



THE CHURCHMAN

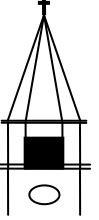
THE ST. MARY'S CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
ST. MARY'S CHURCH (C.N.I.), 1A Sholapur Road, Pune - 411001

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Dear Friends,

I am extremely happy to get in touch with you once again. I pray that the good Lord keep us in good health and bless us with the peace which this world cannot give.

Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a Church in Houston, Texas. Few days after he arrived, he had an occasion to travel by a bus from where he was staying to the downtown area. When he sat in the bus, he found that the driver had given him a quarter dollar more change, by mistake. After a while of temptation of keeping the quarter dollar as the gift from God, he decided to return the quarter dollar back to the driver. When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter dollar to the driver and said, 'here, you gave me too much change'.

The driver, with a smile, replied, 'aren't you the new preacher in town'? 'Yes', he replied.

Well, I have been thinking a lot lately about going to somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you at Church on Sunday'.

When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, 'O God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter dollar'.

This is what happens in our life too. We betray and sell our Lord for small and negligible things and we lose our flavour in this world. Let us try to be faithful in small things and HE would give us strength to be faithful in big things.

Our lives are the only Bible some people ever read. This is really a scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test! Always be on guard, and remember, we carry the name of Christ on our shoulders when we call ourselves CHRISTIANS.

Watch your thoughts; they become words.
 Watch your words; they become actions
 Watch your actions; they become habits.
 Watch your habits; they become character.
 Watch your character; it becomes your DESTINY.

With Love and Prayers
 Rev. Kenseelan Azariah

For many of us, our fathers are our heroes. We appreciate them for their love and guidance. A good father can set an example of strength, honor, sacrifice, and responsibility.

We wish all the fathers and fathers-to-be in our Church a very Happy Father's Day!

BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd James Nicodemus, Ritesh Ranshoor, Sheetal Gaikwad
3rd Shanti Jason, Ajay Tribhuvan, Rahul Phillips, Stella Bhagwat, Deon Lee
4th Karin Johnson, Brig. (Retd.) William Meprath, Olivia Route
5th Amit Chandanshiv, Leena Sagayanathan, Abigale Johnson, Bandana Massey
6th Nalini Gujar, Rachael Kale, Vijaya Nicodemus, Rajesh David, Pritish Choudhary
7th Manisha Billimoria, Hesper Marshall, Augustine Parmar, Dennis Sagayanathan, Utkarsh Waghmare
8th Sushil Salvi, Rev. Dr. T.M. Joseph, Jolli Forester
9th Mohini Barla, Grace Mankad, Ruel Mankad, Barkha North, Ritesh Ohol, Galahad Morris
10th Alice Forester, Prashant Sathe
11th Nandini Charles, Santosh David, Madhav Mehta, Arnold Samuel, Anupam Johnson
12th Joanna Gaikwad, Aditya Kale, Sushil Bharshankar
13th Mary Chavhan, Jean Wilson, Neon Hackette, Blossom Hackette, Seema (Kulkarni) Abraham
14th Clement Franklin, Ronan Johnson, John Mathew, Stanley Paul, Mahima Suryawanshi
15th Samuel Franklin, Anju Suryavanshi, Jacob Moses, Anil Bhatt
16th Anant Pathak, Air Mshl (Retd) A.R. Gandhi, Stephen Herbert
17th Sharad Gangle, Andrew Johnson
18th Sanaya Karkaria, Aneesha Sathe
19th Prashant Chavhan, Richard Wood
20th Maureen Johnson
21st Ronen Chatterjee, Sheila T. Joseph, Jyotsna Santra, Kranti Ranshoor
22nd Dipali Das, Maxim Mathews, Jeanne Nicholls
23rd Dr. Nitin Joseph, Sandip Masih, Anita Rogers
24th Theo Lazarus, Neil Jason, Aman Sneh
25th Paul Lokku
26th Hanna Miranda, Sunita Chakranarayan, Ashok Choudhari
27th Neha Ismail, Vatsala Pathak, David Shiloh, Emmanuel David
28th Namita Joseph, Preethy John, Yashpal Suryawanshi
29th Collin Massey, Bina Mathews, Archana Sathe, Romell Tiwari
30th Anita Matthews, Sumi Williams, Pushparani Raj, Solomon Caleb
Wishing you all a very Happy Birthday! God Bless you!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 4th Bikash & Sunita Jena, Michael Jr. & Jean Wilson, Sabita & Arun Tate
5th Marc & Manisha Billimoria, Sneh & Kelly Karkaria
6th Anil & Smita Farande,
7th Air Masl (Retd) Shashi & Renuka Ramdas, Prabhat & Maya Andrews, Ritesh & Kranti Ranshoor
12th Anil & Elma Sathe, Satyavijay & Asha Ranshoor
14th Rono & Rini Jacob
18th Maj. P.L. Simon & Sheela
21st Wg. Cdr. Michael & Heather Wilson, Clifford & Hanna Miranda, Sushil & Mohini Ingale
23rd Wg. Cdr. Walter & Hesper Marshall
26th Leena & Majid Shaikh
29th Rajendra & Selina Jadhav, Wg. Cdr. Amalkumar & Indira Patro

Wishing you all a Long & Happy Married Life!!!

WEDDING!

The bells of St. Mary's pealed as **Pradeep Abhane** and **Swati Bhore** said their "I do's" on Sunday, 4th May 2014.

May He shower His blessings on the newly - weds!

HOUSE BLESSING!!!

The 21st of May was a special day in the history of St. Mary's Church, when our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Andrew Rathod along with the Secretary of Pune Diocese, Rev. Anil Inamdar blessed a flat purchased by Srt. Mary's Church a few months ago, in Rose Parade, Salunke Vihar..

Our Presbyter, Rev. (Dr.) Kenseelan Azariah has moved in and will be residing here during his tenure as Presbyter of our Church!

A father is neither an anchor to hold us back, nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way!

Sunday Worship Services in June 2014

Date	Worship Services	
Sunday, 1 st June <i>Sixth Sunday after Easter</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Christ's Ascension is a sign of our glorious destiny.</i>	1 st Reading: Acts 1:12-14 Psalm: 73:1-3; 22-26 Epistle: 1 Peter 4:12-19 Gospel: John 17: 1-11
	11 am. Contemporary Service (Holy Communion) Theme: <i>Christ Ascension is a sign of Glorious Destiny</i> Speaker: Rev. (Dr.) Kenseelan Azariah	
Sunday, 8 th June Pentecost	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>The gift of the Holy Spirit</i>	Old Testament: Joel 2: 28-32 Psalm: 139:1-4,7-8,11-12,23-24 Epistle: 1 Cor. 12:1,4-13 Gospel: John 20:19-23
	11 am. Contemporary Service Theme: <i>Gift of the Holy Spirit</i> Speaker: John Amalraj	
Sunday, 15 th June <i>Sunday after Pentecost</i> Trinity Sunday	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>God the Holy Trinity</i>	Old Testament: <i>Isaiah 61:1-4;8-9</i> Psalm: 119: 1-6 Epistle: 2Cor. 6:3-10 Gospel: <i>Mathew 5:1-12</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service Theme: <i>I wanna be just like you</i> Speaker: Milind Noel	
Sunday, 22 nd June <i>Second Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Jesus tells us who are truly blessed, happy</i>	Old Testament: <i>Isaiah 50.4-10</i> Psalm: 69.1-4,7-16,20-21 Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1.18-25 Gospel: <i>Luke 23.1-49</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service Theme: <i>Making your Profession your Pulpit</i> Speaker: Henry Soggee	
Sunday, 29 th June <i>Third Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Thanksgiving for the faith of Peter. It was on this faith that the Lord build His Church</i>	Old Testament: <i>Jeremiah 23:1-4</i> Psalm: 18: 31-36 Epistle: 1Peter 5:1-4 Gospel: <i>Mathew 16: 13-19</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service Theme: <i>Sawdust & Logs</i> Speaker: Ruben Kale	

THE HISTORY OF FATHER'S DAY

Father's Day, is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday in June. The idea for creating a day for children to honor their fathers began in Spokane, Washington. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd thought of the idea for Father's Day while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Having been raised by her father, Henry Jackson Smart, after her mother died, Sonora wanted her father to know how special he was to her. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of his daughter, a courageous, selfless, and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose to hold the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane, Washington on the 19th of June, 1910.

POWER FROM HEAVEN

This year on June 8th we celebrate the important day of Pentecost, which signifies the beginning of the Church Age and the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit upon all humanity. Leviticus 23 describes the various feasts that the Jews were commanded to observe. Of these, the festival of Passover signifies the death of Christ as the Lamb of God, the festival of First fruits signifies the resurrection of Christ and the festival of Weeks is the foretelling of the promise of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost, as the name suggests, is fifty days after the Passover.

We have the account of the first Pentecost in Acts 2 and we notice that the disciples had a supernatural experience of the power of the Holy Spirit flooding their beings such as they never had before. The Greek word for power is *dunamis* from which we get the word dynamite. Such was the power that they experienced on that day.

The Holy Spirit is an integral part of the Triune God Head and He was present before the Creation with a distinct personality. He is a living person and is, therefore, referred to as "He". Jesus referred to Him as our Comforter and Advocate (Greek- *parakletos*) in John 16:7. He is omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient. Jesus also said that the only sin that cannot be forgiven is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit (Matt.12:31).

The Holy Spirit empowers all believers with diverse gifts and it is expected of us that we use these God-given talents and opportunities for the glory of God. On the day of Pentecost Peter, an ordinary fisherman spoke and 3000 people became believers in one day because of the Holy Spirit.

On this Pentecost, let us ask God for a fresh anointing on our lives and, therefore, pray that we the Church can be agents for transformation and His true witnesses.

Contributed by Dr, Nitin Joseph

DAD

He never looks for praises
He's never one to boast
He goes on quietly working
For those he loves the most

His dreams are seldom spoken
His wants are very few
And most of the time his worries
Will go unspoken too

He's there.... A firm foundation
Through all our storms of life
A sturdy hand to hold to
In times of stress and strife

A true friend we can turn to
When times are good or bad
One of God's greatest blessings,
That man we call ... **Dad**

Contributed by Daniel Suryavanshi

*The greatest gift I ever had
came from God! I call him
DAD*

A Father's Eyes

Jonathan's mother died when he was very young and his father brought him up. Both of them shared a very special relationship. Jonathan loved to play football and his father made sure that he was always there to cheer his son at every match, even if Jonathan wasn't a part of the playing team. Jonathan being small sized, wasn't allowed to play in the main team. Nevertheless, he continued with his practice with full determination. Everyone thought that Jonathan would never be able to make it into the team, though somehow, his determination carried him through.

One day during practice, the coach met him with a telegram. Jonathan was shocked to read the message contained in it. Swallowing hard, he mumbled to the coach, "My father died this morning. Will it be all right if I miss practice today?" The coach gently put his arm around his shoulder and said, "Take the rest of the week off, son, and don't even plan to come to the game on Saturday." On the day of the game, Jonathan's college team was losing badly to the rival team. The coach and the players had all lost hope when they saw Jonathan coming towards them. Jonathan ran up to the coach and pleaded him to allow him to play this match. At first, the coach wouldn't allow him to play. However after a lot of persuasion, the coach gave in. No sooner Jonathan joined the team in the field, their scores started to improve before both the teams were on a tie.

However, the real cheer came during the crucial closing seconds when he intercepted a pass and ran all the way for the winning touchdown. His team members were ecstatic. The crowd came running towards him to celebrate the win. After the match, the coach went up to Jonathan, and asked, "Kid, I can't believe it. You were fantastic! Tell me what got into you? How did you do it?" He looked at the coach, with tears in his eyes, and said, "Well, you knew my dad died, but did you know my dad was blind?" The young man swallowed hard and forced a smile, "Dad came to all my games, but today was the first time he could see me play, and I wanted to show him I could do it!"