



ST. DOMINIC SAVIO CHURCH, WADALA (E)

Community Link - March 2020

My dear Parishioners,

As we have just begun this most holy season of Lent, let me begin by wishing you **HAPPY LENT**. I am sure some of you must be thinking, "What is so Happy about Lent? Lent in our minds is this mournful and sorrowful time of the year, when everything is dressed in purple, the altar is shorn of flowers and the Glorias and Alleluias all go silent. This is more a time of mourning rather than of happiness.

True. Lent is all this. But it is also much more. Lent is this time of turning away from our sins. Lent is a time of penance and a time when we discipline ourselves, especially in the area of religious discipline. And we go through all this because we are able to look beyond. The penance and discipline is undertaken so that we might **turn away from our sins**, but the main purpose is so that we may **TURN TOWARDS GOD**. We discipline ourselves so that at Easter we may participate in the Resurrection of Christ. And so in the final analysis, the only way we can celebrate lent is as **HAPPY LENT**. When we examine the purpose of our Lenten journey, it can only be because we want to arrive at a Happy and Blessed destination, the Resurrection and its fruits for our eternal life.

Besides the regular Way of the Cross, and Penance that we undertake during the season, a special moment of grace is going to be the **PARISH LENTEN MISSION**. The Mission will be conducted from Sunday 8th March (9:15 am to 12:00 noon) till Saturday 14th March. (Weekdays: 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm.) This is a special moment of grace for our parish and all are invited to this special gathering which will also be a wonderful experience of the love and graces that God wants to shower on each one of us. Do come to be **RENEWED BY THE SPIRIT**.

We had a very meaningful and uplifting **Small Christian Community Rally** in the Parish on 15th February. About 180 of our parishioners participated and it was wonderful to see the enthusiasm for Christ among all those who came, and their commitment to build up his Kingdom in this world. To all those who were present, remember **YOU WILL BE BLESSED BECAUSE YOU CAME**. And we continue our mission **TO BE A LIGHT IN THE WORLD**. God bless all of the organizers too who worked tirelessly to make this a grand success.

We also extend our congratulations to **40 of our children who received** the Sacrament of Confirmation at the hands of Bp. Bosco Penha on 22nd February 2020. The Bishop was very happy with the preparation of the candidates and the solemn manner in which the liturgy was organized by the Catechism Teachers and the children. God bless you all for making this a meaningful celebration for our children.

My dear people let us all make of this Lenten season a moment of prayer and renewal. Let us all strive to be **RENEWED BY THE SPIRIT** as a parish community and also as individuals. Jesus is our model and source of grace and Mary accompanies us along the way. May we all have a fruitful and life-changing journey.

Yours affectionately in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Savio D'Souza, sdb
Parish Priest

COMMUNITIES ANIMATING SUNDAY LITURGY

March 2020

01 Mar	10:30am	PPC
07 Mar	6:30pm	Our Lady of Rosary
08 Mar	8:00am	Women's Cell
	10:30am	Dominic Chawl
14 Mar	6:30pm	Marina Colony
15 Mar	8:00am	Dost Acres
	10:30am	Eucess 'C'
21 Mar	6:30pm	Salesian Co-op
22 Mar	8:00am	Dolours
	10:30am	Bhakti Park

March 2020 Contd.

28 Mar	6:30pm	Holy Cross
29 Mar	8:00am	S.V.P
	10:30am	Bombay Catholic Sabha

April 2020

04 Apr	6:30pm	Eucess A&B
05 Apr	8:00am	Auxilium House
	10:30am	PPC

GOSPEL SHARING IN THE SCC MEETINGS: March 2020

STEP 1. Opening Hymn

CHORUS

**Into Your hands we commend our spirit O Lord,
Into Your hands we commend our hearts.
For we must die to ourselves in loving You,
Into Your hands we commend our love.**

O God, my God, why have You gone from me,
Far from my prayers, far from my cry?
To You I call and you never answer me,
You send no comfort and I don't know why!



STEP 2. Read the Gospel Text Matthew 4:5-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour when a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water'. 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life'. 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband'. He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything'. 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

The word of the lord.

STEP 3. We pick out words and phrases which struck us and repeat them 3 times.

STEP 4. We remain silent for 2 minutes and allow God to speak to us.

STEP 5. We share on what struck us in the Gospel Passage.

Reflection

The woman of Samaria was transformed by her encounter with the Lord; her account of this encounter would initiate a change in others too. Often the people we least expect can give us a new energy in our faith. We feel awkward to share our faith story; the story of our relationship with Jesus with others. We think that it is not part of our culture and social convention. We should live our Christian life through our actions, which must be supported by our words. Serving as Christ's witnesses through our deeds is important but we are duty bound to share our love of God with others. It is a crucial part of our Christian life. In prayer we get to know Jesus in our own hearts. But when we go out and proclaim the Good News we share Jesus with others and give him an entry point into peoples' hearts. May we bring Jesus to many other people through our lives.

Activity: Recall a person whose faith-story influenced you, or whom you touched by sharing your own faith experience.

Prayer: 'Heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours'.

STEP 6. Concluding Hymn.

Like the woman at the well
I was seeking for things that could not satisfy
But then I heard my Saviour speaking
Draw from my well that never shall run dry

Refrain:

**Fill my cup, Lord; I lift it up, Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread from Heaven, feed me till I want no more
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole**

STEP 7. Discuss the task to be carried out for the month of March.

Note: Everyday at 6.00 p.m. there is adoration in our Parish. Please inform your community.
Every Tuesday at 7.00 p.m. there is Bible Class after the Mass. Please inform your community.

