



Our Lady
of the
Visitation
Church
NERUL
NAVI MUMBAI

A Peep into Nerul Parish

Reach Out

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

VOL.-XXIII, No.-2, September 2024

Parish Newsletter



Happy Birthday Mama Mary

*O Mama Mary
Daughter of Joachim and Anne;
You accepted God's request
Through angel Gabriel.*

*You grew up in great piety;
God chose you from among women
A virgin to mother a child,
A baby boy, Immanuel!
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
You bore the sacred baby,
In your womb of sanctity,
O Mother Virgin Mary.*

*Hail Mary, Mother of Jesus;
Heavenly mother of mankind;
Look down with mercy upon us,
Ask God to cleanse our sins.*

*O Mother conceived without Original sin,
You set aside everything
To give birth to the Lord*

*You brought Salvation to mankind
Through Jesus Christ your son,
Who came as Saviour, to the world
And suffered death on the cross!
O perfect vessel made by God!*

*The most blessed among women,
Assumed into heaven by God;
Do pray for us sinners on earth
And protect our souls from the fire of hell.*



**Happy feast of
nativity of Mother
Mary**

Wishes from,

**The Clergy Team
&
The Reach Out Team**



ESSENTIAL THOUGHT

THINK ...

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PAY YOUR HUGE,
MEDICAL BILLS FOR FAMILY MEMBER ? IF NEEDED

- ☒ BREAK A FIXED DEPOSIT
- ☒ TAKE A BANK LOAN
- ☒ COMPROMISE ON TREATMENT
- ☒ POSTPONE A DREAM
- ☒ PRAY FOR A MIRACLE
- ☒ BUY HEALTH INSURANCE

???



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From the PASTOR'S DESK

Mary – The one who found favor with God

Mary The Co-Redemptorist has praiseworthy virtues and special abilities which made her splendidly graced or favored human being in the sight of the Lord. One needs to understand the term “Favor” or “Grace” both etymologically and contextually. So that real intended meaning can be construed and understood.

The Greek terms 'charis' and Hebrew 'hēn' may be translated as “favor” or “grace.” In the Jewish tradition, it generally means that God is positively disposed to the person, though this should not be confused with receiving special treatment or favoritism.

Her Humility: The Latin root of “humility” is derived from the word humus, the term that applies to the earth. We could say that Mary is of the earth, grounded in her identity. Mary is a “handmaid of the Lord,” much as Hannah, the mother of Samuel, was a handmaid and servant who prayed for a son. Far from passive, she is actively responding to God's plan and embracing her role. Mary is placing herself in service to God's plan, even as unbelievable as it sounds to her.

Her availability: when God looked for Adam for friendship and asked his whereabouts, Adam answered saying that he was hiding himself because of his sin of disobedience where as Mary exhibited her availability by declaring herself “behold the handmaid of the Lord, Be it done according to thy word”. By this she showed to God and the

world of her availability for the redemption of the Human race and the entire creation as well.

A new description of love: one Of the mystics in history of the catholic church says, “true love is inconceivable to the vulnerable faculties of the human beings but it was made empirical and experienceable in the life of mother Mary in such a simplified manner that one can exclaim, “Mary made the incomprehensible reality materialized for us”. Thus, she has given new explanation as well as an exposition of love to the questioning minds and hearts wherein the pain of being in love is transformed into the Benevolence of the creator.

The new Alchemy of Love: Mother Mary has proven to the entire world that if one is touched by the Divine Love by way of His invitation. it is evident from her religiosity that mundane concerns and troubles as well as sorrows of human beings are dissolved by pure and transcendent love of Christ our Master. This true Alchemy of love alters all evil into Goodness and all profane matters are transformed into sacred by the beauty of Christ Compassion.

A Woman of Righteousness: In the classical theology of the catholic church 'Righteousness' is described as standing in the right relationship with God, The Creator

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PARISH SCHEDULE

Reach Out

Parish Bulletin of OLVC
Nerul, Navi Mumbai

Editorial Team

Fr. Arul Manickam
Ms. Anna Fernandes
Mr. Varghese Joseph
Mrs. Mavis Gonsalves
Mr. Bernard Pereira

Published By

Parish Priest
Our Lady of Visitation Church
Sector 42A, Nerul, Navi Mumbai – 400 706
Tel: 27726333

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Felix Rodrigues

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Sector/Community name and relevant picture to:
reachoutolvc2018@gmail.com

For Parish Mass schedule, Church Office
timings and Holy Week Schedule kindly
refer to the church website:

<http://www.olvcnerul.org>

TITLE

(Continued from pg.-2)

in terms of legality and Ethics, and Mother Mary Models this sort of relationship for us to follow so that we all may become at least justified sinners in our spiritual living.

Vessel of Divine Intervention: Mother Mary made herself a spiritual space for divine intervention which can occur in totally impossible, and unexpected ways. Hence, she remains undoubtedly the space and the stuff of miracles which are beneficial for the redemption and salvation of the souls. God worked in Mary's life circumstances to cause the effects of His salvation for us.

Mary, The unfearful: if one looks at the life of Mary, she or he could infer the face that Mary was found to be never fearful of God's promptings and willing ever to be at His service with no citation of any excuse. It is due to Her conviction that God will help her to put Her fears into proper perspective. Being favored by God usually comes with great responsibilities. But it also comes with the reassurance that there is nothing to fear.

Mary, The Collaborator: Mary permitted the activity of God's Spirit in Her life with total willingness and without any sort of

hesitation whatsoever. Greek philosophers during the time before time of Jesus understood that main ministry or task of God is to assist the believer to transform the impossible to favourable situation where in human beings respond to the created universe in most gracious and gratuitous manner. Mary just did that.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters as we commemorate and celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Mother Mary, she challenges us to inculcate her virtues and her marvelous qualities in our daily life and expects us (Her Devotees) to be ready to respond to God's plan, and to choose to put ourselves at the service of this God who intervenes in history and whose promises are worthy of trust. So that like Her we may be blessed and favored.

May Our Mother pray for us and bless us.

Yours in Christ,

**Fr. Arul Manickam
O.Praem**



Mary- God's Favoured One



The Angel proclaimed God's favour in her
She said 'yes' to him without any fear.

My Lord, How is it possible?

It seems to me, quite terrible.

As with bended knees before you, I stand

May your plan in me go hand in hand.

Let your power help me in this

For me what is a heavenly bliss.

May your will be done

Through me your chosen one.

Oh Lord, Behold your handmaid

In me let none of your plans fade

Creator loving, longing to intervene

Mercifully fulfilling promises supreme

May Emmanuel ever be with us

For eternity may we praise you thus.

**- Ethan Marion Sequeira
St. Faustina Community**

Mary - the one who found favour with God



- Tina Ramachandran
Immaculate Conception
community

Mary, the mother of Jesus, is a shining example of faith and devotion. She found favor with God, who chose her to bear His son, Jesus Christ.

With humility and obedience, Mary accepted this extraordinary role, trusting in God's plan. Her selfless love and dedication paved the way for the birth of Jesus, the Savior of humanity. Through her, God's grace and mercy were revealed to the world. Mary's life exemplifies the virtues of compassion, kindness, and surrender, inspiring countless generations. Her legacy continues to guide and comfort believers, reminding us of the power of faith and the importance of trusting in God's divine plan. As the mother of Jesus, Mary remains a beloved and revered figure, a symbol of hope, love, and redemption. She is obedient to Abba Father and said yes. Her son Jesus died on the cross and still she continues praying for all. Her unconditional love is a biggest gift to Christianity.



Mother Mary's life



- Lourdes Ramachandran
Immaculate Conception
community

According to Catholic Church teachings, Mother Mary's life and example offer valuable lessons

✧ Humility and obedience: Mary's acceptance of God's will, despite uncertainty and risk, demonstrates humility and obedience to God's plan.

✧ Faith and trust: Her trust in God's promises and provision shows the importance of faith in our lives.

✧ Selfless love: Mary's love for God and her willingness to bear Jesus, despite the challenges, exemplify selfless love.

✧ Purity and chastity: Her virginity and dedication to God showcase the value of purity and chastity.

✧ Motherly love and care: Mary's nurturing of Jesus demonstrates the importance of motherly love and care.

✧ Intercession and prayer: Catholics believe Mary intercedes for us, teaching us the power of prayer and seeking guidance from saints.

✧ Holiness and virtue: Mary's life embodies holiness, encouraging us to strive for virtue and closeness to God.

✧ These lessons inspire Catholics to follow Mary's example and grow in faith, hope, and love.

Marian Apparition



- Mary Renjith

What are Marian Apparitions? Throughout history, people around the world have reported appearances of Mary, the Mother of God. She comes down from heaven to earth to encourage us in our Catholic faith. She brings messages of hope

and healing, and, most importantly, messages calling us back to her son, Jesus.

The Catholic Church has recognized some apparitions of the Virgin Mary. These include sightings in 1531 Guadalupe, Mexico; 1830 Paris, France; 1846 La Salette, France; 1858 Lourdes, France; 1917 Fatima, Portugal; 1932 to 1933 Beauraing, Belgium; and 1933 Banneux, Belgium. She is said to have appeared twice in the town of Velankanni, Tamil Nadu, India, in the 16th to 17th centuries. The Velankanni Shrine is now known as the "Lourdes of the East."

The very recent apparitions include Our Lady appearing to a Priest, Fr. V P Joseph in Kerala during praise and worship in a place known as Kalavur in Alappuzha dist. . Our Lady appeared in a Silver Grey attire wearing a clock, on December 7 th 2004 at 2.30 p.m meaning time is very important. While appearing to the Priest, our lady warned that a calamity is about to happen. Soon after in the same month, the tsunami occurred on 26 th December 2004, which affected large scale loss of life and nature in Velankanni, but all those who were inside the velankanni Church were miraculously saved. The place Our Lady appeared to Fr. V P Joseph in Kalavur is

now famously known as Kreupasanam. Kreupasanam is the centre that leads lakhs of people from all walks of life to the spirit and soul of the Marian Covenant Prayer . Unlike the other prayer/retreat centres, the speciality of Kreupasanam is entering into the Marian Covenant. Those who take up the Marian Covenant are obliged

to be sincere to the do's and don't's prescribed in the covenant entered upon with God through Kreupasanam mother. The Covenant period is 90 days and this span of 90 days is the period to abstain from 3 sins. - I am God Almighty; walk before me and be

blameless (Genesis 17:1). By entering the Covenant, Mother Mary wants one to "do whatever He (Jesus) tells us ". The covenant includes few time bound prayers in the morning and evening. Most important is to spread the good news about Jesus and Mother Mary through the Kreupasanam monthly bulletin, which has mainly the testimonies and Writings of Fr. V P Joseph. People from all over the world are thronging to kreupasanam to seek blessings from mother Mary and to enter into the covenant.

During Covid -19, when all other retreat/prayer centres were almost closed down, kreupasanam opened the doors to people all over the world through daily online prayers and retreats. Many testimonies speak about the Presence of Kreupasanam Mother during the Covid-19 time. The testimonies speak of time bound

miracles through Mother Mary. The Vatican is in the process of approving the Marian Apparition at the Kreupasanam Shrine based on the testimonies received from devotees all over the world. For more details on entering into the Covenant and

Kreupasanam, please contact me on 9324908820



1531, Guadalupe, Mexico



1830, Paris, France



1846, La Salette, France



1858, Lourdes, France



1871, Pontmain, France



1879, Knock, Ireland



1917, Fatima, Portugal



1932, Beauraing, Belgium



1933, Banneux, Belgium

MARY – THE ONE WHO FOUND FAVOUR WITH GOD

- **Michael Arasu,**
(St. Joseph Community)

The seed of God's favour to Mother Mary, even before her birth on the earth, was sown at the moment, God the Father Said to Eve,

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." - Genesis 3:15

God the Father created two women; You may wonder how? One is Eve who was created from the bone, taken from Adam. Eve, who disobeyed the words of God, became the reason to pass the Original Sin from generation to generation, lost the favour of God and was expelled from Paradise. The other woman was conceived in the mind of God, the Father, against the disobedience and disloyalty of Eve. So, Mother Mary was first specially created in the mind of God, the Father. That's why she is blessed among all the women who were born and yet to be born.

"From now on all generations will call me blessed" - Luke 1:48

Since she found favour in the heart of God, the Father, she was born in a special way to Joachim and Anne without Original Sin. Jesus, who is the son of the Creator, can never be born to a woman who is born with Original Sin. So, Mother Mary was specially protected by God without Original Sin. That is the greatest and highest favour which Mary acquired from God, the Father. That's why the church declared that she is ever virgin, holy, pure, untouched by worldly desires and the mother of Jesus. She was favoured because God was with her.

The greeting of angel Gabriel too confirms this truth.

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God." - Luke 1:30

The words of Elizabeth too confirm this truth When Mother Mary visited Elizabeth.

In a loud voice, she exclaimed:

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!

But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" - Luke 1:42-43

Mother Mary found favour with God not only because she was conceived in the mind of God, the Father but because of Her qualities. What was it about Mary that

caught God's attention? What qualities did she possess which "found favour with God?"

Mary was obedient to God.

Mary was greatly troubled by the words of the angel Gabriel in the beginning. When Gabriel explained to her the plan of God, she immediately obeyed the will of God saying,

"Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." - Luke 1:38

Being called a servant is in simple terms submitting to a master and one who does that, reflects absolute obedience. She was never in pride that she is the mother of God and her obedience and simplicity found a favour in God's eyes. This is expressed in the following words of Mother Mary.

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of the servant" - Luke 1:46-48

Mary willingly surrendered to God's will.

Mary never worried about the difficulties and inconveniences that would come her way as she would be with Child out of wedlock. She didn't know how her betrothed husband would react. Still, rather than follow her fears of being rejected by society and her husband, Mary decided to surrender completely to the will of God. That's why God raised her above all women. Thousands of churches, dedicated to Mother Mary all over the world, declare how God has raised her name above all names. That's why if you ask anything from God through Mother Mary, you will get it by her petition to God. When there is a desperate need for us, Mother Mary intercede for us to God.

The first miracle of Jesus, turning water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana (*John 2:1-11*) confirms that Mary intercedes for us always in need and Jesus hears His Mother's plea because she was obedient and surrendered completely to His will.

Mary was a person with faith.

When the priest Zacharias was told that he and his wife, Elizabeth, would have a son in their old age, Zacharias doubted the words of angel Gabriel.

Zacharia asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this?" - Luke 1:18

The angel said to him, "And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day it happens because you did not believe my

(Continued on pg.-00)

Ave! (Maria) Gratia Plena

One of the ways to understand the history of salvation, and this methodology was initiated by Our Lord as He taught the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus, is the method of typology. Which is why St. Augustine would say, "The New is concealed in the Old & the Old is revealed in the New". Over the centuries, the Church Fathers have used this method of teaching the various truths about the Christian Faith in their various sermons and writings. One of the many typologies used for Mary is that of her being the New Eve. This was propagated by St. Irenaeus & St. Justin Martyr (in his dialogue with the Jewish Rabbi, Trypho). These aren't medieval Fathers. They were the Apostolic Fathers (1 generation removed from the Apostles) in the 1st and 2nd Century.

Why would the Church from the earliest days resort to such typology concerning the Mother of God? St. Paul in his letters refers to Christ as the new Adam (1Cor. 15:45). So, if we have a new Adam who brings life to the world, who would be the new Eve? I would like to consider 1 similarity and 1 difference between Mary and Eve. The similarity being both were creatures created without sin. It is an often-ignored fact that Adam and Eve were created without Sin (in God's image & likeness as seen in Gen. 2). Likewise, through the salutation of the Angel, we know that Mary was created, Full of Grace (Gratia Plena). In Greek, that salutation appears as if the fact of being graced was her name/title. No other woman since Eve has been given

that title or granted the privilege of being created without sin.

The stark difference between the two is: Eve disobeyed the only command of God when she yielded to the temptation while Mary acquiesced / surrendered to the Will of God in her Fiat, "Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum" (Be it done unto me according to thy word). Such humble and noble surrender has not been seen by anyone in human history (barring Christ at Gethsemane). The disobedience of Eve brought forth Sin & Death and the potential of being eternally separated from God, while the obedience of Mary, brought forth Salvation, Life & the potential of being eternally in God through Christ Our Lord. If we want to find this typology in Scripture, then the Gospel of John is the best place and the two episodes that bring this out are the Wedding Feast at Cana and the Crucifixion. In both cases, Jesus addresses His Mother as "WOMAN". This is to remind us of Genesis, "She is to be called Woman, for she was taken out of Man" (Gen. 2:23) and the Promise, "I will make enmity between you and the Woman, Her seed and your seed..." (Gen. 3:15).

Ave Maria, Gratia Plena,
Dominus tecum, benedicta tu...
Ora pro nobis, peccatoribus,
nunc et in horra mortis nostrae.
Amen.

- *The Servant of the Word*

MARY – THE ONE WHO FOUND FAVOUR WITH GOD...

(Continued from pg.-00)

words" – Luke 1: 20

When angel Gabriel greeted Mary and told the will of God, Mary only inquired as to how God would perform this since she was still a virgin because she knew in her mind that she was a virgin and conceiving a child wasn't possible. However, after being told that she would give birth to the Messiah by the Holy Spirit, Mary did not doubt it in the least.

When Jesus was born, the shepherds came to see the Child and told Mary and Joseph what was told to them by the angels.

"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." -Luke 2:19

Favour of God means that the plan and purpose of God will be fulfilled in our life, only if we are being humble, obedient and faithful like Mother Mary. Even though Mary found favour with God she went through hardships, yet she was successful to be called privileged to give birth to Jesus. The same way, even though God favours us, we may face difficult and challenging situations in life. But in our difficult situations we easily forget that we are favoured by God. Mary is an excellent example to all of us to accept any situation humbly with faith. God will favour us if we live like Mary. Ave Maria.

Celebration of feast of St. John Mary Vianney by PPC members

-Maxima Serrao
Vice President, PPC

On August 10th, 2024, the Parish Pastoral Council members of Our Lady of Visitation Church came together to celebrate the eve of St. John Mary Vianney's feast day with a special fellowship meal. The event was a wonderful opportunity to bond with our beloved priests, Rev. Father Arul Manickem and Rev. Father Prem.

The gathering was filled with love, laughter, and delicious homemade food, generously contributed by council members. The evening began with a short prayer and a heartfelt song dedicated to priests, setting the tone for a joyful and intimate celebration.

As a token of appreciation and

love, the council members presented greetings and gifts to the priests, who were visibly touched by the thoughtful gestures. Sharing a meal together, the priests and council members experienced a beautiful sense of camaraderie and connection.

This special evening will be cherished by all who attended, as it exemplified the power of community and the importance of nurturing relationships within our parish family. May the spirit of love and unity continue to guide us.



'Senior Citizens' Get-Together at Our Lady of Visitation Church, Seawoods*



- Lourdes Ramachandran
Senior citizen group

On July 28th, 2024, the Our Lady of Visitation Church in Seawoods hosted a joyous get-together for senior citizens, commemorating the feast of St. Joachim and Anne. The event, organized by the OLVC Parish youth, brought together approximately 140 members from the senior citizen group and their families.

The festivities kicked off with breakfast, followed by a lively march and quiz competition among four groups. The atmosphere was exciting as couples took to the dance floor, showcasing their moves. Spot prizes and singing added to the excitement, keeping everyone engaged and entertained.

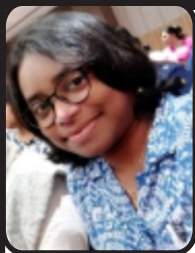
The program culminated in a meal, savored by all. After the meal, the Youth group conducted a house

game and most of them stayed back to enjoy the game. The event was a resounding success, with every attendee beaming with happiness. The senior citizens and their families expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the OLVC Parish youth for organizing such a memorable and enjoyable gathering.

This heartwarming event reinforced the importance of community and intergenerational bonding, highlighting the value of spending quality time with our elders. Kudos to the OLVC Parish youth for their dedication and effort in making this event a triumph!



OLVC Children's Summer Camp: The Parent's Testimony



- Gency Rayen
St. Joseph community

When I first heard about the summer vacation camp organized by our church, I knew it would be a perfect opportunity for my children to grow spiritually and socially.

The camp promised a week filled with faith, fun, and friendship, and I was excited for my children to experience it.

In the days leading up to the camp, our home was a whirlwind of activity. We packed bags with essentials and shared many conversations about the adventures that awaited. My children were in a mix of nerves and excitement, and as we drove to the camp on the first day, I could feel their anticipation growing. Watching them walk into the campgrounds with a backpack almost as big as they were, I felt a mix of pride and a touch of parental anxiety. Throughout the week, I cherished the brief updates I received. My children were filled with stories of the day's adventures – from thrilling sports activities to meaningful workshops. Hearing their voice brimming with excitement as they described the team games, crafts, dance, music, water sports... reassured me that they were in a

place where they were thriving. By the end of the camp, it was evident that the experience had a profound impact. My children returned home not just with stories, but with a newfound sense of confidence and deeper spiritual awareness. They spoke passionately about the daily prayers, hymns and worship songs they participated in. Among the many tales, one story stood out – a dance performance where my children performed a song they had learned just days before. They described the nervousness they felt standing in front of the parishioners, but also the joy and support they received from their peers.

I am thankful to all the supportive youth of OLVC who were very friendly and also helped them navigate these hurdles. As a parent, witnessing the growth and happiness that this camp brought to my children was incredibly rewarding. They returned home not only with a collection of crafts and songs but with a strengthened faith and a heart full of new friendships. I am grateful to Fr. Arul, Fr. Prem and our church youth who made this possible and look forward to encouraging my children to participate in future camps. This experience has been a beautiful chapter in their journey, and ours as a family. Stay blessed everyone.



OLVC Children's Summer Camp 2024 The Youth's Testimony

-Rosita Dsouza
St. Joseph's Community

The Summer Camp 2024, organized by the Youth of our Parish, was held from May 20 to May 25, to provide children with a fun-filled and enriching experience during their school break. Preparation for the camp began in April, with efforts focused on engaging children through games at the church basement. This approach successfully attracted children who eagerly registered for the camp, displaying great excitement from the outset.

On Day 1 of the camp, the children enjoyed dancing to energetic songs and played engaging games like "Dog and the Bone," creating an atmosphere filled with laughter and excitement.

On Day 2, the children were joyously taught biblical songs, fostering a sense of community and enjoyment through music.

Day 3 unleashed the children's creativity as they made face masks using paper plates and collage techniques, each showcasing their unique imagination.

On Day 4 of the summer camp, the children were divided into teams and played various games throughout the day. The day ended with fun water-splashing activities that brought laughter and camaraderie under the sunny skies.

On Day 5, held at Don Bosco grounds, the children participated in sprint races and sports activities, promoting physical fitness and friendly competition.

The final day of the camp had a carnival theme. The week concluded with a mesmerizing magic show that captivated both children and volunteers alike. Following this, the children enjoyed various game stalls and activities, ending the camp on a high note of fun and entertainment.

As a volunteer, witnessing the children's happiness and growth throughout the week was incredibly fulfilling. The dedication and teamwork that went into organizing each day's activities were truly rewarding, and the glowing faces of the children attest to the camp's success. We look forward to welcoming back all children and volunteers for another unforgettable summer camp experience next year.



Pre-Baptism Catechesis – April 2024



- Ralph & Steffi Coelho

The Pre- Baptism course spread over four sessions which was conducted on two weekends i.e. 6th, 7th, 13th and 14th April, 2024; which we have attended was something that we were looking forward to.

Three couples with prospective godparents participated in the program.

The Pre-Baptism course had two primary animators and two couples. Each session had a new topic. The topics that were enriching and a great learning experience for us is Growing in Love. The spouse comes first. He/She must be given the same priority as one would give to your child. It helped us in nurturing our faith. As parents how important it is to be strong in faith to let the legacy pass onto our child. Tips and suggestions were shared along with understanding the significance of the sacrament of Baptism and its promises

The sessions were interactive wherein we could share and hear from others about their experience. This allowed us to learn so much and it will surely help us to inculcate and put

into practice what we have learnt as we begin the wonderful journey of parenthood.

The Pre-Baptism Course serves as a vital journey of preparation for parents and godparents preparing their children for the sacrament of baptism. Through its focus on nurturing faith and growing in love, the course equips participants with the spiritual tools and insights needed to embark on a lifelong journey of discipleship. By fostering a deepened relationship with God and a commitment to loving one another, the course lays a strong foundation for individuals to live out their faith in the world with courage, compassion, and conviction.



CLAYM: YOUTH EXPERIENCE

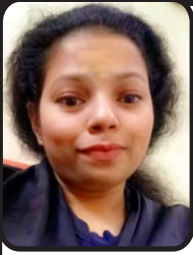


- Meg Fernandes Community - St. Lawrence

‘CLAYM’ stands for Certificate for Leadership Acumen in Youth Ministry. Held by the Diocesan Youth Centre that stands strong on the pillars of fellowship, formation, and services. It is led by the dynamic Deacon Ivan Fernandes with his amazing team of animators. The theme for 2023 was ‘Follow Your Dreams’. It is conducted at Mount Mary Hall, Bandra. On every 2nd Sunday of the month for a year. We start the session at 8:00 AM with mass, thanking the lord for giving us the opportunity to be a part of ‘CLAYM’ and keeping us bonded. A palatable breakfast is served; Followed by that an articulate and a well-expressed session is taken up by our

invited guest speakers or animators. In this session we acquire new skills and inculcate these practices in our daily life. Public speaking, Christian faith, moral issues, and grooming, are all practiced over here. A scrumptious lunch is served, followed by another talk session with a group activity involved with a lot fun, laughter, and brainstorming. The activity helps us engage our audiences, generates new ideas, keeps an open discussion forum, builds confidence, and gain more proficiency and competency. An energetic and a strenuous dance session is conducted by the vibrantn vibes of the youth present in the room. We end the day with tea and snacks with a quick summarization about the day. This year our very own dynamic youth Ruben Nadar has been officially announced as a DYC animator. Overall, it’s an alluring experience and would like to encourage more youth to join ‘CLAYM’.

LEADERSHIP DAY!! (DYC MUMBAI)



**- Jeisyl D'souza
St. Lawrence Community**

“AS THE GREAT PHILOSOPHER SOCRATES ONCE SAID, ‘THE ONLY TRUE WISDOM IS IN KNOWING YOU KNOW NOTHING.’ THIS SENTIMENT PERFECTLY ENCAPSULATED MY EXPERIENCE IN THE PROGRAM, WHERE I ENTERED WITH AN OPEN MIND AND LEFT WITH A PROFOUND SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT AND UNDERSTANDING.”

Reflections on a Memorable Leadership Day!

A day called “Leadership Day” held by the Diocese of Mumbai (DYC Mumbai) on Sunday 7th July’24.

Attending the Leadership Day program was a truly enriching and enjoyable experience that left a lasting impression on me. From engaging activities to thought-provoking discussions, every aspect of the day contributed to my excitement and growth as a leader. Each person attending the leadership day DYC programme is a born leader in their own essence.

We were welcomed by a prayer session followed by an ice breaking through dance and songs praising the lord! This set the mood for the day.

Then entered the surprise speaker of the day who was none other than the famous celebrity, Bollywood choreographer Mr. Terence Lewis. Mr. Lewis renowned for his achievements began by sharing his personal

journey to success. His story was one of overcoming obstacles, embracing opportunities, and constantly striving for improvement. He illustrated how setbacks are not failures but stepping stones to greater achievements.

He also highlighted on the need of Inner search “WHO U ARE?”

His approach was holistic, visionary, and accountable. This approach resonated deeply with me because it aligned with my own values and ambitions. The interactive nature of the talk was another aspect I particularly enjoyed. The speaker encouraged us to ask questions and engage in discussions, which made the session feel more dynamic and participatory.

But as all this was going on we had amongst us the most holy, precious, divine presence of upcoming youth saint Carlo Acutis – he was present in the blessed Relic, as if silently watching and blessing each of us.

Let’s not forget, yet another Youth Leader Icon present amongst us was most holy, very lively Rev. Deacon Ivan (youth director) who has been a constant source of youth inspiration and our motivation whenever we meet him “BE AT OUR PARISH LEVEL OR AT THE DEANERY LEVEL “.

Most holy Rev. Deacon Ivan was accompanied by the most gracious Cardinal Bishop Oswald. Both blessed us by their presence and motivational talk. All this was followed by dance sessions, yummy snacks and sumptuous lunch!

Making it a memorable day for each and every youth present there.

It was indeed a day to Cherish



Parish Vision: That every parishioner works & grows towards a participative servant church in the Mission of Jesus

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM - BORN IN CHRIST

Sr	Date	Child's Name	Father's Name	Mother's Name	Address
1	28.04.2024	Arsh	Rexson Rego	Jayshree Joshi	G-1, Shanti CHS, Plot No.D-108, Sec.20, Nerul(W)
2	12.05.2024	Nicole	Feroz Halani	Pearline D'Souza	NL-5/8/12, Sec.3, Nerul(E)
3	12.05.2024	Sharon	Edwin Pinto	Christina Pinto	B-202, Aramus Complex, Plot No.87, Sec.21, Ulwe
4	19.05.2024	Asher	Jevistar Almeida	Daman	Room No. 07, Plot No.46, Sec.14, Nerul(W)
5	09.06.2024	Ratna	Santhana Kumar	NadarStefy	NL/1B/85/1 Shree Ganesh Apt. Sec.10, Nerul(W)
6	07.07.2024	Zoey	Edwin D'Sa	Wynzil	Mahen Apts. R.No.2, Plot No.52, Sec.1, Nerul(E)
7	03.08.2024	Adeline Maria	Alex Wilson	Likha Alex	501, Sai Pushpam, Plot No.16, Sec.2, Ulwe

MARRIAGE - UNITED IN CHRIST

Sr	Date	Bridegroom Name	Brides Name
1	13.04.2024	Sagar V. Parikar	Caroline Martha
2	20.04.2024	Pradeep Vishwakarma	Merlin Alva

BURIAL - RESTING IN CHRIST

Sr	Name	Date of Expiry/Burial	Age
1	Eunice D'Souza	23.05.2024	69 years
2	Godwin Menezes	24.05.2024	68 years
3	Theresa Lobo	12.06.2024	84 years
4	Sybil Fernandes	18.06.2024	94 years
5	Ezabeth Joe Fernandes	31.07.2024	57 years
6	Sebastian Fernandes	22.08.2024	74 years
7	Sarthor Lazar Fernando	24.08.2024	65 years

Activities of the Women Cell

- Greata Castelino

On April 13th Women Cell members went for a picnic to Dhronagiri and Uran church. We started our day with prayer, and we reached on time. We had very good breakfast and tea and discussed many things what women cell members can do in the parish as well as other activities. Each member has a good knowledge to help the poor and needy woman. We sang songs, played many games at Dhronagiri. We visited old Uran church. It is a very beautiful church. We had tea along with the priest. We enjoyed the entire day.

On 12th June we visited Meena Tai Hospital. There were ten poor women and we visited everyone. They told us their problems and sufferings. We prayed for them to recover faster. Women's cell distributed biscuits to everyone.

Prem Dhaan Khargar : On 29th June we visited Prem-Daan We met 36 children and sisters who takes care of those helpless children. The children were happy when we met them and we were listening to their school activities. Women's cell members gave them clothes, books, pen and pencils. We gave them fruits, sweets, and cooking items. We prayed along with

them, and gave thanks to the Lord.

On 3rd June we went to Dadar for the Archdiocese program We met our friends from Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. We took part in the games and we had fun with them. A Priest gave a talk stressing the need, that the Women cell must reach the poor and needy people.

Jeevan Jyoti Ashram: On 19th August, On Raksha Bandhan day women cell members visited Jeevan Jyoti Ashram. The men were poor and abandoned by their family. Mercy Itty had done arrangements there. We prayed for their life to be better. We gave them roses, put tiki on their foreheads, and tied Rakhi on their hands.. We distributed many types of sweets and savoury items.

We wished all of them Happy Raksha Bandhan.

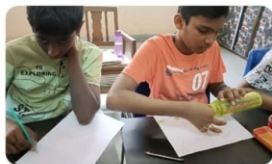


Devotion to Mary at OLVC, Nerul



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SUNDAY SCHOOL DRAWING COMPETITION - 18-08-2024



18.08.2024

Drawing competition class 3

The first Pentecost Day in Jerusalem

