

## Introduction :

Our Lady's Home is a place where we strive to share love, peace and harmony in order to bring out the best in every boy who is admitted here. Our Lady's Home is a voluntary organization concerned with the poor and needy boys who have lost both parents, one parent or boys who find it difficult to live in a healthy environment due to no fault of their own. Our aim is to make them feel wanted, loved and give them opportunities they have missed out in life. For the last 48 years Our Lady's Home has helped many a boys to be useful citizens of our country. Our Lady's Home is a charitable institution run by the Archdiocese of Mumbai and is managed by the governing body appointed by the Archbishop of Mumbai. The Governing Body members play an important role in running the institution and monitoring its activities. Bishop Percival Fernandez is the Chairman of the Governing Body.



We are grateful to Oswald Cardinal Gracias, Bishop Percy Fernandez and members of The Governing Body for granting permission to build another floor for the use of boys attending college.

We are now working for permission from the BMC.

Fr. Rui Comelo  
16th. September 2008



## Admission:

This has always been difficult as we have few vacancies and many applicants. The maximum that can be accommodated is around 168. Earlier we did have around 200 boys but there was not enough space to breathe and this was affecting the growth and movements of the boys. Therefore the number had to be reduced. Only in March we come to know how many vacancies we have in each class. Our Lady's school is up to STD VII. The idea of having the school up to STD VII is because up to the age of around 12 the child is normally helpless and vulnerable.

## At a glance:

**Food:** Good wholesome food is provided. Though food is in plenty no food is to be wasted including a grain of rice fallen on the table. This year we employed a new cook who can cook vegetarian and Indian sweets. Vegetarian and Non Vegetarian meals are served

**Sports:** Our boys are encouraged to play out door games like football, hockey, basketball, volley ball, indoor games like carom and table tennis besides quizzes and party games on occasions.

**Study:** Each boy gets ample time to study in the day. We have volunteers and paid tutors who come regularly to train our boys.

**Entertainment:** We have an audiovisual room where every Sunday a movie is shown on a big screen. On weekdays the T.V. is on during evening recreation. Those who like music can enjoy music in the study hall and those who wish to take a walk can do so in the compound.

**Prayers:** Our boys pray four times a day for our benefactors. Every day begins with the Eucharistic celebration and a day ends with night prayers and a small talk given by one of the Fathers. Boys are encouraged to make personal visits to the Blessed Sacrament. These are usually done during unit test and exams.

**Health:** Our boys are treated free for minor illnesses by Dr. Jain. In case of serious injury the boys are sent to KEM Hospital. Four times a year we have a pest control team visiting us. General cleaning of the full house is done twice a week.



**OUR LADY'S HOME**  
**DADAR**

**48th. (B)**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2007-2008**

\*  
**26th. June 2007:** Bishop Bosco sponsored Lunch and gave each boy a chocolate. He came with his team and also sang for our boys. Every year Bishop Bosco spends an evening with our boys meeting them class-wise.

**18th. July 2007:** Wiz craft took our boys for the premier of Partner at Cimemax. Our boys got the chance to meet Salman Khan, Katrina Kaif. Each boy was given a gift and snacks. Courtesy Mr. Simon Caszo.

**19th. July 2007:** Bro Avin and Bro. Joshua from St. Pius College, Goregaon came and conducted water games. They also conducted quizzes and party games for the boys during the year

**26th. July 2007:** Mr. A. K. Joshi inaugurated our new refectory donated by employees of Voltas They also donated a 32 inch LCD T.V.

**10th. August 2007:** A group of eight boys and girls from Rotract Club, Churchgate organized a finger painting contest (I to IV), Craft (V- VII) and shading VIII onwards

Raksha bandan: Girls from Kamla Mehta school for blind, Little Flower nursery and Rotract members of Churchgate and L.S. Raheja College tied rakhis to our boys.

**8th. September 2007:** Mother Mary's birthday was celebrated with Mass in the morning, out door games, a grand meal in the afternoon and in the evening with the rosary at the grotto. After singing Happy Birthday to Our Lady there were plenty of snacks followed by tele games organized by Bros Joel & Anto. There were no studies that day.

**22nd. September 2007:** Andrea Lobo with her group from TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES conducted games for our boys. They come on a regular basis and help our boys to learn outside the classrooms.

**27th. October & 3rd. November 2007:** Ms. Biji Tushar, Divia Philips & Priya Thomas conducted two sessions for Stds. V, VI & VII. The topic was "WHO AM I" The boys benefited a lot from these sessions.

**8th. December 2007:** The Annual Day was celebrated on this day with much aplomb. One could sense the enthusiasm and excitement of our boys to present their talents before the audience. The theme for this year's annual day was "Mary pops-in to celebrate". It was colourful and enthralling with songs, skit and dances. It is also one day when our boys wait for the awards. Their hard work and initiative were acknowledged with awards and scholarships based on academics and over all behaviour. The Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Simon Caszo. Our chief guest has the orphanage close to his heart. Our boys are lucky to meet actors and other personalities through his good offices.

The man behind the entire show was Fr. Antonio who was appreciated for the hard work that he put in to make the evening a memorable one. There were more than thousand well wishers who attended the evening function and appreciated the efforts put in by the Principal, Staff and the Students. The guests were also given a feel of what happens in the orphanage through the audio visual presentation.

**12th. December 2007:** Our boys of Std. I to IV was invited for the Christmas Party at Wellington Catholic Gymkhana, Santa Cruz. Our boys had loads of fun with sumptuous snacks, magic show, ventriloquist and the star attraction for the evening, Govinda. Oswald Cardinal Gracias was also present. Our boys were given Christmas gifts too comprising of writing pads, pens, pencils, chocolates, etc

**15th. December 2007:** S.N. Gupta and a group of Voltas employees took 50 boys of Std. VI to IX first to the Museum, where they got to learn about the stone age man, struggle for independence and great leaders of our country. After this, our boys were taken to the Nehru Planetarium. Here, they got to learn about the stars and planets. They were also shown the documentary film on the creation of the Stars, Universe and Planets.

**16th. December 2007:** A Group called Single for Christ organized a Christmas Party for all our boys. The party was loaded with games, prizes, action songs, filmy songs and dances.

**17th. December 2007:** Students of Sophia college spent their time with our boys playing games. They distributed snacks too.

**19th. December 2007:** Mr. A. P. Mull the Executive Director of TCE Consulting Engineering Ltd., Lower Parel, along with Ms. Priscilla Fernandes and Ms. Nawaz Kalianwalla, the organizers, and the group of staff members organized a Christmas Party for our boys. They had games for our boys and distributed snacks, cold drinks, gifts and prizes. They also donated rice, sugar, dal and box of clothes, toys and books.

**21st. December 2007:** 22 of our boys received First Holy Communion. Fr. Gerald Fernandes celebrated the Eucharist. The Christmas Party was well organized by Fr. Rui and Fr. Antonio with a Grand march, followed by Housie. Boys were given lots of gifts. Each child got a Christmas gift worth Rs. 500. Our boys were served with pani puri and a sumptuous meal. They also tapped their feet to some of the hit Bollywood songs of the year 2007.

The employees of Bharat Gas, sponsored gifts for the party. We were happy to have Mrs. Neera Singh, the Deputy Manager-Sales of Bharat Gas with us. Each of our boys were given gifts comprising of a bag, Christmas cap, biscuits and chocolates.

**16th. & 17th. January 2008 :** Students of Frankfinn Institute spent sometime with 30 of our boys playing games and chatting. They served snacks and brought gifts too.

**9th. February 2008:** 60 employees of Voltas, headed by MR. Gupta, took 100 of our boys to "Chitra" to watch a movie "Taare Zameen Par", based on children suffering from Dyslexia. They also served our boys with snacks (Samosa, perk) during the interval.

**17th. February 2008:** 7 confirmation students and three of their animators from Sacred Heart Church visited our home in the evening. They spent a lot of time interacting with our boys, having a look at our institute and also getting their queries answered in order to understand the daily functioning of the institute, the lives of our boys here and after, etc.

**1st. June 2008: GOOD BYE:** After six years of hard and dedicated service Fr. Antonio left to take charge as Principal of Our Lady of Remedy High School, Kandivli. His absence is felt here at Our Lady's Home. Morning he was in school because he was a principal. Afternoon and evening in the kitchen and bakery not because he was a cook but because he loved the boys and wanted to give them the best. God bless you Fr. Antonio Fernandes. We wish you all the best in your new assignment.

\*Only few of the events are mentioned here

S

T

N

E

V

E



Our Boys from Std. I - II



Our Boys from Std. III



Our Boys from Std. IV



Our Boys from Std. V



Our Boys from Std. VI



Our Boys from Std. VII



Our Boys from Std. VIII



Our Boys from Std. IX



Our Boys from Std. X



Our Football Team



Fathers & Brothers



Home Staff



School Staff



Annual Day - Chief Guest



Our Budding Singers



Vestation Ceremony



Fr. Denis with past pupils & children



Inauguration of Water Cooler

## Finance :

- We thank thee for without your help we would not be able to make Our Lady's Home a little more comfortable:
- The Archdiocese of Mumbai
- The Social Welfare Department, Maharashtra for their Maintenance grant.
- "Children Above All" for their Child Sponsorship Scheme.
- Mr. A. K. Joshi & Voltas Employees
- Rev. Frs.: Herman Almeida, Gerry Fernandes, Andrew Mukadom, Ivo D'Souza, Salvador Rodrigues
- Mr. Simon Caszo, Mr. A. Fernandes, Mr. Billimoria, Ms. Leena D'souza, Mr. Muralidharan
- Ken and Sharon Macdiarmid from England
- Achilleus & Shalini Carrasco from Canada
- Mr. Mel Wild of Metalloyds for sponsoring football and Hockey teams
- The SCC groups of various parishes
- Schools: Champion, Convent of Jesus & Mary, fort, St. Xavier's boys Academy, Ryan International School
- The Individuals who sponsor children.
- Those who have set up scholarships.
- Various Trusts, Religious and otherwise for their regular donations.
- The Individual donors, too numerous to mention by name.
- To the few past boys of our Home whose love offering encourages us.
- A sincere thank you to the Trust of Our Lady's Homes for Boys run by the Archdiocese of Mumbai and to the numerous donors big and small for their continuous support and encouragement.

## Future Plans:-

Last year not much work was done. The toilets are in a bad condition and there is water seepage. This major work can only be done in the month of April-May 2009 though advised to do it immediately. We are looking at the possibility if part-by-part work could be done. There is still much to be done: the desks to be repaired, the study hall and the dormitories to be painted. What looked like touch up work for the terrace, on close inspection revealed some major repairs

## 2010 the Home completes 50 years

The Bishop's team has approved the building of another floor for the use of college students. We are awaiting the approval of the Governing Body

## Conclusion: -

Our Lady's Home now completed its 48th year and we are a little wiser now than before; a child will always remain an unknown quantum and to enter into his world of ideas and dream is a challenge to all of us dealing with the boys. We do our best to understand the boy and help him grow and build a future where there will be joy and happiness. Under the care of Mother Mary we are assured of help, protection and concern for our daily needs.

May the good Lord bless all those who go out of their way to reach us especially, the Governing Body members and all the priests of the Archdiocese  
God Bless you all.

Sd/-

**(Fr. Rui Comelo)**  
**DIRECTOR.**

Date : 31st July 2008

### YOU CAN HELP BY WRITING TO US:

- We pray for our benefactors four times a day including mass. If you have any special intention we will be happy to pray for you.
- If you could send us your phone numbers and e-mail address.
- If you have not received from us an official receipt for the donation, however small, sent by cash or cheque within a month.
- Your suggestions, ideas and advice is always welcome.

Our Lady's Home is an Orphanage for boys. We have around 160 boys from different castes and creeds who are looked after free of cost through the kind generosity of our benefactors

### You can bring a smile on the Boys faces by sponsoring the following:

Sponsoring a meal on occasions like Birthday, Anniversaries or any other occasions

- Breakfast : 1800/- ■ Tea : 800/- ■ Meal (Veg) : 5500/- ■ Meal (Non - Veg.) : 7200/-

*Cheques to be drawn in favour of 'Our Lady's Home'*

*Address : The Director, Our Lady's Home, 205 Dr. Ambedkar Road, Dadar (E), Mumbai - 400 014.*

*Donations from outside India to be sent to Our Lady's Home A/c No. 1002042248*

*Central Bank of India, Naigaum Branch, Mumbai - 400 014 (India)*

*All donations are tax exempted under section 80G of the Income Tax Act*



### Our Lady's Home,

(An Orphanage for Boys)

205, Dr. Ambedkar Rd, Dadar, Mumbai 400014.

Email: ourladyshome@yahoo.com • Web page: www.ourladyshome.com

**This year's Annual Day  
on Saturday 6th  
December 2008 at 6.30 pm**