



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 Family of God at St. Mary's,

We journey through the Season of Pentecost this year and slowly come to its end with two more months remaining, this and the next month. In this journey this Season, we as a church through our worship services and life together have sought to grow in our faith, taller, larger and deeper. Each day's CNI Lectionary readings from the word of God, especially the Sunday themes and readings, have been helping us in this purpose. This month in particular we have a theme on the third Sunday which states that 'Faith is the beginning of a pilgrimage' and I would like to add that it's not just the beginning but also the journeying of this pilgrimage which goes on till our last breath here on earth. This pilgrimage is all about knowing the Father intimately and this is only possible by experiencing daily our Lord Jesus Christ to be the Way to the Father (Jn. 14:6). There is a prayer of the Late Rt. Revd. Oliver Tomkins who was the Bishop of Bristol in the U.K. that expresses this beautifully: God, you are silence beyond all quietness, you are brilliance beyond all light, you are tranquility beyond all peace. Teach me to listen to your silence, let me glimpse your brightness and grant me that tranquility in which the search for you begins. Yet, none of us could seek if we had not been found by the Word who interprets the silence, in the Face that reflects your glory, through the Passion which is our peace. Through Jesus Christ, in whom our search begins and in whom it ends, who with you and the Spirit, are the One God in all and through all.' The Author of the Epistle to the Hebrews mentions 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (another version puts it as *the pioneer and completer of our faith* and yet another *the champion who initiates and perfects our faith*), who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God' (Heb. 12:2).

This emphasis of Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life is what the Reformers of the 16th century Reformation in Germany and other places in Europe held on to and stood upon. As a result of their commitment to the word of God and what their conscience commanded, the history of the Church in the world changed from then on. Our church's history and tradition is connected to the Protestant Reformation that took place and the CNI is the union of six Protestant denominations in northern India that were products of the Reformation. Therefore, we will be observing 28th October in our church as Reformation Sunday when we will give thanks to God for the Reformation and will gratefully remember the Reformers.

May we continue to 'fix our eyes on Jesus' as the Reformers did and many others who were faithful to the word of God. Let us continue to grow in our faith, taller, larger and deeper through our Lord Jesus Christ by the help of the Holy Spirit. God bless us all this month.

Revd. Sumesh Jacob
Presbyter-in-charge

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. This was a perfect act.

- Mahatma Gandhi

BIRTHDAYS

- 8 ArvindAngre, Timothy Jacob, Rashmi Patra.
- 9 Joseph Devappa.
- 10 Sagar Shinde, Amit Singh, Sheela Simon, Sachin Shinde.
- 11 S. Abraham, Kingsley Joseph.
- 12 John Amalraj, Kelly Karkaria, Edwin Patole, Sunit Gaikwad, Rev. Ravikumar Joseph.
- 14 Neeraj Ismail, Nathan Smarpan Lall, Janet Sapaliga, Rachael Shah.
- 15 Manisha Joseph.
- 17 Sandeep Lazarus, Air Mash(Retd) Shashi Ramdas, Roopnanda Salve, Shailesh Patole.
- 18 Neeta Pardhe, Samara Sonawane.
- 19 SanjivHiwale, Kshitij Pathare, Joanna Waikar.
- 22 Joel Edwin, Shimron Waikar.
- 23 Meenakshi Pathak, Pradeep Abane, Nathaniel Kantimahanty.
- 24 Anish Barla, Bruce Henderson, Gp. Capt. Joseph Jason, Susheela Jadhav, Rohan Paul, Inayat Ramdas, Boland Roberts, Devashish Choudhary, Catherine Ramdas.
- 25 Nilima Pardhe, Ronald Smith.
- 26 Nanma Sagalgile, Arun Tate.
- 27 Gp.Capt(Retd) Cris Fernandes, Niket Pathak, Reshma Gaikwad.
- 28 Doreen Scott, Shanavaz Kunju, Alexander Suryavanshi.
- 29 Nishant Andrew, Joel Moses, Deepti Jadhav.
- 30 Gaynor Borade, Shailaja Kotak, Vijay Salvi, Deepika Solomon.
- 31 NatashaPawar, Tanmayee Pathak

NOVEMBER

- 2 Valerie Freese, Samuel Moses.
- 3 Anaiah Bangera, Amit Chatterjee, Proshila Patro.

Wish you all a Very Happy Birthday! May God Bless you!!!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Anish & Smita Barla.
- 9 Anil & Jasmine Anchan.
- 10 Jamal & KiranMasih.
- 11 Manoah & Anita Mathews.
- 12 Rev. Dr. Theodore & Sheila Joseph.
- 14 Shailesh & Tripti Bhonsle
- 15 Ian & Pamela Nicholas
- 18 Prakash & ShrutiPathre.
- 19 Ronald & Shobhna Naik.
- 22 Rev. Ajit & Rev. Suhasini Farande.
- 26 Rev. K. Lalthlanpuia & P.C.Lalfak Zuali, Augustine & Jeckveline Parmar

A very happy Anniversary to you all!!

Special Days of the Church Calendar

- 4 October - Francis of Assisi, Monk & Evangelist (1226)
- 6 October - **Thomas, Apostle of India**
- 15 October - Teresa of Avila, Nun & Mystic (1582)
- 16 October - Henry Martyn, Evangelist (1812)
- 18 October - **Luke, Evangelist**
- 27 October - Frumentius of Ethiopia, Evangelist (c. 380)
- 28 October - **Reformation Sunday**
Simon & Jude, Apostles

A Jewish Story

A Jewish businessman in Chicago decided to send his son to Israel to absorb some of the culture of the homeland. When the son returned, the father asked him to tell him about his trip. The son said, "Pop, I had a great time in Israel . By the way, I converted to Christianity."

"Oh, my," said the father. What have I done?" He decided to go ask his friend Jacob what to do.

Jake said, "Funny you should ask. I too sent my son to Israel , and he also came back a Christian. Perhaps we should go see the rabbi and ask him what we should do." So they went to see the rabbi. The rabbi said, "Funny you should ask. I too sent my son to Israel . He also came back a Christian. What is happening to our young people?"

Perhaps we should go talk to God and ask him what to do."

The three of them prayed and explained what had happened to their sons and asked God what to do. Suddenly a voice came loud and clear from Heaven. The Voice said, "Funny you should ask. I, too, sent my Son to Israel"

Sunday Worship Services Schedule for October 2012

Date	Worship Services	
Sunday, 7 th October <i>Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>The family—children.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Proverbs 4.1-9</i> Psalm: <i>128</i> Epistle: <i>Ephesians 6.1-4</i> Gospel: <i>Mark 10.13-16</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service (Holy Communion) Conducting and Preaching by the Clergy.	
Sunday, 14 th October <i>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>The spiritual danger of trusting in wealth.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Deuteronomy 8.6-18</i> Psalm: <i>49.1-2,16-20</i> 2 nd Reading: <i>Revelation 3.12-22</i> Gospel: <i>Mark 10.17-27</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service	
Sunday, 21 st October <i>Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Faith is the beginning of a pilgrimage.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Isaiah 35.3-10</i> Psalm: <i>66.1-10,16-20</i> 2 nd Reading: <i>Acts 16.25-34</i> Gospel: <i>Mark 10.46-52</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service	
Sunday, 28 th October <i>Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost</i> Reformation Sunday	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Thanksgiving to God for the Reformation and grateful remembrance of the Reformers.</i>	Old Testament: <i>2 Kings 23.1-19</i> Psalm: <i>81</i> Epistle: <i>Romans 11.1-6</i> Gospel: <i>Luke 11.33-54</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service	

Cell phone Vs the Bible

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we truned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we treatd it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go ... hmmm Where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing

Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think 'where are my priorities? And no dropped calls!

When Jesus died on the Cross, He was thinking about you!

Contributed by: Mayura Barsay

Humor!!! Humor!!!

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah - He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

* * * * *

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden ?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

* * * * *

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little Prophet!

PARENTING SEMINAR.

A Parenting Seminar was organized by the Stewardship Sub-Committee on Sunday September 30 2012 at the Sanger Hall of the Church. The theme was "Challenges Facing the Christian Parent".

The seminar began with a prayer, choruses, followed by a couple of games as "ice breakers." Introduction of the theme was next and two short films entitled "Don't Give Up" and "Role Model" was screened. The Keynote Talk on the theme was the next item thereafter. The most interesting session was with the participants breaking up into four groups to ponder the questions: On "Relationships": "What is your relationship with your child? Does your child confide in you? What are the subjects most talked about? Do you make it a point to keep abreast with the changing times? On "Role Model": Do you have two sets of rules in your home-one for you and one for the kids? Are you struggling to keep up with the 'Jones'? Do you feel you have to prove your credibility as children are watching you closely?" The questions were deliberated enthusiastically and the leaders of the groups presented their conclusions. The summing up and prayers followed and ended with lunch.

The Seminar was well attended with 80 members of the Church, mostly husbands and wives. Some had brought small children for whom play arrangements and care were made. The feedback on the outcome of the Seminar has been very positive and eagerness expressed for more parenting seminars with many suggestions, as separate seminars for different age groups, professional counseling for parents and older children. All the valuable inputs will be considered thoroughly and plans formulated accordingly. Members of the Church are requested to look-out for the announcements of the next seminar on Parenting. An earnest request is made for more involvement of our parish members.

Heartfelt gratitude to each and everyone who helped organizing the event.

Ashish Das Gupta
Convener, St. Mary's Church Stewardship Sub-Committee.

(This poem is written by Mallika Salve as a token of thanks and appreciation and dedicated to Mrs Dey & Mrs. Das from the ICS; Rev. Jacob; Mr & Mrs. Das Gupta and Roopnanda Salve)

Thank you Mrs Dey!!

For showing me the right way,
For making me understand
That I'm a WINNER in my own special way.

Thank you for the advice and tips,
Encouragement and motivation.
You tapped into my hidden strengths and talent
And brought them out in the open.

Like a potter you moulded me
And baked me in the kiln of knowledge.
So that I can face any academic challenge
With grit determination and courage.

Thank you Mrs Dey
For the time we've shared,
Your calming presence,
Your words full of love and care.

A special thanks to Rev. Jacob
For always upholding us in prayer.
A MILLION thanks to all the parents who took time
from their schedules
To make sure that the kids were all there to get this
great exposure.

Thank you especially to my newly acquired grand
dad and grand mom
In the form of Neena and Ashish Dasgupta.
For being there for me
Whether rains or the bright sun.

Not forgetting the Stewardship Committee
For organizing such an 'Awesome' event
Not only for the opening of new avenues in these
sessions
But also for providing us excellent nourishment!!!

By: Mallika Salve