



REV. BIJU YOHANNAN



Asst. Vicar's Message to the Parish

Dear Parishioners,

**Greetings you all in the name of our
Triune God!**

"Every new day is a reminder of His
faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23)."

Every new month is also a time to look
back and thank God for helping us to
keep living life and look forward to
new blessings. The month of August
culminates the summer season and
gives us some more good memories
before the new academic year begins.
Let us go through the topics in store
for us this month.

August 2 - Sunday - Mission Sunday: Compassion in Action (Mark 2:13-17)

The Mission Sunday reminds us that every disciple is called to be a living witness of Christ's compassion. In today's Gospel (Mark 2:13-17), Jesus welcomes those whom others rejected, sharing a meal with tax collectors and sinners. His actions reveal the boundless mercy of God, who sees every person with love and hope. Jesus invites us to move beyond judgment and become instruments of healing, forgiveness, and welcome in our families, parish, and community. A kind word, a listening ear, or a helping hand can become a powerful sign of God's presence. May this Mission Sunday renew our hearts, strengthen our faith, and inspire us to carry Christ's love wherever we go, so that everyone we meet may experience His compassion and peace.

August 9 - Sunday - Identity in Christ: Marked by Baptism (John 3:1-8)

In His conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus reveals that we must be "born of water and the Spirit" to enter the Kingdom of God (John 3:1-8). Through Baptism, we receive a new identity as beloved children of God, called to live in the freedom and grace of Christ. Our worth is not defined by success, failure, or the opinions of others, but by God's enduring love. Baptism is not merely a past event; it is the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith, transformation, and mission. Each day, we are invited to renew our baptismal promises by choosing love, truth, and holiness, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us as faithful witnesses of Christ in the world.

August 16 - Sunday - Reformation: A Call for Renewal (Luke 5:36–39)

In this Gospel passage, Jesus speaks of new wine needing fresh wineskins, reminding us that God's transforming grace calls for renewed hearts and minds. True reformation begins within, where we allow Christ to reshape our attitudes, priorities, and way of life. Rather than clinging to old habits that hinder spiritual growth, we are invited to embrace the new life Christ offers. Renewal is not about abandoning our faith but deepening it through prayer, repentance, and faithful discipleship. As individuals and as a parish community, may we remain open to the Holy Spirit, who continually renews the Church. Let us become "new wineskins," ready to receive God's grace and share His love with courage, joy, and hope.

August 23 - Sunday - Holy Qurbana: Table of Reconciliation (Matthew 5:23–26)

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that reconciliation with one another is essential before offering our gift at the altar. The Holy Qurbana is the sacred table where we encounter Christ's boundless love, mercy, and forgiveness. As we prepare to receive His Body and Blood, we are invited to examine our hearts, seek forgiveness, and extend it to those who have hurt us. True worship is not only expressed through prayers and rituals but also through restored relationships and compassionate hearts. Every celebration of the Holy Qurbana calls us to become peacemakers, reflecting Christ's reconciling love in our families, parish, and community. United in His grace, we become one body, witnessing to God's peace and healing in the world.

August 30 - Sunday - Embracing Migrants and Refugees
(Luke 10:25-37)

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus teaches that true love of neighbor knows no boundaries of race, culture, or nationality. The wounded traveler reminds us of the many migrants and refugees who leave their homes in search of safety, dignity, and hope. Like the Good Samaritan, we are called to see their humanity, respond with compassion, and offer welcome rather than indifference. A caring heart, a helping hand, and a spirit of hospitality can reveal Christ's presence to those in need. As followers of Jesus, may we build communities that welcome the stranger, protect the vulnerable, and affirm the dignity of every person, becoming living witnesses of God's inclusive love and mercy.

May these words gift us with a time of renewal, allowing God to strengthen and refresh our spirits as we soar on wings like eagles.

In His Service,

Rev. Biju Yohannan

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August 2026