

DIVINE ECHO

Theme - 'Pilgrims of Hope'

SUNDAY SERVICE

From Gratitude to Grace

1ST Holy Mass - 6.45 am

2nd Holy Mass - 9.15 am

DAILY SERVICE AT IJS

Be Thankful Everyday

Holy Mass : 6 pm

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Adoration : Monday

St. Antony's Novena - Tuesday

St. Joseph's Novena - Wednesday

Infant Jesus Novena : Thursday

Divine Mercy & adoration: Friday

Our lady of perpetual help:: Saturday



Nourishing our Souls with hope through pilgrimage

By Rev. Father John Benito

My dear brothers and sisters, with the blessing of the Almighty, I proudly introduce our first quarterly edition of the IJS E-newsletter 'Divine Echo'. Established in 1994 with just 40 families, the Infant Jesus Church of Bhopal has grown into a vibrant community of 428 families.

Through years of devotion and prayer, our church and its members have been abundantly blessed, witnessing countless miracles of healing, comfort,

and grace in their lives. In 2024, our beloved Archbishop of Bhopal, Most Rev. Alangaram Arokia Sebastin Durairaj, SVD, announced the elevation of our parish to a Shrine.

Understanding that the blessings and miracles of this shrine deserve to be shared with the world, we are excited to communicate the wonderful actions of the Infant Jesus Shrine along with the testimonies of grace and blessings through this e-magazine



Dr. Fr. John Benito

Rector & Parish Priest,
Infant Jesus Shrine,
Bhopal

The 2025 Jubilee Year of the Catholic Church theme is **“Pilgrims of Hope.”** This Jubilee—an extraordinary time of spiritual renewal, pilgrimage, and reconciliation occurring every 25 years—provides us a unique opportunity to reflect and grow. In honor of this theme, the Infant Jesus Shrine Bhopal has actively organized pilgrimages to important sites for our faithful, enriching their spiritual journey and offering a more meaningful Lent and this issue hence is themed as ‘Pilgrims of Hope’

‘Pilgrims of Hope’



Pilgrimage to Velankanni

34 devoted members of the Infant Jesus Parish embarked on a transformative pilgrimage to Velankanni from March 25 to 31, 2025. The devotees visited, Santhome Mylapore, Chennai, Basant Nagar Velankanni Church, St. Thomas Mount, St. Mary’s Basilica (in Chennai) and the Velankanni basilica Poondi Mata Basilica, Elakurichi, Pilgrim centre of our lady of refuge, Thanjavur Infant Jesus Church & Trichy St. Joseph’s church & college. These faithful souls sought healing and blessings while expressing their deep faith at this sacred site. On March 28, 2025, Rev. Fr. John Benito joined the pilgrims in a heartfelt Holy Mass at the Shrine, fostering a spirit of unity and devotion.

Pilgrimage to Daya Sagar, Sagar Diocese

A group of 104 members from Infant Jesus Shrine, Bhopal, visited the renowned Daya Sagar shrine on the occasion of the feast of Divine Mercy on 09th March 2025. This meaningful visit filled the hearts of the devotees with the profound blessings of Divine Mercy. The group visited Daya Sagar & Cathedral.



Pilgrimage to

St. Sebastian feast celebration, Majoos kala



Around 57 members of the Infant Jesus Church gathered in heartfelt unity to celebrate the feast of St. Sebastian in the remote village of Majoos Kalan, Raissen District on 12th January 2025. The profound display of faith and devotion from the local communities deeply inspired the parishioners of the Infant Jesus Shrine.

Pilgrimage to Khandwa

A pilgrimage was organized for the parishioners of IJS to the Kanjabaida Marian Shrine for the Annual Feast on 23rd February 2025. This celebration, honoring Mother Mary of Kanjabaida, is marked by immense faith and devotion at the revered pilgrimage center in Bhuifal, Khandwa Diocese, Madhya Pradesh. Approximately 50 members of the IJS journeyed to this sacred shrine, embracing the spirit of community and reverence.



Exposition St. Francis Xavier - 2024 -25 Goa



A dedicated group of 25 parishioners witnessed the exposition of St. Francis Xavier and journeyed to significant religious sites in Goa before the new year, witnessing the awe-inspiring revelation of the relics and experiencing profound devotion and healing.



Highlights of IJS - Jan-March 2025



Parish Day

The Parish Day on January 5th, 2025, was an absolute blast filled with energy and joy! The youth kicked off an exciting lineup of sports and activities, ensuring everyone in the parish could join in on the fun. It was a day of celebration, community, and unforgettable memories!



Infant Jesus, Novena & Feast

The annual Commemoration of the feast of Infant Jesus at Infant Jesus Shrine is a cherished ritual that inspires countless devotees. From 26 January 2025 to 02 February 2025, the Novena prayers drew participants from around the world, united in faith and enthusiasm, all blessed with grace and mercy. Most Rev. Bishop Jerald Almeida, Ex Bishop of Jabalpur Archdiocese, led the congregation in heartfelt prayers, creating a profound sense of community and devotion.



Pastoral Visit

On 23rd March, Most Rev. Alangaram Arokia Sebastin Durairaj, SVD, Archbishop of Bhopal, made a meaningful pastoral visit to Infant Jesus Shrine, engaging with the vibrant community of the parish, where a report of the Church was presented to him.

St. Peter's Mar Thoma Volleyball Tournament



IJS Youth win Volley ball championship

The IJS youth showcased their determination and spirit in a Volleyball tournament organized by St. Peter's Marthoma Church Bhopal in February 2025. With unwavering teamwork and passion, they lifted the trophy, adding yet another feather to the IJS crown.



Picnic to Tarasevania for Catechism Children

A picnic was organized for children of catechism from class 1-8 on 19 January 2025. The children were taken to Tarasevania.



Catechism Exams & Bible Quiz

The annual exams for children in Catechism classes took place on 30th March 2025, uniting students from Class 1 to Class 12 in their shared journey of faith. A Bible quiz inspired young minds, encouraging them to explore and embrace the teachings that guide their lives.

TESTIMONIALS



‘I was struggling a lot to get work, but with the grace of Infant Jesus, since last few months, I have been blessed with abundant work’ - an IJS devotee

For almost all of late 2023, I faced immense struggles finding work, which led to significant financial and mental stress. Many opportunities arose, but none seemed to come to fruition. I held onto my faith, believing that my prayers would eventually be answered.

Then, in September 2024, with the blessings of Infant Jesus, an overwhelming surge of work came my way, allowing me to restore myself both financially and mentally. I am deeply grateful to Infant Jesus for hearing my prayers and guiding me through my challenging times. Praise the lord!

Obituary

1. Mas. Evaan Uikey - Jan 2025
2. Mr. Joy John - Jan 2025
3. Mr. Joseph Mani - March 2025

Upcoming Events

1. Lent Unity Sports - April 1st week
2. Holy week Service - April 3rd week
3. Pilgrimage to Malayattoor & Kripasanam Kerala in 2-10 May 2025
4. Summer Camp for Children - May - June 2025

For prayer requests and intentions connect with:

1. Fr. John Benito - Parish Priest - 9584325719.
2. Fr. Ashok - Assitant Parish Priest - 8823862289

Talk To Us

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Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday - 13/04/25 - 8 am
Maundy Thursday - 17/04/25 - 6 pm
Good Friday - 18/04/25 3 pm
Easter Vigil Mass - 19/04/25 - 10 pm



Summer Camp for Children

Music, Games and Art for Children
starting 05 May 2025 -05 June 2025