

Pallotti Notes

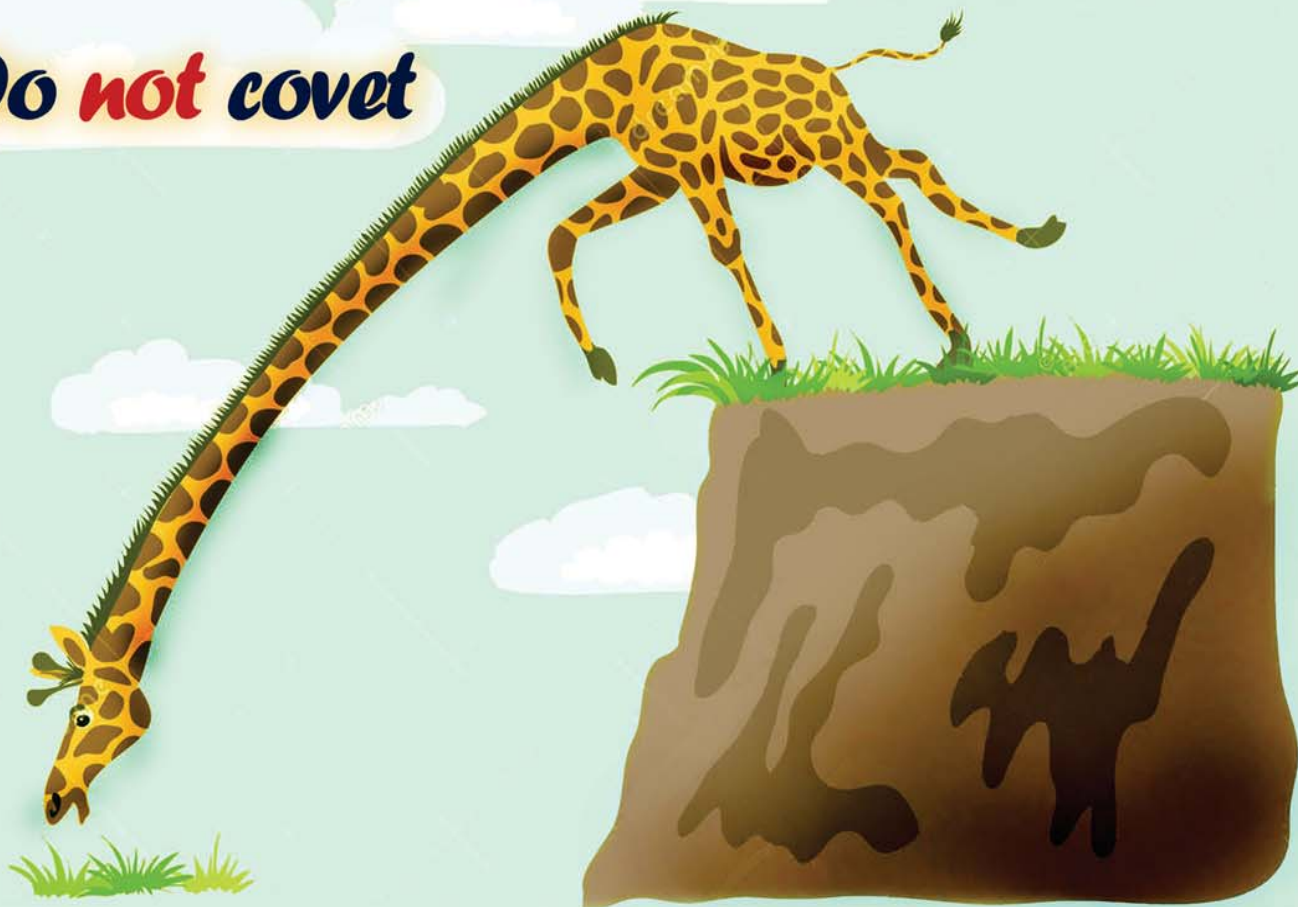
Aug - Oct 2015

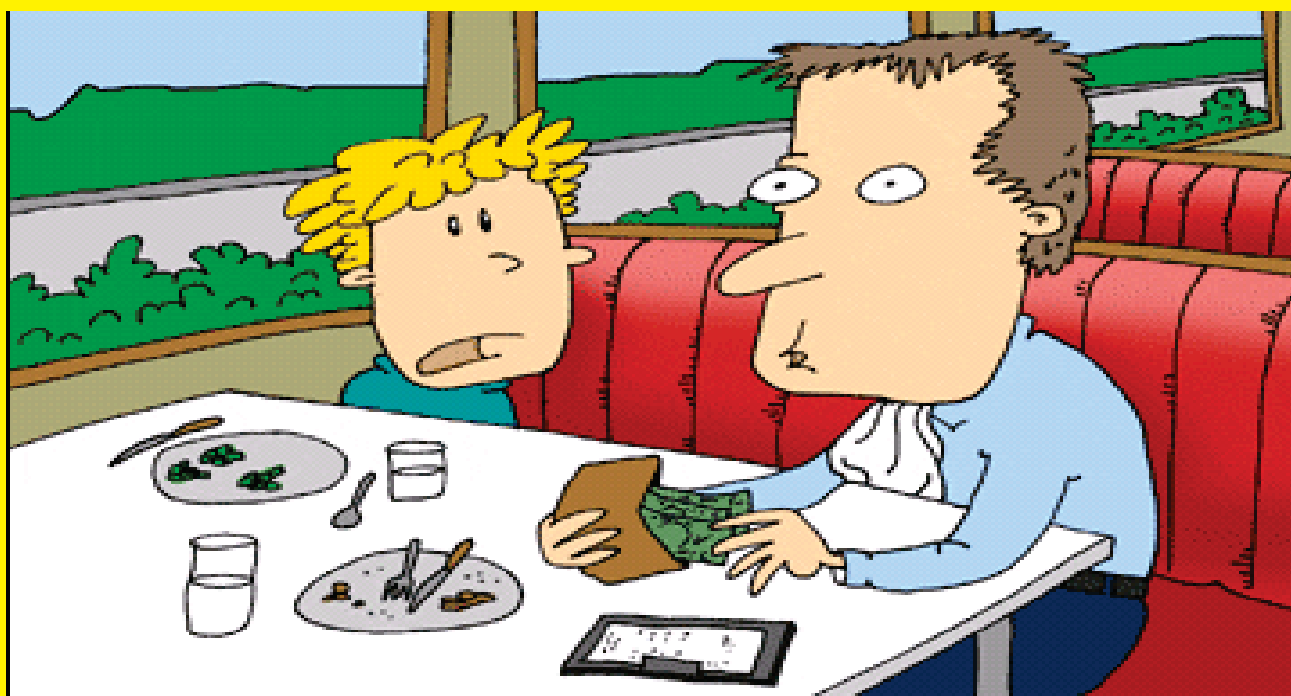
Vinpal Family of God moving towards a Society where Love & Concern within the Family & Neighborhood is a Way of Life

Do not
STEAL



Do not covet





HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

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Inviting articles for the next Bulletin issue on 'GOD'S MERCY' in vision with the Pope's Encyclical '*Laudato Si'*' latest by 20th November 2015

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Pallotti Notes | Aug - Oct 2015

A Bimonthly News Bulletin of St. Vincent Pallotti Church

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For Private Circulation Only

SNAPSHOTS

- 28-06-2015 The Youth Group organized a friendly throwball Tournament.
- 05-07-2015 'Monsoon Dhamaka' was organized by the Youth Group for the youth of the parish.
- 12-07-2015 A Bone & Joint Health & Wellness Camp was organized by Conference of St. Vincent de Paul.
- 26-07-2015 Parents Day was celebrated with much grandeur by the youth of our parish.
- 02-08-2015 The Parish Pastoral Councilors had a Training Session on 'Leadership'.
- 09-08-2015 The Parish Liturgy Team organized the liturgy for the Eucharistic Celebration on occasion of Vianney Sunday.
- 09-08-2015 The Family Cell organized a Marriage Enrichment Session for married couples between 0-5 years.
- 14-08-2015 It was a prayerful experience for the Confirmands and their parents at the Night Vigil Service.
- 15-08-2015 The Independence Day Flag Hoisting & Prize Distribution programme was organized by Civic & Political Cell.
- 30th Aug The Nativity Novena of Our Blessed Mother Mary and the liturgy for the
- 8th Sept 2015 Feast Day was solemnly conducted by Sunday School.
- 06-09-2015 The Youth Group organized Teachers Day Celebrations in the parish.
- 06-09-2015 'Happy Mind; Healthy Hearts' is a Positivity Workshop conducted by the Pallotti Women Alma for women in the parish from the age of 16 onwards.
- 23 & 30 Aug The Parish Liturgy Team organized a 2-Session programme for Lectors by trainer Ms. Marcia D'Cunha.
- 13-09-2015 The New Harvest Meal was celebrated in the hall with great festivity.
- 14-09-2015 The Senior Citizens made a trip to the Basilica of Mount Mary.
- 27-09-2015 The Catechists & Youth Group organized a 'Career Fair' for youth.
- 01-10-2015 Senior Citizens Day was organized by the Senior Citizens Association.



From the Editor’s Desk

DO NOT STEAL...DO NOT COVET

We are at the end of our series of reflection on Ten Commandments. In this issue, reflection on the 7th commandment, “Do not steal” and the 10th commandment “Do not covet your neighbour's goods” are treated together because both deal with commands about property. The 7th commandment refers to external acts, and the 10th to intentions or desires against honesty.

God, the creator of all things is the only absolute owner of everything. The Psalmist happily sings, “The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples” (Ps 23:1). We are created in His image and likeness and He gave dominion of created things to man. Therefore man has especially ownership over things. Things may be divided into (i) personal or impersonal (ii) common, public or private (iii) corporeal or incorporeal.

- ♦ **Personal things** are those which are owned by persons. **Impersonal things** are those things which are not in the dominion of anybody e. g., certain wild animals.
- ♦ **Common goods** are those which all can use, e.g., air, water of the sea etc. **Public goods** are those goods which are destined for the use of a whole nation. **Private goods** are those goods that are in the ownership of private persons either physical or juridical.
- ♦ **Corporeal goods** are those things that can be perceived by the senses e.g., field, a house. **Incorporeal things** are those things that can be perceived only by the intellect e.g., one's right to one's good name, the rights of an author, etc.

Both the commandments preach against these things that we should not commit sins.

What are the violations against these commandments?

- (i) Stealing or theft: is the secret taking of another person's property.
- (ii) Cheating: using false weights and measures, issuing counterfeit money, adulterating food and other products for sale, forgery, falsification of documents, smuggling, tampering with boundary lines, overcharging, excessive profits, copying during examination, copying the work of another and presenting it as one's own work, etc. Usury is the charging of excessive interest on money.



The 10th commandment forbids all desire to take or to keep unjustly what belongs to others, and also forbids envy at their success. We are permitted to desire the property of others only when we propose to obtain it by legitimate means, such as by purchase or exchange. “For covetousness is the root of all evils, and some in their eagerness to get rich have strayed from the faith and have involved themselves in many troubles” (1 Timothy 6:10).

Violations of these commandments are opposed to natural law and justice, and are an attack on society, a menace to public security and peace. The obligations regarding honesty are imposed on us in conscience, even though the civil laws may not compel it. “Take heed and guard yourself from all covetousness, for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15).

However, one who is starving may take what he absolutely needs. The right to live is above the right of property. But this permission must be used only in rare and extreme cases, when all other means have been exhausted.

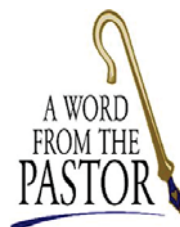
Role of our duty in following these commandments: two things we need to do.

We are obliged to repair damage unjustly done to the property of others, or to pay the amount of the damage, as far as we are able like Zacchaeus and received Jesus' blessings (cf. Luke 19:9).

Grooming of our children: Parents should be most careful to teach their children honesty in thought, word, and deed. As the child, so the man. If parents laugh indulgently at their child stealing food from the cupboard, keeping back change after errands, copying in examinations, throwing stones to break windows, defacing walls and books, picking flowers and fruits from another person's garden, etc. then those parents must not be surprised if when the child is grown up, he steals from the bank, forges signatures, cheats his employers, becomes a usurer, etc.

Let us repair and groom ourselves in ordered to enjoy the ownership which God has given to all of us.

Fr. Stanislaus J.



LOOKING AT 'BURIAL IN A SHROUD' AS A POSSIBILITY

Dear Parishioners, Our Holy Father in his last Encyclical 'Laudato Si' gives us a clarion call to care for our "Common Home". Discussing on this topic of caring for the environment at our Andheri Deanery meeting, one of the suggestions proposed was to have 'Burial in a Shroud'. This write up is kept before you to get your honest suggestions and opinion to arrive at a common consensus.

What is the History of burial in a shroud?

Historically we know that Jesus' body was wrapped in a 'linen shroud' and that the Early Christians carried on this Jewish custom for many centuries. Coffins were used only for monarchs and bishops. It's only later that their use became more common; the reason being, to preserve the body from decay and also to avoid the spread of contagious diseases.

But just because Jesus and the early Christians were buried in a shroud in itself is not a reason why we should reconsider burial in a shroud.

Then, why are we suggesting to go back to the original Christian way of 'Burial in a shroud'?

1. *Decomposing of bodies* wrapped in a shroud will be much faster than what it takes in a coffin.
2. *Environment*: It will save on cutting of trees which can be done away with.
3. *The Cost of a coffin* is anywhere between Rs. 3,500 - 25,500 and more.

Since, some poorer or richer persons may not want to do any cost cutting when it comes to burying their loved ones, it is suggested that the money that would have been spent on a coffin may now be given to a specific charity your loved one contributed to, while alive.

What does the Church have to say about 'Burial in a shroud'?

On speaking to the Chancellor at Archbishop's house, we were told, "There is no canonical reason why you can't have a Christian burial in a shroud".

Has it been tried in and around Mumbai?

1. Tribal Christians at Talasari, Manor bury in a shroud.
2. Vasai diocese common practice: Many parishes in Vasai diocese have since some years decided to bury their dead in a shroud for the above mentioned reasons.
3. Some churches in Bombay have had a few shroud burials - e.g. Kalina Church and Kurla Church.

What is the Method of burial?

1. The body will be wrapped in a linen shroud.
2. A Reusable common coffin will be used to take the body up to the cemetery.
3. The burial will take place wrapped in a linen shroud but without the coffin.
4. No matter what method, The DIGNITY of a Christian burial will always be maintained.

If burial in a shroud is started at St. Vincent Pallotti Church, will it be made compulsory?

For the reasons given above, it will be strongly encouraged, but never will it be made compulsory. It will always be optional. Remember, there will be times when we 'may' still need to use coffins:

1. Very Heavy Rains
2. Contagious disease
3. Accidents etc.

What about the Undertaker?

As most do now, we will still need the undertaker to help you get a burial certificate, for the use of the Hearse, AC coffin (when required), grave Cross & Slab, niche, etc.

They are ready to help out and even provide reusable coffins, and then one can decide with them on the method of lowering the body, whether with nylon belts or the lowering machine with a simple system to place the shrouded body directly on it.

The Vinpal Diary

BORN IN CHRIST

26-07-2015	Grace Aana D'Souza	E-1202 Manavsthal, M. Rd
16-08-2015	Naysa Quadros	E-1005 Lok Sarita, M. Rd
13-09-2015	Jayden D'Costa	102 Marvel, M. Rd
13-09-2015	Ashton Fernandes	303 Zen Park, Mira Rd
13-09-2015	Zaedy D'Souza	A-502 Ashok Vihar, M. Rd
11-10-2015	Caelan Negrel	601 Hill Queen, Bhawani Nagar
11-10-2015	Kyra D'Souza	14/3/17 Bhawani Nagar



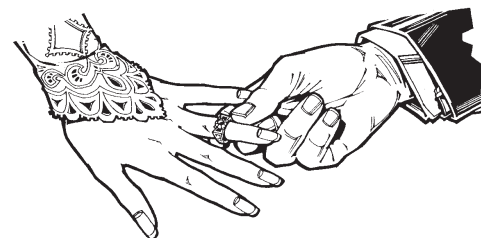
REST IN CHRIST

09-07-2015	Agnes Pinto	C-405 Manavsthal, M. Rd
13-07-2015	Gaspar D'Souza	G-1/B-24 Vijaynagar
17-07-2015	Joseph Rodrigues	11/1/11 Bhawani Nagar
22-07-2015	Shara Gonsalve	Bldg 3, 105 New Akar, M.M. Rd
26-07-2015	Patrick D'Souza	B-504 Crescent Apts., M. Rd
13-08-2015	Premkumar Ayyakan	Unit No. 22, Aarey Milk Colony
04-09-2015	Cyril D'Sa	B-2/101 Ashok Tower, M. Rd
17-09-2015	Assiana Fernandes	15/1/5 Bhawani Nagar
06-10-2015	Marikin D'Souza	14/2/13 Bhawani Nagar



JOINED IN CHRIST

12-09-2015	Glen Misquith & Sharan Mathias
03-10-2015	Vijay D Costa & Jeya Sheila Victor
11-10-2015	Savio D'Silva & Anisha Pereira



What is the process the church is following to get the views of parishioners?

1. We discussed this concept in our Parish Pastoral Council meeting.
2. It is discussed or being discussed in the SCC meetings.
3. Since we want as many parishioners to give us their suggestions and opinion, we are publishing it in our parish bulletin with a feedback form.
4. Feedback form:
 - Each interested individual (parishioners 18 years and above) will fill a form, stating if they are, 'For', 'Against' or 'Indifferent' and state the reason for their choice.
 - You may tear it from the book or get it Xeroxed and hand over duly filed for to your respective parish councillor or to the parish office by 22nd Nov. 2015.
 - Important: When filling the form, please remember that what we want to know is not if you would like to be buried in a shroud, but your opinion about parishioners in general being buried in a shroud.
5. We will take it up for discussion in the PPC meeting in December.

Please remember three things:

1. **No dead line to start:** Once we go through the reasons and see that a majority are in favour, only then will we officially announce it. Though individual parishioners are free to bury in a shroud even now.
2. **Strongly encouraged but always Optional:** Family or individual's preferences will always be respected.
3. **Always a Dignified funeral:** Whether burial in a shroud or coffin, we must ensure that our departed loved ones have a dignified and meaningful burial.



After Joseph had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried. (Luke 23:53)

**FEEDBACK FORM
FOR BURIAL IN A SHROUD (CLOTH)
St. Vincent Pallotti Church,
Vijay Nagar**

Important:

- To be filled in by parishioners 18 years of age and above.
- When filling the form, please remember that what we want to know is not, if you would like to be buried in a shroud, but your opinion about parishioners in general being buried in a shroud.
- Please return the filled form to your respective parish Councillor or in the parish office by 22nd Nov 2015.

Zone / Community :

Name :

We would like your opinion on the proposal for funerals with burial in a shroud (without a coffin) at our parish.

- [] For the proposal
[] Against the proposal
[] Indifferent

Reasons for your choice

Signature : _____

THE SEVENTH & THE TENTH COMMANDMENT

The fundamental moral Commandments or laws given by God to Israel through Moses are listed in two places in the Old Testament in Exodus 20: 2-17 and in Deuteronomy 5: 6-29.

There are 10 Commandments of God. The first three point out to man's duties to God; the other seven are laws about his neighbor and himself.

The 7th Commandment forbids us: *"You shall not steal"* (Ex 20:15; Deut 5:19). To be dishonest by stealing, cheating, keeping what belongs to others, or by doing damage to the property of others. This commands us to be satisfied with what we have even while trying to better ourselves; to be glad when our neighbor is blessed with good things.

The 10th Commandment forbids us: *"You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor"* (Ex 20:17; Deut 5:21) that is, to want or to take or keep what belongs to others, to envy those who are successful.

The relationship between the 7th and the 10th Commandment is seen in the figure below:



(The hand between the number 7 and 10 is stretched out to steal. We sin against the 7th commandment by action; and against the 10th by thoughts and desires against our neighbour's possessions.)

The 7th Commandment is rooted in the concern for justice. It forbids taking or keeping our neighbour's goods unjustly or damaging them in any way. This commandment demands justice in caring for created goods and the fruits of human labour. The follower of Christ must live in such a way that his or hers earthly goods serve the love of God and neighbour. This Commandment also forbids theft, that is,

appropriating the goods of others against the reasonable will of their owners. If one person violates the rights of another, a duty to make restitution arises. Thus, one who has injured a neighbour in other ways must find suitable means to atone for the offence.

The 10th Commandment brings us face to face with the whole world of our desires, intentions and motivations. This Commandment is involved with the stirrings of the heart and reminds us that we are to shape our lives including our desires, thoughts, plans and aspirations so that we reflect the life of Christ within us. This Commandment forbids us to covet the goods of others. To covet what belongs to others is wrong and among its effects include envy at the success of others and bitterness, anger or hatred at the sight of their prosperity.



Christ calls each of us to new life. Christians must live as children of God and co-workers of Christ in making this world a better place. We are called to live freely and responsibly. The 7th Commandment challenges us to live out God's plan in such a way that the human family will live together in peace, justice and harmony. The 10th Commandment challenges us to develop a spirit of poverty that brings a sense of detachment and balance to our lives.

In the search for righteousness and goodness, the only way to satisfy fully the demands of our own human nature is to see as God sees, to judge as God judges, to love as God loves. The challenge to arrive at this divine perspective and purpose is a struggle of the heart and mind that eventually involves one's whole character. As St. Paul reminds us: *"Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect"* (Rom 12:2).

Santana Alphonso
Prayer Group



PALLOTTI BIBLE CELL

Bible Study



In our hi-tech world of communication, everyone wants to stay connected instantly and all the time. Many of us claim we have a direct and private hotline with God! True, prayer is our communication with God....telling Him our needs, asking His graces, praising Him.... But communication is a two way process, isn't it? So what about God's communication to us?

The Bible is an incredible book of History and Facts that proves that there is a God that created all things. It is the Word of God containing His Mind and Will for each one of us....and that is God's live communication to us!!!

But why do we need it? Five reasons I'd say:-

- The word of God is infallible: There is no error in God's word. Proverbs 30:5-6 "Every word of God is pure, He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him"
- The word of God is complete: The purity of His words does not need any addition or subtraction to it as warned in the book of Revelations 22:18-19
- The word of God is totally authoritative: This divine authority is for you and me as servants of Jesus Christ.
- God's word is totally sufficient for all of our needs: We don't need anything else. In 2 Timothy 3:16-17 it reads All scripture is given by inspiration of

God.....for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- The word of God will accomplish what it promises: The many promises given to us in the Bible, reassures us and brings comfort in our times of trial.

This year the Pallotti Bible Cell is dealing with the Pauline Letters. It has been a very interesting and interactive endeavour with various speakers making it lively with their powerpoint presentations touching in detail the life, journeys and struggles of St. Paul. It's indeed a painstaking effort to bring an in-depth yet easy understanding of this wonderful and perfect Book which sadly often occupies a corner place in our homes. So let me urge you friends....Bring out your Bibles....jump onboard our ship....I'm sure it will be fun sailing with St. Paul this year!!

Sheril Cabral



It's still important to memorize Scripture because some day you might not have a smartphone with you to look it up!

THOU SHALL NOT STEAL THOU SHALL NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOUR'S GOODS.

The commandments are meant to be pillars in the Christian life and even if considered in a general manner are foundations of social justice.

“Thou shall not steal”

A famous Aesop's fable goes like this...

“Once a boy called Rahul, stole a book from one of his classmates. Instead of punishing him, his mother praised him. As he grew older, Rahul came to be known as the village thief and one day was caught and ordered to be hanged. On the day of his execution, he saw his mother beating her chest and crying in the crowd. He pleaded to be allowed to speak his last words to his mother in her ear. But instead of speaking, Rahul bit his mother's ear. On being asked why, he said “if my mother had corrected and given me a thorough thrashing for my wrong doings in the beginning itself, I wouldn't have grown so wicked in my ways and come to this untimely end”.

Teach a child to follow after the right things of life, and when he is old enough, he will not wander from worthiness. Such habits get inculcated at a young age and slowly snowball into an obsession. Children who get into such habits, grow up to think stealing is normal as doing any other activity and pride themselves on performing it successfully. It is not easy to monitor one's child's thought process or behaviour pattern. Children and teens today face a tremendous amount of peer pressure which leads them to do acts and lead lifestyles which are beyond their reach. Many resort to stealing to fulfil their own needs or live lifestyles beyond their own means.

It is therefore our duty and moral responsibility that we take utmost interest in the physical and mental development of them. Minute observations could help in identifying and nipping in the bud, wrongdoings before the way out becomes more difficult. Stealing today is

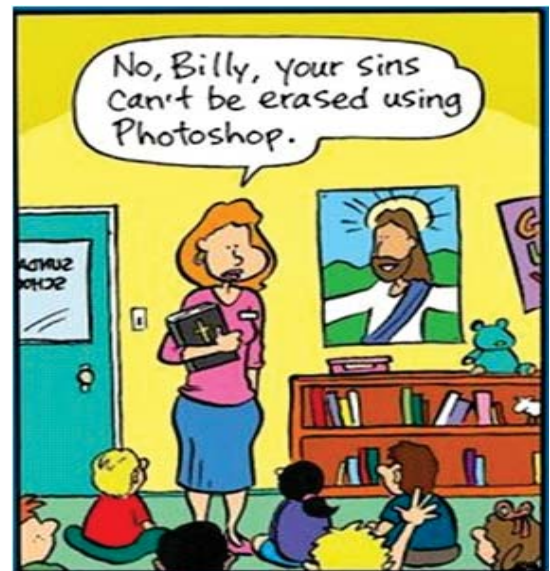
not just limited to physical stealing of goods or money etc. Today stealing taken a bigger form, in the sense that identities are stolen, people's bank accounts are hacked into, email accounts of innocent people are misused to a great extent.

“Thou shall not covet thy neighbour's goods”.

Who is your neighbour? It can be anyone family, individual staying next door, someone sharing your workspace, a fellow traveller or someone with whom you spend a few hours of your time or get associated with due to proximity. The commandment holds lot of importance in today's context.

Today, we all aspire to have everything what the others have. The necessity and urgency of getting something or spending on some activity when seen in someone else's home increases. This is how jealousy also develops and makes us act and behave in a way which is not our usual self. Somewhere this commandment teaches us, that we need to know our inner selves and how comfortable we are with what we have. Summing up, I think that each of the 10 commandments holds a lot of relevance in today's world and we have a lot to take away from them.

Reema D'Souza
St. Ignatius of Loyola Community



STEALING... COVETING...

God created us and endowed us with reason. We are capable of understanding and discerning matters we are aware of this because we are given the Ten Commandments perfect Fatherly instructions. If we obey them, we will be the heirs to God's Kingdom. Let us reflect on the Seventh & Tenth Commandments.

VII - You shall not steal. This commandment forbids us to take or keep unjustly, goods that belong to another, be the person a family member, a friend or a neighbour. St. John Chrysostom recalls this: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods, is to steal and deprive them of joy and happiness, our gesture, can give." We steal because we wish to possess what others have. Reason tells us that being educated and talented, we can work which is our duty. This enables us to have the means to buy the things we need for survival.

X - You shall not covet your neighbour's goods. This commandment forbids us to desire to own that which belongs to another. The more we dwell on this desire, jealousy sets in. Our hearts yearn for more than we have. These yearnings are a part of God's ways to prepare us for something greater. Our conscience plays a huge part here. We see things in a new light. Grace brings us to the realization that we are blessed beyond reason.

Our minds and hearts need purification. We can achieve this by prayer and pious supplication. Prayer combats wrong. Prayer empowers us through our physical and spiritual pilgrimage.

Youleen Dias

YOUTH ON THE MOVE!!

As a youth I have experienced God in my life. The day I joined the SVP group it was a very new and great experience for me. I always thought that it was a group of just few old people that helped the poor and it was so boring but as I'm now a part of it and going more

into it, it seems to be exciting and more challenging to me. All those new experiences are just **WOW!!!** The SVP help the poor with food, medical and education needs. It brings such a joy to see their smiling faces. Visiting their houses once a month is such a humbling experience. In this busy life, we don't have the time to visit our own sick relatives and neighbours. But as a SVP member we get the opportunity to visit these people in need and sick.

Visiting them and seeing their living conditions brought a realization of what a blessed and better life many of us live in comparison to them and still we grumble to God and curse for the small trials we face. I have changed my thinking seeing them live happily even in such critical situations. Being a youth this should be our duty to help them. But right now, there's only a small number of 3 youth.

You're never too old or too young, if there's a "Will" in your heart let it be Done.

Being a youth I know that doing such work sometimes feels boring and out fashioned but if we think the other way it will really give a lot of peace and happiness to the heart and mind.

These poor people treat us like Angels at their doorstep. And God above wants such service to be done to his people on earth rather than wasting our time on earthly pleasures. We have come empty handed and will go empty handed, it is this good work that we will take with us. So shouldn't we do something that will make us a living example to others? We youth can change the world so why not start from our own home **"OUR CHURCH"**. This is my experience being a SVP member.

Hope you're the **Next** my friends.

Matthew 25:40 - 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Christine Vaz
SVP Member

SUNDAY SCHOOL SIGHTINGS



IMPARTING FAITH
A LOVE AFFAIR

Session on 'Eucharist & the Family' for Parents of the Communicants

We, the Parents of ensuing Communicants, were invited for an insight on the Eucharist by the Std. 4th Catechist Team on August 09, 2015 at 4 pm. Definitely, at the back of our minds we were apprehensive to attend, cause it was a Sunday afternoon, time for a good siesta. But the Speaker Mr. Alphonso D'Souza, who is otherwise known by many as a member of the Choir and seen a lot in the Church premises, enthralled us by his informal dialect. He is in fact a CTC (Catechist Training Course) graduate and a remarkable speaker.

He took us through the entire proceedings of the Mass and explained the significance of certain rituals that came to be incorporated during the Mass over the years. Simple signs and gestures, like signing ourselves when Mass begins, the reason we sign our forehead, chest and shoulders were explained so beautifully. So many of us do it as a matter of habit that we have never stopped to question or understand the relevance of the same.

Even things we do out of habit were asked of us to be corrected viz. bowing when the Eucharist is exposed during veneration when in fact we are called to look up to the Eucharist and revel in its Glory; or offering peace to person sitting beside you by smiling and looking at the person rather than bowing to the ground.

He stressed on how at Offertory, children need not be given money by their Parents to be placed in the basket but rather, we need to teach them how *'to give'* from their own piggy banks and thus inculcate in them a passion for 'giving & sacrificing' from their resources.

All and all it was a very educative afternoon with a lot of participation from the male audience - the Dads! It was heartening to see how receptive we can be when it comes to getting to understand our Faith.

- *Arlene Fernandes*

On August 09, 2015, the parents of the 1st Holy Communicants gathered for a session on the **'Eucharist & Family'**. Mr. Alphonso D'souza the resource person for the talk explained the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. He also explained the **'Order of the Mass'** and how it became more interactive after the 2nd Vatican council. He explained the 4 parts of the Mass viz. *Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist and Concluding Rite* in detail. The explanation was laced with lots of activities and anecdotes of Alphonso's personal experiences. This made the talk lively and kept everyone engaged.

The session also spoke about how Eucharist is the strongest form of Prayer. Jesus gathered his disciples together as one family and taught them to pray by reciting the **"Our Father"**. Saying the family prayer together helps in developing a special bond that keeps the family members closer. The Eucharist brings together all Catholics as one family of God and unites us. From the Eucharist thus we learn not only how to connect closer to God, but also our neighbors.

The session enlightened us on several aspects of the Eucharist and now we feel more ready in supporting our children as they journey towards being members at the Lords' table. I thank the Catechists for organizing such an informative session.

- *Tina Martins*

Communicants' Creative Camp & Prayer Service for Rite of Presentation of Our Father

Over the years, my husband and I had heard how interesting the Communicants' Creative Camp was and we were glad we got to experience it firsthand this year as my son is receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion. The camp was held on October 02, 2015, a public holiday, which made it possible for all working parents to attend.

The day began early with the teachers welcoming and encouraging all parents to sing and shake a leg to spiritual action songs, which was a good warm-up session. The Std 4 team had planned 3 activities for all of us. The first activity was to make a Rosary with beautiful colored beads. It was heartening to see children and parents working together, as a team, stringing the beads and making beautiful bright Rosaries. The second activity was decorating a Communion Candle with the Alpha & Omega symbols. This was a practice as it would help us to recreate the same design on the Communion candle. The last activity was to make a name plate with candy sticks with JESUS written on it. All activities were explained step-by-step by the very patient teachers. The whole process was projected on a big screen to make it easier to follow. What I loved about the camp was that every activity was unique with a lot of planning. All the hard work put in by the teachers and others catechists helped to ensure the smooth running of the event, which was indeed commendable. A morning well spent bonding with my family and creating beautiful mementos!

The creative camp was followed by a prayer service the next day in the evening. The theme was the "Our Father" prayer which was to be presented to the communicants during the Children's' mass on Sunday. A beautiful ambience was created with outstretched hands made out of wire mesh which was set up in front of the altar symbolizing our hands lifted up in prayer. The Lords' prayer was explained line by line by the teachers in the form of a skit which connected well with the kids and made it easier

for them to understand. The Prayer service gave the children and parents alike a chance to understand the importance of prayer in our family life.

- Preeti Fernandes

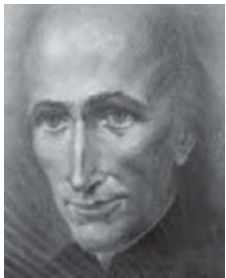
My Son, Eric and I were eagerly awaiting the Communicants' Creative Camp to spend some quality time together. True to our expectation the camp was simply wonderful. We began with making the rosary. All kids were actively involved in making holes in the beads while we parents were busy stringing them. Making the rosary turned out to be a simple process. It taught us the quality of patience and perseverance. Each time we tied a knot we secured it doubly to be sure that the bead never came out. The fruit of our labour was a beautiful colorful rosary. Eric was especially thrilled and promised to cherish this rosary as it was made by his Mama and him. The next was carving the candle. I explained Eric that the inscription on the candle meant that Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end of all things. The carving was beautifully filled with red colour by Eric. The last was a door hanging bearing the name of Jesus made of ice cream sticks. Simple sticks when beautifully coloured brought out the name of Jesus so strongly. It was truly a wonderful sight to see all the children holding the different colour door plates inscribed with the name of Jesus; each different and unique yet so strongly bringing out the message of JESUS present in their hearts. This creative camp had a lasting impression on the hearts of all the children and their parents. Looking forward to more such camps.

The next day the teachers of Std 4 organized a Prayer Service for all parents & children before the Rite of Presentation of Our Father. The prayer service beautifully brought out the meaning of the Lords' Prayer. We realized that many a times in our busy schedules we fail to understand the meaning of this simple prayer and also fail to listen to God as he speaks to us through it. We ended the prayer service by singing the Our Father hand in hand truly as children of our Lord.

- Sandra Almeida

THE QUIZ.....
ANSWERS.....

All about
St. Vincent Pallotti
(Part 1)



- 1) When was Vincent Pallotti born?
Dd/mm/year.
A. Vincent Pallotti was born on 21st April 1795.
- 2) What were the names of his parents?
A. Pietro and Magdalena Pallotti were his parents.
- 3) What was his father's profession?
A. His father had grocery shops.
- 4) What prayer form did Fr. Fazzini advice Vincent's mother to help him in his studies?
A. Fr. Fazzini advised Vincent Pallotti's mother to make Novena to the Holy Spirit to help him in his studies.
- 5) To which saint did Vincent show devotion when he was a boy?
A. Mother Mary.
- 6) What did he do when he had free time?
A. He helped others in need and prayed.
- 7) What was the name given to him because of his work with the youth?
A. Second to Phillip Neri.
- 8) Which order did he join to be a priest?
A. He became a Secular Priest.
- 9) When was Vincent ordained a priest?
A. He was ordained Priest on 16th May 1818.
- 10) In which two subjects did he acquire his doctorate?
A. Theology and Philosophy.
P.S. : Answers sent by Agnes V Pereira, LT-10/31 Vijay Nagar

SPECIAL INDEPENDENCE DAY
CELEBRATIONS BY THE CIVIC &
POLITICAL CELL

Joining Hands together
For a better cause !!

The Civic & Political Cell of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish, in collaboration with WWH Charitable Foundation & SAVE AAREY COMMUNITY along with the students of St. John the Evangelist High School, planted 200 trees in AAREY COLONY (Unit No.22 & Picnic Spot).

It has been estimated that when one tree is cut, there is loss, in monetary terms, of Rs. 33 lakhs (Oxygen worth Rs. 5.3 lakhs, Land Fertility - Rs. 6.4 lakhs, Rs. 10.5 lakh for reduction of pollution of atmosphere and Rs. 5.3 lakh towards Flowers / Fruits and habitation to birds & animals). But the benefits that accrue to mankind, when a tree is planted, cannot be measured in terms of money and is priceless.

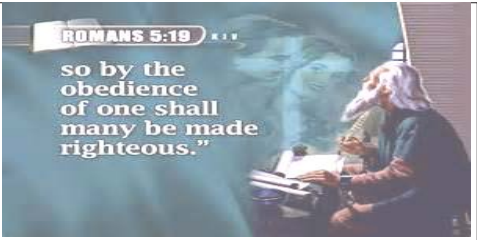
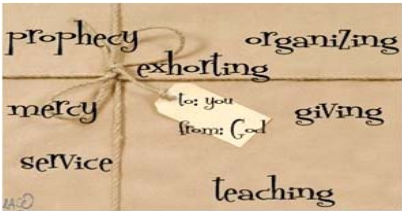
Mr. John D'Costa, President of the Civic & Political Cell, mentioned that in view of Pope Francis declaring 1st Sept. 2015 as **Annual Catholic Environment day** and also truly believing the importance of trees in purifying air, reducing global warming, preventing soil erosion, conservation of water, maintaining the ecological balance, providing natural habitat for fauna, medicines, increasing fertility of soil etc., the Civic Cell took a small initiative of the plantation drive in Aarey Colony.

Aarey Colony, which is so near to our Parish, is a 3000 Acre land having a diverse ecology. Unfortunately, the overall green cover at Aarey Colony is reducing and as a consequence, pollution is increasing at an alarming rate. Increasing the green cover by planting trees, is one of the easiest yet effective measures towards reducing this imbalance. Aarey Colony is the only last lung of Mumbai.

The Civic Cell, led by our member, Mr. Eugene Das has taken the initiative with the help of students of St. John the Evangelist High School, for planting 200 saplings in partnership with 'WWH Charitable Foundation' and in cooperation with 'Aarey Milk Colony Urban

BIBLE CLASSES
YOUR *Friday* DATE at 8



Oct 30	 QUESTION OF FREEDOM - DEBATE	Nov 27	GIFT OF LOVE 
Nov 13	 PUBLIC WORSHIP	Dec 11	RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD 
Nov 20	 SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Dec 18	COMING OF CHRIST 

Dairy Department', for allotting space for planting trees, which will add to the green cover. The overall conceptualization, planning, coordination and implementation of this plantation drive, has been done jointly in collaboration with 'Save Aarey Community'. We have planted carefully selected Native trees, around 3 to 4 feet in height. Specific species of plants have been chosen, keeping in mind the following aspects: - a) Plants that are suitable to the local environment and soil conditions at the site and b) Its capacity to absorb carbon from the atmosphere.

The unique feature of this drive is that it is being carried out with students of St. John the Evangelist High School, to instill in them the importance of Environment and educate them on how environmental conservation can bring essential positive changes in their lives, thereby inspiring them to conserve it.

We are thankful to the whole team of WWH & SAVE AAREY COMMUNITY who have supported us with this noble cause. Special

thanks to the chief guest: CEO of Aarey Colony Mr. Gajanan Raut.

Civic & Political Cell
(Mr. J. J. D'Costa, Hon. Legal Consultant, is available to parishioners for free legal aid /advice at the parish office, on all Sundays, between 10-11am with prior appointments only. Mobile: 98200 21013)

