

JUNE 2011

## BAY AREA TAMIL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

இனிய தமிழால் இறைவனில் இணைவோம்



ST. ANTHONY

PRAY TO ST. ANTHONY

FEAST DAY - JUNE 13

“Saint Anthony, attentive to those who invoke thee, grant us the aid of thy powerful intercession for the grace of holy purity, meekness, humility, obedience, the spirit of poverty, and perfect abandonment to the will of God.”

## FRIENDSHIP

- Agnes P Raj

“I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” Jn10:11

The good shepherd here refers to a genuine friend. We all experience the grace of genuine friends at every point in our life, both when happy and sad. These genuine friends are the images of God. They are also our gifts from God. It is important not only to have genuine friends but also to be a genuine friend to others. In Sir 6:14, friendship is praised as “A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure.”

Biblical examples of Friendship:

The most famous friends of Bible were David and Jonathan (1Sam 18:1-4). Abraham was called God's friend (2 Chr 20:7). Job had three close friends (Job 2:11-13). Jesus had Martha, Mary and Lazarus as his friends (Jn 11:11).

What Bible says about friendship?**Friends help each other:**

Friendship is to avoid being left alone in times of difficulties (Eccl 4:9-10).

**Friends share:**

Friends share the joys and sorrows, the gains and losses. In the parable of lost sheep and lost coin, when it was found the joy was shared among the friends (Lk 15:6-9).

**Friends are loyal:**

Friends will keep the secrets (Prov 11:13,17:17).

**Friends offer comfort:**

Friends will comfort us and bring us out of loneliness. While others may forget us, we always have a friend, Jesus (Heb 13:5-6).

**Friends give Advice:**

A true friend will tell you the truth even if it hurts. He will correct you when you are wrong (Prov 27:17). A good advice of a friend can make all the difference in life (Prov 27:19).

Teaching Friendship:

As a parent we must teach our children the characteristic of a good friend. We must teach them to be kind, loyal, trustworthy, brave, men and women of faith and love. We must also teach them to control their tongue (Prov 6:28,17:9), not to gossip rather their speech must be uplifting and wise (Prov 22:11) and to choose good friends. Bad company corrupts good morals (1Cor 15:33). We must be a model to them in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity (1Tim 4:12). Jesus Christ is the perfect example of a true friend. He demonstrates the ultimate friendship.

“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends”.

## SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY MASS

The Santa Clara University mass turned out to be a wonderful gathering on May 28, 2011. Many thanks to Rev. Fr. John Rose for making this happen and also for renewing the marriage vows of every couple in our community. Some pictures from the mass are below...



Interested in contributing to the newsletter?  
Please contact [bd@tamilcatholic.org](mailto:bd@tamilcatholic.org)

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT - A GOOD FATHER

A father is an instrument in God's hand. Many places in Bible we can see about the importance of father to bring up their children with the fear of God. Proverbs 22:6 reads, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." To train, indicates the first instruction that a parent gives to a child; which starts from the early childhood. Ephesians 6:4 shows the responsibility of a father in raising their children. "And now a word to you fathers, don't make your children angry by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction approved by the Lord."

If we look at the old testament I like the father Job very much. If we compare with the present world he was a multi billionaire as the Bible says "he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East". Job 1:3

As we read below we know how Job prayed for his children.

"His sons used to hold feasts in their homes on their birthdays, and they would invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would make arrangements for them to be purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, "Perhaps my children

have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular custom". Job 1:4-5

A billionaire got up early in the morning to pray for their children. In this world we never ever heard any billionaires praying in the early morning for their children. Job did not continue praying for them for one or two years. It was his regular custom.

God the father was very happy about Job as He said there is no one like Job on earth. "Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." Job 1:8

A good father is a God fearing man and the protector of his family. God fearing does not mean he should be afraid of God but he should be able to put His commandments into actions to lead his family so that everyone in the family can follow him.

Let us examine ourselves whether we have been a good father for our family by praying with them every day and inspiring them to pray.

Wish you all a very happy father's day.

Yours in Christ  
Leenus Rich

## DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY

Having lunch with a group of people, I fell to talking with a surgeon, a very interesting man. "Doctor," I asked, "what was the greatest operation you ever performed?"

"Well," he said, "I really don't know. Many operations I have performed required all my skills. But perhaps the one that meant the most to me was the time I operated on a little girl who was given only a ten percent chance of survival.

She was such a little thing, and so pale when they brought her into the operating room. "At that time, I was having a great deal of trouble, myself. I had a son who was a real problem and there were other things as well. I had allowed myself to become an unhappy man.

As the nurses were preparing to administer the anesthetic to this little girl, she asked, 'Doctor, may I say something?' "Yes, honey," I replied. 'What is it?' "Well," she said, 'every night when I go to bed I say my prayers, and I'd like to say a prayer now.'" 'That's all right, honey, please say your prayer, and think of me, too, won't you?'

In a sweet voice she prayed: Jesus, tender Shepherd, hear me, Bless thy little lamb tonight; through the darkness be thou near me: Keep me safe till morning light. "And, dear God, please bless the doctor." Then she added brightly, 'I'm ready now. And I'm not afraid, because Jesus loves me and He is right here with me and is going to bring me through okay.'

"I was blinded by tears," confessed the surgeon. "I had to turn away and occupy myself with another wash up before I could start the operation. And I said, 'Dear God, if You never help me save another human being, help me save this little girl.' I operated on her and the miracle happened. She lived!

Leaving the hospital that day, I realized that I was the one who had been operated on, not the girl. She taught me that if I take all my problems and put them in the hands of Jesus, He will see me through."

- Normal Vincent Peale



"We would like to thank everyone who participated and helped at St. Joseph's international festival to represent BATCC. There are lots of hands helped us to cook all the three days, taking care of our food booth on the festival days, buying items, attending meetings, creating sign up sheets, participating cultural events and cleaning up everyday."

- BATCC

[www.tamilcatholic.org](http://www.tamilcatholic.org)

## INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

### Highlights

**BATCC successfully sponsored Indian food booth for the fifth time at the festival and donated the entire collection of around \$1000 to the church.**

**People not only enjoyed our food but also enjoyed our cultural performance.**

**Many families visited the festival and had a blast enjoying the rides.**

**As usual, our booth earned people's #1 choice.**



One of the rides for children at the food festival.