



# PARISH BULLETIN OF OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHURCH, SONAPUR, MUMBAI



All Saints Issue

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Dec 2019

**WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
*The Parish Pastoral Council, Fr. Tony, Fr Lester, Fr Agnelo.*

## CHRISTMAS

**A time to be compassionate:** God had compassion on us who were enslaved to sin. Hence, He sent His Only Son Jesus to deliver us. Am I compassionate? Do I understand the feelings and sufferings of others?

**A time to be reconciling:** God took the initiative in reconciling mankind to Himself. Am I ready to take the initiative in reconciling myself with those who have hurt me?

**A time to be joyful:** Baby Jesus brings joy to the shepherds and the three wise men. May I bring joy to everyone who comes in contact with me this Christmas.

*Wishing you a Happy Christmas*



## NATALAMCHO VELL

**Kakut dakoupacho vell:** Ami patkachea gulamponnan astanam Deva Bapan amchi kakut keli. Aplea ekleach Puta Jezuk amkam soddvonn diumcheak hea sonvsarant dhaddlo. Hanv ieram sovem kakut **Somjikai ghoddun haddpacho vell:** Devan amchi poristhiti somzun amkam Jezuk vorvim apna sovem lagim haddlim. Amkam dukoileam tankam bogsun ami tanche sovem ek zaunk toiar asanv?

**Dadosponnacho vell:** Ballka Jezuk polloun gonvlli ani gonvlli ani teg vidhvan dadosponn bhogtat. Hea Natalamchea vellar ami ekamekak dadospon haddunk proitn korum ia.

*Fr. Anthony D'Souza, Parish Priest.*

## PATRONAL FEAST OF ST JUDE COMMUNITY

We, the members of St. Jude's Community celebrated the Feast of our Patron on October 28, 2019 at the 7:00 pm mass. Thereafter, our community members joined together for a gathering of fellowship and laughter in the church hall. We were given a warm welcome by our Co-ordinator – Mrs. Joanita Pinto and Jt. Co-ordinator – Mrs. Assisa Crasto, who then led us into a short prayer.

Snacks and cold drinks were served. All participated in fun filled games of 'Strike the lucky name', 'Family of Numbers' and spot prizes. Fr. Joel was one of the spot winners. Our community feast day also happens to be the birthday of two of our members' i.e. Mrs. Gloria D'Costa and Ms. Fiona Fernandes. The core committee arranged a surprise birthday cake for them and the rest joined in wishing the two a blessed year ahead. Finally, we were served with some lip-smacking dinner. We thank God for blessing us with St. Jude as our Patron and also for all the community members who work silently behind the scenes. Many thanks to our volunteers who put in a lot of hard work and efforts to make this day a grand success! *By Fiona Fernandes*

## **BIRTH CERTIFICATE**

<b>NAME OF THE NEWBORN:</b>	<b>JESUS CHRIST</b>
<b>BIRTH PLACE:</b>	<b>HUMAN HEART</b>
<b>REASONS FOR THE CHOICE:</b>	<b>WARMTH OF LOVE AT THE BIRTHPLACE</b>
<b>AMBIENCE OF THE BIRTH PLACE POST-BIRTH:</b>	<b>PEACEFUL AND JOYFUL</b>
<b>NEWBORN'S CONSTITUTION:</b>	<b>SUDDEN INCREASE IN HEARTBEATS AND A CONSTANT RESTLESSNESS</b>
<b>REASONS FOR THE SUDDEN CHANGE IN STATE:</b>	<b>TRESSSPASSERS LIKE HOLLIES, CANDIES, CHRISTMAS PARTIES HAVE BEGUN DISCONNECTING THE INFANT'S LIFE SUPPORT SYSYSTEMS OF PEACE, LOVE AND JOY</b>
<b>EFFORTS MADE TO SAVE THE INFANT:</b>	<b>ANGELS ARE TRYING THEIR BEST TO ANNOUNCE THE BIRTH OF JESUS BUT FEW SEEM TO LISTEN AS SANTA'S AROUND TOWN DISTRIBUTING GIFTS</b>
<b>THE HOLY FAMILY HAS DECIDED TO MOVE OUT OF THE BIRTH PLACE</b>	<b>CAUSE WORLDY PLEASURES ARE WAITING TO TAKE BIRTH IN THE HUMAN HEART LEADING TO A SPACE CRUNCH</b>
<b>THE INFANT'S PARTING GIFT TO THE OWNER OF THE BIRTH PLACE</b>	<b>GRATITUDE FOR LETTING HIM(JESUS) STAY THAT LONG AND FREEDOM OF CHOICE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN HIM(JESUS) AND THE WORLD</b>





# St. Jude's Community Feast



## **SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION WORLD DAY OF THE POOR CELEBRATION**

17<sup>th</sup> November 2019 was marked as "World Day of the Poor". On this occasion, we felt it fitting to visit our adjacent 'Piety Home for the Sick & Aged'. A housie was played and prizes were awarded to the winners. While the snacks were served, we had a sing song session, they all joined in and sang merrily. The sponsors donated toilet accessories for the inmates. they accepted it gratefully and we were delighted to have them amidst us. We served Chicken Biryani to all the inmates for dinner. May Mary our Mother be our constant support in our endeavour to bring about transformation in the society and may she accompany us wherever we go to reach out in service to others.

*By Joanita Pinto*



## VISIT OF CARDINAL MAURICE PIAT OF MAURITIUS TO OUR CHURCH



## ST JUDE COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

*A vote of thanks with a bouquet of flowers was presented to M/s Kelly Fernandes as a loving gesture of warm reception always extended to St. Jude's Community.*



*‘Children are sensitive and innocent they are the little angels of God, and the future of Mankind.’*

St. Jude's Community





## ★ A Bundle of Joy ★



*A day of fun and frolic  
was organised by the S.S.C. animators,  
Coordinator / Jt coordinator of St. Jude's  
Community (M/s. Mercia, M/s. Candelina,  
M/s. Flavia, M/s. Heera, M/s. Fionna, M/s. Olinda,  
M/s. Joanita, Ms. Assisa & M/r. Stephen).  
The ambience was set fitting for the celebration of  
children's day - 14th November '19'.  
Thanks to M/s Anna Fernandes for her kind  
generosity of lending her Nursery Class.*



*Our Future*



*Elegant With Smiling Faces*

*The Children were thrilled to see their 'photos'  
outstanding .*

*It commenced with a prayer followed by a hymn sung  
' What A Friend, We have in Jesus' where Jesus was  
focused as their model. It then ended with a song  
of loving and reaching out to children in the world  
through the song ' We Are The World, We Are The*

*Children'*



*Exciting games aroused their joy i.e Musical Chairs &  
Passing the hat & a Toy. They went home  
with sweet memories.*





## IN GIVING WE RECEIVED

*'The hope of the poor shall not perish for ever' (Ps 9:19)*

17<sup>th</sup> November 2019, earmarked as World Day of the Poor, initiated by none other than our beloved Pope Francis a few years ago, was indeed a memorable day in my life. Spearheaded by our Coordinator - Mrs. Bernadine Almeida, Joint Coordinator - Mr. Manuel Fernandes and animators : Mrs. Sheryl Noronha, Mrs. Mary Fernandes, Mrs. Angela Vaz, Mrs. Yolanda Dias and community volunteers, we decided to celebrate Children's day with a fun-filling gesture by sharing goodies (food packets) to the poor. Sponsors poured in generously from our community. Parents enthusiastically got together to prepare these packets for distribution.

I wasn't excited, but moody and grumpy to go at 3.30 p.m. against my will, as my mother had volunteered, since she felt ill she requested me to fill in for her.

Excitement awaited my journey to Churchgate, as we the children of Jesus' Club - Holy Cross community embarked on a fun and uplifting experience of sharing with not the poor, but with those in need of love, a sweet smile on an unknown child's face as we shared our mite with them.

Today for us kids, we came back celebrating Children's day with a difference, In Giving We Received, an invisible blessing from Our Lord and Creator, Christ Jesus.

*by Pierre A. W. Colaco*  
**Jesus' Club - Holy Cross Community**





## ST. THOMAS COMMUNITY – WORLD DAY OF POOR

The community of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai, belonging to St. Thomas Zone of 'Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Sonapur, invited three poor families from our zone for a lunch on Sunday, November 17, 2019, being the 'Day of the Poor', as promulgated by Pope Francis in 2017. There were totally 12 persons. One of our zonal animators was also present. We began with a small prayer in Hindi for 15 minutes which was followed by a delicious lunch. After lunch, each of the families received a small hamper of household provisions. This was bought from the 'fund' of St. Thomas zone and it amounted to about Rs. 300/- per family. We sang a Thanksgiving hymn at the end in Hindi and they were very grateful. It left us with a feeling of gratitude that we could reach out in a small way to the poor of our zone.



## ST IGNATIUS COMMUNITY WORLD DAY OF POOR & CHILDREN'S DAY

We the community members of St. Ignatius had a small programme on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2019 'The World Day of The Poor'. We started with a small prayer to Mother Mary to help us help the poor in need and keeping this in mind Our Community members donated non-perishable items like soap, sugar, rice, ghee, dal, cooking oil, stationary, etc to be given to two poor families in our parish, we requested Sr. Anna to hand over the same to the family members. The family members thanked us and this left us with a feeling of gratitude that we could reach out in a very small way to the poor families of our parish and be a part of Pope Francis initiative for the universal church, we also had the Children's Day celebrations keeping in mind that the children are our future and we should teach them to help the poor and the needy and that's the reason to have both the functions together. As we all know that children are the future of the country, they should be treated and appreciated well with lots of love and affection. We started with games for all the children, they had lots of fun playing various games and winning loads of prizes. Being their day, we made sure that all the children enjoyed the games and each and every one won lots

of prizes. We also had some snacks served and finally a delicious lunch dished out to all, it was a day filled with joy and an eventful one. All the children were given a take away gift which added to their joy and finally what they loved the most: ice cream. The children had a great time and took back fond memories to last a long time. Children's day celebration is a call to everyone to protect their little ones from any harm, whether a boy or a girl child and save them for a bright future of our country.



**The EMHC (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion) ministry**, can trace its roots to the time of Jesus' birth. His mother Mary instituted this ministry. Mary - the first tabernacle, carried in her womb, the yet unborn child Jesus, as she visited her ageing first-time pregnant cousin Elizabeth. We are told of the effect that this meeting with Mary had on Elizabeth, in scripture Luke 1:41, "the child in her womb leaped for joy". When we visit our homebound with Holy Communion, we too hope that their spirits are lifted and they rejoice at having made a contact with their Lord and Saviour. Pope Francis famously said that God's love for us, is only possibly outdone by His mercy for us. He has always stressed on understanding of God's mercy, and for us to imbibe fully the trait of mercy, in our lives. The EMHC ministry is a mercy ministry.... It is not as if those in the EMHC ministry, are special in any particular way. We all have our human limitations and each have our own shortcomings to overcome, and are completely aware of our insignificant existence.... But once again, Pope Francis beautifully reminds us, in his apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exultate*, written last year dated 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and published on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018, that we are all called to holiness and to live meaningful Catholic lives. St. Teresa of Avila is quoted below

Christ has no body but yours.  
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
 Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
 Compassion on this world,  
 Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good  
 Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.

This rings true, for everyone who is appointed as an EMHC. We feel compassion in our hearts, for our parishioners who yearn to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, and are unable to do so, because of old age or ailment. We walk carrying the Holy Eucharist to our parish homebound, most of whom live in buildings that are without an elevator and with well-worn staircases. This year, we were blessed with more hands and feet in the service of our Lord, when Mrs. Gracy Coutinho,



Mrs. Christina Franco, Mrs. Rosy D'Souza and Mr. Leonard Viegas, happily agreed to be part of this mercy ministry, and give their service to the parish. They were inducted into the ministry in mid-November 2019 by our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Anthony F D'Souza.

Besides taking the Eucharist to the homebound, the parish EMHC's and Sisters of the Holy Cross also visit Bombay Hospital with Communion, as this hospital is within our parish boundaries. If you have a loved one in hospital or who is home bound in the parish, please inform your SCC animators and/or community co-ordinator to get in touch with us. We will be happy to visit them over the weekend with Holy Communion. We request you to keep us in your prayers as well, that we may diligently and humbly continue to serve the Lord and our parishioners.

*By Marietta Fernandes*

### **DINNER HOSTED BY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO PRIESTS OF OUR PARISH**



### **ALTAR SERVICE IS A PRIVILEGE AND A BLESSING**

Altar Servers assist the Priest at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and serve at other liturgical events. To be an Altar Server is a special honour and a great privilege in the Catholic Church.

Pope Francis says, "In the Eucharist, we experience the intimate closeness of Christ and the power of His presence" He also tells Altar Servers around the world that serving at the Altar is an opportunity to be close to Christ, thus enabling us to be good Christians.

In our Parish, we meet weekly on Saturdays, where we pray the Rosary, learn more about our faith and the liturgy. We have various activities such as Christmas card making and Carol singing in which everyone participates. On Sundays, we meet for a short time to appoint weekly servers.

This year, under the guidance of our Parish Priest Fr. Anthony D'Souza, we have taken steps to make the Altar Servers Ministry more interactive for all our Servers.

On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019, being the Feast of our Patron St John Berchmans, we had a solemn procession of the Altar Servers followed by the Holy Eucharist. A special blessing was given to each one of us which made us feel special. We had a small celebration on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in the Parish Hall on the occasion of the Feast Day.

We thank Br. George and Thomson for their efforts in training and guiding us. We thank our parents for their constant support. We also thank all our Altar Servers for their participation.

Saint Pope John Paul II says that as we hold candlesticks in procession, in the same way, we must spread the light of Christ to those around us.

We encourage many more boys and girls to join the Altar Servers Ministry of our Parish.

*“If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” – Mark 9:35*

*By Ryan & Zaneta*

### LOOKING AHEAD

21 <sup>st</sup> December	Carol Singing: Padamsee Building, Opposite Crasto building, Dadi Santook Lane and Trinity Building
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Carol Singing: Nirmala Niketan, Barrack Road, 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Marine Street and Wellington Terraces
21 <sup>st</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec:	Confessions from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec:	Special Mass with Healing Service at 11.30 a.m. for Senior Citizens, sick and homebound parishioners followed by Christmas celebration. Confessions for these parishioners from 11.15 a.m. onwards. We urge our parishioners and youth to bring the sick and homebound to the Church and take them back home.
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	No Mass at 7 p.m. At 11 p.m. Carol singing by Parish Choir followed by Christmas Mass at 12 Midnight.
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Masses: 7.30 a.m. in Konkani, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30 a.m. in English. No Evening Mass.
28 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Feast of Holy Innocents. Blessing of children after every Mass.
31 <sup>st</sup> Dec:	No Mass at 7 p.m. At 11 p.m. Holy Hour. 12 Midnight New Year Mass.
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan:	Masses: 7.30 a.m. in Konkani, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30 a.m. in English. No Evening Mass.

### BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

BAPTISM DATE	NAME	CHILD OF
8 December 2019	Carden Fernandes	Richard Denzil & Carmen Lourdes
8 December 2019	Scarlet Rebello	Wilson Andrew & Rachna

### UNITED IN CHRIST

MARRIAGE DATE	NAME OF COUPLE
9 November 2019	William Rebello & Deepika Hira Maurya

### RESTING IN CHRIST

BURIAL DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE
9 November 2019	Lionel Gasper Solis	293/16 Padamsee Building Princess Street
18 November 2019	Savio Simon Figueredo	25/27 Fatima Building 4 Marine Street

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