



VELANKANNI IRLA CALLING

OCTOBER
2020

Church of Our Lady of Health of Velankanni

FROM THE DESK OF PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parishioners, Devotees and Pilgrims of Our Lady of Velankanni,

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary and for the World Missions. The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7. The word Rosary means "Crown of Roses". Our Lady has revealed to several people that each time they say a Hail Mary they are giving her a beautiful rose and that each complete Rosary makes her a crown of roses. The rose is the queen of flowers, and so the Rosary is the rose of all devotions and it is therefore the most important one. The Holy Rosary is considered a perfect prayer because within it lies the awesome story of our salvation. With your prayer made together with our heavenly Mother, we can obtain the great gift of bringing about a change of hearts and conversion. Each day, through prayer we can drive away from ourselves and from our homeland many dangers and many evils.

"Say the Rosary every day .. pray, pray a lot and offer sacrifices for sinners I am Our Lady of Rosary. Only I will be able to help you... In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph." -Our Lady at Fatima

Focus of the Liturgy: All the Gospels for the Sundays in October 2020 are taken from St. Matthew and are from Year A, Cycle 2.

October 4th - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	This Gospel recounts the parable of the landowner and the vineyard.
October 11th - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	This Gospel recounts the parable of the wedding banquet.
October 18th - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time World Mission Sunday	Jesus says to "Render to Caesar what is Caesar's".
October 25th - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	In this Gospel Jesus gives us the greatest commandment.

During the month of October we in a special way celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis released his annual message for World Mission Sunday 2020 on Pentecost Sunday. Its theme is taken from Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). World Mission Sunday is celebrated on October 18 in 2020.

Missionaries with Jesus the Missionary: Just as Jesus completely accomplished His mission by dying on the cross, "we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others", Pope Francis continues. Our mission, our call, our willingness to be sent originates in His own vocation as "the Father's Missionary". "Our personal vocation" is rooted in "the fact that we are sons and daughters of God in the Church".

The Church as Missionary: Pope Francis explains that it is specifically the Church that "continues the mission of Jesus in history". Thus the baptized members of the Church are sent forth in her name. Through our witness and proclamation of the Gospel, God continues "to manifest His love". This is how He is able to "touch and transform hearts, minds, bodies, societies and cultures in every place and time."

God Bless you All!
Yours in Christ,


Fr. Ravi Thanaiah Marneni, PIME
(Parish Priest)

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - 18TH OCTOBER, 2020

Pope Francis released his annual message for World Mission Sunday 2020 on Pentecost Sunday. Its theme is taken from Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). Every year, we would put Mission stalls and contributions would be collected by Communities. The sizeable amount collected was sent to the Archdiocese to carry out various works at different Mission stations. This year we shall not be having any Mission Stalls on account of COVID 19 Pandemic. I request every family to make a monetary contribution for the Missions. Envelopes will be distributed by the PPC members / SCC Animators to help you contribute from your home. You may handover the same back to the PPC members / SCC Animators or request them to collect it from your home. This contribution will be sent to the Archdiocese of Bombay. Our Parish is under Pontifical Institute of Foreign Mission (PIME) which has Mission stations across the world. I request you all to pray of PIME Missionaries in a special way so that they continue the Mission of our Lord.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest – Fr. Ravi T. Marneni,

Asst. Parish Priest – Fr. Rajkumar Madri,
HGN

Sisters of St. Ann:

Sr. Fatima

Sr. Teresa Elamthuruthyl

Parish Office Timings:

Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday: Closed.

Sunday: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Donation & Mass Offering:

At donation stall from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Book stall:

Monday to Thursday:

2 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. FRIDAY HOLIDAY.

Saturday: 7 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Sunday: 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Mass Timings / Schedule:

Saturday (Novena):

6.30 a.m. English

8.00 a.m. Tamil

2.30 p.m. Marathi

3.30 p.m. Marathi

4.30 p.m. Konkani

6.30 p.m. English

Sunday:

7.00 a.m. English – Parish Mass

9.00 a.m. English – Children's Mass

6.30 p.m. English – Youth Mass

Weekdays:

6.30 a.m. & 7.00 p.m. (English)

Baptism:

Sunday during 9 a.m. Mass.

Confessions:

Fridays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

or on request

Sick calls:

Anytime on request.

SCC animators / PPC member /

Eucharistic Minister to be informed.

Funeral:

To inform Parish Priest or

SCC Animators.

Sunday school:

7.45 a.m. to 9 a.m.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2020

THE LAITY'S MISSION IN THE CHURCH: WE PRAY THAT BY THE VIRTUE OF BAPTISM,
THE LAITY, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, MAY PARTICIPATE MORE IN AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CHURCH.

Please Continue to Recite the Prayer for the Control of Coronavirus

Almighty and merciful God, who show your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the coronavirus in various parts of the world.

We come before you asking for a quick control of the outbreak, for healing of those who are affected, for the victims and their families. We pray for the doctors doing research that an effective vaccine to combat the sickness is speedily found. We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE: SSVF REACH OUT TO OUR AIDED FAMILIES

In spite of the pandemic, some of our SSVF members still continue to reach out to our aided families providing them with monthly dole, ration and salaries to the teachers of our Study Class.

We continue to receive donations from our benefactors in kind. Mr. Vijay Patel donated a large quantity of A4 size exercise books. Priti and her friends pre-packed pulses and tea leaves. Cyril and Hilla donated snack packets. On 5th September, we distributed these to the Study Class Teachers who in turn would give 3 books each and also each of the packets to the children under their care and guidance.

We are very thankful to our benefactors and also happy that we can continue to help our aided families every month even during the lock down.

Jennifer Lopez



PANDEMIC RESPONSE: The Bombay Catholic Sabha (Irla Unit)

The Bombay Catholic Sabha Irla Unit gave used clothes collected from Irla Parish to Mr. Surya Narayana of Grace Harvest Ministry an NGO working in Slums of Mumbai. This was distributed to the needy people in Ready Road slums in Mumbai.



BOTTLES FOR CHANGE: The BCS Irla Unit Initiative

The Bombay Catholic Sabha Irla Unit submitted 43 kgs plastic to Bisleri on 5th September, 2020. The total plastic collection till date is 1407 kgs.



FROM SURVIVAL TO REVIVAL

On September 15, 2020, 16 of our SCC Coordinators, Animators, PPC members and lay heads participated in the online training conducted by Dean Jaime and Lygia from OFLCM. The topic for the training was 'From Survival to Revival' the Holy Father's message of hope on 'Life after the pandemic'.

The training began with a brief discussion on the thorns and roses that each of us experienced due to the Pandemic. Jaime and Lygia spoke about the early months of 2020, when Pope Francis frequently reflected on the coronavirus pandemic as it took hold of the human family. They spoke about the eight significant spoken and written texts dated from 27 March to 22 April. The Pope clearly bases this hope on faith, because with God life never dies. The Pope challenges everyone – no matter how high or humble – to dare to do good, to do better. We then dwelt on each of the 8 messages from the Holy Father, a gist of which is mentioned below:

1. Why are you afraid: But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: Do not be afraid (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, “cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us” (cf. 1 Pet 5:7).
2. Preparing for afterwards is important: The Holy Father is edified by the reaction of so many people including doctors, nurses, volunteers, religious and priests, who are risking their lives to attend to the sick and prevent those who are healthy from becoming infected including the amazing work done by governments.
3. Like a new Flame: Indifference, self-centeredness, division and forgetfulness are not words we want to hear at this time. May Christ, who has already defeated death and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, dispel the darkness of our suffering humanity and lead us into the light of his glorious day, a day that knows no end.
4. To an invisible army: Stand firm in your struggle and care for each other as brothers and sisters. I pray for you, I pray with you. I want to ask God our Father to bless you, to fill you with his love, and to defend you on this path, giving you the strength that keeps us standing tall and that never disappoints: hope. Please pray for me, because I need it too.
5. A plan to rise up again: In this time of tribulation and mourning, I hope that, where you are, you will be able to experience Jesus, who comes to meet you, greets you and says: “Rejoice”
6. Egoism: An even worse Virus: Like the apostle Thomas, let us accept mercy, the salvation of the world. And let us show mercy to those who are most vulnerable; for only in this way will we build a new world.
7. To the world of Street Newspapers: The pandemic has made your work difficult but I am sure that the great network of street papers will come back stronger than ever. These days, turning our gaze to the poorest can help all of us to realise how much is actually happening to us, and what our circumstances really are.
8. Overcome global challenges: As brothers and sisters, let us together implore our heavenly Father: “Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth”

We ended this reflection with a hymn looking up to the Lord, putting all our hope in him.

Fay D'Souza

PARISH FEAST: 13th SEPTEMBER 2020 LET US THANK THE LORD WITH ALL OUR HEARTS

