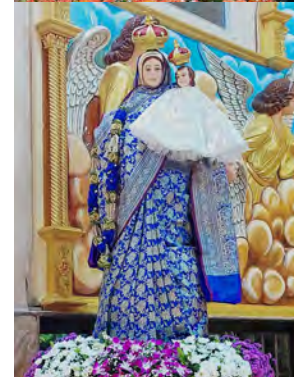




VELANKANNI IRLA CALLING

SEPTEMBER
2021

Church of Our Lady of Health of Velankanni



*All generations
shall call me blessed*

Lk 1:48

**54th
Annual
Novenas**

30th August, 2021 -
8th September, 2021

FROM THE DESK OF PARISH PRIEST

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

We began our 54th Annual Novena to Our Lady of Velankanni with simple and small scale celebrations beginning on 29th August 2021 by hoisting the flag. From 30th onwards, we began online masses in different language (namely English, Marathi, Konkani and Tamil). All the preachers, choirs and some volunteers and media team made great effort for the success of Annual Novena.

The Month of September in a special way brings Mother Mary's spirit into our Parish and into our families because of the Annual Novena to Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary. The themes (Mary of the Gospels; Rooted in Faith, Mary the New Eve; Nurturer and Sustainer of Life, Mary ever-Virgin; Open to the Holy Spirit, Blessedness of Mary; Anointed by God, The Assumption; Sweetness of Redemption, Motherhood of Mary; Warmth and Comfort of Love, Mary, Mother of the Church; Nourishment for Body & Soul, Mary our Intercessor; Instrument of Change, Mary and the Family; Model for a Family, Mary and the girl child; You are a blessing) that were chosen for the 54th Annual Novena gave us ample time and opportunity to reflect on Mother Mary and her role in the History of Salvation.

The month of September is dedicated to the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Devotion to the sorrows of the Virgin Mary dates from the twelfth century, when it made its appearance in monastic circles under the influence of St. Anselm and St. Bernard. The Cistercians and then the Servites undertook to propagate it. It became widespread in the fourteenth and especially the fifteenth centuries, particularly in the Rhineland and Flanders, where Confraternities of the Sorrowful Mother sprang up. It was in this context that the first liturgical formularies in her honour were composed. A provincial council of Mainz in 1423 made use of these in establishing a 'Feast of the Sorrows of Mary' in reparation for Hussite profanations of her images.

On 14th September, we celebrate the feast of Exaltation of the Cross. This feast was observed in Rome before the end of the seventh century. It commemorates the recovery of the Holy Cross, which had been placed on Mt. Calvary by St. Helena and preserved in Jerusalem, but then had fallen into the hands of Chosroas, King of the Persians. The precious relic was recovered and returned to Jerusalem by Emperor Heraclius in 629. At Baptism we are sealed with the Sign of the Cross, signifying the fullness of redemption and that we belong to Christ. Let us look to the cross frequently, and realize that whenever we make the Sign of the Cross we give our entire self to God — mind, soul, heart, body, will, thoughts.

Focus of the Liturgy: The Gospels for the Sundays in September 2021 are taken from St. Mark and are from Year B, Cycle 1

September 5th 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	This Gospel relates the cure of a deaf man by Jesus
September 12th 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Peter says "You are the Christ." Jesus talks about His coming passion.
September 19th 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	In this Gospel Jesus says whoever receives one child in His name receives Him.
September 26th 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jesus speaks against causing scandal and avoiding occasions of sin.

We thank God for the success of 54th Annual Novena in our parish. We always pray through the intercession of our Blessed Mother for the whole world where we can live spiritually and safely.



Fr. Ravi Thanaiah Marneni, PIME
(Parish Priest)

Parish Team:

Parish Priest – Fr. Ravi T. Marneni,
P.I.M.E

Asst. Parish Priest – Fr. Praveen
Jangam, 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 SEPTEMBER 2021

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle: We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

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 an efficacious control of the outbreak, for healing of those who are affected, for the victims and their families. We thank you for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

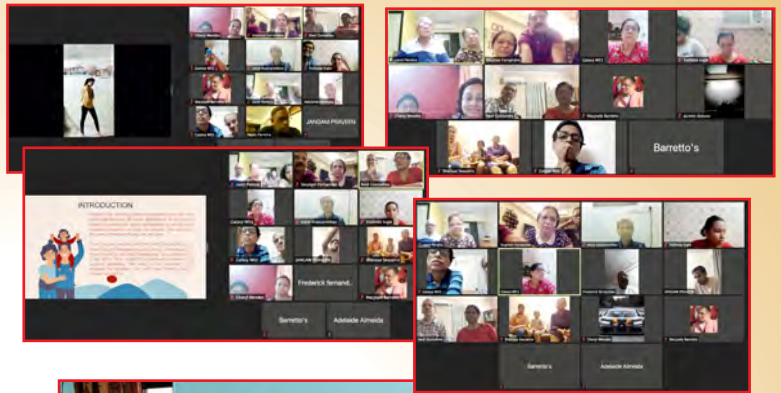
We pray for the doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe And have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

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

ST. ANTHONY'S COMMUNITY: PARENT'S DAY CELEBRATION

Parents are the guiding light in a child's life and lay the foundation for children to nurture and grow. This year to thank our Parents and to make them feel special, the community of St. Anthony organised a Parent's celebration spread over a couple of days.

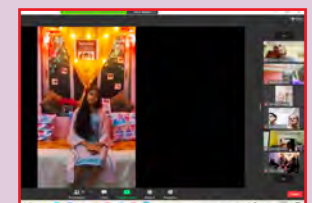
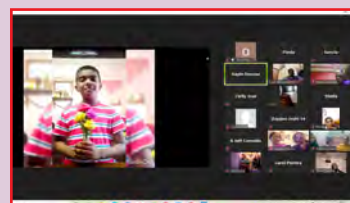
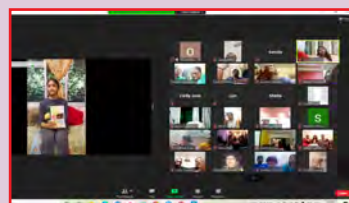
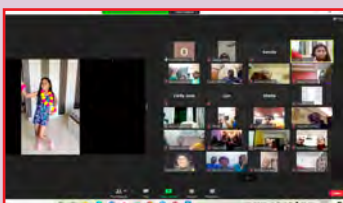
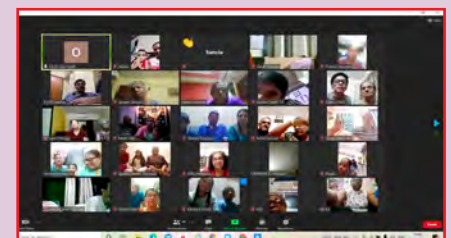
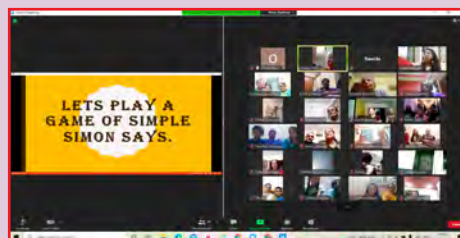
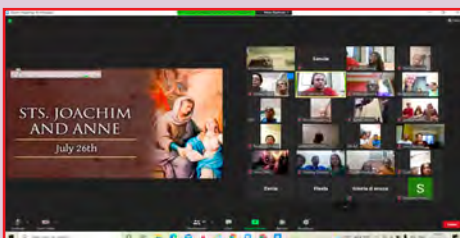
We began our community celebration on 25th July with a surprise visit to our community members with a box of goodies; a special hamper was curated for the Grandparents of the community to celebrate the first World day for Grandparents and the elderly. The Parish fathers and Sisters of St. Ann also were presented with a box of goodies and a hamper on the occasion of the feast of Ss. Joachim and Ann, who are also patron of the Sisters of St Ann.



The celebration continued the next day (26th July) with a special prayer service followed by a small online celebration. The youngsters of the community put up a small performance of dances, songs and speeches. With an exciting game of Housie and the lucky dip, the evening came to an end. The community members enjoyed these two special days of celebrating our parents in the community and thanked the efforts of all those who made it possible even in these challenging times.

– Macjoyle Barretto

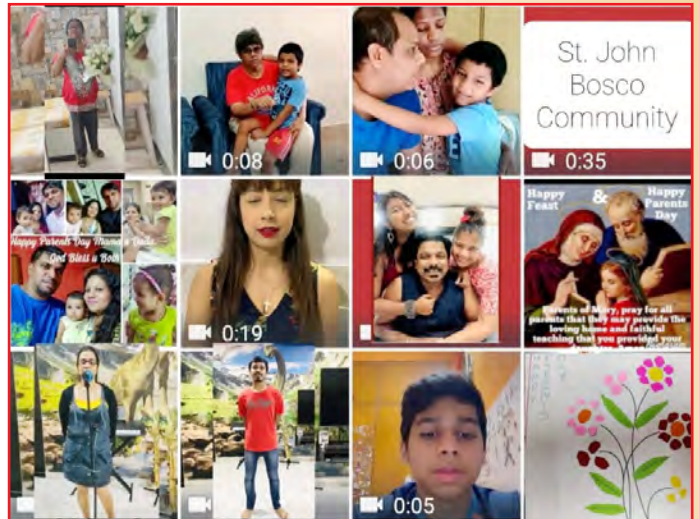
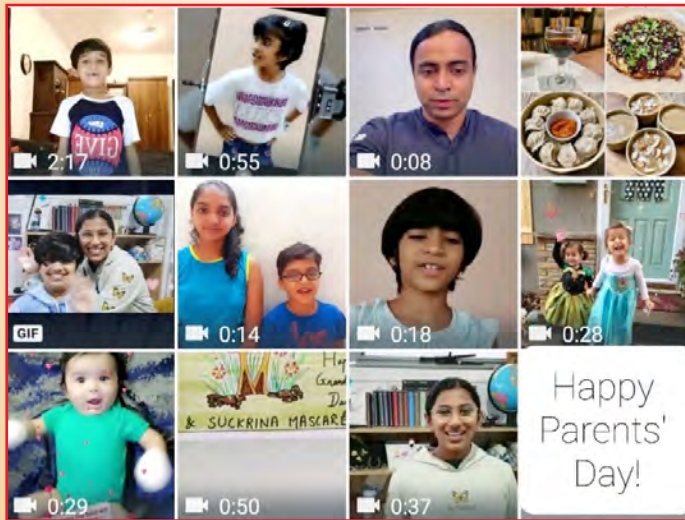
PARISH LEVEL PARENTS DAY CELEBRATION



Death: 02.08.2021 – Mrs. Adeline Albert D'souza (St. John Bosco Community, Up-pakhadi)
26.08.2021 – Mrs. Velankanni Napoleon Misquitta (Our Lady of Fatima Community, Irla Village)

ST. JOHN BOSCO'S COMMUNITY: PARENT'S DAY CELEBRATION

The community of St John Bosco wanted to make our grand parents and parents feel special. The lockdown restrictions gave us limited options. So each of our families came up with innovative ideas. Age didn't dampen the enthusiasm. Some of the children prepared a special meal, some prepared greeting cards and some even performed magic tricks. Some recited



poems, sang songs dedicated to their parents and prepared short messages. All these initiatives were recorded and shared with the entire community via WhatsApp. It was fun to watch and an extremely touching experience for our parents. The community beamed ear to ear and appreciated online the efforts of each of our children. This event showcased the spirit of celebrating our parents in the community.

– Fay Dsouza

SSVP REACHES OUT TO THEIR ADOPTED FAMILIES (August 2021)



St. Vincent de Paul Society of Irla met their aided/adopted families on 7th August in the Prayer Hall. Fr. Ravi, our Parish Priest, welcomed all the families, prayed for them and exhorted them to also reciprocate the good work done by SVP members and requested the Study Class students to study well and make him and the members proud of them. He requested all to observe the pandemic protocol and look after themselves and their families very well.

Then, he prayed with them for all the sponsors, benefactors and well-wishers. He distributed grains containing rice, dal, sugar, pulses, oil and some other essentials along with a packet of lunch. A part of College Fees was also given to one of our students. As usual monthly ration and dole was distributed by SVP members.

We are very grateful to Bombay Catholic Sabha for helping our families with medical card as well as aid from time to time.

We are very grateful and thankful to Fr. Ravi, our Parish Priest and Fr. Praveen, our Spiritual Advisor, for guiding us and always being available.

Thanks to all our sponsors, well-wishers and benefactors we continue to serve the needy.

– Gillu Menezes

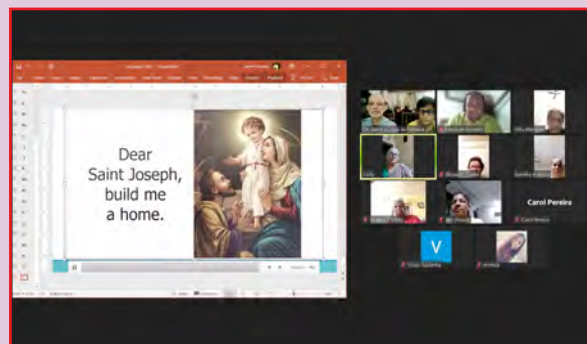
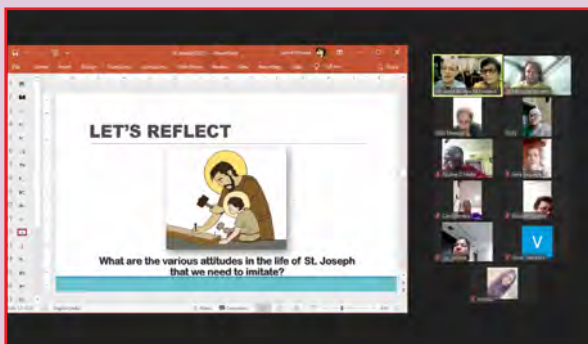
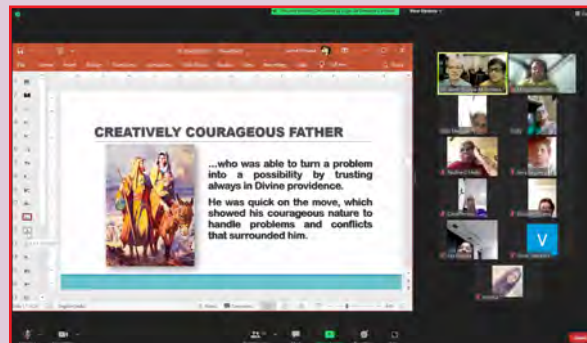
VIANNEY SUNDAY

"Thank you, priests, for sacrificing the fulfilment of 'making it in the world' in order to give us a chance to make it in the next world. You don't take on jobs — they are appointed to you. You put your own will at the disposal of the church, for us. We are grateful."

These words echoed in our parish on 8th August 2021 as we celebrated the Vianney Sunday. Our Parish fathers as well as our Sisters were felicitated after the 9 am mass. A small celebration with speeches and songs by the youth group and Parish community and song from Youth and Parish community and presentation of a token of our appreciation and gratitude was presented to the Parish Fathers.



GO TO JOSEPH: A SESSION FOR LAY LEADERS



An online session for Lay Leaders on the apostolic letter of Pope Francis entitled 'With a Father's heart' was conducted on 19th August 2021 via Zoom. In the session, Dn. Jaime and Ligia led the participant through a discussion and reflection and reflection on the Pope Francis' personal reflection of St. Joseph and his involvement in Jesus' Life. In

speaking of St. Joseph, we say "Ite ad Joseph," which means "Go to Joseph." But really, when we go to St. Joseph, we are invoking his intercession to go to Jesus for us. St. Joseph always brings us right back to Mary and Jesus. While St. Joseph doesn't have a catchy sayings mentioned in the Bible, he has something better: the heart of a father. His ability to love each of us personally teaches us how to love in return. Through the Life of St. Joseph, we are called to love each other in return.

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY; INDIA'S 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Bombay Catholic Sabha Irla Unit conducted the Independence Day Celebration which was relayed live.

Blossom Coates hosted the event. Fr. Praveen Jangam, Assistant Parish Priest hoisted the Flag and in his speech he



stressed on the sacrifice of our ancestors due to which we got our Independence.

The celebration concluded with the Vote of Thanks by the Chairman where he wished everyone Happy Feast and Happy Independence Day.

BOMBAY CATHOLIC SABHA: INDEPENDENCE DAY OUTREACH, E-WASTE MANAGEMENT, SANGLI FLOODS OUTREACH

Being the Feast of Assumption and Independence Day the Bombay Catholic Sabha Irla Unit distributed Ration Kits to 52 needy families. This was sponsored by Reuben Mascarenhas a Parishoner. Fr. Praveen Jangam, Assistant Parish Priest prayed for the good health and success in all future endeavours of our sponsor. He also prayed for all the Parishoners and especially for those receiving the Ration. Mrs. Pamela Mascarenhas, Reuben's mother also helped in the distribution.



The Bombay Catholic Sabha Irla Unit also submitted 10 kgs Plastic, 5 kgs E-waste and 380 Tetra Pak to Bisleri for recycling.

The Bombay Catholic Sabha Irla Unit gave clothes donated by Parishoners to Helpers of Jesus Sisters Sneh Sagar Societ, at Malwani for those affected by Floods at Sangli. It will be distributed in Sangli on 15th September, 2021.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR SUCCESS OF 54TH ANNUAL NOVENAS TO OUR LADY OF HEALTH OF VELANKANNI



The youth of the Parish conducted Eucharistic Adoration for success of 54th Annual Novenas which were live-streamed on the parish YouTube Channel through reflective readings, hymns and intercessions.

GLIMPSES OF THE 54th ANNUAL NOVENA

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 54th Annual Novenas were once again conducted online. Here are some glimpses of the Flag Hoisting, Online Prayer Service for the Sick and the preachers at the various Masses in English, Konkani, Marathi, and Tamil.



Date	Day	Theme
30/8/21	Mon	Mary of the Gospels; Rooted in Faith
31/8/21	Tues	Mary the New Eve; Nurturer and Sustainer of Life
1/9/21	Wed	Mary ever-Virgin; Open to the Holy Spirit
2/9/21	Thu	Blessedness of Mary; Anointed by God
3/9/21	Fri	The Assumption; Sweetness of Redemption

Date	Day	Theme
4/9/21	Sat	Motherhood of Mary; Warmth and Comfort of Love
5/9/21	Sun	Mary, Mother of the Church; Nourishment for Body & Soul
6/9/21	Mon	Mary our Intercessor; Instrument of Change
7/9/21	Tues	Mary and the Family; Model for a Family
8/9/21	Wed	Mary and the girl child; You are a blessing

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

7.15 am Mass in English: Main Celebrant: Fr Donald Miranda S.J.



5.30 pm Mass in English: Main Celebrant: Fr. Ravi T Marneni PIME



7.15 am Solemn Feast Mass in English: Main Celebrant: His Lordship, Bishop Barthol Barretto



Editorial Team: Fr. Ravi Marneni (Editor), Clayson Fonseca, Susan D'Mello, Vera Sequeira, Macjoyle Barretto.