



3rd Sunday of Advent

16th December 2007

Towards a better Christian formation for our children...

At the last PPC assembly, we discussed about the serious problem the Church is facing concerning Christian formation for our children.

- The number of faith sharers is insufficient and many, especially among the new ones, do not take their ministry responsibly enough. Although they need training themselves, they are often reluctant to attend the formations organised for them. The commitment to prepare carefully their lessons and even, for some, to attend them unconditionally is minimal.
- The repeated appeals to parishioners to join the faith sharers have failed.
- The children themselves, and no doubt their parents, are also very loose in their commitment to catechism. It looks like it is often like the last choice among the many activities they can offer themselves.
- The majority of children attending (irregularly?) catechism at St. Thomas are not present at mass, which makes it very challenging to let them experience the vital community aspect of being Church.

Unless we react promptly, the Church of tomorrow is going to know a very serious crisis.

Weekend masses: **SATURDAY 5 pm** and **SUNDAY 10.30 am**
 Confessions: **SATURDAY 4.30 pm** or by appointment
 Weekday masses: **TUESDAY 9 am** and **WEDNESDAY 7.30 pm**
 First Friday of the month: **ADORATION 6.15 pm** and **MASS 7.30 pm**

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 of **LENASIA CATHOLIC CHURCH**
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For **Mass intentions** and **appointment** with Father, please contact Shantha by phone at the office on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9.30 to 12.30
 OR leave a message on the mailbox OR send an email.
 For **Sick calls**, please contact
Clive Padayachee on 011.854.5060 or 072.493.4773
 For **Funerals**, please contact **Vivian Patel** on 011.854.8523 or **Cynthia Thomas** on 011.854.5490
 In case of emergency only, Fr. Philippe's cell is 082.729.3758

Join in the following activities...

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP : every Monday 7.30 pm in the Hall.
 Contact Edgar 011 852 4960
INTERCESSION PRAYER GROUP: every Friday 10 am - 24
 Opaal Street - Extension 5. Contact Vivian 011 854 8523
PRAYER GROUP: every Saturday 3.30 pm in the Hall.
STOP: every Wednesday @ 7.30pm in the Hall. Contact:
 Sebastian 078.111.9991 or Gregory 082.902.6721

As a first reaction, it has been decided the following:

- Catechism for Grade 1 to 4 will be given on Saturdays at 3.30pm, followed by mass at 5pm.
 - Catechism for Grade 5 to 8 will be given on Sundays at 8.45am, followed by mass at 10.30am.
 - Non-attendance of children to catechism will have to be justified in writing by the parents to Father Philippe himself.
 - Note that attendance to mass will be part of the lessons.
 - No change so far for JCJ, except that non-attendance will also have to be justified by the parents in writing to Fr. Philippe.
 - Registration for Catechism will be done next year through the parish office only.
- We are still appealing to the parishioners for more faith sharers. Please contact Father as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION

We are soon going to celebrate Christmas, the coming of Emmanuel - God is with us - a time of peace and reconciliation. This is also an excellent opportunity to reconcile with God and with one another.

A penitential service, followed by the possibility of receiving sacramental reconciliation, will be integrated in next Wednesday evening mass @ 7.30pm.

CAROLS VIGIL IN ZONES

Next Friday evening, all the parishioners are strongly invited to participate in the Carols Vigils in their zones. Contact the zone PPC reps for details.

Altar Servers Roster

Wed 19th: Adrian, Jacklyn, Kewan, Janine P., Andrew.
 Sat 22nd: Bongani, Mitchell, Adrian, Tesania, Nathanie
 Sun 23rd: Tiffany, Steven, Kewan, Shadé, Jason.

Flower List

Vicky Basson, V. Badal, Conrad & Charmaine Bob, Michael & Theresa Bob.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 15th : Donovan Naiker RIP

Sun 16th : Roy Maharaj RIP

Tue 18th : Leslie Thomas & Deceased Thomas family

Wed 19th : Ambrose &

Philomena Jackson RIP

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Meeting of the Liturgy Committee this Monday evening @ 7.30pm in Father's Flat.

Next Sunday 5pm, transfer of the statue of Our Lady to the Anglican Church.

A service will start at St Thomas' at 5pm, followed by the procession and the second part of the service at the anglican Church. Please consider attending.

The **YOUTH** are requested to attend a rehearsal on **Monday 10 am** in St. Thomas' Church.

Thank you to the **RCIA** team and catechumens for the lunch they served to the 50+ last Sunday noon. It was well attended en enjoyed.

This Sunday, the **SVDP** Society will serve their Christmas meal.

St. Thomas Lenasia