

Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

March 2011 Issue 6 Volume 1

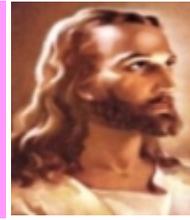
(Not For Sale)



"MY FLESH IS TRUE FOOD AND MY BLOOD IS TRUE DRINK."

(John 6:55)

BLESSINGS OF GOD BE YOURS...



**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**

“ Save me O God,... I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched. My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.” (Psalms 69:1-3)

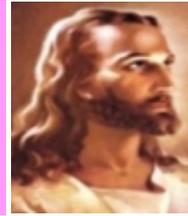
**O Lord my God O Holy One, I adore You! I fall prostrate and clasp Your Feet in tight embrace !
As I shed my tears, I place them as blossoms on Your flowery Feet, trusting in You. To whom can I reveal the different situations and tribulations that tighten me up dear Lord ?
I am drowned into the deep waters. O Lord my God, hide not Your Face away from me. May the Light of Your Face shine on me.
Lord I wait hoping that You pay heed to my prayers. Listen to my pleading O God !
Lord come to my aid, in the abundance of Your mercy.**



**Preserve me and save me. Grant me Your freedom
Lord. I will never give up hope.
Thank You my God, Thank You ! AMEN !**

Fr. V. Ignatius. S. J.

BELOVED IN CHRIST...



**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**

“ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair.” (II Corinthians 4:8)



I chance to meet several people individually, and with their families, for the past few weeks. All of them come from, diverse family backgrounds and especially those living in the fringe of despair. There was a very rich but sad man who came to meet me. He mentioned that his business had fallen on bad times. He had also sold his own house to live in another rented house. But he was unable to pay even the rent. And it was in this desperate moment that he had contemplated suicide.

A faint ray of hope that **“ a way could be born in his prayers “!** dawned on the man and he came to visit me.

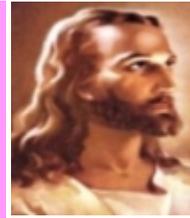
A college student trained in several arts came to meet me with lots of frustration. The atrocities meted out in the society had well disturbed him considerably. Why do we need priest with cassock, the swamis adorning garlands, the pastors carrying Bible, and the politicians out there to rob the nations treasury? Why do we need a place of worship?

We are unable to find God in any place of worship. There is utter confusion deep within us where ever we turn. I don't wish to pray asking, “ God I want this and that”. There is no need of a God who would grant me my needs only after I've asked. This was the attitude with which a youngster approached me. This is the kind of attitude, found rampant in the society today with despair taking the toll , and people giving up hope easily.

They run hither thither to work hard and hoard piles upon piles of money. But there's emptiness in the heart! They earn degrees amidst high edge competition in various fields and make big money. They commit suicide even without enjoying all that they had hoarded. This is the world devoid of all hope!

Troubles, poverty, injustice, atrocities, sicknesses and several such situations are found widespread today in the families and in individual lives. We long and wonder whether we can attain freedom from all these situations? St. Paul faced troubles and injustice in his life. In all these situations he placed Jesus before his gaze and walked in an onward march “towards holiness.”

BELOVED IN CHRIST...



Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

“Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: for getting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”(Philippians3:13,14)

St. Paul is a witness to not lose hope even in troubles.” “We are... perplexed but not driven to despair”(II Corinthians 4:8) are the lines that best exemplify St.Paul’s life style. So too does our Blessed Mother implore us to pray, considering the state of the world, thus igniting the light of hope.

Mother Mary calls us saying, “ The world will change for the good and peace will reign in the hearts of men. I am not losing hope.” Pray unceasingly without losing hope. You will find fulfillment ! I wish you joy !

**Fr.V.Ignatius.S.J.,
Satya Nilayam, 81, L.B. Road,
Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai- 600 041.**

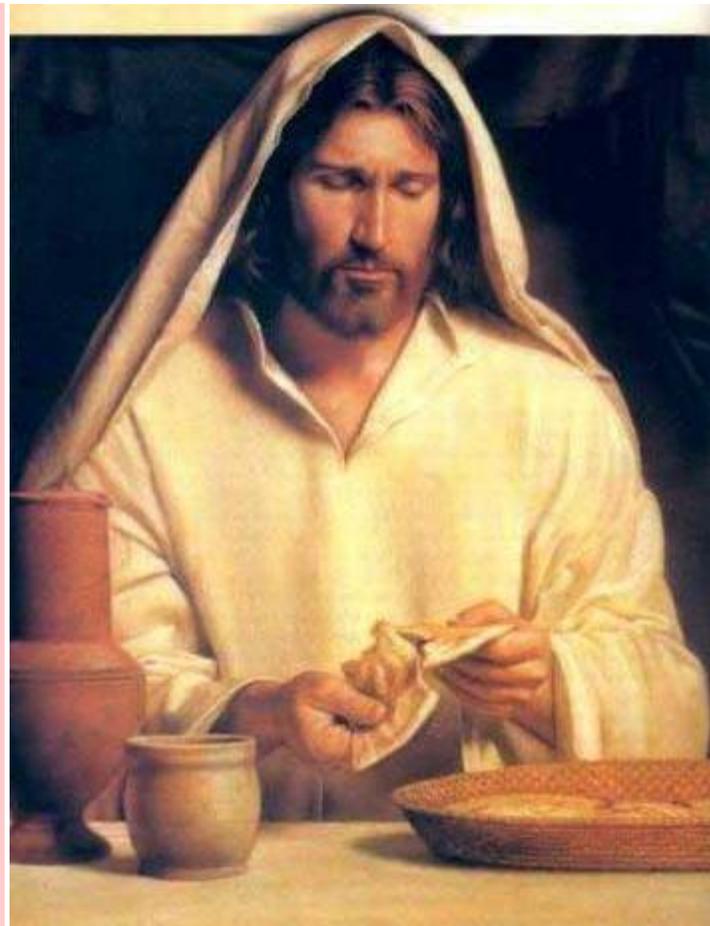
**“ MY FLESH IS TRUE FOOD AND MY
BLOOD IS TRUE DRINK.”
(John 6:55)**

The teachings and adorations of the Catholic Church are based on the foundation that we live in union with Christ.

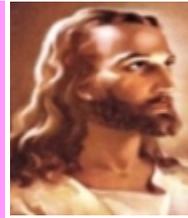
“Abide in me As I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.” (John 15:4)

The sacraments are symbolic and are the channels to lead our lives one with Christ. ‘Eucharistia’ which is the Blessed Sacrament or the Holy Mass, is the foremost of all the sacraments. We receive The Body and Blood of Jesus Christ as our food and drink. The faithful who participates gets the chance to live as One flesh and One Life in union with Jesus.

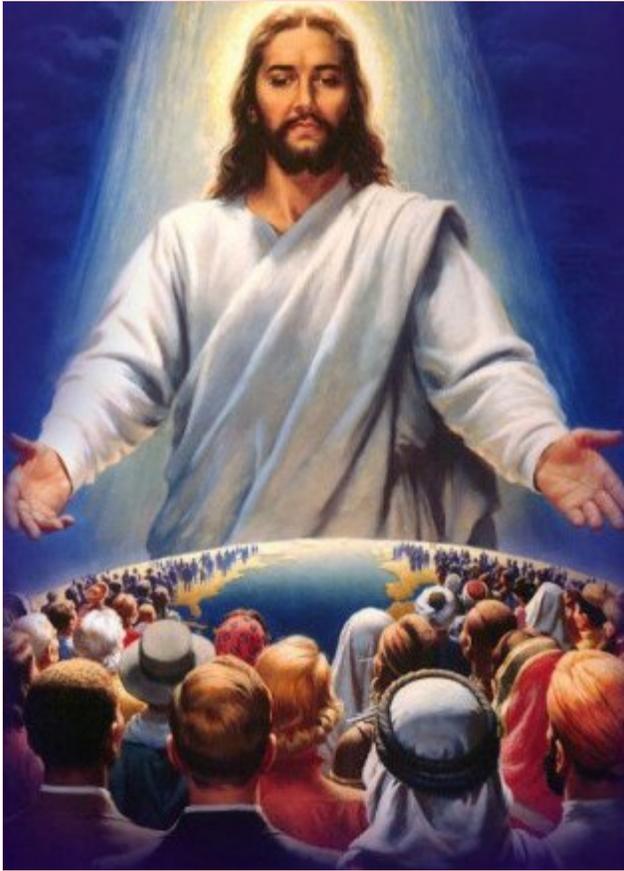
“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.”(John 6:56)



**“ MY FLESH IS TRUE FOOD AND MY BLOOD IS TRUE DRINK.”
(John 6:55)**



**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**



For the One who searches for Jesus trusting in Him, it is not sufficient to keep the worldly desires alone in front of his eyes. “Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.”

(John 6:27)

The greatest gift, the precious and the life- giving food that Jesus gives us is His Sacred Body and His Sacred Blood.

“ Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life.”(John 6:53-54).

From the beginning, the faithful in Christ, participated in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and lived a united and disciplined life as they considered it their duty to lead lives as witnesses to Christ.

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup.” (I Corinthians 11:27, 28)

This Holy meal reminds us that Jesus Himself is “ The lamb of God.”(John 1:29).

He also washes away our sins. Hence the Eucharist which is the Holy Meal, the Holy sacrifice of the Mass, is the sign of a witnessing life, walking toward holiness, by reminding ourselves of the sufferings and the death of Jesus . We are enveloped in faith-filled hope that He will come again!

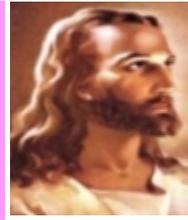
“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” (I Corinthians 11:26)

This is exactly what we proclaim as “ the Mystery of our faith” during every celebration of the mass. ‘Where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established.’(Hebrews 9:16) The Body and Blood left by Jesus among us is ‘ a will,’ ‘ written by Jesus in His own Blood, this is His will bequeathed for us.’“ This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.” (Luke 22: 20)

In accordance with the words of St.Luke , St. Paul bears witness to this indelible truth.

“ This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”(I Corinthians 11: 25)

**“ MY FLESH IS TRUE FOOD AND MY BLOOD IS TRUE DRINK.”
(John 6:55)**

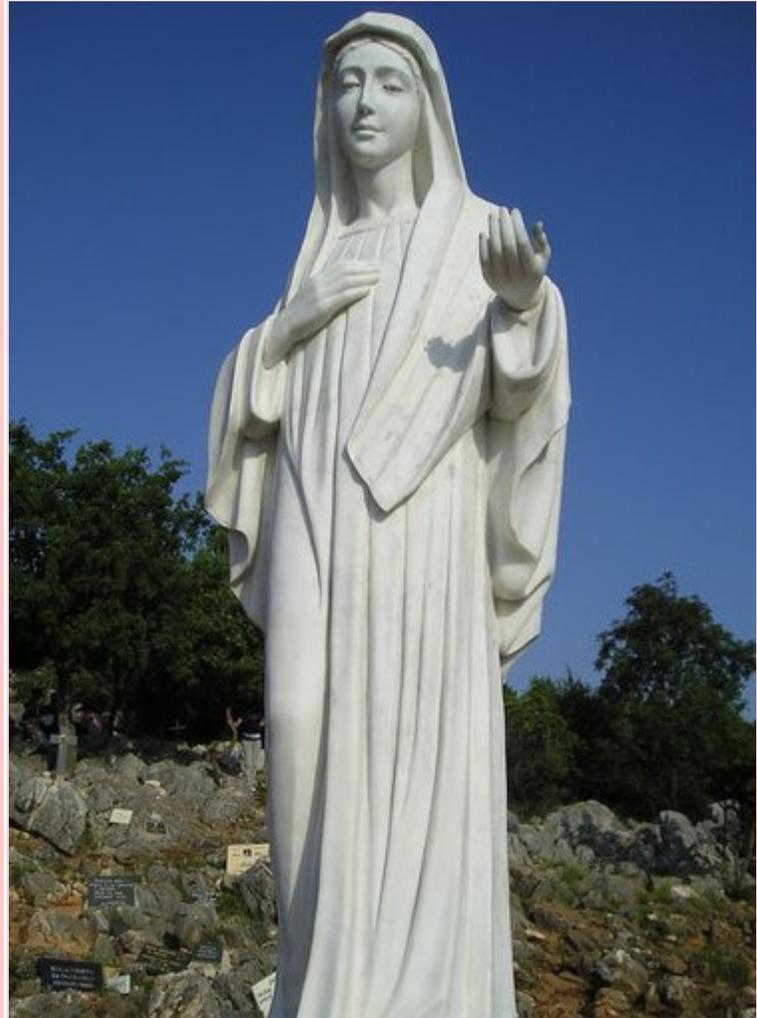


**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**

The Catholic Church has faced many oppositions and challenges for the past two thousand years. Several preachers and worldly philosophers have opposed our faith-filled beliefs. They have also caused divisions in the Church. Especially Martin Luther opposed the Holy Eucharist Holy Mass, its sacramental beliefs, its richness, thus causing a division in the Church.

It was in keeping this in mind that the General Council of Trent held in the sixteenth century wrote for the people, the basic catholic tenets about the Holy Eucharist Holy Mass. In the 22nd sitting of the council, there were four doctrines written on September 17th 1562.

1. The Holy Mass is a true and whole some sacrifice made to God.
2. Jesus Christ appointed His apostles as priests in accordance with His Word, “ Do this in memory of me.” (Luke 22: 19, I Corinthians 11:24). Thus He ordered His apostles and the priest who come in this path to offer up His Body and His Blood in sacrifice.



3. The Sacrifice of the Holy Eucharist is not just a sacrifice of praise or of thanksgiving. This is not merely a memorial sign in remembrance of the sacrifice that had taken place on Mt. Calvary. This is an atoning sacrifice offered for those who are living and for the dead. This is offered for the forgiveness of our sins, that we may be healed from our sins, and for all the graces that we need.

4. The sacrifice of the holy mass that we offer today is not to magnify or to minimize the sacrifice made by Jesus on Mt. Calvary. This is the continuous flow of the benefits and graces of the sacrifice on the Holy Cross. In keeping this in mind, it is the sacrifice of Calvary that takes place on all the altars of the world. We thus receive the benefits of the sacrifice of Mt. Calvary. This is why a priest should carry out his work, his mission with great preparation. The faithful should also participate with profound faith and trust.

Fr.V.Ignatius S.J

ALCOHOLIC DRINK...



Jesus The Lord

Our Saviour



“It bites like a serpent!” (Proverbs 23:32)

“ My son was wearing a garland for two months for Lord Muruga! He was fine! Now he has removed the garland, and there’s pandemonium in the house again. He does not go to work. His wife and two children undergo untellable suffering! I look after the family with the meager wage that I earn. His father too died due to heavy drinking. Now he too is following his example. I have no peace of mind!” A mother just came a few hours ago crying to me thus.

This is the sadness of one family! But how many innumerable families suffer in like manner! Every day the newspapers carry stories and incidents of those addicted to alcohol. Friends murdering each other in an inebriated state, husbands torturing the wives, strangulating one’s own baby, furthermore dying by the road side, dashing against the vehicles, driving in a drunken state are being published often. As I was writing this article, another person came knocking at my door. She had “ mineral water “ in her hand.

She came sobbing saying, “ Father please bless this water and add some of Mother Mary’s petals in it! My son is unwell.” So saying she dabbed at her face at the tip of her sari. I enquired, “ What happened to your son , lady?”, for which the lady started crying even more. She said, “ AIDS, father.”

The son is a bachelor. Besides drinking, he is also addicted to injecting drugs.(It is not worth mentioning the other vices here.)Some of his close friends are already not alive. Drunkenness, injecting drugs and other immoral ways of living, not only destroy the families, but also leads one to one’s doom at the earliest.

“Hear, my child, and be wise, and direct your mind in the way. Do not be among winebibbers, or among gluttonous eaters of meat; for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe them with rags.” (Proverbs 23:19-21)“Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder.” (Proverbs 23: 31-32)

If we were to write articles or speak on stage to ban the production of alcoholic drinks or to close down all shops selling alcoholic drinks, there is no guarantee that they would close down all the shops or that they would stop its production. But each of us is called to realise the after effects of this and lead lives as wise people! I wish you joy !