



VELANKANNI IRLA CALLING

OCTOBER
2021

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 each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives to the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The pope attributed more to the "arms" of the Rosary than the power of cannons and the valour of the soldiers who fought there.

Legend tells us that the Rosary as a form of prayer was given to St. Dominic (1170-1221) by Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, who entrusted it to him as an aid in the conflicts with the Albigensians. The Dominican pope, St. Pius V, did much to further the spread of the Rosary and it thereafter became one of the most popular devotions in Christendom. It was the same Pope St. Pius V, who in 1569 officially approved the Rosary with the Papal Bull, *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices*. For us Catholics, October reminds us about the Rosary and Mission Sunday.

World Mission Sunday: In 1926, Pope Pius XI established an annual collection for the missionary work of the Church worldwide called World Mission Sunday, organized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, is a day set aside for Catholics worldwide to recommit themselves to the Church's missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice.

As described by St. John Paul II, World Mission Sunday is "an important day in the life of the Church because it teaches how to give: as an offering made to God, in the Eucharistic celebration and for all the missions of the world" (*Redemptoris Missio* 81). Because our Church is universal, Mass is celebrated in many different languages every day. When we gather around our different altars, we speak a common language – one of love and mercy.

On World Mission Sunday, in all the churches of the world – from the grandest of cathedrals to the smallest mission outpost – this common language will be used as we celebrate the missionary work of the Church. Every year we remember our shared baptismal call to mission as we celebrate World Mission Sunday. On that Sunday, we gather for the Eucharist, in a spirit of love and caring for those in need so that, through our prayers and concrete acts of solidarity, the gift of faith may be shared with all. This year's theme, set by Pope Francis, is: Proclaim it with Joy!...we cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard. (Acts 4:20)

Focus of the Liturgy: The Gospels for the Sundays in October 2021 are taken from St. Mark from Year B, Weekdays follow Cycle I.

October 3rd 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jesus said, "Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate."
October 10th 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Gospel tells the story of the rich young man who could not part with his possessions.
October 17th 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	"For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."
October 24th 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	This Gospel recounts the story of Bartimaeus, the blind man, who Jesus cured.
October 31st 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	In this Gospel Jesus gives us the greatest commandment.

PIME (Pontifical Institute for Foreign Mission) is one of the missionary Institutes which completely is dedicated in an extraordinary way for the mission work of the Church. Our missionaries are working in many parts of the world. Please pray for all the missionaries and especially for PIME Missionaries.

God Bless you all!

**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 Elamthuruthy

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 2021

Missionary Disciples: We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

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

SSVP REACHES OUT TO THEIR ADOPTED FAMILIES (September 2021)

On 11th of September, we interacted with our families to know about their well-being. Thanks to some of our sponsors, we could arrange to give them a festival hamper containing grains, sugar, rice, wafers, etc along with some lunch packets. These were blessed by our Parish Priest Fr. Ravi, who prayed for them and then gave away the hampers to the families. Our Asst. Parish Priest Fr. Praveen also helped in giving away the hamper. The families were delighted to get the hampers. As usual, ration and dole was also distributed.



We sincerely thank Sr. Assumpta of Lions Club for arranging to get one sewing machine for one of our aided family. Thus, helping make the family self-reliant. We thank and pray for the good health of all our well-wishers, donors, sponsors and benefactors for extending their help time to time.

– Gilhermine Menezes

MONTH OF OCTOBER: REMINDERS FOR ALL:

Contact your SCC Coordinators to enquire about: 1. Community Rosary on the Feast of Our Lady of Rosary.
2. World Mission Sunday and any other Community Activity.

TESTIMONY FROM TWO OF OUR CONFIRMANDI

This year due to the pandemic our confirmation class were held online. We had classes every Sunday in which we were taught about our faith in every aspect. Macjoyle our mentor was very helpful throughout our preparation; he made the online class lively. However, something we would have enjoyed i.e. the offline class. I missed meeting everyone but it was possible when we had our Confessions and Short Rehearsal- though it was held keeping all the protocols to be followed.

My confirmation day will always be a memorable day as it was held on our parish feast day. His lordship Bishop Barthol Barretto who celebrated the mass gave us an inspiring message of how to stay connected to the church and part of the church's ministry even after confirmation.

One thing I take away from this entire experience: The Holy Spirit works wonderfully in unison with the Father and the Son and I am witness to it.

– **Shaun Fortunatus D'Souza (St. Christopher)**



Confirmation was a very special time in our life as we continue on our journey of discovering our faith and learning to live too. The process of preparation was an important one and it not only helped us discern our readiness to receive the Sacrament but also understand our Catholic faith and how we can be of service to our Parish. We began this journey early August of 2020. Due to the pandemic, our classes were conducted through Google Meet an online platform.



During the 30 odd sessions, we were taught about the Catechism of Catholic Church and the importance of the Sacrament of Confirmation by our dear catechist Macjoyle. We were being prepared using case studies and situations and along with this online tests and assignments were scheduled too. An online recollection was conducted which not only deepened our faith but also helped us introspect in ourselves as well.

A few days prior to the big day, we had a few preparatory classes along with Confessions and a short rehearsal- all conducted with following the protocols strictly.

Come 12th September, 2021 eight of us received Sacrament of Confirmation. This day was graced by His Lordship Bishop Barthol Barretto who was the main celebrant along with Fr. Ravi, our parish priest and Fr. Praveen our Assistant Parish priest as well as Fr. Udaybhaskar who concelebrated the mass.

On behalf of the Confirmands, I thank our Parish priest, Fr Ravi; Asst. Parish Priest, Fr. Praveen; our Parents, Godparents and family members; Catechists especially Macjoyle for all the efforts and hard-work he put in for us and for guiding us through this our Faith journey. We also thank all our

prayer guardian and the parish community for praying for us during this entire preparatory phase.

I will take away one thing from this experience: Our relationship with our Church doesn't end after our Confirmation; instead, it gets stronger and the Holy Spirit inspires us to strive to work for its growth.

– **Natania Natasha Patil (St. Maria Goretti)**

BOMBAY CATHOLIC SABHA: VACCINATION DRIVE

In continuation with our COVID-19 Vaccination Drive, we assisted 9 persons to get vaccinated this month. Special thanks to Lynell Pinto for her assistance. Till date we have vaccinated 20 persons.



GLIMPSES OF THE PARISH FEAST AND CONFIRMATION MASS.

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



Congratulations to Christina Pinto, Dimple Joshi, Janice Lasrado, MaryJane Pereyra, Natania Patil, Shaun D'Souza, Shirley Gomes and Yash Pereira who were conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation by His Lordship, Bishop Barthol Barretto on our Parish Feast day (Sunday, 12th September, 2021.) We are proud of each of you with your different talents, gifts and charisms that God has given you in your life. We hope that this is not the end, but a new beginning in your relationship with Jesus Christ. As you are young in your lives, you can begin a new and essential type of life to follow our Saviour by putting him first. Open your hearts through the sacrament of Confirmation, and you will grow.

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