

The Catholic Club Monthly Newsletter March 2025











Remember the formula.

Fasting and Almsgiving - It's a time of Prayer.

Get closer to Christ.

It's a time to fast. What are you giving up for lent?

Work on discipline.

Self-discipline - "I'm going to exercise more. I'm going to pray more. I'm going to be nicer to my family, friends and co-workers."

It's about dying to yourself.

Self-control - it's about finding aspects of ourselves that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. It's a time of Prayer.

Don't do too much.

We should spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don't try to cram it all into one Lent. That's a recipe for failure.

Be patient with yourself.

God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as He does, with unconditional love!

Reach out in charity.

It's about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God's unconditional love.

Learn to love like Christ.

We must seek Him out, ask His help, join in His suffering, and learn to love like Him.

From the President's Desk...

Dear Fellow Members,

s we enter the Season of Lent, the focus will be our Lenten Recollection programs, that will be held every Friday. We hope that through these programs, you will get to reflect on your spiritual lives and to thank the Lord for all that he has given us. When we put our trust in the Lord and recite the Rosary daily, this will bring the peace and joy of Christ unto you. 'For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.' ~ John 3:16.

It's time the world woke up, to be good role models to those around us, rather than seeking wisdom and insights from others. It's time the people of God stood firm to share the good news rather than always waiting for the religious to talk about God's Word. Lent is like a strenuous mountain trek... While we hike up the mountain, we must keep our eyes on the path before us, but at the top, we

are rewarded by the beautiful panorama that confronts us. We have some very engaging and talented preachers. I look forward to meeting you dear Members at these programmes. Please prioritized your attendance at these events and participate wholeheartedly.

The month of February saw "Love" being celebrated with fervour at the Club and was truly a 'Blast before the Past!'. Non-stop entertainment! All our departments ran full steam, starting with the Sunday

Brunches, Bar Nites, Bumper Housie, Ladies Coffee Mornings, The ikidzone, Sportico, Elders' Valentine's Day Special, Card Knockout Tournaments, Carlisle Bartley Tournament and Valentine's Day.

Our Sassy Seniors turned out in large numbers on Valentine's Day dressed to kill and had a fantastic evening with their Valentines. As usual they had a blast with the games organized and danced the night away with the band The Pereira Boys after having a delicious meal prepared by

our caterers.

It was indeed heartening to see the number of youth who participated in the Amateur nite which was well organized and showcased some great talent.

Before we enter the Lenten season, The Noon to Moon - Festa Do Carnaval, in association with the Karnataka Goan Association will be held on 2nd March with A26 bringing you the best music to have you shaking a leg. Come dressed in colorful and festive attire to celebrate.

Construction activities scheduled to start shortly. This is to connect the Veranda to the Ballroom toilets. Kindly bear with us and apologies for the inconvenience members must go through. PPC will have the plan and costing put up on the large notice board. Members are requested to please familiarize

with the changes that are being made, and the costing.

Solar Panel work is moving forward, and all points are being taken into consideration and PPC is looking into every detail of the project not compromising the stability and safety of our members.

Saturday evenings and Sunday brunches will continue as usual.

May God give us the grace to reflect on our spiritual lives and be more charitable during this season of Lent. God bless all of you and your families my dear members.

Jude Rajesh Ferrao President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke all recount the episode of the Transfiguration of Jesus. There we see the Lord's response to the failure of his disciples to understand him. Shortly before, there had been a real clash between the Master and Simon Peter, who, after professing his faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, rejected his prediction of the passion and the cross. Jesus had firmly rebuked him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (Mt 16:23). Following this, "six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and led them away to a high mountain" (Mt 17:1).

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline - ascesis - as God's holy people.

Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which, as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience.

POPE FRANCIS' Advice for Lent

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness

and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and trust in God

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words

and be silent so you can listen



In his "retreat" on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is "synodal", since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus is himself the Way, and here fore, both in the liturgical journey and in the journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Saviour.

And so we come to its culmination. The Gospel relates that Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light" (Mt 17:2). This is the "summit", the goal of the

journey. At the end of their ascent, as they stand on the mountain heights with Jesus, the three disciples are given the grace of seeing him in his glory, resplendent in supernatural light. That light did not come from without, but radiated from the Lord himself. The divine beauty of this vision was incomparably greater than all the efforts the disciples had made in the ascent of Tabor. During any strenuous mountain trek, we must keep our eyes firmly fixed on the path; yet the panorama that opens up at the end amazes us and rewards us by its grandeur. So too, the synodal process may often seem arduous, and at times we may become discouraged. Yet what awaits us at the end is undoubtedly something wondrous and amazing, which will help us to understand better God's will and our mission in the service of his kingdom.

The disciples' experience on Mount Tabor was further enriched when, alongside the transfigured Jesus, Moses and Elijah appeared, signifying respectively the Law and the Prophets (cf. Mt 17:3). The newness of Christ is at the same time the fulfilment of the ancient covenant and promises; it is inseparable from God's history with his people and discloses its deeper meaning. In a similar way, the synodal journey is rooted in the Church's tradition and at the same time open to newness. Tradition is a source of inspiration for seeking new paths and for avoiding the opposed temptations of immobility and improvised experimentation.

The Lenten journey of penance and the journey of the Synod alike have as their goal a transfiguration, both personal and ecclesial. A transformation that, in both cases, has its model in the Transfiguration of Jesus and is achieved by the grace of his paschal mystery. So that this transfiguration may become a reality in us this year, I would like to propose two "paths" to follow in order to ascend the mountain together with Jesus and, with him, to attain the goal.

The first path has to do with the command that God the Father addresses to the disciples on Mount Tabor as they contemplate Jesus transfigured. The voice from the cloud says: "Listen to him" (Mt 17:5). The first proposal, then, is very clear: we need to listen to Jesus. Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us. And how does he speak to us?

First, in the word of God, which the Church offers us in the liturgy. May that word not fall on deaf ears; if we cannot always attend Mass, let us study its daily biblical readings, even with the help of the internet. In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need. Let me say something else, which is quite important for the synodal process: listening to Christ often takes place in listening to our brothers and sisters in the Church. Such mutual listening in some phases is the primary goal, but it remains always indispensable in the method and style of a synodal Church.

On hearing the Father's voice, the disciples "fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and do not be afraid.' And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone" (Mt 17:6-8). Here is the second proposal for this Lent: do not take refuge in a religiosity made up of extraordinary events and dramatic experiences, out of fear of facing reality and its daily struggles, its hardships and contradictions. The light that Jesus shows the disciples is an anticipation of Easter glory, and that must be the goal of our own journey, as we follow "him alone". Lent leads to Easter: the "retreat" is not an end in itself, but a means of preparing us to experience the Lord's passion and cross with faith, hope and love, and thus to arrive at the resurrection. Also on the synodal journey, when God gives us the grace of certain powerful experiences of communion, we should not imagine that we have arrived - for there too, the Lord repeats to us: "Rise, and do not be afraid". Let us go down, then, to the plain, and may the grace we have experienced strengthen us to be "artisans of synodality" in the ordinary life of our communities.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations. Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 January, Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul.

Francis



Sassy Seniors Valentine's Day Party

A Might of Love, Music & Memories!

The Sassy Seniors sure know how to celebrate in style! On February 20th, 2025, love, laughter, and a whole lot of fun filled the air as our incredible seniors came together for a Valentine's celebration to remember.

With the courtyard beautifully lit up in shades of red, white, and pink, our seniors arrived dressed to impress, radiating charm and elegance. The night kicked off with a warm welcome, followed by an electrifying live performance by The Pereira Boys, who had everyone tapping their feet and dancing like they were unhinged! A huge thank you to them for keeping the energy high and the spirits soaring late into the night.

No celebration is complete without gifts, and we were incredibly fortunate to have Sunshine White and Patsy Crasta as our generous gift sponsors, ensuring that our seniors took home a little extra love. A special thank you also goes to Neil Prabhu from Konkan Restaurant, who graciously sponsored food vouchers, and to MIC Jeffry Crasta, who provided Marvante Seafood Restaurant vouchers - both adding a delicious touch to the evening!

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our fantastic subcommittee - Maisy Johnson, Sunshine White, Patsy Crasta, Lydia, Marcus Pereira, Gavin, Giresh Ramnathan and Anita Pelegrim. Their meticulous









planning and efforts made this event a grand success, ensuring a memorable evening for all.

A big thank you also goes out to all the Catholic Club staff for their incredible support and effort in making sure everything ran smoothly. From setting up the venue to ensuring every guest was well taken care of, their hard work did not go unnoticed. Thanks to Vaani, Jancy Rani, Santosh & Clifford with their strong team for all their efforts. Special thanks to SDC cafeteria and MIC Anup Saldhana.

Beyond just a Valentine's celebration, the night was a beautiful tribute to friendship, self-love, and the incredible bonds our seniors have built over the years. From heartfelt conversations to laughter-filled dance floors, every moment was a reminder that love has no age limit. A big thank you to our President, Jude Rajesh Ferrao and Vice-President, David D'Souza for attending this event with their lovely spouses!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined and made this evening so special! Here's to many more nights of joy, music, and unforgettable memories.

With gratitude,

Jeffry Crasta MIC Elders



Amateur Nite 2025

A Night of Talent, Music & Celebration





Amateur Nite 2025 was a truly special evening, bringing together participants from all age groups to showcase their incredible talent. Whether through their voices or instrumental skills, each performer captivated the audience, making it an unforgettable celebration of music and artistry.

The event kicked off with our charismatic Emcee, Cyrus D'Lima, who engaged the crowd with his lively banter, setting the perfect tone for the night. As excitement filled the air, participants eagerly took to the stage across various categories-from mesmerizing solos and harmonious duets to electrifying band performances and much more. The event was a true testament to the beauty of melody, harmony, and the pure love of music.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our esteemed judges-Sukeerth, Jacob, and Risa-for taking time from their busy schedules to support and encourage our talented performers. Their expertise and keen judgment played a vital role in making the evening a grand success.

We also extend our sincere gratitude to Santhosh and his dedicated team, whose impeccable arrangements ensured a flawless experience. From sound and lighting to stage setup, every detail was perfectly executed, allowing our performers to shine.

A special acknowledgment to my incredible subcommittee, whose hard work made this event seamless:

Nikita Pereira for her meticulous coordination of participant entries.

Crystal Crasta for efficiently managing certificates and prize distribution.

Gregory Joseph for accurately tallying scores and ensuring fair results.

Tristan Stapleton for overseeing track management, ensuring each performance went off without a hitch.

Without their support, Amateur Nite 2025 wouldn't have been the resounding success it was.

We look forward to an even bigger and better event next year, with more talented participants and an even more enthusiastic audience. Thank you to all our members for your unwavering support and encouragement-it is because of you that we continue to host such wonderful events for the future of our club!

See you at Amateur Nite 2026!

Regards,

Hrishi Thomas Neeliyara MIC Youth



Faith

We will soon enter the season of Lent. Every Friday during this season, will be made special, with various topics of importance that we could reflect upon.

Friday, the 14 th of March has been marked for Lenten Reliction. Fr. Sandeep Menezes CSSR, Assistant Parish Priest of Holy Ghost Parish, will be our preacher for the evening.

Also, this event will be extra special with fabulous musicians and singers present to take us through praise and worship in song.

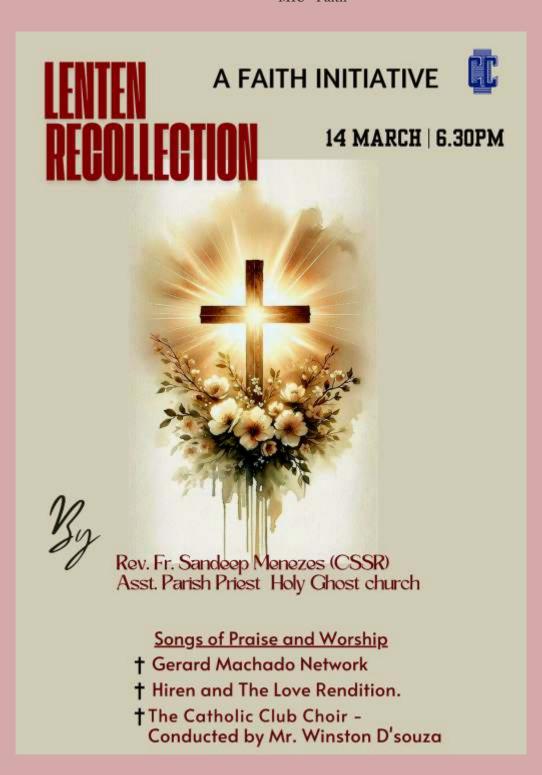
We have

- The Gerard Machado Network
- Hiren and the Love Rendition
- Our very own Catholic Club choir, conducted by Mr. Winston D'Souza

Looking forward to seeing you all at this super-special Faith Initiative.

Faithfully Yours,

Coreen D'Souza Fareed MIC - Faith



Ladies

A super successful Las Vegas evening has left our ladies waiting for our next event.

This day promises to be a day to celebrate being a Woman. Sunday, the 9th of March has been earmarked for this. A daylong event that will include fun for ladies of all ages.

We start with housie and other games. A flea market with lady entrepreneurs and their exciting ware. We move onto brunch with music and dancing. A girl band all set to give you music that will set your feet tapping. A fabulous fashion show to end our evening and a DJ to give us music that we want.

Don't miss our special day ladies.

Warm Regards,

Coreen D'Souza Fareed MIC - Ladies



















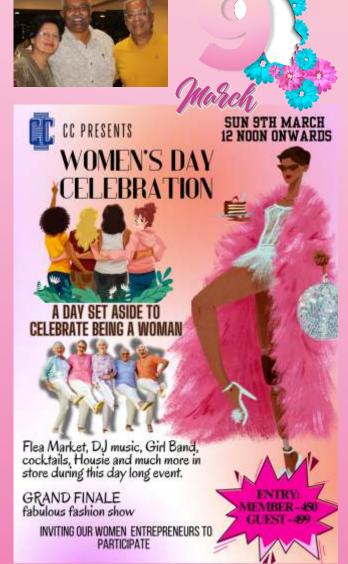


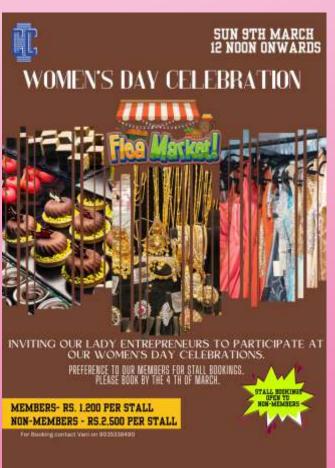












iBrowse

In January we saw Bridget White sharing her culinary secrets with Rebecca Vieyra and the rest of us in a very informal setting. The evening included a live demo on how to make rum balls using leftover Christmas cake!!

February saw a historical book on Travancore. Narratives were shared by Sunitha Srinivasan, the author, along with relative of several people who feature in the book.

Our next book discussion will be with Leslie Carvalho on his novel 'Smoke on the Backwaters' on March 15th, 2025 at 7.00 pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Gavin Cordeiro MIC

























IKIDZONE

A Magical Afternoon of Stories at IKIDZONE.

On February 2, 2025, IKIDZONE transformed into a world of wonder as acclaimed author Ashrafi Antia took center stage for a captivating Book Reading & Storytelling Session. Known for her engaging contributions to Deccan Herald's Open Sesame section, Ashrafi brought her delightful children's book,

Every Bird Has a Tale, to life in a way that mesmerized both kids and parents alike.

The session was filled with fascinating

stories about birds and animals, sparking curiosity and a love for nature among young minds. One of the highlights was an exciting segment - "What Happens When an Ostrich Races a Giraffe?" - which had the children wide-eyed with excitement.

With an enthusiastic audience, lively narration, and a vibrant storytelling atmosphere, the event was a soaring success. As a free-entry initiative, it not only encouraged a culture of reading but also inspired creativity and imagination in the young listeners.

Stay tuned for more exciting events at IKIDZONE!

Jeffry Crasta MIC - Children & IKIDZONE

















What's the



The event was organised by Aiona, Nina and Roy (last month's winners). They introduced some interesting innovations to the format. One such innovation being how one player gave clues to the other.

We had a full house despite the upcoming exams at School. Looking forward to our next month's event on the 21st of March.

Gavin Cordeiro MIC











Sportico

We had an action-packed month filled with exciting tournaments across multiple sports. It showcased the talent and enthusiasm of our members.

Badminton Tournament - Road to the League

Our monthly Badminton Tournament, serving as the qualification round for the Badminton League (Jan 25–30), saw an impressive participation of players over 40 years of age. The competition was intense, and the winners were

Category 1 - Karan Rasquina & Savio Lamb (Winners); Aryan N & Biju (Runners-up)

Category 2 - Tiara & Joven Vellara (Winners); Ajit Jacob & Ajit Lobo (Runners-up)

Category 3 - Pranita & Manal (Winners); Walston & John Francis (Runners-up)

A special thanks to Vincent Manoraj for generously sponsoring the tournament and supporting the badminton community at the club.

Congratulations to all participants for their spirited performances!

Chess Tournament - February 22

The Chess Tournament held on February 22 saw strategic battles on the board, with some fantastic gameplay. The winners were:

1st Place: Craig

2nd Place: Rohan Mascarenhas

3rd Place: Suyash

Well played, everyone!

Inaugural CC Table Tennis Ranking Tournament - February 23

We successfully hosted our first CC Table Tennis Ranking Tournament on February 23, 2024, with over 40 enthusiastic members competing. It was an intense contest, and the winners were:

Champion: Raju Lazrado Runner-up: Christopher Pacheco

Third Place: Vijay Anand

A special thanks to Venkat Bashyam for generously sponsoring the tournament and supporting the growth of table tennis at the club. Additionally, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the subcommittee, including Vivian Pinto and others, for meticulously organizing the event and ensuring its smooth execution.

A big thank you to all participants for making these events a grand success. Stay tuned for more exciting tournaments next month!

Sports Committee





















	Monthly	Yearly
Members	₹750	₹3600
Family	₹1130	₹5400
Guest	₹1500	_

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Bohemian Brunch A Vibrant Celebration

The Bohemian Brunch held at Catholic Club on 16 February was nothing short of a dazzling spectacle, filled with color, music, and joy! The event embraced a boho theme, and our wonderful attendees turned up in large numbers, dressed in vibrant, free-spirited attire that added to the lively and festive atmosphere of the day.

A massive shoutout to DJ Martin D'Souza, who kept the energy soaring with an electrifying set that had everyone grooving non-stop! From the moment the first beat dropped, the dance floor was alive with excitement, and no one wanted to leave. Martin, you absolutely nailed it—thank you for an unforgettable musical experience!

Of course, a special thanks goes out to Anup Saldhana from MIC Cafeteria, who took us on a sensational culinary journey with a menu that perfectly matched the Bohemian theme. Each dish was a delightful explosion of flavors, giving everyone a fresh and exciting dining experience. The food was simply divine!

Behind the scenes, the real magic makers—Santhosh and his incredible team—worked tirelessly to ensure everything was flawlessly set up before the brunch began. Their dedication to top-notch customer service made sure that every guest had a seamless and enjoyable experience. Thank you for making it all look effortless!

And last but certainly not least, my amazing subcommittee—Nikita Pereira, Crystal Crasta, Gregory Joseph, and Tristan Stapleton. You all have been the backbone of every event we've hosted, ensuring that no detail was overlooked. From organizing and decorating to making sure everything ran smoothly, your dedication and passion truly made this event a grand success. I'm beyond grateful to have such an enthusiastic and hardworking team by my side!

Regards,

Hrishi Thomas Neeliyara MIC Youth

List of New Members approved at the Membership Interview Meeting held on 4th February 2025

1	Col. Joseph Stani	NEW SENIOR CITIZEN
2	Mr. Merlyn Pius Lobo	NEW SENIOR CITIZEN
3	Mrs. Helen Pinto Menezes	NEW SENIOR CITIZEN
4	Ms. Monica Saldanha Dhar	LIFE
5	Mr. David Cornelio	LIFE
6	Mr. Colin Edward Daileda	LIFE
7	Mr. Dennis John	LIFE
	Mr. Amar Alexander Correa	ORDINARY
9	Mr. Akash Raju	ORDINARY
10	Ms. Aparna Divakar	ORDINARY
11	Ms. Aditi Divakar	ORDINARY
12	Mr. Adarsh Francis Delavictorie	SR. DPNT to ORDINARY
13	Ms. Kiara Ann Quadros	SR. DPNT to ORDINARY
14	Mr. Dylan Augustine	SR. DPNT to ORDINARY
15	Ms. Maria Adriana Lewis	SR. DPNT to ORDINARY
	Ms. Urshila Pandit	ASSOCIATE
17	Mr. Allwyn Roshan Dsouza	TEMPORARY
	Mr. Toms John Mathew	TEMPORARY
19	Mr. Peter Alan	TEMPORARY
20	Mr. Varun Thomas Mathew	TEMPORARY
21	Mr. Aloysious Anthony Cruz	TEMPORARY
22	Ms. Roshini Caroline Maria D'Souza	TEMPORARY
23	Mr. Manuel Paul Anil Kumar Joseph	TEMPORARY
24		TEMPORARY
	Mr. Arron Albert Dsilva	TEMPORARY
_	Mr. Dion Harold Sahni	TEMPORARY

Programme for March 2025

1 Saturday	Musical Evening	6.00 pm
2 Sunday	Carnivale -	
	Noon to Moon with A26	12.00 noon
3 Monday	Whist Drive	6.00 pm
4 Tuesday	Bridge	6.00 pm
5 Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	
7 Friday	Faith Programme -	
	Lenten Recollection	
	with Mgnsr. Jayanathan	7.00 pm
9 Sunday	Women's Day Celebration	12.00 noon
10 Monday	Whist Drive	6.00 pm
11 Tuesday	Bridge	6.00 pm
14 Friday	Faith Programme -	
	Lenten Recollection with	
	Rev Fr. Sandeep Menezes (CSSR)	6.30 pm
15 Saturday	iBrowse	7.00 pm
16 Sunday	Brunch	12 noon
17 Monday	Whist Drive	6.00pm
18 Tuesday	Bridge	6.00 pm
21 Friday	Faith Lenten Recollection	7.00 pm
	What's The Good Word	7.00 pm
24 Monday	Whist Drive	6.00 pm
25 Tuesday	Bridge	6.00 pm
28 Friday	Faith Lenten Recollection	7.00 pm
31 Monday	Whist Drive	6.00 pm