



Our Lady
of the
Visitation
Church
NERUL
NAVI MUMBAI

A Peep into Nerul Parish

Reach Out

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY
VOL.-XX, No.-1, April 2021

Parish Newsletter



From the PASTOR'S DESK

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." - **Pope John Paul II**

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus. We are in a season where in we are awaiting to celebrate the foundation of our faith and hope which simply refers to the fact of the Resurrection of Jesus. It would also simply imply that our faith in the Lord Jesus has triumphing efficacy and legacy over all that threaten us to destroy. The Resurrection of Jesus gives us true meaning and worth to the fact of human suffering.

The resurrection of Jesus presents three time-tested spiritual messages:

Firstly, resurrection of Christ catapults the believer to the sphere of deathlessness meaning that Christ has transformed the horrendous cum frightful nature of death into bliss-filling factor. So that every believer of Christ can in fact fearlessly and courageously befriend death or even death-inducing situations.

Secondly, in and through Resurrection, God, the Father has placed Christ beyond the

curses of time and space. So that Christ may be efficaciously available and accessible to the devoted faithful.

Thirdly, the resurrection of Christ also grants accessibility in terms of divine and supernatural connections to the infinite love of God and by just being open to God's love one can feel the redemptive power and grace of God.

As Thomas Merton says. "Resurrection of Christ has opened the immeasurable possibilities and unlocked the treasures of heaven for us believers. So that just by our faith in Lord we become renewed creation". My dear brothers and sisters as we are approaching Easter Sunday I pray that May all of us experience effects and impacts of Christ's resurrection

and remain dedicated believer in the sight of the Lord.

Happy Easter Dear Folks and May The resurrected Lord fill us with His Divine fragrance.

**Yours in Christ,
ARUL MANICKAM O.Praem**



PARISH SCHEDULE

Confessions: Everyday half an hour before mass or on request

Children's Sunday school:

8.00a.m. mass in the Church followed by Catechism for children.

Mass Schedule:

OLVC: Mon to Sat:

6.45a.m (Mass followed by popular devotions)

7.00p.m. (Popular devotions followed by Mass)

Every Sunday:

7.00 a.m. Mass at St. Augustine.

8.00a.m. Children's Mass (English – OLVC)

9.30a.m. Mass (English - OLVC)

5.00p.m. Mass in Konkani (OLVC)

4th Sunday : Mass in Hindi at 4.00p.m.

4th Sunday: Mass in Tamil at 6.00p.m.

Little Flower: Mass on Saturday - 7.30p.m.

Intercessory Prayer(Eng): 4th

Sunday of the month: 2.00p.m. – 4.00p.m

Night Vigil: 4th Saturday of the month 8 p.m.-10p.m.

Charismatic Prayer:

1st Monday (Tamil) - 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Wednesday (English) – 7.30p.m – 8.30p.m.

Thursday (Konkani) – 5.00p.m – 6.30p.m.

1st Friday Adoration: 6.30p.m

Church Office:

Weekdays:

9.30a.m to 12.30p.m. and 4.00p.m. to 6.00p.m.

Thursday & Sunday Office will remain closed. (In an Emergency contact the Parish Priest)

Parish Email:

olvisitation.church@gmail.com

REACH OUT TEAM

Reach Out

Parish Bulletin of OLVC
Nerul , Navi Mumbai

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Please send your articles and reports with your name, Sector/Community name and relevant picture to: reachout2018@gmail.com

*** The above schedule were pre-covid schedule.**

*** From 1st September there will be live streaming of daily mass (Mon - Sat) at 6:45pm**

EASTER – RE-ENTRY TO REALITY WITH HOPE



-Br MELTON SUARES, SDB

For over a year or so the whole world including you and me have successfully practiced Is 26:20 'Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little

while until the wrath is past.' But now the time has dawned upon us, as it dawned on the famous philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre by embracing the value of Authenticity. To take responsibility for our past and present, which took place



during the pandemic and is also taking place now. But not to stay the same, rather to now very consciously choose what will be the outcome of our future. A future that will be filled with Hope if we want it to be. In his latest Encyclical entitled 'Fratelli Tutti,' the Holy Father says, "Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities, and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile."(52) As we enter into this joyful and life-giving season of Easter let us continue, to advance along the paths of hope.

FASTING WITH FALSE EGO



**- GRETТАCASTELINO,
St. Andrew's community**

Mathew 6: 18.

"Others cannot know that you are fasting. Only your Father, who is unseen, will know. And your Father sees what you do in private and He will reward you."

We make great sacrifices, charities, go on a number of pilgrimages, retreats and prayers and consider it holy and an atonement for our sins. But at the same time, we do not forgive our elders, brothers, sisters, friends and neighbors and have no room for love in our hearts. What is the use of taking so much trouble when the real sin stands unwashed?

Jesus gave so many parables for us for forgiving others.

Luke 16: 10.

"Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones: whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large matters."

People who are rich, intelligent and powerful always consider others unworthy for them and take them for granted. Whatever we speak or do, good or evil, somehow comes

back to us. Matters go worse and get locked in a vicious circle of false energy. Instead, for forty days and nights, let us say and think nice things about the person. Everything will be different at the end of forty days because we will be different from inside. Let's put past and future out of our mind and live within the present moment. God is not confined in one place. The path of truth is labour of our heart; not of the head. Let us Make our heart our primary guide and pray wherever we are, whatever we do or feel. Whoever finds God, God will remain with him forever.



MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF FAMILY PRAYER



**-TINA RAMACHANDRAN,
Immaculate Conception**

spiritually. Hope all would like to read the promises.

During this lock down period, we could not get the opportunity to attend mass or any prayer service. Life became so meaningless and boring as we were in the confines of our homes. We started family prayer with the recitation of small prayer in the beginning. After some days we increased our family prayer to half an hour or more. All family members slowly started reading the bible and promises in the bible. We started praying the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet as part of our every day family prayer. We believe when the head of the family units in Family prayer and prays for children and all family intentions, God listens to our prayer and there will be changes in the family. We now experience the power of God and love in our families. We experience a lot of changes within ourselves. There is unity and understanding in the family.

The promises are given below which will help us to grow



CONFESSIONS FOR VICTORY

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "By the stripes of Jesus I am healed" *Isa 53:5*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "My God will supply all my needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus" *Phil 4:19*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "I am in Christ and therefore I am a new creation, old things have passed away and all things have become new" *2 Cor 5:17*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "If God is for us no one can be against us" *Rom 8:31*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "I am more than a conqueror in Christ Jesus" *Rom 8:37*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "No one can separate me from the love of Jesus" *Rom 8:35*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "Jesus forgives all my iniquities and heals all my diseases" *Ps 103:3*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "No weapon fashioned against me shall prosper" *Isa 54:17*

I CONFESS BOLDLY - "I will trust in the Lord with all my heart and I will not lean on my own understanding" *Prov 3:5*

Community activities – Immaculate Conception



**-Jacqueline Guedes
Animator,
Immaculate Conception,
Sector 20 & 24**

During this pandemic period, we were unable to conduct any activities offline. Keeping in mind the guidelines given by the church and our community leader we conducted some of activities online.

I would like to share few activities of our communities conducted online. We had our SCC monthly meetings regularly. During advent season, wreath was kept in four houses and we all joined in Wreath prayers through

online. We also had Carol singing on 20th December. Ethan Fernandes, who recently received Holy Communion played the Guitar and selected the carols. Now during lent season, we are having Stations of the Cross every Sundays. Some children, youth and elders have joined together in prayer and all have been given the opportunity to read each station of the cross.

We managed to arrange confession and holy communion to an aged couple at their residence. We are very much thankful to Fr. Arul Manickam and Fr. Antony Moses for all the support and help rendered to our community during this pandemic time.





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COMPANY FIXED DEPOSITS

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THE IMPORTANCE OF SAVING MONEY AND TAXES

Saving money is important because it helps protect you in the event of a financial emergency. Additionally, saving money can help you pay for large purchases, avoid debt, reduce your financial stress, leave a financial legacy, and provide you with a greater sense of financial freedom. Truthfully, there are countless reasons to save money.

HEALTH INSURANCE: To be financially stable is everyone's dream. However, with rising medical costs, treatment for illnesses can easily eat into your savings. Arranging funds during a medical emergency can also be a daunting task. A health insurance policy can protect you from the financial strain caused due to a medical emergency. The insurer will take care of all the expenses such as hospitalization, medicines, etc. You can avail tax benefits under Section 80D of the Income Tax Act.

LIFE INSURANCE: It is a contract between the policy holder and the insurance company, where the life insurance company pays a specific sum to the insured individuals' family upon his death to secure their future. The life insurance sum is paid in exchange for a specific amount of premium. Life insurance is one of the primary and essential requirements of ensuring a financially balanced and comfortable life for your loved ones. The capital benefits that come with life insurance help your family build a safe and safeguarded future, even in your absence. Under section 80C, premiums that you pay towards a life insurance policy qualify for a deduction of up to ₹1.5 lakh, while Section 10(10D) makes income on maturity tax-free if the sum assured is at least 10 times the premium.

PENSION PLAN: It is the retirement or annuity amount, which an individual gets from their insurance company on a regular basis. Through regular investments, it is possible to develop a sizable corpus, which on maturity gives a regular monthly income for taking care of your post retirement years.

MUTUAL FUNDS: They are one of the most popular investment options these days. A mutual fund is an investment vehicle formed when an ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY (AMC) or fund house pools investments from several individuals and institutional investors with common investment objectives. Common types of mutual funds

are money market funds, fixed income funds, equity funds, ELSS tax saving funds, balanced funds, retirement Funds, index funds, specialty funds and fund-of-funds. An ELSS is an Equity Linked Savings Scheme that allows an individual a deduction from total income of up to Rs. 1.5 lacs under Sec 80C of Income Tax Act 1961. Thus if an investor was to invest Rs. 50,000 in an ELSS, then this amount would be deducted from the total taxable income, thus reducing his tax burden. These schemes have a lock-in period of three years from date of units allotted. After the lock-in period is over, the units are free to be redeemed or switched. ELSS offer both growth and dividend options, and investments up to Rs. 1.5 lakhs made in a financial year are eligible for tax deduction under sec 80C.

BENEFITS OF Mutual Fund SIP- It inculcates the discipline of investing regularly like weekly, monthly, quarterly and is very convenient and pocket friendly.

NPS: NATIONAL PENSION SCHEME is a social security initiative by the Central Government. This pension programme is open to employees from the public, private and even the unorganised sectors. The scheme encourages people to invest in a pension account at regular intervals during the course of their employment. After retirement, the subscribers can take out a certain percentage of the corpus. As an NPS account holder, you will receive the remaining amount as a monthly pension post your retirement. NPS scheme holds immense value for anyone who works in the private sector and requires a regular pension after retirement. It has tax benefits of Rs. 50000/- under Section 80CCD.

Most families have 2 children and we spend a lot of money over a 25 year period in educating our children, providing for their education, marriage, etc getting them well settled in life. You need to think of equity as the third child and save similarly for the 25 years, so whether your children are able to look after you or not but this third child saving in equity will help look after you financially for the rest of your life.

Be thankful for the little things for they are the most important.

Earn, spend, donate and save.

- Mrs. C. Luella Dsouza

THE REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION



- ANNA FERNANDES
Committee Member
Civic and Political Cell

The Civic and Political Cell at OLVC organized the Flag hoisting ceremony on Republic Day 26th January 2021 in the MMVK Campus. This program was attended by the parishioners who attended the 6.45 a.m. mass. These attendees followed the Covid 19

protocol of Social Distancing.

The Chief Guest of the day was our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Arul Manickam. He addressed the people on that day, which was more of a prayer, reminding each one of us of the importance of the Day. He stressed on the fact that it is each one's responsibility to keep the Country safe by following the Government Guidelines for this Pandemic. He reminded us that just as we need to safeguard our Independence we should not encroach upon the Independence of others. The program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. James M. The Civic and Political Cell members made sure the program was well timed. Everyone shared a snack before leaving the premises.



"FOR MY EYES HAVE SEEN YOUR SALVATION..." – Lk. 2:30

For a few years now, my interest in the Faith that I have been born into and raised has been piqued. I thought I would share a thought that came across my mind, a few weeks back.

By the time, this article is out, we will be approaching Holy Week, the most central of Christian festivities and more certainly distinguishing, than Christmas. Scores of manuscripts, papyrus and paper have been used to explain this event. I will limit myself to the thought that caught me by surprise as I attended the online Paper Service On the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. We always concentrate on the words of Simeon to Our Lady ("A sword shall pierce your own soul"), but rarely on what is said of Jesus. However that evening I could not help but reflect on those words of Simeon. At the

Consecration, his words ringing in my ears, as I looked at the Holy Father raise the Host and Chalice, I found myself quoting him, "For my eyes have seen Thy Salvation, which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples; a light to the revelation of the Gentiles (us) and for the glory of Thy people, Israel". Yes, our Salvation hung on the wood of the Cross (as is sung on Good Friday at the Veneration), is only understood in the Light of the Eucharist, The New Covenant, The New Testament. As my theological hero would put it, "The New Testament is a Sacrament, long before it became a document."



As we attend the Eucharist let us be aware of, who is present at the Altar and on our tongues. Let us not make the Eucharist only a ritual.

- The Servant of The Word

UNDERSTANDING THE MEANING OF EASTER



- LOURDES V. RAMACHANDRAN
Immaculate Conception,
Sector-20

As Saint Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:14, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." Without Easter—without the Resurrection of Christ—there would be no Christian Faith. Christ's Resurrection is the proof of His Divinity. Lent, marks the preparation for His [Jesus'] death and the celebration of the coming of the Lord. Lent is the time where we are able to do an inner self check of our faith and prepare for what it means [regarding] Jesus' resurrection. To show this symbolically, it goes to show that Jesus is the Lord, and the Light of our lives, and that he will bring us into the light when we are in darkness.

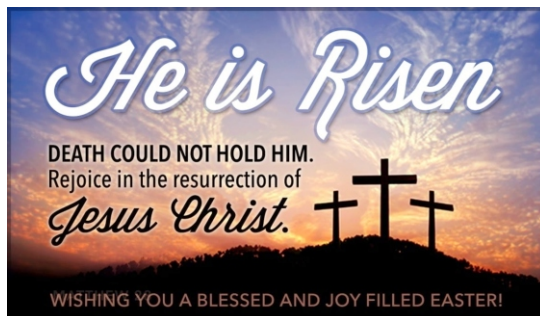
Easter Sunday marks the day when Jesus rose from the dead, symbolizing the renewal of faith and providing hope for eternal life. The whole of Holy week helps us to see how our faith should be about setting aside our doubts, and knowing that we are not broken in His eyes through His love for us and through the light of the world that is Jesus.

Easter is the greatest celebration in the Catholic church because it is the completion of the Holy week that ends with the resurrection of Jesus. Easter celebrates the beginning and foundation of Christianity. Jesus was raised from the dead, and it goes to show that He conquered sin and death. Through His Death, Christ destroyed our bondage to sin; through His Resurrection, He brought us the promise of new life, both in Heaven and on earth. His own prayer, "Thy Kingdom come, on earth as it is in Heaven," begins to be fulfilled on Easter Sunday.

That is why new converts are traditionally brought into the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion) at the Easter Vigil service, on Holy Saturday evening. Their baptism parallels Christ's own Death and Resurrection, as they die to sin and rise to new life in the Kingdom of God.

As Paul says in Romans 1:16, I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. This Good News is that Christ died

on the cross for all of humanity, not just the Jews, but also the Gentiles that their sins may be redeemed if they believe in Him, that they will have everlasting life.



FROM THE CHURCH REGISTER - JANUARY 2021 TO MARCH 2021.

BAPTISM - BORN IN CHRIST

Sr. Dt. of Baptism	Child's Name	Father's Name	Mother's Name	Place
1 10.01.2021	Alison Kate	Keith Rebello	Annette Priya	Triveni Apts.NL-5/13, R.No.16, Sec.11 Nerul(E)
2 31.01.2021	Dalreen	Alexander	Radha Reddy	NL-1/B, R.No.41/7, Sec.10, Nerul(W)
3 07.02.2021	Tristan Yohan	Alvito Louis Lobo	Marilyn Bernedine	201 Shiv Niwas CHS, Sec.44A, Nerul(W)
4 13.02.2021	Jason	Savari Nadar	D. Lincy	E1-22,B/5 Trimurti Apt. Sec.10, Nerul(W)

MARRIAGE - UNITED IN CHRIST

Sr. Date of Marriage	Bridegroom Name	Brides Name
1 10.01.2021	Antony Clifton Corera	Mary Eskaline Virola
2 28.01.2021	George Louis	Satya Navedita

BURIAL - RESTING IN CHRIST

Sr. Name	Date of Expiry/Burial	Age
NO DEATH RECORDED		

MARY OUR IMMACULATE MOTHER

The Legion of Mary is an Association of Catholics, who, with the sanction of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate have formed themselves into a Legion for service.

As Catholics, we turn to Mary, the Mother of God and our mother. Mary's journey with God was one of deep faith and great trust. She had a grace-filled openness to the mystery of God in her life. Before Mary responded to God, the Scriptures reminds us that Mary was confused, frightened, and was deeply disturbed by the angel's greeting. Mary was fully human. In spite of her faith, her belief, her love, she was still confused and disturbed. She struggled to say "Yes" to the Lord! She "pondered" these words in her heart.

Mary took a leap in faith. She had to let go of her plans and say "Yes" to a life of faith. In spite of her awareness of her own unworthiness and littleness, she had to say "Yes" to become the mother of God and also all that it would entail. She was asked to let go of her plans and let God take over her life. Mary's "Yes" was to culminate at the foot of the cross.



We, like Mary, are asked to bring forth a Savior to a weary, hurting world. The mystical body of Christ calls us to be a Christ-bearer to a world desperately in need. It is a world in waiting for our eager and decisive "Yes" to the Lord and our "Yes" to a life of faith, as we are sent forth to follow the example of Mary and follow in Christ's footsteps.

Legionaries understood their role as docile instruments in the hands of Virgin Mary. Their message was to give Christ to the world through Mary.

In and through her Legionaries, Mary participates in every Legionary duty. The Legion of Mary has every reason to hope for a glorious future in the battlefield of Mary.

Help us Mother of Divine Love to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us, We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas, we who are put to the test and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin Mother Mary. We thank God for all the blessings that He has given us.

- Wilma D'Souza

Outreach programme to Florin Home for Destitute Boys

The pandemic and the resultant lockdown, was a time of untold misery for everyone, especially those on the fringe of society. Members of the John Bosco community saw this as an opportunity to reach out to the most neglected section of society to spread some festive cheer, before Christmas. It was a sudden decision and we didn't expect to get much, in terms of contributions from community members. But what we received from our large-hearted members really overwhelmed us. It was as if the cup was overflowing!

We visited Florin Home, at Taloja on 22nd December 2020. It was a joy to see the smiling children, in such high spirits in the midst of so much of

lack. We spend time talking to them about their online classes and other activities. The children presented a skit on the nativity of the Lord and sang carols. We handed over to Fr. John Paul all that we had brought along. He thanked our community for our constant support towards the cause of the destitute children. We also made a quick visit to Jyothis Home for destitute women and spend some time with the nuns and the inmates.

Being the festive season, it was really very difficult for us to make time for the visit. But we are thankful that we did make the time. The joy on the faces of the children and the inmates of Jyothis Home, made the efforts worthwhile. Truly, it is more blessed to give than to receive!

- Josena Varghese



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