



# Tidings

PARISH SILVER JUBILEE SOUVENIR

For Private Circulation Only

December 2024



*Dare to Dream*  
with Saint Joseph

1999 - 2024

25 YEARS JUBILEE OF  
THE DEDICATION OF

STJOSEPH  
CHURCH



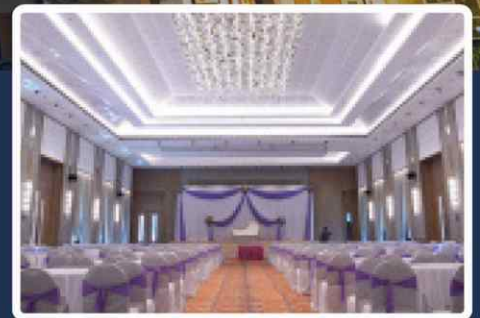
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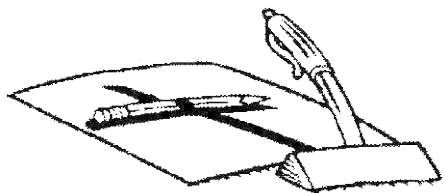
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The Tidings team wishes you a  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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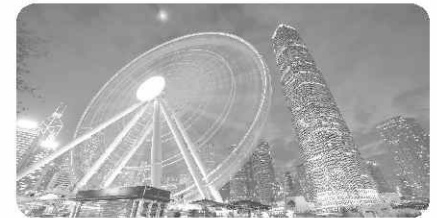
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Best wishes  
from  
Mr. Rudolf Vaz and  
Mrs. Octavia Vaz

With best wishes  
From  
Henry Tauro  
& Family

*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*



**Greetings form St. Joseph Church, Mira Road to my parishioners and the well-wishers!**

We are celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Dedication of St. Josph Church. It is a great milestone in the history of the parish at Mira Road and the Archdiocese of Bombay. I thank Almighty God for journeying with each of the shepherds and the sheep of the parish. We are grateful to the Archbishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Simon Pimenta who invited the Carmelite friars to Mira Road.

The founder father Late Fr. Richard Castelino, Fr. Michael Moris Shenoy and each of the assistants who had put up with the great difficulties and lived in a small room until the small cement sheet chapel was built to accommodate the Catholics of Mira Road. They had a tough time, but their zeal and the cooperation of the parishioners helped them to keep going.

When the old Chapel was insufficient due to the increase of people, it is the next team of friars that is Rev. Fr. John Alex Pinto, Fr. Melvin D Cunha, Fr. Alexander Braganza and Rev. Fr. Joe Tauro then provincial who worked very hard. The funds were very little to start with, but the great enthusiasm of the clergy and the people had no limits. I thank each of them for working with great commitment and tremendous hard work. We are grateful to each of the Provincials and their Councillors who have been very committed to the progress of the parish by way of guidance and inspiration.

I thank each of the successors that is Rev. Fr. Rudolf D Souza and his team, Rev. Fr. Dominic and his team, Rev. Fr. Nelson Pinto and his team, Rev. Fr. Melvin D Cunha and his team and finally the present team of Fr. Lawrence D Cunha, Fr. Regan D Souza, Fr. Pawan Saldanha, Fr. Nelson Cardoza, Fr. Ashwin D Souza, Fr. Ashwin Rohan D Silva, Fr. Ivo Dias and Deacon Jesvin Tom.

I am grateful to the architect, the contractors, the benefactors and the well-wishers who personally took care of constructing the church. The church is not just the concrete structure, but it is a foundation of faith and faith-filled people of God. So, I am grateful to all the leaders who meticulously rendered their service towards the parish of St. Joseph for the past 25 years; all the vice presidents, Parish Coordinators, area coordinators, the PPC members, SCC Coordinators, animators and the PCOA heads and assistant heads and each of the members. We need to give due credit to each of the staff who have worked with commitment to keep the records in an orderly way. Thanks to each of the present 4823 parish families consisting of 16,483 members.

The celebration of the silver jubilee becomes meaningful when we make the church our home where we experience unity in diversity and express ourselves in the sharing and caring nature. So the vision of our parish Connecting people to God, People to People and People to outreach when it changes to reality with the mission "to live, to love and to serve in the name Jesus Christ". I invite each of our members of the parish to attach the key chain (memento) to your house key and be assured of the protection and guidance of St. Joseph. I assure you my blessings and prayers through the intercession of St. Joseph our patron who is humble, just and obedient.

**Fr. Lawrence D Cunha OCD**  
*Parish Priest*





Oswald Cardinal Gracias

**ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE**  
21, Nathalal Parekh Marg,  
Mumbai - 400 001.  
Tel : 2202 1093/1193/1293  
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## Message

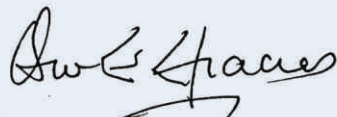
***"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful." (Col 3:15)***

It is with immense joy and gratitude I send my heartfelt greetings to Fr. Lawrence D'Cunha OCD and his team of priest and the entire family of St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road (East) as they celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Dedication of the Church. We pause to reflect on the blessings bestowed upon this parish over the past 25 years. From humble beginnings, this parish has grown to become a vibrant, faith-filled community, deeply committed to living out the Gospel in word and deed.

At the heart of this flourishing community lies a steadfast commitment to Small Christian Communities (SCCs), where each of the 56 communities serves as a source of strength, support, and spiritual growth for the 4744 families and 16,247 parishioners. Through the dedicated leadership of 56 PPC leaders, 372 animators, 12 area coordinators, and 43 PCOA Heads and assistant heads, the parish is effectively guided in its mission to reach every family, youth, and child within our parish boundaries.

This journey has been blessed with numerous initiatives aimed at ongoing formation and faith renewal, especially for children, youth, and married couples. These efforts have helped cultivate a service-oriented spirit, creating a parish community that embodies love, unity, and faith in action. The commitment of all the children and youth ministries speaks volumes about the bright future of St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road (East) and our faith.

As we look forward to the years ahead, may we continue to grow as a community, driven by faith and inspired by service. May St. Joseph, our patron, intercede for us and lead us ever closer to Christ, as we strive to be witnesses of His love and mercy.

+ 

✠ **Oswald Cardinal Gracias**  
Archbishop of Bombay

November 09, 2024







Barthol Barretto

**BISHOP'S HOUSE**  
Jail Road, Nashik Road,  
Maharashtra - 422 101  
Phone: 91- 253-246 2528  
Fax : 91- 253 -245 1550  
Email : nashikdiocese@gmail.com

## Message

Dear Frs Lawrence, Nelson, Ivo, Ashwin Rohan, Ashwin Prasanth, Regan and Pawan,

I am writing these lines to acknowledge receipt of the invitation to the Silver Jubilee celebrations of St Joseph Church, Mira Road, scheduled on Sunday, November 24, 2024. This is a significant milestone in the history of the Church you are presently appointed to and it is most appropriate to celebrate this important event. I have read both the spiritual preparations and the cultural programmes organized from November 15 to November 23 and the grand celebrations planned on Sunday, November 24, 2024.

I bring to mind the pioneers appointed to St Joseph Church, Mira Road: how they lived in a shed a little more than 25 years ago; I have been a witness to this fact as during the monsoons, I walked through knee deep water to reach the Church. Various priests came and tried their best to make the parish community more and more vibrant and alive and they succeeded in keeping the parishioners bonded into a loving community. You are continuing to walk in the footsteps of your predecessors and as Zonal Bishop, I have seen the parish grow from strength to strength. You have an active Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Committee, the many cells and Associations, the Neighbourhood Youth Groups, the Alabare Group, etc. What has struck me most is your visits to the sick and homebound and your pastoral outreach.

Congratulations to you and to the parishioners as you celebrate this important event in the history of St Joseph Church. You have the assurance of my prayer and good wishes.

God bless you and your parish community.

✠ Barthol Barretto  
Bishop, Diocese of Nashik

November 11, 2024





SADBHAVANA  
Carmelite Provincialate,  
P.B. No 5602, Dr Rajkumar Road  
Rajajinagar, 1st Block,  
Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560010  
Phone: 080-23476402  
Email : ocdkgprovince@gmail.com

## Message

On the blessed occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Dedication of St Joseph's Church, Mira Road (E), I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire parish community. Under the guidance of St Joseph, the universal patron of the Church, this parish has grown as a beacon of faith and unity. Rooted deeply in ecclesiastical tradition, the parish has flourished under the guidance of able pastors, who have left no stone unturned so that the People of God may be nourished on solid spiritual doctrine through regular pastoral and liturgical services. I rejoice at the rapid and phenomenal growth it has experienced from the time the Carmelites set foot in Mira Road in 1988 and especially since the new church was blessed in 1999.

My first visit to this parish was in 2000, on my way from Goa to Italy for higher studies. Subsequently, I had numerous occasions to spend time with our friars here. Every time I am inspired by the vibrant faith of the parishioners, visibly seen through their active involvement in many Church activities. My most beautiful experience is to witness during the Eucharist, the uplifting and enthusiastic participation of a church full of lively people. It brings to mind what a famous Father of the Church, St Irenaeus said: ***"The glory of God is man fully alive, -- the liveliness of man is a vision of God."***

I join you all in thanking God for all his blessings, without which you would not be able to achieve anything. Many Carmelite friars have served here zealously and left their imprint on the congregation. It is not possible to name them all, but on behalf of the Karnataka-Goa Province I acknowledge all their sacrifice and hard work. Their sincere labour has borne fruit not only in the material enhancement, but above all in the building up of the *"body of Christ."* The Archbishops and the Auxiliary Bishops of Bombay have been a source of encouragement and I salute them all. Their guidance has meant a lot to us.

With sincere prayers and blessings, I commend this remarkable parish to the continued protection of St Joseph.

**Fr Silvestre D'Souza OCD**  
**Provincial Superior**

November 14, 2024 (Feast of All Carmelite Saints)





ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC PARISH  
St. Catherines Diocese,  
Niagara Falls,  
CANADA  
Email : rudyoed@yahoo.com

## Message

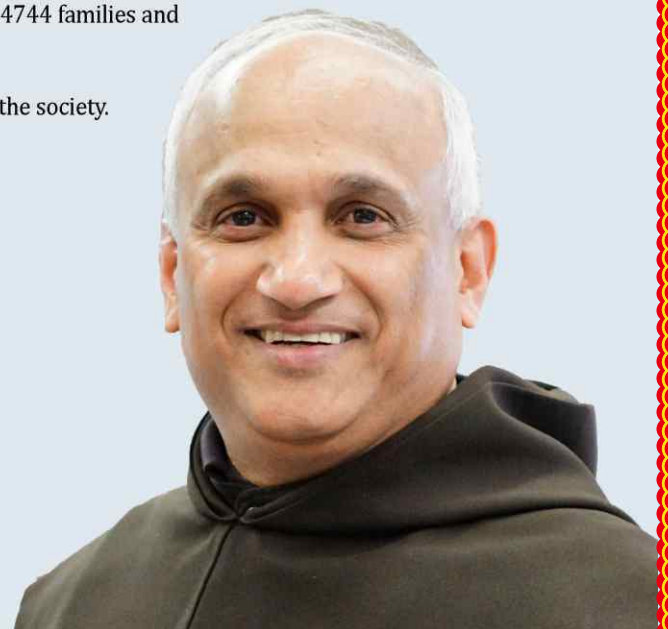
Am glad to write this message for the Silver Jubilee celebrations of St. Joseph Church, Mira Road. This parish is very dear to me because my first parish experience being the first Parish Priest of this Parish began in the year 2001 January and ended in 2009 August.

During my term as Pastor of this mega Parish in the Archdiocese of Mumbai, it grew up to be the largest Parish. The parish began to grow from strength to strength, with all associations and cells taking root. The faith of the parishioners remained remarkable. In 2004, the parishioners staged a mega-event '*The Triumph*', a musical directed and played by Mr. Leroy Santos and Mr. Derick Vessaoker, on the Passion and Resurrection of Christ. 8 shows were held in different parishes of the Archdiocese, including Mira Road. In the same year, a systematic souvenir 'Being Salt and Light in the Community' on SCC communities, with the activities and maps of the communities was released with the help of then SCC coordinators Mrs. Assunta and Mr. Johnson Saldanha under the able direction of Dr. Fr. Praveen D'Souza OCD. In the same year in September, '*Meeting God Through Daily Prayers*', a prayer book with daily prayers for the parishioners was published. To this day, the book has seen multiple editions. Fr. Praveen D'Souza, the first assistant at St. Joseph moved on briefly to ANUBHAV as Pro-tempore Director at the start of 2005. The parish was left with only 3 priests. Br. Alvito Fernandes had joined the team as community member, even as Bros. Melwin, Ronald and Lawrence were ordained and they left for their new assignments. In this year February 2006, Fr. Deepak Thomas arrived as the assistant parish priest and in June Fr. Boniface D'Souza who was assistant pastor was transferred to Mangalore Infant Jesus Shrine for his future pastoral ministry. There were a number of parishioners who contributed Lion's share in making this place of worship vibrant and full of life. I would like to thank Late Mr. Sebastian D'Souza, Late Mr. David D'Silva, Late Mr. Maxim Mathias, Mr. Francis Araujo, and Late Mr. Oswald D'Cunha.

This parish is full of its joys and challenges. The parish is vibrant and we worked hard at forming SCC Clusters. When Late Archbishop Cardinal Ivan Dias met me at his farewell ceremony at Goregaon Seminary, enroute to Rome, he commented thus "St. Joseph Church Mira Road is well known in the Archdiocese, and I expect you to make it a place of prayer and contemplation". Today there are 56 communities, 56 PPC leaders, and 372 animators, guided by 12 area coordinators and the 43 PCOA Heads and assistant heads along with the children and youth Ministry, the parish has flourished. Today we have 4744 families and 16247 parishioners.

I wish this Mega Parish continues to be the *Salt and Light* of the society.  
I wish you and your team all success and God's Blessings.

Fr Rudolf V. D'Souza, OCD  
November 15, 2024





INFANT MARY PARISH  
Carmel Nagar, Bajjodi 2nd Site  
Bikarnakatte, Kulshekar Post,  
Mangaluru, Karnataka - 575005  
Phone: 0824-2210600  
Email : infantmarybajjodi@gmail.com

## Message

Dear Fr. Lawrence,

I am very delighted to learn that St. Joseph Church, Mira Road (E) is celebrating the Silver Jubilee of its dedication. The church is situated in Mira Road which has the fame to be called the mini-Mangalore as many Konkani and Tulu speaking Mangalorean families reside there.

It is one of the largest churches in the Archdiocese of Bombay. In the beginning when the church was being built, it was like a tiny mustard seed; a small church covered with marshy areas all around which we could see even from the railway station. Later when the present church was built it was one of the largest buildings. But today amidst the multi-storey buildings all around the present church is hardly visible. Yet regarding its Catholic population it is still one of the largest churches with 56 SCC communities animated by the 56 PPC leaders and 372 animators and guided by the 12 area coordinators with 4744 families and 16,247 pariohners.

As I was the parish priest for 5 years a few years ago, I have experienced that the parishioners are very vibrant and active. Then with their generous co-operation we could organise the mega events like Christmas Tableau and carols, Mira fest and mega conventions both in Hindi and English.

I wish all the blessings of God and a bright future through the intercession of St. Joseph, our heavenly patron upon the parish Clergy and the parishioners.

Thanking you,

**Fr Dominic Vas, OCD**

November 18, 2024





CARMEL HILL  
St Joseph's Monastery,  
Bikarnakate, Managaluru,  
Karnataka - 575005  
Email : osdic@live.in

## Message

Dear Parish Priest Fr. Lawrence D Cunha, Parish clergy  
and my dear loving parishioners of St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road.

Warmest greetings to all of you.

Indeed, I am delighted to know that you are celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the parish and bringing out the Souvenir. It is 25 years since we inaugurated this church. For the last 25 years it has grown to the heights in every field. It was started with few families in the year 1997 and today we have nearly 5000 registered families with 56 SCC Communities. The Youth and the children are added beauty and strength to the parish. I may not be wrong if I say it is one of the most vibrant parish in the Arch Diocese of Bombay.

At this juncture I acknowledge with gratitude all the priests, religious sisters and the parishioners who have worked very hard and contributed their mite for its growth. I was fortunate to be part of this building and in a special way I remember all the donors, the fund-raising committee and "**Mira Fete**" through which we raised funds.

Jubilee is not only a time of celebration and count God's blessing but also to go forward with trust and confidence in God. The Vision and Mission of the parish is to build a faith filled Community and service-oriented parish. As I convey my greetings on this Jubilee Day, I congratulate each one of you and wish you all the best.

**Fr Melwin D'Cunha, OCD**

November 16, 2024



# DARE TO DREAM WITH ST JOSEPH

## A HISTORY OF ST JOSEPH CHURCH, MIRA ROAD

### The Naya Nagar, Mira Road

In 1985, Mira Road was a pass-through, where fast trains whizzed past marshy lands filled with salt water. A few tiled or asbestos sheds and shanty shops that sold salt occupied the place. Only in 1986, did a few trains stop at Mira Road, after the halt at Dahisar, to facilitate those working in the salt pans here. Except for a single bungalow at Naya Nagar and a few buildings just coming up there, Mira Road was a virtual lake.



At the beginning of the year 1986, the mega plan for 650 buildings with ground + four storeys was put into motion. By the end of 1986, Sectors 2 and 4 were partly completed with 28 buildings. Water, as we know it now, was still a scarce commodity, but that did not deter people from moving in. In the year was 1987, Mira Bhayandar Panchayat was established and Mr Gilbert Mendonca was elected Sarpanch.

The influx of people, however, continued. Soon other builders cashed in on the real estate boom in the area. Sheetal Nagar came into existence. First came Sheetal Dhara, then Shram Saphalya, Shree Saphalya, New Saphalya, Sheetal Park and Trimurti. Soon, several people living in other parts of Mumbai moved into Mira Road, as the cost of flats was very low compared to other areas in Mumbai. People from Kurla, Ghatkopar, Khar, Jerimeri, and Santacruz came in search of more economic accommodation. Slowly, but surely, Mira Road was developing its unique blend of cultures, creeds and communities - a melting pot of people, as it were. The influx of people speaking various languages including English, Konkani, Tulu, Kannada etc. gave many the feeling of being in their native land.

### Building a Christian Community

In 1986, approximately 50 catholic families lived in Mira Road. For Sunday Mass, people from Mira

Road travelled to Our Lady of Nazareth Church, Bhayander or St. Louis de Montfort Church, Dahisar or Immaculate Conception Church Borivali or St. Jerome Church, Kashimira. The road between Mira Road and Bhayandar was a narrow track, just wide enough for an auto to pass through. People who had their flats in the interiors and far reaches of Mira Road had to cross salt pans. But despite the difficulties, there was no stopping them, such was their faith!

Not to be outdone, and not wanting to undertake the inordinate travel, this

early Catholic community took to celebrating the Eucharist in their homes. Guest priests obliged. Main amongst these were the homes of Mrs Philomena Sanial, and Mrs Salvadore Fernandes. In 1987, the Eucharist was also celebrated in the house of Mr Camillus D'Mello and Mrs Zita Serrao. Fr Rock Kini from Kashmira Church would often come to Mira Road to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Mr Camillus D'Mello, Mr Eugene Pinto and Mrs Stella Nazareth took the initiative to accompany the priest from Kashmira. For Christmas and Easter, Solemn Masses were celebrated on the terrace of these generous people. And during the monsoons, celebrations were held inside their homes.

On 22nd October 1987, the Mira Road Catholic Welfare Association was founded. Mr George Saldanha was elected the first president of the association, Mr Eugene Pinto, the Secretary, and Mr Camillus D'Mello, the treasurer. Mr George Saldanha eventually met Bishop Simon Pimenta concerning the religious needs of people at Mira Road, and Bishop Simon Pimenta appointed (the late) Fr Leslie Ratus to investigate the matter and visit some of the families here. In 1987, Christmas Mass was celebrated by Rev Fr Aniceto Nazareth from Goregaon Seminary. Things were beginning to heat up! Our early Catholics decided to

announce their presence - come Christmas, a huge star was put up, at the entrance to the railway station, near the landmark Shanti Nagar arch!

On 4th March 1988, Fr Vincent Monteiro (Parish Priest of Our Lady of Nazareth Church, Bhayandar) and Fr Rock Kini from Kashmira met to discuss the situation concerning the Catholic community at Mira Road. Both had decided that it was time something was done. Around this time, Shanti Star Builders decided to allot a small plot of land to each of the religious denominations to build their places of worship. Unfortunately, with the rather small size of the Catholic population (Catholics were less than 1% out of the entire population of Mira Road), our community did not qualify and the offer for the property to build the Church, as per the builder's plans, could not be realized.

### Land Flowing with Salt and Water

Without any hesitation, Mr George Saldanha, Mr Camillus D'Mello and Mr Eugene Pinto representatives of the Mira Road Catholic Welfare Association hastened to meet the Bishop to identify land belonging to the Church authorities here at Mira Road. Simultaneously, Mr Victor Swamy, who was also very concerned for Catholics of Mira Road, went to the Pune Regional Office to identify documents regarding Church land. He returned with a handful of treasures - in the form of photocopies of key documents.

With the dedicated assistance of the then parish Priest of Our Lady of Nazareth Church, Fr Vincent Monteiro and his assistant Fr Nelson, it was brought to light that there was some Church land located in Mira Road. As soon as the land was located for the Church, the members of the Catholic Association began the work of putting up a boundary for the land and constructing a small chapel for celebrating Mass.

While the Promised Land flowed with milk and

honey, in the case of our property, it filled with lots of water and marshy fields. and more water! However, the people started collecting money to fill the land. Each family committed to giving the princely sum of Rs 1000/- in a down payment or on an instalment plan of Rs 25/- every month. The signs were clear - the Catholics of Mira Road wanted a Church, come what may!

### Advent of the Carmelites

Among the Carmelites working in St Louis Church, Dahisar, **Fr Richard Castelino** came forward - *'I will willingly come to Mira Road, even if there are just 10 people to support me there'*. The generosity of Fr Richard prompted the Provincial Rev. Fr. Joseph D'Souza to take a bold step, and Carmelite priests landed in Mira Road. Fr Richard,

put a condition to Fr Provincial, saying that if he did indeed succeed in building a Church, it should be dedicated to St Joseph. A story is also told that, in his time of loneliness and abandonment, Fr Richard had a dream about St Joseph! (Later **Fr John Pinto**, Priest-in-charge from 1995 to 2002, attributed the building of the Church, to a miracle at the hands of St Joseph)



**Archbishop Simon Pimenta** in a letter dated 23rd July 1987 to the Provincial Fr Joseph D'Souza agreed to entrust the new Mira Road community to the Carmelites on certain conditions... In 1988, **Fr Michael Morris Shenoy** was transferred to Mira Road. Here was a man who could make even the mud and stones speak. He toiled a lot to protect the land, to plant, to irrigate, to fill and to make this water-filled, mosquito-infested land more habitable. On 1st June 1988, a flat in Sheetal Dhara building was taken on rent and Fr Michael Morris Shenoy began his pastoral ministry there. By then, approximately 100 Catholic families were present in Mira Road. In the same month, the foundation stone was laid for the new Church, on the present Church's foundation. The foundation stone was dedicated to St Joseph.

To build the Church, however, there was a dire need for funds. Mr Everest D'Souza who was then staying in Mira Road drew on the help of his friend, the Sarpanch in Nallasopara. He had helped the Carmelites visiting Gonsalo Garcia Church in Vasai and he made the first recorded collection for St Joseph Church there. By December 1990, the Chapel (Church) was ready, and the Christmas celebration was held in the new Church. A touching 'farewell' was given at the Sheetal Nagar home where Masses used to be celebrated. The new Church was spread over 2,100 sq ft.

In the year 1990, Bishop Bosco Penha made his first visit to the parish. The parishioners were overjoyed at his presence and message. Meanwhile, the Carmelite Fathers moved to Mira Road to take up residence from their earlier residence at Kashmira.

Fr Michael seeing the need for a good school, approached Sr. Johanna Brandstatter at Bhayandar. In 1990, she came to Mira Road and found it a good choice for a school. The Holy Cross Sisters decide to take up this proposal. Sr Johanna started a K.G. Class for children at Sheetal Dhara building in the same year. The seeds for the Holy Cross Convent had been sown!



Fr Michael was later joined by **Fr John Berchmans**, who had just returned from his ministry at the Kuwait cathedral and **Br Pius James D'Souza** in June 1989. Meanwhile, the Church as well as the residence for the Carmelites was ready. Sunday Mass and daily Masses were celebrated in the Church. Fr Michael also served both St Jerome Church at Kashmira on Sundays for nearly six months. In 1990, **Fr John Berchmans** and **Br Pius James** were transferred. **Fr Peter D'Sa** and **Br Timothy Fernandes** came to assist Fr Michael. Later **Fr Gabriel Dias** replaced Fr Peter D'Sa.

#### The First Parish Pastoral Council Formed

On **August 27, 1990** the Church was officially registered at Thane as a Trust, and in 1991, the first

parish Pastoral Council with Fr Michael as president, **Mr Armando Aquino** as Vice-President and **Mr P. X. Swami** and **Mr Joe Rodrigues** as Secretary and Jt. Secretary was formed. By now, parish life had begun to blossom with many associations being formed, including the Alter Boys and Women's Sodality and the Youth Group.

In 1990, war broke out in Kuwait. Consequently, a lot of people from Kuwait - having heard from the Carmelites there of the growing parish and economical housing - rushed to Mira Road to buy flats. In **October 1991**, **Br. Marlon Rodrigues** and **Br. Melvin D Cunha** were sent as regents but Br. Melvin D Cunha rendered his service at St. Jerome Church.

In 1993, the Church at Mira Road was in the news with a live tabloid of Christmas, with live music and a carnival with hundreds of participants. 'Hope for the Sick World', a musical play directed by Mr Hubert Vaz was also staged at this time in the parish campus and other parishes.

#### Water Woes

On the residential front, the problems of water logging continued. As the surroundings of Mira Road were being filled with new constructions, the Church that was built two to three feet above the water level, began sinking a foot or so below water level, as water from other areas began gushing towards the Church from the new constructions. Another grim situation was at hand. Every Mass on Sunday and weekdays was marked by the hopeless scene of priests and parishioners at the arduous task of emptying the Church of stagnant water.

The parish team has changed. Fr Michael was still at the helm, but he had **Fr Antony D'Souza** as Assistant. In the meanwhile, a tearful farewell was given to **Br Timothy Fernandes**, who was leaving for higher studies in Theology. In June 1995 the newly-ordained **Fr Alfred Menezes** came as Assistant.



In 1996, **Fr John Alex Pinto** came as **Priest-in-charge**, to take over the reins from Fr Michael Moris and as more people flooded Mira Road it had become imperative to celebrate more Masses and have more priests. In June 1996 **Fr Melvin D'Cunha** came as Assistant to Fr John Alex Pinto, who got the necessary permissions from the higher authorities of the Archdiocese and the Provincialate of the Carmelites. The benevolent Fr Pinto had arrived with big dreams! Soon his dreams were spelt out. The growing number of parishioners warranted a new and larger Church. By now (1996) the number of Catholics had shot up to 2,500. A temporary solution was needed until the Church was built. In came the generous Holy Cross Convent Sisters - Masses could be celebrated in the stilt area of the Convent School. Sr Neeta Alva and the Provincial of the Holy Cross Congregation were most obliging in offering their premises for the same. Around this time, the long-cherished desire of the Carmelites, given their charism, started taking root in the form of planning a parish and Spirituality Institute in the Mumbai Archdiocese. But the mandatory paperwork had to be put in place first.

### **Foundation Stone for the New Church**

**Fr Lawrence D'Mello** saw that a clear agreement be signed between the Province and the Archdiocese of Mumbai regarding its apostolate in Mira Road, with a view to beginning the Institute of Spirituality, after the construction of the Church. And so, it came to pass that Cardinal Simon Pimenta laid the foundation stone for the new Church on 23rd November 1996 but before that, **Fr. Charles Serrao** who was the Definitor General at that time had blessed it.

**Archbishop Ivan Dias** who took over the Archdiocese from Cardinal Simon Pimenta was open and generous to allow the parishioners to visit parishes and collect funds for the Church building.

From this moment onwards, the parishioners joined Fr Alex Pinto, Fr Alfred and Fr Melvin D'Cunha, in shouldering the task of building the new edifice on a war footing. The Stalls were set up on the Church campus to raise funds, and generous parishioners organized cafeterias and implemented other fund-raising drives. Mira Fete was organized to raise the funds along with Musical Nite. Hence collections were made from one corner of Mumbai to another - with generous parish priests allowing our parishioners to make collections. Fr Melvin D Cunha had a team for fundraising who were going every Sunday to different parishes to appeal. Fr Melvin also went to UAE and Kuwait to raise funds, before that Fr. John Pinto had raised funds from Kuwait for the same purpose.



The project cost of Rs 2 crores was a challenge for everyone in the parish as there was a fund of just 10 lakhs to begin with. So, the work of building the new church started in the year 1997. **Architect Mr Girish Pradhan** and **contractor Parson Foundation** were involved in the construction of the Church. Funds started

flowing from all over.

**Mr Maxim Mathias**, manager of the well-known Roshan Electrical Company, himself a fervent devotee of St Joseph, was introduced to Fr John Alex Pinto by **Mr Sebastian D'Souza** (Woodland Complex) at this part of time, to undertake the electrical work of the entire Church, with practically free service on his part. Mr Mathias was one of the principal donors to our Church over some time.

**Sr Johanna**, along with then superior **Sr Neeta** and the community members of Holy Cross Community were enthusiastic about the new Church being built and pledged their support. In 1998, as part of the fund-raising activities, the idea of the popular Mira Fest was born and took shape.

It was to be organized over three consecutive years to raise funds. In 1999, the Church edifice came into shape, the residence of the fathers was ready, and a provision was made for a Community hall.

Meanwhile, **Fr Alexander Braganza** was transferred after his ordination in 1998 to Mira Road and Fr Alfred left for higher studies. Amongst his first tasks was to support the formation of SCC's work initiated by Fr Melvin D Cunha.

### **New Church Inaugurated**

**Fr Joe Tauro**, the newly elected provincial in 1999, had the privilege of seeing the inauguration of the newly-built St Joseph Church, even though construction of the work had been almost complete during the time of **Fr Lawrence D'Mello** as the Provincial. **Archbishop Ivan Dias** inaugurated the new Church on **5th December 1999**, the year dedicated to the jubilee year of Our Lord Jesus Christ with the symbol of "A New Beginning". Celebrations ensued. The parishioners were overjoyed - the impossible had become a reality. Archbishop Ivan Dias celebrated the Mass, with Bishop **Thomas Dabre** preaching the homily. Fr Joe Tauro, our Provincial was present and Mr Praful Patil, the President of the Mira Bhayandar Municipal Council released the special Souvenir brought out to mark the occasion. There was no holding the parishioners back. Organizing the Inauguration Service attendance, and allotting seating was a project by itself! There was press coverage too. Articles and photos were published in all the leading domestic and international community journals.

In the year 2000, the Bombay Catholic Sabha unit of Mira Road was formed. Three Carmelite Brothers - **Lawrence D Cunha, Ronald D Souza** and **Melwin Rosario** - arrived in June 2000, to pursue their Theology studies at Goregaon Archdiocesan Seminary. Their presence was a

great help to the community, as well as to the parish, as they were enthusiastically involved in the pastoral ministry, preaching, choir, catechism and training parishioners at various levels. **Fr Melvin DCunha** was given a grand send-off in December 2000 as he left for Kuwait Mission on the 20th of Dec 2000. In 2001, **Fr Rudolf V D'Souza** was transferred from Mysore International Spirituality Centre Dhyanaavana to St Joseph Church, Mira Road as Assistant to Fr John Alex Pinto. **In February 2002, Fr Henry Praveen D'Souza** joined the team.

### **The Man Who Dare to Dream Leaves**

Fr John Alex Pinto - the man who had refused to leave Kuwait and his Church, even as bombs rained down - packed his bags. His skills were needed as the formator of Theology students at the Infant Jesus Shrine in Mangalore, and he would go! The parishioners got wind of his transfer. But the chief architect of our beautiful Church slipped out quietly, without so much as a farewell. It was the way he liked it!

**Fr Rudolf V D'Souza** was appointed priest-in-charge on 5th June 2002. **Rt Rev Bishop Bosco**

**Penha** conducted the ceremony of installing **Fr Rudolf** as the **new priest-in-charge**. As soon he took charge, St Joseph Church received full-fledged parish status in September at the hands of the Diocese, and **Fr Rudolf** effectively became **the first Parish Priest of St Joseph Church, Mira Road**. A few important works in the parish called for attention. Fr Rudolf called representatives of all the Cells and Associations to representation in the Parish Pastoral Council, where **Mr Francis Araujo** was Vice-president.

In May 2003, **Fr Elias D'Souza** arrived as the third Assistant to the Parish Priest - to be shortly followed by **Fr Boniface D'Souza**. During this time, the parish Fathers resolved to strengthen the associations, visit families and give time to



consolidate cells and SCC communities. Each priest was entrusted with multiple tasks - SCC communities, cells, associations, and the various spiritual movements in our parish.

The faith of the parishioners remained remarkable - though it was widely felt that the involvement of parishioners at the organizational level, could do with some improvement. In 2004, the parishioners staged a mega-event 'The Triumph', a musical directed and played by **Mr Leroy Santos** and **Mr Derick Vessaokar**, on the Passion and Resurrection of Christ. 8 shows were held in different parishes of the Archdiocese, including Mira Road.

In the same year, a systematic souvenir 'Being Salt and Light in the Community' on SCC Communities, with the activities and maps of the communities, was released with the help of the then SCC Coordinators **Mrs Assunta D'Souza** and **Mr Johnson Saldanha**. In the same year in September 'Meeting God Through Daily Prayers', a prayer book with daily prayers for the parishioners was published. To this day, the book has seen 4 editions.

**Br Alvito Fernandes** and **Br. Ajay Nazareth** had joined the team now as community members, even as **Brs Melwin, Ronald and Lawrence** were ordained and left for their new assignments. In February 2006, **Fr Deepak Thomas** arrived as Assistant priest and in June **Fr Boniface D'Souza** was transferred to Mangalore for his future pastoral ministry. In 2007 **Fr. Peter Rebello** joined the Parish team as an assistant Priest. Later in October deacon **Ajith Rodrigues** too joined the parish team. In June 2007 Fr. Elias D Souza who was serving as Assistant priest left for Bellary for his new assignment.

### **The Return of the Pioneer**

In the year 2008 after the provincial chapter of Karnataka Goa province the Mira Road community welcomed a new priest and Superior, to its community namely **Fr. Michael Morris Shenoy**.

In 2008, Bishop Bosco started a movement called NYG that is *Neighbourhood youth movement*. Since Bishop had recommended all the parishes of Mumbai diocese to have this NYG group, in St. Joseph Parish too NYG's were formed under the

leadership of **Fr. Deepak Thomas** who was serving as an Assistant Priest in St. Joseph Church. In the following year that is in 2009 **Fr. Dominic Vas** came to Mira Road and took charge as the Parish Priest of St. Joseph Church Mira Road. **Fr. John Pinto (Belthangady)** and **Fr. Ivan Robert D Souza** too joined the parish team as the assistant Priests. In August Fr. Rudolf who had served as a Parish priest left for Canada for his future pastoral ministry. In October Fr. Peter Rebello who had served in the parish as the assistant priest left for South Africa for a new mission.

In 2009, one of the parishioners namely **Fr. John Cyrus OCD** was ordained. In 2010 **Fr. Archibald Gonsalves**, the then Provincial sent 5 Theology students namely Br. John Pinto, Br. Kaushik, Br. Daniel, Br. Nithesh and Br. Cannio to Mira Road for their theological Studies. These theologians did their theological studies in the diocesan seminary that is Goregaon Seminary as day scholars and their stay was in the Anubhav retreat centre. Initially, these theologian brothers used to travel to seminary by the Local train. Later to make their journey easy and comfortable a new 4-wheeler was bought.

In the year 2011, **Deacon Ivo Dias** joined the community to render his service to the parish and continued his ministry even after the Ordination. In April 2011 another parishioner of St. Joseph Church namely **Fr. Ajay Nazareth** was ordained.

In 2011, **Fr. Dominic Vas** continued to be the parish priest, and he was assisted by **Fr. Agnelo Rebello, Fr. Ivan D Souza** and **Fr. Arwin Tauro**. In June 2011 **Br. Sandeep Goveas** and **Br. Pawan Saldanha** joined the community to do their Theology studies. Fr. Deepak Thomas who had served as the assistant priest left for Bangalore for his higher studies. Fr. John Pinto who was appointed as the parish priest of Vijayanagar Parish left for Bangalore for his Pastoral ministry in the assigned Parish.

The Present Carmelite community consists of Fr. Regan Paul D'Souza (Superior), Fr. Lawrence D Cunha (Parish Priest), Pawan Saldanha, Ashwin D Silva, Nelson Krist Cardoza and Ashwin D Souza, Fr Ivo Dias and deacon Jeswin Tom.

*(This Article is Compiled from the Archives and Chronicles of the Carmelite Fathers and limited upto June 2011.)*

## *Mass at My Home*

In May 1987, when I shifted to Mira road, I realised there was no church in Mira road. We called all the catholic residents together for a meeting and formed Mira road catholic welfare association. Mr Eugene Pinto met Fr. Rock Kini parish priest of St. Jerome church and he obliged to come and celebrate the Eucharist on Saturdays. We had mass on the terrace of building B26/27 Shanti Nagar, Sector 5, over a hundred people attended during monsoon, we also had mass in the my flat. Later, Victor Swamy miraculously found a stretch of land belonging to Our Lady of Nazareth church Bhayander, the church was raised and blessed on Christmas day in 1988. Fr. Michael Morris Shenoy OCD was given the charge.

In 1995 Fr. John Alex Pinto took charge from Fr. Michael. He saw the sorry plight of the parishioners and took the task of rebuilding the church. A core team was formed of dedicated volunteers and with Archbishop Ivan Dias support and Fr. Melwyn Dcunha OCD newly ordained priest and the core team started visiting churches of Mumbai to raise funds, also Mega Mira fest, Sunday cafeterias were conducted, Donation booklets etc. were distributed. The renovated church was inaugurated on 5th December 1999 by Archbishop Ivan Dias and Bishop Thomas Dabre of Vasai. Today we are one of the biggest and most vibrant parishes in the archdiocese of Mumbai. We can really feel the presence of the Holy Trinity working among us and drawing us more and more closer towards HIM.

*Mr. Camillus Dmello*

## *First Altar Boy*

I am in Mira road since 1987. There was no Church at that time. I remember having the first mass in people's houses somewhere around 1990. I can proudly say that I was among the first Altar boy of the Parish along with Ian Pinto. Slowly we started having the mass in a small empty parishioners house in Sheetal nagar which was doubled up as the Father's residence. William a young boy from Mangalore was our Sacristan. Special thanks to Rev. Fr Michael and Berchmans. Mornings we used to start with Church cleaning. We used to eat lunch with Fr Michael and help him in his garden. In the evening we used to spend hours playing football and cricket along with Fr Michael and Fr Anthony and later attend mass before going home. I joined the youth group SJYA (St Joseph youth association) in 1995. Special thanks to Fr Alfred who assisted the youths during their tough times. trees. I wish our church the very best for the Future and may all our Parishioners work together for the common cause of the Church. -

*Mr. Allwyn Dsouza, Ave Maria community.*

## *My Church, My Dream, My Struggle*

My Church was built not only with cement and bricks, but with struggles, pain and determination. The Church from 1990 - 1996 was like a tent type church, leaking and water logging. In 1996 Fr. John Alex Pinto took up the gigantic task to build a new church, few parishioners, no money but a will to do God's work along with Fr. Melywn D'cunha a young newly ordained priest took up this task and called a meeting with few dedicated parishioners and decided to rebuild the church with a projected cost of Rs. 1.5 crores. I thank those who are still in the parish: Lawrence Couthino, Maria Frantz, Pauline Rodrigues, Merlyn D'Sa, Late Clifford Rose; and those who have moved from Mira road: Matilda D'Costa, Leena Machado, Kevin Penha, Francis Aranja and our ever helpful priests: Fr. Alex Pinto, Fr. Melwin, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Michael, Fr. Alfred, Fr. Pius James and I thank the then provincial Fr. Joe Tavaró, all who were instrumental in this achievement. In 1990 the mass was celebrated on the terrace of Camilus D'mello residence. A big thank you for Sr. Johanna of the Holy Cross convent and Sr. Pushpam, Sr. Sandhya who gave the stilt area for celebrating the mass from 1996 to 2000. For me, it was a faith journey, I loved and enjoyed every struggle from 1996 to 2000. Now 25 years later, yes it calls for celebrations. My most ever memorable life journey which is my church, my dream, my struggle, I loved it every moment.

*- Mrs. Joanita Coutto*

# *Jubilee of Dedication of the Church Opening Ceremony*



# SILVER JUBILEE OF THE DEDICATION OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, MIRA ROAD

The celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the dedication of St. Joseph's Church, Mira Road, was marked by immense gratitude, joy, and a deep sense of spiritual renewal. This milestone event was an opportunity to honour our parish's rich legacy, celebrate its vibrant present, and look forward to a future filled with hope and commitment to the mission of Christ.



## 01. Meticulous Planning and Community Involvement

The planning for this grand occasion began six months in advance, engaging clergy, lay leaders, and parishioners in an inclusive process. A dedicated Jubilee Planning Committee was formed, drawing members from the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), Small Christian Communities (SCC), and various parish organizations.

Responsibilities were divided among several committees, including Liturgical, Finance, Cultural, Organizing, and Logistics Committees. Regular meetings ensured smooth coordination, problem-solving, and active involvement of the parish's 4,823 families. This collaborative effort laid the foundation for meaningful and well-executed celebration.

## 02. Nine-Day Spiritual and Cultural Preparation

The Jubilee festivities commenced with a nine-day novena, reflecting a unique theme centred on St. Joseph and the church's mission. These days of spiritual preparation included reflections, prayers, and activities designed to deepen the faith and devotion of the parish community. Due to local assembly elections and associated permissions, the cultural programs were adjusted and spanned six days, from November 15 to November 23, 2024. These programs included:

- Zone-wise cultural programs (November 15–17)





• *Sunday School Program (November 21), and a skit and Baila by the Parish Fathers*





### 03. The Jubilee Celebration: November 24, 2024

The culmination of the Jubilee took place on Sunday, November 24, 2024, with a solemn Jubilee Mass. His Eminence, Oswald Cardinal Gracias, presided over the Eucharistic celebration, alongside concelebrants from the Carmelite Order, including Rev. Fr. Provincial Silvestre D'Souza, Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Lawrence D'Cunha, Superior Rev Fr. Regan D'Souza, the Provincial Councillors Rev Fr. Joachim Rodrigues and Rev. Fr. Prakash D'Cunha, and former Parish Priests Rev Fr. Micheal Morris Shenoy, Rev Fr. Dominic Vas, Rev Fr. Nelson Pinto and Rev Fr. Melvin D'Cunha, former assistant Priests Rev. Fr. Praveen D'Souza and Rev. Fr. Christian Damiel and guest priests from different communities and visiting dignitaries.



The mass was a profound moment of thanksgiving, enriched by a melodious choir and the active participation of over 6,500 parishioners. Following the liturgical celebration, a felicitation program was held on the parish grounds.



- Highlights of the felicitation program included:  
A warm welcome by Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Lawrence D'Cunha.
- Felicitation of former parish priests, including those instrumental in the construction of the church. Special mentions included Rev. Fr. John Alex Pinto and Fr. Rudolf D'Souza, who were honoured in absentia.





- Recognition of laypersons, including benefactors and contributors like Architect Girish Pradhan, Contractor Parson Foundation, and families of key supporters.



- Inauguration of parish initiatives like the "Yellow Pages," Parish ID, and "Tidings."



- The evening concluded with a grand cultural play, Once Upon a Time at St. Joseph, directed by Ms. Prescilla Aranha. The performances showcased the parish's journey and involved members of the PPC's Association & Cells, Deacon Jesvin Tom, along with the Seniors youth & children, leaving the audience with cherished memories.



#### 04. Acknowledgments and Gratitude

The success of the Jubilee celebration was attributed to the blessings of St. Joseph and the tireless efforts of many. Special thanks were extended to:

- His Eminence, Oswald Cardinal Gracias, for his inspiring presence.
- The Carmelite community, including Rev. Fr. Silvestre D'Souza, for their guidance and support.
- Current and former clergy of St. Joseph Church for their pastoral dedication.
- The Jubilee Planning Committee and volunteers for their selfless contributions.
- Parishioners for their enthusiastic participation and generous support.
- Benefactors, sponsors, and well-wishers whose assistance made the event possible.

#### *Looking Ahead*

The Silver Jubilee was more than a celebration; it was a reaffirmation of the parish's mission to live, love, and serve in Christ's name. It marked a renewed commitment to building a vibrant, faith-filled community inspired by the values of its patron, St. Joseph.

As the parish looks forward to its next phase, it continues to trust in God's faithfulness and the guidance of its leaders and community. May St. Joseph intercede for the flourishing of this beloved church.

## Parish Games 2024



# OUR SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

## ZONE A



**OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
August 2001

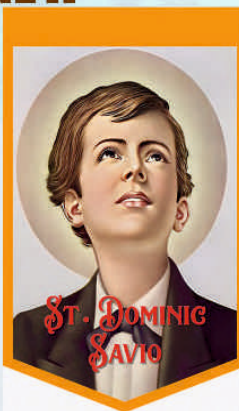
**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 49**  
**Members: 145**



**ST MICHAEL COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
1996

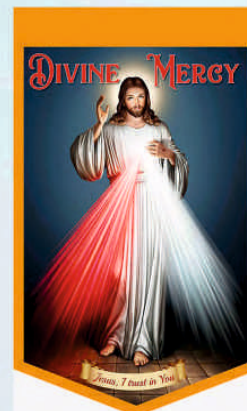
**Clusters: 5**  
**Families : 41**  
**Members: 132**



**ST DOMINIC SAVIO COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
January 2006

**Clusters: 3**  
**Families : 33**  
**Members: 124**



**DIVINE MERCY COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
December 2001

**Clusters: 8**  
**Families : 93**  
**Members: 305**

## ZONE B



**OUR LADY OF SNOW COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
June 2007

**Clusters: 9**  
**Families : 131**  
**Members: 481**



**HOLY CROSS COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
1998

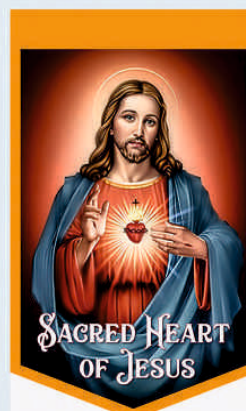
**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 56**  
**Members: 189**



**ST LAWRENCE COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
November 2001

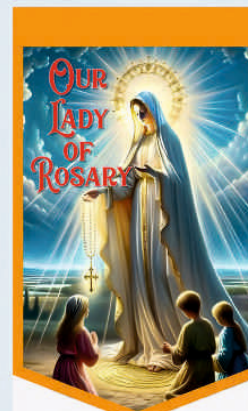
**Clusters: 7**  
**Families : 69**  
**Members: 241**



**SACRED HEART OF JESUS COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
June 2007

**Clusters: 8**  
**Families : 68**  
**Members: 238**



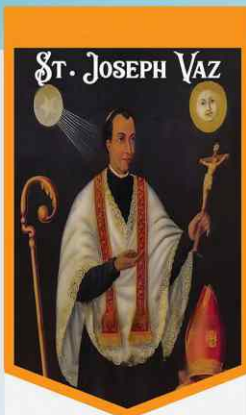
**OUR LADY OF ROSARY COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
October 2001

**Clusters: 9**  
**Families : 90**  
**Members: 317**

# OUR SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

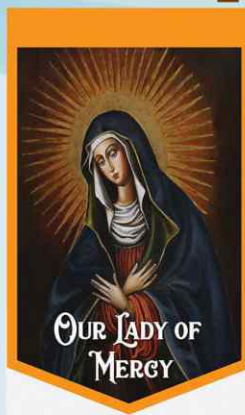
## ZONE C



**ST JOSEPH VAZ  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
June 2015**

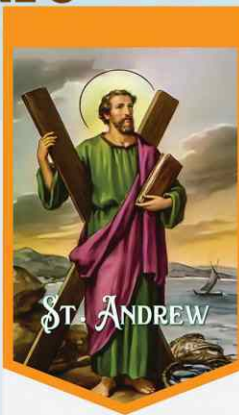
**Clusters: 15  
Families : 162  
Members: 558**



**OUR LADY  
OF MERCY  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
September 2015**

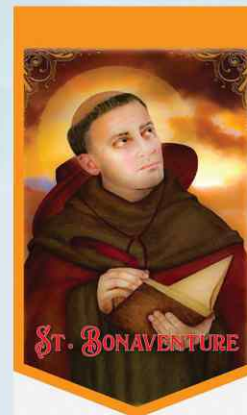
**Clusters: 7  
Families : 110  
Members: 391**



**ST ANDREW  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
June 2003**

**Clusters: 9  
Families : 102  
Members: 348**

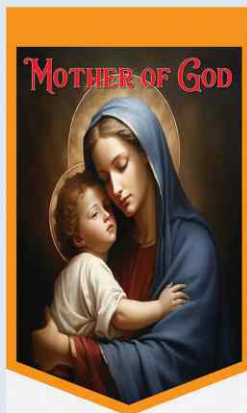


**ST BONAVENTURE  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
2017**

**Clusters: 8  
Families : 68  
Members: 230**

## ZONE D



**MOTHER  
OF GOD  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
2011**

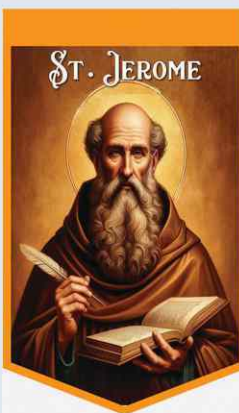
**Clusters: 8  
Families : 149  
Members: 552**



**ST NICHOLAS  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
March 2011**

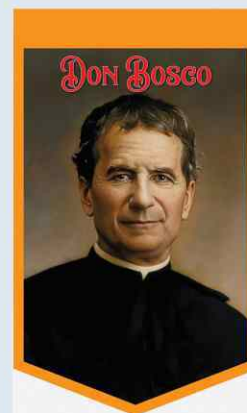
**Clusters: 9  
Families : 115  
Members: 405**



**ST JEROME  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
2011**

**Clusters: 7  
Families : 81  
Members: 288**

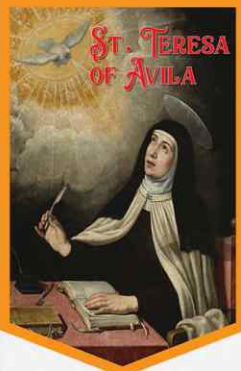


**ST DON BOSCO  
COMMUNITY**

**Clusters: 10  
Families : 238  
Members: 795**

# OUR SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

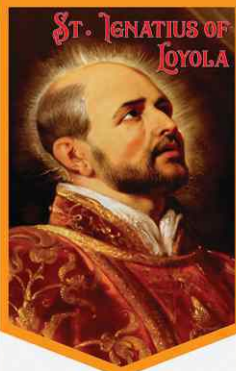
## ZONE E



**ST TERESA OF AVILA COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
November 2002

**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 98**  
**Members: 303**



**ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
2009

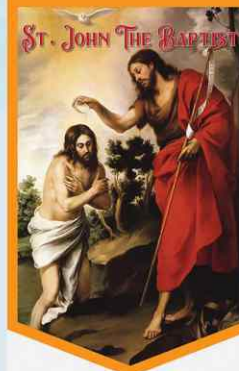
**Clusters: 10**  
**Families : 104**  
**Members: 372**



**OUR LADY OF VELANKANNI COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
September 2000

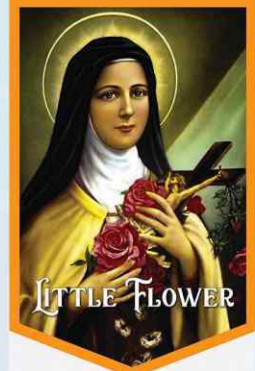
**Clusters: 9**  
**Families : 105**  
**Members: 359**



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
2007

**Clusters: 9**  
**Families : 94**  
**Members: 320**

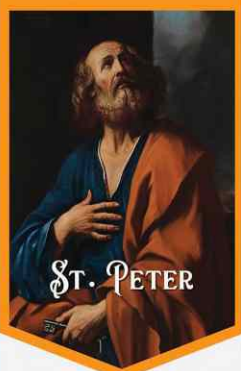


**LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
1997

**Clusters: 11**  
**Families : 129**  
**Members: 416**

## ZONE F



**ST PETER COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
October 1999

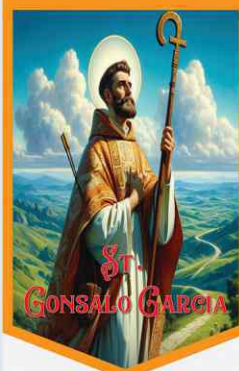
**Clusters: 8**  
**Families : 100**  
**Members: 336**



**ST PAUL COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
October 1999

**Clusters: 10**  
**Families : 126**  
**Members: 438**



**ST GONSALO GARCIA COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
February 2001

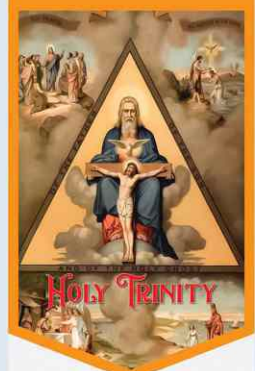
**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 83**  
**Members: 283**



**ST GABRIEL COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
June 2008

**Clusters: 4**  
**Families : 50**  
**Members: 183**



**HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
December 2001

**Clusters: 7**  
**Families : 92**  
**Members: 316**

# OUR SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

## ZONE G



**ST JOSEPH  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
August 2001**

**Clusters: 7  
Families : 107  
Members: 357**



**OUR LADY OF  
MOUNT CARMEL  
COMMUNITY**

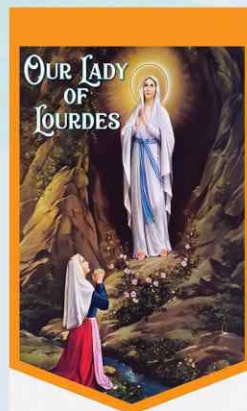
**Formation Date:  
2001**

**Clusters: 6  
Families : 87  
Members: 304**



**OUR LADY  
OF GRACE  
COMMUNITY**

**Clusters: 4  
Families : 37  
Members: 114**



**OUR LADY  
OF LOURDES  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
February 2003**

**Clusters: 6  
Families : 88  
Members: 321**



**ST JUDE &  
ST FRANCIS  
XAVIER  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
1996**

**Clusters: 6  
Families : 67  
Members: 223**

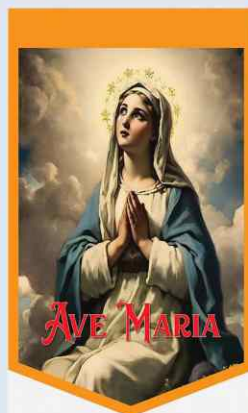
## ZONE H



**INFANT JESUS  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
August 1997**

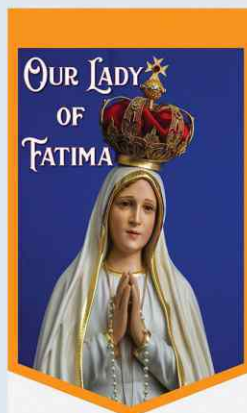
**Clusters: 6  
Families : 148  
Members: 491**



**AVE MARIA  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
October 2004**

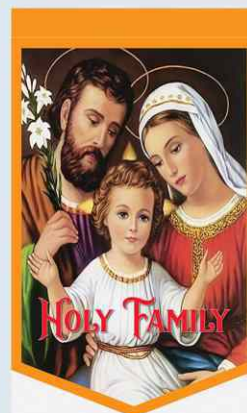
**Clusters: 7  
Families : 129  
Members: 411**



**OUR LADY  
OF FATIMA  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
January 2002**

**Clusters: 4  
Families : 52  
Members: 177**



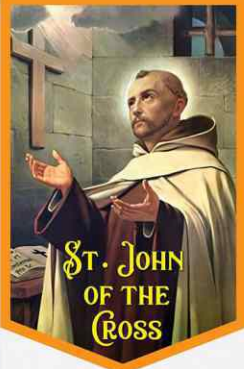
**HOLY FAMILY  
COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:  
November 2001**

**Clusters: 6  
Families : 96  
Members: 336**

# OUR SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

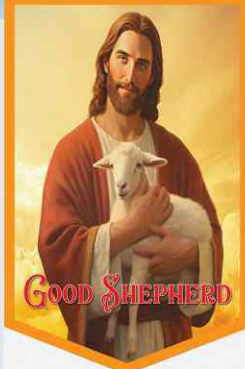
## ZONE I



**ST JOHN OF THE CROSS COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
2011

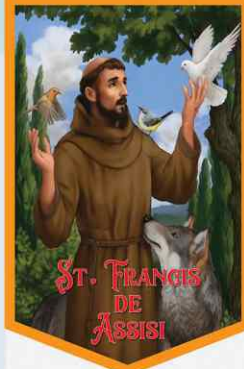
Clusters: 4  
Families : 53  
Members: 197



**GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
February 2006

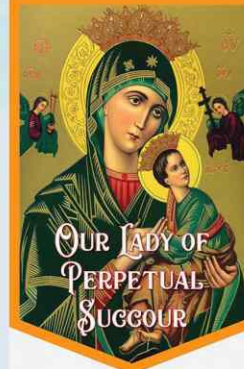
Clusters: 6  
Families : 63  
Members: 222



**ST FRANCIS DE ASSISI COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
September 2006

Clusters: 7  
Families : 64  
Members: 212



**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
2000

Clusters: 8  
Families : 92  
Members: 309



**ST ANTHONY COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
September 1998

Clusters: 6  
Families : 90  
Members: 284

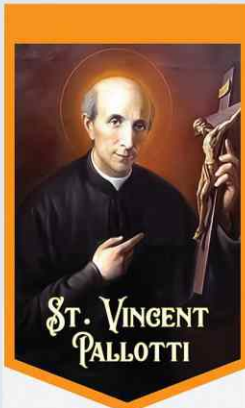
## ZONE J



**ST PATRICK COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
February 2000

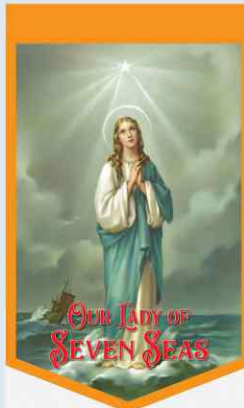
Clusters: 16  
Families : 110  
Members: 373



**ST VINCENT PALLOTTI COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
2004

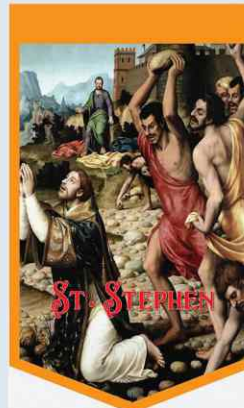
Clusters: 7  
Families : 76  
Members: 288



**OUR LADY OF SEVEN SEAS COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
1996

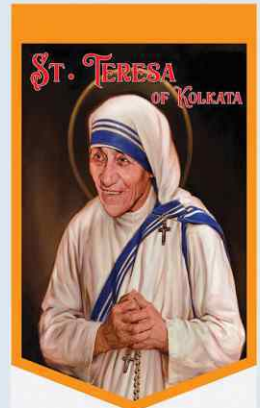
Clusters: 8  
Families : 85  
Members: 316



**ST STEPHEN COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
1996

Clusters: 7  
Families : 83  
Members: 294



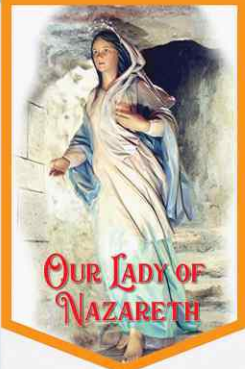
**ST TERESA OF KOLKOTA COMMUNITY**

Formation Date:  
2015

Clusters: 10  
Families : 96  
Members: 331

# OUR SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

## ZONE K



**OUR LADY OF NAZARETH COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
1996

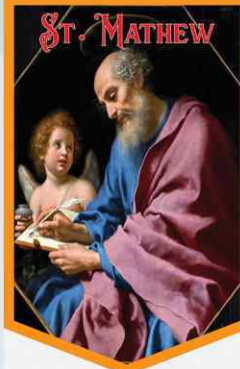
**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 59**  
**Members: 176**



**ST MARIA GORETTI COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
September 1999

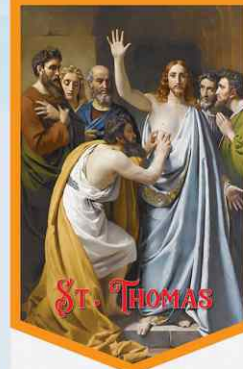
**Clusters: 2**  
**Families : 31**  
**Members: 104**



**ST MATHEW COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
August 1999

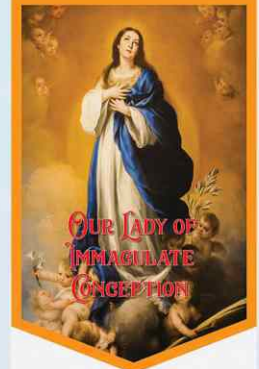
**Clusters: 5**  
**Families : 54**  
**Members: 159**



**ST THOMAS COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
October 2001

**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 57**  
**Members: 188**



**OUR LADY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
1999

**Clusters: 7**  
**Families : 67**  
**Members: 200**

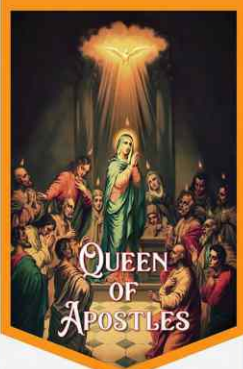
## ZONE L



**QUEEN OF HELPERS COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
2002

**Clusters: 7**  
**Families : 71**  
**Members: 265**



**QUEEN OF APOSTLES COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
April 2010

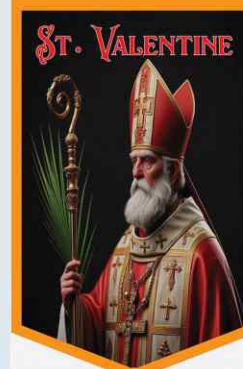
**Clusters: 7**  
**Families : 62**  
**Members: 204**



**ST FAUSTINA COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
2013

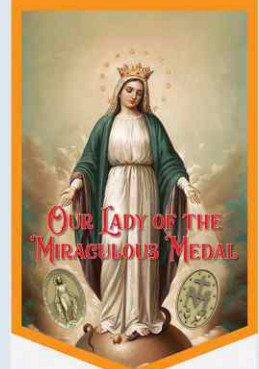
**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 61**  
**Members: 218**



**ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
2013

**Clusters: 7**  
**Families : 78**  
**Members: 243**



**OUR LADY OF MIRACULOUS MEDAL COMMUNITY**

**Formation Date:**  
2013

**Clusters: 6**  
**Families : 62**  
**Members: 228**

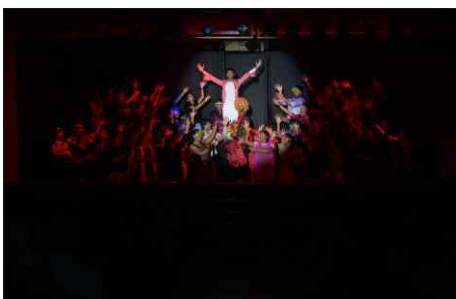


## 'Dare to Dream'

The acronym **D2D**, which stood for 'Dare to Dream', was an exceptional musical showcased by the youth of the PYC team during the Jubilee year of the parish. The story, taken from the Book of Genesis about Jacob and his sons, was an excerpt from the famous musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, which was originally performed in England in 1970 and on Broadway in 1982. The original script was fused with the current challenges of the youth, highlighting how they need to dream in order to achieve greater heights.

During the five months of rehearsals, the cast and crew grew as a family. The objective of this musical was to showcase new talents within the parish and make this a spiritual journey. The cast and crew would recite the daily prayer as a family before beginning their rehearsals. In addition, the entire team would come together once a month for Praise & Worship, followed by a talk to help them relate the storyline of the play to their own lives. The session would end with the team spending time in adoration with the Eucharistic Lord.

The overwhelming success of the play, which was presented over two shows, gave the youth a moral boost and showcased them in front of the parishioners as a group of youth who are not only vibrant but also spiritually inclined.



## *Fellowship to Service: A Journey of Growth and Impact*

The glue that holds the NYG together and enables it to thrive is fellowship. Youth from the neighborhood came together and filled the allotted house with a vibrant atmosphere. These fellowships not only encouraged shy individuals to step into the center of activity but also provided a platform for talented youngsters to showcase their abilities. Ultimately, their contentment lay in the shared experiences of praying, worshiping, and being part of a like-minded community.

The PYC took the experiences of the NYG and distilled them into acts of service. They offered their support to both children and seniors. Notable examples include initiatives like VJB and visits to old age homes, while parish sports events catered to both groups. Major events such as the Mega Rosary and the Way of the Cross allowed the youth to serve the church through its spiritual ministry.

— *Fr. Cannio Cardozo, OCD, Ex-Youth Director (2017–2019)*

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## *My Experience as a Youth Office Bearer*

On June 10th, 2018, I became Vice President of the PYC, stepping down on June 9th, 2019, to serve at the Diocesan Youth Centre for the Archdiocese of Mumbai. Supported by my core team and youth directors, I had the privilege of working alongside many dedicated individuals. Leading a council of nearly 2,000 youth, I honed my leadership and communication skills—an experience that proved invaluable when I moved abroad. This role enabled me to adapt to new cultures and form meaningful connections within the Catholic community, fostering a deep sense of empathy and understanding.

— *Ann Kadantot, Ex-PYC Vice President (2018–2019)*

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## *Stepping Up with Jesus: My Journey at Kairos 2024*

Kairos, the national Catholic youth conference, brought together over 5,000 youth from 80 dioceses across India this year in Pondicherry. Organized by *Youth United For Christ (YU4C INDIA)* and the *Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM)*, the theme “**Stepping Up with Jesus**” made it an unforgettable experience of shared faith and growth.

As a first-time participant, I was initially overwhelmed, but each session gave me strength and a deeper connection to Jesus. Highlights included the closing Eucharist celebrated by His Excellency Oswald Cardinal Gracias, as well as sessions on healing and deliverance through Scripture, youth evangelization, and mental health, led by inspiring speakers.

Each day began with the Rosary and ended with lively praise and worship. We also had the Eucharist and an hour of meaningful adoration daily, which allowed us to build friendships and strengthen our faith.

Kairos was more than just an event; it was a journey that touched my heart in profound ways. I would wholeheartedly recommend everyone to attend the next Kairos, which will take place in 2028.

In faith and gratitude,  
*Azael Dsouza*

## *My Experience in Youth Ministry*

“Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things! Please, don't be observers of life, but get involved,” Pope Francis said on **July 27, 2013**, during a Youth Prayer Vigil in Rio.

My journey in youth ministry began in **2012** when I became the Assistant Leader of my NYG, eventually serving as Leader and Vice-President of the PYC. These roles deepened my faith, strengthened my leadership abilities, and nurtured my talents. Through church activities like hosting events and performances, I built confidence, developed public speaking skills, and found joy in serving others. Youth ministry provided a platform for both personal and spiritual growth, fostering unity, companionship, and a strong connection with Christ. Its various activities contributed to my talent development, mission work, and meaningful fellowship.

Joining youth ministry remains one of the best decisions of my life.

— *Jeshma Dsouza, Ex-Office Bearer (2017–18 and 2019–20)*

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## *Our Journey as Office Bearers of PYC*

Being office bearers of PYC since October 2021 has transformed our lives emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Initially unsure and lacking confidence, we discovered our leadership potential and developed the ability to lead effectively in college and the workplace. Every event taught us new skills, from marketing and business to boosting our confidence and social skills. We mastered team building and coordination, learning to communicate and work with diverse groups. Supported by dedicated youth animators, we navigated challenges and successfully organized numerous events. This role has been a journey of personal growth, making us more confident and better versions of ourselves.

- Anstan, Riya, Stacy (Ex Office Bearers year 2021- 2023)

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## *Opportunity to Lead*

Choosing to be a leader isn't about titles or recognition; it's about making a difference. When I decided to run for Vice President of the Youth Council, my goal was simple: to contribute and help shape a better future for my peers. Leadership is about collective impact, not personal gain.

The journey has been both challenging and rewarding. It's about growth—learning to tackle diverse tasks, building relationships, and refining my skills. Leadership isn't always easy, but it's worth it.

If you ever wonder, “*Why should I be a leader?*” the answer is simple: leadership is about purpose and dedication to something greater than yourself. It's an opportunity to shape the world around you, no matter the scale.

— *Yohann Lobo, PYC Vice President (2024–Present)*

## *Our Journey Leading the Youth Ministry in 2023*

Our term as youth ministry leaders began in June 2023, and from the very start, we knew we had big shoes to fill. The previous team had set high standards, so we were determined to meet those expectations and keep our parish youth engaged and active. This was only the second full year for our ministry since Covid-19, making it even more important to bring everyone together through exciting events and spiritual activities.

Throughout the year, we organized a variety of programs to appeal to everyone. We hosted a **talent show**, **telegames**, a **trek**, and an **overnight picnic**. One of the most awaited events was the **Parish Games**, where we had something for everyone—kids, teens, and even senior citizens! This was the first time people of all age groups could participate, and it was a huge success.

To nurture faith among the youth, we also organized religious events. A monthly prayer service, **Alabare**, helped strengthen spiritual connections, while **Conquest** featured quizzes and games centered around the Bible and the Church. Another highlight was the **Gospel Night**, featuring *By Grace*, one of the country's leading gospel bands.

None of this would have been possible without our dedicated team of animators, known as PYAT, led by our Youth Coordinator, **Prema Mathias**. We are also incredibly grateful for the constant support from **Fr. Ashwin Dsouza**, the President of the PYC, who guided and encouraged us every step of the way.

Looking back, we're thankful to have been part of something bigger than ourselves, touching the lives of so many young people. This ministry reminds us that each of us has a role in God's plan to bring youth closer to Him and His Church. Staying connected to the Church has brought, and will continue to bring, countless blessings into our lives.

*Yours Lovingly,*

*Abigail, Azael, Melissa (Ex-Office Bearers, 2023–2024)*

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## *A Journey of Faith and Leadership with PYC*

Being an office bearer in the Parish Youth Council has changed every aspect of my life—spiritually, emotionally, and mentally. This role has deepened my faith and helped me grow spiritually, teaching me how to be strong and gain inner peace through prayer.

Emotionally, I've learned to navigate and overcome complicated situations with patience and empathy—a skill that was not easy but essential. Mentally, I've sharpened my ability to think critically, organizing events with a strategic mindset that considers all possible outcomes, pros and cons, and perspectives.

The support and encouragement of the youth animators, who truly are the backbone of PYC, has been crucial in this journey. With their guidance, I've learned the art of planning and executing successful events, as well as teamwork and decision-making that align with our values and goals.

My time in PYC has truly shaped me, building my confidence and helping me grow both as a leader and as an individual.

*— Roseanne Dsouza, PYC Secretary (2024–Present)*

## *Building Friendships and Making Memories*

Being one of the first office bearers in the PYC has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life! From organizing events to leading our youth group, I've learned more than I ever imagined—about leadership, teamwork, and faith.

There were moments of challenge, of course, but each one taught me something valuable about how to inspire and guide others. Through it all, I not only grew in my leadership skills but also deepened my understanding of how to serve with passion and purpose.

The friendships I've built and the memories I've created with my fellow youth will stay with me forever. As I look back on this incredible journey, I am truly grateful to everyone who helped shape it, and I thank those experiences for shaping me into who I am today.

— *Romario Fernandes, Ex-PYC Treasurer (2015–16)*

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## *Learning and Growing through Parish Youth Ministry*

*(From a Leader to an Animator)*

It gives me immense joy to be a member of such a vibrant parish with an amazing platform—the Parish Youth Council (PYC). The PYC provides the young people of our parish limitless opportunities to grow and develop. From being a past office bearer to a present youth animator, I am grateful to the youth ministry for giving me the opportunity to learn and lead.

In 2016, I was selected from our parish to attend the CLAYM program by the Diocesan Youth Centre, where I learned and applied my skills for the better growth of our PYC. As an office bearer, I had the privilege of working with the past coordinators, **Johnson** and **Theresa**, who made sure I was supported in every possible way. My fellow office bearers, **Preemrose**, **Anil**, and **Jeshma**, were always there, ensuring we gave our best for the youth ministry.

I feel blessed to have worked with three wonderful youth directors: **Fr. Daniel**, **Fr. Cannio**, and **Fr. Ashwin**, each of whom has been extremely loving, supportive, and encouraging toward the youth. Under their guidance, we organized various activities, such as **Alabare**, **Fair to Care**, **Bazinga**, **Conquest**, **Does God Exist?**, **Run in the Rain**, **Chillar Party**, **Youth Way of the Cross**, **Treks and Overnight Camps**, **Parish Games**, and many more.

The **PYAT** also plays a dedicated role in bringing all the youth together. With our monthly **NYG** meetings, we interact, animate, and better understand the challenges young people face in today's world. As His Holiness Pope Francis said, “Young people are the living hope of a Church on the move.” Let us continue to encourage and support our youth in every aspect of their lives.

— *Cheryl Fernandes, Ex-PYC Treasurer (2016–18)*  
*PYC Animator (2021–Present)*

## *Threads of Faith - Embracing Service, Friendship, and Community*

Joining St. Joseph Parish in Mira Road was difficult at first, as I only knew my classmate **Osheen**, our NYG leader, who later became a very good friend. Through her encouragement, I began engaging in church activities, creating cherished memories and forming lasting friendships.

By the age of 25, I had an academic job but still yearned for something deeper. When my animator invited me to join the PYC as an animator, I accepted, grateful for the opportunity to give back to a group that had shaped me.

The animator team fostered love, friendship, and compassion, inspiring creativity and selfless service for Christ—values that resonate deeply with me.

The church's dedication to building community has profoundly enriched my life. Not only did it deepen my faith and strengthen my community bonds, but it also transformed my academic career, instilling a sense of purpose beyond professional success. This journey continues to inspire me every day.

I am deeply grateful to **Fr. Ashwin, Prema**, and all the PYAT members.

— *Steffie Coutinho, PYC Animator*

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## *ALABARE*

*Alabare*, which means "I will praise," is at the heart of our small yet dedicated team of young worship leaders, musicians, and singers. Founded with the support of Rev. Fr. Nelson Pinto and Fr. Daniel, this ministry offers a space for youth to come together to praise and worship Jesus. We are grateful for everyone who has contributed their time and talents to help shape *Alabare* into what it is today.

Over the years, *Alabare* has not only strengthened our spiritual growth and sense of community but also provided opportunities to showcase our talents for God's glory through events like **Euphoria**, **Good Friday Youth WOTC**, **Mega Rosary**, **DYD**, and more.

In addition, we've launched an Instagram page (@alabare\_sjpyc), where we share spiritual content, insights on the Catholic faith, and updates on *Alabare* events. *Alabare* is a monthly event, usually held on the last Saturday of each month. It includes praise and worship, spiritual and practical sessions, workshops, and adoration. This year, our sessions are focused on mental health, and all the youth of our parish are encouraged to attend these sessions.

— *Jeanelle Monis, St. Joseph NYG*



## *Youth Ministry at St. Joseph Church, Mira Road*

The Youth Ministry at St. Joseph Church, Mira Road, has shown significant growth in recent years, reflecting a strong revival post-COVID. Despite an initial decline in youth participation, the concerted efforts of our Parish Youth Animators (PYA) and the Parish Youth Council (PYC) have been instrumental in re-establishing active involvement among the youth. Currently, our parish has 56 Neighbourhood Youth Groups (NYGs), most of which are functioning effectively.

The early post-COVID period saw a decline in youth attendance, presenting a challenge in bringing the youth back to NYG meetings. However, through consistent outreach and engaging activities, youth participation has increased markedly, with most NYGs now operational and vibrant.

The PYC has organized a range of activities to foster community, faith, and fellowship among the youth. These events include **Talent Night**, **Trek**, **Parents' Day Celebration**, **Overnight Picnics**, **Rain Games**, and **Parish Games**. These activities help the youth relax and bond with one another, creating lasting memories and friendships. Along with fun activities, we also have spiritual events like **Conquest**, **Way of the Cross** during the Lenten season and Good Friday, **Youth Retreats**, and **Gospel Nights**, which help the youth grow in their spiritual lives.

Regular NYG meetings serve as an essential platform for the youth to come together, fostering a sense of community. A recent addition to the NYG meetings, **topic-based discussions**, has encouraged youth members to engage with broader social, spiritual, and personal themes, expanding their perspectives and fostering deeper conversations. *Alabare*, a praise and worship session held every fourth Saturday of the month, has been another highlight. These sessions provide an opportunity for youth to grow in their spiritual journey and gain insights into relevant topics, including mental health—a vital issue in today's world.

The youth of our parish possess considerable talent and energy, signaling a bright future for our parish community. Their enthusiasm, guided and nurtured by our dedicated PYAT, promises continued growth and positive influence within the parish. We extend our gratitude to our Parish Priest and the team of priests for their unwavering support, guidance, and spiritual assistance. The Youth Ministry at St. Joseph Church is thriving. Our prayer is that this ministry continues to guide young people closer to Christ and helps them walk in His light.

— *Fr. Ashwin Prashanth D'Souza*

**Youth Director**



## *Mary, our mother*

'Pretty Woman', I would like to describe her as,  
Who in the whole world bore the 'Perfect Man' as she has?  
'Theotokos' is another name,  
Can you name any woman who in the whole world has such fame?  
She who is Full of Grace, Brings the love of God to every place.  
Is there any woman as Blessed as she? You will never find anyone; this you'll  
have to agree.

She is the most amazing person to ever exist,  
This I would to everyone always insist.  
Who can claim to be the Father's Daughter,  
Holy Spirit's Spouse or even the Son's Mother?  
I bet you'd be thinking now,

How this wonderful grace came from above?  
She has a loving mother's heart,  
From her beloved children she will never depart.  
She was given by Jesus to us from the tree,  
This wonderful gift, so beautiful, so free.  
She'll immerse you in the love of God first,  
And this will quench your thirst.

She'll never lead you astray,  
But lead you to only 'The Way'.  
She tells us to obey her Son, And in this way our battle against the evil will be  
won.  
Don't be afraid to take Mary as your mother,  
She is a mother unlike any other.

- *Michelle Pinto, St Faustina  
NYG*



## *Restart*

If I gave my light up to brighten their skies, Would they even care?  
If I cheated to fulfil their expectations, Would that be counted fair?  
If I lost myself in this race Would I really win if I made it first?  
If I kept doing this with an unwilling heart, would my success start feeling like a curse?  
In the midst of these high tide waves, What if I drowned because I never learned to swim?  
What I gave up trying to stay afloat?  
What if I consciously cut my chances of survival slim?  
Whilst scaling this mountain, What if someone cut my safety rope?  
What if I lost my balance and fell to my own death?  
What if I tumble down the steep slope?  
Try is what I do,  
But will it ever be enough?  
Pushing my limits till the last thread snaps,  
I'm sorry if I let those down who think I'm tough.  
Confused in my head, Lost in my heart,  
I'd make my decisions firm and for myself, If only I could just press restart.

- *Adoncia Vaz, St Ignatius of Loyola NYG*



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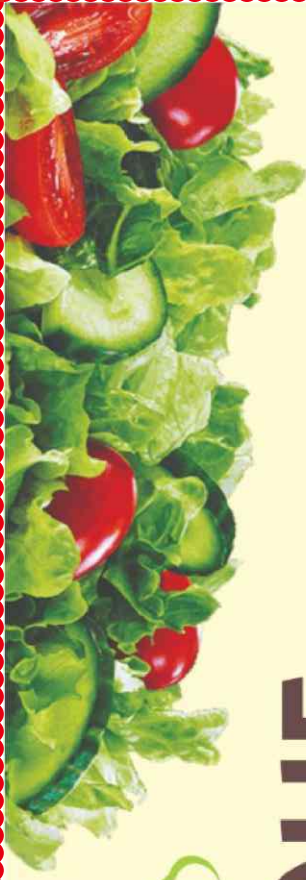
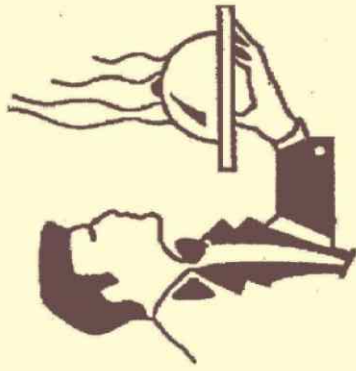


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In tears we saw you sinking so soon  
And watched you fade away  
Our hearts were almost broken  
We wanted you to stay

But When we saw you sleeping  
So peaceful, free from pain  
How could we wish you were with us  
To suffer it all again

It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you did not go alone  
For part of us went with you  
The day God took you home

If roses grow in heaven God  
Please pick one bunch for us  
Place them in Vanita's arms  
And tell her it is from us

Tell her we love and miss her  
And when she turns to smile  
Give her a warm big hug  
And hold her close for a while

Remembering her is easy  
We will do it every day  
But there is an ache in our hearts  
That is hard to go away

We want to think she has not gone  
But her new journey has just begun  
Her soul passing through  
many realms of heaven  
And this life among us was just one

We want to believe her as living  
In the hearts of those she touched  
For nothing that is loved is ever lost  
And we all loved her ever so much

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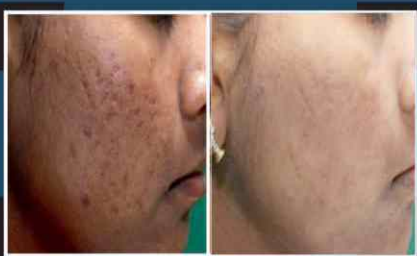
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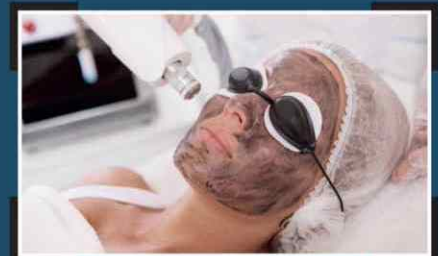
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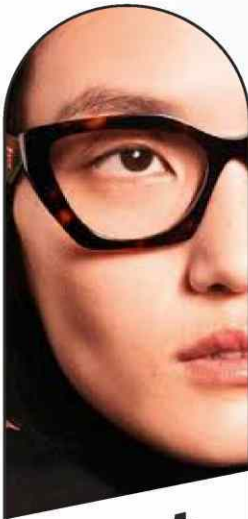


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*In Loving  Memory of*

*Norbert  
D'souza*

*March 31, 1965  
October 15, 2019*

*5<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary*



*We miss you.  
You were taken from us much too soon.  
We think of you all the time and talk to you.  
What we wouldn't give to hear your voice, just one last time.  
We miss your laugh.  
We miss everything about you.  
Remembered by - Gwen moby, Esther, Jenny*

*In Loving  Memory of*

*Cecilia  
Saldhana*

*July 22, 1933  
May 16, 2019*

*5<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary*



*Mama  
I Miss You.  
Life is not the same since you left.  
I know you are at peace,  
but I miss your smile,  
your advice, your LOVE  
I just MISS YOU*

*We cannot bring the old days back,  
when we were all together.*

*We often speak your name.*

*Now all we have are your memories and  
your picture in a frame.*

*Fondly remembered and loved by  
Dsouza Family  
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*In Ever Loving Memory of*



*Mrs. Augusta Maria Johnson*

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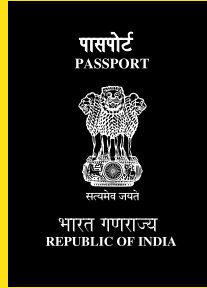
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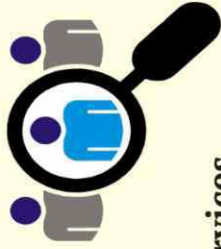


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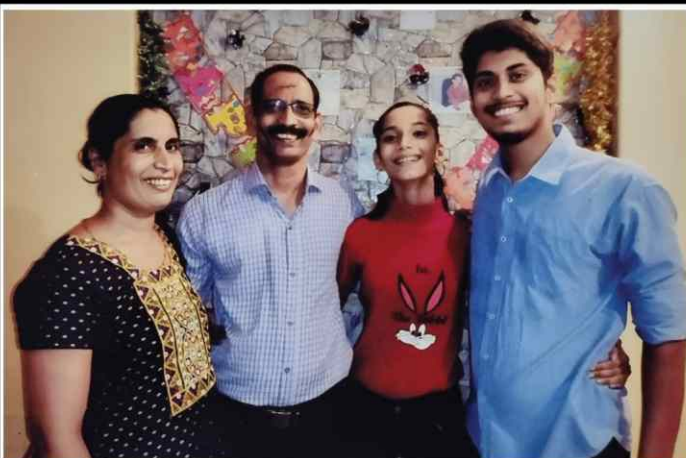
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In Loving Memory of  
**Boniface Barboza**

**25th Death Anniversary**

**Birth: 13.03.1930 Eternity: 26.03.1999**

You've been gone for 25 years now and though time has passed, your memory remains as strong and cherished as ever. We reflect on the love and wisdom you imparted and find comfort in knowing you watch over us from above. We are grateful for all the time we had and your faith, wisdom and gentle guidance shaped us into the people we are today.

Though we cannot hold you in our arms, we carry your spirit with us, more Your memory remains a source of light and warmth, guiding us through moments of joy and sorrow alike. May your soul find eternal peace and joy in the embrace of God's love, where pain and sorrow are no more and are surrounded by the light of divine grace and comfort.

A Tribute Of Love From:

Wife: Agnes Barboza

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"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and all those who live and believe in me will never die." John 11:25-26  
-Mother Of God Community



In Loving Memory of  
**Adrian Barboza**

**2nd Death Anniversary**

**Birth: 24.09.2006 Eternity: 15.08.2022**

Dear Adrian, two years have passed since your departure at such a young age which has left a void that words cannot fill. Your absence created an emptiness in our hearts that we still feel deeply. We remember your bright smile and the joy you brought into our lives. Your memory is a constant source of comfort and warmth for us. Though you are no longer physically present, you live on in our hearts.

Each day, we remember the special moments we shared with you. Your presence is felt in the smallest details of our lives, reminding us of your gentle spirit. Knowing you are in a better place gives us some comfort, even as we miss you dearly.

We struggle with the pain of your loss, but we find solace in the hope that we will be reunited one day. Your soul, now at peace, is wrapped in the boundless love of God. We carry your fond memories with us. Adrian, you will always be in our hearts, remembered with love and admiration. Until we meet again, we keep your spirit alive in everything we do. May your soul rest in eternal bliss.

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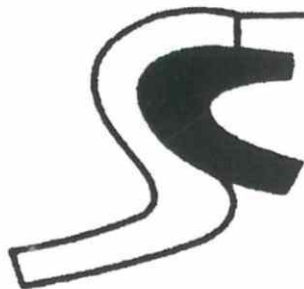


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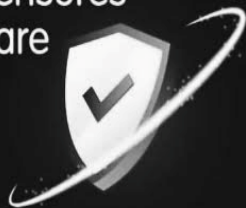
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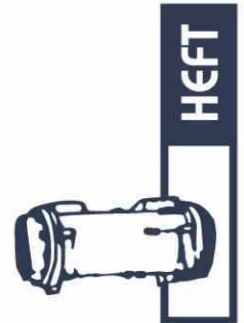
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**9 Days Rose Novena to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus**  
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9th to 17th of every month

Mention the name of the person and the intention you are praying for. Then say 24 times :

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. St Theresa of the Child Jesus, please pray for.....  
( name the person for whom you are saying this Rose Novena).



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Our Best Wishes to the Parish Priest, Asst. Parish Priests, all Parishioners & well wishers on this special occasion of Silver Jubilee celebration, of St. Joseph Church, Mira Road, Thane.

**St. Ignatius of Loyola Community**

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My best wishes to the Parish Priest, Asst. Parish Priests, all Parishioners and well wishers, on this special occasion of Jubilee Celebration, of St. Joseph Church, Mira Road, Thane.



*We wish you all a Blessed Christmas  
and a Happy New Year*

*Tidings Editorial Team*





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