



# St. Thomas Lenasia

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent B

1<sup>st</sup> March 2009

From our Archbishop  
in the name of the SACBC

As we approach the elections, we your Bishops would like to share our concern about our young democracy, and what it should look like. While there is a lot of very positive and healthy debate about what it means to be a democracy, we are conscious of tendencies that we think are a threat to it. The tragedies that followed the elections in Kenya and Zimbabwe in 2008 remind us, even if our situation is not quite the same, that we cannot relax, and that guarding genuine democracy is an ongoing challenge.

### What is it that we should guard against?

#### 1. Guard against blind loyalty.

We should not continue to vote for a party simply because it is the one we have always supported (an attitude of "My party, right or wrong"). Every citizen must ask whether the party they have supported in the past is making a real contribution to the progress of our people. Following Jesus' understanding of solidarity in Mark 3:35, our first loyalty must be to our fellow citizens, and to the good of our country as a whole, not to a specific party or leader: "Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother". There is nothing wrong with changing our choice of party; indeed, it is sometimes necessary to do this if a democracy is to remain dynamic and healthy. And let us remember that, in a true democracy, we should not base our choice on race, language, tribe or cultural group, but on the policies and standpoints of the various parties.

#### 2. Guard against intolerance and intimidation.

Freedom of speech does not give a person the right to speak abusively about others. So we should be careful to avoid saying or doing anything that will make other people afraid and thus limit their freedom. Such actions include an intolerance of, or lack of respect for, other people's views or beliefs, and any attempt to force anyone to vote in a certain way. In Luke 6:35, we are reminded to "love your enemies and do good to them". Thus the use of violent language and the making of threats is also completely unacceptable; the opponent in a democratic context, unlike in periods of struggle against oppression, is no longer someone to be overcome, but rather a competitor that challenges me to examine my own values and beliefs.

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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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 - 11 am  
Opaal Street - Extension 5. Contact Vivian 011 854 8523  
**PRAYER GROUP**: every Saturday 3.30 pm in the Hall.  
**YOUTH CIA GROUP**: every Friday 7.30 pm in the Hall - contact Lerece 083 411 5650

### TO FOLLOW

**JCJ1 Parents' meeting** on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March after mass.

**EMC meeting** with father on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm.

**Full PPC meeting** this Sunday after mass in one of the classes in the Parish Hall.

## THIS LENT... CHANGE YOUR HEART CHANGE YOUR FAST

### Passion walk

We will have a follow up meeting on the 8th March, after Mass, at St. Kizito (because it is the most convenient spot for all the parishes involved). The aim of the meeting is to obtain feedback and develop task groups which will take responsibility for the various elements of the walk.

**PFC Meeting** next Wednesday after the evening service. Father apologizes for not being able to attend but urges the members to meet.

**C.I.A. Youth** will be hosting a **self defence session** on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March after the stations of the Cross. All youths are invited to attend.

**YPC meeting** next Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 8am. Please, all representatives, attend!

Father is exploring the possibility of having the children & youths from CCD5 to JCJ3 who have not been baptised yet to be baptised during the Easter Vigil. He will contact the parents of potential candidates shortly.

## HOPEVILLE

The story of a community without hope transformed by one man's courage to live out his values.  
Watch it with your children  
For 6 weeks  
Every Tuesday from 3<sup>rd</sup> March on SABC 2 at 19h30

**HEARTLINES** series

### Altar Servers Roster

Wed 4<sup>th</sup>: Adrian, Sonam, Kewan

Fri 6<sup>th</sup>: Please 4 volunteers for the Way of the Cross

Sat 7<sup>th</sup>: Kyle, Sasha, Adrian, Mikayla, Marlene

Sun 8<sup>th</sup>: Tiffany, Steven, Bongani, Lincoln, Nicholas, Mitchell

All altar servers are kindly asked to fill out a form which will be on the notice board in the sacristy.

### Flower list

Tony & Phyllis Jackson, Trudy Jackson, Victor & Marrian Jackson, Cheryl James

### Mass Intentions

Sat 28<sup>th</sup>: Raphael Marrian & Sas Laloo RIP

Sun 1<sup>st</sup>: Sharon Mariemuthu RIP and Rose & Johnny Morgan RIP

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>: Tapello, savagely murdered

Wed 4<sup>th</sup>: Ashley David RIP

### EVENTS TO COME IN APRIL

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> PM: Passion Walk for all

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> PM: Paschal Meal for Youth

Tue 7<sup>th</sup> Ev: Paschal Meal for Adults

Wed 8<sup>th</sup>: Reconciliation Service

Thu 9<sup>th</sup> AM: Chrism Mass at Cathedral

Thu - Sat: Easter Triduum

### Timetable of the Week

#### Wednesday evening:

Eucharistic service at 7.30pm.

The mass intention is transferred to the private mass of Frs Philippe & Mathieu in the morning.

#### Thursday morning:

During Lent, mass will be celebrated every Thursday morning at 5.30am

#### Friday evening:

The Way of the Cross will be conducted by Father in the traditional way at 7.30pm. The mass intention of the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of March will be transferred to the Thursday before.