

AVONA NEWSLETTER



APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF NORTHERN ARABIA



Holy Family Co- Cathedral, Kuwait



Our Lady of Arabia, Ahmadi- Kuwait



Our Lady of Arabia Cathedral, Bahrain



Sacred Heart Church, Bahrain



Our Lady of Rosary Church, Qatar

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WELCOME TO OUR

Monthly Newsletter

1ST EDITION

(JANUARY 2025 - MAY 2025)



Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia

The Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia is an apostolic vicariate of the Catholic Church with territorial jurisdiction for Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia. The vicar apostolic of the vicariate is Bishop Aldo Berardi O.S.S.T. It was first established in 1953 (as the Apostolic Prefecture of Kuwait) and took its current name in 2011.

AVONA NEWSLETTER

****WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!****

WE'RE EXCITED TO WELCOME YOU TO THE INAUGURAL EDITION OF OUR NEWSLETTER. THIS PUBLICATION IS DESIGNED TO KEEP YOU INFORMED, INSPIRED, AND INVOLVED.

About the Newsletter

Welcome to the official email newsletter of the Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia (AVONA) – your monthly source of information, and community engagement.

As part of our ongoing mission to strengthen the faith and unity of our diverse Catholic community across Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar, this newsletter serves as a vital communication bridge between the Vicariate, its clergy, and the faithful.

Our Objectives:

This newsletter aims to:

- * Communicate key updates and milestones of the different region in our Vicariate.
- * Strengthen our community through consistent communication.

What to Expect:

- * Highlights of recent and upcoming initiatives.
- * Subscribers to our newsletter can look forward to Monthly Updates.

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A SEASON OF GRACE AND GROWTH ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA, KUWAIT

“Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love” – St. Thérèse of Lisieux. These simple yet profound words by the patroness of the Parish of St. Thérèse of Child Jesus Church, Salmiya, Kuwait, truly inspires the faithful, as the past few months have been filled with spiritual growth, significant liturgical celebrations, and active community participation that make this parish a vibrant place of faith, worship and loving service. The Parish experienced numerous meaningful events organized by various ministries under the spiritual guidance of the Parish Priest -

Rev. Fr. Savio D’Souza and the dedicated Salesian clergy

AVONA NEWSLETTER

ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA,
KUWAIT

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Arabia Church, Ahmadi

During the holy season of Lent, and following the call of Pope Francis to be 'Pilgrims of Hope,' a group of about 400 parishioners embarked on a Lenten pilgrimage from Salmiya to Our Lady of Arabia Church in Ahmadi, Kuwait. This journey was undertaken on 31st March 2025 with the prayerful intention of obtaining the plenary indulgence associated with the Jubilee Year. After having walked through the Holy Doors of the Church, the faithful participated in the celebration of the Eucharist, a session of praise and worship as well as a meaningful reflection on the Stations of the Cross.



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ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA,
KUWAIT

Good Friday Meditation - A reflection on Christ's Passion

This contemplative journey through the 14 Stations was enriched by solemn hymns and heartfelt testimonies from parishioners, deeply touching all present. Rev. Fr. Savio D'Souza, SDB, Parish Priest, expressed profound gratitude to the participants and the dedicated LMC team, as each family received a blessed cross after the final hymn - an enduring symbol of Christ's unwavering love and sacrifice.



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ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA,
KUWAIT

Outreach Program for the home-bound, sick and aged

On April 22nd, 2025, the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) organized “Living with the Joy and Hope of Easter”, an annual outreach program for the home-bound, sick, and elderly of the parish. Special arrangements, including transportation, ensured their participation in a Holy Mass, concelebrated by Fr. Savio D’Souza, SDB, Fr. Joe Fernandes, SDB, and Fr. Banzelao Teixeira, SDB. Following the homily, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick was administered, bringing comfort and spiritual renewal to the attendees.



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ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA,
KUWAIT

From Mumbai to Salmiya - A Visit by Rev. Fr. Savio Silveira, SDB, Mumbai Provincial

The STCJ Parish was honoured to welcome Fr. Savio Silveira, SDB, Provincial of the Salesian priests from the Mumbai Province. During his visit, he celebrated Mass, met with the Parish Pastoral Council, and graciously administered the Sacrament of Reconciliation for children preparing for their First Holy Communion. In his meeting with the ministry leaders, he offered words of encouragement, emphasizing the need for 'Re-Evangelization' to those who aren't regular, and especially those who have strayed away from the Church.



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ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA,
KUWAIT

Celebrating the Sacraments - First Holy Communion & Confirmation



As is every year, St. Thérèse Church was blessed to have conferred the Sacrament of First Holy Communion to 84 children on 9th May 2025, and the Sacrament of Confirmation to 103 youngsters on 16th May 2025. These sacred milestones were made possible through the dedicated efforts of the Catechism Ministry.



The First Holy Communion celebration resounded the theme 'Come into my heart, Lord Jesus' as it was a truly joyous occasion for the children having received the Body of Christ for the very first time – surrounded by family, their catechists and the parish community.



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ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA, KUWAIT

The Sacrament of Confirmation was a significant milestone for the 103 youngsters who were confirmed in the faith by His Excellency Bishop Aldo Berardi, O.S.S.T. The theme was aptly centered on 'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful' as these youngsters were blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, in the presence of their family, God parents and their catechists.

The two Sacrament days were moments of profound grace for the entire parish, especially for the Catechism Ministry, whose commitment ensured that each child was well prepared to come closer to the Lord. Both Sacramental Celebrations were livestreamed on the STCJ parish YouTube channel, allowing every parishioner to be a part of these blessed occasions



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ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH, SALMIYA,
KUWAIT

Women's Box Cricket Tournament - A fun and empowering event

The Salmiya Parish Youth successfully hosted the Women's Box Cricket Tournament on 25th April 2025, uniting eight spirited teams, their families, and supporters for a day full of sportsmanship and fellowship. Graced by clergy members, the event reflected the parish's strong sense of community. Two months of dedicated planning by SPY volunteers culminated in a memorable tournament, concluding with a prayer of thanksgiving and appreciation. Beyond athletic skill, the event celebrated unity, engagement, and the active role of women in parish life.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

HOLY FAMILY CO-CATHEDRAL, KUWAIT

Solemn Mass Celebrated in Honor of Pope Leo XIV

A solemn Mass was recently celebrated in honor of Pope Leo XIV, presided over by Bishop Aldo Berardi and Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent. The sacred liturgy drew a diverse gathering of the faithful, including priests, religious brothers and sisters, diplomatic representatives, and leaders from various religious communities. The event was a profound expression of unity, reverence, and prayerful remembrance for the Holy Father.



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HOLY FAMILY CO-CATHEDRAL, KUWAIT

A Multicultural Celebration of Faith: Bishop Aldo Berardi Administers the Sacrament of Confirmation



In a joyful and spiritually uplifting ceremony, Bishop Aldo Berardi administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to candidates from the English, Korean, Filipino, and African catechism communities. This multicultural event marked a profound milestone in the faith journey of the confirmands, as they publicly affirmed their commitment to Christ and received the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The diverse gathering reflected the unity and richness of the Church's global family, offering a beautiful testament to shared faith across cultures.



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HOLY FAMILY CO-CATHEDRAL, KUWAIT

Solemn Funeral Mass Held for the Late Pope Francis

A solemn Funeral Mass for the late Pope Francis was held with deep reverence, presided over by Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent. The ceremony drew together members of the clergy, the diplomatic corps, and a large, diverse assembly of faithful parishioners and well-wishers from across the country, all gathered to pay their final respects.

Following the Mass, a condolence gathering was held at Holy Family Hall, where mourners were invited to sign a special book of condolences in memory of the late pontiff. The gathering provided a moment of shared reflection and prayer, honoring the legacy of Pope Francis and his enduring impact on the global Church.



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HOLY FAMILY CO-CATHEDRAL, KUWAIT

Easter Vigil Celebrated by Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent

The Catholic community joyfully celebrated the Easter Vigil, presided over by Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent.

This sacred liturgy included the blessing of the new fire, the Easter Proclamation, and the celebration of the sacraments of initiation—powerful symbols of Christ's resurrection and the renewal of faith within the Church.

It was a night of deep reverence and joyful hope, uniting us in the light of the Risen Lord.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

OUR LADY OF ARABIA CATHEDRAL AND SACRED HEART CHURCH, BAHRAIN

AVONA Women's Program “Theology of the Body: A Transformative Journey of Hope, Healing & Human Dignity”

The AVONA's Women's Program hosted a transformative Theology of the Body (TOB) mission led by international speaker Adeline Khouri, under the patronage of Bishop Aldo Berardi and supported by AVONA's Women's Program team. Held at parishes in Manama and Awali, the mission explored human dignity, love, and the sacredness of the body based on Saint John Paul II's teachings. Key highlights included: Training of Trainers Program to empower local leaders for sustainable TOB formation. Arabic-language sessions to reach the wider community.



A powerful Women's Conference centered on femininity and divine love. Clergy collaboration to integrate TOB into marriage prep and school programs. Follow-up online courses to continue formation. The mission was praised for addressing sensitive topics with compassion and clarity, deeply impacting participants and strengthening the Catholic community's understanding of God's plan for love and life.



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OUR LADY OF ARABIA CATHEDRAL, BAHRAIN

Chrism Mass : The Blessing of the Oils and the Consecration of the Chrism

The Chrism Mass was celebrated on April 15, 2025, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Arabia in Awali, Bahrain, led by Bishop Aldo Berardi. This important Holy Week event brought together clergy from across the Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia (AVONA) and the local Catholic community. During the Mass, sacred oils were blessed for use in key sacraments, and priests renewed their vows, reaffirming their commitment to service. In his homily, Bishop Aldo emphasized holiness, unity, mission, and the importance of witnessing Christ in the Gulf region. The event drew a large, diverse congregation, highlighting the strong and multicultural Catholic presence in Bahrain and reinforcing the community's shared faith and dedication.



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OUR LADY OF ARABIA CATHEDRAL, BAHRAIN

PONTIFICAL HOLY CHILDHOOD SOCIETY INAUGURATION

On March 28, 2025, the Cathedral of Our Lady of Arabia in Bahrain officially inaugurated the Pontifical Holy Childhood Society, marking a significant milestone for the local Catholic community. Celebrated by Bishop Aldo Berardi, the Mass emphasized prayer, charity, and global solidarity for children in need. Bishop Aldo urged the faithful to both pray for children and teach them to pray for others, highlighting the Society's mission to support underprivileged children worldwide through education, healthcare, and compassion.



A solemn oath ceremony saw children commit to the Society's mission, and awards were presented to winners of the Missio-AVONA essay and drawing competition. Fr. Marcus Fernandes, who led the initiative, thanked parents and the community for their support. Bahrain is among the first in the Vicariate to launch this mission, which promotes a collective effort to ensure every child can grow in love, safety, and dignity.

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OUR LADY OF ARABIA CATHEDRAL AND SACRED HEART CHURCH, BAHRAIN

HIS BEATITUDE CARDINAL PIERBATTISTA PIZZABALLA VISIT TO BAHRAIN

Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, visited Bahrain from 20-23 March 2025 in a significant gesture of support for the local Catholic community and interfaith dialogue. He was warmly welcomed by Bishop Aldo Berardi and local clergy. During his visit, he celebrated Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Arabia and Sacred Heart Church in Manama, emphasizing peace, coexistence, and cultural diversity. He toured the museum honoring Pope Francis's 2022 visit and explored Bahrain's history at the National Museum. He also participated in a major interfaith conference at the King Hamad Global Center for Peaceful Coexistence. His visit highlighted the vitality of the Catholic community in the Gulf and Bahrain's role as a hub for religious tolerance and dialogue.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH, QATAR

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH – A BEACON OF FAITH IN THE HEART OF QATAR

Our Lady of the Rosary Church (OLRC) in Doha, Qatar, stands as a historic and spiritual landmark—a living testimony to the vitality of the Catholic faith in the Arabian Peninsula. As the first purpose-built Catholic church in the country, it embodies the peaceful coexistence of Christian life in a land of deep cultural and religious heritage.

This remarkable presence was made possible in 2005 when His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir of Qatar, generously granted the Catholic Church a plot of land in Messimer. With the cooperation and support of the Qatari government, this gift culminated in the consecration of the church on March 15, 2008, marking a historic milestone for the Catholic community in Qatar.

Today, OLRC continues to thrive with the enduring support of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Catholic faithful remain deeply grateful and express their appreciation through prayer for the nation and its leaders.

Serving a vibrant and diverse congregation of over 200,000 faithful's, OLRC is home to more than 60 nationalities. Holy Mass is celebrated in multiple languages, including English, Tagalog, Malayalam, Tamil, Konkani, Arabic, Hindi, Sinhala, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, and French, enabling people from around the world to worship in their native languages. Each language community enriches the Church's liturgical and cultural life with distinct devotions, music, feast day traditions, attire, and cuisine, especially during Marian processions and major liturgical celebrations.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH, QATAR

The church's sandstone-colored façade, peaceful courtyards, and reverent interior offer not only a sacred space for worship but also a powerful symbol of unity and religious harmony. The main church, with its soaring high ceiling painted in a light blue-sky effect adorned with angelic motifs, creates an atmosphere of transcendence and awe. This spacious sanctuary accommodates up to 3,000 worshippers. It is filled during major liturgical celebrations, such as Holy Week, Christmas, and Marian feasts, becoming a vibrant gathering of faithful from every corner of the globe. Within the compound, three additional chapels foster deeper spiritual encounters: The Blessed Sacrament Adoration Chapel offers a serene environment for silent prayer and eucharistic devotion, inviting the faithful into contemplative communion with the Lord.

The Sacrament Chapel, adorned with stained glass and wall paintings depicting the seven sacraments, provides a visually rich catechetical space that draws hearts and minds into the mystery of divine grace. The Alverna Chapel, named after Mount Alverna—where St. Francis of Assisi received the stigmata—hosts weekday language Masses, children's catechism Masses, and praise and worship gatherings. This intimate setting offers a peaceful space for reflection, renewal, and spiritual formation.

Beyond its liturgical role, OLRC is a hub for formation, service, and community life. The parish offers catechetical programs for children, youth, and adults; facilitates sacramental preparation and marriage enrichment; and promotes spiritual growth through retreats, prayer groups, and lay movements such as the Legion of Mary and Couples for Christ.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH, QATAR

As part of the Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia—which includes Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia—OLRC is shepherded by His Excellency Bishop Aldo Berardi, O.S.S.T. His pastoral leadership inspires the faithful to live with hope and a missionary spirit amid the region's unique challenges and opportunities. Reflecting on the grace and significance of this sacred place, Bishop Berardi shares: "We give thanks to God for the gift of Our Lady of the Rosary Church, where grace is encountered, cultures are embraced, and Christ is glorified."

More than a building, Our Lady of the Rosary Church is a spiritual home—a place where diversity is celebrated, traditions are honored, and the light of Christ shines brightly in a land marked by dialogue and peace.

Fraternally

Fr. Paulraj, OFM, Cap

Parish Priest

Our Lady of The Rosary Church, Doha, Qatar.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

LENTEN ANNOUNCEMENT: A CALL TO HUMILITY AND LOVE

The Neocatechumenal Way, a post-baptismal Christian formation inspired by the early Church, continues to flourish at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Qatar. Rooted in its catechetical synthesis often described as the "tripod"—Word of God, Liturgy, and Community—the movement seeks to lead individuals to a deeper, mature faith and fraternal communion. The parish is currently home to four vibrant Neocatechumenal communities comprising over 150 brothers and sisters walking together in faith.



Lent 2025 began with a significant visit from Fr. Rino Rossi, Director of the Domus Galilaeae in the Holy Land and the regional leader of the Neocatechumenal Way in the Middle East. Accompanied by Mr. Franco, he arrived on March 11, 2025, to deliver the Lenten announcement to the communities gathered at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish. Fr. Rino delivered a message filled with hope and spiritual challenge, calling the faithful to prepare for the coming of the Lord through humility, forgiveness, and love—a love modelled after that of Christ. This announcement marked the beginning of the Lenten journey, undertaken as one community in unity of purpose and spirit.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

EASTER VIGIL: CELEBRATING THE PASSOVER OF THE LORD

The culmination of this spiritual journey was marked by the Easter Vigil, the most significant celebration in the liturgical year. The communities received the Easter announcement on April 10, 2025, reinforcing the call to embrace one another in forgiveness and love, following the example of Christ. On the night of April 19, 2025, the four communities of the Neocatechumenal Way came together for the solemn Easter Vigil, presided over by Fr. Carlos Ceballos, their presbyter.



The celebration commenced at 11 PM with the blessing of the new fire, symbolizing the victory of light over darkness, and proceeded with the proclamations of salvation history, the baptismal Liturgy, and the Eucharistic celebration. The Vigil concluded with a joyful agape, a communal meal symbolizing unity and fraternal love, as brothers and sisters shared food and fellowship, giving thanks for the resurrection of the Lord and the gift of community.

This sacred season has renewed the faith of many and deepened the bonds within the Neocatechumenal communities. The Way continues to be a powerful instrument of evangelization and spiritual growth at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, bearing fruit in the hearts of the faithful.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

HOLY WEEK 2025 – EASTER VIGIL CELEBRATION

The San Pedro Calungsod Filipino Catholic Community (SPCFCC) held its Easter Vigil celebrations on April 19, 2025, as the climax of its Triduum observance, with an approximate 4000 in attendance at the Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish grounds in Qatar. The celebrations involved a special Mass on Holy Saturday, featuring various rites and readings that commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.



The liturgy included readings from the Old Testament, highlighting God's salvation history, and readings from the New Testament, focusing on the Gospels. The Paschal candle, a symbol of Christ's resurrection, is lit and processed, signifying the light that has overcome darkness. Two beautiful boy and girl babies were baptized on this occasion. And beautiful music coming from the grand choir composed of different Filipino choirs in the parish, uniquely positioned at the back of the Filipino Spiritual Director and Celebrant, Rev. Fr. Rodel Aclan.

To end the celebration, a symbolic and traditional Filipino devotion called “Salubong” or “Encounter” reenacted the meeting of the risen Christ with His Mother through a procession. An angel removed the veil of the weeping Mother Mary, which meant the end of sorrow as her Son, who had overcome death.



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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

SANTACRUZAN 2025

“Santacruzán” is the culmination of “Flores de Mayo”, a month-long devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and a cherished tradition honoring the Holy Cross, celebrated in various Catholic parishes throughout the Philippines, which is also being observed here in the Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Qatar.



The colorful procession of all Queens who represent various titles of the Blessed Virgin Mary, dressed in elaborate gowns from the different prayer groups and ministries of the San Pedro Calungsod Filipino Catholic Community (SPCFCC) commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by Queen Helena, mother of Constantine the Great.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

OUR LADY'S SOCIETY: WEEKLY GATHERING

Every Wednesday morning, Our Lady's Society comes together for Bible study and prayer, followed by a shared lunch and heartfelt fellowship. All are welcome to join this warm and faithful community as we grow together in faith and friendship.



A BLESSED VISIT FROM FATHER MICHAEL

The Korean Catholic community in Qatar was honored to welcome Father Michael from Abu Dhabi. His visit was a true blessing, offering a meaningful time of prayer, fellowship, and spiritual reflection. The community is deeply grateful for his presence and the inspiration he brought to our shared faith journey.



WELCOMING OUR NEW ALTAR SERVERS

With joyful hearts, the Korean Catholic community welcomed the newly appointed altar servers as they assisted at the altar for the first time. Their reverent presence and dedication were a true blessing to witness. Following the Mass, the celebration continued with a group photo alongside Father Carlos—capturing a beautiful moment of faith, community, and fellowship.



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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

Sri Lankan Catholic Youth Group Hosts Youth Lenten Retreat on Purple Island

On 1st April 2025, the Sri Lankan Catholic Youth Group came together to celebrate a meaningful Youth Lenten Retreat held on the serene Purple Island. The retreat was spiritually enriching and filled with moments of reflection, prayer, and fellowship.

The event was graciously accompanied by Fr. Benet Shantha and Fr. Rosario Colaco, who guided the youth through inspiring talks and prayers focused on the Lenten season. The beautiful surroundings of Purple Island provided a perfect backdrop for the participants to deepen their faith and commitment during this holy period.

The retreat was a wonderful opportunity for young members of the community to connect with their spirituality, strengthen their bonds, and prepare their hearts for Easter.



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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

A BLESSED CELEBRATION: INTERNATIONAL CONFIRMATION MASS WITH BISHOP ALDO

The parish was honored to welcome His Excellency Bishop Aldo, who graciously presided over the International Confirmation Mass – a deeply moving moment of grace for over 100 young people and adult catechumens from across our diverse parish community. Representing various language groups, each participant joyfully reaffirmed their baptismal promises and received the Sacrament of Confirmation with reverence and heartfelt devotion. Bishop Aldo inspired the newly confirmed to embrace their faith courageously, strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This sacred celebration was truly a day of profound joy and spiritual renewal for all who gathered, uniting us in faith and community.



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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

SOLEMN REQUIEM MASS FOR POPE FRANCIS

His Excellency Bishop Aldo presided over a solemn Requiem Mass held in honor of Pope Francis. The church overflowed with faithful from all communities, united in prayer for the repose of his soul. In his heartfelt message, Bishop Aldo called upon everyone to continue Pope Francis' enduring legacy of compassion, inclusion, and dedicated service to the poor and marginalized.



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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

JOYFUL CELEBRATIONS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION IN MAY

Throughout the month of May, our parish joyfully welcomed numerous children from a rich tapestry of communities—English-speaking, Malayalam, Filipino, Arabic, Konkani, French, Luso-Brasileira, Italian, and many more—as they received Jesus for the very first time in the Blessed Sacrament.

These children, aged 8 to 13, prepared for this sacred milestone through a dedicated, year-long catechism program. Over the months, they deepened their understanding of Jesus' life, the profound meaning of the Eucharist, and the importance of growing in prayer and love for God.

Each celebration was a beautiful reflection of both a spiritual milestone for the children and their families, and the vibrant cultural diversity that enriches our parish community. The reverence, joy, and devotion displayed by the young communicants made these moments truly memorable for catechists, parents, and all parishioners alike.



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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, QATAR

HONORING OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY IN MAY

Throughout the month of May, our parish joyfully honored Our Blessed Mother Mary with heartfelt community Rosaries, processions, and Marian devotions. Each group led the Rosary in their unique tradition, coming together in prayer to ask Our Lady for peace in the world, unity within the Church, and strength for families. The month culminated in a beautiful Marian procession, where all parish communities joined as one in celebration and devotion.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

OPENING DAY OF THE FEAST CELEBRATIONS

The Feast of Our Lady of Arabia commenced on January 8, 2025, with the Holy Rosary, Novena, and Holy Mass, presided over by His Excellency Bishop Aldo Berardi. The Bishop was warmly welcomed with a liturgical reception ahead of the Mass. The theme for the day was: “Mary, the Role Model for Every Mother.” In his homily, Bishop Berardi reflected on the profound spiritual role of Mother Mary, emphasizing her as a source of inspiration and a model of love, strength, and faith for all mothers and faithful alike.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

OUR LADY OF ARABIA PARISH FETE 2025: A CELEBRATION OF UNITY

On Friday, January 17, 2025, Our Lady of Arabia Church, Ahmadi hosted its much-anticipated Parish Fete, drawing a vibrant crowd from the early morning hours. The celebration began with Holy Mass and continued throughout the day with a joyful array of activities for all ages. Attendees were treated to a delightful mix of international cuisines, fun-filled games, a thought-provoking pro-life exhibition, and colorful cultural performances, all reflecting the vibrant diversity and unity of the parish community. The day concluded, leaving behind cherished memories and deepened bonds of faith, fellowship, and community spirit.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR CLASS 10TH AND 12TH STUDENTS

As part of the parish's spiritual support, Rev. Fr. Roswin, our parish priest, offered a special blessing to the Class 10th and 12th students preparing to attend their board exams. This heartfelt ceremony aimed to inspire confidence, calm nerves, and invoke God's guidance for the students during this important phase of their academic journey.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

WOMEN'S DAY PROGRAM AT OUR LADY OF ARABIA CHURCH

Under the patronage of H.E. Bishop Aldo Berardi, the Women's Day program was celebrated at Our Lady of Arabia Church in Ahmadi on 8th and 9th February. The event offered an inspiring opportunity for fellowship, personal growth, and spiritual enrichment. Highlights of the program included:

- Empowerment of women
- Strengthening of spiritual foundation
- Enhancing personal and community well-being

The seminar was thoughtfully designed to cater to women of all ages and lifestyles, making it inclusive and meaningful for everyone involved.

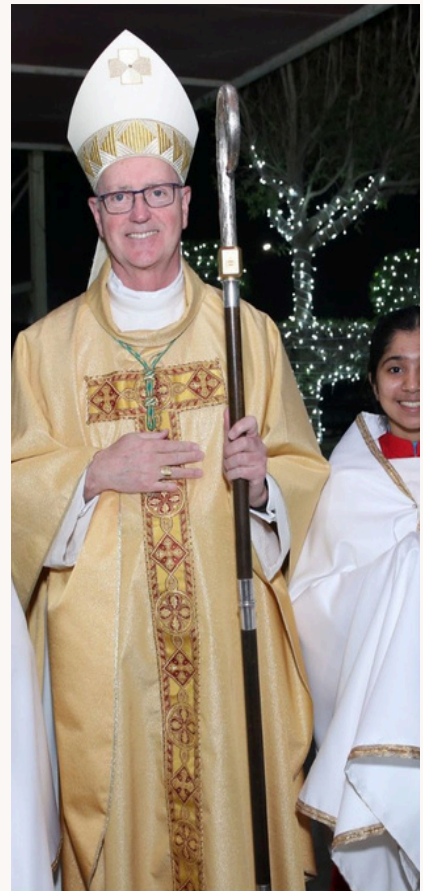


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THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA

The Feast of Our Lady of Arabia was preceded by a nine-day Novena, led by various ministries and rites, with each day dedicated to reflecting on a unique aspect of Mother Mary's role in the life of the Church. The celebrations culminated on January 19, 2025, with a Solemn Holy Mass presided over by His Grace Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent, the Apostolic Nuncio to Kuwait. Parishioners took part with heartfelt joy and devotion, making the final day of the feast a truly memorable and spiritually uplifting occasion.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

COUPLES FOR CHRIST AHMADI UNIT – MARCH PRAYER ASSEMBLY

On 27th March 2025, the Couples for Christ Ahmadi Unit held its monthly prayer assembly at the Our Lady of Arabia Catechism block in Ahmadi. The assembly's theme, "The Paradox of Christianity," guided an engaging evening filled with prayer, inspiring testimonies, fellowship, and uplifting Christian music. The event fostered community bonding and spiritual growth among attendees, reflecting the group's mission to nurture faith within families and individuals alike.



AVONA NEWSLETTER

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

PILGRIMAGE VISIT BY ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS PARISH

On March 31, 2025, the parishioners of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Salmiya, undertook a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Arabia Parish in Ahmadi, which has been designated as a Jubilee Church in Kuwait—a sacred site for pious visits during the Jubilee Year. Parishioners were encouraged to participate in this spiritual journey to obtain the Jubilee Plenary Indulgences granted by the Church.



The pilgrimage was held under the theme: **“The Sacrificial Love of God Gives Us Hope.”** The day’s spiritual program included: Praise and Worship A Spiritual Talk The Way of the Cross Eucharistic Adoration Sacrament of Confession The **youth of Our Lady of Arabia Parish** played a key role in organizing and assisting throughout the pilgrimage, ensuring a smooth and prayerful experience for the Salmiya parishioners. All pilgrims were invited to sign the **Visitor’s Book**, a special record maintained to document individuals who visit the Jubilee Church during this holy year.

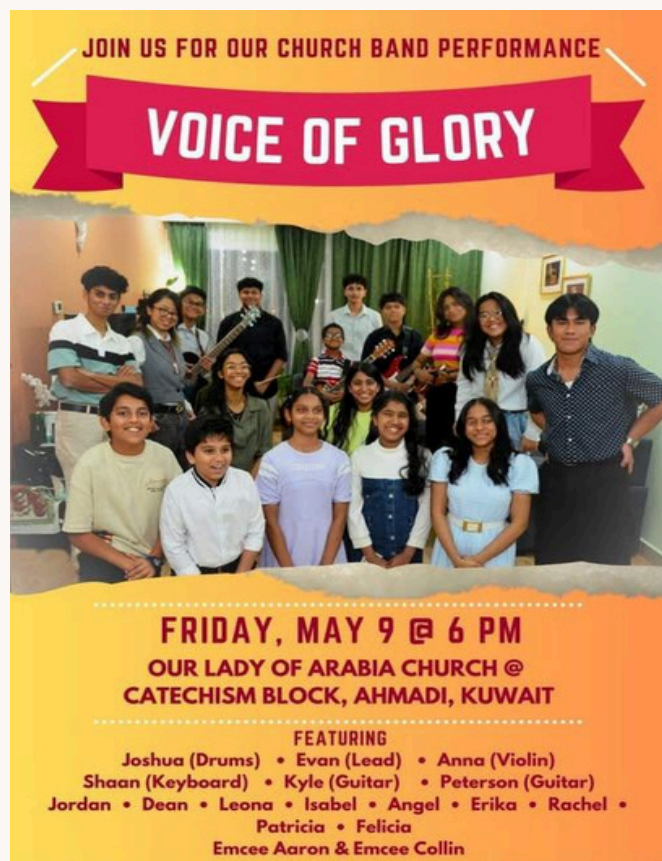


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THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

"VOICE OF GLORY" – A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY OUR CHURCH BAND

As part of our parish's ongoing efforts to uplift and inspire through music, the Church Band presented a special performance titled "Voice of Glory." This heartfelt musical offering blended praise, worship, and spiritual reflection, creating a deeply moving experience for all in attendance. The band's dedication and talent brought the community together in a powerful expression of faith and unity.



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FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

In honor of the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, the Legion of Mary conducted a special Rosary service at Our Lady of Arabia Church, Ahmadi – Kuwait. The faithful gathered in prayer and reflection, seeking the intercession of Our Lady and celebrating her message of peace, conversion, and hope.

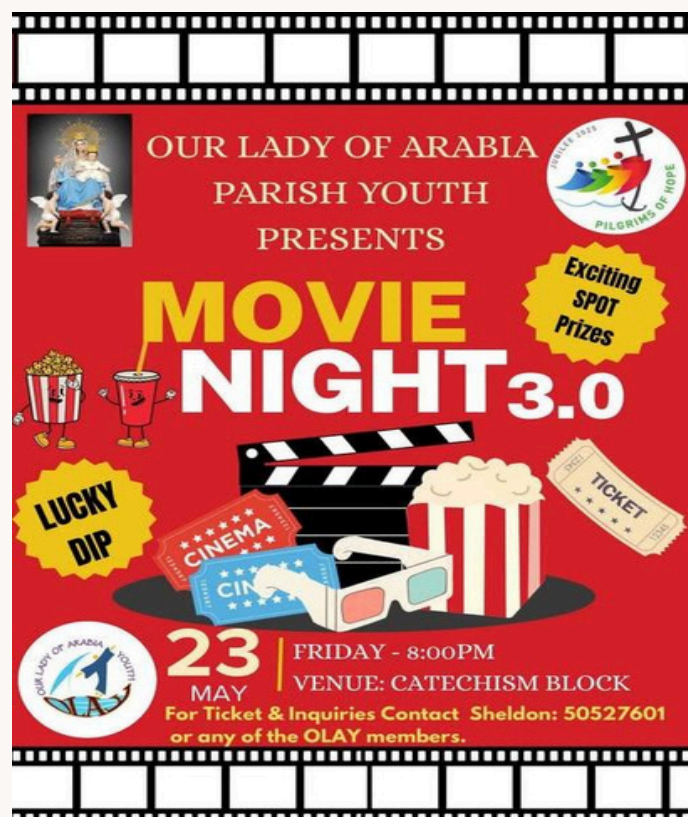


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THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, AHMADI, KUWAIT

MOVIE NIGHT 3.0 – HOSTED BY OUR LADY OF ARABIA YOUTH!

On Friday, May 23rd at 8:00 PM, the Youth Ministry of Our Lady of Arabia Church hosted Movie Night 3.0 at the Catechism Block. The event provided a fun and faith-filled evening of fellowship, entertainment, and community bonding for the youth and parishioners alike, continuing the tradition of engaging young hearts through wholesome and meaningful gatherings.



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APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF NORTHERN ARABIA



Holy Family Co- Cathedral, Kuwait



Our Lady of Arabia, Ahmadi- Kuwait



Our Lady of Arabia Cathedral, Bahrain



Sacred Heart Church, Bahrain



Our Lady of Rosary Church, Qatar

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