

Know your Parish Happenings



AN INTER FAITH SERVICE FOR PEACE AND UNITY - Sr. Veena, fc

(Conducted on Republic Day at St. Joseph's Convent)

Representatives of the 6 religions came forward to light the lamp while a bhajan was played.

The Hindu Representative said the Hindus conclude their meditation with singing a peace mantra. The word peace or 'Shanti' originates from the Sanskrit root 'sham' which means to pacify/quell. Once our passions are pacified, the desires of our senses are silenced, we can experience peace.

In Zoroastrianism, the emphasis is on moral choice and individual accountability. Before their daily prayer, they tie the Kusti around the waist, reminding them to carry out their duties in good faith, and have good thoughts.

The Islam speaker said that they greet one another in the words "Assalam-o-allahkum, which means "Peace be with you."

In Sikhism, according to the revelation by the Almighty, every one is a child of God, He loves everyone equally and wishes to give His peace to all.

Fr. Gerard said, Shalom – the root word from which peace in the Bible originates, means completeness, fullness and perfectness. This is the kind of peace which God gives us and we must work towards.

Jainism believes in Ahimsa which means that every living creature, every human being, plant, animal and organic being is not to be destroyed.

During the prayer service, a dance was performed depicting the harmonious blend between different religions. There was intercession and a period of silence.

The service ended with a prayer, words of pledge followed by the singing of the National Anthem.



Shukriya

- Ancella D'Souza

Welcome to my world...
A world of integrity... A world of Jesus.
Of living faith, commitment and service,
As sweet strains of music lit up an evening,
Of fun, frolic and just about everything.

Then the Key Concerns were repeated and drilled in,
Admittedly – we felt like little school children,
Groups, Associations, SCCs and the rest,
Vowed that all of us should do our best.

Fr. Lawrie a natural entertainer,
Kept us in splits with his one liners.
And dear Fr. Henry, where was his stern look?
Regaling jokes – surely not from any book.

Sipping on fruit punches was simply refreshing,
While starters and the dinner were truly tempting,
God bless our sponsors for their generosity,
As we all enjoyed their warm hospitality.

Kudos! To Fr. Gerard and his team at St. Peter's,
'Shukriya' to the way they warmly treated us.
Loving concern and camaraderie was evident to all,
A more enjoyable evening was difficult to recall.

P.S. To all the Fathers and Brothers whose names
do not feature above,
A big 'Thank You' with all our love.

Celebrating

CONSECRATED LIFE

- Sr. Ann Henrietta, fc.

It was an enjoyable meeting of the Jesuits of St. Peter's Church and the Daughters of the Cross of St. Joseph's Convent, Bandra on February 2, 2007. It was the World Day of Consecrated Life, so we needed to spend time together rejoicing in our special calling.

After a prayerful time together, in which we thanked God for our vocation, we also took the opportunity to renew our vows in silence, and re-ignite our commitment. We prayed for the various needs of the world, the church, the country and the parish. Included in our prayer, was a decade of the rosary for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Thanks to the culinary skills of the Sister, the high tea that followed was much appreciated by all. We spent some quality time together and we left feeling more energized, with a determination to support each other in the living out of our commitment and dedication.

The purpose of declaring February 2 the World Day of Consecrated Life, is to help the entire Church to esteem ever more greatly, the witness of those living the consecrated life. It therefore, would have greater significance if the celebration was held in the presence of a wider Christian community, either at the parish, or deanery level. This would enable the people of God to assimilate, appreciate and above all, be attracted to this way of life.

We look forward to World Day of Consecrated Life – 2008!



It needn't be September to walk that mile,
Any month will do, to receive Mother Mary's smile,
The tranquility and peace experienced there,
We know Our Lady will erase every year.

So the 16th of February was the day set aside,
To walk a pilgrimage, beautiful and bright,
Little children, adults and seniors too,
They walked together with a love so true.

At 7.30 a.m. we set out from St. Peter's
Thru' Waroda, Veronica, Roque and Hill Roads,
Light nimble feet, voices clear and loud,
Rosaries and Hymns filled the air around.

With expectation and hope at the Mount we arrive,
A devoted group of 225, into the Basilica we stride,

And as the choir sang
'Come in pilgrim lay your burden down'
Didn't we feel our troubles gone?

The homily by Fr. Gerard was thought provoking,
Assisted by Frs. Juan and Henry the Eucharist was
invigorating,

There was a feeling of oneness and love,
A blessing from the Almighty above.

The Eucharist celebration concluded,
Hot tea and biscuits awaited,
Felt like a family gathering,
With joking, fun and chattering.

P.S. For those who missed out this time,
Watch out for a repeat the next time.

A FASHION STATEMENT

- Tessa de Souza

EAT, DANCE AND BE MERRY was how 'HOPE AND LIFE' brought in 2007. Hilda's MERRY games amid much laughter put the ladies in the mood for the lively concluding song and 'DANCE' session. 'EAT' snacks a plenty, some donated, but every one of them sinful and definitely not what the doctor ordered.

The highlight was walking the ramp. Counting the 'highest number of bangles' was easy and easier still, the rings, as Alice proudly displayed nine rings on her fingers. Georgiana was chosen for wearing the 'brightest gayest dress'. Whilst judges were choosing her, a soft whisper in my left ear "My in-laws see to it that I wear the dullest dowdiest clothes"(A future rebel??). And Lou whispered into my right ear "Is this an Off-the-Shoulder-Dress? No! No, it's just slipped down. But trendiest of all, was President Rachael leading the pack in the 'longest narrowest Italian shoes'. ROLL ON THE GOOD TIMES LADIES!