



VELANKANNI IRLA CALLING

**JANUARY
2022**

Church of Our Lady of Health of Velankanni

FROM THE DESK OF PARISH PRIEST

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

**LET US JOYFULLY WELCOME NEW YEAR 2022
WITH THE BLESSINGS OF THE LORD.**

In the first half of January, we continue to rejoice and celebrate Christ's coming into Bethlehem and in our hearts. We have wonderful feasts of Mary, Mother of God, wherein we honour Mary's highest title, and then we follow the Magi to the crib as they bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh on Epiphany. Finally, we reach the culmination of this season with the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John the Baptist. Post this feast, we silently take down our decorations and enter into the liturgical period known as 'Ordinary Time', wherein we will devote ourselves to the mystery of Christ.

Focus of the Liturgy in the Month of January: The Gospels for the Sundays in January during the Christmas season follow the annual readings from St. Matthew, St. Luke, and St. John. The remaining Sunday Gospels in Ordinary Time are taken from St. Luke following the Lectionary Cycle C, and the Weekday readings follow Year II.

January 2 Epiphany of the Lord	Matthew 2:1-12: This Gospel describes the Magi visiting the Christ Child.
January 9 Baptism of the Lord	Year C, Luke 3:15-16, 21-22: Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan. "You are my beloved Son..."
January 16th 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Year C, John 2:1-11: The Wedding Feast at Cana, where Mary says, "Do whatever he tells you."
January 23rd 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Year C, Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21: Jesus speaks in the synagogue in Nazareth. "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."
January 30th 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Year C, Luke 4:21-30: Jesus says, "No prophet is accepted in his own native place."

NEW YEAR 2022	How blessed we are to enter into the New Year 2022.
N – NEW BEGINNING	Year of Grace and Blessing from the Lord.
E – ENCOURAGING EACH OTHER	Year of Opportunities and Achievements
W – WISHING GOOD DAYS TO COME	Year of Praise and Thanksgiving to everyone
Y – YEAR LONG HAPPINESS	Year of Joy, Good Health and Peace
E – EARNING SINCERELY	Year of Commitment and Dedication
A – ADORING THE LORD EVERY DAY	Year of Spiritual and Faithful journey
R – RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS OF THE LORD	Year of Jubilee (Synod)

During the years 2020 and 2021, we have experienced tragic days which were affected with COVID 19 virus. We pray that at least we may have better days in the year 2022.

Alfred Lord Tennyson says "Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, Whispering, it will be happier..." Therefore, let us hope for better days come during the year 2022.

The word of the Lord always inspires us to have great hope in the Lord.

May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed. (Psalm 20: 4)

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Wish You All A Prosperous New Year 2022!

Yours in Christ,

**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 JANUARY 2022

For true human fraternity: We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

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

TILL FURTHER NOTICE, PLEASE NOTE THE MASS TIMINGS:

Monday to Friday: 7.15 a.m.

Saturday: Mass & Novena in English at 6.30 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.; in Tamil at 8.00 a.m.; in Marathi at 2.30 p.m.; in Konkani at 4.30 p.m.

Sunday: 9.00 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

THE CHRISTMAS CRIB

The Church Crib this year seems simple but its meaningful. Let us explain to you the meaning of this year's Crib.

As we have already commenced the Synod 2021-2023, the entire church journeys together. "By walking together, and together reflecting on the journey made, the Church will be able to learn from what it will experience which processes can help it to live communion, to achieve participation, to open itself to mission."

The People of God: This is an element from the Synod logo which depicts that the people of God are not static: they are on the move, in direct reference to the etymology of the word synod, which means "walking together". These 15 silhouettes sum up our entire humanity in its diversity of life situations of generations and origins. This aspect is reinforced by the multiplicity of bright colours which are themselves signs of joy. There is no hierarchy between these people: all are on the same footing.

Red lights: This element represents the journey's route we as a Church have embarked upon through this Synod. We are reminded that on the way we may face troubles and trials but with God's love and mercy our destination may be full of healthy relationships where love, peace and joy dwells.

White Lights: This element represents the warmth and guidance of the Holy Spirit present since beginning of time, at the Annunciation and also at the Saviour's birth, who continues to strengthen the church as it journeys together.

Stable: This element represents the first domestic church: The Holy Family. They journeyed from Nazareth all the way to Bethlehem. The stable in which we meet baby Jesus along with Mary and Joseph reminds us of being humble here on earth as 'your riches will be greater in the Kingdom of Heaven.'

Crib Structure: The entire crib is open from all sides as reminder of the theme: "For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission". We will come together as one whole Encounter God, Listen to each other and finally Discern. The Synodal process will only be one of communion, participation, and mission if it is one centred on God.

Jesus invites us today to "empty ourselves, to free ourselves from all that is worldly, including our inward-looking and outworn pastoral models" and to discern what God's message us for the Church in this time, and in which direction He wants to lead it.

As we journey to Bethlehem this Christmas season, let us not forget that we, the entire Catholic Church, in these two years are walking together. You are invited by Pope Francis to question yourself, the Church, on synodality: a decisive theme for the life and mission of the Church.



Baptism: 26.12.2021 – Krystle Cornello, daughter of Cyrus and Roselina Cornello (St. Jude Community)

Marriages: 19.12.2021 – Renvin Dias and Rachael Pereira (St. John Bosco's Community)

21.12.2021 – Belvita Gonsalves and Jackson D'Souza (Our Lady of Fatima Community)

CHRISTMAS PARTY – SVP STUDY CLASS CHILDREN

Christmas signifies the birth of our Messiah and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is a festive occasion of love, hope and peace. To bring joy into the lives of the children of our aided families, SVP organized a Christmas Party on 11th December 2021. At 11 am the children gathered together in the Prayer Hall to enjoy the party with games, fun and laughter.

At the outset, Fr. Praveen Jangam, our Spiritual Advisor, said a short prayer blessing the children, the well displayed gifts and extolling the SVP members for their humanitarian work. Ms Raffelia Fonseca organized interactive games for everyone. It was a time of fellowship and enjoyment for all ages coming together. Prizes were distributed to the winners of the various games. There was an air of excitement and expectancy when Santa Claus entered welcoming everyone and scattered sweets which the children scrambled to collect. The Christmas tree was decorated with ornaments prepared by the children themselves. One of the children spoke what Christmas meant to him. The members sang some action oriented Christmas carols much to the delight of the children.



At 12.30 pm, the parents of the children arrived to take the children home and help to carry the various gifts which were so generously sponsored for the occasion. There were goody bags filled with chocolates, snacks and sweets, gifts for children of different age groups and also the teachers, buckets, mugs and bath towels, one for each family, and food items like vegetable biriyani and sheera.

Our warm thanks to Fr. Praveen, our sponsors, the SVP members who helped to organize the function to make it a resounding success. Wishing all A Very Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year 2022. God bless!

– Jennifer Lopez

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF HEALTH OF VELANKANNI, IRLA MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION (24th OCTOBER 2021)

COMMUNITY	AMOUNT
1. ST. ANTHONY COMMUNITY	Rs. 36,700 /-
2. ST. JOHN BOSCO COMMUNITY	Rs. 7,250 /-
3. HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY	Rs. 9,250 /-
4. OUR LADY OF FATIMA COMMUNITY	Rs. 3,000 /-
5. ST. JUDE'S COMMUNITY	Rs. 900 /-
6. ST. PAUL COMMUNITY	Rs. 20,550 /-
GENERAL DONATION	Rs. 750 /-
SECOND COLLECTION AMOUNT	Rs. 5,957 /-
TOTAL MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION	Rs. 84,357 / -

5TH WORLD DAY OF THE POOR COLLECTION (14TH NOVEMBER 2021)

TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED FROM PARISHIONERS AND DONORS: Rs.28,600 /-

We thank the Parishioners and Donors for their generous contribution towards the Mission Sunday and 5th World Day of Poor Collection. God bless you abundantly!

ADVENT RECOLLECTION BY FR. HENRY FERNANDES C.Ss.R



SEASON OF ADVENT: ANIMATION OF THE LITURGY BY THE SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES AND PARISH COUNCIL



REV. FR. PRAVEEN JANGAM'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION (22nd DECEMBER 2021)



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On 26th December, 2021 which was the feast of Holy Family, **Jeff Cornello, Larissa Rebello, Shanaya Sequeira, Theo Lobo, Zayden Joshi, Zenia Misquitta** received Jesus for the first time. We congratulate them and their family and pray for them to grow just like Jesus.



May the blessings of Christ
be always with you
in all the ups and downs of your life.
May your life be happy and joyful forever.

Happy New Year!

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