

*Nov 2023*

# IGNITE

*St. Ignatius of Loyola, Vasai*



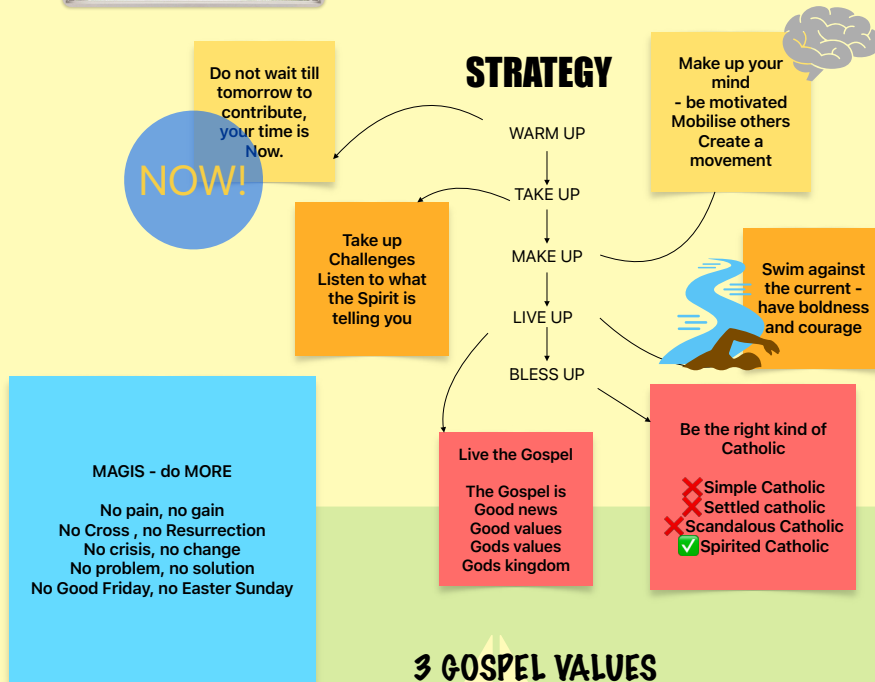
*Edition 2*

# Change for the Better Devotee to Disciple



*"Throw open the windows of the Church so that we can see out and people can see in. The Church is the living garden of Life"*

## M.A.D. MAKE A DIFFERENCE



## 3 GOSPEL VALUES



## GOSPEL MISSION



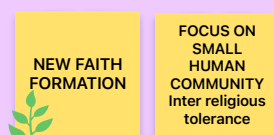
## Practical Application

### PERSONAL LEVEL



BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION  
Not a part of the problem

### SOCIO- PASTORAL



A present solution for a present problem



# Devotee to Disciple

*New way of being Church.*



## Prayer

Give me O Lord not a sweet God,  
 Give me O Lord not a silent Jesus,  
 Give me O Lord not an Alleluia community,  
 Give me O Lord not a moneyed religious,  
 Give me O Lord not a prestigious pastor.  
 Christ not of the rich, not of the powerful, not of decorations,  
 not of commerce...  
 But Christ who critiques, challenges, evangelizes, humanises,  
 demands, dynamizes...

## Lesson from the life of Mary inspires us to embrace the NOW.

Nothing is impossible with God. "Young friends don't wait until tomorrow to contribute your energy, your audacity and your creativity to changing our world. Your youth is not an "in-between time". You are the NOW of God, and he wants you to bear fruit." (Pope Francis's post Synodal Apostolic Exhortation on Young People).

HUMAN	CHRISTIAN	CONSECRATED	CONSTITUTIONAL
Justice	Faith	Obedience	Equality
Freedom	Hope	Chastity	Liberty
Love	Charity	Poverty	Fraternity

Following a challenging 2-day Seminar, Fr. Jerry requested us to meet and reflect as a Parish as to how we were going to take this forward.

It was suggested that the Parish must be empowered in different areas and prioritise these according to the need and according to the talent and capacity of our people.

The diagram describes the plan of action:



# The Young and the Ageless

Zone 3



A beautiful exchange between the youth and seniors. "We had a lovely and fruitful experience" says Sinatra D'Costa from Good Shepherd zone.

## Adivasi Divas



Zone 13

Warli Art is a traditional tribal art form from Maharashtra dating back to the 10<sup>th</sup> century. Since the 9<sup>th</sup> of August is observed as Adivasi Divas in Palghar, St. Anthony zone held a Warli Pot Painting workshop the following Sunday. The participants enjoyed creating their own Warli art on repurposed kulfi pots. A participant, Shaila Aquino expressed that she hadn't tried this art form before but that she was happy to learn something new. The results were awesome and we are sure they are proudly displayed in everyone's homes.

Growing old can be hard  
but growing old alone is  
harder



Zone 8

## Community Compassion

An 89-year-old woman in our community used to live alone and members of the community reached out and cared for her needs. When she fell seriously ill, everyone chipped in to help, with the community leaders arranging finances and providing extensive care. However, as she became weaker, she needed care around the clock. Despite her initial reluctance to leave her home, we found a suitable Christian senior home where she now receives 24/7 care. With the support of our community, she is now comfortable in her new home, surrounded by companions her age, ensuring her well-being and happiness.



# Annual Retreat

*An Integral part of our Community Life*

Our Zone annually organizes spiritual retreats, with this year's held on August in our church. Members from other zones also participated, making it a fulfilling day apart from the usual routine. The focus was on raising awareness about Small Christian Communities and promoting reconciliation within families. Renowned speakers from the Diocese of Vasai, Fr. Richard Dabre and Fr. Joel D'Cunha, delivered inspiring talks and engaged in a Q&A session. The day included praise and worship, as well as testimonies on community life, providing spiritual enrichment. By the end of the day, participants felt rejuvenated and encouraged to face their challenges within the family and community.



Zone 8



## Parents

*God's Gift to us.*



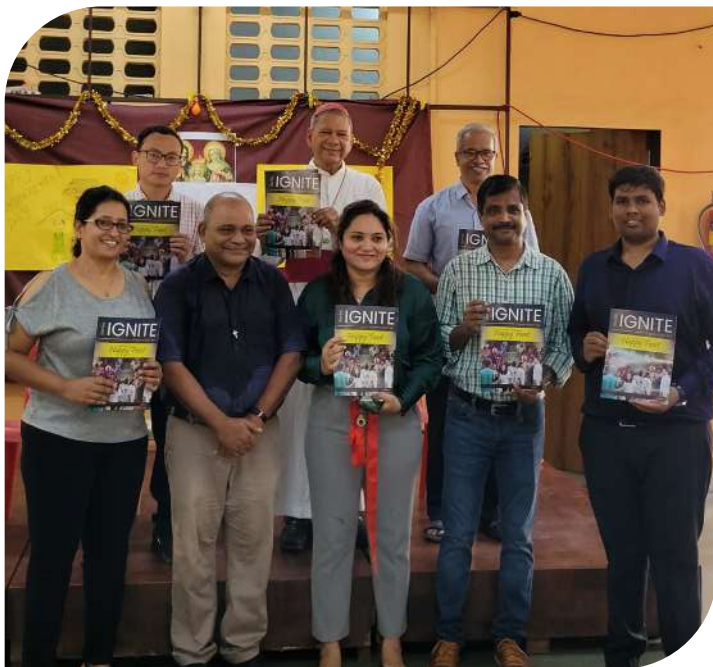
Zone 5

Parent's Day was celebrated in 'Christ the King' zone in August. The event brought together enthusiastic families for a fun gathering. Children showcased their talents through singing and dancing, expressing love and respect for parents and grandparents. The celebration included spot prizes, entertaining games, energetic music, and snacks. Fr. Joe Albuquerque appreciated the community leaders and shared inspirational thoughts about listening to the elderly. Gratitude was expressed to the organizers for making the event successful, fostering a sense of family, happiness and love among members.



# Teachers *Day*

Our Sunday School teachers, who dedicate their Sunday mornings to shaping the young minds and hearts of our children in our faith, were felicitated on Teacher's Day, along with the Confirmation and RCIA animators. A special blessing and fun filled dinner made the evening memorable.



## Bulletin *Inauguration*

Our Parish Bulletin - Ignite, underwent a reboot by our newly formed Media Team under the guidance of Fr. Vincent Vaz. The team consists of Amanda – the very talented designer, Felix – the dependable go-to digital guy, Valancio – the all-rounder, and Debbie – the editor and a self- confessed design noob. We were honored to have Bishop Felix inaugurate and release the first issue of Ignite.

Jesus loves a cheerful giver. Your contributions go a long way in helping families who are struggling financially, meet their food, health and educational needs.



Nothing compares to sharing a cup of 'chai' and 'chat' with fellow parishioners on a Sunday morning.



# White Elephant Sale



Yes! We loved your junk! Generous donations by our parishioners made our first ever white elephant sale a super success.... After all we all love a great deal! Kudos to the team who sorted through, priced and setup the entire sale! It must have been an 'elephant-sized' effort.

## Mary, how did you feel?



A sweet performance by the Sunday School kids and children's choir made the Feast of Mother Mary unique and memorable. The song 'Momma Mary' reminded us that Mother Mary too faced challenges as a 'mother'. She will always be a model of unwavering faith and resilience for all mothers and fathers everywhere.

## Bless us O Lord, and these thy gifts.

Monti Fest







## 'Step' into History

A climb of 1737 steps reaching 820m above sea level, a grand Maratha Fort nestled atop the beautiful Sahyadri mountain range, engulfed in misty clouds, breathtaking views and wonderful company sums up the parish trek to Raigad Fort.

All 24 of us, ages ranging from 18 – 61, wholeheartedly agree that the experience of the trek was well worth the 6 hour journey to Raigad (and back). From singing together, sharing snacks, clicking innumerable photos, encouraging each other and good naturedly teasing the ones

that chose to take the ropeway back down, we enjoyed every minute.

After the long bus journey to Mahad, we appreciated the flawless arrangements made by Fr. Joe Albuquerque and the very hospitable Fr Godfrey at St. Francis Xavier Church. Yet another peak conquered by our trekking group.... Bring on the next!

## Walking *in the Light of the Lord*

The children of our parish, who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion (in January 2024) had their first retreat to help strengthen their faith in Jesus. Fr Vincent Vaz and Sr Agnes, along with their catechism teacher, conducted activities including song, dance, stories, games and prayer. Shamyra Credo, one of the students, said that her favourite part was when Sr. Agnes taught them the action song - Walking in the light of the LORD. God Bless our little ones as they continue to grow in their faith.



## Life is not a Race; *Go at your own pace.*

You may wonder, "Why do confirmation students need to go for a trek? Don't they learn about faith in class?" Well, trekking is like a crash course in life skills. It teaches us a whole lot about ourselves that you just can't learn in the classroom.

The 5 peak Bhandarda trek in Dahanu was the ultimate classroom for our students this year. We witnessed teamwork, while helping each other over slippery rocks and steep trails. We shared the burdens of heavy backpacks. When the path got tough and unending, we made it through as a group. We displayed patience and resilience and we learnt that life is not a race, it's about going one step at a time, enjoying the journey, looking upward and letting the trail teach us a thing or two.

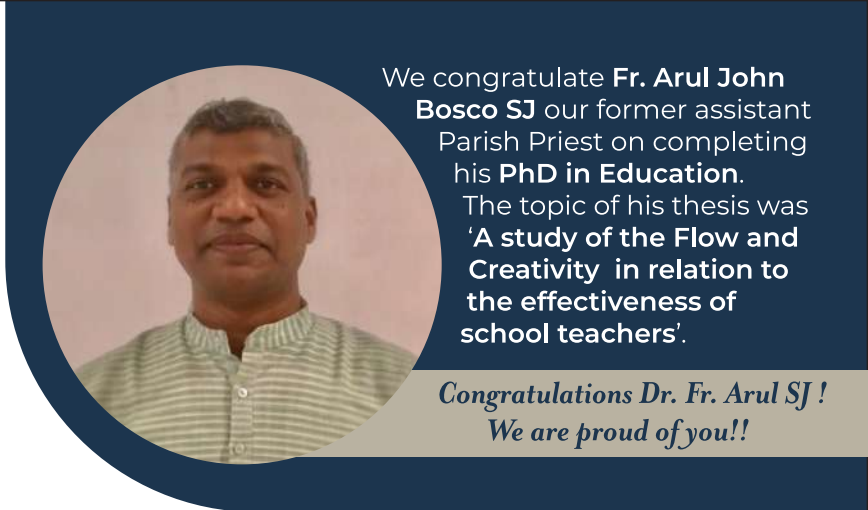






## Induction of Parish Priest

Our Parish Feast Day was made special as Fr. Vincent Vaz was inducted as Parish Priest by Bishop of Vasai – Rev. Felix Machado. May Fr. Vincent be blessed with the grace to bring our parish together in fellowship and faith.

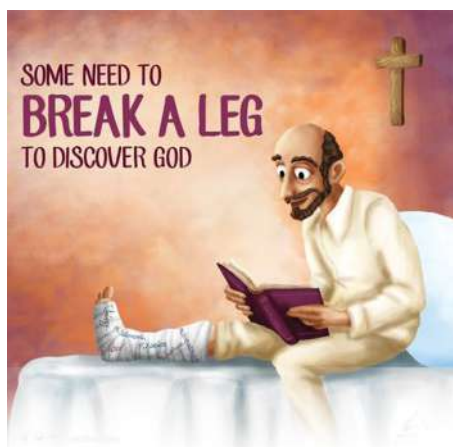


We congratulate **Fr. Arul John Bosco SJ** our former assistant Parish Priest on completing his **PhD in Education**. The topic of his thesis was '**A study of the Flow and Creativity in relation to the effectiveness of school teachers**'.

*Congratulations Dr. Fr. Arul SJ!  
We are proud of you!!*

## Devotee to Disciple

Over 40 of our parishioners, along with a similar number from St. Michael's Church (Manickpur) came together for the first time to attend a weekend seminar at Dhyanaashram, Rajodi. Conducted by renowned speaker Fr. Jerry Rozario S.J., in his own inimitable style, held our attention over two days.



## Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father,

It was not human means that brought the Society into being, so neither can they provide for its future. Survival and progress will come from the mighty power of Christ Jesus, our Lord and our God, in whom alone we must hope (Constitutions, 812).

We therefore pray to you Father, as the Lord of the harvest, that You send many and good laborers to the Society of Your Son, enabling it to carry forward the work, begun with such enthusiasm by Ignatius and his first companions. Set on fire the hearts of young men that you have called, so that like Mary, our Queen and Mother, they may obtain the courage and strength to say "Yes" to their call. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

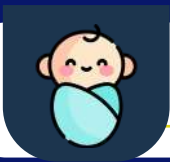
*Please pray for vocations*

**Are you tired  
of chasing pretty  
rainbows?**

*Give it all to Jesus!*







## BORN TO LIFE

- **Eric Jason Metri** Baptised On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2023
- **Sunil Jonu Metri** Baptised On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2023



## BORN TO LOVE

- **Ralph Xavier D'souza Weds Anna D'souza** Dated 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2023
- **Geofred George Weds Reena Shankar Sahu** Dated 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2023



## BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE

- **John Peter Mendonsa**, 72 Years, Died On 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 [Zone-7]
- **Caroline John Rebello**, 92 Years, Died On 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 [Zone -10]
- **Susai Mary Chettiar**, 84 Years, Died On 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023 [Zone-1]
- **Gracy Menezes**, 77 Years, Died On 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 [Zone-1]
- **Philomena Charles Benedict**, 85 Years, Died On 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 [Zone -11]
- **Ashok Ramesh Pamak**, 64 Years, Died On 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 [Zone-8]
- **Clara Brian Fernandes**, 57 Years, Died On 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 [Zone-6]
- **Julie C. D'silva**, 76 Years, Died On 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 [Zone-7]
- **Christopher Picardo**, 83 Years, Died On 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 [Zone-2]
- **Sebastian Veigas**, 56 Years, Died On 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 [Zone-11]
- **Philomena John Thoppil**, 79 Years, Died On 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 [Zone-5]

# MERRY CHRISTMAS & PROSPEROUS HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024



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