



THE CHURCHMAN

THE ST. MARY'S CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

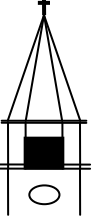
ST. MARY'S CHURCH (C.N.I.), 1A Sholapur Road, Pune - 411001

Presbyter-in-charge: *The Revd. Sumesh Jacob*

Office: 020-26361207; 020-64013534, Mobile: 9011530827, Email: sumeshjacob@gmail.com

Assistant Presbyter: *The Revd. K. Lalthlanpuia*

Mobile: 7588328001 Email: thlanpuia@rediffmail.com



Dear Family of God at St. Mary's,

As we enter into a new month we continue in our spiritual journey of growing in faith and moving towards maturity. The Bible tells us that we are to crave for the pure spiritual milk, just as newborn babies do, by which we grow up in our salvation. This will happen when we rid ourselves of all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander (1 Peter 2:2). However, the Bible also encourages us to move on from spiritual milk to solid spiritual food which is for the mature. This food is the teaching about righteousness which those still on spiritual milk are not acquainted with (Hebrews 5:13-14). Recently I read on one of the news channels on television the statement 'Change is the constant journey of growth'. This means that if we are to grow we are to change, ourselves and our world. This reminds me of another statement I read on one of the hoardings in the Cantonment area which says, 'Everyone wants to change the world but no one wants to change themselves'. These statements are very challenging for me personally as I realise more and more the change for the better that I require which is possible only with the grace and help of God. To grow one needs to change and when that happens one matures in faith and begins to make a difference to their world through loving action.

This month, on the first Sunday, 2nd September we have our Annual General Body Meeting. I request all members of the church to participate as this too is part of our worship. Being involved in the life of the church is our mandate and the basic aspect of this is the annual meeting of the members to evaluate the past year's work of ministry and administration and to plan for the future. There is also the important task of appointing representatives of the church to serve on the Pastorate Committee which will seek to execute the decisions taken by the General Body. Since the day this issue of our newsletter being made available and the date of the AGM is the same, I appeal to all of those members who read this before the meeting starts, to kindly stay back, have breakfast and to please come and participate in the entire meeting. We will also be providing a sumptuous lunch for you. I do hope that each member will consider seriously their participation in the AGM and to do so prayerfully and with an attitude of Christian charity, proving to be those who have fed on the spiritual milk and solid food of God.

On the last Sunday of this month, 30th September, the Stewardship ministry of the church intends to hold a half-day seminar on Christian Parenting in Today's World from 10.30 am. to 1.30 pm. ending with lunch. All parents of children of various age-groups are invited and also anyone who may not be a parent but is interested in the subject or is contributing in some way as a parent. I would like to state that this is a burning issue for many of us as we face several challenges in bringing up our children in the right way. We wish we could do better and many times ignore or get bogged down with the problems that we face. We hope things will get better but we do not try to seek for a way to learn on how we could be better parents to our children; understanding what the Bible teaches us about bringing up our children, looking at the different challenges of the modern world and having a chance to share our experiences so as to facilitate collective practical solutions that we can use. If we do not take the opportunity to learn now we may find that it's too late for us and our children. Therefore, I request you not to miss this time of wonderful interaction and learning together to be better Christian parents. Those parents who have young children do not have to feel that they'll not be able to attend as we are making arrangements for them to be taken care of during the seminar.

I would like to make a correction to a statement I made in my address in last month's issue. There was a mistake due to oversight and the statement should read, '...and the Creed should correctly be *after* the sermon rather than *before* it because it is a response to hearing the word of God.' Also I would like to add that the previous abridged edition of the Book of Common Prayer was taken from the Church of India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon prayer book of 1960 which is more Roman Catholic and Eastern in nature while the new abridged edition of the Book of Common Prayer is taken from the 1662 prayer book (included in the Church of England's Common Worship, 2000) which reflects the thinking of the Reformation. The 1662 order and the 1960 order are very different from each other.

May we grow in faith and understanding by the enabling of the Lord so that we will change within ourselves and thus making a difference to our world. Let us strive to move from spiritual infancy (feeding on spiritual milk) to spiritual maturity (feeding on solid spiritual food). God bless us this coming month.

Revd. Sumesh Jacob
Presbyter-in-charge

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Anahita John, Deepali (Santram) Prasad.
- 2 Amanda Freese, Sacin Sagagile.
- 3 Tara Kedar, Ashwin Lokku.
- 4 Sujit Dasgupta, Ashley Gangale, Latika Patole.
- 5 Rahul Borade, Arokiraj Devappa, Sandeep Sapre, Hannah Ranganathan.
- 6 Kokila Franklin, Benny Moreas, Wg. Cmd. Santosh Birnur; Michelle (Wilson) Nihalani.
- 7 Juhi Das Gupta, Siddharth Salvi.
- 8 Ashish Lakra, Winston Dhanraj, Sheilesh Bhonsle.
- 9 Marcelle Nicholls, Annu Anjan, Neelam Gangale, Amol Suryawanshi, Ashish Chakranarayan, Michelle Anchan.
- 10 Rebecca (Paul)Johnson, Sunita Jena, Beatrice Morris, Shub Sapaliga; Akanksha Salvi, Christina(Scott) Vincent.
- 11 Rachael Anchan, Asha Jadhav, Joel Mckenzie, Aaron Paul, Deepti Waghmare.
- 12 Atush Rohan Mathews, Devdutt Sathe.
- 13 Dakshita Jena, Gabriel Nichodemus, Indira Patro, Selina Pandit, Veronica Rao, Pritamsingh Dhillon.
- 14 Vahaan Wadhwa, Clifford Miranda, Nita Moses.
- 15 Saramma George, Chitra Apte, Sean Noel.
- 16 Anil Anchan, Sohana Andrew, Vijay Borade, Rupal Manjrekar, Sanjay Vastrad, Sugandhi Dhanraj.
- 17 Aryan Jacob, Sherryl Pal, Shonika Jadhav, Sheryl Anchan, Emma Dhanraj.
- 18 Suwarta Apte, Chandrashekhar Sapliga, Elma Sathe, Mark Yardi, Vilas Salvi, Kunda Anchan.
- 19 Neel Ghodke, Vanita Samuel, Chetana Bargeta.
- 20 Jude Anthony, Sharon Laxmikanth, Nileshwalya Laxmikanth, Rebecca Panhalkar, Jignesh Shah, Ronita Mabel.
- 21 Alisha Londhe, Prakash Pathare, Madhuri Sathe.
- 22 Abhinav Farande, Rono Jacob, Kalyani Kale, Priscilla Sonawane.
- 23 Nathan Freese, Lt. Col. Anil John, Meher Johnson, Neelesh Patole, Gracy (Devappa) James.
- 25 Lt.Col.B.Parkhe, Shekainah Billimoria.
- 26 Sonali Ghodke, Ronit Majrekar, Daniella Wood, Christina Sharif.
- 27 Archana Gaekwad, Allan North, Robert Wood, Ashutosh Salve, Dr. Binita Andrews.
- 28 Ronita (Anchan) Maben.
- 29 Abhishekh Prasad.
- 30 Madhurima Kotak.

OCTOBER

- 1 Joshua Mckenzie, Pratibha Shinde, Samson Paul.
- 2 Althea Henderson, Sushil Ingale, Keith Forestr, Jayant Barla, Shalini Masiah.
- 3 Maj Gen(Retd) Sandip Biswas, K. Lawmzuala, Conrad Massey, Lorraine(Scott) Turner, Kanchan Sagalgile.
- 4 Jean(Roberts) Innis, Desiree Ann Young.
- 5 Rajendra Jadhav, Honorene Johnson, Sanjay Pandit, Vinita Salvi, Gayatri Tate, Frank Ernest Wilson, Rev. Ranjana Gaikwad.
- 6 Jeckveline Parmar, Suman Patole, Ujwal Birnur, Mahima Bhagwat.

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Air Mshl(Retd) A.R.Ghandhi & Matilda.
- 9 Samuel & Nita Moses.
- 18 Vikram & Rachana Jacob.
- 20 A. Sagayanathan & Leena.
- 24 Rev. Baburao & Suwarta Apte

October

- 2 Amit & Juhi Das Gupta.
- 8 Anish & Smita Barla.
- 9 Anil & Jasmine Anchan.
- 10 Jamal & Kiran Masih.
- 11 Manoah & Anita Mathews.
- 12 Rev.Dr. Theodore & Shiela Joseph.
- 15 Ian & Pamela Nicholas.
- 14 Shailesh & Tripti Bhonsle
- 18 Prakash & Shruti Pathre.
- 19 Ronald & Shobhna Naik.
- 22 Rev. Ajit & Rev. Suhasini Farande.
- 26 Rev. K. Lalthlanpuia & P.C.Lal fak Zuali, Augustine & Jeckveline Parmar

A very happy Anniversary to you all!!!

Special Days of the Church Calendar in

September 2012

- 2 Sept - Martyrs of New Guinea (1942)
- 3 Sept - Sadhu Sundar Singh, Convert & Evangelist (bap. 1905)
- 7 Sept - Abraham Malpan, Theologian (1846)
- 8 Sept - ***The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary***
- 13 Sept - Narayan Seshadri, Convert & Evangelist (bap. 1843)
- 14 Sept - Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop, Theologian & Martyr (258)
John Chrysostom, Bishop & Theologian
- 21 Sept - **Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist**
- 29 Sept - **Michael & All Angels**
Pandita Ramabai, Convert & Evangelist (bap. 1883)

Organ Restoration

The clock is ticking and we only have a few months left to collect our target of 30 lakhs and make our dream of getting the Pipe Organ of our Church completely restored, a reality!

Help us realize this dream!

Please hand it your donations in cash, or cheques drawn in favour of 'St. Mary's Church', indicating that it is for the Organ Restoration Fund or send it directly to **Indian Bank, Savings Bank A/c No:6042968286.**

Sunday Worship Services Schedule for September 2012

Date	Worship Services	
Sunday, 2 nd September <i>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Baptism and the Lord's Supper.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Isaiah 55.1-7; Psalm: 116.1-15</i> Epistle: <i>Romans 6.1-11</i> Gospel: <i>John 6.47-59</i>
Sunday, 9 th September <i>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>God's judgment is just and merciful.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Isaiah 51.3-8; Psalm: 9.7-12</i> Epistle: <i>Romans 2.1-11</i> Gospel: <i>John 8.2-11</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service (Holy Communion) Conducting and Preaching by the Clergy.	
Sunday, 16 th September <i>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Nothing is impossible for faith.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Exodus 4.10-17; Psalm: 124</i> Epistle: <i>Ephesians 6.10-18</i> Gospel: <i>Mark 9.14-29</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service	
Sunday, 23 rd September <i>Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>Lessons of the cross for daily life.</i>	Old Testament: <i>Numbers 11.16-17,24-29; Psalm: 133</i> Epistle: <i>1 Corinthians 3.1-9,18-23</i> Gospel: <i>Mark 9.30-41</i>
	11 am. Contemporary Service	
Sunday, 30 th September <i>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8 am. & 6 pm. The Lord's Supper Service Theme: <i>The family—husband and wife..</i>	Old Testament: <i>Malachi 2.13-16; Psalm: 127</i> Epistle: <i>1 Corinthians 13</i> Gospel: <i>Mark 10.2-12</i>

The **Cottage Bible Study** which meets regularly at Dr. Nitin & Manisha Joseph's home, has completed **5 years** and has grown steadily over this period!

Let us remember, and pray for this Ministry!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Tina**, (d/o Mrs. Susan & the late Raju Eipe) and **Leonard**, who had the Blessing of their wedding, in St. Mary's Church on **Saturday, 11th August 2012!**

May God bless this couple and grant them a long and happy married life!!!

Books may help us to increase our knowledge, but without a teacher's guidance this knowledge cannot affect our innermost being.

Wishing all teachers, educators and those who have made an impact in our lives in some way or the other, A very **Happy Teacher's Day!!!**

Rev. Andrew Rathod was elected as the **Bishop of Pune**, having secured 19 of the 20 votes! He was subsequently consecrated as the Rt. Rev. Andrew Rathod at the Cathedral Church of the Redemption, New Delhi on 28th August 2012. We as a Church are honoured to have the Installation of the Bishop of Pune in our Church on 5th September 2012! Please remember him, his wife, Vijaya and children, Ashish and Gabriella in your daily prayers!

PANDITA RAMABAI, Social Reformer and Evangelist

Born in 1858 in the home of an orthodox Hindu family in western Maharashtra as Rama Dongre, she was conferred the title of *Pandita* which means 'mistress of wisdom' for her ability to quote 18000 Sanskrit verses and speak 5 languages by the age of 20. Her father, a wealthy priest, was ostracised by the Brahmin community for teaching Sanskrit, considered to be the 'sacred language of the gods' to women and members of the lower caste. He also taught Sanskrit and the sacred Puranic literature to young Rama. Excommunicated and braving severe famine the family was forced to a life of begging and nomadic existence.

Ramabai was introduced to Christianity in Calcutta where she was presented with the Bible in Sanskrit when she attended a Christian gathering of scholars. In Calcutta she married Bipin Behari Das, an educated man from the *shudra* community for which he was excommunicated. However he died of cholera within two years. Thereafter Ramabai visited England in 1883 where she studied the Bible and was particularly enlightened with its message of transformation and upliftment of the downtrodden and Jesus' ministry to women. She underwent an intellectual conversion and was baptised in the Church of England in the same year.

On returning to India with her daughter Manorama she started a home cum school for widows in Bombay called Sharda Sadan in 1889. This was later shifted to its present location at Kedgaon, about 50 kms. from Pune and named Mukti Mission. She also translated the whole Bible into Marathi in 1922. Awarded the Kaiser-I-Hind medal for community service in 1919 by the King of England, Ramabai died in 1922 at the age of 64. She often quoted "**A life totally committed to God, has nothing to fear, nothing to lose and nothing to regret.**" Today Mukti Mission continues as a beacon of hope to the destitute women, abandoned children and children with special needs. The CNI remembers Pandita Ramabai in September 29th, the anniversary of her baptism. May her life and work continue to inspire us to reach out to the poor, the needy and the marginalized.

By: Dr. Nitin Joseph

TEACHERS

Teachers, paint their minds and guide their thoughts Share their achievements and advise their faults	For our future brightens with each lesson you teach Each smile you lengthen Each goal you help reach
Inspire a Love of knowledge and truth As you light the path Which leads our youth	For the dawn of each poet each philosopher and king Begins with a Teacher And the wisdom they bring

Humour!!!

An ad for St. Joseph's Episcopal Church has a picture of two hands holding stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments are inscribed & a headline that reads: "For fast, fast relief, take two tablets."

Mother Teresa, a diminutive Catholic nun, founder of the Missionaries of Charities, a world renowned figure and a Nobel Prize winner died on 5th September 1997. A couple of her quotes:

"If you judge people, you have no time to love them."

"Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies."