

XAVIERIAN MISSION



Parish Bulletin of St. Francis Xavier Church Vile Parle (W), Mumbai

December 2019

Parish Team

Fr. Savio D'Souza
Fr. Ralph Fernandes
Fr. Omar Fernandes
Fr. Chinnappa
Fr. Sanjeev Prasad Pereira

Mass Schedule

Saturday : 7.00 pm.

Sunday :

6.30 am (Konkani),
7.30 am (Marathi),
8.45 am (Parish Mass),
10.00 am (Children's Mass),
5.30 pm (English)

Weekdays :

6.15 am, 7.15 am and 7.00 pm

Confessions:

Every Sat. at 6 pm and on request.

Baptisms:

Every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

Novenas :

Wed. : O. Lady Perp. Succour before
the evening mass.

Prayer groups :

 After evening mass

Mon. : Konkani

Thurs : English

Fri. : Marathi

Parish Office Timing :

 Mon. to Fri.

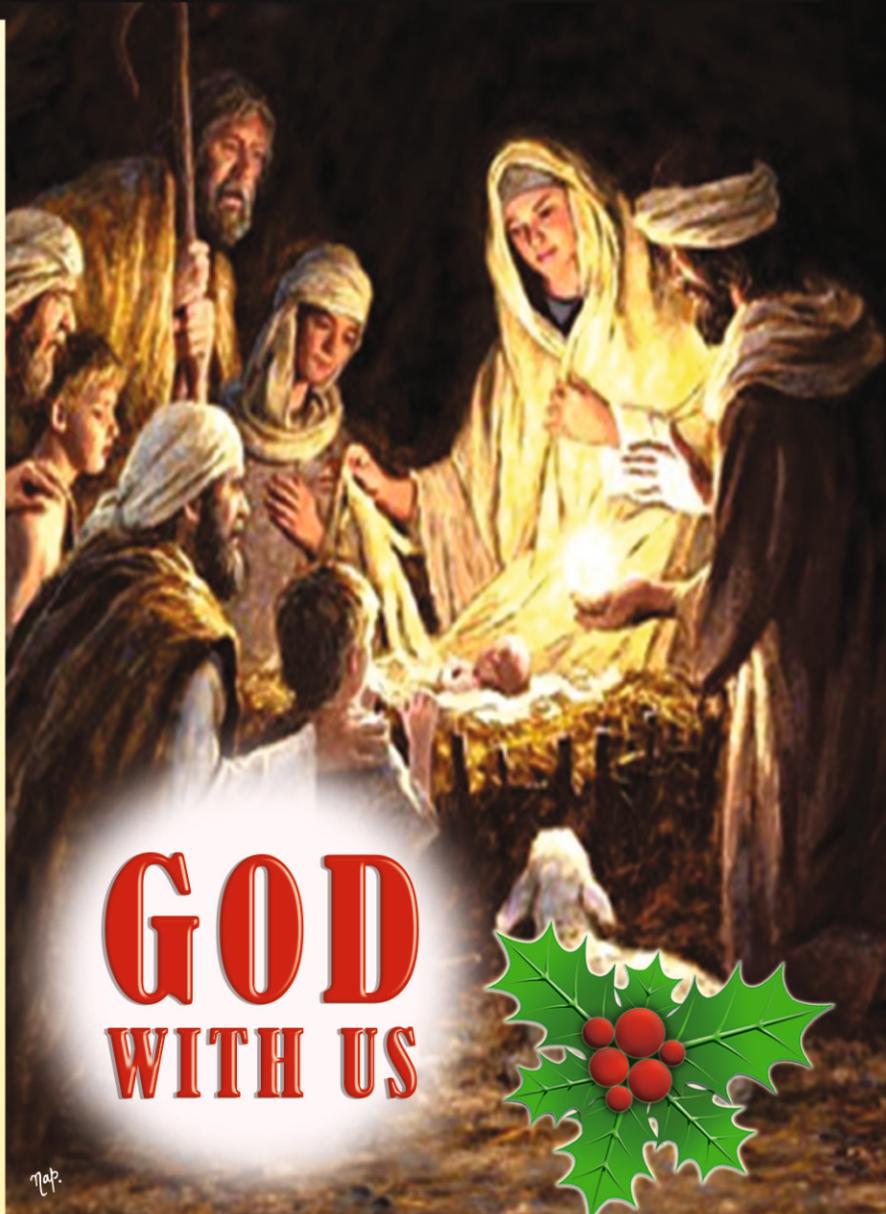
9.00 am to 11.00 am & 5pm to 7pm,

Saturday : 9.00 am to 11.00 am only.

Marriages: Persons must approach
the priest on duty at least 3 months in
advance. Marriage preparation
course is compulsory.

Sick calls: Any time on request

Funerals : After the death certificate
is obtained, the burial permit from
the BMC has to be obtained. Xerox
copies of these have to be got, then
meet Welwyn, our church clerk.



GOD WITH US

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Welcome to the celebrations

We have entered an enviable phase – a season between Ordinary Time and Christmas. We call it the season of Advent. Advent is a time of a two-fold waiting – Waiting for the coming of Jesus for the first time at Christmas and waiting for the coming of Jesus at the End of Time. The season of Advent leads to the season of Christmas when we welcome our Saviour Jesus Christ.

But wait a minute – much before that we celebrate our parish feast on the 8th of December with the novenas beginning on the 29th of November. The focus of these novenas is the relationships with the families and communities. Relationships play a very important role in the life of a human person and it is through them that he experiences happiness.

Among the many happenings in the parish, this year is the emergence of the Parish Youth Council (PYC) and the Neighborhood Youth Groups (NYG). The NYG's are seen organizing many programs in their local communities and the PYC organizing events at the parish level. The Parents Day, Conducting Rosaries, Visit of Mother Mary in Communities and the Children's Day are examples of some NYG events. The PYC has, on the other hand, organized Parents Day, Monsoon Madness, Winter Club and now the two days Games Fiesta on 30/11 and 1/12 and also Family Day on 8/12.

The Small Christian Communities through the various programs they organize keep the people together and the core group meetings held every month continue to sustain our people with reflections and the word of God. On the spiritual front Fr. Ashlyn Chand's visit every month to our parish has given many an experience of God's healing touch. We would be introducing Bible Study classes very soon to give our people the experience of God's Word.

As we celebrate our parish feast at the beginning of December and Christmas later in the month let us celebrate life itself and the gift of life Jesus gave us through His coming.

- Fr. Savio D'Souza

Christmas

Peace and Joy day in and day out all through the year.



Jesus - gift wrapped for life



*Merry
Christmas*



The Challenge of Christmas

We are in the season of Advent and the challenge that is placed before us is to ask ourselves "How are we preparing for 'the Coming of Christ'?" Am I able to balance my spirituality and the Materialism that is prevalent around me today?

Unfortunately, today materialism has overtaken spirituality, and for many of us, Christmas has taken a different turn. It has become commercial and business-oriented. Sometimes, expensive gifts are exchanged, and at times, there is a display or show of wealth. To some, it may mean a lot of exterior preparations like painting the house, decorating it with lights, preparing sweets, going shopping for clothes, planning for the Christmas dance or party and setting up the Christmas tree but, sadly all this, takes us away from the main focus, and that is "the preparation for the coming of Jesus in our hearts."

At Christmas, Jesus truly comes anew, to visit our hearts, our homes, and the earth. Can we become living manglers, that must be carefully prepared for his coming, perhaps by first making a good confession and then making a firm decision to mend our old sinful ways. The greatest gift we can give our family members and our neighbours and friends is by "being another Jesus" to them in the way we relate and behave with them in our everyday life.

Surely, money cannot buy Jesus when we go on our shopping spree. We must first possess Him in our hearts, only then will our actions be witness to him, present in our hearts; only then can we be 'Sharing and Caring' and above all 'Being with the Ones who need us the most'. Christmas is not about "Getting" - the challenge is "all about giving". It is about thinking of others who are not as fortunate as we are and see how we can reach out to them. We all know that Christmas is a festival of Joy, Love and Peace. It is a festival when we all come close to each other. It is a festival when the baby Jesus, challenges us to bring Peace and Joy to all around us, not only by singing carols like 'Joy to the world' but by us, making up our minds to put away petty differences, anger, hatred, jealousy, resentment and by being prepared to forgive and love one another as Jesus did, thus living a life of peace and harmony, when people of other faiths can say, 'See how they love one another'.

The true spirit of Christmas and the challenge of Christmas comes when I am prepared to give of my time for someone who needs me to be at his or her sickbed or to do some errands for an old neighbour when I am prepared to use my talent for the good of the community. Thus bringing love, joy and peace around me. The greatest gift I can give this hurting world is our love and our concern.

Scripture tells us that the Magi left their home and followed the star in search of the Messiah. The shepherds left their flock and went to the stable where Jesus was born. The angel left heaven and came down to earth to go to Bethlehem. The challenge for us is to do likewise. Beyond all the glitter and glamour of Christmas, these days, there is a challenge and an invitation for us 'to open our hearts to the saviour to make up



our minds to end the darkness that surrounds us, for Jesus says “Put your trust in the light, while there is still time, then you will become children of the light, I have come as a light to shine, in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me, will no longer remain in the dark.” (Jn 12:36-46)

The way out of our spiritual lethargy is to walk in the light with Him. When we walk in the light with Him, we will not stumble in the dark, and never fail to thank him for his everlasting love and mercy.

Finally, some food for thought for the new year,
 The old year is soon fading into the past,
 the new year is going to soon ring in;
 old opportunities are gone and done,
 and new realms of service begin.

Let us not regret about things left undone
 but turn to new tasks and live life to the fullest.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a peace-filled New Year.
 God bless you

- Mrs Lorna D’Souza

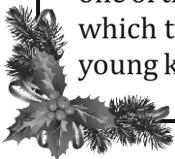


Christus Vivit (Christ is alive) – Part 2

The last edition of the Bulletin focused on the first five chapters of Christus Vivit by Pope Francis. This Apostolic Exhortation to all Christian people is meant to remind us of certain convictions born of our faith and at the same time to encourage us to grow in holiness and in commitment to our personal vocation. I am continuing to give in a nutshell some of the thoughts and views put forward by Pope Francis in the remaining of the document Christus Vivit which is written in a simple language and in which the Pope has drawn attention to various issues in a practical manner.

Today's ethos values instantaneity, appearance, superficiality and makes young people vulnerable to manipulation and exploitation. We witness a false cult of youth that attempts to promote a spirituality without God. The Pope appeals to the young people not to be taken in by this ideology but directs them to a path that nourishes and cares for culture and history. He proposes a way born of freedom, enthusiasm, creativity and new horizons while at the same time cultivating the roots that nourish and sustain us (184).

Roots are a fixed point from which young people can grow and meet new challenges. The Church needs to make a commitment to accompanying young people to discover the most precious features of their identity. The Synod spoke about helping young people discover the richness of the past and treasure it for use in their choices and opportunities for growth and decision-making. The Pople shares an inspiring image of one of the young auditors from the Samoan Islands who spoke of the Church as a canoe in which the elderly help to keep on course by judging the position of the stars, while the young keep rowing, imagining what waits for them ahead. When young and old alike are





open to the Holy Spirit, they make a wonderful combination

The Synod has clearly highlighted that synodality is the key to the evangelization of young people. Young people are themselves the agents of youth ministry which is concerned with helping young people to use their insight, ingenuity and knowledge to address the issues and concerns of other youth in their own language. Youth ministry needs to become more flexible - providing an opportunity for learning, conversing, celebrating, singing, listening to real stories and experiencing a shared encounter with the living God. Youth ministry has to be synodal involving a “journeying together” - valuing “the charisms that the Spirit bestows”.

The Pope emphasizes that youth ministry involves two main courses of action – Outreach and Growth. Outreach can be done through organizing events, sports competitions, evangelization using social media, text messages, songs, videos and other ways. Growth often involves a series of “formation” meetings featuring talks about doctrinal and moral issues. Rather than communicating a great deal of doctrine that the youth get bored with, a focus on the great experiences that sustain Christian life would be helpful. The path of growth has two goals – one is the development of kerygma, the foundational experience of an encounter with God through Jesus’ death and resurrection and the other is fraternal love, community life and service. This can be achieved through testimonies, songs, moments of adoration, times of spiritual reflection on the sacred Scriptures and even the use of social networks.

Schools are a platform for drawing close to children and young people. Catholic schools are essential places for evangelization of the young which include a fresh experience of the kerygma, dialogue, disciplinary approaches, a promotion of a culture of encounter, creating networks and options to serve those whom the society discards along with the ability to integrate the knowledge of head, heart and hands.

Many young people have come to appreciate silence and closeness to God. Young Catholics are asking for prayer opportunities and sacramental celebrations that are practical and capable of speaking to their daily lives through a fresh, authentic and joyful liturgy. Music is particularly important and equally significant is sports and Nature too holds a special attraction for many young people who recognize our need to care for the environment. The Word, the Eucharist, the sacrament of Reconciliation, the witness of the saints and the inexhaustible spiritual riches too help young people grow.

A well planned ordinary parish youth ministry must also make room for a “popular” youth ministry, with a different style, schedule, pace and method that is broader and more practical. Popular leaders are the need of the hour. They are able to make everyone including the poor, the vulnerable, the wounded and the hurt a part of the forward march of youth. Young people need to be accompanied. The Synod recognized the need to train consecrated persons and lay people, male and female, to accompany young people. A mentor should nurture the seeds of faith in young people. This role is not only for priests and consecrated life but the laity needs to be empowered to take on such a role. All mentors should benefit from being well-formed, and engage in ongoing formation.

(continued on pg. 12)

Christmas For Me

Christmas is the best time of the year. The atmosphere, people's behaviour automatically change. It looks like Jesus Christ has a magic wand with which he spreads love, happiness, the feeling of forgiving others and coming together as one. There are lovely decorative Christmas trees, houses are lit up, cribs are made for baby Jesus in people's houses, communities and churches listening to carols also brighten us up. There is joy everywhere. I wish it was Christmas every time of the year because this feeling that comes with the season is completely different. Just keep LOVING CHRIST MAXIMUM.

- Armelle Misquitta - Std VII



The True Spirit Of Christmas

Most of us get excited when December and Christmas arrive as many of us think of a vacation, decorating the house and Christmas tree, making Christmas sweets, attending midnight mass, singing Christmas carols, visiting relatives or grandparents and of course Santa Claus' visits on Christmas Eve and many more exciting things. Almost everyone looks forward to Christmas for these reasons. But we must also not forget the true spirit of Christmas.

Christmas is a joyful and happy celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It involves us spending time, sharing, and caring for loved ones, friends and family especially the old and the weak. When we do this Baby Jesus will come and dwell in our homes and hearts and fill us with his hope, love and peace. Have a Merry Christmas!

- Lisa D'souza - Std V



Christmas- The Time Of Giving & Sharing

Christmas reminds us of the importance of giving and sharing with friends and family. Christmas shows the importance of Joy and Happiness. Through Christmas, we know that Jesus' birth is the beginning of great things in the world. It is also an opportunity to correct the actions we aren't proud of in our lives. It is generally an opportunity to think about the reason for our existence.

- Gavin Pereira - Std VII



The Message of Christmas

This is the season to wish one another Joy, Love and Peace. Christmas has always brought me much happiness and many beautiful memories that I'll always remember for a lifetime. I'll always remember my mom telling me "It's not the gift that you'll remember, but the things you do for the people around you." She is so right. Christmas is a holy celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ and God's great love for us. It's the Divinity of birth, the Spirit of Love, Joy and Hope. And so these are my wishes for you, MERRY CHRISTMAS dear friends. May you feel the love of this special day!

- Anezka Mendonca - Std VII

Christmas

As Christmas is only a month away, the thought of gifts, clothes, sweets and cakes always make their way. As Christmas surrounds us and carols fill the air, it makes our hands busy with many tasks.



Tinsels, stars or Santa masks, what would look nicer is the question asked? But there is more to Christmas. More than candle-light and chocolate bars. It's more than just singing carols and playing guitars.

Neither is it about making cribs and hanging stars nor is it more than buying presents for people near and far.



Christmas is being the candle and lighting another's life. It's about keeping the spiritual virtues alive. Christmas is not about decorating every house and mart; it's not about the expensive gifts and wrapping that makes a present the best - a phone, a remote control car as a present or maybe a doll too. The greatest present of them all is filling our thoughts with those who care and giving them all that we can share. Christmas is the day our saviour was born. Jesus came to save all sinners and redeem us. We celebrate each

Christmas to show Him that He is LOVED and ADORED.

- Elstina Pereira - Std IX



**“Peace on Earth will come to stay when
we LIVE Christmas every day”**

Christmas is here or as we like to call it 'the most wonderful time of the year'. To help you get in the spirit, Christmas is the season of gift-giving and of families uniting. The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing carols aloud for everyone to hear and get everyone excited for December 25th. Christmas gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the important things around us. It is not how much we give but how much love we put into giving. Let us keep Christmas beautiful without a thought of greed. Christmas will always be, as long as we stand heart to heart and hand to hand. It is and will always be the most wonderful time of the year.



- Nevan Misquitta - Std VII

Give life through death.

If I had a rupee for every time a person said I look like Jesus, I would be able to bring joy to many lives. To live like him is something we would all like to do and we all know that it is a very difficult task, but dying as he did is a possibility. We are well versed with the life of Christ, however, we often fail to grasp the rich theological and practical depth of his death. Very often people think that a shroud burial is a custom borrowed from another faith. However, in the Gospel according to St. John 19:38-42, we read about the burial of Jesus after he was taken down from the cross. He was wrapped in a simple cloth, called a shroud made of natural fibre, and then buried.

So if Jesus himself was buried in a simple shroud, where did the concept of coffins come from? Being buried in a coffin is a Western concept that entered India. It has nothing to do with the Indian ethos. In the light of Pope Francis' encyclical letter "Laudato Si'" in 2015, our Archdiocese of Bombay taking the initiative to 'Go Green' and the need of the hour to control climate change, the concept of shroud burial is the need of the hour. We do not need to look far for examples of Dioceses that have embraced shroud burials. Our neighbouring Diocese of Vasai has taken up this custom nearly a decade ago. Close to 100% of the burials in Vasai are shroud burials today. In the recent past, shroud burials have been opted for by most of the parishioners of St. Blaise, Amboli as well.

Our parish cemetery has 452 graves out of which 17 are for children, 200 are permanent and 235 are temporary. Over the last 2 years, we have had 109 burials in our cemetery. With the rising cost of coffins and the long-time bodies take to decompose (3 years), coffins shouldn't be used for burial. In a shroud burial, the body is wrapped in a cloth and then buried in the grave. This has its advantages, namely: the example of Jesus is followed even in death, the body decomposes faster (2 years), the ecosystem is saved and it is extremely economical. In our parish, we also have an elegant common coffin which is made available for funerals, giving dignity to the body. The body is wrapped in a white sheet and then lowered in the grave and buried. The coffin is thoroughly cleaned afterwards and used when required.

The tradition of placing flowers, wreaths, etc. is good, however, the money used to buy the same could be donated to the family of the deceased or used for a worthy cause like helping an NGO, a poor widow, sponsoring a child's education, and other creative ways of giving life to someone else. It is also a beautiful way to honour your loved one and to further express your care for God's creation.

Catholics opting for shroud burials show a progressive understanding of the faith in the face of ecological demands while still staying true to tradition. This Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Christ, let us think about giving life to others when we pass on from this one. For any further information about shroud burials, kindly contact any of the priests in our parish.

- Fr. Omar Fernandes



Set Ablaze

The b'on'fire program scheduled was held on the 3rd of November at 9 am at Dadar. Our parish was represented by three youth and two animators from the PYC. We had no idea about what the program was going to be like or what the outcome would be from this initiative by the diocese. The name itself implies that the youth must get set ablaze by growing in faith and getting a new understanding of how dynamic one's spiritual life should be to enter God's kingdom. The program started with a mass, Cardinal Oswald Gracious was the main celebrant along with Bishop Barthol and many priests and Deacon Ivan. We were around 350-400 youth and we felt a spark just when Cardinal Oswald gave a motivating and inspiring homily saying 'you are the future, the light, the power that can change the world and go closer to God by doing his will'. After the mass, he officially opened the bonfire program. We had youth coming from different places beyond our city parishes- from Thane, Alibaug, and Panvel. They came to warriors of God and spread his message out into their parishes. The initiative of this program was to reach out, motivate, inspire and set the youth on fire. So we were

divided into groups based on geographic areas of our archdiocese. There were amazing action songs and praise and worship sessions carried out by the DYC who worked very hard to make this event possible. According to the motive of this program the groups were asked to collect various kinds of inputs, negative as well as positive in the form of suggestions and questions raised by youth from different parishes where we were allowed to open up our views which were not disclosed by the archdiocese. We got to interact with different people with different ideas. Different topics came up highlighting the PYC, SCC and many more associations. We were asked to open up and ask relevant questions or give our suggestions and a priest on stage would help us in collating everything. Coming to the climax of the program there were different action songs played to charge us up which was very energizing. At the end of the day, we got to learn a lot, we listened and we set ourselves a different goal to draw ourselves closer to God. We are convicted to implement our young ideas and never hinder from speaking out.

- Mr. Brice D'Souza



Recollected and Focused

The seed of faith could take root at 5 years, or 15 or even 50. One experiences faith when one experiences God in one's life and faith begins at the End of our comfort zone. Trust me, it changes one's entire outlook on life. Faith is not limited to four walls but is in every aspect of God's creation.

Our confirmation group trip to "SAJAN NATURE CLUB", held on 27th-28th October, changed our conception towards life, thanks to the sessions conducted on "The Ten Commandments" by our animators and the priest in charge. They showed us the right path and clarified our doubts. These sessions gave us clarity, built our conscience, helped us to differentiate between good and bad, right and wrong; taught us to be truthful, just, staying committed and true to our promises. We learned how not to discriminate but to grow as responsible individuals and also to accept everyone for who they are.



Through the morning prayer conducted we also realized how beautiful and vast God's creation is and how much detail and effort He has put in so that we have a beautiful earthly life.

The trip didn't only strengthen our faith but also helped us build bonds with each other. The recollection didn't remain within the classroom but also engaged us in outdoor activities such as the "BURMA BRIDGE" and "ROPE CLIMBING". We learned to stay still and strong even though we had difficulties, just like the Burma bridge and the ropeway. Even though people walked on it, the wind tried to shake it, it still served it's purpose and did what it was created to do. After the sessions and activities, we had the Holy Eucharist celebrated and the bonfire that followed was the icing on the cake; we sang, we danced and we also got to know our hidden talents. We honestly cannot forget the fun we had, the memories we created and the knowledge we gained. This was definitely one of the best trips we have ever gone for.

And this would have been impossible without the hard efforts of all our animators, along with Frs. Savio and Omar. In the end, I would say 'Faith isn't limited to four walls but it is present in everything he created.

- Ms. Leandra Felicia Misquitta & Ms. Fionn Pereira



The Parish Winter Club

The winter club was organized by the NYG's of our Parish. As the children had their holidays, the Church decided to organize a Winter Club this year. The entry fee was minimal. There were 40 plus children. The programme would begin at 9:30 am at the primary quadrangle. On the first day, all the children were introduced to each other and we played games. At 11 o'clock we would have a 15 to 20 minute break. The same schedule continued on the remaining days. 4 days before the winter club could end we were given a handful of games like football, cricket, badminton and a lot more. On the last day, we had a treasure hunt which was very exciting. On the day after that, we had a party; not an ordinary party, but a 'Halloween themed party'. We were very thrilled and all the children and youth were dressed up in Halloween costumes. Some of them had painted their faces to look scarier. We truly had a blast and all thanks go to Fr. Omar and the N.Y.G.s for helping us make the most of our free time. They made us laugh so many times with their jokes and we made so many new friends. I really feel the winter club was electrifying.

- Fraxier Martins - Std VII



Childrens Day

"Children are the best creation of God, they bring joy in every season". Children's Day - A day to look back on your memories of childhood. A day that reminds you of the child in you. Children's Day is a big day to which most of the children in our community look forward to. Apart from being marked a holiday on the calendar it also gives the children the privilege to refrain from all activities related to studies. Being an observer for years and now a participant of this day I have only seen the excitement increasing.





The celebration starts with a colouring competition for different age groups of children, which is an excellent medium of expression. Watching them colour, sharing colours, trying to help each other, each still working hard on their own Canvas shows interest and sense of bonding among them.

The colouring competition is followed by telegames. Through dressing mascots, creating jingles, obstacle races, Treasure Hunt all very creatively thought of by the animators, so the children not only have fun but also develop their social skills, coordination, concentration, creativity and more about teamwork. The winning team is presented with presents to mark the achievement. Presents are also given to all for their participation.

Looking at the happy faces of with joy and excitement makes this a very fulfilling event. The happy day comes to an end with a smile on their faces yet a longing for the next. This gives a sense of satisfaction and overall gratefulness to have such beautiful angels to cherish and to love.

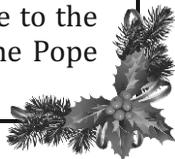
- Mrs. Rochelle Gonsalves



Christus Vivit (Christ is alive) – Part 2 (Continued from page 6) A punch word for youth is vocation. It is understood in a broad sense as a calling from God, including the call to life, the call to friendship with Him, the call to holiness, and so forth” (248). Every existence is a vocation. The salvation that God offers us is an invitation to be part of a love story interwoven with our personal stories. God's call to friendship with Christ where the Lord calls us to share in his work of creation and contribute to the common good by using the gifts we have received. In discerning vocation, the Pope requests young people to not dismiss the possibility of devoting themselves to God in the priesthood, the religious life or other forms of consecration. He also urges us to reflect, pray, be aware of the world around, and then with Jesus come to recognize your vocation in this world.

Young people intensely feel the call to love; they dream of meeting the right person with whom they can form a family and build a life together. Through marriage, the young couple goes forward with assurance, they have nothing to fear and can face everything together. God created us as sexual beings and sexuality is a gift from God for two purposes to love and generate life. Many young people say that marriage is out of fashion and a culture of relativism and ephemeral prevails. The Pope is asking young people to be revolutionaries – to swim against the tide by believing in true love and opting for marriage.

Young adulthood often signals a person's entrance into the world of work. The Pope asks young people not to expect to live without working, depending on others for help. A punch word for youth is vocation. It is understood in a broad sense as a calling from God, including the call to life, the call to friendship with Him, the call to holiness, and so forth” (248). Every existence is a vocation. The salvation that God offers us is an invitation to be part of a love story interwoven with our personal stories. God's call to friendship with Christ where the Lord calls us to share in his work of creation and contribute to the common good by using the gifts we have received. In discerning vocation, the Pope





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The Synod focused on the importance of discernment which involves reason and prudence. It also involves the formation of conscience. Through an examination of our conscience, we not only identify our weaknesses but recognize the hand of God in our daily lives. A particular form of discernment involves the effort to discover our vocation which requires a degree of solitude and silence. This enables us to perceive God's language and to perceive our existence in His light. Prayerful discernment has to be born of an openness to listening to the Lord and to others. The gifts and charisms are not for us but to share with those around us. To discern our personal vocation, we need to realize that it is a calling from a friend, who is Jesus. The Pope rightly emphasizes on the ability to listen which involves three distinct kinds of sensitivity i.e. sensitivity directed to the individual, sensitivity marked by discernment and sensitivity as an ability to perceive what is driving the other person.

The Pope says because time is greater than space we need to encourage and accompany our youth without imposing our own roadmaps. There are no easy recipes and each one needs to discover the hidden values which await liberation and restoration to its full truth.

The Pope concludes wishing to see young people running the race attracted by the face of Christ, whom we love and adore in the Holy Eucharist and in the flesh of our suffering brothers and sisters. He adds that the church needs momentum, intuitions and faith of the young people. Mary is a model for us who confronted her own questions and difficulties and we ask her to accompany us with her prayer and maternal presence.

Christus Vivit is daring us to 'make a ruckus' – whether you read it as a young person or someone who once was, you will find enormous insight and wisdom. Today lip service to the young is not enough, we need to act with urgency. The challenge is to be bold in engaging what is proposed in the document and be willing to respond. That is a sure way to emphasize through our words and deeds Christus Vivit 'Christ is alive'!

- Ms. Charmaine Moraes



On the occasion of their 25th Silver Jubilee, the Konkani Prayer Group had a 3 day retreat from 11th to 13th October 2019. The Praise and Worship, Adoration and preaching of the Word of God was conducted by Fr. Prem Prakash, a Redemptorist Priest and Br. Prakash D'souza. The Praise and Worship was conducted by Mr. Henry D'souza with lovely music and singing. Members from seven parishes attended the retreat. We thank Fr. Prem for the inspiring talk on love, forgiveness, family, marriage and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Members of the prayer group contributed generously for the retreat. We thank Fr. Savio for his co-operation in giving us permission to conduct the retreat and hope for the same support in the future.

- Mrs Gretta Anchan



SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS

The following are the parish plans for Christmas

DATE	PARTICULARS
17/18 DEC	Confessions in our parish from 5.30 pm to 9.00 pm. Priests from outside the parish will also be invited.
17/18 DEC	Confessions for the sick and homebound. The parish fathers will visit the communities from 9.00 am onwards.
22nd DEC	Star making competition for NYG's / SCC's. Last date for submitting your stars to the parish is 21st December 2019.
24th DEC	Carol Singing begins at 10.00pm and Vigil mass for Christmas begins at 10.30pm. Masses in the morning on 25th December as usual - 6.30 am (K) 7.30 am(M) 8.45 am(E) and 10.00 am (E). No evening mass
31st DEC	Thanksgiving service begins at 10.00pm followed by Vigil mass for the New Year at 10.30 pm. Masses in the morning on 1st January 2020 as usual - 6.30 am(K) 7.30 am (M) 8.45 am (E) and 10.00 am (E). No evening mass



Winter Club



Christ the King



Confirmation Retreat



Men's Sodality at Taloja

Senior Citizen get-together



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Wing "C"
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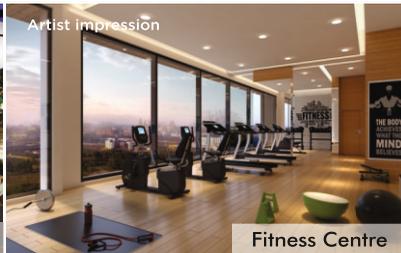
Rooftop Garden

Artist impression



Rooftop Swimming Pool

Artist impression



Fitness Centre

Artist impression



Party Deck

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Published by: The Parish Priest for St. Francis Xavier's Church, Vile Parle.

Editorial Team: Fr. Ralph Fernandes, Lorna D'Souza, Charmaine Moraes, Cyprian Almeida, Janice D'Souza,
and Napoleon D'Souza (Art Designer) Printed by: Savio Gonsalves of Bibiana Printers