

KEYSTONE

ST. PETER'S CHURCH BANDRA NEWSLETTER

COMMITMENT LIVING FAITH INTEGRITY CONCERN (CLIC)



<http://stpetersbandra.com>

October-November 2025

FAITH
faith

faith formation to build a community

Fr. Luke Rodrigues s.j.

It is helpful for us to re-visit our parish vision statement and take stock of how we are putting it into practice. This time, we shall reflect on how faith formation is helping us in building a faith community for service.

At the broadest level, faith formation takes place through the regular practices of the Church. Every Eucharistic celebration, with its readings and homily, opens up the Scriptures to us. The prayers give us a summary of salvation history and invite us to place our own life stories within that larger context. Regular celebrations of the other sacraments offer specific graces and build up the faith we need to deal with life's challenges. Devotional practices such as the Way of the Cross, Rosary, Novenas etc. help us to recall the mysteries of Christ's life while reaffirming our faith in the powerful role that Mary and other intercessors play.

A more formal and structured process of faith formation takes place through catechism offered to children and youth. We are deeply grateful to the Jesus Club teachers and the Confirmation animators, who generously dedicate their time and talent to this cause. They play an important role in shaping the future of the Church. We also have couples who instruct parents-to-be through the pre-baptismal catechesis.

Faith formation is also imparted in the parish through the occasional Scripture classes and sessions on Church documents. At the diocesan level, a number of courses are conducted yearly, offering training in Scripture, Liturgy, Theology, Environment, Bio-ethics....

In the midst of all these activities, let us never forget that the family is the first and most crucial place for faith formation. All other efforts will come to naught if children do not receive basic Christian instruction at home. I earnestly urge all parents and grandparents to ensure that our young ones are nourished by regular inputs on the Bible, sacraments, and other aspects of our faith.

It is with humility and gratitude that we welcome the insights of our 94 year old Fr. Juan, whose life of service and devotion has touched countless lives. His decades of priestly ministry have given him a unique perspective on faith and family.

After the fall I had on the 29th of July, I am under "house arrest" 😊
I would like to reach out to you parishioners, and be a part of your family through these few lines. My thoughts.. expressed at random.

Our home should imitate the family of Nazareth. Husbands should imitate Joseph providing and caring for all. Ask Joseph to reside in your home and make you a good carpenter. Wives have a model in Mary, always saying yes to God's will. Children, be like Jesus who was most intelligent. Jesus, Mary and Joseph ... three of them different from each other, but unique and precious, though not perfect.

The golden rule to keep the family in harmony is in the gospel of Luke 6,37. "Do not judge. Do not condemn". I add "Think well of others. Feel good towards all"
We read in Col 3, 12 - 21 "wives, husbands, love and treat each other with gentleness. Children, obey your parents always. Parents, never drive your children to resentment". We read in Ecclesiasticus 3, 2- 6, 12 - 14 "whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins...will be happy with his own children. Whoever honours his mother is amassing a fortune. Support your father in his old age, even if his mind should fail". Pope Francis said "the home is a place of forgiveness. Without forgiveness, it becomes a place of conflict. Without forgiveness, the family is sick".

No family is perfect. But no pointing fingers. If a child fails, is he to blame? Family conflicts affect a child. School problems have origins in the family. Parents and teachers should communicate often. Dialogue is of great help. If the father is strict, the child can become submissive or rebellious. If the mother is too affectionate or protective, the child may not develop to his full potential.

I conclude: Act justly. Give alms - much or little. Love your relatives. Let not drunkenness be your life long companion. Do what is pleasing to God and you will have great wealth.

Let the same blood group run in our veins. "B positive", "B calm". This will make our homes strong and healthy; bring peace and harmony.

May Jesus, Mary and Joseph bless our homes today. Jesus said "where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am". Let the picture of the Holy Family preside in our homes. May we sense their presence.

“
I pray that you may see
God in everything and
in every person
”



Fr. Juan.s.j.



The Mass: A Sacrament and Sacrifice

-Veena Crasto

The Mass is at the heart of Christian worship.

It is not simply a memorial service, a repetition of prayers, or a re-enactment of the Last Supper. Rather, it is the true sacrifice of Christ made present again for us. Christ offered himself once and for all on the Cross, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah's Suffering Servant. At the Last Supper, he gave us the Eucharist so that his sacrifice might be perpetuated through the ages. In every Mass, Jesus gives us his Body and Blood as spiritual food, sanctifying us and drawing us into communion with God.



The early Christians understood this mystery deeply. They actively participated in the liturgy—listening to the apostles' teaching, offering gifts, exchanging the kiss of peace, and uniting their "Amen" to the consecration. For them, the Mass was both thanksgiving and sacrifice, uniting prayer with the breaking of bread.

The Mass is directed to God the Father, through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. It is the worship of the Holy Trinity. It is also the Church's greatest act of love and unity and a foretaste of eternal glory. The Second Vatican Council reminds us that Christ instituted the Eucharist to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross until he comes again.

To truly honour God in the Mass, we must unite interior devotion with outward participation—living in Christ, giving ourselves fully to him, and allowing his sacrifice to transform our lives.

The Mass is the greatest gift Christ has given his Church: a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, and pledge of eternal life.

The Jubilee cross journey - October and November

→ St. Peter's Church
October 1st - October 31st:
(Month of our Lady)

→ St Joseph (St. Joseph's Primary)
November 1st - November 12th

→ Good Shepherd (Rebello House)
November 13th - November 21st



Prioritize Prayer

You are invited to deepen your prayer life through our Jubilee Year initiative: First Friday adoration.

Pray at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel every First Friday from 7am to 8.30pm.

Contact your zone animator to reserve your time slot.



From the desk of the Social Outreach Cell

Berna Mascarenhas

Love and fulfillment...this is what we the SOC team, get back a hundred fold from our Sunday morning dance and exercise class with the differently abled young adults



We were overwhelmed by the time, effort and "heart" that was put into the **Teacher's Day** celebration and are grateful to be a part of this close knit family that's grown stronger over the years.

A warm **Parent's Day** celebration ended with an appreciative parent summing it up...
"God could not be everywhere, so he made the SOC"



धन्यवाद



Dhanyavaad exceeded expectations! 145 domestic workers let their hair down at an action packed, funfilled evening held to show that we appreciate them. To show that we care.



Multifaith - Embracing diversity, fostering harmony

In a gesture of appreciation, the multifaith group celebrated Raksha Bandhan by thanking the Bandra Police and Traffic Department personnel.



The group also visited the ISKON temple in Juhu and the Sarnath Budh Vihar in Khar, discovering the beauty of diverse faiths and experiencing the warmth and hospitality of the devotees.



The Youth Social Service group reports

Our library's all spruced up and our doors are open.

Welcome on any weekday between 6.30 and 7.30 pm

The YSS and the Medical Cell together, conducted a blood donation drive and an enlightening cancer awareness programme.



The heart of our community

Meet the dedicated coordinators (C) and animators who make a difference.

Mary help of Christians Bazaar Road



C- Marcellus Gomes, Sr. Marita, Sr. Reetha, Fr. Ivan D'Souza, Shaheen Fernandes, Tony Coelho, Lynelle Braganza, Alodia D'Cruz, Esperance Gurson

Our Lady of Nazareth Elco Arcade



C- Glenn D'Silva, Sr. Usha Farel, Fr. Aubrey Mascarenhas, Mervyn Noronha

Divine Mercy Waroda Road



C- Anthony Rodrigues, Sr. Vidhya Dandakar, Fr. Fabian Baretto, Gail Vessaokar, Josephine D'Souza, Gizzele Pereira, Lorain D'Souza, Bella Pontes, Sarah D'souza

Maria Goretti Somnath Lane



C - Sylvia Lewis, Sr. Collette, Fr. Aubrey Mascarenhas, Damian Noronha, Peter Fernandes, Christina D'Abreo, Daphne D'Monte, Rosy Baptista, Simon Fernandes

St. Martin St. Martin's Road



C- Sheldon Miranda, Sr. Maria Pegado, Fr. Luke Rodrigues, Lourdes Fonseca, Livia D'Souza, Joanita Ferreira, Raynah Braganza

Holy Family D'Monte Street



C- Prakash D'Souza, Michelle D'Souza, Sr. Lovenia Almeida, Fr. Adolf Muclar, Mayfilda Athaide, Errol Pereira, Lourdes Pereira, Cheryl Singh, Savio Gonsalves, Charmaine D'Souza (Sr), Charmaine D'Souza (jr), Rakesh Parmar

St. Joseph St Joseph's Primary



C- Carol D'Mello, Sr. Yvonne Rodrigues, Fr. Baptist Pinto, Veena Crasto, Mathew Martis, Agnes Pinto, Mabel D'Sa, Brian Almeida, Carol Misquitta, Mereena DeSouza, Stephen Saldanha, Thomas Martins

Holy Rosary
Babanagar



C- Marie Dorell Lobo, Sr. Mahima,
Fr Ivan D'Souza, Catherine Fernandes,
Clara Vessaokar, Nafisa Pereira,
Radha Chavan, Philo Fernandes



Queen of peace
Boran Rd/ Bazaar Cross



C- Percy Mathews, Sr. Anita Nunes, Fr. Trevor Miranda,
Jean Caeiro, John Fernandes, Terence Cardoz, Cynthia Patel,
Mabel Misquitta, Joseph Moll, Winnie Patel, Edna D'Souza,
Daniel Hendriques, Erica Miranda

Queen of the Family..
Station Road



C- Celestine Taites, Sr. Prisca Dias, Fr Adolf Muclar
Agnes Taites, Dibya Minz, Rebecca D'Souza,
Anselm Braganza, Bimla Kujur

Good Shepherd
Rebello House



C- Christine Saldanha, Sr. Martha
Fr. Evarist Newnes, Margaret Noronha

St. Peter
St. Peter's colony

C- Neil Pais
Sr. Sangeeta
Fr. Luke Rodrigues
Clara Muckaden
Genevieve Cabral
Rene Menezes
Marian Furtado
Jennifer D'Souza



Our Lady of the wayside
J.D Alves.



C- Bernadine D'Penha, Sr. Heather Aranha
Fr. Evarist Newnes, Meriel Braganza,
Andrea D'Souza, Linda Rodrigues,
Cecilia Fernandes, Celine D'Souza
Edgar D'Souza, Idaline Fernandes,
Sunil Rebello, Bunny Cardoz

Archangel Raphael
Almeida Park

C- Celine Fernandes, Maria D' Sa,
Sr. Asha D' Sa, Fr. Baptist Pinto,
Blanche Fernandes, Ivan Coutto
June Baretto, Janice Rodrigues
Mathilda Tamboowalla,
Margaret D'Souza, Parul Menezes
Sandra D'Souza, Ulrica Dias
Severine Fernandez





ZONALS
2025

All wrapped up!

A shout out to our talented parish superstars who participated in the All Bandra Parish Zonals with spirit and enthusiasm.

Congratulations! We are so proud of you.



Where faith and fun unite
the confirmation camp

Our Lonavala confirmation camp was a great learning experience that deepened our faith and strengthened our bonds through interesting sessions, fun activities and discussions.

Jesus club celebrates their Teachers

Fr. Luke appreciatively summed up the celebration: The organization was very good and the events were presented with clarity and confidence. The children showed great presence of mind and overcame the challenge of mics and music. There is good leadership potential in many of them





Our parish Legal Cell is back



After a 4-year gap, we restarted with a seminar on **drafting wills and succession plans**. Our next session is on **property re-development** (Oct 11).

Need legal guidance ?

Our team is available for consultations every 2nd and 4th Saturday (10:30am-12:30pm) by appointment.



Entrusting ourselves to Mary's care

Joshua Lobo

The St. Peter's youth group and the working youth came together for a pilgrimage to the Mount. The walk was filled with prayer, devotion and a deep sense of unity as we entrusted our intentions to Mother Mary through the intercession of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

Before setting out, every youth prayerfully wrote their intentions. The climb up to the Mount was not only a physical one, but a spiritual one too. In church, we reverently honoured Our Lady. After the prayer, we burnt our chits symbolizing our complete surrender to God's will.



Devotees walk in faith



Devotees at the Mot Mauli Purcessao, promoting native devotion to Our Lady, prayerfully wound their way from St. Micheal's Church, Mahim (stopping en route at St. Peter's), to celebrate mass at the Mount.



Remembering with affection



Sr. Sneha Vaz f.c. (also known as Sr. Alice) passed away on 13 September 2025. She was assigned to the "Our Lady of the Wayside" community and touched hearts through her compassion and selflessness.

Despite her physical limitations, she visited the homes of the housebound and inspired many.

May her kindness continue to guide and inspire us.

Yayyyyyy.. a pleasant surprise

More parishners of 90+ years joining us



The youngest of 15 siblings, **Julius Mathews** has a strong melodious voice that has enthralled many a large gathering. Singing favourite Marathi songs is his forte.

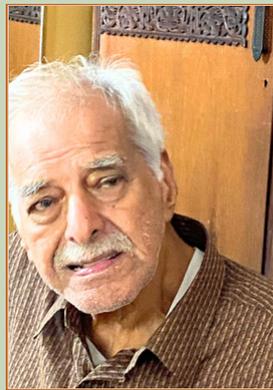
He was involved in the family business of book binding and embossing. His cheerful outlook on life and faith in God and the Blessed Virgin is an inspiration to all.



97 year old, **Dina Nanavati** was a librarian who worked for the British Council in England and later came to India. She converted to Catholicism with the blessings of her family.

A master mariner, **Loyola Azavedo** spent a major part of his life at sea, on huge merchant vessels, braving many a storm.

Very independent and enthusiastic, he will shortly be 95 and is excitedly preparing for his first grandchild's wedding.

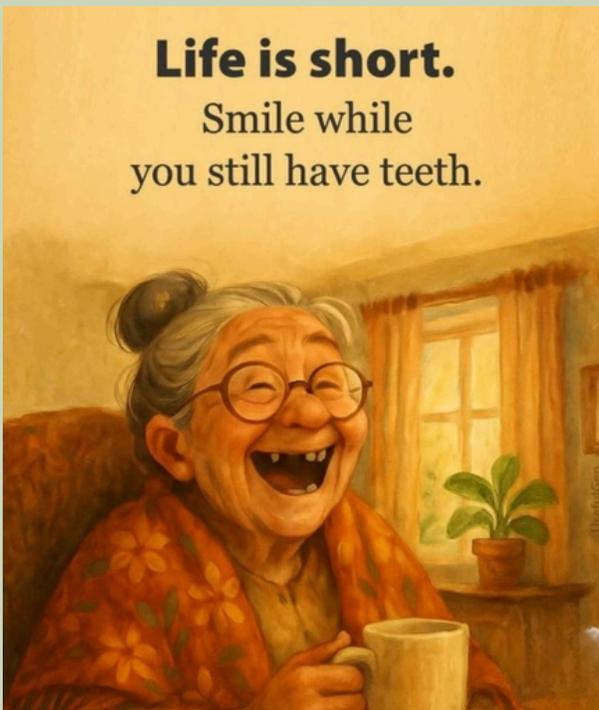
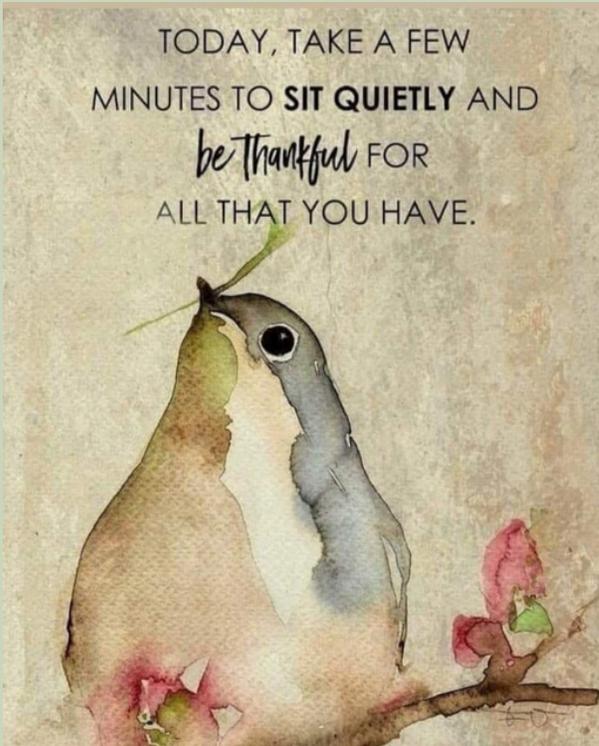


Juliana Mascarenhas says "God is my life and I thank him for keeping me up and about". She was a teacher in Allahabad and Mumbai and also helped in the St. Peters medical centre for a few years.



Oops...mistake alert!
In the previous article on parishners of 90 years and above, **EMA FERNANDES** is 94!

We stand corrected. 😞
Nana Ema, sorry we goofed.
Please accept our sincere apology.



If God should go on strike

-Walt Huntley

It's a good thing that God Almighty has never gone on strike. Cause of unfair treatment of things he didn't like.

Imagine if one day he said "That's it. I'm through. I've had enough of those on earth, so this is what I'll do"

He'll give orders to the sun. Cut off the heat supply. And tell the moon "give no more light". And run the oceans dry.

And just to make things double tough and put the pressure on, he'll cut off the air and oxygen till every breath is gone.

For sure he will be justified if fairness was his game. For no one has been more abused or treated with disdain.

We breathe his air. We eat his food. Yet still we disobey. We chase the world and blame our Lord when things don't go our way.

But yet he carries on and on providing for you and me, with all the goodness of his grace and everything for free.

But people say we want a better deal, so on strike we go. But what a deal we're giving God, to who everything we owe.

We don't care who we harm to gain the things we like. But what a mess we'd all be in, if God should go on strike.—



DATES TO REMEMBER

Has your property gone for Re-Development?

Are you confused?
Do you know your rights?

You are invited to a Seminar on Property Re-Development

PLAN: RE-DEVELOPMENT

On Sat. 11th Oct. 2025, 5.30 pm, Xavier Hall

Organised by St. Peter's Legal Aid Cell

Milestones



Welcome little one

Raelynn Lily Rebeiro

D/o Alexio Rebeiro & Simone Fernandes

Station Road

United in Christ

Vaibhav B. Jadhav & Tilbert L. Mendes

Waroda Road, Bandra (West)



Chicken Soup for the Soul for JOB-SEEKERS

Date: **2nd October 2025**, Thursday. Time: **5.00 PM - 6.30 PM** followed by Q&A
Venue: **Loyola Hall (Ground Floor), St Peters Church, Hill Road, Bandra (West), Mumbai**

Feeling stuck in your job search? Looking for guidance, encouragement, or practical tips to find a job? Join us for a **little spiritual inspiration** and a **LOT of practical tips** to be more effective in finding a job.

Learning Objectives → **Job Application Strategy** | **How to enhance your CV** | **Better LinkedIn profiles** | **Interview Preparation Tips**

Free Limited seats! **Bring a friend along! But do register!**

For Christian Youth and working adults up to 35 years. However, ALL are welcome!

Speakers include Fr Luke Rodrigues (SJ) Parish Priest of St. Peter's Church, Michael R. Fernandes (MBA-HR, XLRI)

Register in advance by **texting** (no calls please) your name & years of experience to Michael Gonsalves on M: 9987928791 OR register at the YSS office (6:30-7:30pm). Post-registration, you'll receive a Google Form to share basic info.

Organised by St. Peter's Youth Social Service (YSS). Please note: we are NOT offering placement assistance in this meeting.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
- Psalm 119:105

WORD OF GOD

TOPIC: LETTERS OF ST. PAUL (Overview)

Speaker: Fr. Luke Rodrigues
Venue: Our Lady's Room
Time: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Date: 9th October 2025 (Thursday)

Bible Cell
St. Peter's Church

SINGLE LIFE | MARRIED LIFE
RELIGIOUS LIFE | PRIESTHOOD

LORD, TEACH ME YOUR WILL!
DISCERNMENT RETREAT
26TH NOV 5PM TO 30TH NOV 2PM
LAST DATE TO REGISTER: 19TH NOV
AGE: 20 TO 40 YEARS
VINAYALAYA, ANDHERI (E), MUMBAI
FR BRIAN D'SOUZA S.J. 8600757201

STAY ALERT. STAY SECURE

The Women's Cell of St. Peter's Parish presents a session on **DIGITAL SECURITY**

Date: 5th October 2025
Time: 11 am
Duration: 1 hour
Venue: Our Lady's Room

Conducted by Swete Carvalho of Red Dot

Returned to the Lord

Gina Subhash Guha	06.08.2025	Elco Arcade, Hill Road
Rajani D'souza	07.08.2025	D'mello Compound, Somnath Lane
Peter Cornelius Pereira	08.08.2025	Baba Nagar, St. Peter's Road
Succour Rodrigues	27.08.2025	Pooja Apartments, Chinchpokli Road
Ronald D'souza	10.09.2025	Baba Nagar, St. Peter's Road
Joao C. Fernandes	18.09.2025	D'mello Compound, Somnath Lane
Oscar D'souza	23.09.2025	Almeida Park, Prof. Almeida Road



We welcome your suggestions, if any.
Reach us on email at stpeterschurchkeystone@gmail.com
by the 15th of the month.