

SALVATION CHRONICLES



“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”

= John 14:26

OUR LADY OF SALVATION CHURCH, DADAR

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From the Pastor's Desk

As we approach the close of another academic year, my heart is filled with gratitude to God and to each one of you, my dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Salvation Church, Dadar. This has been a year of grace, collaboration, and purposeful effort, as we have striven to live out our Parish Vision of moving from Maintenance Mode to Mission Mode.


I extend my sincere appreciation to our dedicated Priest Team, the Board of Management Members, the Parish Pastoral Council, the SCC Steering Committee, and the numerous Cells and Associations of our Parish. Your unwavering support, generous service, and spirit of cooperation have been instrumental in translating our vision into a meaningful action.

Over the past year, we have witnessed this vision come alive through several impactful initiatives. The introduction of the Breakfast Scheme and the Tiffin Project has been a tangible expression of our concern for those in need, ensuring that many among us experience the care

and providence of God through the Parish Community. Equally inspiring has been the outreach of our Small Christian Communities, who have gone beyond boundaries to extend love, care, and compassion to the poor and marginalized within their clusters—often reaching out even to people of other faiths. Such acts truly embody the inclusive and unconditional love of Christ.

I also commend the SCC Steering Committee for their thoughtful initiative in organizing a day of fun, fellowship, and prayer for the inmates of the Goregaon Old Age Home hosted in our Parish. This beautiful gesture brought immense joy, dignity, and a deep sense of belonging to our elderly brothers and sisters, reminding them that they are cherished members of our community.

In keeping with our Mission-Oriented Approach, the Salvation Cares Scheme has emerged as a beacon of hope for many. Through its well-planned initiatives, it has reached out to cancer patients, widows,



the specially-abled, senior citizens, and those requiring educational and medical assistance, including dialysis support. The vision behind this initiative is both clear and compassionate—to ensure that no member of our Parish is left to struggle alone, and that no one is forced to delay critical treatment due to financial hardship. In a world, where a sudden illness can destabilize an entire family, this effort stands as a powerful witness to Christian solidarity and care. I sincerely thank the Board of Management for their foresight, dedication, and tireless efforts in bringing this noble mission to reality.

At this juncture, I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing Board Members for their generous and committed service. At the same time, I warmly welcome the new Board of Management Members, along with the newly formed Parish Pastoral Council and SCC Steering Committee. I invite each one of you to work together in unity, guided by faith and love, to continue building our Parish into a vibrant, praying, and caring community.

In a very special way, we also take this moment to acknowledge and thank our dear Rev. Fr. Joel Pinto, who has served our Parish with exceptional dedication and zeal. As he prepares to take charge of Sacred Heart Chapel, Kulvem, from the 1st of June, we find it difficult to bid him farewell.

Fr. Joel has been a remarkable blessing to our Parish. A dynamic and inspiring priest, he has touched countless lives through his powerful preaching, deep spirituality, and tireless pastoral care. His ability to organize and lead meaningful spiritual missions and healing services have brought renewal and strength to many in our community. As a compassionate counsellor, he has walked closely with individuals and families in their moments of struggle, offering guidance, comfort, and hope.

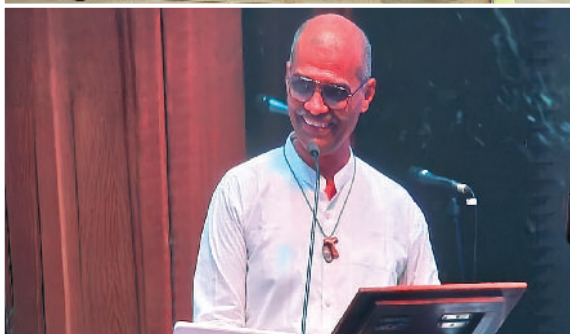
More than his many talents, it is his genuine love for people and his commitment to nurturing the faith of our Parishioners that will be remembered the most. He has played a vital role in strengthening the spiritual fabric of our parish, encouraging many to grow deeper in their relationship with God. His presence among us has been both uplifting and transformative.

Fr. Joel will indeed be deeply missed—not only for what he has done, but for who he is. While we are saddened to see him leave, we also rejoice in knowing that he carries his gifts to serve another community. We entrust him to the loving care of Our Lady of Salvation, praying that she may guide, protect, and bless him abundantly in his Priestly Ministry. We wish him good health, happiness, and every success in his new assignment.

Yours in Christ,

■ **Fr. Michael Pinto**

KONKANI LENTEN MISSIONS



Prachit kallar, Konkani Misavam amche firgojent 3 dis aslim - 6 te 8 Mars. Niall, Magnnem ani Atmik Novsorni, Fr. Roger Godinho ani Br. Godfrey Pereira, hannim hea Misavam vorvim amkam margdorxon ani Devachea Utra vorvim, amam firgojkarank borim somzonni dili.

Zon ek disachi survat zali Ters, Krist-Bollidan, Argam-Vakhanni ani Niall. Xevotak Povitr Sacramentachem aradhan. Vixoi zaun asle –

1. Asth (Dhan-Dovlot) ani Atmik Durbollkai.
2. Favo titem uloup nam ani favo tea mapan eka-mekaxim ulop.

3. Bodol korunk dubav ani sosnnikai.

Sonvsari girestkaichi axa soddun, Jezu Krista sovem ek zaun, Jezuk manta toslem jivit jieunk, amkam xikovnn dili. Sonvsari jivit zaun asa thodeach disanche, punn Sorgimchea Rajeacher asunk zai amchi nodor, hachi somzonni porgottnaran, aplea sadhea udharna vorvim dili.

Amchea kallzant aslolea Devachea moga vorvim, ami Dhinvasnechea monan Krist- Bollidan bhettounk zai. Ani kumsara vorvim amkam pekovnni melta. Toxench atmik jivit novsorunk, ani Deva thai jivit jieunk, adar ani kurpa mellta.

• **Merciana D'souza**

ENGLISH LENTEN MISSIONS



We were privileged to have Fr. Bineesh and Aisha from Satyagiri Dominican Retreat Center Igatpuri in our midst to lead us to God this Lenten season from the 20th March, to 22nd March 2026.

The evenings began with the Holy Rosary followed by the celebration of the Eucharist. Through powerful praise and worship sessions, proclamation and explanation of the Word of God we were led to very meaningful insights on daily topics which included Humility, Forgiveness, Trusting and Making Jesus- Our Best Friend.

Insisting that we all need to resemble Jesus while here on earth, with our humble nature and a good attitude and by keeping our eyes focused on Jesus and trusting in Him with daily personal pray, for we know when we are faced with difficult moments the answer to our prayer may be delayed but it is never denied.

With down to earth personal testimonies, Fr. and Aisha proclaimed that

God does not call the Qualified but indeed, Qualifies the Called. The explanation of the “Seven Cardinal Sins” made us aware the areas which needed our healing. The exposition of the Blessed Sacrament which led to the invocation of the Holy Spirit-The Powerful Intercessor on our behalf helped heal and calm our troubled minds and hearts.

The three days were indeed of spiritual healing. We are eternally grateful to Fr. Bineesh and Aisha for building up our faith and pray that God may bless them with good health to carry on their mission, guided and protected under the mantle of Our Blessed Mother.

• **Shobha Dsouza**

CHANGE OUR HEARTS, O LORD



The procession and the blessing of palms, the singing of the canticle by Veronica and the bilingual preaching by Dr. Fr. Walter D'Souza were the highlights of Palm Sunday 29th March.

At the Passo Service, Richila Fernandes displayed emotion and poignancy as she sang her lament which reminded the congregation that by His scourging, we are made whole.

Fr. Walter delivered a meaningful homily on the three external signs connected with sin and repentance – sackcloth, ashes and tears.



The message we received at the start of Holy Week was that we accept our failings and shortcomings; seek forgiveness and be sorry for our sins and beg God to make us a new creation for Him.

• **Lystra Murzello**

THREE HOURS' AGONY SERVICE – A JOURNEY THROUGH LOVE AND REFLECTION



On 3rd April, our parish gathered in prayerful silence for the Three Hours' Agony Service, conducted by Fr. K. T. Emmanuel, who offered a unique reflection on the Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross, presenting each word through the lens of love.

Beginning with the First Word, the focus was on love for enemies, where the importance of forgiveness was emphasised through inspiring examples such as Sr. Rani Maria and Nelson Mandela. The Second Word reflected love for sinners, reminding us of the need to acknowledge our sins and approach the Sacrament of Confession with honesty and humility.

The Third Word highlighted love for family and friends, with a message on the importance of marriage and raising children with discipline and strong values.

The Fourth Word centred on love for God, encouraging us to rely completely on Him and place our trust in His will.

Through the Fifth Word, we were reminded that Jesus seeks our love, calling us not only to know Him but also to make Him known to others. The Sixth Word reflected love for each one of us, illustrated through the example of Ratan Tata and the message "RIP – Return if Possible," prompting us to reflect on our purpose and responsibility in this life. The final reflection, Love's Reward, reminded us that we are spiritual beings having a human experience, called to live with a deeper awareness of our faith.

Each reflection, enriched with prayers, hymns, and visuals, reminded us to live Christ's unconditional love.

• **Loyola Fernandes**

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday

Love
that serves



Good Friday



Love
that sacrifices



Easter Sunday



CELEBRATING SILENT SERVICE 'A MAUNDY THURSDAY TRIBUTE'



On the sacred occasion of Maundy Thursday, the Divine Mercy Group of Our Lady of Salvation Church, Dadar, organized a special meal for the school and church workers, honouring their quiet and dedicated service.

The gathering reflected the spirit of the Last Supper, reminding all present of Jesus' example of humility. Fr. Michael explained that though Jesus was God, He chose to serve, teaching that true greatness lies in humility. He emphasized that work is worship, and every task, when done with sincerity, glorifies God. Drawing inspiration from St. Joseph, he highlighted the dignity of labour and thanked the workers for keeping the premises clean and welcoming.

A touching moment was the release of the flyer "Celebrating Silent Service,"

featuring the workers' photographs and qualities, helping the parish appreciate their lives and contributions. Often unnoticed, these individuals work tirelessly behind the scenes—cleaning, organizing, and supporting daily parish life. Many travel long distances and carry family responsibilities, reminding us to treat them with respect and kindness.

The washing of the feet by Fr. Michael symbolized Jesus' love in action. Fr. Joel Pinto added a brief reflection on humility and dedication, accompanied by hymns and bhajans.

The workers shared a meal served by the group, and each received a small gift. They left with joyful hearts, deeply touched by this gesture of gratitude and love.

• **Osburg D'Souza**

EASTER ZONAL MASSES

St. Matthew zone



St. Luke zone



St. John zone



BIBLE CELL LENTEN RECOLLECTION REPORT



On 8th February, our Bible Study Group set out for a truly memorable Outbound Recollection at Velankani Church, Uttan, Bhate Bunder. With over 15 members, joined by spouses and family, the journey itself became part of the joy. We commenced with prayer and then continued enjoying the drive with light snacks, cheerful chatter, and a sing-along of hymns, familiar Konkani and Hindi songs that had everyone smiling.

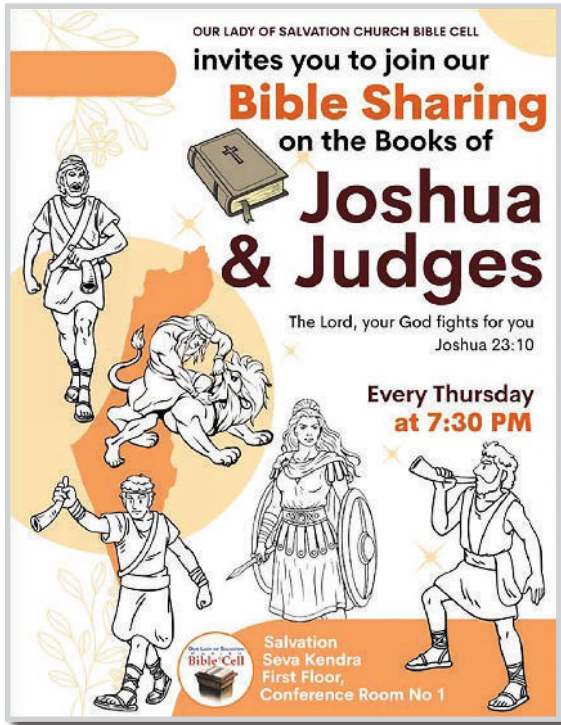
The destination did not disappoint. Nestled by the sea, the Church stood serene and welcoming, with architecture that quietly drew us into prayer and reflection. It was the perfect setting to step away from routine and reconnect with God and one another. The Holy Mass, in that serene ambience was deeply nourishing— an experience that touched hearts and renewed spirits.

The day was thoughtfully planned, starting with a beautiful scripture sharing and reflection on the Lenten Sunday readings. The other planned activities were also themed around biblical scripture encouraging fellowship and were particularly infectious- it filled the room with laughter and amiable participation. These moments brought the Word alive in simple, relatable ways, making Faith both engaging and relevant. Whether it be the very tasteful food or the warm company, it was a wonderful day spent in the presence of our Lord and Saviour.

A heartfelt thank you to the Bible Cell Coordinators— John Dsouza, Alan Menezes, and Rosario Periera— for their attention to detail and care in making every moment meaningful. It was truly a day of grace, fellowship, and joy.

• **Renuca Williams**

BE COURAGEOUS LIKE JOSHUA



We admire heroes like Joshua and may think he was specially chosen for a great mission. But God has a purpose for each of us. The question is how we discern it and respond.

When God calls, He prepares. He desires collaboration with His people, building a deep relationship with us. We often mistake comfort as blessing and suffering as punishment, but Joshua's life shows that trials shape godly character through faith and grace.

Joshua endured suffering in Egypt, learned obedience under Moses, and patiently waited in the wilderness despite others' unbelief. True leaders learn to wait on God and lead with vision even when others cannot see it.

Joshua's strength came from his relationship with God. He meditated on His Word, obeyed it, and lived a life of prayer. He was called to be courageous, not only in battle but in confronting sin and leading people into their inheritance.

Leadership also requires wisdom. Joshua planned strategically, learned from mistakes, and kept moving forward. True leadership builds people, not just authority.

Above all, Joshua glorified God in everything. His life was faith in action. His message reminds us that God keeps His promises and calls us to claim our spiritual inheritance now, not later.

Many still wander in unbelief or stand at the edge of God's promises. Through Jesus, our greater Joshua, the way is open. The question remains: will we respond with courage?

• Alan Menezes

TESTIMONY

In May 2024, I was diagnosed with colon cancer, and my life came to a standstill. What followed was a painful journey of doctor visits, tests, radiation, chemotherapy, and medications. Despite the difficulty of the treatments and their side effects, I held on to faith, praying daily, “Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me, and I will be saved” (Jeremiah 17:14). I cried out to Jesus, ‘Lord, if You will - You can heal me’ **Matt 8:2**.

I prayed to Our Lady, St. Joseph and the **saints** asking their intercession. At times it was difficult to pray, so I would read these **Scripture verses** Jeremiah 17:14, Romans 8:28, Exodus 14:14. Romans 12:12 and experience God’s mercy and peace. I also surrendered to God’s will, “Let Thy will be done”.

I am deeply grateful to my husband, children, extended family, parishioners, prayer groups, the CCR, religious brothers, nuns, and all who prayed and interceded for me—especially those who joined me in prayer online when I couldn’t have visitors. I humbly acknowledge the prayers of many priest friends who remembered me when they celebrated daily mass. I also thank the Eucharistic Ministers who brought me the Holy Eucharist; all of them were my prayer warriors.



Today, I am healed and in remission. I thank God with all my heart for this grace. My journey has taught me to never give up and to cling to Jesus, trusting that He is always with us.

“Through JESUS to heaven” †

{This testimony is dedicated to my beloved husband Dominic who journeyed with me through it all, and now rests with the angels and saints of God}

• **Belinda Mascarenhas**

A DAY OF MINDFULNESS: VISIT TO GOVARDHAN ECO VILLAGE, 1st MARCH 2026

— Pope Francis,
**ENCYCLICAL LETTER
LAUDATO SI' ON CARE
FOR OUR COMMON
HOME**

"If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs.

By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously."

Fueled by some delicious chutney sandwiches, our group of 20 SGC members with a representation of the IRD cell, set out to visit Govardhan Eco-Village.

Our excursion began with visits to an elevated open temple and a replica of the Vrindavan temple. The Mini Vrindavan forest brought a sense of reflective serenity. We walked through a lush nature trail teeming with butterflies, peaceful waters and sculpted images of stories of Krishna.

We walked past vibrant marigold patches to witness true sustainability in action: food waste becoming odorless compost, plastic transformed into fuel through pyrolysis,



rainwater harvesting ponds and quiet moments with rescued animals. Reminding us of Laudato si's call to respond to the "cry of the earth."

One gets a sense that everything has been thought through mindfully and tended to with care. The artistically woven bins for segregation, caught the eye of members with a desire to implement simple additions like these, within our own church premises.

Lunch, was a delectable vegetarian thali, after which, everyone mindfully cleared their plates, of food waste before stacking it in the assigned area. Reinforcing the idea, that the move toward reusable plates and zero waste is a possible actionable change.

The eco-village is a model of self-sufficiency that is compassionate, as it is efficient. A blueprint for a better world. We headed home with full hearts, inspired minds and a few new plants from the nursery. A truly memorable trip!



• Gwyneth Rasquinha

OUTDOOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT DBYS AND VISIT TO SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA, KARJAT BCS EVENT: MARCH 2026



The Bombay Catholic Sabha, Salvation Unit organised a one-day pilgrimage for the BCS Members & Parishioners on 28th March 2026 (a day before Palm Sunday, which begins the Holy Week), and included an outdoor stations of the cross at Don Bosco Yuva Sanstha, Karjat and a visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at Karjat.

There were 48 people who embarked on this journey, which was a memorable experience for all who attended. A bus was organised for the event and snacks as well as lunch were provided.

It was amazing to see how each helped one another during the stations of the cross on the hilly terrain with the hot sun beating down on us all. We could understand a little

more as to how difficult it was for our Lord as he undertook the difficult and painful journey to Calvary. Everyone was left feeling inspired, humbled and better prepared to enter the Holy Week.

We gave a love offering of ₹27,400/- to DBYS, Karjat for the upkeep of the site and ₹8,500/- to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Karjat.

All this was possible entirely through the generous donations and sponsorships from the BCS Members, participants who attended & others from the parish community. We thank all our sponsors, well-wishers and those who attended for their generosity & whole-hearted support.

• **Benedict Mascarenhas**

ECOLOGICAL WAY OF THE CROSS HELPING US CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

The Ecological Way to the Cross was conducted by the Salvation Green Cell on 27 March 2026.

The Way of the Cross started with a small introduction through a powerful reflection that connects the suffering of Jesus Christ with the suffering of our planet. In an ecological context, each station became a reminder of how human actions have wounded the Earth—our common home.



As Jesus falls under the weight of the cross, we were reminded how nature collapses under pollution, deforestation, and climate change. When Jesus is stripped of his garments, we recalled how the Earth is stripped of its forests, minerals, and biodiversity. Jesus’s crucifixion reflected on the ongoing destruction of ecosystems. When Jesus says “I thirst,” it echoed the global water crisis affecting millions of us.

This spiritual ecological journey called for awareness and responsibility. It challenged us to examine our lifestyles—our consumption, waste, and indifference—and to seek more sustainable ways of living. It reminded us that small actions, such as reducing plastic use, conserving water, planting trees, and respecting all forms of life, become acts of faith and love.

The concluding prayer deepened our understanding that caring for creation is not separate from spirituality—it is an essential expression of it.

Our parish priest Fr. Michael shared the final message where he reminded all on the need to avoid Ecological Sin through our actions. He ended with the final blessing before the concluding hymn.



• Joel Moniz

JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST

ST. AUGUSTINE COMMUNITY



On 28 February 2026, the members of the St. Augustine Community gathered at Yuvathi Sharan Hostel for a prayerful celebration of the Station of the Cross. In a spirit of reverence and reflection, the faithful meditated on Christ's Passion and sacrifice. Each Station was meaningfully led by the youth, whose thoughtful reflections created a solemn and engaging atmosphere that invited all present into deeper prayer.

We were blessed by the presence of Sr. Sunita and Sr. Carol from Convent Girls' High School, Sr. Theresa and Sr. Irene from Yuvathi Sharan, and Br. Ranjith of the Montfort Brothers. Their participation enriched the celebration and strengthened the sense of communion within the Church.

The evening concluded with the Religious sharing their vocation testimonies. Their personal and hope-filled accounts of their calling, vows, joys, and challenges

offered a powerful witness to the beauty of consecrated life. Their stories reminded us that consecrated persons are ordinary individuals who respond generously to God's extraordinary call.

The gathering also reflected on the significance of Consecrated Life (Reflection Note for SCCs – Feb 2026) and the theme, "Consecrated for Mission: Listening to Religious Vocations, Awakening Every Baptized Person's Call."

The event helped the laity appreciate consecrated life as a living witness of love, service, and faith, while encouraging every baptized person to discern and live their vocation wholeheartedly within family, parish, and society. The uniqueness of the event struck a strong chord of fellowship between the members of the religious and the laity, present at the event.

• **Rosy Dominic Dias**

A PLACE CALLED HOME



On the evening of the 19th of March, 2026, the members of the Holy family Community (23), guided by Daphne and her team, set out on a visit to the Clergy Home, Bandra, to spend some time with the ageing priests of the Diocese of Bombay. Far from being run down by physical illness, the priests were springing with life, enjoying each moment with the same amount of zeal and enthusiasm as when they had first been called. On reaching their destination, they were welcomed only too warmly by Rev. Fr. Merwyn D'souza.

Beginning the visit with a short prayer in the chapel, and with the blessings of Fr. Merwyn, the visitors divided themselves into two groups to efficiently benefit from the visit. Listening attentively to the priests as they shared their life stories and getting

blessed by them were the highlight of the day. To see the anointed, crippled in the body yet brewing with life, was definitely a sight to be revered! And so, all returned, re-energised, revitalized, and wanting to transmit this energy so contagious, to all the activities of the community, with the desire and hope of making it vibrant, more than ever before.

*Off marched the Holy Family,
To a worthy destiny,
To meet th' wise men, not three, but more,
So to drink of the wealth they had in store,
It was a pleasant evening,
The breeze blew, oh, so gently;
The seekers be believers now,
Of God's sweet, tender mercy!*

• **Sr. Carol Godinho**

WORLD MARRIAGE WEEK & VALENTINE'S DAY



The Family Cell had organised Week Long events between 9-14th February for celebrating World Marriage Day.

The World Marriage Week commenced prayerfully by honouring roots, visiting our Homebound Jubilarians who shared tears of happiness to meet people & were touched by our presence. A special Fellowship was dedicated to the Widowers who were led in prayer, asking God to bless them with strength, courage to face life's challenges and difficult moments. We gracefully shared our love with poor families giving meals for the entire family which was a fruitful experience as the family members appreciated and profusely thanked us for the compassion shown to them. We recited a Special Rosary for couples and families for all parishioners with special intentions box for offering personal petitions. Finally a Healing Service conducted by Fr. Daniel Fernandes

from Infant Jesus Church led us in prayer & reflection for families with showers of blessings.

We concluded the week offering a Special Thanksgiving Eucharist for all Married Couples with Renewal of Vows celebrated by Deacon Navin & Fr K.T. Emanuel who inspired the congregation with the essence of family to seek love in marriages. This was followed by a gathering in the Seva Kendra Hall with our excited newly wedded couples, Jubilarians, married people, widows and widowers to celebrate Valentine's Day. The audience was mesmerised with surprise games and fully charged to dance with music and humorous games arranged by the Family Cell. They loved the food and cute takeaways, while parting they shared excellent feedback of fun-filled celebration.

• Cheryl Rodrigues

ALTAR SERVERS' GET-TOGETHER 2026



The Altar Servers' Get-Together 2026 was a joyful and memorable evening filled with excitement, creativity, and laughter. With an interesting "TV Character" theme, the Altar Servers came together not only to have fun but also to strengthen their bond as a community.

An icebreaker helped everyone connect, the Servers and Animators shared kind and encouraging messages with one another. Fun-filled games kept the energy high amongst the teams. The karaoke and action songs got everyone singing and moving together. The main attraction of the event was the band performance by Echonova, which brought a lively mix of jive, jazz, and popular music, making the

event even more enjoyable as the performers were our very own Altar Servers.

Snacks were served and the evening ended with dinner and ice cream. More than just a celebration, the Get-together reminded us that being an Altar Server is about friendship, teamwork and service.

-I had an enjoyable time with friends and with the animators. The animators planned crazy games and the competition was high. I enjoyed the food - Yohann

-I really liked the get-together party, it was very fun and we played nice games. The food was good and I enjoyed it a lot - Prunella

• Altar Servers Animating Team

COMMUNITY SPIRIT SHINES AT ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY BLOOD DRIVE



As part of the Palm Sunday traditions, the Legion of Mary organized its annual Blood Donation Drive at Our Lady of Salvation Church. The event aimed to promote the spirit of giving and saving lives through voluntary blood donation.

This year, the drive witnessed an encouraging response from the parishioners and the local community. Over 91 people volunteered enthusiastically to donate blood. After the necessary health checks and screenings, about 60 bottles of blood were successfully collected.

The blood donation drive revealed a worrying trend—many youngsters were turned away due to preventable health

issues, highlighting the urgent need for them to take their health seriously and adopt healthier eating habits.

The entire event was conducted smoothly, thanks to the support of the medical team of Holy Family Hospital, our Legion members, and the generous donors. Many first-time donors expressed their willingness to return in future drives, and regular donors continued their tradition of service with great dedication.

The Legion of Mary is grateful for the overwhelming support and hopes to build on this success in the coming years.

• **Bianca Rodricks**

AN EASTER OF INNER AWAKENING

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



On April 12 at 10:30 AM, our community gathered at St. Stephen's Hall, Prabhadevi, to celebrate An Easter of Inner Awakening. The event began with registration, followed by our anchors opening the session with warmth, enthusiasm, and joy.

Participants were divided into four groups: St. Paul, St. Cornelius, St. Apollo, and St. Stephen's. A special moment of gratitude was shared when Fr. Joseph, marking twenty years of dedicated service, was honored and invited to cut a celebratory cake. The program then moved into games and fellowship.

One highlight was the Bible Scripture activity, where each participant reflected on and claimed a verse. This interactive game connected scripture with action, helping everyone learn and recite verses together joyfully. The excitement continued with Sorting

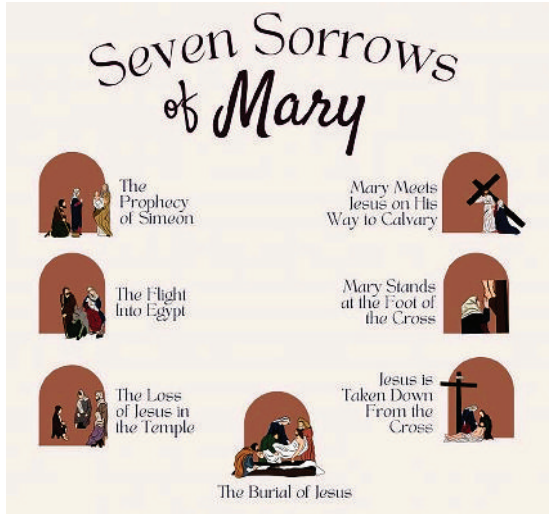
Solitaire, where teams arranged chits into categories, and the Tower Building challenge, symbolically linking the Tower of Babel to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Bonus points were awarded to groups who shared insights about the saints their teams were named after, adding depth to the theme.

The celebration concluded with a spirited sing-along of Hindi and Marathi songs, filling the hall with music, dance, and joy. Fellowship continued over a shared meal, with heartfelt thanks and special appreciation extended to the PPC, SSC Coordinator, Br. Ranjit for providing the venue, and the Core team whose planning ensured the event's success.

Truly, the day embodied the spirit of community, faith, and joy.

• Rosy Dias

A SOLEMN OUR LADY OF SORROWS SERVICE ON HOLY SATURDAY



The Legion of Mary conducted a reverent Our Lady of Sorrows service on Holy Saturday. The gathering was marked by prayerful reflection on each of Our Lady's sorrows, drawing the faithful into a deeper spirit of contemplation.

Devotional hymns were sung throughout, creating a serene and moving atmosphere as participants journeyed through the sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

• Legion Of Mary

A STEP FOR THE FUTURE

The Take Charge Program, held on 14th March 2026, is more than just an initiative—it is an awareness and a transformative journey that empowers youth to step into leadership with confidence and purpose. At its core lie growth, accountability, and the courage to take initiative in every aspect of life.

A defining element of the program is the meaningful relationship built between mentors and mentees. This connection goes beyond simple guidance—it creates a space rooted in trust, encouragement, and shared learning. Mentors offer wisdom drawn from their experiences, while mentees bring fresh perspectives, resulting

in a dynamic exchange that benefits both.

The program was further enriched by the presence of several mentors who shared their journeys, lessons, and insights. Their words inspired future mentees to reflect deeply and embrace challenges with a renewed mindset. Adding to this, mentees from the previous cohort shared heartfelt testimonies, speaking about their growth, struggles, and the impact the program had on their lives.

Through these stories and connections, the Take Charge Program fosters not just leaders, but a community that uplifts, motivates, and grows together.

• Riona Dias

A SPECIAL MASS OF HOPE AND HEALING FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND



The Legion of Mary organized a special Mass for the sick and aged, thoughtfully arranging transport to help them attend with ease. Many who are usually homebound were brought to the church, where it was heartening to see them receive Holy Communion in the main congregation, a moment that filled them with visible joy and emotion.

Following the Mass, a warm fellowship gathering was held with light games, activities, and refreshments. Small tokens of love were later distributed to each participant during follow-up visits, bringing smiles and comfort. For many, it was a long-awaited opportunity to step out, reconnect with friends, and experience the joy of community once again.

• Bianca Rodricks

COMMUNITY NO. 7 CELEBRATES CROSS FEAST



Community No. 7 joyfully celebrated the annual Cross Feast with great fervour and devotion, beginning with nine days of Novena to the Holy Cross, during which the Rosary brought the entire community together in prayer and unity.

The Novena was led by our PPC leader, Clara, who prayerfully interceded for all. The devotion was enriched with the singing of the Litany on the feast day. On the ninth day, the statue of Our Lady of Fatima was reverently brought from the Church and placed near the Cross, adding to the spiritual significance of the celebration.

A heartening aspect of the Novena was the participation of people from other faiths within our community, who joined

in prayer and offered their intentions, reflecting unity and harmony.

The Novena concluded with a warm fellowship, where families who offered the Novena in honour of the Holy Cross distributed snacks and interacted with one another, strengthening community bonds and fostering a sense of belonging.

On the Feast Day, a joyful evening was organised with snacks, games, and a lively round of housie, bringing smiles to all. It was a celebration of togetherness and shared faith.

May Mama Mary continue to bless, guide, and protect our community.

• **Maria Cajetan Fernandes**



Remembered with LOVE

POPE FRANCIS 1936-2025



The well-attended Eucharistic Celebration on 21st April 2026, 7 pm at Our Lady of Salvation Parish was a deeply moving tribute to Pope Francis on his first death anniversary. Prepared by the Salvation Green Cell, this was a remembrance of his call to the faithful and to humanity, to embrace simplicity, show mercy, welcome fraternally and care for our common home.

Father Glasten, the Celebrant (and Spiritual Director of the Salvation Green Cell), delivered a profound homily that

captured the essence of Pope Francis's mission. He requested the faithful to lift up the marginalized and migrants while adopting sustainable daily practices. His message served as a reminder that the Pope was, at his core, a simple man with a special love for the poor and the environment.

The environment theme was also reflected at the altar area, through a serene ambiance - a portrait of Pope Francis set amongst potted plants and recycled artificial flowers. This choice to abstain from fresh-cut blooms was a practical application of the Pope's message on sustainability.

The collective recitation of the Laudato Si' Prayer by the assembled faithful united the entire congregation in a powerful, shared moment of reflection.

The slideshow screened both before and after the Mass, covered impactful quotes from Pope Francis' writings and speeches. A take-away and encouragement to continue his inspiring legacy through our lives.

• **Nisha D'Costa and Pascoela Fernandes**



TIDES OF UNITY: FAITHS CONVERGING ON CLEANER SHORES



On Maharashtra Day, May 1, 2026, a remarkable gathering unfolded at Dadar Beach, where the Salvation Green Cell (SGC)—in partnership with Gully Classes Foundation and other local NGOs—rallied 14 dedicated parishioners amongst many, including 11 SGC members, for a transformative beach cleanup drive.

In the early morning light, they removed plastics, flowers, packets, bottles, fishing nets, and cloth scraps, filling large bags of waste. This event wasn't merely environmental; it was a celebration of humanity's common stewardship for our planet and city.

The cleanup kicked off at 7:30 AM under a golden dawn sky, with participants arriving in high spirits despite the summer humidity. Dadar Beach, often choked by urban debris from festivals, fishing activities, and daily litter, desperately needed this intervention.

Armed with gloves, tongs, and reusable sacks provided by partner NGOs, the volunteers worked methodically.

By 9:30 AM, the beach gleamed cleaner, with more than 12 hefty bags carted away for proper recycling and disposal.

Inspired by global calls like the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and local initiatives for Swachh Bharat, and rooted to the core principles of Laudato Si, the SGC members were deeply inspired and enthused by so many like-minded people of all faiths around us.

GullyClasses Foundation, known for youth empowerment in underserved areas, amplified the effort by mobilizing young volunteers who brought energy and social media savvy. Other NGOs contributed logistics, underscoring a collaborative model where people of all faiths participated together.

• **Andrew Williams**

SEEDS OF HOPE, BLOOMS OF ACTION : A SUMMER CAMP SESSION FROM THE SALVATION GREEN CELL



On the 2nd of May, 2026, Salvation Green Cell, for the 4th year running, did a session on ecology titled – **From Hope to Action**, also the theme of the Laudato Si Week, 2026 at the Summer Camp for Kids.

The Theme was split into 3 sections that covered -

a) **Within India** – The participants were tasked in finding solutions to daily problems based on true life case studies. In each case whether it be the greening of slums in Mumbai or the innovation of a solar powered battery that charges a mobile ironing cart in Chennai or the waste segregation undertaken in a town in West Bengal – each of these solutions came from young children. It was good to see, the participants thinking them through and coming up with solutions of their own.

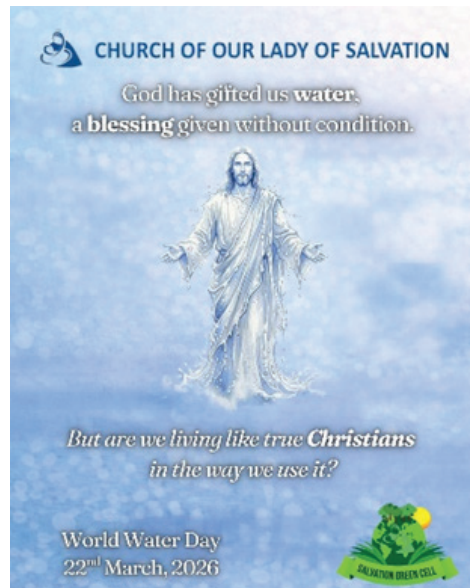
b) **Within our Parish** – For the SGC members this was a very meaningful session allowing the kids to venture into the Herbal Garden an intent to learn through smell, taste, touch and feel. Similarly, they learnt the process of Waste Segregation in the designated area.

c) **Within our Homes** – Through an innovative session teaching the participants about reducing waste or water or resources or segregating of plastic waste or upcycling of waste, the participants were truly excited when they finally were given the opportunity to convert cotton silk seed pods into bird feeders.

Truly a session of learning, loving and living with one in nature not just through Hope but also a lot of Action.

• **Andrew Williams**

EVERY DROP OF WATER IS A GIFT OF GOD



In observance of **World Water Day on 22nd March**, the **Salvation Green Cell** organised a digital awareness campaign titled **“Every Drop is a Gift of God.”** World Water Day reminds us to value, conserve, and protect the precious resource that sustains life. For the parish, it was an opportunity to reflect and act with faith and responsibility.

The campaign began a week earlier with creative posts shared on the parish’s digital platforms. Each post highlighted facts about water conservation along with practical ways families could help in daily life.

Each of the creatives highlighted a fact about water that we need to be aware of a) **Only 1% of the Earth’s water is available for drinking**, encouraging people not to throw away half consumed single use

plastic water bottles b) **A leaking tap can waste over 3,000 gallons of water each year**, urging households to repair leaks. c) **A 10-minute shower can consume around 150–200 litres of water**, so suggesting that we consider taking a bucket bath instead.

On World Water Day, a final reflective creative asked: **“But are we living like true Christians in the way we use it?”** This invited parishioner to consider whether their daily habits reflected gratitude and care for God’s gifts.

Through this initiative, the Salvation Green Cell aimed to promote awareness, responsibility and gratitude for water by cherishing its true value, reminding all that even small changes can make a difference.

• **Simran Pednekar & Russell Luke Azavedo**

THE TIFFIN PROJECT

The Parish of Our Lady of Salvation, Dadar, organised “The Tiffin Project” during Holy Week, led by the Family Cell, as a meaningful outreach initiative rooted in the spirit of service and unity.

On Maundy Thursday, commemorating the Last Supper, Family Cell members distributed meal tiffins to underprivileged families within the parish. They personally visited homes, sharing not just food but also time and compassion through warm conversations. This thoughtful gesture symbolised a Passover meal shared in love and togetherness. The families, pleasantly surprised, received the initiative with joy and gratitude, making it a deeply moving experience for all involved.

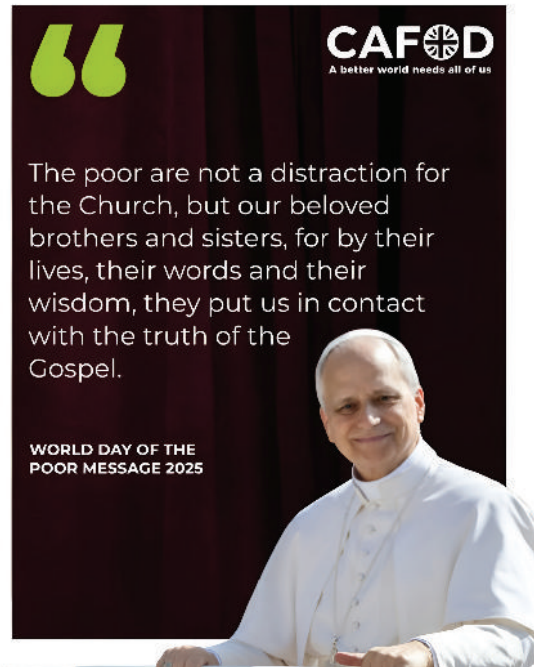
In addition, a get-together was organised in the Parish Hall for the Church and School workers. Delicious snacks were served, creating a joyful atmosphere of fellowship. The workers appreciated the effort and expressed heartfelt gratitude, while the gathering strengthened bonds within the parish community.

The outreach continued on Good Friday, when tiffins were distributed to non-Christian families and members of the

transgender community. This act reflected inclusiveness and a spirit of solidarity beyond boundaries of faith, especially on a day dedicated to prayer and fasting. The recipients were touched by the gesture and offered prayers for the parish and its members.

“The Tiffin Project” beautifully embodied the essence of Holy Week—love, sharing, and service—leaving a lasting impression on both the givers and the recipients.

• **Yvette D’souza**



A VISIT TO THE HOME OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, BANDRA



We gathered for our first Lenten Prayer Service in the month of February, during which we shared our experiences and reflected together. In the course of our interaction, the word “*Almsgiving*” profoundly touched our hearts and inspired us to put our faith into action during the Lenten season.

It was then decided that we would visit the Home of St. Catherine of Siena at Mount Mary, Bandra, on Saturday, 14th March. Our dedicated animators came together to thoughtfully plan the visit. One of them contacted the Home and spoke to the person in-charge, informing them of our visit and enquired about the suitable gifts to be given to the children.

We received a warm welcome and were informed that the Home provides care for

24 children from Std. 1 to Std. 4. We were requested to prepare 24 individual toiletry kits for them. Accordingly, we carefully assembled and packed essential items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, washing soap, bathing soap, and face towels.

Our community members responded with generosity and goodwill.

On the day of the visit, we set out with the gifts and snacks for the children. We spent a delightful and meaningful time with them as they sang and danced for us. We also engaged in games like musical chairs, and our youth played cricket with them, bringing great joy to all.

It was a deeply enriching experience. We were touched by the children’s enthusiasm, intelligence, and warmth.

• **Daniella D’souza**



WANDERING Palette

Capturing Nature's WONDERS A Sketch Walk commemorating World Art Day 2026



Wandering Palette, the first art event of its kind, was held on 19th April 2026.

A sketch-walk commemorating World Art Day, celebrated globally

on the 15th of April, was organized by the Salvation Green Cell for the parishioners and people of other faiths. Through registration participants were invited to come and sketch Nature under the open sky.

The participants and volunteers assembled in the Parish Hall by 4:00 p.m., it started with an introduction and briefing by the SGC Team. Thereafter the participants were accompanied by the volunteers to the allotted sketching areas that included the Herbal garden, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Rosary Garden and the Parking lot leaving it to the participants to choose the spot that inspired them the most.

As all moved around, there was enthusiasm, yet calm in hearts of all. Each one, from the youngest, little Caitlin Athogiaus to the Youth and Adults, everyone was extremely excited to start sketching their inspirations.



Whether it was watercolors, or pencil shadings, or doodling on sheets, or just a neat bookmark - each artwork reflected the individuality and vision of each person. The media were different, but the subjects remain rooted in Mother Nature.

The participants were then all requested to come back to the Parish Hall by 5:30 pm for a meet-and-greet, with refreshments. Here they shared their experiences while sketching. "A very fulfilling experience," as one person stated.

Each one left, making the day an experience filled with smiles, kindness and inspiration while sitting amid Nature.

• **Pratima Pinto**

THE LAST RITE: AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO THE LAST RIGHT

I am but a corpse now, and the grave waits. As in life I sought to do good and care for others, so in death I seek a goodness that lives beyond me.

If you love me, wrap me simply. Not in robes, gowns, or suits, but in a plain cloth—just as my Saviour was wrapped before He was laid in the tomb. In that quiet shroud, His body rested, peaceful and undisturbed, until He rose again. I too await that day, when He comes for me.

Until then, let that simple cloth return me to the earth. No polished wood, no metal hinges, no satin or lace—these serve no purpose but a fleeting display. Those who come will come for me, not for what surrounds me. They will honour a life, not a coffin.

A shroud returns me without vanity. Cotton or linen, plain and unbleached, lets the soil receive me as I was born: bare, humble, equal. For dust I am, and unto dust I shall return.

It is gentle on the earth we share. It decomposes with me, leaving nothing behind but life renewed. In death, I become part of the living world again.

It is gentle on you, too. No burden of cost, no weight of ornament—only the quiet weight of love.

Let my last act harm nothing and humble everything. Choose the shroud. Let me go as the prophets, the poor, and the earth itself have gone—simply, swiftly, and at peace.

• **Andrew Williams**



CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY



The Divine Mercy Novena

The Divine Mercy Novena commenced on Good Friday, 3rd April 2026. Each afternoon at 2:45 pm, our Parish Priest led the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, inviting the faithful into a time of deep reflection and grace.

A Theme of Peace

This year's theme, "Peace," was a timely focus thoughtfully initiated by the Divine Mercy Team. The novena was a true parish-wide effort, involving various cells and associations. To ensure active participation, the daily service was projected on the LED screen, allowing the congregation to follow along seamlessly.

Each day, a different parish group led the first 15 minutes of the devotion, which included:

- The opening hymn
- Scriptural readings
- Prayers of thanksgiving and petitions

Devotion in Action

Following the group-led segment, the Divine Mercy Team guided the core prayers. Despite the rising afternoon temperatures and humid weather, the faithful gathered with devotion each day. The service included the 3:00 pm Opening Prayer, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Litany of Divine Praises, and concluded with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Recognising the heat, the team thoughtfully provided refreshing drinks after each service, offering a moment of fellowship and physical comfort alongside spiritual nourishment.

The Feast Day Celebration

The festivities culminated on the Feast Day with a Eucharistic Mass at 9:30 am, celebrated by Fr. Joel Pinto, with the parish gathering in large numbers. Later, the faithful assembled for the "Hour of Grace" at 3:00 pm, with hymns and the Chaplet bringing the novena to a prayerful close, followed by fellowship and refreshments.

• **Barbara Lobo**

ANNUAL HERITAGE CROSS FEAST ROSARY 2026



Amid a world troubled by war, conflict, and personal unrest, our parish gathered in faith and hope for the Annual Heritage Cross Feast Rosary on Friday, 1st May 2026 at 7:30 pm. Centred on the theme “*Mary, A Beacon of Peace,*” the evening invited all to seek healing and unity through prayer.

The five decades of the Sorrowful Mysteries thoughtfully reflected the pressing realities of modern family life. Intentions included prayers for single parents and childless couples, healing for parents grieving the loss of a child, support for families facing alcohol and drug addiction, harmony within families experiencing conflict, and a plea for peace in a world afflicted by war.

The Heritage Cross was beautifully decorated and illuminated, creating a serene and prayerful atmosphere. We were honoured by the presence of Bishop Stephen Fernandes.

Following the veneration of the Cross, he delivered an inspiring address, reminding us that the month of May is dedicated to Mother Mary, while also highlighting the significance of St. Joseph the Worker and Labour Day.

Fr. Michael Pinto, our Parish Priest, led the Opening Prayer. The Rosary was reverently recited in English, Marathi, Konkani, and Hindi. The celebration concluded with a solemn procession into the church for the final blessing, followed by the felicitation of Bishop Stephen. After the veneration of the Cross, refreshments of boiled grams, cake, and sandwiches were served, fostering fellowship and community spirit.

The evening stood as a powerful reminder that through Mary, we are guided towards peace, healing, and hope.

• Alfred Nogueira

RALLYING WITH THE SCCs (11.04.2026)

Lo, the banners lay unfurled,
Red and **Blue** and **Yellow** and **Green**;
This was no rally, ordinary,
'Struck harder than a T.V. screen!

Matthews and **Mark** and **Luke** and **John**,
Down the church's aisle paraded;
Displaying unity and togetherness,
Adding colour in a world, dull and shaded.

It took but a spark of the Spirit to get,
The fire going, the **Lukans** with praise
And worship, slid open the walls of heaven,
Enabled all their voices to raise.

The **Matthews** got the crowd astounded,
While they got one and all, hearts tapping to the beat,
No, God's not dead, yes, he is alive,
O Marvellous knowledge, reminisce so sweet.

John awakened Jesus, brought Him down to OLSCs,
In an ever so generous rendezvous;
The youth made Jesus share His perspective,
Oh wait! Or was it Easter Deja vou?

The **Markans** left a memorable mark,
As they got the people of God energised;
With fun and games and song and dancing,
Well, all were in for a pleasant surprise!

• Carol Godinho

SCC RALLY 2026



“**Strength in Community**” aptly describes the SCC Rally 2026 held on 11th April 2026 at the parish, highlighting unity, faith, and fellowship among its members. The parish was beautifully transformed as four zones—Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John—came together in a strong display of community spirit. The event began with a grand procession led by zonal coordinators, SCC coordinators, animators, spiritual directors, and nuns, creating an inspiring atmosphere of togetherness.

The rally featured engaging activities such as action songs, praise and worship, skits, and presentations. These showcased the past year’s efforts, including charitable outreach to the needy, care for the elderly, environmental responsibility, and the promotion of interfaith harmony. These initiatives reflected the central theme, *“Together We Love, Share and Care,”*

emphasising unity and compassion within Small Christian Communities.

A key spiritual moment was the Holy Eucharist, celebrated by Fr. Manuel Fernandes, who encouraged the community to trust in Divine Mercy and strengthen bonds through care, sharing, and family time. The celebration then continued at Seva Kendra Hall, where the Mark Zone organised interactive activities to promote bonding. Games like housie and spot prizes added excitement, while tableau displays reinforced the theme of togetherness.

The day concluded with gratitude, a shared meal, and a renewed sense of belonging. Overall, the event successfully strengthened community ties and inspired participants to continue living the SCC mission of building caring and connected communities.

• **Pascoela Fernandes & Amelia D’costa**

INAUGURATION AND BLESSING OF THE CROSS CHAPEL



“For with God, nothing shall be impossible.” (Luke 1:37)

This powerful verse reflects the journey of the Cross Chapel’s restoration—marked by faith, perseverance, and divine grace. For the parishioners of Prabhadevi and the surrounding areas, this moment stands as a testament to what can be achieved through collective prayer, dedication, and God’s blessings.

After much effort and anticipation, the Cross Chapel has been restored to its rightful place, an achievement made possible through the commitment and hard work of many individuals. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Savio Lobo for his dedicated

efforts, along with civic authorities and supporters whose invaluable support made this possible. Despite several challenges, coordination with the BMC and Metro Aqua Line authorities helped resolve issues and complete the work.

The blessing of the Cross Chapel, fittingly held on the Feast of Divine Mercy, was led by Fr. Joseph Pimenta, along with Sr. Asha Almeida and Sr. Carol Goudinho, bringing together the faithful in a deeply spiritual and joyous celebration. Later that evening, parishioners gathered in large numbers to pray the Rosary, followed by the felicitation of the key contributors for their invaluable role in reinstating the Cross.

As we celebrate this milestone, we thank everyone who made it possible. It is truly a moment of joy and thanksgiving—a reminder that with faith, all things are possible.

Praise God!

• **Charles Nogueira**

A LEGACY OF FAITH & COMMUNITY: THE HOLY CROSS CHAPEL STORY (COMMUNITY NO.3)



Established around 1931, the Chapel of the Holy Cross at Nardulla Tank Maidan, Prabhadevi, has long been a beacon of spirituality for the local community—welcoming people of the faith and beyond. Over the decades, it has stood as a cherished landmark, reflecting a rich spiritual heritage. From the gentle strains of violins accompanying hymns to the blend of Konkani and English prayers, the chapel continues to unite generations in worship.

Despite being relocated across the maidan three times, the chapel has only grown stronger, welcoming new devotees who have become part of the ever-evolving Holy Cross community. Since 1967, the community has faithfully conducted 59 Novenas in honour of the Holy Cross, guided by devoted elders—some fondly

remembered and others who continue to nurture the faith. Each year, the novenas draw over 100 people from surrounding areas, reflecting the chapel's enduring presence.

The annual feast on 3rd May is a vibrant celebration, often bringing together over 300 devotees. Alongside prayer and thanksgiving, the day is marked by a spirit of togetherness, with games and activities adding to the joy, especially for children and families. For many, the chapel is more than a place of worship — it is a space of belonging. Children find comfort in its warmth, while adults return with cherished memories, making it a lasting symbol of faith, unity, and community.

• **Keith Fernandes**

ONE TEAM - ONE DREAM (COMMUNITY NO. 16)



“Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them,” a promise from Jesus in Matthew 18:20, signifies divine guidance, unity, and shared fellowship.

Community-16 commenced the year with a spiritual focus by holding a Gospel sharing session and a Core Group meeting. The highlight of this gathering was the prayers offered for Rylan Fernandes, our First Holy Communicant, followed by a cake-cutting celebration with his family to mark this special occasion.



This Lent, we observed the “*Crown of Thorns*” devotion, symbolising repentance and good deeds. Each week, a virtuous act replaced a thorn with a flower, signifying spiritual healing.

Community 16 also commemorated the feast day of our patron, St. Gonsalo Garcia, beginning with a Mass and concluding with a communal gathering. It was heartening to see a large number of members in attendance, actively participating through shared prayer, melodious hymns, engaging games, and delicious snacks. More importantly, it was a wonderful opportunity for bonding and fellowship—a truly joyful Sunday morning.

We pray that St. Gonsalo Garcia continues to intercede for us.

Lastly, our Animator, Mrs. Theresa Fernandes, felicitated the area corporator, at the ‘Know Your Candidate’ session organized by BCS - Dadar Unit.

The first quarter began on a positive note, driven by active member participation. I commend the **Animators—Winnie, Agnes, Michelle, Agnes, and Genifer** and the **Core Group members—Rita T, Lydia, Marie T, Angela,** and others—for fostering community bonding and making us proud. We hope this momentum continues.

• **Lassie Gonsalves**

BARBEQUE NIGHT



A joyful and memorable Barbeque Night was held at the grounds of Our Lady of Salvation Church on 15th February 2026, bringing together the youth of the parish for a vibrant evening of fellowship. The event was organised by the PYAT members and office bearers under the guidance of our Spiritual Youth Director, Fr. Glasten Gonsalves.

The evening was filled with fun, laughter, and a lively spirit, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all. It provided a wonderful opportunity for the youth to come together, strengthen their bonds, and enjoy each other's company beyond the usual parish activities. A

variety of games were conducted, adding excitement and encouraging teamwork and active participation.

One of the highlights of the night was the delicious barbeque and refreshments prepared for everyone, which added to the joy of the celebration. Music and dance further enhanced the energy of the evening, making it even more engaging and memorable.

The Barbeque Night was truly a fun-filled and enriching experience, strengthening friendship, unity, and fellowship among the youth.

• Cheryl Rodrigues

FROM LENS TO LENT



As part of the Lenten spiritual journey, a beautiful Praise and Worship gathering was held at St. Michael's Church, bringing together youth from across the North Bombay Deanery for an evening of faith, music, and spiritual renewal. The event was organised by the North Bombay Deanery and was led by Fr. Leon D'Cruz.

The programme began with an energetic and inspiring performance by the Fun Gospel Band, setting the tone for a prayerful evening. This was followed by an insightful talk by Fr. Joynsten Machado on the theme "From Lens to Lent," encouraging

all to reflect on their spiritual journey and preparation during the Lenten season.

Members of the North Bombay Deanery then led the gathering into a deep and prayerful worship experience. Soulful music, accompanied by keyboard, guitar, electric guitar, and clap box, along with melodious singing, created a powerful atmosphere of praise and devotion.

The evening concluded with Adoration, leaving everyone spiritually refreshed. It was truly a prayerful and grace-filled experience for all.

• Cheryl Rodrigues

WALKING PILGRIMAGE TO THE MOUNT



On 14th March, the Legion of Mary organised a parish walking pilgrimage to Mount Mary's Basilica, Bandra. The group gathered at 5:30 am in Our Lady's Oratory, where Fr. Joseph Pimenta, the spiritual director, prayed over and blessed the pilgrims. Starting the journey in the quiet, early morning hours, the parishioners walked, sang hymns, and prayed the Rosary in groups, dedicating each mystery to various intentions.

This walk served as a powerful symbol of our spiritual journey. Moving together through the dark towards the morning light represented our own path of faith - overcoming challenges and supporting one another to reach a higher goal. The pilgrimage to Mount Mary reminded us that while the path can be tiring, the effort brings

us closer to God.

Upon reaching the steps of the Basilica, the group gathered before the cross to pray the Catena. Over 120 parishioners of all ages attended Mass at 7:30 am, celebrated by Rev. Fr. Vernon. The morning concluded with refreshments. Mother Mary's presence was felt in prayer throughout our journey.

Our sincere thanks to Rector Rev. Fr. Vernon and his team, our parish who sponsored the wholesome breakfast, and the Legionaries whose hard work made this possible.

Finally, thank you to everyone who walked with us.

May Jesus and Mother Mary guide and protect us always.

• **Lalita Valles**

A JOURNEY OF KINDNESS AND CONNECTION



The social outreach was a meaningful reminder of the impact small acts of kindness can create. The youth, along with the PYAT members, came together with a shared purpose—to reach out to those in need and spread hope through simple gestures.

In a beautiful expression of sacrifice and generosity, the youth set aside money during the Lenten season, choosing to give up personal comforts so they could contribute to this initiative. The funds collected were used to purchase food, transforming their Lenten sacrifice into a tangible act of love and service.

On 29th March 2026, armed with food packets and warm smiles, the group walked through the streets, distributing meals to the underprivileged. What may have seemed like a small effort became deeply moving, as each

interaction reflected gratitude, humility, and connection. It was not just about providing food—it was about acknowledging people, listening to their stories, and making them feel seen and valued.

The presence of the PYAT members added strength and unity to the initiative, guiding the youth and encouraging them to serve with compassion and sincerity. For many, this experience became a moment of reflection, highlighting the importance of empathy and the responsibility to support those around us.

It served as a reminder that when hearts come together with the intention to serve, even the smallest actions can make a meaningful difference.

• **Riona Dias**

THE WAY OF THE CROSS JOURNEY



The Way of the Cross pilgrimage was a deeply meaningful and prayerful experience for all of us. As part of our Lenten observances—a time marked by prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and spiritual renewal, we gathered at Our Lady of Salvation Church on 18th March 2026 at 9:00 p.m. and began our journey together with faith and enthusiasm. We reached Don Bosco Karjat at around 11:00 p.m., where we had tea and prepared ourselves spiritually for the journey ahead.

The Way of the Cross was led by Fr. Leon D’Cruz, who guided us through each station with prayer, reflection, and spiritual insights. At every station on the mountain,

we paused to pray and reflect on the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The climb was spiritually enriching, making it a truly meaningful journey of faith.

At the top of the mountain, we celebrated the Holy Mass, which was a beautiful and grace-filled moment for everyone present. After completing the pilgrimage, we returned and shared breakfast together at 5:30 a.m.

We sincerely thank Fr. Glasten for organizing this beautiful and prayerful experience, and all the PYAT members for their constant support and encouragement.

• Cheryl Rodrigues

THE ROYAL SOIRÉE



The Royal Soirée was an unforgettable evening organized by the Parish Youth Council on 18th April 2026 - filled with elegance, charm, and celebration. From the moment guests arrived, the atmosphere radiated warmth and grandeur, with soft lighting and refined décor setting the perfect tone. Attendees embraced the royal theme with stunning outfits, blending sophistication with modern style.

The event came alive through lively interactions, engaging performance, and the energy of a vibrant crowd. Laughter, music, and meaningful conversations created a

sense of unity, making every guest feel like a part of something special. The host guided the evening effortlessly, adding flair and excitement throughout.

What truly made the night memorable were the little moments—shared smiles, spontaneous cheers, and memories captured in time. The Royal Soirée was more than just an event; it was an experience that brought people together in a celebration of joy and elegance, leaving everyone with memories to cherish long after the night ended.

• Riona Dias

MOMENTS OF GRACE

When the Church Bells Ring...



In the midst of busy schedules and constant noise, the sound of church bells still has the power to pause our hearts. Whether heard early in the morning, during the Angelus, or before Mass, their gentle echo serves as a quiet reminder of God's presence in our lives.

For many, church bells carry memories of faith, family, and belonging. They call us not only to prayer, but also to reflection—to step away from the rush of daily life and reconnect with what truly matters. In moments of joy, sorrow, uncertainty, or peace, their familiar sound reminds us that God is always near.

The bells continue to ring across generations, inviting each one of us to gather in faith and unity. Even a brief moment spent listening can become a small moment of grace—a reminder that amidst the noise of the world, God still speaks gently to the heart.

Reflection

Sometimes, grace is found not in grand moments, but in the simple sound of church bells calling us back to God.

RECORDS

Marriage (April- May 2026)			
Sr.No	D.O.M	Name of Bridegroom	Name of Bride
1	18th April 2026	Nelson Fernandes	Michelle D'costa
2	03rd May 2026	Michael Allwyn Nadar	Adriana Dias

Baptism (Febuary 2026- May 2026)			
Sr.No.	D.O.Baptim	Name	Parents Name
1	8th Febuary 2026	Liora Fernandes	Sebastian & Selma
2	15th Febuary 2026	Elyana Alphonso	Gabriel & Vinisha
3	15th Febuary 2026	Gwyneth Fernandes	Jude & Genevieve
4	15th Febuary 2026	Tiffania D'souza	Selvin & Mary
5	25th January 2026	Sia Fernandes	Boris & Archana
6	21st March 2026	Ceyla Callista Dsouza	Joshua & Erika
7	05th April 2026	Ayson D'souza	Steven & Nizoufer
8	05th April 2026	Neeta Dilip Haldankar	Dilip & Sunita
9	05th April 2026	Nitin Dilip Haldankar	Dilip & Sunita
10	05th April 2026	Neeta Nitin Haldankar	Mahendra & Gunvanti
11	05th April 2026	Anushka Nitin Haldankar	Nitin & Neeta
12	05th April 2026	Aayan Nitin Haldankar	Nitin & Neeta
13	05th April 2026	Ramija Rodrigues	Bashuddin & Sahida
14	02nd May 2026	Melroy Chowdhary	Jennifer
15	02nd May 2026	Cyril Chowdhary	Jennifer

Death's (1st February 2026 - 10th May 2026)			
Sr. No.	Date of Death	Deceased Person	Age
1	13th February 2026	Xavier Minguel D'Mello	63
2	22nd February 2026	Flory D'Souza	90
3	26th February 2026	Lourdes Ferrao	78
4	16th March 2026	Blanche Maria Pinto	67
5	20th March 2026	Helen Anthony Pacheco	89
6	23rd March 2026	John Henry Pinto	66
7	28th March 2026	Anmary Fransis Fernandes	78
8	03rd April 2026	Anil Charles Pinto	78
9	04th April 2026	Mathew D'Souza	83
10	13th April 2026	Rita Martin D'Souza	76
11	05th May 2026	Monica Menino Fernandes	50
12	07th May 2026	Arlene Francis Cerejo	64
13	08th May 2026	Elizabeth Rodrigues	74

Congratulations!

WITH PRAYERFUL JOY, WE CONGRATULATE

Fr. Glasten Gonsalves

on your appointment as

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

of *Communio*

May this new responsibility be filled with joy, purpose, and abundant blessings.



PRAYER | SOLIDARITY | MISSION

communio
CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF INDIA



Communio Team
wishes you
**prayers and
best wishes.**



PRAYER
Rooted in Christ



SOLIDARITY
Walking Together



MISSION
Sent to Serve



IT IS GOOD TO GIVE TO GIVE THANKS...

*Here is a person,
Whom the heavens doth know;
Though tall in stature,
He bears a heart that's soft as snow.

His voice, so ever thunderous,
His presence, bright as lightning;
His wisdom, like cool raindrops,
His thoughts, spiritually enlightening!

With a mind that is transparent,
And a heart, ever open;
He lives unto every word,
His mouth has ever spoken.

Holy in the eyes of men,
Humble in the eyes of God;
In the pursuit of the better and the excellent,
May our hearts, too, strike a chord!*

Here's wishing a "Hearty 'Fare-Well'" to a noteworthy son of St. John Marie Vianney. Our parish will forever miss the zeal of **Fr. Joel** who gave no less than 100% to every single task, if not more!

We wish **Fr. Joel** all the very best for his new mission. May God's grace forever follow him, may our Lord Jesus enlighten him, and may the Holy Spirit guide him. May we too serve our parish community with a fervent, renewed and intensified zeal!

• Carol Godinho



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