

Gethsemane Newsletter

“Come & See”



The Passion, Death And Resurrection Of Jesus

We are heading towards the culmination of emptying of Himself, through His passion logically of the sequence of events in the passion hearts His great love and desire to unbind us from Him more fully in our lives. We too have to carry of us and therefore it is only a sliver that we carry us any more than what we can bear. He walked and therefore let us always remember that there



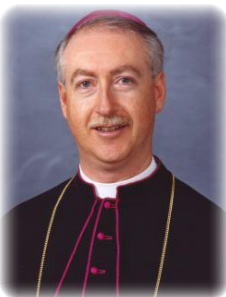
Jesus love for each one of us, revealed in the total and death for us on the Cross. We are aware and death of Jesus. However, let us see with our the shackles that prevent us from experiencing our cross - remember Jesus walks with each one ourselves, He carries the rest and He does not give the way to Calvary to redeem us from our sins is no sin, which is beyond Jesus' forgiving love.

Marriage, Family And The Same-Sex Legislation - Pope John Paul II



Pronouncement on Marriage and Family, to Canada's New Ambassador, September 6, 2004 - "Established by the Creator with its own nature and purpose, and preserved in natural moral law, the institution of marriage necessarily entails the complementarity of husbands and wives who participate in God's creative activity through the raising of children. Spouses thereby ensure the survival of society and culture, and rightly deserve specific and categorical legal recognition by the state."

"Any attempts to change the meaning of the word 'spouse' contradict right reason: legal guarantees, analogous to those granted to marriage, cannot be applied to unions between persons of same sex without creating a false understanding of the nature of marriage." Catholic Teaching, Alphonse deValk, c.s.b. Editor, Catholic Insight, February 2005.



"From the very beginning, marriage has been an essential part of God's plan of creation. The human being is created by an act of God's love and is called to love. Spouses are called by God to be fruitful, to multiply, to be agents of His ongoing creative action. Marital love is intended by God to be the stable environment in which new life is created and nurtured," (Catholic Register, February 20, 2005).

- *Richard Smith, Bishop of Pembroke and President, Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Our Shepherds Speak Out

"At the risk of being judged "politically incorrect," we need to recall that the bill under discussion is offensive to the moral and religious sensibility of a great number of citizens, both Catholic and non-Catholic. In fact, many Christians and adherents of other religious traditions find the union of persons of same sex to be morally unacceptable, even as they refrain from judging those persons themselves," (Catholic Register, February 6, 2005).

- *Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Primate of Canada*



International Pilgrimage Centre, India



The Catholic shrine of Malayattoor, traditionally known as the place of retreat for St. Thomas, one of the twelve Apostles, is now officially an international pilgrimage centre, the first in Asia. The papal nuncio in India, Archbishop Pedro López Quintana, read a statement of the Holy See confirming the designation for this hilltop shrine located in Malayattoor, Kerala.

The Church has three categories of shrines: diocesan shrines approved by the local bishop, national shrines approved by the Episcopal Conference, and international shrines designated by the Holy See, (ICNS - the news service of Catholic Bishop's Conference of India, CBCI).

Therese - The Movie



Calvary; there is no other shortcut!

"The great saints worked for the glory of God, but I am only a little soul; I work simply for His pleasure," St. Therese of Lisieux. (Story of a Soul: The autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux. By John Clark).

Upcoming Events

- ◁ **Mother Teresa: The Legacy:** Friday, March 11 - Ann Petrie, the Emmy Award winning producer, will show excerpts from the film "MOTHER TERESA: THE LEGACY" at the Gethsemane Ministries, Madonna Catholic Secondary School, and speak how Mother Teresa's revelations can be incorporated into our own lives. Ann and Jeanette Petrie have documented the work of Mother Teresa for over 20 years. In this powerful film, Mother Teresa speaks directly to the viewer about the spirituality through which she lived and worked. Please invite your friends and family to this event.
- ◁ **Monthly Youth Program:** Saturday, March 12, 2005 - Youth please attend and bring a friend along!
- ◁ **Youth 2005 Summer Camp:** Please watch for details of a one-week Youth Summer Camp being planned for the Summer.
- ◁ **Lift Jesus Higher Rally - April 9, 2005** at the Metro Convention Centre. We encourage as many as possible to attend this event.

Personal Testimonies To The Power Of Prayer

James Pereira - I was doing my usual school trip when I got into an accident by rear-ending the car in front of me. I stopped to make sure the other driver, a lady, was all right. I provided her with the information that was required. The lady was ok and assured me that nothing was wrong and that I could go. I praise and thank my God for saving me from so many possible consequences!

On another occasion, while I was driving, I encountered severe stomach pain and I prayed to the Lord to give me relief from this pain while I was driving. My prayer was answered even before I reached home. Praise the Lord! James, December 17, 2004

Bino Varghese - I have been with Gethsemane Ministries for the last 2 1/2 years and have been blest abundantly. My wife had to go back to work and we prayed to the Lord to direct us. About a month ago, I was blest with a better job - it was a promotion. I thank God for blessing me and I thank the prayer group for their prayers and support. January 7, 2005.

Nishi - It is only through God's grace that I stand here today to give my testimony. I missed a major accident. My brakes failed, while driving on the highway, with my nine year-old son in the back. I tried hard, without success, to reduce the speed. I took the Keele exit and at the lights I tried to apply the brakes, but the car would not stop. I went close to a snow bank and tried to stop the car by putting it in park. I thank my God for saving us from a major accident. January 21, 2005

Yvonne and Charlie - God saved us from a major financial loss. We succumbed to a telemarketing scheme, which resulted in us entering into a contract for a certain sum of money. We felt very uncomfortable since we realized that we had made a decision without praying. We prayed to the Lord for help and we asked our friends from the prayer group to pray for us. We felt God's

presence and comfort. With God's grace and intervention, we were able to cancel the deal. This incident was a reconfirmation to us to make all our decisions in prayer. Praise the Lord! January 21, 2005.

Cystal Braganza - I praise and thank God for taking my parents safely back to India. There was some concern about the passport and visa and my parents were flown back to Amsterdam, where people came to their assistance like guardian angels. An emergency passport was issued and the Indian Visa was transferred to the new passport and my parents were allowed to fly back to India again. Praise the Lord! January 21, 2005

Sanu George - Through the power of God, we were blest with a son, our first child, after seven years. We had gone to the best doctors who confirmed that there was nothing wrong. Many recommended invitro fertilization, but we wanted God to work in our lives. There were hurdles during the pregnancy and at one point the doctor indicated that the kidneys were enlarged and that we might need to abort the baby. We wanted to accept our child just the way it was, since it was God who had given us this joy of parenthood. When my wife went into labour, the doctors said she was allergic to the epidural. We were overcome with fear when they said that we could lose the mother and baby. We called the members of the Ministry and asked them to pray for us. We were comforted with the knowledge that everyone was praying for us, the delivery went safely and God has blest us with a healthy child! Praise the Lord! February 4, 2005

Yolanda - I started coming regularly to the prayer meetings since November 2004. Whenever I feel troubled or down, I cry out, "Jesus help me" and the situation would change. I tell my friends too, to call on Jesus in their moments of difficulty, since this is how my life has changed. February 4, 2005

Our weekly evening prayer and fellowship is held at
Madonna Catholic Secondary School, 20 Dubray Avenue, near Keele and Wilson.
 In English: Friday at 7:30 p.m. | In Malayalam: Saturday at 6.30 p.m.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER?

This is our newsletter. We are happy to hear from you. Feel free to contribute articles, testimonies and your feedback, at the prayer meeting, to:
 Stan Rodrigo, Mathew Pongonthara, Joseph Kulathinal, Wilma Ambrose or Michael Fonseca