



13th Sunday B

28th June 2009

Follows from last week, an article by Ron Owens on Worship...

Substituting "Adrenalin Highs" for the Holy Spirit.

Many in the Christian world seem unaware of the powerful effect music can have on the emotions. The secular world and the New-Age community are well aware of the adrenalin rush that can be produced by the continuous repetition of words and musical phrases.

In his book, Adrenalin and Stress, Dr. Archibald Hart points out that adrenalin addiction is just as real as an addiction to drugs. He shows how this happens within the context of some worship styles. In many of our churches today we have mistaken "adrenalin highs" produced by constant musical repetition for the presence of the Holy Spirit.

In our day, when so much emphasis is placed on "having an experience," people are open to deception. The "feeling" one may get from the constant mantra-like repetition of choruses is not the Holy Spirit. When it becomes necessary for people to get a certain "feeling" when they worship, they may very well have become addicted to what the music does to them. The tragedy is that in such situations, the Lord's "manifest presence" has departed, yet no one realizes it. That is exactly what was happening in Jeremiah two, when not even the leaders were asking, "where is the Lord?"

Offering what is Unacceptable to God.

The presenting of offerings which are unacceptable to God is, and always has been, the fundamental hindrance to God's blessing of His people. Numerous Scriptures record God's dealing with His children because they were offering Him worship He could not accept.

One example of this is in the book of Isaiah. In chapter one, we find Israel going through the motions of worship. Even though the people had all the outward appearances of "doing it right," God turned His back on their sacrifices and prayers because their hearts were not His. The words He spoke to them should make us pause and think: "Bring no more futile sacrifices . . .

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

When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not hear... Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean" (vs. 13-16).

It is not the outward excellence of the offering God looks for; it is the excellence of the heart. The sight and the sound of our offerings make no impression on heaven unless they are being lifted up with holy hands. No matter how beautiful they may be, the voices of unregenerate or backsliding church members are unacceptable to God.

Yet our loving God still says to us, "Come now, let us reason together . . . Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:18). His words still call out to us as His people: "Return to Me, and I will return to You" (Mal. 3:7).

Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones once said that the most important and highest activity any company of God's people could ever engage in was to offer Almighty God acceptable worship. Jesus said that the Father was looking for a people who would worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). Such a people prepare the way for revival.

Lord, may our worship services be a highway for Your presence, and not a hindrance.

You can read the full article on our website and download a PDF copy of it: <http://www.stthomaslenz.org>

Funeral of Rosa Christina Sarkhot

This Monday at 12pm, the funeral will take place at St Thomas. Rosa is the mother of Pauline Naidoo. There will be a vigil at the home of Pauline on Sunday from 6pm to 8pm. 2634 Hibiscus Street§ - Lenasia South Ext 2.

All candidates for Confirmation - i.e. JCJ3 - must meet with Father, together with their sponsor, for a ½ hour interview, preferably on a Friday evening. Please book an appointment with Father 082.729.3758

YOUNG YOUTH YES WEEKEND

There will be a Young Youth YES weekend on the 25th-26th of July. This programme is tailored for the youths between 12 and 17 years and will help them understand better who they are and who they are interacting with and, ultimately, will unfold a little more their relationship to God.

Those who have already been on a Mini, welcome to the weekend and those who have already done a Young Youth YES weekend, welcome back for a deeper experience.

Registration forms available from Jude James.

Altar Servers Roster

Wed 1st: Janine J., Bradley, Jacklyn
Fri 3rd : Adrian, Sonam, Kewan
Sat 4th: Tiffany, Steven, Sonam, Lincoln, Nicholas, Mitchell
Sun 5th: Justin, Jacklyn, Bradley, Janine, Bongani, Jason

Flower List

Wilfred Bob, Amelda Chetty, Norman & Josephine Dass, Mandy David

Mass Intentions

Sat 27th: Errol Lazarus RIP
Sun 28th: Palin Annamalay RIP & Thanksgiving mass
Tue 30th: Vacant
Wed 1st: Thanksgiving for 20 years of priesthood of Fr Philippe

MARRIAGE COURSE

The marriage course is compulsory for all the couples that want to get married within the next 10 months or so. It consists of 6 evenings during which dinner will be served. The fee, payable within the course completion is of R450 per couple. The dates are as follows:

Thu 9th July
Thu 16th July
Thu 23rd July
Thu 30th July
Thu 6th August
Fri 21st August

Please register with Father Philippe 082.729.3758 or phdocq@gmail.com

CONFIRMATION 2009

The initial date for confirmation - 30th August - had to be re-scheduled due to a clash of commitments in the bishop's calendar. Tentatively, confirmation has been re-scheduled, pending confirmation from the bishop, to Wednesday the 2nd August at 7pm.

In the meantime, there will be a **parents' meeting** on Sunday 19th July after mass.

Miss Teen Lenasia 2009 - Tiffany Pillay is currently a contestant in the Miss Teen Lenasia Pageant taking place on 4th July 09 at the Pathida Hall at 7 pm and she would appreciate the support of her community. If you would like to support her and buy tickets for the show please speak to Tiffany or her parents call 083 444 8399.