

Building a Faith Community for Service

KeySTONE

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BANDRA
NEWSLETTER

COMMITMENT • LIVING FAITH • INTEGRITY • CONCERN • (CLIC)



Visit us at: www.stpetersbandra.org

August - September 2024

The Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs)

The Society of Jesus engages in a variety of apostolic works around the world. These works respond to local needs but are unified by an overarching vision that the Jesuit leadership formulates from time to time. The most recent vision came out in February 2019, when our Superior General promulgated these four Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs)

- *To show the way to God*
- *To walk with the excluded*
- *To accompany young persons*
- *To care for our common home*

This is a clear set of orientations for every Jesuit institution, and we are invited to incarnate these four dimensions in all our works. For now, we turn our attention briefly to the first preference...

To show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and Discernment.

Modern society presents a huge challenge to the Church in her task of proclaiming the Gospel. We notice in the situation around, not just the difficulties but also the opportunities for renewing the presence of God in human history. Pope Francis has affirmed that this is indeed the first of all preferences, the primary mission of all who follow Jesus.

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius are a privileged instrument for helping people experience the deep, personal love of God in Christ Jesus. We wish to offer the Spiritual Exercises in a variety of ways, providing people the opportunity to encounter Christ and transform their lives. We also commit ourselves to promote Spiritual Conversation and Discernment as a regular way of making decisions guided by the Holy Spirit.

On 15th August and 8th September, we celebrate the Assumption and Nativity of Our Blessed Mother. In the Spiritual Exercises, St Ignatius repeatedly asks us to seek the intercession of Our Lady to obtain spiritual graces. Each one of us is aware of the key role Mary has played in our own inner journey. We ask her intercession once more, as we continue our mission of helping others deepen their experience of God. Mary our Mother, pray for us. Amen.

- Fr. Luke Rodrigues s.j.



A CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM AND PURITY - Janet D'souza

August 15th is very significant for us Indians.
We celebrate two historic events:

Independence Day - a national and political event

Feast of the Assumption - a universal spiritual event



India ushers in its 77th Independence Day on Thursday 15th August 2024. It is a national holiday and celebrations across the country commence with the hoisting of the Tiranga flag, singing of the national anthem, Jana Gana Mana, followed by speeches, march pasts, parades, cultural programs. Patriotic songs can be heard on loud speakers and TVs. My favorite patriotic songs are

- * The late Lata Mangeshkar melodiously singing Ye mere Watan ke logo, and
- * the legendary A R Rahman singing Maa tujhe salaam, vande mataram and his classic hit, Jai Ho.

Merchandise of all shapes and forms of the tri color can be seen on t shirts, head gear, wrist bands, decorations, floral arrangements and even Rangolis (weather permitting).

This is the day of unified pride for our Mother Land.

On a universal level, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of the Assumption. In Mother Mary's Assumption, we see her victory over Sin and Death. The Assumption of Mary signifies that at the end of her natural life, Mary's physical body was taken to heaven to rejoin her spirit.

It is a day of obligation. She is the model of purity and so we pray,

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee

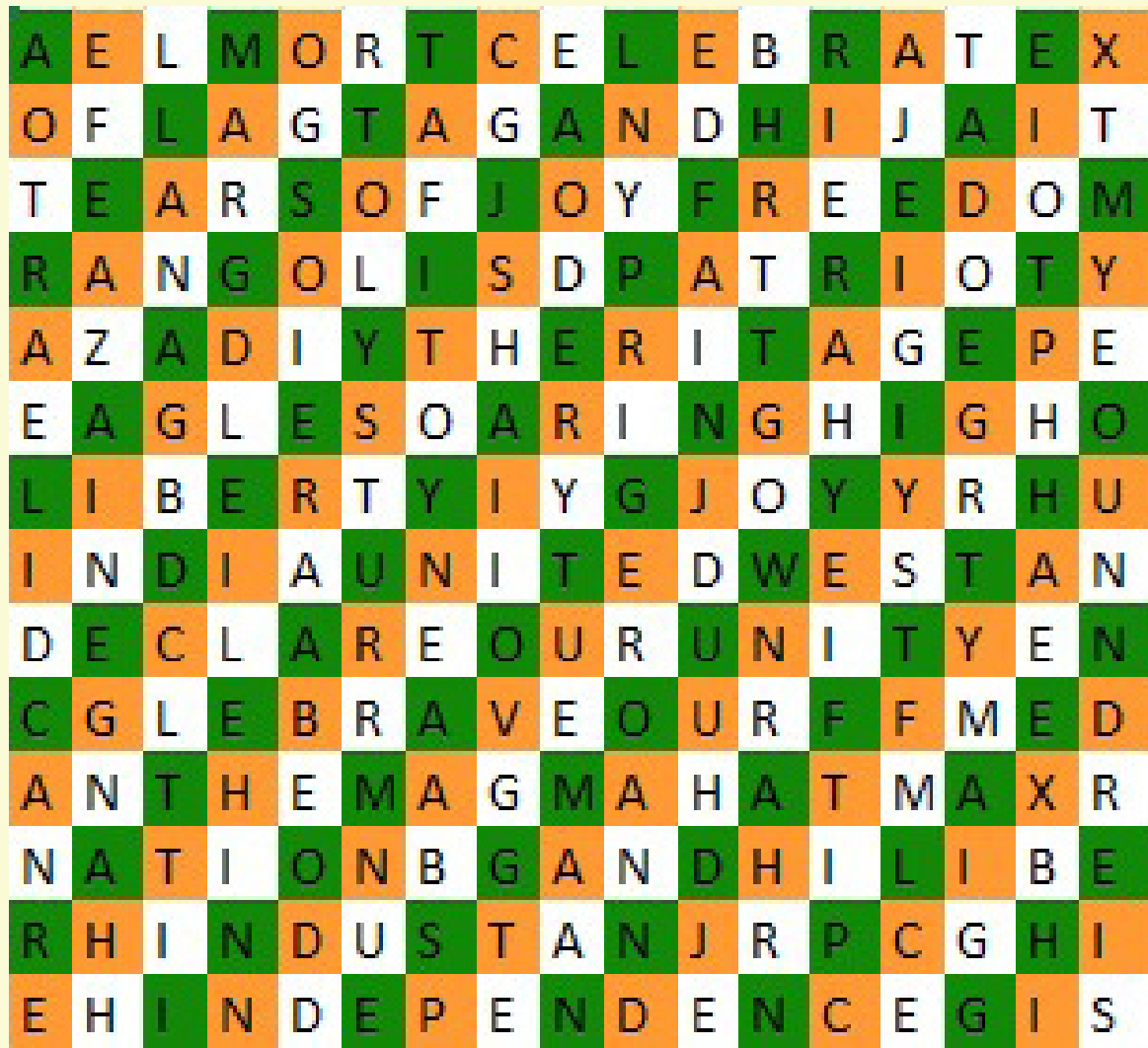
We are Indians



We belong

We are one

Liberty Letters... Let's do a word search



1. INDIA
2. FREEDOM
3. GANDHI
4. CELEBRATE
5. INDEPENDENCE

6. FLAG
7. UNITY
8. LIBERTY
9. NATION
10. JOY

11. RANGOLI
12. EAGLE
13. ANTHEM
14. BRAVE
15. HINDUSTAN

16. MAHATMA
17. AZADI
18. PATRIOT
19. HERITAGE
20. UNITED



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

- Fr. Luke Rodrigues s.j.

the first fruits of hope
Rom 8 : 19 - 25

Each year from September 1 to October 4, Christian Churches around the world come together to celebrate the 'Season of Creation'. This is a time of prayer and action, focused on caring for our common home. This celebration starts out on Creation Day (1st Sept) and concludes on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi (4th Oct).

The theme for this year is 'To hope and act with Creation' and is inspired by the Scripture passage Rm 8: 19-25. The symbol, 'the first fruits of hope', pictures the earth cooperating with the Holy Spirit in the ongoing process of giving birth.

The Care for Creation group at St Peter's will come up with different ways of celebrating this season together. Please look up the Care for Creation board in the Church porch to know what is happening. You could also learn more about this season by looking up the website <https://seasonofcreation.org>

INTERZONE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT ON OUR PARISH FEAST DAY



"The parish should not merely be a place where sacraments are administered to a small number of practicing Christians. Rather, it should be a center where the Word of God is preached and inspires deep probing; where there is a sense of openness to local social, economic and cultural problems."

PEDRO ARRUPE, SJ

From "Some Guidelines for the Parish Apostolate," 1979



St. Peter's strives to fulfill the definition of 'parish' as envisioned by Fr. Pedro Arrupe s.j. , a former Superior General of the Society of Jesus

The Senior Citizens Association had their Annual Overnight Picnic at the Stanislaus Villa.



A bus load of enthusiastic, young at people..

OUR PARISH PASTORAL COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

The PPC spent two days together at St Stanislaus Villa, reflecting on our mission today. We discussed ways in which our Vision Statement - Building a Faith Community for Service - could continue to be a reality in our parish.

Also taken up for discussion were the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) of the Society of Jesus. These will be presented to the whole parish through the Keystone and at Sunday Masses, one weekend.

All parishes have been asked to reflect on their Ministry with the Youth, with particular emphasis on getting more youth and young adults involved in the Mission of the Church.

PPC members of four Jesuit Parishes will get together at Vinayalaya on Saturday, 10th August. This will enable members to know each other better and share best practices in the pastoral ministry.

Mass in Hindi will be celebrated at 4 pm on the third Sunday of every month.

During the novena for the Nativity of Our Lady, our parish has been asked to animate the Liturgy at the Mount at 8:30 am on Saturday 31st August.



ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE EKATVAM GROUP IN OUR PARISH

EKATVAM - ONE FOR ALL

- Brian D'souza

The word "Ekatvam" of Sanskrit origin means oneness, a single cell organism with a singular identity and unity.

Inception: In September 2017, some members realized the need to unite like-minded people, who felt the urge to reach out to the larger community, simultaneously becoming a Support group.

Vision: To support, equip and encourage Single Adults to grow spiritually and to live productive and fulfilling lives as they take on the personal, professional and social challenges of being single by creating opportunities for fellowship, service and transformation.

3 fold Mission : Individual and Spiritual
Intra group support and relations
Community welfare

Outreach/Activities include

- ✚ Differently abled, orphans and street children at Asha Dhaan, Sneha Sadan, House of Charity and Kripa
- ✚ Care for the Elderly: Emily Care Sisters and St. Anthony's Home;

Recollections

- ✚ Recreation: Cycling , Badminton, board games and get-togethers
- ✚ Outreach to various Mission stations; Uplat, Manor
- ✚ Prison Ministry - Teaching & Fund Raising
- ✚ Ekatvam English classes for the Tribals

All Single people above 35 years of age, come join the Ekatvam group!

EKATVAM'S RECENT EVENTS



Conducted the rosary for the YSS in the month of May

"Together for a greener future" to celebrate World Environment Day in the archdiocese.



Outreach to the Manor Mission

First ever trek to Kanheri Caves on a wet Sunday morning.



THE WORD ON THE STREET

What's better than sitting at home on a rainy day?
Sitting at St. Peter's and playing Scrabble with a drink.....
relax....it was just a juice.

28th July saw around 35 Scrabble enthusiasts making their way to the School Shed. Drawn up in a professional way, with rules, timings, use of Collins words etc, four games were played, and no one got upset even if they had a case of IVS- 'Irritable Vowel Syndrome' or 'Consonantipation'.

Deep gratitude to Carol Pais, for not only directing the tournament, but also for all her expertise and assistance during the past couple of months. Special thanks to our tech wizard, Sanjay Bijlani for handling draws and keeping scores so diligently, besides assisting with players' challenges. The tournament wouldn't have been possible without our participants and especially, Fr. Everest Newnes and Sr. Asha, whose presence added to the motivation and joy. Thanks to you, we've learned that 'zo' is an animal, 'ja' 'yes', its allowed, and 'lo' and behold, we finally got it!

'C o r t u g l t a n i a o n s' players!!! Keep up the good word!

- Victoria Menezes
(E₁ K₅ A₁ T₁ V₄ A₁ M₃)



Congratulations Neil Pais, Brian D'souza and Mehjabeen Peeradina



"The tournament was a resounding success, fostering a love for language, encouraging friendly competition, and bringing together a multi-faith community united by their passion for words"

- Christabelle Murzello

Joke: Yesterday I saw a guy spill all his Scrabble letters on the road and I asked him, 'What's the word on the Street?'

SCRABBLE

THE JESUS CLUB CELEBRATES THEIR PARENTS on the feast of St. Anne and St. Joachim
They put up a wonderful morning of celebration for parents and grandparents.
Helpful reminders on the challenges and responsibilities of parents were also covered
through a talk by Ms. Kim Lobo.

Thank you teachers, for all your hard work and efforts in making this a special day for us.



-Velanie Pereira
(a parent)

THE UNSUNG HEROES OF OUR FAITH

- Janet D'souza





Sunday the 4th August is being celebrated
as the Feast of St. John Marie Vianney, patron saint of all priests.

He was a French priest, known for his dedication
to the Sacrament of Confession.

This is the day when we, the Laity, get an opportunity to express our appreciation,
affection and deep gratitude to all our priests.

On behalf of every parishioner at St. Peter's Church, Bandra, we thank you
for your leadership, your service, dedication and your openness in welcoming
the seeds of constant change and nurturing the community's spiritual growth.

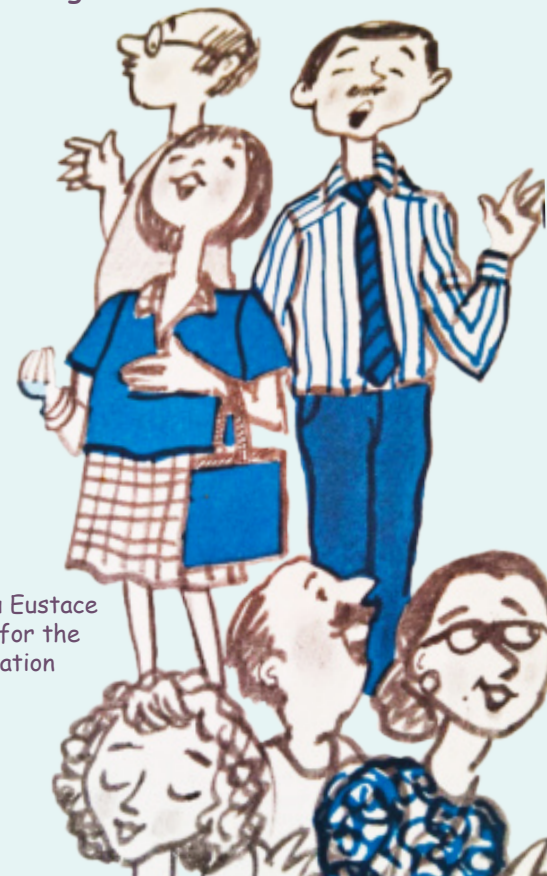
 Move over, Willie Nelson, 
your lyrics have struck a new chord!!

*To all our priests, we've loved before
Who've traveled through our church doors
We're glad they came along
We dedicate this song
To all our priests who've come & gone
But left an indelible mark on us all*

*To all our priests, who've cared for us
Who filled our lives with faith & trust
They live within our hearts
And will always be a part
Of our great church, and who we are*

*The winds of change are always blowing
And every time you try to stay
The winds of change continue blowing
And they just carry you away.*

To all our priests...



Thank you Eustace
D'souza for the
illustration

Teachers Fleur and Desiree write in about the joys and challenges of teaching GEN Z

As a teacher who started her career in 2017, I've seen education transform significantly with Generation Z, who are both tech-savvy and well informed. Classroom dynamics have shifted from traditional lectures to facilitative learning, encouraging critical thinking and creativity.

Pre-COVID, teaching focused on textbook information delivery, but now it involves fostering environments for questioning and real-life application of concepts. AI tools like ChatGPT, while valuable, have led to student dependence, impacting creativity and authenticity in learning.

Consequently, I've had to adopt innovative assessment methods, including in-class activities, hands-on projects and more classroom discussions. Social media's influence brings both connectivity and challenges like anxiety and distractions, affecting students' mental health.

My role has expanded to include emotional support, acting as a counselor and confidant. Teaching now involves creating a nurturing space for expression, discussion, and innovation, making my job rewarding and dynamic as I continuously learn and adapt to inspire my students

- Fleur Cardoz

Gen Z, the second-youngest generation in our world, are people born between the late 90's till 2010. They've come of age in the shadow of climate doom, pandemic lockdowns and fears of economic collapse. They're known to have a voracious appetite to consume media online.

Having had the opportunity to teach students from this generation, the challenges presented pale in comparison to the immense fulfilment gained learning with them. One of the greatest joys in teaching them is their innate adaptability to technology, making learning more interactive and engaging; fostering a dynamic environment and enabling learners to be the drivers of their own learning pace.

These learners usually, are socially aware and have a strong desire for real-world relevance. They flock to corners of the virtual world to discuss their passions and interests with those who share them, leading to meaningful classroom discussions and innovative projects.

However, adapting to their learning preferences can be challenging sometimes. Constant digital stimuli and the abundance of information available, can overwhelm the unsuspecting, resulting in shorter attention spans. When left unchecked, it affects their ability to focus and consequently their academic performance. Hence, learning to critically evaluate data sources and managing one's media consumption becomes a pressing priority.

Furthermore, social media platforms could impact self-esteem since many of them might be known to curate their online selves more carefully than those from prior generations. Overall, joys of teaching GenZ lie in their enthusiasm for technology and their drive to make a difference, providing educators an opportunity to navigate these waters strategically

- Desiree Fernandes

YASSSS

SPILL THE TEA

G.O.A.T

WOKE

ON FLEEK

BOUJEE

OKURRR

SUPER FLY

GenZ slang that every millennial should know



Pope's Intention
August 2024

For our Political Leaders

Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for intergral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor

Please email your articles for the Keystone to the editorial team at

stpeterschurchkeystone@gmail.com

on/by 15th of each month.

MILESTONES

BORN IN CHRIST

Name

José Ritchie Mascarenhas
Azealea Shaikh
Amelia Shaikh

S/o Carl Jr. and Bianca Mascarenhas
D/o Adeeb Shaikh and Tarini Menezes
D/o Adeeb Shaikh and Tarini Menezes

REST IN CHRIST

Name

Age

Address

Dagmar V. D'mello (Nee D'sylva)	86	D'monte Street
James Braganza	57	National Library Road
Edna Dias	63	Meher Court, Almeida Park
Aloysius Mathews	91	Boran Road
Francisca Mary Almeida	72	St. Martins Road
Maria Vaz	81	Chinchpokli Road
Philomena Almeida	86	S.V. Road
Philomena Eudocia D'souza	89	Windcliff, 1st Road
Helen Estrocio	76	Waroda Road