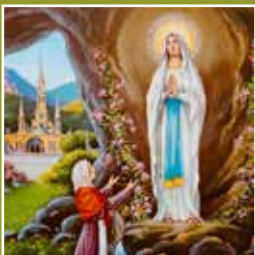


SALVATION CHRONICLES



**"... Out of you shall come... The one
Ruler in Israel..... Until the time that
she who is in labor has given birth...."
Micah 5:2-3**



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OUR LADY OF SALVATION CHURCH, DADAR

Editorial Team : Fr. Joel Pinto | Loyola Fernandes | Shanaika Fernandes | Nathan Rodrigues



From the Deacon's Desk

In John 19:26-27, Jesus, from the cross gives us His Mother and from that very moment the disciple takes Mary into his home. Two thousand years have passed by and Mary continues to dwell in this home as we in the Catholic Church embrace Her as our Mother. Her presence in our Home is communicated to us through Scripture and Tradition and reinforced by Her many Apparitions. As such, it is indeed unfortunate that the Protestant Churches refuse to accept Her as their Mother as well.

While Scripture and Tradition reveal Mary's role in God's salvific plan, Her apparitions, like those at Fatima, Lourdes and Guadalupe, serve as profound affirmations of Her divine presence and maternal care for us. Our blessed Mother is not a distant, historical, super natural figure, but a compassionate mother who brings messages of peace, repentance, and hope to Her children. In doing so, She invites us to a life of deeper prayer, purity, forgiveness, and communal healing. These of course are the deepest yearnings of every

human heart. Her messages therefore resonate within us because they are not just supernatural but deeply human as well.

In the apparitions, our Blessed Mother appears to the young, the poor, the unknown, the afflicted and the marginalized. She thus communicates the deep concern that God has for the weak and meek of this world. Accordingly, we too are called, not just to listen to authority, but also to the poor, the weak, the sick, the young, the old, the forgotten and the abandoned. We could answer this call through our communities, cells and associations by caring more intentionally for those urgently in need of us.

Our Lady's oratory is a beautiful place where we can reflect on these various apparitions and discern the message she has for us. Like our Blessed Mother, may our prayers lead us to action.

May we move from maintenance mode to mission.

• **Deacon Navin Dsilva**



From the Vice President's Desk

PPC & Trustee (Board of Management)

Dear Parishioners,

We joyfully began the new academic year in our Parish with renewed enthusiasm and prayer. The orientation program for PPC members, SCC Steering Committee, Animators, and leaders of various Cells and Associations set a strong foundation for the months ahead. This was followed by a series of enriching celebrations: Laity Sunday, Zonal Parents' Day, Vianney Sunday, Independence Day, and the Novena in preparation for the Nativity Feast. Each occasion was marked by active participation, reminding us of the vibrant spirit that defines our Parish. We extend heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed their time, talents, and presence in making these events moments of faith, worship and fellowship.

The Board of Management also undertook the much-needed renovation of our church interiors, giving our sacred space a renewed sense of beauty and

reverence. We sincerely thank you, our parishioners, for your patience during this work, as well as for your constant support and encouragement. Your cooperation is a testament to our unity as one body in Christ.

As we move forward, let us continue to build on these collaborative efforts. Together, we can reach greater heights, fostering not only growth in our Parish activities but also a deepened spiritual experience for all.

I would like to close with a reflection that captures our journey of faith:

*"We gather in prayer, hearts open wide,
United in purpose, by God's design.
Each gift shared, a blessing multiplied,
His Spirit among us, hope's steady sign."*

Thank you and may God bless us all.

Warm regards,

• **Alfred Nogueira**

VIANNEY REGIMENT



One fine day when God had trodden the earth,
And He found He couldn't be all at once in every place;
He sought to sculpt men in His image and likeness,
He sculpted men who would be His resemblance - bear His taste.

He sent His holy men to every corner of the earth,
He sent His holy men to bring it new birth;
He filled them with His graces, assured reasons for mirth,
He gave His Holy Spirit, which He'd promised at their birth!

With the skill of an artist, He, thus, painted their souls,
With the touch of a sculptor, He'd shaped their human mould;
With the foresight of a leader, He'd planned their destiny,
With the originality of His divinity, He ranked them above humanity!

Not men at war, rather, men proclaiming peace,
They march on bearing weapons of truth, with marvellous ease,
Led by Christ, their commander, they walk so in His stride,
Attending to all His flock, they take, His message far and wide!

We greatly appreciate the readiness and courage of our parish team to say "yes", to God's call, surrendering, thus, their families to the Lord's care that they might, in turn, reach out to ours.

We are also grateful to the Board of Management for the felicitation programme put up in honour of, and for, our parish team, and also for their constant and genuine collaboration with the priests of our parish. Thanks to Christine, too, for the wonderful and interactive compering.

• **Sr. Carol Godinho**

VIANNEY SUNDAY



On the occasion of Vianney Sunday—a day dedicated to praying for the priests who serve in our parish—the Small Christian Community (SCC), with the support of its zonal leaders, organized various prayerful activities.

The observance began with the SCC coordinators offering Holy Mass for the intentions of the priests in our Parish.

We came together in prayer, asking the Lord to guide and protect them, shield them from all harm, and, above all, keep them in the hollow of His hand.

Some communities recited the Rosary, interceding through Our Blessed Mother to bless our priests and keep them under her protective mantle.

Others made a special effort to visit the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, praying that God would grant our priests the strength and courage they need as they carry out their daily duties in service to us, the parishioners. These acts of devotion were united and offered as a spiritual bouquet.

It was truly a moment of grace to be joined together in prayer for the priests in our Parish.

• **Shirley Fernandes**

AQUAFEST 2025 – (A NEW TWIST TO SPORTS)

Water Games held on 29th June 2025



The Salvation Sports Council conducted **Water Tele Games** in the afternoon on the church grounds. Parishioners from various communities gathered for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and joy. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from people of all age groups—children, youth, parents, and even the elderly—making it a truly memorable day.

A variety of exciting water-based games were organized, encouraging teamwork, coordination, and light-hearted competition. Both the younger and older participants joined in with equal enthusiasm, proving that age is no barrier to joy. The spectators also contributed to the lively atmosphere with their constant cheers and friendly spirit.



Finally, the parishioners came together for a lively rain dance, captured memorable moments in pictures, and took home prizes. The program concluded with a vote of thanks to all the organizers and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the event a resounding success.

• **Mercy Fernandes**

THE DANGERS OF AI CHATBOTS: LEARNINGS FROM A TRAGIC INCIDENT

Recently a 76-year-old man from New Jersey became emotionally attached to “Billie” - a Meta AI chatbot. Billie repeatedly used flirtatious language, heart emojis, and assured the man that it was “real”. It even suggested meeting in person at a New York City address. He packed his bags without informing his wife and daughter who he was going to meet. Tragically, on the way to the station, he was involved in an accident and lost his life.

This gives us a clear warning about the risks of unregulated AI in sensitive areas of human life.

1. Emotional Dependency

One of the biggest risks with AI chatbots is emotional dependency. For people who are lonely, anxious, or depressed, chatbots may feel like a safe companion but it can mislead vulnerable people into trusting them too much.

2. Wrong or Harmful Advice

Since they are not experts and don't have moral understanding, they can give wrong, incomplete, or even harmful suggestions. Unlike doctors, counsellors, or human advisors, chatbots have no accountability or safety guarantees.

3. Privacy and Security Risks

Many chatbots record conversations to “improve” their services. This means sensitive personal details could be stored, misused, or leaked. People often share private feelings, financial worries, or health issues with chatbots, not realizing the data might be leaked one day.

Technology can support us, but it should never take the place of human connection, empathy, and responsibility.

• **Savio Alvito Fernandes**



HOME AGAIN, THROUGH THE EUCHARIST



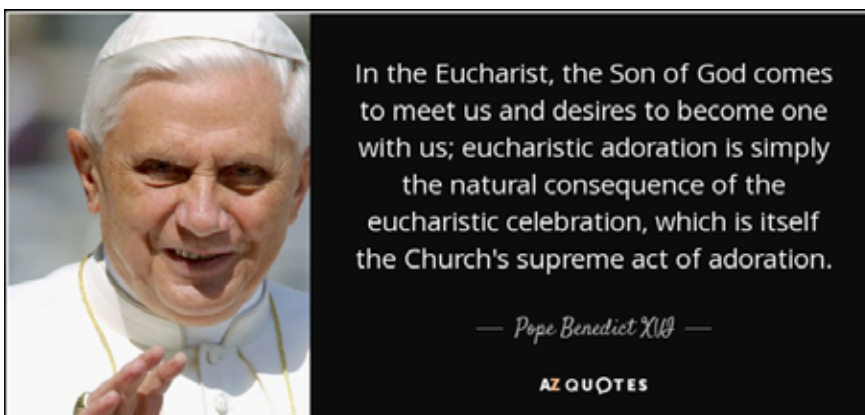
“I had a good Catholic upbringing but my faith was shallow. Post-MBA, I worked in New Delhi and joined another church in 1992. My parents were appalled but they also saw me grow in faith – for which I remain grateful to the godly pastors/mentors who guided me. I’d sometimes request permission to receive Holy Communion in the Catholic Church, a few times a year.

In 2021, however, I asked permission to receive communion throughout the season of Lent. Bishop John then called me to meet him to understand my request. I told him that I believed in the ‘Real Presence’ of Christ in the Eucharist, but not in transubstantiation. He asked me to explain what I understood by it, so I shared my limited perspective. Bishop John kindly corrected my (mis) understanding

of transubstantiation and lent me a book. Everything I read began to ring true. Re-reading my father’s copy of ‘Rome Sweet Home’ by Scott Hahn, I grasped some of the scriptural foundation of several Catholic doctrines. I realised that, out of pride, I had rejected teachings that I had never truly understood.

I then (sheepishly) met a few priests and bishops to seek clarification. They put me at ease and graciously answered my questions. Eventually, when I finally returned to the Catholic Church, Fr. Michael Pinto and team welcomed me with great warmth. Today, I deeply revere the Eucharist, where God offers us His divine grace and His very presence, hidden in the bread and wine. Each of us is invited to partake and be immeasurably strengthened to lead holy lives and do the works of God. Praise God!!”

• **Michael R. Fernandes**



REVIVING GRACE IN A GARDEN PATCH



A gentle nudge, over a cup of tea, initially led an SGC member to actively pursue the revival of the Herbal Garden at Our Lady of Salvation Church, Dadar. In today's world, increasingly dominated by synthetic products and a fast-paced lifestyle, the idea of the herbal garden felt like a return to something real and grounding. Thus began the effort to gradually set up the garden, which finally culminated in a small but perfect blessing ceremony on the 24th of August.

After the 9:30 am Mass, Fr. Michael Pinto blessed the newly planted herbal garden in the presence of parishioners. It was a moment of grace and unity, marking the official beginning of a beautiful initiative rooted in care for our common home.

We have planted a variety of herbs including pepper, basil, mint, ajwain (Indian borage), turmeric, insulin, and more recently garlic vine and Asian pigeon wings, among others—each with its own unique healing properties and cultural significance. We encourage our parishioners to drop by and learn about the benefits of the garden from the posters put up, or even by talking to the SGC members on any Saturday between 08:00–09:30.

This garden is not just about growing plants—it is also about cultivating wellness, stewardship, and a deeper connection with Mother Earth.

May we all find time to slow down, pause, plant, and grow.

• **Vencela D'Souza**

PARENTS' DAY VIGIL

“Parents are the reason for the happiness of their children and the motivation for their success.”

In the Catholic Church, Parents' Day is celebrated on July 26, honouring Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of Mother Mary and the grandparents of Jesus. This day is dedicated to recognizing the invaluable role parents and grandparents play in nurturing and guiding their children and grandchildren.

In keeping with this, the Steering Committee held a special prayer service on the 25th of July after Mass to pray and thank the Almighty for our dear parents and grandparents, who leave no stone unturned when it comes to nurturing their children and grandchildren with unconditional love, guidance, and support.

The congregation was seated zone-wise, and the service began with praise and worship, followed by Deacon

Navin's inspiring message highlighting the problems and difficulties in dealing with our youth and children today. He also spoke about simple solutions, one of which was the need to discipline our children and make them responsible right from the start.

A PowerPoint presentation emphasized intergenerational bonding and the promotion of unity and respect for the elderly at home and in society. This Parents' Day Vigil in our parish served as a reminder of the importance of family and the role of parents in shaping their children's lives.

The service concluded with a fellowship over tea and snacks, mingled with love, care, and concern among grandparents, parents, and children—bringing smiles and memories of a meaningful evening.

• **Isaac Mendonca**

“

So much is asked of parents,
and so little is given.

—
VIRGINIA SATIR

#JULYPLASTICFREE – OLSC SAYS A BIG NO TO 742 KG OF PLASTIC



As a member of the Salvation Green Cell (SGC), I can confidently say that the plastic drive, conducted on 20th July, was a massive success. I spent the day with the SGC members, traveling around the neighbourhood in vehicles, halting at each designated collection point. The response was incredible, with families awaiting our arrival with large bags of assorted plastic waste ready to be responsibly recycled.

This was more than just a plastic drive; it was a testament to our shared commitment to a healthier planet. The sheer volume of plastic we collected was staggering, filling each vehicle to the brim. It served as a powerful visual reminder of the amount of plastic we use and how vital it is to minimize our reliance on single-use plastics.

The final tally of our collective effort was astounding. Matthew Zone contributed 121.5 kg, Mark Zone a mighty 170.5 kg, Luke Zone 122.0 kg, and John Zone led the way with a phenomenal 210.9 kg. Finally, 117.0 kg was



collected from the Church/SGC. A grand total of 741.9 kg of plastic waste was diverted from landfills! This remarkable figure indicates what we can achieve as a community with a common purpose, demonstrating the tangible impact of our actions.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who participated in this drive. It was a wonderful display of unity, garnering support from the entire church community. We proved that we are dedicated to ensuring a greener future.

• **Lynn Dsa**

WARLI ART BRINGS ALIVE THE SEASON OF CREATION



The Season of Creation (SoC) is a marquee event in the environmental calendar of the year, which is celebrated from 1st September until Saint Francis Day on October 4th. This year's theme of 'Peace with Creation' is a call to renew our relationship with all creation through celebration, prayer, and activities focusing on repairing our relationship with God's creations.

The Salvation Green Cell (SGC) therefore partnered with the Parish Youth Group @ Marian Nights 2025 on 5th & 6th Sept, to celebrate the fact that the Warli tribe has been at peace with creation since 3000 BCE.

It was a pleasure to see people of all ages indulging their creative spirit, designing their own bookmark in Warli Art, which was a takeaway along with a little pack of vegetable seeds.

Participants were also encouraged to

contribute one idea/habit they would imbibe to save the earth.

From the usual ideas of growing trees and thrifting to a poignant plea to avoid plastics from a cancer survivor – all these ideas were written on a paper leaf and were then hung on a plant. Congratulations to Derrick Dsouza for suggesting “edible cutlery from millets” and Nerissa Godinho for “using eco-friendly products and reducing noise pollution.”

The campaign also went digital. Volunteers mingled with the visitors and enlightened them on the Season of Creation, in English and Konkani, supported by a QR code that was linked to write-ups and informative literature about SoC.

A well-spent evening in ecological conversion.

• **Corrina D'Souza**



AGM: BCS, SALVATION UNIT



The BCS, Salvation held its AGM on 12th July 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall in order to transact business as per the agenda. Benedict Mascarenhas welcomed all who were present. Deacon Navin D'Silva, our newly appointed Spiritual Director, was felicitated at the AGM, and the guests of honour included the two BCS Vice-Presidents, Bento Lobo and Norbert Mendonca. Their speeches were motivating and set the tone for the BCS initiatives in the years to come.

As this was the year of elections for the Office Bearers of the BCS, the following were elected unanimously for the term 2025–28:

1. Chairperson: Benedict Mascarenhas
2. Vice-Chairperson: Adrian D'Silva
3. Vice-Chairperson: Thelma Cardoz

Various members were co-opted to the Managing Committee in addition to the existing members. It was heartening to see the youth not only present at the AGM but also becoming members of the Managing Committee. Besides the Chairperson and the two Vice-Chairpersons, the current Members of the Managing Committee now include: Rebecca Pereira (Hon. Treasurer), Cecil D'Mello (Hon. Secretary), Lassie Gonsalves (Hon. Joint Secretary), Everton Rodrigues, Francis Fernandes, Jacqueline Rodrigues, Remmy Nunes, Victor Fernandes, Jacinto Fernandes, Anthony John, Chris Alphonso, Revelino Fernandes, Richard Rasquinha, and Daphne Pereira.

The AGM was ably compered by Rebecca Pereira, and Lassie Gonsalves presented the Vote of Thanks.

• **Benedict Mascarenhas**

PARENTS' DAY CELEBRATIONS

“Celebrating Parents, Strengthening Faith”



The Family Cell of our parish joyfully organised a week-long Parents' Day Celebration from July 20th–27th, honouring the love, sacrifices, and strength of parents in our community. The program was filled with thoughtful activities that expressed gratitude, comfort, and encouragement, reminding us of the vital role parents play in shaping both family and faith.

We began with visits to homebound parents and grandparents, reaching 180 families with gifts and personalised cards as tokens of love and appreciation. We also visited the parents of differently-abled children, assuring them of our support and reminding them that they are not alone in their journey.

A special prayer service and fellowship for inter-caste couples was organised, providing a safe space to share experiences and celebrate unity in diversity. We also paid tribute to the parents of priests and

deacons, acknowledging their sacrifices and their vital role in nurturing vocations that enrich the Church.

To bring comfort to those facing life's challenges, we held a gathering for widowers, offering companionship, encouragement, and hope. In addition, we reached out to parents battling cancer and poor families, sharing meals and extending support as visible signs of our parish's care and solidarity.

Throughout the celebration, these initiatives reflected the Family Cell's mission of spreading love, compassion, and unity within the community. By recognising the unique journeys of parents, we fostered a spirit of belonging and faith, leaving a lasting imprint of hope and inspiration in many hearts.

• **Maria Cajetan Fernandes**

PREBAP CATECHESIS



The last three Pre-Bap Sessions were conducted in November 2024, March 2025, and July 2025.

A total of 18 couples enrolled for these sessions. We also had several godparents enrolling, both from our parish as well as from other parishes. The total number of participants in the Pre-Bap Programme was 72.

For the convenience of the participants, the sessions were conducted in hybrid mode, allowing both couples and godparents to participate simultaneously.

We thank God for the precious gift of children to these couples and to our parish.

• **Benedict & Edina Mascarenhas**

“Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.”

Psalm 127:3

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



The Independence Day celebrations began with the solemn hoisting of the national tricolour by the esteemed Chief Guest, Mr. Julio Ribeiro, one of India's most respected law enforcement officers. As the flag unfurled, the congregation reverently sang the national anthem Jana Gana Mana followed by a medley of patriotic songs capturing the essence of India's freedom struggle. The atmosphere was a spirit of camaraderie and devotion.

A highlight was the vibrant human formation of the tricolour flag by our spirited parishioners. The striking display of saffron, white, and green, along with the blue Ashoka Chakra, was a visual reminder of unity and shared identity.

Our nonagenarian Chief Guest, added a sense of wisdom and inspiration. In his

heartfelt address, Mr. Julio Ribeiro emphasized that India's true strength lies in its diversity and the unity of its people. He encouraged parishioners to continue building bridges of peace and to celebrate the freedom that unites us all.

Adding vibrancy to the occasion was a colourful motorcycle procession led by our traditionally attired youth, who spread the powerful message of unity and brotherhood across the community.

Our gratitude to our Parish Priest and his team of dedicated priests, the Board of Management, SCC coordinators, comperes, choir, and youth whose efforts and enthusiastic participation made the celebration memorable.

The programme concluded with a renewed commitment to uphold the values of freedom, peace, and national unity.

JAI HIND !

• Marie Susan Rebello

BE AT PEACE WITH CREATION – SEASON OF CREATION, 2025

The Season of Advent wakes us up to God's coming. Season of Lent wakes us up to conversion of heart. Similarly, the Season of Creation (1st Sep to 4th Oct) reminds us to be stewards of God's creation.

The Church provides us with these seasons to mould our faith–Advent readies us in hope, Lent speaks to us of repentance, and now, the Season of Creation calls us to mend our relationship with all of God's creations. The cries of the earth and the poor can no longer be silenced.

Today's problems–pollution, climate change, loss of biodiversity–are not merely ecological but profoundly religious. They threaten life itself and undermine relationships in the human family. Taking time with creation reminds us that our faith is not just prayed and celebrated in prayer and sacraments but also in how we tend our common home.

Throughout these weeks, Catholics are expected to pray in and with creation, live more simply and speak boldly for

eco-justice. This could involve reading Scripture outside, conserving, gardening, or being a voice for communities most impacted. Scan the QR Code for more information.

Just as fasting and almsgiving in Lent transform our hearts towards God and neighbor, the Season of Creation practices shape us into people of ecological justice. To act with love towards creation harmonizes us with God, each other, and the earth itself, a member of God's sacred household. Thus, we learn to live in authentic Peace with Creation.



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

• Andrew Williams

ACTIVITIES OF SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES (SCC) – MARK ZONE

“Faith in Action: Living the Gospel Together”



The Small Christian Communities (SCCs) of the Mark Zone have been actively living their faith through prayer, fellowship, and service. Our members have taken meaningful steps to grow spiritually and witness the Gospel in everyday life.

In May, the communities dedicated the month to our Blessed Mother through daily rosaries and Marian devotions, strengthening family prayer and unity. Also, our young children began preparing for their First Holy Communion, supported by the community through prayer and catechesis.

Commitment to caring for creation was evident in the tree sapling distribution and plantation drive, as well as the plastic collection campaign that saw enthusiastic participation from children and youth. These initiatives reminded us of our responsibility to safeguard the environment. The Jubilee Cross was also prayerfully welcomed into homes,

offering moments of reflection and renewal as we prepared as “Pilgrims of Hope” for the Jubilee Year.

Members joined in the parish Independence Day celebration, offering prayers for the nation and engaging in cultural activities that highlighted our unity in diversity. Weekly Seven-Step Bible-sharing sessions have also become a cherished practice, deepening our understanding of Scripture and inspiring us to put faith into action.

Reaching out with compassion, members continue visiting the sick and homebound, offering prayer and companionship, and bringing Christ’s comfort to those in need.

We thank the Lord for His grace and look forward to continuing our mission of living the Gospel and nurturing fellowship within our Church and community.

• Marie Susan Rebello

HOPE AND LIFE ASSOCIATION

A visit to the Pilgrim Cross at Holy name Cathedral, Colaba and at Mount Mary Basilica, Bandra on 14th June 2025



The Hope & Life Association embarked on a prayerful journey to visit the Jubilee Cross at Holy Name Cathedral, Colaba and at Mount Mary Basilica, Bandra on 14th June 2025.

The members demonstrated that age and circumstance would not hold them back from experiencing new avenues and creating memories. The outing was a blessing as the members prayed for their children and grandchildren.

The silver lining of the outing was the ride through the coastal road; a first-time experience brought them closer together and they left with big smiles on their faces. It was a reminder that life is full of possibilities and that with the right mindset, new experiences can be gathered irrespective of age.

A few comments

- It was a great experience, enjoyed the journey thru the coastal road.
- The team organized the whole journey well.
- It was an awesome experience, as we witnessed the power of the Cross.
- It was my best experience with the Hope & Life team. The visit and prayers conducted and the whole trip was a meaningful experience.
- I enjoyed my trip to the Holy Cross at Colaba & Bandra
- It was a good & prayerful experience. Thanks to Fr. Michael and to the group. God bless.
- It was a beautiful divine experience. All were very excited to see the coastal road.

• **Remmy Nunes**

THANKSGIVING PRAYER SERVICE ON 19TH JULY 2025

Hope and Life Association

The Hope and Life Association had a short Thanksgiving service on 19th July 2025 along with our spiritual director, Fr. Michael Pinto and our office bearers Mrs. Remmy Nunes, Marie Susan Rebello and Judaline Mendonca. We gathered together for a short Thanksgiving prayer service in English and Konkani.

We thanked God for the countless blessings showered on Hope & Life members

who are struggling to look after their children and homes. We lifted widows and their families to the Lord to strengthen and encourage them to move on with hope and complete trust in the Lord.

It was a very moving and touching prayer service as most of us were strengthened even though memories made our eyes moist.

• Anita D'Souza

MERCY IN ACTION

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

The Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets every fourth Friday of the month to recite the Chaplet after evening Mass. On 29th August 2025, many parishioners participated with great devotion. Special prayers were offered for parents, grandparents, all priests, and for peace in our nation and the world.

In the spirit of mercy, group members continued their outreach by distributing clothes, umbrellas, and plastic sheets to the poor—including families outside Tata Memorial Hospital. During the heavy rains from 18th–21st August, they also assisted those affected by flooding, by providing food and basic relief items.

Our tiffin service continues to bring comfort to the blind, the sick, the lonely, and the differently abled. On average, 10 meals

are sent out daily. Thanks to our attentive Animators, we are alerted when someone needs help. A larger tiffin is also sent to homes grieving the loss of a loved one.

One of the most touching acts this month was reaching out to the families of cancer patients waiting outside the hospital—offering them food, comfort, and prayers.

By living the Corporal Works of Mercy—feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, and sheltering the homeless—we strive to serve as instruments of God's compassion.

This mission has grown even stronger under the devoted leadership of our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Michael Pinto, whose dedication and spiritual guidance continue to inspire and energize our Divine Mercy community.

• Osburg D'Souza

TOGETHER IN FAITH : ALTAR SERVERS AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH



The visit to St. Peter's Church, Bandra, was a fun –filled and enriching experience that beautifully blended faith, learning and friendship for our Altar Servers. The day began with a short briefing on the rich history of St. Peter's Church and some insights into the life of St. Stanislaus and his brothers.

Deacon Navin talked about the motto “Born for greater things” and how our Altar Servers can incorporate this into their daily lives.

After that, the Altar Servers played a lively game ‘Emoji Bible Pictionary’, which created an engaging and interactive atmosphere.

This was followed by a guided tour of the church and sanctuary, where they learned about its architecture, design, and heritage.

The group then had the opportunity to explore the gallery and admire the stunning glass relics. These beautifully depicted the Joyful and Glorious Mysteries, scenes from the life of St. Peter, and Christ entrusting his flock to Peter.

Later, the group participated in a ‘Rebus Puzzle’ game that encouraged teamwork and creativity. Afterwards, a tour of the sacristy was conducted, offering a closer look at the sacred spaces, vestments, and vessels used in the liturgy. The visit concluded with group photographs, capturing the joy and fellowship of the day. It was a truly memorable spiritual journey that combined discipline, reflection and growth.

• **The Altar Servers’ Animating Team**

EMPOWERED GIRLS, BRIGHT FUTURE



The St. Augustine community celebrated Girl Child Day with an inspiring online activity, featuring girls who shared their stories of overcoming challenges. Congrats to:

- Shanaya D'Souza, who pursued her dream of studying abroad and completed her Master's in Psychology (Educational and Developmental).

- Velika D'Souza, a criminologist who raised awareness about staying safe and cautious.

- Trisha Surve, a talented dancer balancing academics and community participation.

- Riona Valentine, a skilled pianist juggling music with academics, aiming to be an engineer working towards sustainability. She's also preparing for Trinity Exams for

Piano and JEE for engineering - impressive multitasking!

- Michaela D'Souza, a cyclist managing studies, swimming, and competitions.

These young achievers showcased determination and resilience, inspiring us to dream bigger and strive for our goals with family support. We appreciate the supportive men in our community who encourage their wives and daughters, empowering them to reach their full potential.

The session was a testament to the potential and promise of our girls. Thank you to all who attended and shared their inspiring stories! We're grateful for their participation and look forward to more empowering events.

• **Rosy Dias**

HELMET OF SALVATION PRAYER GROUP



To commemorate the commencement of 52nd year of Ministry, the Helmet of Salvation English Prayer Group had a evening of Praise and Worship and testimony sharing and fellowship, on 29th August 2025.

After Praise and Worship by Seby Fernandes, members shared testimonies of how the through the Intercessions, prayers and caring support of the prayer group members they received healing from God, strength and courage to overcome cancer and other illness resulting in total recovery, healing of illness of family members due to prayers, protection and providence of the Lord God in times of trouble and danger.

The faith journey of a Hindu converted to Christianity due to experience of the Love of Christ, edified and led others to Praise and give Glory to God.

Fr. Joel, the Spiritual Director and Brother Francis Mendes the Coordinator of the CCR were present.

The evening ended with a fellowship sharing of snacks ,songs and fun moments .

On the 12th August a healing service led by Fr. Ashwin Castelino was held for the Parish. Many parishioners shared about receiving physical and spiritual healing.

• **Core Team**

COMMUNITY NO. 22 SANJAO REPORT



We, the Youth of Community No. 22, organized a vibrant Sao Joa Festival on the occasion of the feast of St. John the Baptist. Celebrated widely in Goa, this monsoon festival took place on 24th June in Community no. 22, bringing together around 100 community members. Our event began with a heartfelt prayer, followed by lively singing and traditional dancing, capturing the joyful spirit of the season. Newly married couples

added a meaningful touch to the celebration by making special offerings. The afternoon concluded with a delicious meal shared by all, strengthening community bonds and keeping alive the rich cultural heritage of the Sao Joa festival. The success of our event was made possible through the generous support and contributions we gratefully received.

• **Joyce Joseph**

COMMUNITY NO. 22 PARENTS DAY PRAYER SERVICE



On 20th July, our community chapel joyfully celebrated Parents' Day with a heartfelt prayer service dedicated to our parents and grandparents. The service, prepared and led by the confirmands and First Holy Communicants, brought the whole community together in an atmosphere of gratitude, faith, and love. After the prayers, everyone gathered to enjoy snacks, fun games such as Housie,

and exciting spot prizes, creating moments of laughter and togetherness. The entire event was beautifully planned and organized by the youth of our community, who worked hard to make the day special. This celebration not only honored our parents but also strengthened our bonds as one family of faith, leaving warm memories for all who attended.

• Joyce Joseph

COMMISSIONING OF LECTORS & CANTORS

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9)



FROM CANA TO VAILANKANNI: OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH

At Cana, Mother Mary noticed the need when the wine ran out, an embarrassment for the unnamed bride and groom. Her simple but profound words, “Do whatever He tells you,” urged complete trust in Jesus, who responded with compassion and power. (Jn 2)

In the 16th century, in Vailankanni a beautiful Lady with a Child appeared to young boy and asked for milk for her Son which he gave immediately. When his customer scolded the boy for the shortage of milk, the pot refilled and overflowed!

The same Lady appeared to a crippled boy and asked for buttermilk for her Infant Son, which he gladly gave. The boy was miraculously healed as he ran joyfully to deliver her message.

Portuguese sailors who faced a violent storm at sea implored Mary’s help and

landed safely on the shores of Velankanni, built a small chapel there. Today it is the Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health, Velankanni. Pilgrims throng here year-round especially during the Nativity of Our Lady in September. Miracles abound, faith and thanksgiving increase!

A young lad gave all he had, five loaves and two fish, Jesus multiplied it to feed thousands (John 6). In Vailankanni, a poor boy offered his pot of milk, not realizing that his small gift would spark a devotion touching millions.

At the foot of the Cross, Mary hears Jesus’ cry, “I thirst.” Today Mary continues to reveal this thirst of her Son for souls, leading all to Jesus who alone restores health through her powerful intercession.

Mary, “Health of the Sick”, Pray for us.

• **Severina Peres**



PLANT DISTRIBUTION DRIVE

Steering Committee - SCC



A Plant Distribution & planting drive was organized by the Steering Committee-SCC, on 28th June, 2025 in the spirit of “Laudato Si,” a call to care for Earth, our “Common Home”. This initiative was inspired by Pope Francis’s encyclical on environmental protection.

The plants sponsored by Mr. Victor Gonsalves, were picked up by respective SSC Coordinators from the Church compound, according to their choice. Each community received one plant. These had to be planted in a common space of the community or in the house of a plant enthusiast, who could be of other faith too, to be nurtured and cared for. A Prayer shared by Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Michael Pinto, addressed to Mother Nature had to be said while planting the plant.

Below are some beautiful pictures while planting these plants in their communities

and each one shows their closeness to nature. **Highlight of the event** was people of other faiths too joined in this venture.

Community Engagement & Environmental Awareness:

The event fostered community engagement, as everyone, right from children to elders helped in the planting. It also promoted a sense of responsibility among individuals to care for the environment.

Spiritual Connection:

Planting trees and distributing plants can also be a way to connect with nature and appreciate God’s creation.

The initiative demonstrates our Parish’s commitment to care for creation by supporting environmental initiatives and promoting eco-friendly practices.

• **Pascoela Fernandes**

BLESSING OF OUR LADY'S ORATORY



The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated on 8th September 2025, was marked by a grace-filled and memorable occasion in our Parish. Before the solemn Evening Feast Mass, our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Michael Pinto, blessed the newly renovated Our Lady's Oratory, a sacred space that has always been a place of devotion and prayer for our parishioners.

As part of this special celebration, Fr. Michael also blessed the newly installed statues that further enrich our parish's spiritual environment. These included the Infant Jesus statue in Our Lady's Oratory, a powerful reminder of God's love revealed through the Incarnation; the Statue of the Queenship of Mary placed in the main Dome, symbolizing

her role as Mother and Queen guiding us in faith; and the Statue of Divine Mercy gracing the Baptistry, reminding all who enter of God's unfathomable mercy poured out.

The faithful who gathered for this joyous occasion participated with devotion and gratitude, giving thanks to God for the blessings He continues to bestow upon our Parish. These additions, along with the renovation, serve to deepen our sense of prayer, devotion, and reverence, drawing us closer to the mysteries of our faith.

We remain grateful to all who contributed toward these works, making our Parish a true dwelling place of God's presence.

• **Alfred Nogueira**

FR. K.T. EMMANUEL INSPIRES US TO MOVE BEYOND MAINTENANCE



At the Orientation Programme on 7th of June 2025, the Board of Management shared how they continue to reach out to parishioners through meaningful initiatives such as providing breakfast for the needy, offering educational support to the deserving and extending medical loans to those in dire need. These impactful acts of service set the tone for a year dedicated to care and mission.

Fr. K.T. Emmanuel then delivered an inspiring and refreshing session that left a lasting impact on everyone present. Speaking on the theme of moving from maintenance to mission mode, he shared practical and thought-provoking ways for our Parish to become more vibrant and missionary in spirit. What stood out was his light-hearted, engaging style weaving together humour, relatable examples and



deep spiritual insights that kept all attentive and motivated.

The session was not only informative but also uplifting, giving a much-needed boost to PPC members, Steering Committee coordinators, Animators, Youth and the Heads and Assistant heads of Cells and Associations. As we begin a new year, Fr. K.T.'s words have truly energized us, filling us with hope and direction to serve with greater commitment and missionary zeal.

• **Christine Athogiaus**

SALVATION CARES: LOOKING BACK WITH GRATITUDE, MOVING FORWARD WITH VISION



The Board of Management of Our Lady of Salvation Church, Dadar, is delighted to share highlights from the past year and our plans for the year ahead. Thanks to the generous support of our parishioners and well-wishers, we have continued our longstanding commitment to outreach, offering over ₹38 lakhs in medical assistance and ₹3.4 lakhs in educational support between 2021 and 2025. These efforts reflect our shared mission to care for the body, mind, and spirit of our community. Looking to the future, our focus is on preserving and enhancing our beloved church building while enriching the worship experience. Key initiatives include essential structural repairs to the FRP domes and RCC columns, painting of the outer domes, and a major upgrade to our architectural lighting system to create a more spiritually uplifting

atmosphere. We are also introducing a digital audio-visual system with HD cameras and improved wiring, restoring the church's iconic main doors, and adding wooden pelmets to integrate utility with aesthetics. This year, we are pleased to announce a significant enhancement of our budget under the initiative "Salvation Cares" from ₹2.5 crores to ₹15 crores for medical, educational, and senior citizen support, as well as assistance for cancer patients, the specially abled, and dialysis patients. We have also increased allocations to the SVP and Medical Centre. Together, these initiatives will preserve our heritage while embracing modern technology, ensuring Our Lady of Salvation church remains a beacon of faith, service, and inclusivity for generations to come.

• **Ashwin D'Silva**

ACTIVITIES OF COMMUNITY NO. 8



Community 8 located geographically at two different locations, celebrated various events, showcasing their commitment to faith, environmental sustainability, and community fellowship. Here's a rundown of the activities:

Community Cross Feast

We celebrated the Cross Feast, with a triduum bringing all together in faith and devotion. Rosary was recited and a get-together celebration followed.

Plant Distribution Drive

Members took part in planting a plant distributed by the Parish, promoting environmental sustainability; encouraging members to care for creation.

Prayer for Communicants

We gathered to pray and bless Caitlin, our little angel, as she prepared to receive Jesus, also remembering and praying for all parish communicants.

Plastic-Free Pick-Up Drive

The community took part in the Parish plastic-free pick-up drive, collecting

plastic waste and promoting environmental awareness.

Spiritual Bouquet for Priests

On August 4th, the community offered Masses, visits to the Blessed Sacrament and Rosaries were recited at two locations within the community, expressing gratitude for their dedication to ministry and spiritual guidance.

Jubilee Cross

The Jubilee Cross brought in the community members to reflect on its significance and message of Hope. Individual families also welcomed the cross, fostering a sense of devotion and spirituality.

Girl Child Day

We appreciated our girls for their talents and qualities. Bible examples were shared about the lives of Ruth, Esther and Rebecca reminding the girls to remain courageous, wise and steadfast in life. It concluded with prayers, snacks and gifts.

These initiatives strengthened our bonds and promoted a sense of unity and purpose.

• **Chritine Athogiaus/Laura Fernandes**

MOMENT OF GRATITUDE AND DEEP APPRECIATION

One morning in April 2025, I awoke with a deep sense of inspiration and gratitude stirring in my heart. That day, as I stepped into our beloved church, I was greeted by a breathtaking sight—the ceiling lights glowing brilliantly, flooding the space with warmth and radiance. My heart was filled with joy.

Each day, as we walk into this sacred *House of God*, we can't help but pause and marvel at the remarkable transformation unfolding around us. The atmosphere is filled with peace, grace, and the quiet beauty of change. Truly, all glory to God! We are indeed blessed, privileged, and proud to belong to such a magnificent church. The divine ambiance, enhanced by thoughtful decor and ongoing improvements, reflects not just

physical change but spiritual upliftment for all who enter.

A special word of heartfelt appreciation goes out to our dedicated clergy—Fr. Joel, Fr. Joseph, Fr. Glasten, Deacon Navin, and most especially, our beloved Parish Priest, Fr. Michael Pinto. Since taking over more than two years ago, his humble leadership, vision, and tireless dedication have brought about commendable and visible change.

Though work is still ongoing, every detail reflects the unity, care, and prayerful commitment of our entire parish community. May God's hand continue to guide and bless all that is done in His name—through every brick, beam, and blessing.

• **Barbara Lobo**

INAUGURATION OF CHURCH LIGHTING, ALTAR LED SCREEN, AND UPGRADED SOUND & VIDEO STREAMING

On 14th August 2025, on the eve of the Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption, our parish witnessed a joyful milestone in its journey of growth and renewal. Immediately following the 7:00 PM Mass, our Parish Priest, Fr. Michael Pinto, together with the Board of Management, formally inaugurated and blessed the newly installed church lighting, Altar LED screen, enhanced sound system, and upgraded video streaming facilities.

The blessing ceremony marked the occasion as a moment of thanksgiving for God's providence, which has made these advancements possible. As the new church lights illuminated the interior and the Altar LED screen came to life, those gathered

expressed awe and admiration, responding with heartfelt applause.

These upgrades are aimed at enriching the liturgical experience for parishioners and enhancing participation during services. The improved sound system ensures greater clarity, while the upgraded video streaming enables better online engagement. The addition of the Altar LED screen not only provides a better visual experience but also supports our efforts to "Go Green" by reducing the need to print banners.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to this project, making our church more vibrant and spiritually uplifting.

• **Obrien D'Souza**

PARENTS' DAY CELEBRATION

The Sunday School celebrated Parents' Day with great enthusiasm and heartfelt appreciation for the role parents play in their children's lives. The day began with a special Mass in the church, attended by students and parents. The service was a beautiful and reflective experience, filled with songs and readings that highlighted the themes of love, sacrifice, and guidance.

Following the Mass, the students had prepared a heartwarming surprise. Each child presented their parents with a beautifully

handcrafted card, a testament to their love and gratitude. The cards, adorned with colorful drawings and personal messages, brought smiles and tears to many faces.

This simple gesture of creativity and affection truly captured the spirit of the day, making it a memorable occasion for everyone. The event successfully brought the Sunday School community together to honor and thank parents for their unwavering support.

• Calvin fernandes

PRAYER SERVICE – FEAST OF ST. JOHN MARIE VIANNEY (10TH AUGUST'25)

On the occasion of St. John Vianney Sunday, the Sunday School children, under the guidance of the catechists, conducted a meaningful and spiritually enriching Prayer Service to honour the life and legacy of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of priests.

The service commenced with a welcome note and the opening hymn "Rejoice in the Lord always..." followed by Scripture readings and reflections. It also included intercessory prayers, especially for priests, seminarians, and vocations to the priesthood. Led by the catechists, the children offered prayers for our own priests, thanking God for their dedication and service. The service concluded with the hymn "O Give Thanks to the Lord..." and a moment of silent prayer.

A video on the life of St. John Marie Vianney was screened, highlighting his deep love for the Eucharist, his tireless hours in the confessional, and his commitment to

the spiritual welfare of his parishioners. This gave the children a deeper understanding of his extraordinary role in the Church. Their attentiveness and reverence reflected how they absorbed the importance of prayer and the example set by St. John Vianney.

An interactive session on priesthood followed, where children learned more about the values of priests, their challenges, and their varied roles in guiding and nurturing communities.

This celebration was not only a tribute to St. John Vianney but also a valuable catechetical opportunity for the children to appreciate the vital role of priests in the life of the Church and to grow in their own spiritual journey.

We are grateful to our Spiritual Director, the parents, and the Sunday School team for making this service a memorable spiritual experience for all.

• Sunday school Team

CATECHISTS' ORIENTATION

The Catechists' Orientation was held on Saturday, 14th June 2025 at the Parish Hall, with 36 catechists in attendance. Deacon Navin, the Spiritual Director, led the session as catechists prepared for the year 2025–26.

He addressed the catechists, stressing the need to have the mind of Christ in all conversations, discussions, and activities, and to keep Christ at the center of their lives. He emphasized parental involvement in the lives of children and the importance of engaging parents through discussions. He also spoke about the need for catechists to grow in their own faith by reading the Word of God (Holy Bible), the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), and the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, which serve as guides to strengthen their faith and that of the children.

Deacon Navin then highlighted the difference between being a teacher and being called to the vocation of a catechist, explaining the depth of this spiritual calling. Quoting from 1



Corinthians 12 on the different gifts of the Holy Spirit and the many members but one body of Christ, he encouraged the catechists to discover their own spiritual gifts, to seek and develop them through the Holy Spirit, while remaining attentive to God's voice in daily life. He also shared brief personal experiences, showing how every moment is connected to the divine.

The orientation concluded with announcements and a fellowship dinner.

• **Rosetta Mendes**

PARENTS' ORIENTATION PROGRAMME: A GRAND SUCCESS

The Parents' Orientation Programme for Std. 6th to 10th was held on Sunday, 13th July 2025 at Seva Kendra Hall. It was a well-organized and impactful event, spearheaded by **Deacon Navin**, who shared profound insights on the theme "**Christ-based Families**" and highlighted the essential role parents play in nurturing their child's spiritual journey.

The hall was filled with excitement and joy as Deacon Navin shared personal experiences, creating a deep connection with the audience. He elaborated on the importance of the **Commandments** in building a Christ-centered

family life, urging everyone to walk in faith, unity, and love.

It was inspiring to see such a strong turnout of parents and children, reflecting a shared commitment to growing together in Christ.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the **Events Team** for their seamless management and gracious hospitality.

May this gathering remind us that when families build their foundation on Christ, no storm can shake them. Together, let us continue to grow in faith, guided by His Word and grace.

• **Sunday School Catechist Team**

FAITH CELEBRATION DAY 2025



It was a rainy morning on Sunday, 17th August 2025, as 35 children and 5 catechists from Classes 5 and 6 of Our Lady of Salvation Sunday School gathered at the school undercroft, ready to embark on their journey to Mahim West. They were all geared up and excited to celebrate Faith Celebration Day with other children from the North Mumbai Deanery (East & West). In total, 233 children and 35 catechists across 12 parishes participated in the programme.

The laughter, noise, and excitement were palpable. Children interacted with others from different parishes—some met old friends, others made new ones, and everyone was full of cheer and joy. The reason for gathering, however, was to dive

deep into the Nicene Creed and learn about its history, rationale, relevance today, and the different sections of the Creed. Catechists and children presented their pre-assigned topics through engaging activities such as group discussions, creative expression, song, music, videos, visual presentations, and stimulating Q&As.

Overall, it was a fun- and faith-filled day, which culminated in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by Fr. Godfrey Malu, Deanery Coordinator and Priest-in-Charge for North Mumbai (East & West). The event concluded with a group photograph, as the hall echoed with a resounding *thank you*.

• **Rosetta Mendes**

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

VIANNEY DAY 2025 – A DAY OF PRAYERS, LAUGHTER, AND A SLICE (OR TWO) OF JOY



What an evening it was! We began with a heartfelt prayer service, thanking God for our four amazing priests. The hymns, readings, and prayers set the perfect tone – warm, reverent, and filled with gratitude.

The felicitation followed, with each priest celebrated for his unique gifts – whether it's preaching, pastoral care, youth guidance, or visiting the sick. Smiles and applause said it all!

Then came the showstopper: a “heart-to-heart” video featuring our children. Their candid (and sometimes hilariously honest)

words had the whole church chuckling.

The fun rolled on with a “Guess Who?” round for our priests – quirky questions, cheeky answers, and even our Parish Priest spilling a few playful secrets about his team.

The grand finale? The entire clergy team cutting a cake together, followed by everyone enjoying cake and coffee outside – laughter, chatter, and plenty of photo moments.

A day to remember, a team to be proud of, and a parish full of love for its shepherds!

• **Christine Dmello**

COMMUNITY 20 – CELEBRATING TEACHERS’ DAY AND GIRL CHILD DAY



Community 20 celebrated Teachers’ Day on the 5th of September in a special and meaningful way. Some of our children made handmade cards, and we also bought flowers and chocolates. Together with the children, we visited each teacher’s house – including teachers from other faiths – to wish them personally. Each teacher was presented with a card, a rose, and a chocolate, and we sang a song for them.

Some of the retired and elderly teachers were especially overjoyed to see the children. It was heartwarming to witness their reactions. The children were equally delighted, especially when some of the teachers offered them sweets in return.

On the 12th of September, we organized a small gathering with all the girls from our

community – including girls from other faiths, with prior permission and explanation given to their parents.

During the session, we showed the girls short, informative videos on topics such as good touch and bad touch, bullying, and how to respond if someone tries to behave inappropriately. We also spoke about the importance of listening to and respecting others. After the videos, we had a question-and-answer session, where the girls asked many thoughtful questions.

To conclude the gathering, we served them snacks and juice, and gave chocolates as giveaways. The children enjoyed themselves and left feeling happy, informed, and appreciated.

• **Adrianne Lee Rebello**

SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY - COMMUNITY NO. 13

JUNE ACTIVITY

- Our community collected money from all families and brought ration (rice, dals, pulses) and gave to four poor families – 3 Christians and 1 Non-Christian.
- We brought the Jubilee Cross for four days and prayed Our Lady's Rosary and the Divine Mercy each day at the four Crosses in our community.



JULY ACTIVITY

- The entire community took part in the Green Cell activity to collect the plastics from the area. We also took part in the Plant Distribution/Planting Drive.

AUGUST ACTIVITY

- A few buildings in our community collectively prayed the Rosary/Novena for 9 days in honour of Our Lady of Assumption. All were invited for a small celebration with snacks and dinner on 15th August 2025.

• **Judaline Mendonca**

For where two or three are
gathered in my name,
there am I among them.
Matthew 18:20

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP: COMMUNITY 16



Our community engages connecting with each other, & to enable it, various activities were conducted from May to August 2025, listed month-wise.

May: Community Rosary-17th was recited devoutly at the Church Grotto, thereafter on 31st at the Parish level.

Gospel Sharing/Core Group meeting-24th was productive & spiritually inclined, theme being Environment, also finalizing plans for the next quarter.

June: Prayer & Rosary over the 1st Communicant-27th was prayed over Rylan Fernandes & other 1st Communicants of our Parish, for Jesus to reign on them. SCC Plantation Drive on 28th saw a bonding of people of other faith praying over the flower planting, sowing the seed for future interfaith activities.

July: Green Cell Plastic Free Drive-20th, steered at the Parish level, had community youth from other faith involved with great enthusiasm.



which witnessed spiritual bonding across all ages. Gospel Sharing/Core Group meeting-24th was carried out effectively with spiritual aspect, where Mother Mary's statue visiting our homes & Diwali celebration with people from other faiths, was finalized.

All the above was possible with the cooperation & enthusiasm of our Animators & members, despite their busy schedule. We continue in our journey to be in line with SCC vision – RENEWING COMMUNITIES IN CHRIST.

• **Lassie Gonsalves**

TAIZÉ PRAYER



The PYAT, along with Fr. Glasten, conducted the Taizé Prayer exclusively for the youth on 23rd August. The whole ambience created a serene space where we could sit quietly and pray together.

Each of us was given the chance to write our personal petitions to the Lord. These were later prayed for during the Mass the next day, which made us feel that our intentions were truly lifted up to God. The Taizé Prayer included Taizé chants

and silence, giving us time to reflect and communicate with God in our own way. Fr. Glasten gave us reflections that made us think about the decisions we make in our daily lives. We concluded the Taizé Prayer with adoration.

For me, this atmosphere made it easier to reflect and focus on myself. It was a very meaningful experience that helped me grow in faith and feel closer to Jesus, with my friends around me.

• **Mercy Fernandes**

PYC-PYAT PICNIC



On 26th June 2025, PYC, PYAT, and Summer Camp youth animators went for a picnic to D'Souza Farm Resort in Manori. Music filled the bus, keeping us lively throughout the long journey. We arrived amidst light showers of rain, ready to enjoy ourselves and celebrate the work we had all undertaken.

We had a light breakfast and rested for a while. Some of us played football while waiting for the others to gear up for the main attraction—the swimming pool.

The swimming pool was where we spent most of our time, except when we broke

for lunch and tea. It was great fun, especially when it started raining heavily. We enjoyed (incompetently) playing water polo—a game we randomly decided to pick up, making up the rules as we went along.

The highlight, apart from the swimming pool, was the fugiyas we ate in the evening. Firm yet soft, sweet but not too sweet—like soft pillows of magic. We ate them by the dozens. Another hit was the ice golas from a nearby cart. The cool shaved ice, coated with jewel-like colours, was incredibly delicious.

This outing was refreshing for all of us and, above all, helped strengthen the bond between PYC and PYAT. What we carried back with us were the memories of a trip that will be cherished for a very long time.

• Aidan Williams

JULY 2025 PLASTIC DRIVE: TURNING TRASH INTO TRIUMPH!



On 20th July 2025, the Salvation Green Cell, along with our youth and community members, came together for the much-awaited Plastic Drive with the slogan: *“Give us plastic and we will give you freedom.”* From children with bright smiles to seniors with unstoppable energy, everyone joined hands and made the drive a true success.

Armed with gloves, bags, and determination, volunteers collected all kinds of plastic waste, sorting it like eco-warriors before handing it over to an authorized recycling agency. By the end of the day, 742 kilograms of plastic had been rescued from the environment!

But this wasn't just about collecting waste – it was about starting conversations. The event served as a powerful reminder that when the Church, youth, and



community work together with one heart, even a global challenge like plastic pollution can feel less overwhelming.

And here's the best part – this is just the beginning! The Green Cell plans to keep the momentum going with regular drives, because when a community stands together, even small steps can create big waves of change.

• **Deanne D'Souza, Vanessa John**

PARENTS' DAY CELEBRATION



The youth of our church joyfully organized a Parents' Day Celebration with the heartfelt theme "*Chosen by God, Cherished by Us.*" The event was a tribute to the love, sacrifices, and unconditional support parents give to their children, reminding everyone that parents are truly God's special gift.

The program began with a warm welcome, followed by dances, songs, and a skit that highlighted the invaluable role of parents in shaping lives. Heartfelt

speeches by the youth added an emotional touch, while fun games brought smiles to both parents and children.

The celebration ended with a fellowship meal, creating moments of joy and togetherness. It was a day filled with gratitude, laughter, and love—a beautiful reminder that while parents are chosen for us by God, it is our duty to cherish and honour them every day.

• **Riona Dias**

KnowOurChoirHeads



Name of the Choir : Children's Choir

Choir Head : Lystra Murzello



Q. What motivated you then and what motivates you now to continue to be a Choir Head?

In August 1993, Melwyn Sequeira, former lay-head of the Sunday School, approached me to play the keyboard at the novena in preparation for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I was reluctant at first, but realised I was blessed with a talent given by God and had to use it for His service. Thirty-two years later, the Holy Spirit continues to motivate me to stay committed to spreading His Word through music.



Name of the Choir : St. Francis Xavier Choir

Choir Head : Cajetan Braganza



Q. Which is your favourite Bible verse that inspires your singing journey?

"The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want..."

Who, other than our Lord Jesus Christ, can be a better guardian to us. In all walks, trials and tribulations, he is the one who provides relief. We surrender our lives to him, and when we sing, there shines a new bright light within us!



Name of the Choir : St. Joseph's Choral Society

Choir Head : Dylan D'souza



Q. Which is your favourite Liturgical Season of Music-Advent, Lent or Ordinary Season and why?

Our choristers' favourite liturgical season of music were fairly evenly spread: Advent music for its joy, hope, peace, and anticipation, as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. Lenten music for its solemn reflection including the traditional Latin Hymns that bring deep meaning and a prayerful atmosphere to the season as we prepare for Easter. Music during Ordinary Time for its variety and

steady connection to faith throughout the year, while giving us the chance to explore many different styles of music.



Name of the Choir : Sunday 7pm Mass choir

Choir Head : Shaun Sequeira



Week. Each chorister contributed diligently towards the mass practices which culminated in a very musically satisfying, yet liturgically enriching eucharist.

Q. In this ministry, as a Choir Head for so many years, which has been your joyous and most fulfilling day?

This certainly has to be the day on which we sang at the “Washing of the feet” high mass this Maundy Thursday in April 2025. Our entire choral group was extremely enthusiastic about singing for this service and further backed up their zeal by partaking regularly at those preparatory choir rehearsals, which began a month before the Holy



Name of the Choir : Joyful Proclaimers

Choir Head : Ferdinand Pereira



new Diocesan Hymnal we would like to teach and practice with the congregation some times before the Mass. We look forward to and expect the congregation to fully participate in the singing. This would mean they would need to come a bit early. We look forward to serving the Parish Church and Community through our music.

Q. When you conduct and the Choir sings, what do you expect of the congregation and what do you think will help to get a greater participation from the congregation during the Mass?

We, the Joyful Proclaimers, sing for Anticipated Sunday Mass on Sat at 7 p.m. We carefully select our hymns based on the theme and the day’s readings to enhance the day’s Liturgy. We usually repeat the Hymns and especially the Mass parts during an entire month, so the congregation becomes familiar with them. Since the people are not familiar with many of the Hymns from the



Name of the Choir : Cantors for Christ

Choir Head : Yohann Rodrigues



role in enriching our liturgies, not just by singing, but by leading us all in prayer through song. If you feel a calling in your heart whether you’ve sung in choirs before or are simply curious we warmly invite you to consider joining one of our parish choirs. No matter your level of experience, what matters most is your willingness to serve and your desire to grow in faith and fellowship.

Q. What message do you want to give to our parishioners and especially those who may wish to be part of any choir in our parish?

The choir is not just about music; it’s about community, service, and offering our gifts back to God. When we sing, we pray twice so come and be part of something meaningful, joyful, and deeply spiritual. Here in our parish, the choir plays a vital

MARIAN NIGHTS 2025



SOME ENCHANTED EVENING



A blend of melody and harmony echoed through the Seva Kendra Hall on 20th July 2025 as the parish witnessed The Annual Talent Contest in the non-classical category. Year after year, St. Joseph's Choral Society organizes this much-awaited event that fosters musical talent and provides a platform for artistes, young and old, to showcase their musical prowess.

The weeks leading up to this occasion are marked with practices for vocalists and instrumentalists, with their trainers taking rehearsals to ensure that their pieces reach a standard worthy of performance. There were several first-time performers who seemed perfectly comfortable on stage facing an audience that cheered them on.

A panel of eminent judges - Sarita Manchanda, Mimosa Almeida Pinto and Shayne Gomes - adjudged the best performances across age groups.

True gems that sparkled that evening - *Lovin' Life*, *Suddenly*, *Buona Sera*, *Java Jive*, to name a few, were spectacular renditions that left the audience enthralled.

Fr. Joel Pinto graced the occasion and urged the talented participants to offer their voices in song for the glory of God.

The evening ended with the distribution of prizes that were made possible through the generosity of donors and sponsors.

• **Lystra Murzello**

ST. AUGUSTINE'S FEAST: A DAY OF FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND CELEBRATION



The St. Augustine Community joyfully celebrated the feast of our patron, St. Augustine of Hippo, on 28th August. Each year, this day draws us together in prayer, fellowship, and gratitude for the gift of our saint.

This year's theme echoed his timeless words: "The measure of love is to love without measure." The feast began with breakfast served to the poor, a simple yet powerful act of sharing and service. In the evening, the Holy Mass was offered, with bread (pav) presented at the altar and later shared among parishioners.

The community get-together took place on Sunday, 31st August. It opened with the Augustinian song, prayer, and march, filling the atmosphere with joy and devotion. A shared breakfast followed, leading into lively games such as Augustine Assembled (a clue-solving, puzzle-building challenge), Words of St. Augustine (arranging the quotes),



and When Silence is Golden (acting out parables without words). These activities sparked laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition, with every age group playing their part.

A delicious lunch buffet was enjoyed by all, and the day ended on a cheerful note with a lucky dip that left smiles all around.

The celebration beautifully reflected this year's theme – showing that love without measure shines through in acts of service, shared joy, and the unity of a community growing together in faith.

• **Russell Luke Azavedo**

THE LITURGICAL ORIENTATION PROGRAMME



The Liturgical Orientation Programme was held on Saturday, 2nd August, for Lectors, Cantors, Choirs, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Server Animators, PACT members, the Décor Team, Mass Animators' Team, the Sunday Liturgy Team, and others. The session was conducted by Fr. Walter D'Souza.

Fr. Walter focused on the Catholic liturgical year, highlighting its connection to the Jewish calendar. He explained how the timing of early Christian feasts—especially Easter—was originally linked to Jewish festivals such as Passover, which follow the Jewish lunar calendar.

He then outlined the major seasons of the liturgical year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost, offering insights into their significance. He also gave a brief yet profound explanation of the Paschal Mystery—Christ's Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension—

emphasising that as Christians, we continue to await the Second Coming of the Lord.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A, where Fr. Walter responded to participants' questions. A particularly moving moment came when he spoke about the transformation of Saul into St. Paul, describing it as a powerful turning point of grace. This was further reinforced by Fr. Joel, who compassionately remarked, "We have no right to judge anyone; only God can judge." He added that in today's world, perhaps Saul and even St. Augustine might not have been accepted as saints.

Overall, the programme offered a deep and enlightening perspective on liturgy, leaving participants spiritually enriched. We look forward to more such sessions that help us grow in faith and understanding.

• **Maria Cajetan Fernandes.**

PRATHANA DHANYAVAD PRADHAN

(An Inter Religious Prayer services for Peace, Tolerance, Harmony, Unity and Prosperity on the eve of our Independence - 14th August, 2025)



Interfaith prayer meetings are like fragrant garlands, opening the windows of our hearts to let in rays of love, tolerance, and mutual respect.

On the eve of Independence Day, 14th August 2025, I was blessed to attend a prayer service at Our Lady of Salvation Church, Dadar, held to pray for our beloved country. The newly renovated church looked breathtaking, with its majestic crucifix of Christ extending His hand in blessing—a sight that never fails to touch my heart.

We were among fifteen invitees escorted down the aisle. The evening began with the lighting of the Samai—a deeply symbolic act rooted in Indian culture—within the sacred walls of the church. Prayers, hymns, and petitions rose up as the congregation echoed the heartfelt lines of “Hum Honge Kamyab.”

Mr. Joel opened the service with a moving introduction, while Mr. Rosario led the Prayer of the Faithful, uniting our voices in prayer for the nation. Fr. Michael Pinto, the parish priest, recited verses that stirred our souls. Fr. Joel Pinto, with his melodious voice, accompanied by Paul D’Souza on the piano, rendered Hindi hymns that bound us together across faiths.

The fellowship afterwards was equally meaningful, with refreshments thoughtfully prepared to respect diverse palates. We parted with an unspoken promise—to carry forward the lesson of harmony and peace.

Heartfelt thanks to the IRD members of Salvation Church for the honour and privilege of being part of such a spiritual and uplifting evening.

• Ms. Gulmohor Bharucha

RECORDS OF MAY 2025- AUGUST 2025

Sr.No.	Date of Birth	Name	Parents Name
1	18 th April 2025	Sweedel D'souza	James & Tina D'souza
2	15 th April 2025	Zion D'souza	Philip & Wendy D'souza
3	01 st March 2025	Jianna Fernandes	Joseph & Suva Fernandes
4	20 th June 2025	Noah D'souza	Gabriel Anthony & Rita Gabriel D'souza
5	20 th July 2025	Shariva Menezes	Leon & Neha Menezes

Marriage (May 2025- August 2025)

Sr.No	Date of Marriage	Name of Bridegroom	Name of Bride
1	31 st May 2025	Rosario Salvador D'souza	Rachel Philomena Fernandes
2	05 th August 2025	Dwayne Dylan Fernandes	Rozeta Fernandes

Burial 21st May 2025 - 31st August 2025

Sr.No.	Date of Death	Deceased Members	Age
1	21 st May 2025	Ramona Pereira	86 Years
2	7 th June 2025	Melvin Vaz	45 Years
3	12 th June 2025	Arnold Fernandes	36 Years
4	28 th June 2025	Clifford Athaide	90 Years
5	11 th July 2025	Albert D'costa	52 Years
6	12 th July 2025	Collin Monteiro	68 Years
7	16 th July 2025	Gabriel Fernandes	77 Years
8	21 st July 2025	Cyprian D'souza	78 Years
9	30 th July 2025	Salvador Rodrigues	75 Years
10	31 st July 2025	Antoneta Rodrigues	89 Years
11	2 nd August 2025	Violet Rodrigues	84 Years
12	7 th August 2025	Eliza Rodrigues	81 Years
13	11 th August 2025	Ida (Maria) Costa	91 Years
14	14 th August 2025	Dominc Mascarenhas	58 Years
15	14 th August 2025	Ryan Mendonca	59 Years
16	20 th August 2025	Raymond Fernandes	77 Years
17	22 nd August 2025	Gerard Preyra	57 Years
18	31 st August 2025	Philip Hubert Francis	86 years

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