



THE PATRICIAN

Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph 4:15)

October 2015

MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRIEST

"If only you know how happy and content you would feel when giving to others; it gives as much joy to your heart as any other virtue that makes you unique"

'Giving' is the theme for the month of October, as we observe **Mission Sunday** on the 18th of this month. It puts the spotlight on Jesus' commission to his disciples "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matt 28:19). It is the responsibility of each one of us - priests, religious and laity - to give the faith that we have received to others, through our prayers and charity. It is also apt that the Church observes this month as the 'Month of the Holy Rosary'. It serves as a reminder that we have the support of Mother Mary, walking along with us and blessing us in every effort to propagate the faith. We recall the words of Pope St. Pius X, "If you want peace in your heart, in your home, in your country, assemble together every night and pray the Rosary."

I would like to add here that you, my dear parishioners, are the inspiration in my mission at St. Patrick's Church. I would like to join along with you all in this mission of propagating the faith that our catholic church calls for. I will be delighted to see the young and the seniors alike take part in Mission Sunday and make it a successful one.

For my reflection this month, I would like to share

LIGHTEN UP!

An elderly lady was well-known for her faith and for her boldness in talking about it. She would stand on her front porch and shout "Praise the Lord!" Next door to her lived an atheist who would get so angry at her proclamations he would shout, "There ain't no Lord!!!"

Hard times set in on the elderly lady, and she prayed for GOD to send her some assistance. She stood on her porch and shouted "Praise the Lord. God I need food!! I am having a hard time. Please Lord, send me some groceries!!!"

The next morning the lady went out on her porch and

about the power of the Rosary. I knew of a family, whose faith was so deep that they would pray the Rosary as one family, every single day before dinner. The father would come home after the day's work and with his wife and children would join together and pray the Rosary. It was the faith that they had in Mother Mary our intercessor that kept the family together through every joy, happiness and hardship that they faced in their lives. I was awestruck to find that they did not let a single day go by without praying the Holy Rosary.

This leads me to reflect on the faith that we celebrate each and every month; not a single event or community gathering goes by without faith at its centre! Let us all pray to Mother Mary this month, since it is the month dedicated to the Holy Rosary. I appeal to each and every individual and family at St. Patrick's to make a practice of saying the Rosary daily, preferably at home as one family. You are also welcome to join us at Church, especially those who live alone, to pray the Rosary daily after the 5.30pm Mass. Remember, our prayers are heard every second of our lives.

"It is by faith, I live, it is by faith I serve, and it is by faith I believe."

God bless you all!

Msgr. C Francis
Parish Priest
Vicar General - Archdiocese of Bangalore

noted a large bag of groceries and shouted, "PRAISE THE LORD." The neighbor jumped from behind a bush and said, "Aha! I told you there was no Lord. I bought those groceries, God didn't."

The lady started jumping up and down and clapping her hands and said, "PRAISE THE LORD. He not only sent me groceries, but He made the devil pay for them. Praise the Lord!"

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ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY

All Souls Day on 2nd November is a busy day at St. Patrick's Cemetery as the faithful come in hundreds to clean graves, to pray and to offer Masses for their deceased loved ones. Over 5,000 of our near and dear relatives and friends have been buried there.

St. Patrick's Cemetery has been in existence for over 140 years - from around the year 1874. As one would expect, the graves here are rich in history. In plot E, for instance, there is a small mausoleum-like structure which contains the graves of Mrs. Henriette Elizabeth Ingram Cotton and her young son (buried in 1918 and 1907 respectively). Apparently their family contributed a significant amount of funds to build the St Antony's Shrine at St. Patrick's. There are also many Irish soldiers buried in our cemetery. Unfortunately there is nobody to maintain their graves. I have got the workers to clean around 30 of these graves at my personal expense. You can see the white marble graves, some with beautifully sculpted angels, looking much better now. This All Souls Day, we request you to clean one grave each and say a prayer for these souls.

The cemetery is structured into 18 plots - with 9 on the right, numbered 1 to 9, and 9 on the left, numbered A to G. The last 2 have been numbered 10, 11, and 12. In the year 2009, to cater to those who opt for cremation, 257 vaults were built near the entrance on the right side near the office. This has helped as there is a shortage of space for new graves. Allotment of the vaults is done strictly in serial order basis - and no selection is allowed. 30 of these vaults have been taken up so far.

The numerous trees and greenery within the cemetery gives one a serene feeling. However, cleaning the vast expanse of the cemetery is a very onerous and expensive task. Leaves fall throughout the year and grass sprouts very rapidly during the rainy season. Four families of workers live in the workers' quarters at the Cemetery. At any given time, 2 of them are

posted in the cemetery and 2 in the church premises on a weekly rotational basis.

Besides the construction of the vaults, there has been a lot of other investment made towards the maintenance of the Cemetery. The workers' quarters were rebuilt in 2012. The wall at the far end of the cemetery was raised by a few feet last year, at a cost of Rs. 60,000/-, as anti-social elements were scaling the wall and creating a nuisance. The Church also acquired a weed-cutter and a chain-saw machine two years ago to help cut the grass and the fallen trees. Though the maintenance cost of the machines is high, they are an immense help in keeping the cemetery reasonably clean.

Contributions collected at the Cemetery on All Souls Day are for cemetery maintenance - not grave maintenance. The amount collected is approximately Rs.35,000/- per year, whereas the monthly expenditure exceeds Rs.20,000/-. Your generous contributions would go a long way in maintaining the Cemetery even better.

Let us also try and keep our Cemetery litter-free. After funerals when refreshments are served, very often the cups, tetra-packs, plates, boxes and paper napkins are indiscriminately thrown around spoiling the cleanliness of the Cemetery. The dead cannot complain so I am doing it on their behalf! The dead appreciate your flowers but not the plastic they come in.

Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. - Psalm 90:10

Dilip D'souza
Parish Council (Cemetery)

IMPORTANT DAYS IN OCTOBER

- Oct 01:** Feast of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin and doctor of the Church
- Oct 02:** Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels; Gandhi Jayanti
- Oct 07:** Our Lady of the Rosary, Memorial
- Oct 15:** Memorial of St. Teresa of Avila, virgin and doctor of the Church
- Oct 17:** Memorial of St. Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr
- Oct 18:** Mission Sunday; Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist (*not celebrated this year*)
- Oct 28:** - Feast of Ss. Simon and Jude, Apostles

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions - October

Universal: PEACE

That the Lord may grant peace to those parts of the world most battered by war and violence.

Evangelization: WORLD MISSION DAY

That World Mission Day may rekindle in every believer zeal for carrying the Gospel into all the world.

OCTOBER - THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

St. Patrick's Parish has a wonderful tradition of 'taking Mother Mary home' in the month of October. Pilgrim statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary are circulated in the zones, and families and neighbours get together to pray the Rosary. But have you ever wondered why October is observed as the month of the Holy Rosary?

In the year 1571, Catholic troops set sail to fight the Ottoman army in the Battle of Lepanto in order to rescue certain Christian lands which were under Ottoman rule. Knowing that the Catholic troops were at a serious material disadvantage, the then Pope, Pius V asked all of Europe to pray the Rosary and beseech Our Lady to intervene in their favour. The Pope's request was taken seriously and Catholics all over Europe turned to Mary through the recitation of the Rosary to obtain this favour. On October 7, 1571, after about five hours of fighting, the combined armies of the Vatican, Venice and Spain succeeded in defeating the Ottomans. In gratitude for the favour Mary granted, the Holy Father Pius V instituted the Feast of Our Lady of Victory to be celebrated annually on the day of the victory at Lepanto (i.e. October 7). The name of this Feast was changed to 'Our Lady of the Rosary' by Pope Gregory XIII in 1573. Catholics soon began to associate this month with the Rosary. During this month, it would be helpful to know a bit more about this devotion.

How did the Rosary originate?

Legend has it that when St. Dominic de Guzman was frustrated at the futility of his attempts at combating the Albigensian heresy, he retreated to the woods to spend a few days in prayer. It was there that the Virgin Mary visited him, gave him a rosary and taught him how to pray it. She assured him that by preaching about her Rosary, he would be successful in completely trampling down the Albigensian heresy. However, some historians are sceptical of this episode, and claim that the Rosary originated quite naturally, by pious men and women using beads to pray the simple prayers that they knew. Whether the legend is true or not is not certain, but it is well known that St. Dominic spent the rest of his life preaching untiringly about the Rosary.

What is the essence of the Rosary?

The Rosary is a Christ-centred devotion. Surprised at this? Of course, most of the prayer consists of hailing Mary and asking for her prayers, but at the heart of this devotion is the meditation on the mysteries of Christ's life, death and resurrection. In the Rosary,

we keep Mary company as we, together with her, look upon the scenes from the life of Christ. Since Mary was present at most of these events, and since she was completely attuned to her Son throughout his life, she is the best person to help us contemplate.

What is the attitude of the Church towards the Rosary?

From the time of St. Dominic, the Rosary has been well received by the entire Catholic world. The Church recommends that we pray the Rosary devoutly every day. Numerous Popes, scholars, theologians and preachers have highly exhorted this devotion. On one occasion Pope John Paul II remarked, "The Rosary is my favourite prayer. A marvellous prayer!" Our current Holy Father, Pope Francis is in the habit of saying three rosaries a day. It's also interesting to know that Pope Leo XIII holds the record for the most encyclicals on the Rosary - eleven!

How have the Saints responded to the Rosary?

Mary has been called the 'Queen of All Saints', and not without reason. The numerous holy men and women of various times have found in her a perfect model of holiness. Some of the notable devotees of the Rosary are St. Dominic de Guzman, St. Louis Marillac de Montfort, St. John Paul II, St. Josemaria Escriva, Bl. Alan de la Roche, St. Francis de Sales, St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Bl. Theresa of Calcutta and numerous others. The great Italian mystic St. Padre Pio, one of the greatest devotees of the Rosary, would say an average of 36 rosaries a day, finishing about seven rosaries by 7 a.m. and 34 rosaries by 9 p.m!

What does Mary have to say about the Rosary?

While the Church does not require us to believe in private apparitions and revelations, it is good to know that in many credible apparitions, Mary has exhorted, urged and pleaded with us to begin saying the Rosary. At Fatima, Mary introduced herself as "the lady of the Rosary". The fifteen promises given by Mary to those who recite the Rosary show how powerful this devotion is. One of them is, "The Rosary shall be a powerful armour against hell; it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies".

In this month of the Rosary, make an effort to say the Rosary more often. Invite Mother Mary home and along with your family, friends and neighbours, recite the rosary. You will be richly rewarded through this simple, yet efficacious prayer.

Nigel Furtado
St. Paul's Zone

TALK ON FIRST AID

In an emergency, every second counts to save a life, and not everything done would be helpful to preserve life. The initial help given plays an important role in saving a person's life. That is the reason why everyone needs to be aware of the importance of First Aid.

Keeping this in mind, St. Patrick's Church decided to organize a program on First Aid on Sunday, Sep 13th. The date was chosen to coincide with the World First Aid Day, which was observed on the 12th of September. On that Sunday, after the 8:30 am Mass, children above the age of 10 gathered in the mini-Hall for a short talk by Doctors Rahul Sima and Natasha Sima.

Dr. Rahul, who is a general and laparoscopic surgeon at St. Martha's Hospital, began his talk by drawing on the example of the Good Samaritan in the Bible and how he came to the aid of the injured traveller. He spoke on the importance of rendering First Aid and also emphasized on weighing the safety of oneself and the person in need of help as the primary thought. He followed it by speaking on how to help a person who has fainted or is bleeding or who has been a victim of animal bites. For example, when a person is suffering

from insect stings he said that the first thing to do is to scrape the area or remove the sting using a tweezer, to refrain from pinching the area and to apply an ice pack to slow down blood flow. He laid importance on cleaning any wound or superficial scratch with only soap and warm water and not using kitchen ingredients. He also showed the children how to find the pulse which got them excited.

Dr. Natasha Sima, an ENT surgeon with St. John's Hospital concluded with the topic on how to aid a person who has choked and also showed a video on the same.

The session was not just helpful and informative for the children but also to us Faith Formators.

Ashwita Martis
Faith Formator, St. Anthony's Zone

"If you say the Rosary faithfully until death, I do assure you that, in spite of the gravity of your sins you shall receive a never-fading crown of glory. Even if you are on the brink of damnation, even if you have one foot in hell... sooner or later you will be converted and will amend your life and will save your soul..."

St. Louis De Montfort

All Souls Day - Nov 2, 2015

Mass at the Cemetery will be at 11am and 4pm.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES WITHIN OUR PARISH

- a) **Daily Mass:** 6am, 6.30am (Tamil), 7am, 1.15pm, 5.30pm. Saturday evening Mass at 6pm (Sunday Liturgy)
- b) **Sunday Mass:** 6am (Kannada), 7.15am (Tamil), 8.30am (Children's Mass), 9.45am, 11am, 6pm.
- c) **Shrine Mass:** Every Tuesday at 10am in Kannada and at 6pm in Tamil
- d) **Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Friday 6pm to 6.45pm
- e) **Adoration Chapel:** Exposition every day from 6am to 7pm. On Tuesdays, exposition up to 9.45pm.
- f) **Confessions:** Every Saturday 5pm to 6pm at the Adoration Chapel
- g) **Altar Servers Meeting:** Every Saturday immediately after 1.15pm Mass (Contact Fr. Mac Donald Fernandis +91 8971216787)
- h) **Faith Formation for children:** Every Sunday after 8.30am Mass - up to 10.30am.
- i) **Legion of Mary:** Meetings every Monday at 4.15pm (Contact Ms. M. Menezes + 91-9845426746)
- j) **Legion of Mary (Tamil):** Meetings every Sunday from 8.30am to 9.30am (Contact Mr. John Leonard +91-9916896446)
- k) **St Vincent de Paul:** Meetings every Tuesday at 6pm (Contact Mr. James Sequeira Ph: +91-9341252624)
- l) **Ladies of Charity:** Meetings every first Thursday of the month at 4.30pm (Contact Ms. Stella Monga +91 8147971118)
- m) **Counseling Centre:** Open every Tuesday and Friday between 4.30pm to 6.30pm. (Contact +91-80-25587213)

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