most importantly, my understanding was made complete of what the sacrament of Confirmation meant. I learnt how this sacrament is the last of the three initiation rites of the Catholic Church, along with Baptism and Holy Communion. Interestingly, I also came to know the biblical reference to this rite in the Acts of the Apostles and how it came to be an important part of the Catholic Church's rituals.

As time passed by and our Confirmation day neared, we had retreats and practice sessions. I enjoyed taking part in all these, along with my friends, and at the same time grew in knowledge and faith. My Confirmation Mass was very special. I had a feeling of great joy within me that day. The church was beautifully decorated and looked very festive. The procession leading up to the church, on the red carpet, made all of us feel unique and extraordinary. Everything was organized very well. As Archbishop Moras laid his hands on my forehead during the administration of the Sacrament, I truly felt the presence of the Lord come on me. It was an amazing and unforgettable moment. I firmly believe that Confirmation has changed me from within and that I have become a strong soldier for Christ.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the most precious blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. - St. Gertrude's prayer for souls in purgatory.



## 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: TRIDUUM AND JUBILEE DAY

The month of October was a time of celebration for our parishioners as we came together to celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our historic Church, the foundation for which was laid in 1841. The Catholic Expositor of Madras reported, in the words of its beloved builder and visionary, Fr. Jacques Henry Gailhot - "The building that will not change and will not disappear in one or two generations, but which is destined to remain till the end of time."

The high point of the celebration was the Solemn Pontifical High Mass celebrated on Oct 10th, by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Salvatore Pennacchio, the Apostolic Nuncio to India and by His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras, Archbishop of Bangalore along with 5 other bishops from Mysore, Bellary, Belgaum, Eluru and Mandya.

The Mass commenced with a procession from the Parish Hall to the Church, which was absolutely filled to its capacity as many faithful from other parts of Bangalore joined the parishioners in their celebration. The procession comprised of parishioners from the different pious associations, the altar servers, faith formators, Parish council members, members of the various religious congregations that are an integral part of St. Patrick's parish, over 100 priests, and finally the bishops, the Archbishop and the Nuncio. The marching band of St. Euphrasia's School lined the route of the procession and heightened the ceremonial flavour of the occasion with their musical guard of honour. Before the Mass started, the novices from the Convent of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd performed a welcome prayer dance. The painting of St. Patrick, painted and gifted by Fr. Terence Matthew, was also unveiled and placed at a prominent place on the altar.

Soon after the Mass, the Nuncio, the Bishops and our former Parish Priests - Fr. A. Sagayanathan (2009-15), Monsignor S. Jayanathan (2003-09) and Fr. Francis Xavier (1990-97) were felicitated by our Parish Council Members. On this memorable occasion, the Nuncio presented the Parish Priest with the blessings of the Holy Father as well as a chalice.

The Solemn High Mass was the grand finale of 4 days of celebration which commenced with the flag hoisting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. This was followed by a Triduum between the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> during which Fr. Raphael Kuthoor, Fr. Jose Vettiyanal and Fr. C. Peter broke the Word in Tamil, English and Kannada respectively. A movie on the life of St. Patrick was screened on Oct 9<sup>th</sup>.

The entire church complex was stunningly decorated for the celebration with lights, beautiful flower arrangements and flags in the colours of the Holy See.

The newly constructed grotto of Our Lady at the Main Entrance of the church complex (Residency Road) was inaugurated by His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras on Sunday, after the Confirmation service.

The four days of celebration concluded with a sumptuous dinner immediately after the Pontifical High Mass. Over 2000 lay faithful and more than 300 priests and religious mingled together, enjoying the music from the live orchestra, while enjoying their meal.

All the pious associations of the parish like the Legion of Mary, Society of Vincent De Paul, the Youth, the Faith Formators, the Ladies of Charity, Parish Council and the Liturgy Council volunteered with enthusiasm and helped in the arrangements and also the organizing of the fellowship dinner.

The finale of this 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration is expected to be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017 on the feast of St. Patrick, with the release of a Souvenir and a coffee-table book. Those who are interested in advertising in the Souvenir may kindly meet the Parish clergy.

The grand celebrations were befitting of the historic occasion and will definitely be remembered for years to come by all those who attended. We pray that our God Almighty may continue to shower His blessings on this Church, its parishioners, and on all those who come here to worship.

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