

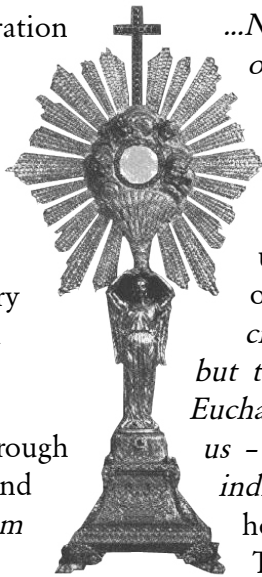
# Gethsemane Newsletter



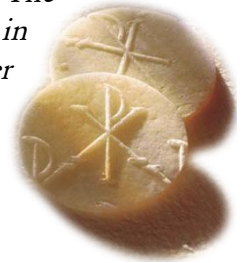
## The Holy Eucharist

The source of life for us Catholics, is a celebration of our faith and trust in the divine mercy of God. People from all over the world will be focusing on this great mystery along with the Holy Father during the weeklong celebration of the 48th International Eucharistic Congress, starting October 10th, which will be held in Guadalajara, Mexico. We pray that every person attending the Eucharistic Congress will experience the fullness of Grace in Jesus.

Let us welcome and receive our loving God through the Eucharist every day or as often as we can and in a state of grace. Jesus said in John 6:35: *"I am the bread of life..."*



*...No one who comes to me shall ever be hungry, no one who believes in me shall ever thirst". Our God is so loving, kind and generous – let us receive Him, through the Eucharist, into our hearts, giving Him, the Master Potter the control to mould and shape our hearts and make us a "new person". The Eucharist transforms our lives. It makes us a "new man", a "new creature". "It helps us not to be overcome by evil, but to overcome evil by good. The Eucharist helps love to triumph in us – love over hatred, zeal over indifference" (Pope John Paul, homily in Dublin, on The Sacraments).*



## Pope Welcomes The Canadian Ambassador



Donald Smith, the newly appointed Ambassador to the Vatican presented his credentials to the Pope on September 4, 2004.

The Holy Father used this occasion to strongly defend the traditional marriage. He expressed the Catholic Church's uncompromising opposition to same-sex marriage. He said, *"Any attempt to change the meaning of the word 'spouse' contradicts right reason."* In his speech released by the Vatican, he recalled, *"For generations Canadians have recognized and celebrated the place of marriage at the heart of your society."*

He argued that the so-called same-sex marriage creates a false understanding of the nature and purpose of marriage.

Canada's government under Prime Minister Paul Martin has proposed legislation to legalize same-sex marriage. The Supreme Court of Canada is preparing to hear arguments next month on the constitutionality of the proposed federal legislation (Art Babych, Canadian Catholic Register, September 19, 2004).

Keep "The Family" in Prayer!



**JESUS**  
Bless  
**CANADA**

## News In Brief



- **T**he Gethsemane Malayalam Group held a one-day prayer on August 28, 2004 at St. Marguerite D'Youville Church, Brampton. On the same evening, a talent show was hosted featuring all the young and young at heart.



- **S**eptember 26, 2004 - Pilgrimage to the Canadian Martyrs Shrine - Gethsemane Ministries participated in the "end of the Year of Rosary Celebration" in honour of Our Blessed Mother.
- **G**ethsemane Family News - Congratulations to Jose and Lisamma (Brigit) Devasia on their new arrival Teresa, a little sister to Leo and Jesse. Welcome Baby Teresa to the Gethsemane family!  
Gethsemane is happy to note that several families have been blessed with children over the past year, and we Welcome all our newest, littlest members into our Gethsemane family.

## Upcoming Events

- **G**ethsemane Family Christmas - The Gethsemane Christmas party is planned for December 11, 2004, at the Maharaja Palace Convention Centre. Celebrate Christmas as a family and in the Gethsemane Family. Ticket Cost: Children 3-10 years = \$15/ per child, 11 years and above = \$25/ per person. Please get your tickets early, since final numbers have to be confirmed with the Banquet hall by November 27, 2004. For ticket information please contact Zita Alamparambil, Usha Jacob, Benny Lobo, Nelson D'Souza, Alwyn Fernandes or James Pereira.
- **M**onthly Youth Program - Starting this month, there will be a youth program on the second Saturday of each month. Bring your children and their friends. We welcome ideas from the Gethsemane Youth (English and Malayalam groups) on how this day should be organized.
- **Y**outh Summer Camp - 2005 - Please watch for details of a one-week Youth Summer Camp being planned for 2005.

## Personal Testimony To The Power Of Prayer

**M**y dad, aged 75 years, lives in Goa, India. He had a problem with his eye, for more than a month. The doctor informed him that he would need to have a delicate operation on the cornea, which was further complicated by his age. Also he would need to travel to Bombay for the surgery. When I spoke to my Mom, she said to me as she did to the rest of my family, "Do not worry, God is with us and the Holy Spirit will cure daddy". I asked Gethsemane, my prayer group, to pray for my dad and I too prayed for him during my personal prayer. After my personal prayer, I felt peace and calm come over me. I received a call not too long after, from my brother to say, "Dad is alright. He does not require any surgery as the doctors informed that the eye will heal by applying an ointment". This is what happens when we trust in our God!!! Praise the Lord!!!

- Venny, Gethsemane Prayer Group

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 and Michael Fonseca