

Glimpses of Diamond Jubilee Celebrations
(Diocese of Chanda)
05.10.2022



chanda samachar

Bulletin, Eparchy of Chanda

YEAR OF THE HOLY SACRAMENTS 2023



Vol. XLVI No. 1 & 2



Jan - Apr 2023

Congratulations!



Most Rev. Anthony Cardinal Poola
Archbishop of Hyderabad



Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti
Prefect of the Dicastery for
Eastern Churches



Most Rev. Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão
Archbishop of Goa & Daman



Archbishop Andrews Thazhath
President, CBCI



Fr. Josekutty Thathampally
28/12/2022



Fr. Tiji Karakkunnel
29/12/2022

FR. JOBIN OVELIL
Department of
Communication
(09922832724)

CHANCERY, BISHOP'S HOME
Chandrapur Dt. (M.S.) - 442 701
bishopchanda@gmail.com

FR. SHINE MANJALY
Editor
(07025943781)



CRI Chanda Unit, New Office Bearers
(10 September 2022)



First Profession of Sr. Princy SABS
(24 Sep. 2022)



**Newly Constructed
Dispensary, Kopreli**
04-09-2022



**Diaconate of Bro. Vishal Janagam,
Brahmapuri**
(25 September 2022)



**Newly Structured Paediatric Ward at
Christianand Hospital, Brahmapuri**
(27 October 2022)



**Newly Blessed Sacred Heart Church,
Snehashram, Bhamaragarh**
(09 December 2022)



DPC Meeting at BPQ (10-12-2022)



The

Chanda Samachar

CHANDA DIOCESAN BULLETIN



Thy Kingdom Come (Mt. 6:10)

Bishop's Home (Balharshah), Ballarpur-442701
Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra, India



Vol. XLVI

JAN - APR - 2023

No. 1 & 2

CONTENTS

I. SHEPHERD'S VOICE	०१
II. PASTORAL LETTERS	०२
III. CIRCULARS	१२
IV. BISHOP'S DIARY	१७
V. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENT	२२
VI. VATICAN CORRESPONDENCES	२४
VII. CURIA MATTERS	३०
VIII. NEWS FROM MISSION STATIONS	७६
IX. DEPARTMENTAL NEWS	६१



*The Sacraments are the salvation of those
who use them rightly, and the damnation of
those who misuse them.*

– St. Augustine

I. SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and My beloved People,
Thy Kingdom Come!

Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year to everyone. We shall continue thanking God for ineffable graces that we have received in the past 60 years. Once again we shall be grateful to the pioneering missionaries and all the senior ones for their efforts to build up Chanda mission. The year of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is coming to an end and we are entering into the Year of the Holy Sacraments. In the year 2023 we shall focus on study of the sacraments and make sure of their effects in our daily life by our worthy reception and graceful living. As we have intended we celebrated our Diamond Jubilee in a very simple way and continue to lay great focus on House Construction project. It is moving ahead well. Thanks to every parish and institution in the diocese, donor agencies – Save A Family Plan and Toronto Archdiocese, Canada – and the individual benefactors for their generous contribution to this cause. May I request everyone to cooperate so as to continue this social apostolate with vigor and valour. As I have already communicated, let this be a beginning of a great event – we shall not rest until everyone in the diocese have a roof over their head. May God assist us. With good wishes.

With good wishes
 Your Shepherd in the Lord



† Ephrem Nariculam
 Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

II. PASTORAL LETTER - I

SACRAMENTS

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers Sisters and My Dear Faithful,
Thy Kingdom Come!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines the sacrament as follows: “**Efficacious sign of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which the divine life is dispensed to us**” (CCC 1131). It means that the sacraments are invisible grace of God made visible and available for our sanctification, communion and salvation. Thus the Christian sacraments can't be simply viewed as religious acts that are to be done at stipulated intervals so as to create an awareness of our identity as Christians and members of the mystical Body of Christ, the Church but as a lifeline for our Christian existence and growth in faith. Indeed we have included the Year of Sacraments in our Pastoral Plan to deepen our self-identity as Christian faithful who as a community grow in communion, in mutual love and respect by leading a holy life and march towards salvation.

The aspect of *sanctification* is important as we are the new Israel who are called to be the holy people of God. We are called to be holy as our heavenly father is holy (Mt 5:48). The life of a Christian is the participation in the holiness of God. The sacraments are the means of this process. Christ, our Lord and Saviour has instituted these sacraments so as to accept each one of us to his mystical body, the Church and assure us to be the heirs of God's Kingdom. Christ came to this world to avail to us the pre-experience of God's Kingdom which is our eschatological hope and which we eagerly await. By the reception of the sacraments we are entrusted the mission to manifest the gifts of God's Kingdom – love, truth, justice and peace, by our words, deeds and life. Thus, the reception of sacraments become effective by our response in life manifesting the Kingdom values.

The *communion* is the means by which the Church


manifests her harmony in Christ Jesus as our head and we as its members (1 Cor 12:12-31). The Church is the people of God united in Christ. The liturgy is the public worship of the Church and by the very nature it is communitarian. It is always done by its members in the name of the whole Church. Every Christian worship is the manifestation of our love for God and for one another. “By your love they will know that you are my disciples” (Jn 15:34). Our discipleship to Christ is recognized by our love in action – congregational worship. The love Jesus shows us has no limit, he calls us even to the extent of loving our enemy (Mt 5:43-45). The missionary dimension of the love goes beyond the limits of the Church. Go to the end of the world means to every corners of the world (Mt 28:19): Wherever there is a needy person (Good Samaritan story - Lk 10: 25-37, hemorrhages women - Lk 8: 43-48 etc). He/She not only deserves our love and service, but it is his/her right and our duty as well. Thus a Christian is called to a compelling love to establish communion beyond limits.

The Bible story is also known as the *salvation* history. God's plan of salvation for the created world is unravelled in the Holy Bible from the first book to the last - Genesis to Revelation. Jesus Christ, the Son of God came to the world to assure everyone God's plan of salvation offered to all from eternity of times. For, God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (Jn 3:16). Christ came to the world to seek out and to save the lost (Lk 19: 10). Salvation is the great assurance God has promised to everyone in the world. Through one man, Adam, sin came to the world and through another man, Christ Jesus, salvation is brought to the world (Rom 5:12, 6:23). Christ assured salvation to all those who believe in him (Rom 5:12-21). There is no other name given to us for our salvation except that of Christ Jesus (Acts 4:12). He is the sole means of salvation. He is the truth, the way and the life (Jn 14:6). Through the effective means

of sacraments and the power of the divine Word, Christ ascertained salvation to all those who believe in him and accept him as the only Saviour.

So my dear people in faith, we shall resolve to avail this Year of Sacraments to learn more about sacraments and commit ourselves to the reception of sacraments as stipulated by the Holy Mother Church. I have requested our Fathers and Sisters to arrange different programs to observe this year in a meaningful way. Kindly avail every opportunity to grow in faith and in God-experience. God bless everyone.



Yours devotedly in Jesus,

 † Ephrem Nariculam
 Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

NB: Please read to the people the translation of it in local language or explain its content on any convenient Sunday in January 2023.



Congratulations...!

Mission Quest Result-2022
 Eparchy Level Winners

Winners-Catechism students	
✦	Sanjana Toppe, St. Alphonsa Church, Jarawandi
✦	Nysa Carolyn Jijo, St. Thomas Church, Chandrapur
✦	Amisha Minj, St. Thomas Church, Chandrapur

Winners-Adults	
✦	Neha Theresa, St. Antony's Church, Wardha
✦	Beena Laha, St. Antony's Church, Wardha
✦	Claudia P. R., St. Antony's Church, Wardha

Congratulations to all Winners and Participants

PASTORAL LETTER - II

CATECHISM AND FAITH FORMATION

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear Faithful,

Thy Kingdom Come!

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Mt. 28: 19-20).

Catechizing and faith formation are the primary mission of a baptized Christian. It has different realms. The first teachers of faith are parents themselves. They must focus attention not only handing over faith to the future generation (Joel 1:3, Deut 4:9) but also guide them to avail opportunities of faith formation from the Church, schools and boardings. The moment our children start speaking and learning, the parents must direct them and help them to learn basic prayers, catechism and Bible. The role of parents in faith formation of their children is very important. Daily family prayer is the first catechism class of our children. So parents must take interest to do it without fail. It is not only to introduce children to primary lessons of faith but also to help them to sustain their faith and grow in Christian values.

The catechism in the schools and in our boardings/hostels place our children in the track of systematic and scientific study of Christian doctrines as per the syllabus. It helps them to acquire clarity of notion in Christian faith and clear the doubts about bible as well. Gradually it enables them to deepen their faith. In the socio-religious and political context of our country we need to take defensive stand to protect our faith. In one sense we have to adapt an apologetic approach in catechizing and faith formation. In this context we the missionaries have to be well equipped to do

this task. We have ample materials (talk and articles) available in the social media particularly in youtube. Please use them and prepare for the task to be effective missionaries.

A challenging practical problem in catechesis is that, can we adopt the same pedagogy for catechesis everywhere? As we know, the life situation, pattern of thinking and the behaviours of people are guided to a great extent is governed by the culture, social setup and faith background. Therefore, catechesis will have to use a language which the people of the land understand. By 'language' what we mean here is all the specificities of a particular culture which the catechists are addressing.

Needless to say that we have to use the opportunities and infrastructures effectively to impart regular faith formation and catechizing of our people. I exhort every priests-in-change, the sisters and those involved in school ministry to take adequate interest to do the needful to be effective instruments of evangelization. It is our primary mission. We stand for it and we live for it. What St. Paul exclaims is a boost to each missionary to involve in the mission - “Woe to me if I do not preach” (1 Cor 9:16). Further he states: “How great is the feet of those who preach the good news” (Rom 10:15). There are number of papal encyclicals and teaching magisterium that reminds us of our primary mission of evangelization: *Gaudium et Spes* (Vat II), *Evangelii Nuntiandi* by Pope Paul VI, *Redemptoris Missio* by John Paul II, *Novo Millennio Ineunte* by Pope John Paul II, *Ubicum et Semper* by Benedict XVI *Evangelium Gaudium* by Pope Francis, etc. are but a few of them. The Vatican Council document *Ad Gentes* categorically states that Church by her very nature is missionary AG, 2. Church stands for proclamation and Church is the sacrament of evangelization.

So my dear parents, Fathers, Sisters and Brothers, I exhort everyone to take the mission sincerely and seriously. Schools as well as our mission stations should become effective means that

involve in catechizing and faith formation. Every Christian child in the parishes or schools should become under its purview. The Children in the government hostels should be given opportunities during summer holidays for their faith formation. It is our mission. We shall not fail in it. Our Lord reminds us. "The Kingdom of God is at hand, Repent and believe in the Gospel" (Mk 1:15). May God bless everyone.



Yours devotedly in Jesus,

† Ephrem Nariculam

Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

NB: Please read to the people the translation of it in local language or explain its content on any convenient Sunday in February 2023.



QUINQUENNIAL PRIESTS' MEET 2023

Quinquennial Priests' Meet (Ordination Year 2017-2022) is scheduled on Wednesday and Thursday 1 to 2 March 2023.

1 March Wednesday	:	09.00 am	Talk I
		11.00 am	Talk II
		03.00 pm	Talk III
2 March Thursday	:	09.00 am	Talk IV
		11.00 am	Sharing
		03.00 pm	Concluding Session

(Detailed Schedule will be given later)

PASTORAL LETTER - III

ECUMENISM

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Thy Kingdom Come!

"I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one"(Jn.17:11).

The above reference from St. John is the characteristic prayer of Jesus for the unity and harmony of his disciples/followers. He greatly desired this unity among his followers: "I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd" (Jn.10:16). Paul endorse it when he says: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism"(Eph.4:5). In the imagery of body and parts the apostle further illustrates Church as mystical body of Christ, as body parts though functionally different, work harmoniously in unity of goal (cf. 1 Cor, 12:12-31). The concept and principle of ecumenism is that Christians who belong to different Christian denominations should work together to develop close relationships among their Churches and promote Christian unity.

Pope John XXIII established the secretariat for promotion of Christian unity in the year 1961. The second Vatican Council with its decree on Ecumenism – Unitatis Redintegratio boosted the move in the Church for Christian unity. Ever since Vatican Council II there has been dialogue between Catholic Church and other Churches at different levels for unity of Churches and peaceful co-existence. We have achieved some progress, but lot more has to be achieved. The week of prayer for Christian unity is annually co-ordinated by the World Council of Churches with

participation by its member Churches. The Catholic Church in India under the wing of CBCI actively observe the Church unity Octave from 18-25 every year. It used to be enthusiastically celebrated in the past and these days we are doubtfully showing that much of interest in the celebration of Church Unity Octave. It is in this context I wish to highlight the importance of its celebration in the socio-religious and political situation in our country today.

A visible witness of unity of the Churches in our country has become a dire need. The Catholic Church takes great initiatives for dialogue in theological realm in the higher levels. We are called to create a grass-root-level unity of the Churches. Some prayer services, celebrations and mutual understanding with respect to one another will pave the way for presenting united face of the Church to the people around us and to the people of other faiths. Helping one another and presenting a Church of no internal-conflict is a simple step to this effect. Accordingly I exhort everyone to do the needful to ensure the meaningful observance of the prayer week with the participation of the pastors and the people of other denominations from our vicinity. Christ's prayer for unity is an invitation to turn back to him and so come closer to one another, rejoicing in the richness of our diversity. The star that shone in the east, two thousand years ago still calls us to the manger to where Christ is born. It draws us to where the spirit of God is alive and active, to the reality of our Baptism and to the transformation of our hearts. Let us pray for a change of heart!

From the point of view of the pursuit of the goal of full visible unity, which takes several tangible forms, joint prayers in common are certainly an effective means of obtaining the grace of unity, and they are a true expression of the ties, which still binds Catholics to their separated brethren (UR 8). For, the Second Vatican Council taught: “The Council moreover professes its

awareness that human powers and capacities cannot achieve this holy objective – the reconciling of all Christians in the unity of the one and only Church of Christ. It is because of this that the Council rests all its hope on the prayer of Christ for the Church, on our Father's love for us, and on the power of the Holy Spirit. “And hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us” (UR 24). In praying for unity we acknowledge that unity is a gift of the Holy Spirit and not something we can achieve through our own efforts. The sacred Council has already exhorted in its Document: “This change of heart and holiness of life, along with public and private prayer for the unity of Christians, should be regarded as the soul of the whole ecumenical movement, and merits the name, “spiritual ecumenism” (UR.8).

Following Christ is our new path, and in a volatile and changing world, Christians must remain as fixed and determined as the constellations and the shining planets. But what does this mean in practice? Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to defending human dignity, especially in the poorest, the weakest and those marginalized. It requires from the Churches, transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with one another. This means Churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest society. This is a call for Churches to work together so that young people can build a future that accords to God's heart, a future in which all human beings can experience truth, peace, justice, and love. The new way between the Churches, is the way of visible unity that we sacrificially seek with courage and audacity, so that, day after day, “God may be all in all” (1 Cor.15:28).

So dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, I invite everyone to be at the service of the Church in fostering unity of all who believe in Christ, and present to the world a united witness of Christian

values and gospel injunctions. May God almighty bless everyone for a change of heart to walk in the path of UNITY.



Yours devotedly in Christ Jesus

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

NB: (i) Everyone is exhorted to conduct prayer services in the Unity Octave days 18-25 January 2023 in the parishes and institutions with participation also of the Christian brethren of other denominations.

(ii) NB: Please read to the people the translation of it in local language or explain its content on Sunday 22nd January 2023.



40 HOURS ADORATION
Diocese of Chanda



The 2023 Forty Hours Adoration at Cathedral, BPQ will be on Monday to Wednesday February 2023. The daily schedule of Adoration is from 06.00 AM to 06.00 PM. Ash Day service and Holy Qurbana on Monday and Wednesday. Tuesday 21st February will be a common recollection day for all missionaries (Fathers, Brothers and Sisters) as per the schedule given below. There will be Eucharistic procession on wednesday at 5.30 pm :

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21ST, 2023

06.00	AM	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	} Recollection Schedule
09.00	AM	Confession	
10.00	AM	Talk	
12.00	PM	Holy Qurbana	
01.00	AM	Lunch. Bye... Bye...	

All are welcome

III. CIRCULAR - I

Prot. No. 346/2022

01/12/2022

To,
All Fathers, Brothers, Sisters
Diocese of Chanda

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters,

Thy Kingdom Come!
Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I am happy to share with you the wholehearted support of our Provincials, Regional Superiors and Institution Heads to the Diamond Jubilee House Construction Project. I am optimistic that we will achieve the target. As I have already communicated to you this shall be a beginning of a dream - "No people in the diocese with no roof over their head by our platinum jubilee celebration in 2037". It is a distant dream but not an impossible one. God calls us to dream even impossible, for nothing is impossible with God (Mt 19:26). In the Jubilee Year we have consciously avoided extravaganza in celebrations and focussed on revamping spiritual freshness of missionaries and re-inforcement of social apostolate to help our needy people in the diocese. House Construction is one of our dream projects. After having surveyed the different needs of our people we have to launch new projects and programs to re-burnish education ministry, to refresh health sector, to create job opportunities etc. Post metric hostel and Talent club activities will be re-inforced in the course of time. Fr. Nelson Mudaliar Sdb, a Salesian priest from Mumbai province has arrived in the diocese to recruit youth for vocational training to Salasian institute in Ahemednagar to prepare them for placement in job in and outside Maharashtra. The details will be communicated later. As we have already

launched the house construction project I request everyone to generously cooperate with it and avail the scheme to all worthy ones in the diocese on priority basis. “There will be a shelter to give shade from the heat by day, and refuge and protection from the storm and the rain” (Is 4:6).



Yours devotedly in Jesus,

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda



ESSAY COMPETITION ON SYNODALITY
DIOCESE OF CHANDA

Essay Writing Competition
RESULTS
THEME: SYNODALITY : MY DREAM CHURCH

Category I (Religious Sisters)

1. Sr. Joshana Jagan Ghuglot SJB
Agragami Provincial House, Mhasala, Wardha
2. Sr. Sharon Maria DM,
Amala Provincial House, Sawangi Meghe, Wardha
3. Sr. Saly John SJB,
Sanjeevani Ashram, Sevagram

Category II (Seminarians & Religious Candidates)

1. Dn. Vishal Janagam (Diocese of Chanda)
2. Dn. Naveen Varghese (Diocese of Chanda)
3. Dn. Linto Varghese (Diocese of Chanda)

Category III (Youth Age 18-34)

1. Riya Johnny Karampel (Brahmapuri)
2. Alina Wilson Kurisingal (Ballarpur)
3. Manasa Dusi (Ballarpur)

Congratulations
to all the participants

2021
2023

CIRCULAR - II

(12/12/2022)

PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE YEAR OF THE SACRAMENTS 2023

To,
All Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, and the Faithful
of the Diocese of Chanda

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and the Faithful,

Thy Kingdom Come!
Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

As indicated in the Pastoral Letter (Pastoral Letter on Sacraments I, Chanda Samachar Vol XLVI No. 1&2, Jan-Apr 2023), the Year of Sacraments (2023) is meant to know the sacraments well and live by it effectively. I propose the following action plan to make the celebration meaningful and fruitful:

1. Conduct at least one seminar to highlight the importance of the sacraments on the life of a Christian (parish level). It may be conducted for different groups like adults, youth, children etc.
2. Bring to the knowledge of the people the teachings of the Church on Sacraments in reference to Vatican II documents and encyclicals of the Popes (*Sacramentum Caritatis, Mysterium Fidei, Ecclesia de Eucharisti, Sacrosanctum Concilium* etc).
3. Arrange videos, exhibition etc. in parish level or ward level to highlight the different aspects of sacraments.
4. Prepare twelve special homilies one each for a Sunday in a month explaining each sacraments and their different aspects, effects etc. It may include the definition of sacraments, effects of sacraments, its biblical foundation, the theological

significance, its symbolism etc. (Pastoral Year Plan calendar 2023 and the Flex Banner are useful for homilies)

- January - Sacraments in general (CCC # 1135 - 1144)**
- February - Symbolism of Sacraments (CCC # 1145 - 1155)**
- March - Biblical foundation of the sacraments (CCC # 1210 - 1212)**
- April - Baptism (CCC # 1213 - 1284)**
- May - Confirmation (CCC # 1285 - 1321)**
- June - Holy Eucharist (CCC # 1322 - 1419)**
- July - Penance (CCC # 1420 - 1498)**
- August - Anointing of the Sick (CCC # 1499 - 1532)**
- September - Holy Orders (CCC # 1536 - 1600)**
- October - Holy Matrimony (CCC # 1601 - 1666)**
- November - Holy Qurbana (In Syro- Malabar Tradition)**
- December - Ends of Holy Matrimony (Spousal Communion & Procreation)**

5. Quiz competition on sacraments for children is highly desirable.
6. Try to keep the sacraments of baptism this year incorporated with Sunday Holy Qurbana.
7. Distribute leaf-lets on sacraments to the families in the parish.
8. Take sacraments as theme for discussion in the youth groups, ward prayers, *Mathruvedi, Pithruvedi* etc.
9. A special focus on sacraments during our annual retreat in the parishes.
10. Celebrate a Parish Holy Communion Day with all receiving holy communion after due preparation.

11. Prepare posters of quotes on sacraments by saints and exhibit in the Church Campus.
12. Give focus on the Sacraments in the catechism classes and in the meetings of Holy Childhood Association.

These are just a few suggestions. Please do whatever is feasible and needful to create deeper awareness among our people about the importance of the sacraments in Christian life. May God Bless you.

With warm regards
Yours devotedly in Our Lord



[Handwritten Signature]

† Ephrem Nariculam,
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda



NB:

- i. Please note that lots of materials are available in *youtube* and other social media links.
- ii. Pastoral letter gives some points about Sacraments (Cf. *Chanda Samachar* – January-April 2023)
- iii. Our Pastoral Plan Calendar and the Year of Sacraments Flex Banner also gives some information about Sacraments.
- iv. CCC = Catechism of the Catholic Church
- v. The Bible reference of each sacraments are given in Appendix II in the Syro-Malabar Liturgical Calendar 2022 - 2023, pp. 77-79.
- vi. The inauguration of the Year of Sacraments may be done by releasing or unveiling the Flex Banner on 31st December at Midnight Holy Qurbana or on 1st January 2023 at the New Year Holy Qurbana.

IV. BISHOP'S DAIRY 2022

SEPTEMBER 2022

- 03 - Offered requiem Holy Qurbana for the reposed souls of Sr. Sangita SJB and Sr. Rose SJB at SJB provincial house Masala, Wardha.
 Presided over investiture ceremony at St. Antony's National School, Wardha.
 Bro. Shine SG, provincial Superior Montfort Brothers and Fr. Jose Thamarassery CMI the vicar general of CMI Congregation visited bishop at bishop's Home, Bpq.
- 04 - Blessed the newly constructed dispensary at Kopreli and offered Holy Qurbana in the parish.
- 08 - Presided over the feast Holy Qurbana of Nativity of BVM at Wardha parish.
- 10 - Addressed CRI meeting at Bpq.
- 11 - Presided over the Feast Holy Qurbana of Nativity of BVM at Cathedral parish, Bpq.
- 12-22 visited our brothers at Satna, Ujjain and Bhopal seminaries. He visited also FCC hospital Oshangabad. Met with Bp. Sebastian Vadakel (Ujjain), Bp. Joseph Kodakallil (Satna) and Archbishop Dorairaj of Bhopal.
- 24 - Presided over Holy Qurbana for the vestition of SABS sisters, Cathedral, Bpq.
- 25 - Ordained to diaconate Bro. Vishal Janagam at Christanand Church, Brahmapuri.
- 26 - Offered requiem Holy Qurbana at Appappally Chapel for Sr. Sangita Gandhare SJB.

OCTOBER 2022

- 01 - Offered Holy Qurbana at DM provincial house Wardha in connection with the ruby jubilee of the death anniversary

- of Msgr. Joseph Kuzhinjalil the founder of DM Congregation.
- 05 - Presided over the Diamond Jubilee Holy Qurbana of Chanda mission at Cathedral.
- 08 - Blessed a marriage at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Nagpur
- 09 - Attended episcopal ordination of Bp. Joseph Kollamparambil and Bp. Thomas Padiyath, the auxiliary bishops of Shamshabad.
- 12 - Offered Holy Qurbana and engaged in class at SVG
- 14 - Visited Claretian house, Boutiburi, Capuchin land at Karancha and CMC convent Arvi.
- 16 - Offered the Feast Holy Qurbana at St. Lawrence Church, Allappally.
- 17 - Offered Holy Qurbana for Montfort school community, Bamni.
- 18 - Engaged in class at SVG
- 19 - Offered Holy Qurbana at SVG for conclusion of 10 days rosary devotion.
- 20 - Blessed the newly constructed first floor building of Babupeth school.
- 21 - Sr. Gracelet SD, the provincial superior visited the bishop at Bishop's Home.
- 22 - Presided over the Holy Qurbana at Claretian Ashram, Wardha for the feast of St. Claret.
- 23 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Wardha parish for Mission Sunday.
- 26 - Offered the Holy Qurbana at Brahmapuri for regional youth convention.
- 27 - Blessed the renovated paediatric ward at Christanand Hospital, Brahmapuri

Inaugurated the Chanda Living Program of CSA at Thalodhi school.

- 28 - Offered the office of the dead for the reposed souls of Fr. Tony Ofm Cap and Bro. Bijo Ofm Cap. at Chennur in Adilabad diocese.

Went to Bangalore for CBCI.

NOVEMBER 2022

- 01 - Attended the episcopal ordination of Bp. Alex Tharamangalam at Manathwadi.
- 02 - Offered All Souls Day Holy Qurbana at Kunjom parish in Manathavadi diocese.
- 04 - Offered the Holy Qurbana at Christujyothi College, Bangalore.
- 06 - Offered Holy Qurbana at St. Jude's Church, Udainagar, Bangalore.
- 7-12- Attended CBCI at St. John's Medical College, Bangalore.
- 13-18- Attended annual retreat of priests at Mancheriyal.
- 19 - Offered requiem Holy Qurbana on the first death anniversary of Sr. Rosy Puthuparampil FDSHJ (Former Mother General) at St. Vianney convent, BPQ. Bishop officiated the funeral service of Mr. Cashmir Ekka, father of Bro. Niel Ekka (SVG) at Venasar village in Jarawandi parish.
- 20 - Sr. Jessy Payyappilly FHGS, the provincial superior visited the bishop. Sr. Lillies Varghese SAB, the provincial superior visited the bishop.
- 22 - Attended the the funeral service of Bp. Simon Stock Palathara CMI, the former bishop of Jagdalpur.
- 23 - Attended the funeral service of Fr. George Olickal CMI at CMI provincial house, Bellampalli. Met with senior CMC missionaries at CMC convent, Chennur, CMC convent, Bhemaram and CMC provincial house, Mancherial.

- 24 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Karunabhavan, SD Convent, Chandrapur.
- 26 - Presided over presbyteral council and consultants meeting.
- 28 - Met with Manos Unidas officials visiting our diocese.

DECEMBER 2022

- 03 - Inaugurated St. Chavara Science Expo 2022 at Carmel Academy, Tukkmur.
- 07 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Montfort School community, Bamni.
- 09 - Blessed the newly constructed Church, Bhamaragat.
- 10 - Presided over the diocesan Pastoral Council and Finance Council.
- 11 - Blessed foundation stone of CMC house at Bamni.
- 12 - Attended Christmas gathering and monthly recollection at Bpq. Blessed the first stone for the Diamond Jubilee Memorial Christ Hall at Bishop's Home campus.
- 15 - Met with Salesian Provincial of Mumbai Province.
- 16-19- Attended WRBC and Catholic Council, Mumbai.
- 18 - Attended silver jubilee celebration of the episcopal ordination of His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias at Archbishop's House, Bombay.
- 19 - Gave recollection talk at Christmas Gathering of the clergy and the religious of Nasik diocese at St. Anne's Cathedral.
- 20 - Visited Divyadaan Salesiam Seminary at Nasik and met with our seminarian Bro. Anto.
- 21 - Presided over the Christmas gathering of Vianney Public School, Babupeth.
- 22 - Presided over the Christmas gathering of Vianney Vidya Nikethan School, Complex, Gadchiroli.

- 23 - Presided over the Christmas gathering of Mount Carmel School, Chandrapur.
- 25 - Offered Christmas Qurbana at St. Thomas Cathedral, BPQ.
- 27 - Ordained to priesthood Dn. Antony Moolan CMI at St. Mary's Church, Pallamthuruth in Ernakulam-Angamally archdiocese.
- 28 - Ordained to priesthood Dn. Josekutty Thathampally at Fathima Matha Church, Karikulam in Kanjirapally diocese.
- 29 - Ordained to priesthood Dn. Tigi Karakkunnel at Holy Cross Church, Kurisupara in Idukki diocese.
- 30 - Jubilee program at Perumpilly in Varapoly archdiocese.
- 31 - Ordained to priesthood Dn. Akhil Thiruthanathy CMI at Bharatha Rani Church, Vathakkad in Ernakulam-Angamally archdiocese.

Blessed marriages at Thabore parish and Koratty parish in Ernakulam-Angamaly archdiocese.



Grotto Pilgrimage

Tera Prem Church, Warur

DATE
11 February 2023

Holy Qurbana
04.30 pm

(Detailed Schedule will be given later)



V. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS - 2023

JANUARY 2023

- 06-14 - Synod of Bishops, Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad
- 16-27 - Mangalore – Pune seminary visit
- 28 - Back in BPQ
- 29 - Bible Convention Holy Qurbana, Wirur
- 31 - Monthly Recollection, BPQ

FEBRUARY 2023

- 01-04 - PPT meeting, BPQ
- 06-10 - Deacons' orientation program, BPQ
- 08 - Gojoli Church blessing
- 11 - Grotto pilgrimage, Warur
- 13-16 - PPT meeting, BPQ
- 18 - CSA meeting
- 20-22 - 40 Hours Adoration, BPQ
- 20 - Ash Day, BPQ
- 21 - Monthly recollection, BPQ
- 27-28 - PPT meeting, BPQ

MARCH 2023

- 01-02 - Quinquennial priests meet
- 06-07 - PPT meeting, BPQ
- 09-10 - PPT meeting, BPQ
- 10 - Finance council
- 13-25 - Visit to Dibrugarh
- 28 - Death anniversary of Bp. Januarius, BPQ
- 30 - Monthly recollection, BPQ

APRIL 2023

- 02 - Palm Sunday, Kurkheda
- 04 - Holy Muron Qurbana, BPQ
- 06 - Maundy Thursday, Cathedral BPQ

- 07 - Good Friday, Chincholi
- 09 - Easter Sunday, Awarpur
- 10-17 - Kathmandu - Gorakpur
- 21-23 - Pastoral Visit Sumthana
- 26 - Ordination, Ettapalli
- 29 - One day Seminar for missionaries, BPQ

MAY 2023

- 01-12 - Major Seminarians Diocesan Formation program, SVG
- 13 - Minor Orders
- 16 - Ordination, Mothirakanny, Kerala
- 17 - Ordination, Kottanellur, Kerala
- 18 - Ordination, Pattikad, Kerala
- 19-31 - UK



ASMITA MARATHI COURSE - 2023

**Residential course
At Mermier Ashraya, Dahanu**

1. **From February 1st 2023 to March 18th 2023.**
2. **From March 27th to May 6th 2023. 40 days.**

Contact Number

- Fr Paul MST. : 9420586634
- Fr Dayi MSFS : 094-205-82145
- Fr Jerome MSFS : 077-688-26942.

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR WORLD MISSION DAY 2022**

“You shall be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8)

Dear brothers and sisters!

These words were spoken by the Risen Jesus to his disciples just before his Ascension into heaven, as we learn from the Acts of the Apostles: “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth” (1:8). They are also the theme of the 2022 World Mission Day which, as always, reminds us that the Church is missionary by nature. This year World Mission Day offers us the opportunity to commemorate several important events in the Church’s life and mission: the fourth centenary of the founding of the Congregation de Propaganda Fide, now the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, and the second centenary of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. A hundred years ago, the latter, together with the Society of the Holy Childhood and the Society of Saint Peter the Apostle, was granted the title “Pontifical”. Let us reflect on the three key phrases that synthesize the three foundations of the life and mission of every disciple: “You shall be my witnesses”, “to the ends of the earth” and “you shall receive the power of the Holy Spirit”.

1. “You shall be my witnesses” – The call of every Christian to bear witness to Christ This is the central point, the heart of Jesus’ teaching to the disciples, in view of their being sent forth into the world. The disciples are to be witnesses of Jesus, thanks to the grace of the Holy Spirit that they will receive. Wherever they go and in whatever place they find themselves. Christ was the first to be sent, as a “missionary” of the Father (cf. Jn 20:21), and as such, he is the Father’s “faithful witness” (cf. Rev 1:5). In a similar way, every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ. And the Church, the community of Christ’s disciples, has no other mission than that of bringing the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ. To evangelize is the very identity of the Church.

A deeper look at the words, “You shall be my witnesses”, can clarify a few ever timely aspects of the mission Christ entrusted to the disciples. The plural form of the verb emphasizes the communitarian

and ecclesial nature of the disciples' missionary vocation. Each baptized person is called to mission, in the Church and by the mandate of the Church: consequently, mission is carried out together, not individually, in communion with the ecclesial community, and not on one's own initiative. Even in cases where an individual in some very particular situation carries out the evangelizing mission alone, he must always do so in communion with the Church which commissioned him. As **Saint Paul VI** taught in the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, a document dear to my heart: "Evangelization is for no one an individual and isolated act; it is one that is deeply ecclesial. When the most obscure preacher, catechist or pastor in the most distant land preaches the Gospel, gathers his little community together or administers a sacrament, even alone, he is carrying out an ecclesial act, and his action is certainly attached to the evangelizing activity of the whole Church by institutional relationships, but also by profound invisible links in the order of grace. This presupposes that he acts not in virtue of a mission which he attributes to himself or by a personal inspiration, but in union with the mission of the Church and in her name" (No. 60). Indeed, it was no coincidence that the Lord Jesus sent his disciples out on mission in pairs; the witness of Christians to Christ is primarily communitarian in nature. Hence, in carrying out the mission, the presence of a community, regardless of its size, is of fundamental importance.

In addition, the disciples are urged to live their personal lives in a missionary key: they are sent by Jesus to the world not only to carry out, but also and above all to live the mission entrusted to them; not only to bear witness, but also and above all to be witnesses of Christ. In the moving words of the Apostle Paul, "[we are] always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies" (2 Cor 4:10). The essence of the mission is to bear witness to Christ, that is, to his life, passion, death and resurrection for the love of the Father and of humanity. Not by chance did the apostles look for Judas' replacement among those who, like themselves, had been witnesses of the Lord's resurrection (cf. Acts 1:21). Christ, indeed Christ risen from the dead, is the One to whom we must testify and whose life we must share.

Missionaries of Christ are not sent to communicate themselves, to exhibit their persuasive qualities and abilities or their managerial skills. Instead, theirs is the supreme honour of presenting Christ in words and

deeds, proclaiming to everyone the Good News of his salvation, as the first apostles did, with joy and boldness.

In the final analysis, then, the true witness is the "martyr", the one who gives his or her life for Christ, reciprocating the gift that he has made to us of Himself. "The primary reason for evangelizing is the love of Jesus which we have received, the experience of salvation which urges us to ever greater love of him" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 264).

Finally, when it comes to Christian witness, the observation of Saint Paul VI remains ever valid: "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses" (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 41). For this reason, the testimony of an authentic Christian life is fundamental for the transmission of the faith. On the other hand, the task of proclaiming Christ's person and the message is equally necessary. Indeed, Paul VI went on to say: "Preaching, the verbal proclamation of a message, is indeed always indispensable... The word remains ever relevant, especially when it is the bearer of the power of God. This is why Saint Paul's axiom, "Faith comes from what is heard" (Rom 10:17), also retains its relevance: it is the word that is heard which leads to belief" (*ibid.*, 42).

In evangelization, then, the example of a Christian life and the proclamation of Christ are inseparable. One is at the service of the other. They are the two lungs with which any community must breathe, if it is to be missionary. This kind of complete, consistent and joyful witness to Christ will surely be a force of attraction also for the growth of the Church in the third millennium. I exhort everyone to take up once again the courage, frankness and parrhesia of the first Christians, in order to bear witness to Christ in word and deed in every area of life.

2. "To the ends of the earth" – The perennial relevance of a mission of universal evangelization In telling the disciples to be his witnesses, the risen Lord also tells them where they are being sent: "...in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Here we clearly see the universal character of the disciples' mission. We also see the "centrifugal" geographical expansion, as if in concentric circles, of the mission, beginning with Jerusalem, which Jewish tradition considered the centre of the world, to Judea and Samaria and to "the ends of the earth". The disciples are sent not to proselytize, but to proclaim; the Christian does not proselytize. The Acts of the Apostles speak of this missionary expansion and

provide a striking image of the Church “going forth” in fidelity to her call to bear witness to Christ the Lord and guided by divine providence in the concrete conditions of her life. Persecuted in Jerusalem and then spread throughout Judea and Samaria, the first Christians bore witness to Jesus everywhere (cf. Acts 8:1, 4).

Something similar still happens in our own day. Due to religious persecution and situations of war and violence, many Christians are forced to flee from their homelands to other countries. We are grateful to these brothers and sisters who do not remain locked in their own suffering but bear witness to Christ and to the love of God in the countries that accept them. Hence, **Saint Paul VI** encouraged them to recognize the “responsibility incumbent on immigrants in the country that

receives them” (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 21). More and more, we are seeing how the presence of faithful of various nationalities enriches the face of parishes and makes them more universal, more Catholic. Consequently, the pastoral care of migrants should be valued as an important missionary activity that can also help the local faithful to rediscover the joy of the Christian faith they have received. The words “to the ends of the earth” should challenge the disciples of Jesus in every age and impel them to press beyond familiar places in bearing witness to him. For all the benefits of modern travel, there are still geographical areas in which missionary witnesses of Christ have not arrived to bring the Good News of his love. Then too no human reality is foreign to the concern of the disciples of Jesus in their mission. Christ’s Church will continue to “go forth” towards new geographical, social and existential horizons, towards “borderline” places and human situations, in order to bear witness to Christ and his love to men and women of every people, culture and social status. In this sense, the mission will always be a *missio ad gentes*, as the **Second Vatican Council** taught. The Church must constantly keep pressing forward, beyond her own confines, in order to testify to all the love of Christ. Here I would like to remember and express my gratitude for all those many missionaries who gave their lives in order to “press on” in incarnating Christ’s love towards all the brothers and sisters whom they met.

3. “You will receive power” from the Holy Spirit – Let us always be strengthened and guided by the Spirit. When the risen Christ commissioned the disciples to be his witnesses, he also promised them the grace needed for this great responsibility: “You shall receive power

when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). According to the account in Acts, it was precisely following the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples that the first act of witnessing to the crucified and risen Christ took place. That kerygmatic proclamation – Saint Peter’s “missionary” address to the inhabitants of Jerusalem – inaugurated an era in which the disciples of Jesus evangelized the world. Whereas they had previously been weak, fearful and closed in on themselves, the Holy Spirit gave them the strength, courage and wisdom to bear witness to Christ before all.

Just as “no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’, except by the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor 12:3), so no Christian is able to bear full and genuine witness to Christ the Lord without the Spirit’s inspiration and assistance. All Christ’s missionary disciples are called to recognize the essential importance of the Spirit’s work, to dwell in his presence daily and to receive his unfailing strength and guidance. Indeed, it is precisely when we feel tired, unmotivated or confused that we should remember to have recourse to the Holy Spirit in prayer. Let me emphasize once again that prayer plays a fundamental role in the missionary life, for it allows us to be refreshed and strengthened by the Spirit as the inexhaustible divine source of renewed energy and joy in sharing Christ’s life with others. “Receiving the joy of the Spirit is a grace. Moreover, it is the only force that enables us to preach the Gospel and to confess our faith in the Lord” (*Message to the Pontifical Mission Societies*, 21 May 2020). The Spirit, then, is the true protagonist of mission. It is he who gives us the right word, at the right time, and in the right way.

In light of this action of the Holy Spirit, we also want to consider the missionary anniversaries to be celebrated in 2022. The establishment of the Sacred Congregation De Propaganda Fide in 1622 was motivated by the desire to promote the missionary mandate in new territories. A providential insight! The Congregation proved to be crucial for setting the Church’s evangelizing mission truly free from interference by worldly powers, in order to establish those local Churches which today display such great vigour. It is our hope that, as in its past four centuries, the Congregation, with the light and strength of the Spirit, will continue and intensify its work of coordinating, organizing and promoting the Church’s missionary activities.

The same Spirit who guides the universal Church also inspires ordinary men and women for extraordinary missions. Thus it was that a young French woman, Pauline Jaricot, founded the Society for the

Propagation of the Faith exactly two hundred years ago. Her beatification will be celebrated in this jubilee year. Albeit in poor health, she accepted God’s inspiration to establish a network of prayer and collection for missionaries, so that the faithful could actively participate in the mission “to the ends of the earth”. This brilliant idea gave rise to the annual celebration of World Mission Day, in which the funds collected in local communities are applied to the universal fund with which the Pope supports missionary activity.

In this regard, I think too of the French Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson, who established the Association of the Holy Childhood to promote the mission among children, with the motto “Children evangelize children, children pray for children, children help children the world over”. I also think of Jeanne Bigard, who inaugurated the Society of Saint Peter the Apostle for the support of seminarians and priests in mission lands. Those three Mission Societies were recognized as “Pontifical” exactly a hundred years ago. It was also under the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit that Blessed Paolo Manna, born 150 years ago, founded the present-day Pontifical Missionary Union, to raise awareness and encourage missionary spirit among priests, men and women religious and the whole people of God. **Saint Paul VI** himself was part of this latter Society, and confirmed its papal recognition. I mention these four Pontifical Mission Societies for their great historical merits, but also to encourage you to rejoice with them, in this special year, for the activities they carry out in support of the mission of evangelization in the Church, both universal and local. It is my hope that the local Churches will find in these Societies a sure means for fostering the missionary spirit among the People of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, I continue to dream of a completely missionary Church, and a new era of missionary activity among Christian communities. I repeat Moses’ great desire for the people of God on their journey: “Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets!” (Num 11:29). Indeed, would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth! Mary, Queen of the Missions, pray for us!

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 6 January 2022, Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord


POPE FRANCIS

VII. CURIA MATTERS


TRANSFERS / APPOINTMENTS Eparchy of Chanda (August 2022)

No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
1	Fr. Bibin Vincent Thekekkara		Asst. Administrator, Christ Hospital, Chandrapur & Associate Pastor, St. Thomas Church, Chandrapur	30/09/2022
2	Fr. Abraham (Joby) Illimoottil		Vocation Promotion Council Member (Additional)	30/09/2022
3	Dn. Joseph (Josekuttu) Pathampally	Diaconate, St. Thomas Church, Chandrapur	Diaconate, Aranya Niwas Church, Lakkadakot	30/09/2022
4	Dn. Paul (Linto) Varghese		Diaconate, SVG & St. Alphonsa Church, Kalmana	30/09/2022
5	Fr. Ouseppachan Mathalikunnel	Asst. Parish Priest, Chavara Bhavan Church, Ettapalli		23/11/2022
6	Dn. Deepak Tirkey		Diaconate, Sneharsham Church, Bhamragarh	26/11/2022
7	Dn. Alwin Varghese		Diaconate, Chavara Bhavan Church, Ettapalli	26/11/2022
8	Dn. Naveen Varghese		Diaconate, Cathedral Church, Ballarpur	29/11/2022

No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
9	Fr. Jobin Ovelil	Director, AVD		01/01/2023
10	Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil		Director, AVD (Additional)	01/01/2023



† Bp. Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda



Fr. Shibu Monipalli
Chancellor

SPIRITUAL ORIENTATION FOR MISSIONARIES

Monthly Recollection Schedule - 2023 (Diocese of Chanda)

Month	Date	Time	Occation	Participants	Venue	Special Event	Organizer
January	Jan 31	05.45 PM	Recollection	Priests and Men Religious	BPQ	General Presbyterium	Proto- Syncellus
February	Feb 21	05.45 PM	40 Hours of Adoration	Priests and Men & Women Religious	BPQ	Preparation for Great Lent	Cathedral Vicar
March	Mar 30	05.45 PM	Recollection	Diocesan Priests	BPQ	Diocesan Presbyterium	Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil
April	Apr 04	10.00 AM	Muron Qurbana	Priests and Men & Women Religious	BPQ	Preparation for Holy Week	Proto- Syncellus
May	Prayer Day for priests, Men & Women Religious and People (Parish Level) (Please fix the date according to the convenience in the parish)						
June	June 6	06.00 PM	Recollection	Priests and Men & Women Religious	Zonal Centre	Parish day/Gathering	Respective Priest in charge
July	July 12	06.00 PM	Recollection	Priests and Men Religious	Online	Zonal Presbyterium	Zonal Vicar
August	August 3	05.45 PM	Recollection	Diocesan Priests	BPQ	Vianney Day	Fr. Shime Manjaly (Secretary)
September	Sep 16	10.00 AM	Missionary Conference	Priests and Men & Women Religious	BPQ	Missionaries' Diocesan level gathering	Fr. Vivek & SVG Rector
October	Oct 24	10.00 AM	Chanda Family Day	All Missionaries and Lay delegates from parishes	BPQ	Diocese Gathering	Cathedral Vicar
November	Nov 12-17	12 - 9:00 PM 17 -afternoon	Priests Annual Retreat	Priests and Men Religious	BPQ	Priests Renewal + Spiritual Orientation	Proto- Syncellus
December	Dec 09	09.00 AM	Advent Recollection	Priests and Men & Women Religious	BPQ	Christmas Gathering	Bishop

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

DIOCESAN YEAR PLAN 2023 : CHANDA
The Year of Holy Sacraments

JANUARY

- 01 - Inauguration of the Year of Sacraments
- 02-08 - Syro-Malabar *Preshitha Varam*
- 03 - St. Chavara Kuriakose
- 06 - Feast of Epiphany, World Missionary Holy Childhood Day & First Friday
- 07-14 - Pray for Syro-Malabar Synod of Bishops
- 14 - St. Devasahayam Pillai
- 18-25 - Church Unity Octave
- 20 - St. Sebastian
- 26 - Republic Day
- 30 - World Day of Peace, Pastors' Meet, BPQ
- 31 - Monthly Recollection for Priests and Men Religious, BPQ (General Presbyterium)

FEBRUARY

- Lenten campaign
- Lay Leaders training (CLC)
- 01-04 - PPT Meeting
- 03 - First Friday
- 06-10 - Deacons' Orientation Program
- 11 - Grotto Pilgrimage, Warur (Day of the Sick)
- 13-16 - PPT Meeting
- 18 - CSA Meeting
- 20-22 - 40 Hours of Adoration, (Cathedral, BPQ)
- 20 - Ash Day
- 21 - Monthly Recollection for Priests and Men & Women Religious, BPQ (5.45 PM)
- 25 - Blessed Rani Maria
- 27-28 - PPT Meeting

MARCH

- Marriage Preparation Course
- 01-02 - Quinquennial Priests' Meet
- 03 - First Friday
- 06-07 - PPT Meeting
- 08 - World Women's Day
- 09-10 - PPT Meeting
- 10 - Finance Council
- 19 - Feast of St. Joseph
- 23 - Patron's Day of Bp Vijay Anand Nedumpuram CMI
- 25 - Feast of Annunciation
- 28 - Bp. Januarius' (27th) Death Anniversary
- 30 - Monthly Recollection for the Diocesan Priests, BPQ (Diocesan Presbyterium)

APRIL

- Vocation Camp
- Music Course (April-May)
- Career Guidance
- English Language Course
- 02 - Palm Sunday
- 04 - Muron Qurbana (Common Recollection for Priests, Men & Women Religious, BPQ 09.00 AM)
- 06 - Maundy Thursday
- 07 - Good Friday, Calvarigiri Pilgrimage, Lakkadakot
- 08 - Holy Saturday
- 09 - Easter Day
- 14 - Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti, Holiday
- 15 - Transfers in the diocese
- 21-23 - Pastoral Visit (Sumthana)
- 22 - Ramzan, Holiday
- 24 - Patron's Day of Major Archbishop George Cardinal Alenchery
- 29 - Seminar on homiletics for priests, men and women religious

MAY

- Prayer Day for priests, men & women religious and people (Parish Level)
(One day recollection in the parish)
- Home Mission
- 01 - May Day (International Labour Day), St. Joseph, the patron of workers
- 01-12 - Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Programme (MSDFP)
- 05 - First Friday
- 06 - St. Dominic Savio
- 13 - Vestition/Minor Orders, BPQ
- 14 - Second death anniversary of Fr. Lawrence Burle
- 16-18 - Priestly Ordinations, Kerala
- 18 - Feast of Ascension
- 28 - Feast of Pentecost
- 31 - Visitation of Bl. V. Mary

JUNE

- Hindi & Marathi Language Course
- 02 - First Friday
- 04 - Feast of Holy Trinity
- 05 - World Environment Day
- 06 - Monthly Recollection for the diocesan, Zonal level (Zonal Presbyterium)
- 08 - Feast of Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), St. Mariam Thresia
- 09 - St. Ephrem, Patron's Day - Bp. Ephrem
- 16 - Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 17 - Feast of Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 29 - Sts. Peter and Paul (Bakr-id, Holiday)

JULY

- 03 - St. Thomas the Apostle and the patron of our diocese

- 07 - First Friday
- 12 - Monthly Recollection for Priests and Men & Women Religious (ONLINE)
- 16 - Feast of Mount Carmel
- 20-23 - Pastoral Visit (Balapur)
- 23 - Day of grant parents and elderly
- 25 - St. James
- 28 - St. Alphonsa
- 28-30 - Pastoral Visit (Hinganghat)
- 29 - Muharam/Ashura Holiday

AUGUST

- 01 - Fifteen days fast in preparation for the feast of Assumption of our Lady begins
- 03 - Monthly Recollection for Diocesan priests (BPQ), Board of Education Meeting
- 04 - St. John Maria Vianney - Vianney Day (SVG), First Friday
- 06 - Transfiguration of our Lord, Priests Sunday
- 12 - CSA Meeting
- 14 - Second death anniversary of Fr. K.S. Joseph, Kozhikothickal
- 15 - Feast of Assumption, Independence Day & Chanda Establishment Day (1962)
- 21 - Chanda Establishment Day Sunday Collection
- 21-Sep 01 - Pray for Synod of Bishops
- 29 - St. Euphrasia, Onam
- 30 - Raksha Bandhan Holiday

SEPTEMBER

- 01 - Eight days fast in preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary begins, First Friday
- 05 - St. Theresa of Calcutta
- 07 - Janmashtami Holiday

- 08 - Feast of Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 09 - CRI General Body Meeting, BPQ
- 14 - Exaltation of the Cross
- 16 - Missionary Conference
- 23 - International Children's Day
- 23-24 - Pastoral Visit (Kaotha)
- 28 - Milad un-Nabi, Holiday – Diocesan Pastoral Council

OCTOBER

- Month for Rosary devotion
- 01 - St. Theresa of Child Jesus, Sunday for the Aged and the Sick,
- 02 - Gandhi Jayanthi
- 04 - St. Francis of Assisi, Patron's Day - Pope Francis
- 05-08 - Pastoral Visit (Marakbody)
- 06 - First Friday
- 07 - Feast of Holy Rosary
- 15 - St. Theresa of Avila
- 16 - Blessed Kunjachan
- 19-22 - Pastoral Visit (Chincholi)
- 20 - Fasting in preparation for Chanda Family Day
- 21 - Holy Hour in preparation for Chanda Family Day
- 22 - Mission Sunday, St. John Paul II
- 24 - Chanda Family Day, Episcopal Ordination Anniversary of Bp. Ephrem, Dussehra Holiday

NOVEMBER

- 01 - All Saints Day
- 02 - All Souls Day
- 03-05 - Pastoral Visit (Awarpur)
- 03 - First Friday
- 12 - Diwali
- 12-17 - Priests Annual Retreat
- 23-26 - Pastoral Visit (Repanpalli)

- 26 - Christ the King
- 27 - Guru Nanak Jayanti Holiday, Diocesan Pastoral Council (10.00 AM)

DECEMBER

- Advent collection for Seminary Fund
- Marriage Preparation Course
- 01 - First Friday, Advent abstinence begins
- 03 - St. Francis Xavier, The World day for the Physically Challenged
- 08 - Feast of Immaculate Conception of Mary
- 09 - Advent Recollection for Priests and Men & Women religious (BPQ)
- 10 - Birth Day of Bp. Ephrem Nariculam
- 11 - Presbyteral Council (10 AM), Consulters Meeting (3.30 PM)
- 16 - Fourth Death Anniversary of Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil
- 25 - Christmas
- 28 - Feast of Holy Innocents
- 31 - Feast of Holy Family, Year ending - The year of Sacraments ends



28TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Bp. Januarius `28th death anniversary falls on Tuesday 28 March 2023. Please observe the day in every parish and institutions in the diocese. There will be Holy Qurbana and Office of the Dead at Cathedral, Ballarpur at 6.00 PM.



DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

DIOCESE OF CHANDA: 05 OCTOBER 2022

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, the missionary gathering of the erstwhile Chanda mission, the Chanda Family Day and the episcopal ordination anniversary of the Bp. Ephrem was unitedly celebrated with solemnity and gaiety on Wednesday 5 October 2022. The day started at 10.00 AM with flag hoisting by Fr. Antony Moozhikuzhy CMI, the holy Qurbana was started at 10.20 AM in the specially prepared stage of Vianney Jubilee School, BPQ in the Bishop's Home campus. Bp. Ephrem Nariculam presided over Holy Qurbana and Archbishop. Elias Gonsalves, the archbishop of Nagpur was the homilist. Bp. Prince Antony Panengaden (Adilabad), Bp. Joseph Kollampambil CMI (Jagdapur), Bp. Joseph Kunnath CMI (Emeritus, Adilabad), Vicar Generals, Provincials, Major seminary rectors, Jubilarians and the pioneering missionary priests: Fr. Joseph Manjaly CMI and Fr. Joseph Velampambil CMI, were the chief con-celebrants in the altar. There were almost 80 priests concelebrated the Holy Qurbana.

The Holy Qurbana was followed by felicitations. Fr. Shibu Monippally welcomed the gathering. Priests, religious and the people greeted Bp. Ephrem for the episcopal ordination anniversary. Bp. Ephrem felicitated the pioneering missionaries of erstwhile Chanda mission. Fr. Joseph Manjaly CMI, Fr. Joseph Velampambil CMI, Sr. Hendrita CMC, Sr. Dominica CMC were present. Sr. Milani CMC could not be present due to her ill health. Bishop also felicitated the pioneering *Gurujis* and those present on the occasion were Kisan Guruji, Yogapathi Guruji and Manohar Guruji. Archbishop Elias Gonsalves chaired the felicitation meeting. Bp. Prince Antony, Bp. Joseph Kollampambil CMI, Bp. Joseph Kunnath CMI, Fr. Joseph Manjaly CMI and Kisan Guruji spoke on the occasion. Archbishop handed over the keys of the newly constructed houses

of Mr. Vijay Vagmare of Pattaguda parish and Mr. Praveen Janagam of Repanpalli parish. It was part of Diamond Jubilee house construction project of 60 houses. The following were released in the meeting (i) A collection of hymn book: *Prabhu Teri Vandhana*, compiled by Fr. Jeevan KD (ii) My Family Prayer (A Book on Family Liturgy) adapted and compiled Bp. Ephrem Nariculam (iii) The revised version of the Statutes of the Eparchy of Chanda (iv) The Diocesan Jubilee Directory 2022. Thanks to Fr. Peter Kisan for his editing expertise in preparing the directory 2022.

Fr. Joshy Chettiyanchira and Fr. Joseph Kalathil felicitated Golden jubilarians and Silver jubilarians respectively. Representing the Golden jubilarians Fr. KD Chacko and for the Silver jubilarians Sr. Mary Tom SABS gave replies. Thanks to Kalabhavan students for the prayer dance. The dance performed by Montfort school students was well appreciated. Fr. Jose Zade proposed vote of thanks and SVG staff and students sung the Chanda Anthem.

The tribal dance from Jarawandi parish added beauty to the entrance procession of the holy Qurbana. Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil led the liturgical arrangements and Fr. Binu co-ordinated the felicitation meeting. Fr. Peter Kisan and Fr. Nelson Mudaliar Sdb anchored the program of the day from the beginning till the end. Frs. Robinson, Jobin, Albin, Shine, Dn. Tigi and the regent Bro. Nikhil co-ordinated all the details of the program of the day. Thanks to CMC (Chandrapur) DM (Durgapur & Rajura) and FDSHJ (Ballarpur) for their presence, support and service in arranging liturgy and decoration. The choir from Chandrapur parish served at Holy Qurbana for liturgical singing. SVG brothers and CMI aspirants served at Holy Qurbana and served for background arrangements. Fr. Varghese Puthupambil co-ordinated the day's events.

Reporter, Chanda Samachar

PASTORAL VISIT 2023

Sl.No.	Parish/Station	Date	
1.	Sumthana	April	21-23
2.	Balapur	July	20-23
3.	Hinganghat	July	28-30
4.	Kaotha	September	23-24
5.	Marakbody	October	05-08
6.	Chincholi	October	19-22
7.	Awarpur	November	03-05
8.	Repanpalli	November	23-26

†Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

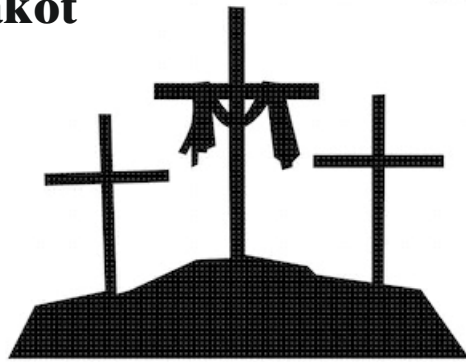
Fr. Shibu Monipallil
Chancellor, Diocese of Chanda

NB: (i) Please contact chancery two months before the dates of pastoral visit.



**Calvarigiri Pilgrimage
Lakkadakot**

Good Friday
07 April 2023



**EVANGELIZATION, EMPOWERMENT &
ECOLOGY : COINING NEW PASTORAL
STRATEGY FOR THE MISSION**

**(Elaborated inaugural speech by Bp. Ephrem Nariculam,
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda, for the mission seminar
organised by CMI Marthoma Province, Chanda, on 09
August 2022)**

Dear Co-Missionaries and Guest Missionaries,
*“I will praise the name of God with a song
I will magnify him with thanksgiving” (Ps 69:30)*

On this auspicious occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Chanda Mission (1962-2022), I can not but remember the words of Archbishop Eugene D'Souza, the late archbishop of Nagpur. His words were inspirational and motivational. At silver jubilee of Chanda mission (1987) he said: ***“Some time ago I had an opportunity of coming back to Chanda and Balharshah and in the process I visited a few mission stations. The whole place is changed and is buzzing with activity. So many new stations have been opened out and so many labourers, Priests, Sisters and Brothers have come to work in this part of the vineyard of the Lord. Truly, the desert has blossomed and bloomed”***. Indeed, it was a factual proof at the occasion of silver jubilee and it added flavours to our mission in the years later. Our pioneering missionaries blossomed and bloomed where they were planted and the missionaries who arrived later followed the suit. I am sure that the hard work of the pioneering missionaries is the secret of the success of the mission in Chanda. We shall be proud of them for, we too have become part of it. Jai Chanda Mission. Today as we are in the Diamond Jubilee year, we are reminded that we have to go miles ahead.

On this joyous occasion I gratefully remember all our missionaries and catechists for their dedicated service and mission endeavours. Today we enjoy, literally the fruit of the hard

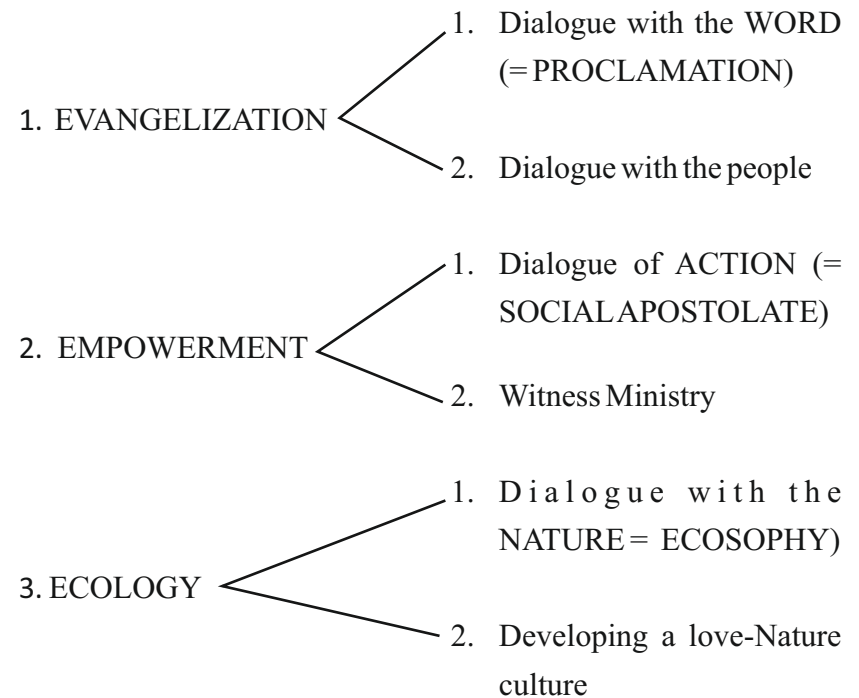
work of our pioneering missionaries, the late CMI and CMC missionaries: Bp. Januarius Palathuruthy CMI, Fr. Felician Wadakkumchery CMI, Fr. Zacheus CMI, Fr. Silas CMI, Fr. Eugene Kizhakethalackal CMI, Sr. Reeta Thottungal CMC, Sr. Euphemia Chakkalackal CMC, Sr. Teresa Therattil CMC, Sr. Pulcheria Eluvathingal CMC, and Sr. Kochuthresia CMC and the others who are still with us: Fr. Joseph Manjaly CMI (Bellampally), Fr. Joseph Velamparambil CMI (Bellampally), Sr. Dominica CMC (Bheemaram), Sr. Milani CMC (Pala) and Sr. Hendrita CMC (Chennur). The light they shed on Chanda mission still shines and radiates the divine splendour of the gospel message. I recall also the untiring co-operation of the pioneering catechists who greatly contributed to our mission. They bore witness to the message of Christ in word and deed. Their tolerance and zeal for mission bore fruit. The faithful in Chanda and Adilabad dioceses, the number of institutions and the mission centres are the witness of their missionary ventures. I avail the opportunity to thank all missionaries of Chanda, past and present, for their toilsome missionary ventures for the growth of this mission. May the souls of the departed Rest In Peace and the missionaries in active ministry go ahead with zeal and enthusiasm. The ineffable is God's mercy and great is His name.

The path ahead is not smooth but still there is light shining showing the way. The axioms like “Periphery to the Centre”, “Through Children to the Parents” and “Micro Vs Macro” were but very effective capsules that augmented our missionaries to be enthusiastic, zealous, genuine and hopeful. Our primary goal and the sole target of our mission was evangelization and we continued the thrust on evangelization unabated. It was a model for many. We trod the unbeaten paths. Chanda was a successful experiment. The success has reached to the zenith when Holy See extended the jurisdiction of Syoro-Malabar Church beyond proper territory within India and abroad. We have today 35 arch/dioceses in and abroad, engaged in the evangelizing mission of Christ. Thanks to all missionaries – bishops, priests, religious

and lay catechists.

In this context and on this heartwarming occasion of Diamond Jubilee of Chanda Mission, as a future model of mission of proclamation **I PROPOSE AN E³ CAPSULE FOR OUR MISSION AHEAD.** The three Es stand for Evangelization, Empowerment and Ecology. It is indeed nothing new but an innovative composition of strategy in the mission. This make-up should become our focus in our mission in the years ahead. It has become a dire need today for a holistic approach in the mission.

E³



These three directional dialogues make us genuine missionaries. Dialogue is not just 'sharing experience' but a 'giving' & 'taking' and 'speaking' & 'listening'. A sense and the spirit of Synodality involved in it in a wider spectrum of understanding the Church's mission. PEOPLE are the focus,

pivotal and primary concern of a missionary. They are the common platform to which all missionary undertakings are oriented. Indeed Bp. Januarius CMI, the architect of Chanda mission, impelled greatly on 'people orientation'. They are our target group and treasure of possession, for whom we live. The episcopal motto of Bp. Januarius clearly articulates this: “*Sambhajemahi Dhivyani*” – 'To share everything dynamically divine'. From the very inception of the mission he planned a strategy of 'Peripheries to the Centre' policy. It primarily meant a people orientation – a lived experience with the people in their faith, tribulations and hardships as a starting point of all missionary endeavours. The “lived experience with the people” not only boosts our reliance on God's providence (Mt 6:25-34 & Lk 12:22-34) but also add charm to our witness ministry. As Bl. Pope Paul VI points out: “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses” (*Evangelii Nuntiandii*, #11).

It is needless to say **Evangelization** is our primary focus. The great command of Christ is to go to the end of the world to proclaim the good news (Mt.28:19-20). There are still millions not heard the good news. In our diocese we have not yet explored half of our mission land. Our pastoral plan envisions evangelization in this land as proclamation to the gathered, scattered and those never heard it at all. It is, but evangelization, re-evangelization, and the new evangelization as St. Pope John Paul II terms it in the document *Tertio Millennio Adveniente*. The scope for all the three are still open in our diocese. *The Decennial Faith Renewal and Catechetical Program* boosts our efforts is my hope.

“Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel” (1Cor 9:16). “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news” (Rom 10:15). As we know the Church by her very nature is missionary (Vat II. AG, 2) and the great command of Christ is 'To go to the end of the world to proclaim the good news' (Cf. Mt 28:19-20 & Mk 3:14-15). It is her essence and existence. So the

primary mission of a Christian, all the more of a consecrated missionary is, but to preach him, the person of Jesus - in word, deed and give life-witness in season and out of season (2 Tim. 4:2). Befitting is here to remember the words of St. Francis of Assisi: “Preach the gospel at all times. Use words, if necessary”. Thus, preaching is not one of our missions, but the MISSION, we are invited, entrusted with and sent out.

The second focus in the E³ capsule is **Empowerment**. The human person is a social being. He/she is to live in a society. A decent living is one's birth right. A graceful living is a God-given right of any human person. So, it becomes our mandated missionary responsibility to offer and provide opportunities for a decent standard of living to everyone to the possible extent. Our ministry of education, service to the sick and social upliftment programs should aim to provide the people a dignified human living. In the gospel we read Jesus went around in the towns and villages doing good - teaching, preaching, healing and helping the people (Mt 9:35). The Talent Club, our boardings/hostels, Kalabhavan, post-metric hostels and the other social apostolates are aiming to achieve this target. The Diamond Jubilee House Construction project is the last in the row. We shall resolve to co-operate with these and do our best.

Empowerment indeed is the social dimension of our mission. Nourished by the Word, we cannot do away with the material needs of a human person. Empowerment calls us to help others to become self-supporting and serve others at their different needs. Education ministry, healing ministry and social apostolate come under it. They form different traits of witness ministry at the service of the people, simultaneously also attract people or find points of convergence to contact people. So a right and proper formation of missionary personnel in these sectors matter paramount importance. These ministries are our social involvements but never to forget that they are also the means of evangelization and not just social apostolates. We are not social workers doing some spiritual ministries, but primarily spiritual

ministers, involving also in some social apostolates. Remember the note of the evangelist: “Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness” (Mt 9:35).

In the E³ capsule the third component is **Ecology**. It has become almost mandatory for the world today. Pope Francis in the encyclical letter *Laudato Si*, underlines the great need of the ecological preservation for the safety of our future generation. The havoc have done to the nature under the pretext of development is unimaginable and it is now high time to take it seriously and do something for the harmony of nature. If not, we are going to face greater challenges in the future. I need not delineate what are the methods that we should try and the scope for the same ahead. The government and the social media present to us ample opportunities and guidance in this regard. The inference of the book of Genesis on the purpose of this created nature is for our use and not for our abuse or misuse, and we, the 'human' are not the Lords of nature but only stewards (Gen Ch 1-2). The *Harith Varsh 2021* axiom in our diocese was 'Serve Nature Save Future'. We shall resolve to do it in letter and spirit.

Ecological concern has become a crucial matter that Church has addressed with serious concern in the recent past (*Laudato Si*, Pope Francis). Nature is God's garden of love for the humankind (Gen 1&2). The created nature manifests God's gratuitous love and compassion towards the whole human race. It is for our use and not for abuse, misuse or even overuse. As exploitation of nature is sin, so too is it's under use. The 'human' is appointed as steward to sustain nature and protect it from all dangers. Respect, protection and sustenance should be the human attitude towards nature, for, the nature is meant to serve the generations in the past, present and future. It calls us to develop a love-nature-culture in our vicinities – at home, in the parishes, institutions and wherever we are. Use the land and stop all abuses on nature. Kitchen garden, organic cultivation, natural farming,

tree plantation drive, stopping land erosion, protection from the forest fire, preservation of water sources, curtail use and throw culture, application of system of recycling, stop felling of trees, stop filling of ponds and wells, protection of rivers and streams, stop air and noise pollution, proper use of plastic etc....etc.... are some of the feasible ways of developing a love-nature-culture. In this context it is worth reflecting how beautiful was the vision of our pioneering missionaries who bought farming land attached to every mission station and how far these lands are effectively made of use of by the modern generation of missionaries. It needs serious reflection and renewed efforts to do the needful!

So dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear people let us guide ourselves to go ahead to contribute our best to our mission. God asks us not to do the best in the world but our best for the world. God wants us to be faithful, not necessarily always successful. God wishes that we love the work that we do than do the work that we love. We are missionaries and we are set out to accomplish a divine task. So we shall be responsible missionaries.

I avail the opportunity to thank CMI Marthoma province for the initiative to conduct this missionary gathering on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Chanda Mission. We shall move ahead with enthusiasm and joy. Impelled by Pope Francis' invitation to Synodality we shall walk together in co-ordination, collaboration and consultation to achieve the goal, the mission entrusted in this land of Chanda. May God bless everyone. Thanks to all.

Jai Christ, Jai Chanda Mission

Bp. Ephrem Nariculam



Quotes

“

*There is nothing so great as the Eucharist.
If God had something more precious,
he would have given it to us.*

”

– St. John Vianney

REPORT OF CRI CHANDA UNIT GENERAL BODY MEETING

Due to the unprecedented and unimagined arrival of COVID-19, the CRI Chanda Unit was not able to convene its regular Annual General Body Meeting for the last two years. However, by God's grace the annual CRI General Body Chanda Unit was held on 10th September 2022 at the Bishop's home, Ballarpur. The meeting began with a hymn to the Holy Spirit. Fr Suresh Thomas CMF, the CRI President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Thereafter, Our Bishopji Mar Ephrem Nariculam enlightened the gathering with his words of wisdom and inspiration. He emphasized on the fact that today in the service of evangelization we are in need of more and more credible witnesses than mere lip preachers.

Henceforth, Fr Tomy Chirapurath CMI, the resource person of the day was introduced and initiated to present his scholarly paper on “*Consecrated Life and Missio ad Gentes.*” He presented his viewpoints scholarly, systematically, structurally and constructively but without excluding the elements of pastoral and spiritual ingredients. It was a challenge for the New Gen-missionaries of this fertile soil to go back to the roots of original missionary zeal and get reinvigorated to tread the road of New Evangelization that is less travelled.

In the second session of the talk, the resource person presented a few effective missionary and evangelizing paradigms for the gathering. This session came to an end by making certain clarifications and observations from the part of the participants and a few remarks by Our Bishopji.

In the next session, Fr Suresh Thomas CMF presented a succinct report of the previous years' activities and the present financial statement. Then the gathering proceeded to elect the new governing body. The newly elected governing body members:

Rev. Sr. Seema SJB	:	President
Rev. Fr. Martin Kallamparambil VC	:	Vice-president
Rev. Fr. Tomy Chirappurath CMI	:	Secretary
Rev. Sr. Annies DM	:	Joint-secretary
Rev. Fr. Manu CMF	:	Treasurer

Bishopji felicitated the new governing body members and wished them God's blessings. After having a sumptuous meal the meeting came to an end at 02.15 pm. The CRI members take this opportunity to thank all the participants, very specially Mar Ephrem Nariculam for his presence and suggestions.

Fr. Suresh Thomas CMF





Results of Drawing Competition

Catechism Department, Eparchy of Chanda

Category 1

I - Ananya A Ramteke (St. Mary's Church, Durgapur)
 II - Rubhel Pais (St. Mary's Church, Awarpur)
 II - Joyous Pawaias Ratne (St. Mary's Church, Durgapur)

Category 2

I - Abey S. Joseph (St. Antony's Church, Wardha)
 II - Soni A. Kido (St. Thomas Church, Chandrapur)

Category 3

I - Divya Suresh Ghuglat
 II - Catherine Tirkey (St. Thomas Cathedral, Ballarpur)

Congratulations to the Winners!!!

Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil
 Director, Department of Catechism
 Eparchy of Chanda

ONE DAY SEMINAR FOR MISSIONARIES

One day seminar for missionaries is scheduled on Saturday 29 April 2023 at Bishop's Home. May I request everyone to block the date.

Theme : Evangelization in the context: Hermeneutics of Proclamation
 Animator : Fr. Joy Poonoli CSsR
 Date : Saturday 29 April 2023
 Venue : Pastoral Centre, BPQ
 Time : 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM

† Ephrem Nariculam,
 Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda



MURON QURBANA



Let us be united in the Holy priesthood of Christ. Let the celebration of Holy Muron Qurbana fortify our priestly *Koinonia*. Let us deepen our commitment to Christ, Church, Diocese, Congregation and to the people.

Date : Tuesday, 04 April 2023

Venue : St. Thomas Cathedral, BPQ

Schedule

10.00 AM	Talk
11.15 AM	Holy Qurbana
01.00 PM	Lunch, Departure.

PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL REPORT

The Presbyteral Council of Chanda Diocese was held on 26/11/2022 at 10 am. Ephrem Nariculam, our Bishopji led the prayer to commence the meeting and read out the agenda of the PC. He also welcomed the newly elected and nominated PC members. Fr. Binu Thomas was elected secretary for PC. Thereafter the meeting discussed the following agenda :

1. The Diamond Jubilee Housing Project
2. Induction of new catechists
3. Re- evangelization
4. Christmas gathering of Priests and religious
5. Kiranoday Enterprises
6. Coordinating the finance in the diocese
7. Diocesan eparchial assembly
8. Anonymous letters
9. Other matters discussed were
 - a. A common hall at diocesan head quarters
 - b. Tomb for priests and religious in BPQ cemetery
 - c. Starting colleges of arts, science, nursing etc
 - c. Guidance for post metric students
 - e. Celebration of Year of Sacrament 2023

1. Diamond Jubilee house construction project is on progress. Almost 45 houses construction is initiated. Save A Family, Toronto Archdiocese (Canada), different congregation, and institutions are cooperating with the project. Angamaly Forane Church in Ernakulam Angamaly Archdiocese is also extending help in the project.

The PC discussed also various means to extend maximum help to the needy in the diocese especially to women and children.

2. Induction of new Catechists and maintenance of the existing Catechists were a major point of discussion in the meeting. Catechists in the diocese have played a pivotal role in the evangelization. Their service in the future is very essential. The PC proposed to find out the potential Catechists of 35 to 50 age group from our parishes and initiate the preliminary training program by CLC. Later they can be sent for the training program of the Fiat Mission to learn and preach the good news their should be reformer in the dioceses for their decent maintenance.

3. Re- evangelization:

- Every parish shall keep at least one Home mission in a year.
- CMI Department of Evangelization expressed readiness to conduct/ give financial assistance for parish or forane wise or diocesan level Bible conventions
- Popular Mission retreats are schedule some of our parishes in our diocese. Divine Vachan Ashram will arrange as per requests.
- *JEEVOTSAV* parish retreat program shall be arranged in every parish in the coming years.
- It is decided to conduct zonal Bible conventions in March 2023 and Diocesan Bible convention in March 2024.
- Fr. Vivek was appreciated for his commendable activities for Youth and Children in the dioceses.

4. Christmas gathering for priests and religious was confirmed on 12th Dec 2022 and it shall be conducted every year.

5. Bishop thanked various agencies for their timely financial assistance during Covid and reminded that we need to create corpus funds in the diocese.

6. A linementa shall be prepared within 3 years for the Diocesan Eparchial assembly

7. The tendency of anonymous letters to tarnish others shall be discouraged. Bishopji reminded the members that we must hate the sin and love the sinner as a response to the questions on removing from ecclesiastical and responsibilities Bishop reminded that such tendencies are against Christian Charity and does not build up harmony among missionaries.

9. Other matters discussed were

- a. Constructing a hall (Diamond Jubilee Memorial Christ Hall) behind the cathedral Church for the common gathering for the diocese, Cathedral Church and school. At present we do not have a hall in the Bishop's Home campus for a gathering of more than 50.
- b. Tombs for priests and religious at the left side of existing cathedral cemetery (Vault System).
- c. Starting colleges can help our children to get higher education. But the PC did not find an immediate scope and possibility of success for colleges in our area. It needs more study survey. We shall think of it later.
- d. It is suggested that Fr. Robinson/ Social work Department can coordinate the students and give suitable guidance to the post metric students.
- e. Bishopji reminded that the Year of Sacraments shall be observed in 2023 as per our Pastoral Plan.

The meeting ended with Angelus at 1.00 pm followed by Lunch.

Fr. Binu Thomas
Secretary, PC, Diocese of Chanda



SYNOD FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION

(Talk by fr. Benny Mukalel CMI at Missionary Conference, BPQ,
30.10.2022)

Introduction

“Bring some of the fish that you have just caught” (Jn. 21:10). Jesus has shown that every member, however insignificant he/she may be, has something to contribute to the growth of the Church. This is the essence of synodality.

Etymologically the word 'synod' comes from two Greek words: 'syn' which means 'with' and 'hodos' which means 'path.' This connotes the fact that synod means people journeying together, consulting together and discussing issues with one another. The synod of 2023 is different and unique because it is a synod about synod itself; in other words it is about the synodality of the Church. It is not a synod of Bishops alone; all are invited to participate by listening and speaking; listening to what the Spirit is speaking to us.

This synod is not a product but a process; a new understanding for the entire exercise. It is not to produce a document but a spiritual journey together. Pope Francis has already initiated this process ever since he assumed Pope in March 2013. It is very evident in his three great encyclicals: in 2013 *Evangelii Gaudium* (EG) – a call to listen to the Gospel/ God, in 2015 *Lauda to Si* (LS) – a call to listen to Nature and in 2020 *Fratelli Tutti* (FT) – a call to listen to your Brothers and Sisters.

Thus he has invited us to listen to, especially those who are not heard, or those who have no chance to be heard, the people in the peripheries. There is a paradigm shift in this synod: the structure that is followed here is not hierarchical i.e., from top to bottom rather bottom to top. Bishops who assemble in October 2023 are going to deal with inputs received from the people of God prominently from people who have not been heard so far. So they discuss what we give.

Another feature of this synod is that it had the longest period of preparation; almost two years and the whole Church is involved in this preparation and this involvement is active and dynamic. Most

importantly the synod is about synodality; journeying together more like how God works. God is synodal and He works in synodal fashion. In this synod the fundamental importance is given to the fact that the voice of the poor and the excluded find a place; not only of those who have some role and responsibility within the particular Churches.

The purpose of this synod, and therefore this consultation, is not to produce documents, but to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands.

What is Synodality?

Synodality is journeying together. Pope Francis is convinced that in the present social, political, economic, cultural and digital scenario, the road ahead for the Church in the third millennium is journeying together. It is both a gift and a task. Reflecting together on the journey so far made enables us to learn from each other's experiences and perspectives.

What does synodality do to us? Enlightened by the Word of God and united in prayer we will be able to discern the process to seek God' will and pursue the pathways to which God calls us – towards deeper communion, fuller participation and greater openness in fulfilling our mission in the world.

The Context

What is the context in which this particular synod takes place or how it is conceived to hold a synod on synodality? The synod begins with outlining some prominent characteristics in the contemporary context:

1. This synod is taking place in the context of global pandemic. It has momentarily revived the sense that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person's problems are the problems of all. We cannot just be satisfied with ourselves. The pandemic has united the entire human family and it also challenges the Church's ability to accompany individuals and communities to re-read experiences of mourning and suffering that have unmasked many

false certainties and to cultivate hope and faith in the goodness of the creator and his creation.

2. This synod is taking place at a time the cry of the poor, marginalized and nature is unheard of. It is taking place at a time humanity closed its eyes upon the vulnerable. Once more we have realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together (FT 32). Humanity is forced to listen to the cry of the poor and of the earth; and still believe that even now the seeds of hope are sown by the Spirit. “The creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home” (LS 13). The equilibrium is lost as the poor, women and nature are not listened to.
3. This synod is taking place at a time when the Church cannot forget the lack of faith and corruption in the Church within herself: also we cannot run away from the suffering that we have caused to innocent victims through children and women abuses and abuse of power in handling such abuses. We need to assure them that the Church is with the victims.
4. This synod is taking place at a time when the Church is beset with an arrogant clericalism which encourages abuse of power in all aspects (power, economic, conscience, sexual).
5. This synod is taking place at a time when there are local and international conflicts going on, The war between Russia and Ukraine, there is growing impact of climate change, a lot of refugees and migrants sprang up every day, various forms of injustices, racism, violence, persecution and increasing inequality among humanity. The COVID 19 pandemic has made the existing inequalities explode.
6. This synod is taking place at a time in the West, Christianity is more and more ghettoized and marginalized. This view of Christianity is also taking root in developing countries. There is a coming of age among many young countries who are asserting their unique place in a world that is shackled to the yoke of globalization.

7. This synod is taking place at a time in the history where social network and social media rule the day. As a result liberal values are propagated at the expense of Christian values. We are gripped by a society that is without principles and where everything goes as long as it is perceived to be liberal.
8. This synod is taking place when everybody is pre-occupied with individualism and consumerism. Community values purported by faith are valued less. People are consumed by so called liberal agendas which promote LBGT, transgenderism, abortion and other views of humanity. Any person of faith is now side-lined or deemed homophobic or misogynistic. There is open hostility to people of faith; they are not allowed a view unless it fits neatly into current agenda that has been incubated by commercial view of morality hatched by the multi-nationals.

These are the contexts in which we are called to listen and speak.

Why is journeying together important?

Firstly because it is the way of God and he works in this fashion.

Secondly, we all have same mission and we are called into a community. Moreover, God is synodal and the creation of man is by a team: “**Let us** make man in **our** image, after **our** likeness; and let **them** have dominion over fish of the sea, and over all the earth...” (Gen. 1:26). God has created man as social being. Scripture says, it is not good for man to be alone. So we were made for relationships, for communities. And when Christ came to save us, he came to save us in community. In fact we are saved precisely through our joining a community, the family of God, in baptism. Our Catholic faith is not just a “Jesus and Me” religion. It is a Jesus and we religion.

We walk together – sojourners on a synodal path. But this walk is not a cake walk, it is not a stroll in the park, it is a trek through the desert. We are to make our Exodus, to go out of ourselves, our egoism, our selfishness; we are to break the habit of sin. We go as we pray in the Salve Regina, “banished children of Eve, mourning and weeping in the valley of tears.”

This synodality is our experience of Church as a pilgrim people, as

sojourners. We are to discern by listening to one another, and to the Holy Spirit, the path that Jesus wishes us to take in the 21st century. The Church is synodal – because the Church cannot afford to stop and not to continue the journey.

We walk together not only to encounter Christ but also to encounter each other, to create an 'ever wider' we of brothers and sisters, to listen one another and all to the Holy Spirit so that we shall discern what God is asking us today. Discernment must be about coming to see the world on God's terms and not on our terms.

God has saved humanity as a group. We are marching towards the realization of one shepherd and one sheep flock (Jn 10:16). Here mutual participation, mutual communion, sharing the burden and partaking in all the activities are important.

What is the method proposed? The method proposed here is “by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through her experience: which processes can help her to live communion, to achieve participation to open herself to mission.” Journeying together reveals and enacts the true nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary people of God whose goal is one and same: to establish the Kingdom of God; to preach the Good News.

As we journey together we listen to each one which enables us to share responsibility, convert prejudices that are not rooted in the Gospel. It aims at making Christian community a credible subject and reliable partner. Listening together helps us to have a relationship with other denominations and other religions, Civil Society, Organizations and popular movements. In other words it will help her to be more involved in the life of the people.

Through this synodality we want to have a Church where all are equal and not some are more equal. For this she must be ready to listen and be ready to change her old ways. This is the reformation she should aim through this journeying together.

Jesus is the way, truth and life. Synodality means “followers of the Way” (Acts 9:2, 19:9, 23, 22:4, 24: 14, 22). In the first millennium this

was the way Christians trod: 'people united in the unity of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

Second Vatican Council emphasized this communion of believers by stating that God did not want to save men individually but as a group, as people who acknowledges Him in Truth and serves Him in holiness (LG 9). We are one people through baptism. Our profession may be varied, talents different but 'The eye cannot say to the hand, I don't need you and the head cannot say to the feet, I don't need you’ (1 Cor. 12:21). “Therefore all the baptized are participants in Christ's priestly, prophetic and kingly functions by exercising the variety and ordered richness of their charisms.”

We should not be afraid to listen to the people of God. At the same time it is not the principle of majority that is followed. What must guide us in the process of listening is the shared passion for the common mission of evangelization and not the representation of conflicting interests. We must always remember that this is our ecclesial process and that can only take place at the heart of a hierarchically structured community. It is the result of the fruitful bond of *Sensus Fidei* of the people of God and the magisterial function of the pastors.

The purpose of the synodal Church is to listen: listen to all and all listen to the Spirit of Truth to know what he says to the Church (Rev. 2:7). Synodal Church is a Church going forth, a missionary Church (EG 46). This includes the call to deepen the relationships with other Churches and Christian communities with which we are united by the one Baptism. The perspective of journeying together then, is even broader and embraces all humankind, whose 'joys and hopes, griefs and anxieties' we share (GS 1). A synodal Church is a prophetic sign, above all for a community of nations incapable of proposing a shared projects through which to pursue the good of all. Practicing synodality is the most evident way for the Church to be 'the universal sacrament of salvation' (LG 48), a sign, an instrument of intimate union with God and of the unity of the whole human race' (LG 1).

The key element for the consultation process is: listening and speaking. It is listening to the heartbeat of humanity in all its diversity. It is the possibility of sharing in another human being's life. There are three

kinds of listening: listening to interrupt, listening to understand and listening to be ignited/listening to the Holy Spirit. We consciously move towards the third kind of listener. Ignited by the Holy Spirit we speak to promote synodality.

Objectives

Why synodal Church? This summarises what we have so far heard:

- Synodal Church is for sharing and exercising responsibility in the proclamation mission of the Church and to work for building a more beautiful and habitable world.
- It to examine how responsibility and power are lived in the Church and try to convert prejudices and distorted practices that are not rooted in the Gospel.
- It is to make Christian Community a credible subject and reliable partner in the paths of social dialogue, healing, reconciliation, etc..
- It is to have a relationship and communion with other denominations and other religions, civil society, organizations and popular movements.
- It is to help Church for a better involvement in the life of the people.
- It is to recall how Spirit has guided the Church's journey so far and today calls us together to be witnesses of God's love.
- It is to live a shared and inclusive ecclesial process offering everyone – especially those who are for various reasons not heard so far.
- It is to recognize and appreciate the wealth and variety of the gifts and charisms the Spirit liberally bestows for the good of the community and the benefit of the entire human family.
- It is to foster the appreciation and appropriation of the fruits of recent synodal experiences on the universal, regional, national and local level.

Synodal Church is inspired by two images

Synodal Church is inspired by two images from the scripture. The first image emerges from the life of Jesus; from the 'community scene' that constantly accompanies the journey of evangelization, since the preaching ministry of Jesus: everyone finds a place- the crowd, the apostles and the Lord. Jesus' interlocutor is the people of ordinary life people who are poor, sick, unheard, voiceless, marginalized etc... He accepts as interlocutors all those who emerges from the crowd. For example he listens to the heartfelt pleas of the Canaanite woman (Mt. 15: 21-28) who cannot accept being excluded from blessings Jesus brings. He allows himself to dialogue with the Samaritan woman (Jn 4: 1-42) despite her condition as a socially and religiously compromised woman. He solicits the free and grateful act of faith of the man born blind (Jn 9: 1-12) whom official religion had dismissed as outside of the perimeter of grace. He forgives the woman caught in adultery brought before him to be punished and He showed the world that a repentant sinner is welcomed in his Kingdom (Jn 8: 3).

The second image refers to the experience of the Holy Spirit in which Peter and early community recognizes the risk of placing unjustified limits on sharing the faith (Acts 10). It states no human being is unworthy in the eyes of God and the differences established by the election of the chosen people does not imply exclusive preference but service and witnessing of a universal breadth.

Humility grounded in prayer for a fruitful synodal process

The important quality that is required for a fruitful synodal process is humility grounded in prayer and a genuine sense of being part of God's evolving creation. Real humility can unlock closed minds, warped minds and distorted minds. Humility can allow a process to unfold in a way that remains faithful to the doctrine of the Church and the teachings of Jesus. The enemy of humility is clericalism and the resulting arrogance.

Synodality only can happen if it is based on prayer, without prayer we are nothing. Prayer in humility is the foundation of any journeying together or listening and talking together. Prayer allows us as a people to move one step at a time on our pilgrimage of life where we grow in our understanding of our faith. Without prayer in humility the synodal

process will be nothing more than an empty void.

Synodality in Action

Synodality is its objective and it is its method. The fundamental question to be asked here is “how is this journeying together happening today in your particular Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our journeying together?” In order to respond, you are invited to:

- a. Ask yourselves what experience in your particular Church the fundamental question calls to mind;
- b. Re-read these experiences in greater depth. What joys did they provoke? What difficulties and obstacles have they encountered? What wounds have they brought to light? What insights have they elicited?
- c. Gather the fruits to share. Where, in these experiences, does the voice of the Spirit resound? What is he asking of us? Where do we register a consensus? What paths are opening up for our particular Church?

Different articulations of Synodality

Prompted by the fundamental question we need to keep in mind three levels on which synodality is articulated as a constitutive dimension of the Church.

- a. The level of the style with which the Church ordinarily lives and works as people of God that journeys together and gathers in assembly for listening the word of God and celebrating the Holy Eucharist.
- b. The level of ecclesial structures and processes, determined also from the theological and canonical point of view, in which the synodal nature of the Church is expressed in an institutional way at the local, regional and universal levels;
- c. The level of synodal processes and events in which the Church is convoked by the competent authority.

In re-reading the experiences, it is necessary to keep in mind that 'journeying together' can be understood from two different

perspectives, which are strongly interconnected. The first perspective looks at the internal life of the particular Churches, the relationship between their the faithful and their pastors, and other bodies envisaged by the canonical discipline, including the diocesan synod and the communities into which they are divided (especially parishes). It then considers the relationships between the bishops and the Bishop of Rome, also the synods of various Churches. It then extends to the ways in which each particular Church integrates within itself the contribution of the various forms of monastic, religious and consecrated life, of lay associations and movements, of ecclesial and ecclesiastical institutions of various kinds (schools, hospitals, universities, foundations, charitable and assistance organizations etc.). Finally, this perspective also embraces relationships with brothers and sisters of other Christian denominations, with whom we share the gifts of the same Baptism.

The second perspective considers how the people of God journeys together with the entire human family. Thus our gaze will focus on the common initiatives with believers of other religions, with people who are distant from the faith, as well as with specific social environments and groups, with their socio-political, cultural, economic and other institutions, trade unions, and business associations, non-governmental and civil organizations, popular movements, minorities of various kinds, the poor and the excluded etc..

The three dimensions of Synodal process

The three dimensions: Communion, Participation and Mission are the vital pillars of a synodal Church. There is no hierarchy between them, rather each one enriches and orients the other two.

Communion: By his gracious will, God gathers us together as diverse peoples of one faith. The communion we share finds its deepest roots in the love and unity of the Trinity. It is Christ who reconciles us to the Father and unites us with each other in the Holy Spirit. We all have a role to play in discerning and living out God's call for his people.

Participation: A call for the involvement of all who belong to the people of God – laity, consecrated and ordained – to engage in deep and respectful listening to one another. This listening gives us space to hear

the Holy Spirit together, and guides our aspirations for the Church of the Third millennium. Participation is based on the fact that all the faithful are qualified and are called to serve one another through the gifts they have each received from the Holy Spirit. This participation involves that all are called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on making pastoral decisions which correspond as closely as possible to God's will.

Mission: The Church exists to evangelize. We can never be centred on ourselves. Our mission is to witness to the love of God in the midst of the whole human family. This synod is intended to enable the Church to better witness to the Gospel, especially with those who live on the spiritual, social, economic, political, geographical and existential peripheries of our world.

Who can participate?

The ministry of Jesus shows us that no one is excluded from God's plan of salvation. So all human beings are called to the new people of God (LG 13). God is truly at work in the entire people that he has gathered together. So everybody is invited and all can participate, but care is given to concentrate on the poor, women, marginalized and those who have not been heard, those in the peripheries. The faithful, all baptized, Christian denominations, other religions and even those without any faith are invited to participate.

Attitudes for participating in the synodal process

- **Being synodal requires time for sharing:** We are invited to speak with authentic courage and honesty (parrhesia). Everyone can grow through dialogue.
- **Humility in listening must correspond to courage in speaking:** Everyone has the right to be heard, just as everyone has the right to speak. Synodal dialogue depends on courage both in speaking and in listening. It is not about engaging in a debate to convince others. Rather, it is welcoming what others say as a way by which the Holy Spirit can speak for the good of all.
- **Dialogue leads to newness:** We must be willing to change our

opinions based on what we have heard from others.

- **Openness to conversion and change:** We are called to abandon attitudes of complacency and comfort that lead us to make decisions purely on the basis of how things have been done in the past.
- **It is an ecclesial exercise in discernment:** Discernment is based on the conviction that God is at work in the world and we are called to listen to what the Spirit suggests to us.
- **We are signs of a Church that listens and journeys:** By listening, the Church follows the path of God who listens to the cry of his people. The synodal process provides us with an opportunity to open ourselves to listen in an authentic way, without resorting to ready-made answers or pre-formulated judgments.
- **Leave behind prejudices and stereotypes:** The first step towards listening is freeing our minds and hearts from prejudices and stereotypes that lead us to ignorance and division.
- **Overcome the scourge of clericalism:** We are all interdependent. We are people with different and diverse charisms and gifts. In the image of Christ true power is service. So pastors are called to listen attentively to the flock entrusted to their care, just as the laity is called to speak freely and honestly. Everyone listens to one another in love, in a spirit of communion and our common mission.
- **Cure the virus of self-sufficiency:** We all are in the same boat. Together we form the body of Christ. Setting aside the mirage of self-sufficiency, we are able to learn from each other, journey together, and be at the service of one another. We can build bridges beyond the walls that sometime threaten to separate us – age, gender, wealth, ability, education, caste, creed etc.
- **Overcome ideologies:** We must avoid the risk of giving greater importance to ideas than to the reality of the life of faith that people live in a concrete way.

- **Give rise to hope:** The aim of this process is to be faithful to God and service to people. We are called to be beacon of hope and not prophets of doom.
- **Synods are time to dream and spend time with the future:** We are called to dream a future and try to fulfil what we dream. The following dispositions will help us in dreaming the future and hoping to live the dream in the future: **an innovative outlook** (new approach, creativity and a certain audacity), **being inclusive** (capable of embracing everyone, especially those whom we often forget or ignores), **an open mind** (avoid ideological labels and make use of methodologies that have borne fruits), **listening to each and every one**, **an understanding of journeying together** (walk the path of God together), **understanding the concept of a co-responsible Church** (each one has a role to play), **reaching out through ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.**

Ten Thematic nuclei that articulate different facets of Synodality

1. **The journeying companions:** *In the Church and in society, we are side by side on the same road: we need to ask: In your local Church who are the ones journeying together? Who is part of your Church? (Who is asking us to journey together? Who are the road companions, including those outside the ecclesial perimeter? What persons or groups are left in the margins?)*
2. **Listening:** *Listening is the first step, but it requires having an open mind and heart, without prejudices. Consider questions like: who should be heard? How is the young people and women listened to? How do we integrate the contribution of consecrated men and women? what space is there for the voice of the minorities, the discarded and excluded? (Do we identify prejudices and stereotypes that hinder our listening? How do we listen to social and cultural context in which we live? How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? How are the laity listened to? How do we listen to people on the periphery? what are some limitations in our ability to listen,*

- especially those who have different views from our own?)
3. **Speaking Out:** *All are invited to speak out with courage and parrhesia (candidly), that is in freedom, truth and charity. Consider the questions like: How do we promote a free and authentic style of communication within the community and its institutions, without duplicity and opportunism? How does the relationship with the media system work? (Who speaks on behalf of Christian community and how are they chosen? What enables or hinders speaking up courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church and society?)*
 4. **Celebrating:** *Journeying together is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist : Consider questions like: how do prayer and liturgical celebration inspire and direct our journeying together? How do they inspire the most important decisions? How do we promote active participation of all faithful in the liturgy and the exercise of the sanctifying function? (What space is given to the exercise of the ministries of the reader and acolyte?)*
 5. **Co-responsibilities in the mission:** *Synodality is at the service of the Church's mission, in which all her members are called to participate. Consider questions like : how is each baptised person called to be fully engaged in this mission? How does the community support its members committed to the service in the society (social, political commitment, scientific research and teaching, promotion of social justice, protecting human rights, caring for our common home)? How do you help them to live out these commitments in a logic of mission? What hinders the baptised from being active in mission? What areas of mission are we neglecting? How does the Church help these members to live out their service to society in a missionary way? How is discernment about missionary choices made and by whom? How are different traditions integrated and adopted with respect to the synodal style? How does collaboration work in territories where different *sui iuris* Churches are present?)*

6. **Dialogue in Church and society:** *Dialogue requires perseverance and patience, but it also enables mutual understanding. Consider questions like: what are the places and modes of dialogue within our particular Church? How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics, economics, culture, civil society and people who live in poverty? (How do we promote collaboration with neighbouring diocese, with and among religious communities in the area, with and among lay associations and movements? What experiences of dialogue and shared commitment do we have with believers of other religions and with non-believers? what particular issues in the Church and society do we need to pay more attention to?)*
7. **With other Christian denominations:** *The dialogue between Christians of different confessions, united by one baptism, has a special place in the synodal journey: Consider questions like: what relation do we have with the brothers and sisters of other Christian denominations? What areas do they concern? (What fruits have we drawn from this journeying together? What are the difficulties? What do we share and how do we journey together? What fruits have we drawn from walking together? How can we take the next step in walking forward with each other?)*
8. **Authority and Participation:** *Synodal Church is a participatory and co-responsible Church. Consider questions like: how do we identify the goals to be pursued, the way to achieve them, and the steps to be taken? How is authority exercised within our local Church? (What are the practices of team work and co-responsibility? How are team work and co-responsibility put into practice? How are evaluations conducted and by whom? How are lay ministries and the assumption of responsibility by the faithful promoted? How do synodal bodies (pastoral councils in parishes and dioceses, presbyteral council etc) function at the level of local Church? Are they a fruitful experience? How can foster a more synodal*

- approach in our participation and leadership?)
9. **Discerning and Deciding:** *In a synodal Church, decisions are made through discernment based on a consensus that flows from the common obedience to the Spirit: Consider questions like: by what procedures and methods do we discern together and make decisions? How can they be improved? How do we promote participation in decision making within hierarchical structured communities? (What is the relationship between consultative and decision making, and how do we put these into practice? How and with what tools do we promote transparency and accountability? How can we grow in communal spiritual discernment?)*
 10. **Forming ourselves in synodality:** *Synodality entails receptivity to change, formation and on-going learning. Consider questions like: how do we form people, especially those who hold roles of responsibility within the Christian community, to make them more capable of journeying together, listening to one another and engaging in dialogue? What formation do we offer for discernment and the exercise of authority? (What tools help us to read the dynamics of the culture in which we are immersed and their impact on our style of Church?)*

Travelling the synodal path in diocese

The diocesan phase is meant to offer as many people as possible a truly synodal experience of listening to one another and walking forward together, guided by the Holy Spirit. The diocesan phase should begin by finding the most effective ways of achieving the widest participation possible. We must personally reach out to the peripheries, to those who have left the Church, those who rarely or never practice their faith, those who experience poverty or marginalization, refugees, the excluded, the voiceless. The heart of the synodal experience is listening to God through listening to one another, inspired by the word of God. We listen to each other in order to better hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking in our world today.

How these meetings take place will depend on your local circumstances. Several parishes can join together, as well as ministries such as pastoral, health care or education , religious communities, lay movements and ecumenical movements. Stimulus questions could be provided to initiate discussion. Provide more emphasis on those type of questions that evoke personal stories and real life experiences rather than doctrinal statements. A synthesis of responses received could be made. The goal of the synthesis, on any level, is not to produce a generic summary of everything that was said or to carry out an academic exercise. Rather, the synthesis is an act of discernment in choosing and writing what will contribute to the next stage.

Role of the Bishop in synodal process

Synodality does not exist without the pastoral authority of the college of Bishops, under the primacy of the successor of Peter, as well as the pastoral authority of each diocesan bishop in the diocese entrusted to his care. Their ministry consists of pastor, teacher and priests of sacred worship. Their charism of discernment calls them to be authentic guardians, interpreters and witnesses to the faith of the Church.

The primary role of the diocesan bishop in this synodal process is to facilitate the synodal experience of the whole people of God.

He holds the key role in listening to the people of God. Under the influence of the holy Spirit, the Bishop can discern the most fruitful process for listening to the people of God in his diocese. To assist him in this process he is to appoint a contact person or a team.

The bishop also has a role in encouraging the involvement of diverse groups and individuals so that the synodal process can be truly collaborative effort, drawing on the wide participation of the faithful and reaching out to the full diversity of the people of God, priests, deacons, consecrated men and women ad the laity.

Diocesan phase of synodal process open and close with a liturgical celebration over which the Bishop can preside.

During the consultation process, the key role of the Bishop is to

listen. He may convene ad-hoc small community gatherings of his own if he wishes to do so, inviting representatives from a cross-section of the diocese, especially those at the peripheries. On a regular basis, the Bishop should meet the contact person/team to review progress of the consultation and address any challenges faced. At the same time the presence of bishop and clergy does not have the inadvertent effect of stifling authentic and unfettered input by the faithful.

Finally the bishop convokes a diocesan pre-synodal meeting to culminate the diocesan phase, and work towards diocesan synthesis before submitted to the episcopal conference. Diocesan synthesis is not to reflect positively or negatively on the Bishop. Rather it shall be an honest report of all that was shared during the diocesan phase of synodal process, representing the variety of views and perspectives of the people of God.

Role of priests in the synodal process

They communicate to the people of God on behalf of the Bishop and vice versa. They are agents of communication; helping the faithful to journey together, walking forward with one another. They are heralds of the renewal and points out how the Holy Spirit is opening new pathways.

They need to be men of prayer who promote a genuine spiritual experience of synodality. They have the role of accompanying the people of God. They need to raise awareness about the synodal nature of the Church and the meaning of synodality in parishes, ministries and movements that they serve.

Roadmap for the diocesan phase

1. Appointing the diocesan contact person/team

It could be two co-leaders: one woman and one man. It could be priests, religious or lay people. They documents specifies the qualities required for contact person:

- A spiritually mature persons with a living faith
- A natural collaborator

- The ability to synthesise a variety of information
- The ability to interact well with people of diverse cultural, generational and ecclesiastical background
- Familiarity with diocesan structures and processes
- Prior experience working in collaboration initiatives or synodal process
- Humility in working with a co-leader and/or a team
- Graciously open to the insights and gifts of others as well as trying new ways of proceeding.

2. Setting up diocesan synodal team

To work with contact persons.

- A team shall be set up: either by appointment or by voluntarily opted
- Members of the diocesan synodal team comprises representatives from parishes, movements, diocesan ministries, religious communities.
- They work as advisory and working body for the contact persons.

3. Discerning the path for your diocese

The preparatory document and Vademecum (handbook): prayerful reflection of these documents to discern the key areas of focus for the diocese.

4. Planning the participatory process

Go for the widest possible participation involving a variety of platforms: such as parish level meetings, inter-parish gatherings, school-based groups, local association, online platforms etc..

5. Preparing group coordinators for the synodal consultation meetings

The diocesan synodal team can work through coordinators to carry out the synodal consultation or meeting: for example a synodal consultation within a parish can be overseen by a coordinator in that parish. All coordinators will be briefed on the spirit, objectives and attitudes of the synodal process and should have access to the

documents (preparatory document and vademecum).

6. Providing an orientation workshops for the diocesan synodal team & local coordinators

Workshop to give people an orientation about synodality and equip them with basic skills for synodal process. Skills like: carrying out synodal consultation meetings etc.. (Appendix B gives details)

7. Communicating to everyone

Give wide publicity about the synod and its uniqueness.

8. Implementing, monitoring and guiding the synodal consultation process

This is the heart of the whole process. Begin with holy Eucharist. Diocesan contact person/team should keep in regular contact with group coordinators of the synodal consultation meetings, provide support, monitor progress, facilitate the exchange of ideas, best practices and feedbacks. A date shall be specified for the submission of the consultation feedback.

9. Diocesan Pre-synodal meeting

It shall have a liturgical celebration. It should have a wide representation from across the diocese. Its aim is to pray, listen, reflect and discern the synodal path. (Appendix C gives details)

10. Preparing and submitting the diocesan synthesis

Appendix D provides guidelines.

Conclusion

As conclusion to this discussion it is better to be vigilant in this process of listening: certain pitfalls we need to keep watch on:

1. The temptation of wanting to lead ourselves instead of being led by God. (synodality is not corporate strategic exercise. It is a spiritual process. We may be tempted to forget that we are pilgrims and servants. We should believe that we are clay in the hands of the divine Potter (Is. 64:8).
2. Temptation to focus on ourselves and our immediate concern. (the synodal process is an opportunity to open up, to look

around us, to see things from other points of view, and to move out in missionary outreach to the peripheries. So look long-term goals and broaden our perspective).

3. The temptation to see only problems. (concentrating only on the problems will only discourage us. Let us concentrate on where the Spirit is leading us).
4. Temptation to focus only on structures. (synodal process will call for renewal of structures at different levels in order to foster deeper communion, fuller participation, and more fruitful mission. Concentrate on the experience of journeying together rather than concentrating on structures without room for renewal and conversion. It is an ongoing process and renewal and conversion of structures happen when renewal and conversion of all members happen).
5. The temptation not to look beyond the visible confines of the Church. (Synodal process is a time to dialogue with people from the world of economics and science, politics and culture, arts and sports, the media and social initiatives).
6. The temptation to lose focus of the objectives of the synodal process. (synodal process maintains the goal of discovering how God calls us to walk forward. Synodality is not going to resolve our concerns and problems. Synodality is an attitude and an approach of moving forward in a co-responsible way).
7. The temptation of conflict and division. (“that they may all be on” (Jn. 17: 21) This is the ardent prayer of Jesus. Holy Spirit leads us deeper into communion with God. It is vain to try to impose one's ideas on the whole Body through pressure or to discredit those who feel differently).
8. The temptation to treat the synod as a kind of parliament. (Synodal process is not a political battle where one side must defeat the other).
9. The temptation to listen only to those who are already involved in Church activities. (This approach may be easier to manage, but it ignores a significant proportion of the people of God).

**QUESTIONS FOR LOCAL LEVEL REFLECTION TO
ENHANCE A SPIRIT AND
SENSE OF SYNODALITY IN THE CHURCH
(Diocese of Chanda)**

(Please use these questions for personal and community level reflections in parishes & institutions.)

1. What are your proposals for a Synodal Church - individual level, parish/institution level and diocesan level?
2. What are your resolutions to make the Church genuinely Synodal?
3. What are the blocks or challenges to become a Synodal Church?
4. How far the practice of Synodality in the Church helps our mission of preaching/ evangelization?
5. How far Church could practice Synodality in the liturgy and para-liturgical services? Explain
6. How can we create a “sense of Synodality” in the Church?
7. What should be the role of social media in creating a Synodal Church? briefly explain the possible strategies
8. What should be the role of the Church leaders (bishops/priests and religious) in making a Synodal Church?
9. How can we inculcate the spirit of Synodality in the formation of Church personnel?
10. How far the Synodal themes – “Communion, Participation and Mission” practiced today in the Church and how do you connect them to the daily life of the Church?
11. By this process of Synodality in the Church how can we make our Church really spiritual, as the Church is primarily a spiritual organization in the spirit of the teachings of the Acts of the Apostles?

12. What could be the fruit/result of these Synodal processes in the Church?
13. Can we in any way include the separated Christian brethren and the people of other faiths in promoting Synodality in the Church?
14. What are the areas the Church, still need to focus the attention? (For instance (i) children, (ii) women, (iii) youth, (vi) family, (v) women religious, (vi) migrants, (vii) refugees, (viii) the differently challenged, (ix) transgenders, (x) professionals etc – please prioritize 1 to 10 – add any other if you wish)
15. How do you rate the Synodality in the Church – 0 to 100%?
May I request everyone to give your responses latest by 28 February 2023 to Bishop's office in the following contact email: bishopchanda@gmail.com or in person. The responses may be collected as follows:
 1. Institution head collect the responses of the community members after having discussed in the community (from provincial houses, novitiate houses, seminaries, convents, hospitals etc.)
 2. Parishes: the priest-in-charge in consultation with the faithful in the parish.

Needless to say it will be a good exercise to enter into a Synodal spirit in running our parishes, mission stations and institutions. Thanking you in advance.



†Ephrem Nariculam

Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

Quotes

“ The Sacraments are like hoses. They are the channels of the living water of God's grace. Our faith is like opening the faucet. We can open it a lot, a little, or not at all. ”

– Peter Kreeft

C-MISSION ARTICLES

The beautiful articles appeared in C-Mission magazine of CMI Congregation May-August 2022 about Chanda missionaries - Bp. Vijayanad CMI and Fr. Sebastian Thattil CMI - in the segment of EXPERIENCE.

- i. *Chanda Mission* by Fr. Tomy Chirappurath CMI
- ii. *Mar Vijayanand CMI* by Fr. Benny Mukalel CMI
- iii. *Fr. Sebastian Thattil CMI : A Missionary Teacher* by Fr. Binoy Chekonthayil CMI

Chanda Samachar invites readers to glance through the articles. Thanks to Fr. Benny, Fr. Tomy, Fr. Binoy and to C-Mission editorial board for highlighting Chanda Mission in the Magazine.

Staff Reporter



DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS

Dear Fathers, you are requested to hand over the following collections to DFO latest by 31 January 2023:

1. Sabha Dinam
2. Chanda Foundation day
3. Mission Sunday
4. Seminary Fund

Your are requested to make the following collections:

1. Preshitavaram (12 January)
2. Lenten Campaign
3. Good Friday Collection for Holy Land (07 April)

VIII. NEWS FROM THE MISSION STATIONS

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, AWARPUR

Well conducted prayer Day by Fr. Shinu VC of Vachanram, Bamni was the commencement of the preparation for Parish Feast at Awarpur. This gave the momentum to carry out the painting of the Church in and out, giving a brilliant outlook in cement embodied environment of the locality. The flag hoisting and initiating the three days Marian devotion by Fr. Bernard Kujur on December 8 kindled a new fervor in the community. "Do not be afraid little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom" (Lk. 12:32). Awarpur Catholic Christian Community is a little flock, but seems to be fully pleased by the Lord. This is explicitly experienced in their unity, and united efforts as a team totally dedicated approach with a synodality oriented comprehensive parameter, with signal of orders or demands, resulted in solemnly celebrating the Feast of Mary immaculate on Sunday 11th of December, the Zonal Vicar Fr. Mathew Nirappel being at the centre of the Eucharistic celebration, assisted by Frs. Dinesh Matte and Anish Kuthoor. The enchanting and encompassing decoration of the sanctuary and the Church by the ever serving hands of Sisters of Holy Family was unique and highly appreciated by all. The 500 meters distance procession with good representation of priests, sisters and the laity from various parishes of the Zone, from Korpana to Rajura and the presence of Balharshah Kalabhavan children accompanied by their managing team enhanced the joy of our Mother's celebration. The cultural program entertaining over 250 participants enticed the taste of a vegetarian dinner. The parishioners and local people witnessed and proved that Synodality is not just discussing with some and leaving to oneself the right to discern and decide, but the whole process is carried out together. The community sustains, develops and becomes missionary, when even the so called least feels accepted, respected and recognized.

Jai Jesu!

Fr. James Kurissery CMI
Awarpur

ST. THOMAS CATHEDRAL, BALLARPUR

- The feast of our Lady of Health (*Aarogya Matha Parvu*) was solemnly celebrated on 11 September 2022. Bp. Ephrem Nariculam was the main celebrant. Fr. Benny Mukalel, the Provincial Superior of the Marthoma Province, Chanda preached the homily. Fr. Binu Thomas led the healing service and adoration after the solemn Eucharistic procession. There were 800 people participated in the celebrations.
- We celebrated the day for the old and the aged. We honoured all the elderly people after the Holy Qurbana on 1st October 2022. On the same day the catechism children were awarded for the bible quiz competition which was conducted every last Sunday of the Month.
- 20 days holy rosary was done to 20 October at ward and 21 to 30 Parish. On the final day the 30th October Fr. Robinson celebrated the Holy Qurbana and homilist was Fr. Shinu Thomas VC followed by rosary procession.
- Fr. Robinson Chekkathadathil, the parish priest was the main celebrant for the Mission Sunday. Fr. Shine Manjaly delivered the homily. There was also Mission Sunday Auction in which all parishioners participated.
- Fr. Meljo Parappuram CMI offered Holy Qurbana all souls day on 2nd November, at Cathedral Cemetery. A good number of faithful participated in the Holy Qurbana and Office of the Dead.
- Bishop offered Christmas Holy Qurbana. Few priests from the religious houses also concelebrated the Holy Qurbana. Carol singing on 19, 20 & 21 December 2022 by visiting all families in the Parish.

CHRIST BHAVAN, BRAHMAPURI

1. Home Mission was conducted in the parish from August

- 11 to 21 by four Holy Family sisters from New Delhi. The parishioners felt it very useful.
2. Aug. 21, one day retreat for the parishioners and monthly recollection for the sisters.
 3. Requiem Qurbana was offered for late Sr. Silas FCC on 4th December 2022.
 4. Onam was celebrated in Christanand Hospital on Sept. 11.
 5. Requiem Qurbana was offered for Fr. Daniel Thottakkara (RIP 20-09-1997) on Sept. 18. He was the pioneer of the Christanand Mission. 2022 is the 25th is her death anniversary.
 6. Brother Vishal Janagam was ordained deacon by Bishop Ephrem Nariculam on Sunday, Sept. 25. Lunch was served to everyone present.
 7. Mission Sunday was celebrated on 23 October. The participation of the people in the Divine Liturgy and the auction that followed was extremely lively.
 8. Brahmappuri Forane Youth camp was held on October 25 & 26. Most of the stations in the Forane sent participants. Bishop Ephrem Nariculam celebrated Holy Qurbana on 26 Oct. There were 58 participants.
 9. Bishop Ephrem blessed the newly built Paediatric Ward in Christanand Hospital on 27th October.
 10. October 28. Today begins the golden Jubilee year of the priestly ordination of Fr. K.D. Chacko. It was celebrated befitting the occasion. A special candle was lit during the Holy Qurbana.
 11. The whole month of October was a grand celebration. Every family was visited by either of the 2 teams of Parishioners. Rosary was recited the last 10 days in the

- institutions in the parish.
12. All souls day was commemorated on 2 November. The faithful after the Holy Qurbana visited the cemetery and prayed for the dead.
 13. Parish feast was celebrated from Nov. 24 to 27. Retreat was preached by C.M.C sisters, Srs. Arpita and Amala . The procession from Christanand Hospital to the Church was appreciated by all. The festal Holy Qurbana on 27th morning was celebrated by the new priests, Frs. Priju and Joby.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DURGAPUR

1. Family Prayer

We had the family prayer for the month of November at the house of Mrs. Chanda Gurle. The family prayer was themed with the name Passion for Mission. After the family prayers the choir group of the Church sang the bhajans in which the entire community actively participated. Rev. Dr. Sebastian Alackappally, Professor of Dharmaram College was the resource person who talked about mission in general and Jagdalpur mission in particular. All thanked God for the wonderful blessings and dispersed after the agape.

Family prayer for the month of December was held in the house of Mr. Paulose Ratne. The theme for the family prayer was faith. The family prayer was conducted in such a manner that parishioners could prepare well for the Christmas. Around hundred and ten people attended the family prayer and it witnessed the spontaneous outpouring of the experience sharing by various people which increased the faith of the faithful. The choir sang beautiful hymns and *bhajans* which could immerse

people in to prayerful mood. Fr. Binoy gave a message about the faith of canonite woman and encouraged the people to face the adversities of life with strong and staunch faith.

2. Mission Sunday Celebration

Our Church celebrated mission Sunday with a lot of good memories about the mission and praying for all those missionaries who face challenges in the mission. We had the solemn Sunday Qurbana by Fr. Binoy Checkonthayil and the sermon was preached by Rev. Sebastian Alackappally. Mission Sunday celebration was very much coloured by the auction of the things to raise the fund for the future of the mission. There were food stalls and game stalls to attract the faithful.

3. Bujurg Day Celebration

The Church dedicated one day to remember and thank the senior citizens of our Church. BJM Carmel Academy gifted new dress to all the senior citizens. All the families brought different dishes for the senior citizens and shared with everyone. It was indeed a moment emotions as most of them remembered their younger days of hard work and hardships. All remembered all the senior citizens with a lot of gratitude and expressed their love towards them.

4. Collection of rice

All the parishioners brought the rice in the small and bigger packets and offered them to the Lord and his people. It was good to see that most of the parents sent their children with the rice in offertory procession and it was like imparting the human and divine values to the next generation. Later it was distributed for the poor in

vicinity.

5. Renovation of the grotto

The grotto of the Church invited the immediate attention of the parish is its renovation. The parish priests took leading role in renovating the grotto with the cooperation and consent of the parishioners and sisters. Now the grotto has a new look with well looking grill. The newly install good shepherd picture gives it a devotional look.

6. Rosary conclusion

The entire Church solemnly observed the piety of October Month. We conducted 10day long solemn rosary well arranged by various groups and pious organizations of the Church. Most of the parishioners attended it with devotion. We had solemn procession on the tenth day followed by agape. Almost all the catechism children of the parish attended 10 days solemn rosary and those who attended were given a beautiful gift for their regularity and active participation.

7. Refreshing programme for the youth

The parish organized a refreshing programme for the youth of the Church to encourage and motivate them in their life journey. Rev. Fr. Bonis, the assistant parish priest took them to Nagpur for one day outing where they had a lot of fun and moments of relaxation along with future planning. All of them appreciated the outreach programme as it fostered the enthusiasm and unity among the youth and increased the belongingness to the parish.

8. Happy Birthday and Happy feast

The parish family celebrated 50th birthday of Fr. Binoy Checkonthayil CMI, the parish priest. The parish thanked him for all his services to the Church. He also thanked the parishioners and sisters for the wonderful cooperation they are rendering to him.

Parish also celebrated the feast day of Assistant Parish priest and prayed for him during the Sunday Qurbana presided over by him. The parish remembered all his lovely services with gratitude and wished him all the best as it was his first feast day as a priest.

9. The Koinonia group celebration

The Church had its first koinonia group's celebration commemorating St. Alphonsa. The group members creatively and actively arranged the Qurbana with introduction, offertory procession, intercessory prayers etc. All the parishioners actively participated in the programme. It was a new and encouraging experience for the group members as they worked together and prayed together. It was concluded with the agape arranged and sponsored by the first Koinonia Group.

The second Koinonia group had its celebration commemorating the great Saint Therese of Lisieux and pouring light up on her life. They also actively and creatively organized the Qurbana with introduction about their saint. All the group members followed pattern already set by the previous group with their own unique contribution. They also arranged agape and it was a spiritually enriching and enjoyable evening.

10. Preparatory Retreat for the Feast

The Church organized one day retreat to prepare the entire

parish family for the annual feast. It was preached by Rev.Srs.Divya and Valsa SJB from Sanjivani Ashram, Wardha. They preached the word of God powerfully and effectively with the living examples and personal experiences that touched the hearts of the people. It really helped the parish to prepare meaningfully for the feast. The attendance for the participation was very good and it ended with Holy Qurbana and healing services. Hearty thanks to Srs. Divya and Valsa. The programme was from 8.30 to 5.00 PM.

11. The bhajan competition

As it is customary in the Durgapur Parish, this year also we organized the Bhajan competition in connection with the Annual Parish Feast. There were solo song competitions for various categories. There was a large group of participants coming from around twenty Churches. There were sixteen teams for the bhajan competition and it was well organized. The judges for the competition were Rev. Fr. Harish and Rev. Fr. Meljo whose songs are available in Youtube. The winners of Bhajan competition were St. Michael's Church Durgapur and St. Andrew's Church, Chandrapur.

12. The annual Church feast

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Durgapur celebrated its ten days annual feast with devotion and gaiety. It started with the preparatory retreat for the parish family by Rev.Srs. Divya and Valsa SJB. They imparted the spiritual values that will improve the family and individual life in spite of the innumerable problems of the daily life. The feast started with the flag hoisting by the Provincial of CMI Mar Thoma Province of Chanda Rev. Fr. Dr. Benny Mukalel CMI.

The Church organized nine days Eucharistic celebrations followed by Novena to Blessed Virgin Mary. Rev. Fathers Sebastian Vayalil, Robinson Chekkathadathil, Shyju Madappalikunnel, Joseph Kalathil, Harish Puthenpurackal, Prince Mujanat, Meljo Parappuram and Aisteen Vadakkumcheril presided over the Qurbanas and novena for the nine days. The main celebrant on feast day was Fr. Mathew Nirappel and feast day homily was given by Fr. Jilson Kuzhuppillil and the procession was presided over by Fr. Anil Murmade.

The presence of thirty five priests and many religious motivated the parishioners and increased their joy. The feast concluded with the agape for all who attended the feast. It was well organized by the Fr. Binoy Checkonthayil CMI, the Parish Priest, Fr. Bonis Karottukizhakkayil CMI, the Assistant Parish Priest, Reverend DM Sisters of Durgapur Arpana, Tomcy, Gladis and Ashish, the parish Council Members and all the parishioners. Fr. Binoy thanked everyone for the participation and cooperation.

SANT VIANNEY GURUKUL

The Solemn Rosary was conducted from October 9 to 19 and on the concluding day Bp. Ephrem celebrated the Holy Eucharist in which many people from Kalamana parish also participated.

Bishop came for class for the seminarians in the month of October.

Fr. Jose Zade preached the Annual retreat for brothers during the Diwali holidays.

First semester examination for the seminarians was conducted from 03 November to 12 November.

Sr. Jessy Payyppilly FHGS, the Provincial superior of FHGS Visited SVG on November 20.

Superior General of SABS congregation Visited SVG on October

22.

Fr. Rector together with all the staff and students visited Bp. Ephrem on his birthday and felicitated him.

Fr. Shibu, Fr. Nelson and the brothers have gone for Christmas ministries to Etappaly, Jarawandi and Jiwathi.

We celebrated Christmas along with the birthday of Fr. Shibu and Fr. Nelson. This celebration was also combined with the farewell for Fr. Bosco on 25 December.

CARMELODAYA PROVINCE, WARDHA

- ❖ On 9th August 2022, an awareness class on Media was arranged for all the sisters of our province. The resource person was Fr. Roy Kannanchira CMI. It was helpful for all especially to the sisters who are engaged in guidance and counseling in schools.
- ❖ Feast of St. Euphrasia was celebrated very solemnly together with Darsana Eucharistic community. A short history of St. Euphrasia's virtuous life was narrated during homily. After the Holy Qurbana, breakfast was given to all.
- ❖ Sr. Aneja attended a National Meeting by CBCI council for women from 16th to 18th September at Kanyakumari.
- ❖ To bring about renewal and revival in both our personal and communitarian aspects, our Superior General, Mother Grace Therese did the canonical visitation in our Provincial House from 20th to 25th September 2022. During her visit, she convened a meeting with all the local Superiors of our Province.
- ❖ In the month of October, the annual retreat was arranged in two batches for all the sisters of our Province from 02nd to 8th and 24th to 30th by Fr. Rinto Puthussery CMI and Fr. Paulson Mundackkal OCD respectively.

- ❖ On 24th October 2022, the 28th Province day and the Silver Jubilee of our sisters, Sr. Maria, Sr. Sarupya, Sr. Savitha, Sr. Sayujya, Sr. Amulya and Sr. Namitha were celebrated very solemnly.
- ❖ They are born to make a difference.' The World Disabled Day was celebrated in Carmel School for the Mentally Challenged Children, Wardha on Dec. 3rd 2022. The differently abled children were taken to Datta Meghe Sabhagruha, Sawangi for the dance competition. It's a day set apart to honour them and make an effort to bring them to the main stream of the society.

AGRAGAMI PROVINCE SJB, WARDHA

Demise of Sr. Rose: Rev Sr Rose Ambooken one of the pioneer missionaries of St John sisters in India from the first batch was called to eternal life on 21/08/2022. Her funeral was held on 24/08/2022 in the presence of Fr. Varghese Puthuparambil CMI, Proto Synchellus, Chanda Diocese, priests, religious, relatives, acquaintances and her students.

Requiem Qurbana: Requiem Qurbana for the souls of Sr Rose Ambooken and Sr Sangeeta Gandhare was held on 03rd September, 2022 at Agragami Provincial House by Bp Ephrem Nariculam. During the Homily Bishops expressed his experience with both sisters and prayed for the repose of their souls.

Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-22: St John's High School, Hinganghat received the state level SWACHH VIDYALAYA PURASKAR 2021-22 on 05/09/2022

Annual Retreat: 50 senior sisters attended the annual retreat of the province from 27th – 31st October preached by Fr. Paulraj. It was time of renewal and rejuvenation for the members of the province.

Province Day Celebration: Province Day celebration and the feast of Sr Vidya was held on 01st November on the feast of all saints. After the thanksgiving Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr Paulraj we had a short gathering of the sisters with cultural programmes and games.

Medical Camps: Health ministry of the province arranged medical camps in our different mission stations. It was a great help for the many poor deserving people.

Mary Glowrey-liliane Brekelmans Disability Award -2022: Sr Sima Jose won the MARY GLOWREY-LILIANE BREKELMANS DISABILITY AWARD -2022 under the category of Role Model Individual from CHAI Network for her tireless effort for the mainstreaming and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Get together of Junior sisters: 22 SJB Juniors had three days gathering at Sanjeevani Ashram, Sevagram.



Congratulation...! The New Provincial Team of Claretians of St. Thomas Province, India

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Fr. Siby Njavallikunnel CMF | Provincial Superior |
| 2. Fr. Thomas Vechoor CMF | Prefect of Economy |
| 3. Fr. Martin Vithavathil CMF | Prefect of Youth, Bible Ministry & Communication |
| 4. Fr. Thomas Paingottu CMF | Prefect of Formation & Vacation Promotion |
| 5. Fr. Dominic Koottiyaniyil CMF | Prefect of Apostolate & Spirituality |

Quotes

“ *The Sacraments are the manifestation of the Father's tenderness and love towards each of us.* ”

– Pope Francis

IX. DEPARTMENTAL NEWS



Brahmapuri

CLC Department



Etopalli

The year 2022 the department of youth conducted youth conventions in our Diocese from 25th October to 1st

November in four zones. On 25th and 26th in Brahmapuri 57 youths participated. The second youth convention was held in Ettapalli in which



Warur

148 youths were present. The Third and fourth conventions were held in Warur and Divine Vachanashram, there were 83 and 89 youths participated respectively. Salesian priests from



Balharshah & Wardha

Ahemad Nagar animated the sessions. The youth department of Chanda diocese thank whole heartedly all the Fathers, sisters and all the youth, for their co- operation and active participation for the same.

**CMI MAR THOMA PROVINCE CHANDA
(department of Evangelization and Pastoral Ministry)**

Maranatha & Mar Thoma Bhajan Group

The department organized Maranatha Programme in our various parishes helping the parishioners to prepare for the Christmas. A group of team sent by the department organizes the programme for the faithful. It is totally free of cost and the performance of the bhajan groups also are added to this programme this year. The programme consists of one hour preaching followed by holy hour and solemn Qurbana with sermon.

Music Ministry

The department is continuing its evangelization programme through music ministry.

Syro Malabar Qurbana Songs

The department has brought out a few Syro Malabar Hindi Qurbana songs. These songs are sung in various dioceses for the Qurbana.

A Song on Religious Life

The department has released a song on Religious Life (Sanyasam) and it got wide coverage in India and outside. Many people are using the same song for their jubilee occasions, first profession. Final profession etc. it is sung by Sr. Sijina who belongs to MLF congregation. It is a song to reflect up on one's own life with its success and failures and to gear up to the future. Shekina TV has given a coverage about this song in its news and Social media account. The department also has released an

offertory song, thanksgiving hymn and a communion song as well.

A Speech Competition

The department has conducted a international level speech competition for Priests, Sisters and Seminarians. Its topic was “The relevance of my Congregation/Diocese Today”. This competition was intended to create awareness among the faithful and even among clergy about the relevance of Religious and Clergy today. It was conducted in English, Malayalam and Marathi languages. We had a very good response from various countries. The result will be declared with in a very few days.

Bible Convention

The department is ready to support any parish priest/ Religious Superior who can be instrumental in organizing a one-day Bible Convention in Chanda Diocese. The bible convention shall be conducted together for a group of parishes that we can fuel and accelerate the process of evangelization in our diocese. It will be a great means to reach out to the villages with the message of Love and Peace as disciples of Christ. It can be conducted in zonal level or even for a group of parishes irrespective of zones. Let us come together and act collectively for the evangelizing mission which is an essential part of our vocation. The contact number for the same is 8275265754.

A Song on DM Founder

The department has prepared a song on the founder of DM Congregation Msgr. Joseph Kuzhinjalil at the request of DM Sisters at Chanda. The song covers the spirituality and charism of the founder and the congregation founded by him. It is a tribute to him as the congregation commemorates 40th death anniversary of the founder. The lyrics and music of the song are appreciated by many.

Earlier the department had prepared a song on St. Montfort the founder of Monfort Congregation at the request of Montfort Brothers.

A Request by the Dominican Sisters of Palakkad

The department has received a request from the Dominican sisters of Palakkad to prepare a song for the congregation on its foundress. The department has accepted request and the preparation is in its full swing.

Two Books Published

The department has published two books to motivate people to grow in to values and selflessness. It is authored by Rev. Fr. Prince Munjanat CMI and the names of the books are “Thanal” and “Idam”. The department appreciates Rev. Fr. Prince for his thought provoking and mind refreshing books.

LSSS NEWS

Loksamgraha Social Service Society (LSSS) is the leading NGO in western Region, it is actively involved in social activities in the Diocese of Chanda. The major activities held on the basis of various projects in the last 6 months (June –November) are mentioned as following:

1. JEEVAN: A woman led Empowering Action

The project area locates in the Jiwati block of remote plateau of manigkgrah hills, Chandrapur district .The project implemented in 20 villages.

The Major Activities Held.

- a. Community Orientation on Gram Sabha.
- b. Village level training on rights and entitlements on government schemes and programmes.

- c. Interface meeting of communities with Govt. functionaries.
- d. Setting up community- level nurseries of nutritionally important trees.
- e. Seed Festivals.
- f. Capacity building of women CBO leaders on governance, accountability and transparency.

2. MANOS UNIDAS: Envisaging health and well- being of tribal communities.

It is a community health model proposed for the social welfare of the marginalized and downtrodden Qurbanaes belonging to the tribal communities such as madhias, oraons and gonds residing in the 10 villages of aheri block in the Gadchiroli district.

The Major Activities held

- a. Medical Camps – 7
- b. Awareness by distribution of pamphlets on endemic diseases like malaria, dengue, tuberculosis, dengue etc - 10
- c. Awareness session on prevention of sickness – 9
- d. Awareness session on substance abuse and its effects in mental and physical health - 9
- c. Training specifically for adolescent girls regarding health hygiene and menstrual cycle - 2
- e. Training for women regarding pregnancy lactation and nutrition - 3
- f. Training on balanced nutritious food preparation for family daily meals - 3

3. The Good Shepherd Project

It is a welfare programme for the people belonging to 10 parishes in Gadchiroli district namely koparali, gomani, nagepali, ettapali, gatta, bhamaragad, jarawandi, wasa,

Marakbodi and Repanpali

The Major Activities held.

- a. Medical camps -8
- b. Awareness session on the cultivation of seeds of vegetables and sapling of fruits conducted at 10 parishes.
- c. Distribution of sanitary napkins amongst 300 adolescent girls and menstruating women per month.
- d. Awareness session on menstrual hygiene amongst adolescent girls and menstruating women.
- e. Awareness session on the ill effects of substance abuse amongst adolescents and youth.
- f. Awareness session on STDs.

4. Railway Child line project.

Lsss in association with the ministry of women and child Development under the Government of India and child line India Foundation (CIF) organized a campaign on child Rights and celebrated the child line *Se Dosti* programme. It was a week longed programmes.

The major activities held

- a. Celebration of children's Day on 14th Nov.
- b. sticking of posters on child Rights and protection on 15th November .
- c. A Signature campaign for the child line *Se Dosti* Programme on 16th November.
- d. Awareness on child Rights and protection through tying protection bands amongst the RPF, GRP, Railway staff, collector, DCPU,CWC, and labour officer by the RCL staff on 17th November.
- d. Awareness programme on child rights and protection in the Railway premises on 18th November.

X. CHANDA HEAVENLY BRETHREN

JANUARY

1. Sr. (Dr.) Prasanthi ASMI	03-01-2013	Nuzvid
2. Fr. Zacheus Edakkalathoor CMI	03-01-2001	Shornur
3. Sr. Lawrence FCC	04-01-1999	Hoshangabad
4. Fr. Liguori Mundackal CMI	05-01-1995	Vazhakulam
5. Fr. Abraham Thuruthumaly CMI	11-01-2007	Jagdapur
6. Sr. Lilly Joseph DM	13-1-2016	Wardha
7. Fr. Alipius Kuttickatt CMI	16-01-1995	Pavaratty
8. Sr. (Dr.) Fidelis SD	17-01-2008	Gaziabad
9. Fr. Polycarp Madukkakuzhy CMI	20-01-2007	KalaQurbanaery
10. Fr. George Pullankav CMI	21-01-2011	Karikkattur
11. Sr. Jaina Therese DM	25-01-2009	Wardha
12. Fr. Johnny Arackaparampil	29-01-2007	Thevara
13. Fr. George Kalapura CMI	24-01-2021	Aluva
14. Sr. Regina ASMI	25-01-2021	Allapalli

FEBRUARY

1. Fr. Thomas Plathottathil	05-02-1984	Ayarkunnam
2. Sr. Elsa CSC	07-02-1995	Naduvarambu
3. Sr. Pavithra DM	11-02-2006	Wardha
4. Sr. Josephine DM	11-02-2009	Kerala
5. Sr. Goretti Francis ASMI	21-02-2007	Nagpur
6. Fr. John Damacene Manamel CMI	25-02-1984	Chethipuzha
7. Fr. Augustine Aikaramattam CMF	28-02-2002	Kuravilangad

MARCH

1. Fr. Prasannabhai CMI	05-03-2022	Vazhakkulam
2. Sr. Alice FCC	18-03-2000	Kadukutty
3. Fr. Mathew Vettoonickal CMI	14.03.2012	Mutholy
4. Bp. Januarius Palathuruthy CMI	28-03-1995	Ballarpur

APRIL

1. Sr. Purissima Mappilassery Sd	02-04-2022	Choottuvely
2. Fr. George Nedumpalakunnel CMF	04-04-2007	Kuravilangad
3. Sr. Anil Maria FCC	08-04-2007	Hoshangabad
4. Fr. Silas Vadakkayil CMI	24-04-2003	KalaQurbanaery
5. Fr. Paul Kattamkottil CMI	29-04-2021	Kothamangalam



OBITUARY



Sr. Monica DM (99)

Call to internal Life : 01-10-2022



Fr. Tony OFM Cap (33)

Call to internal Life : 24-10-2022



Bro. Bijo OFM Cap (38)

Call to internal Life : 24-10-2022



Fr. George Olickal CMI (86)

Call to internal Life : 20-11-2022



Fr. Magna CMC (89)

Call to internal Life : 16-12-2022



Sr. Lucia CMC (85)

Call to internal Life : 01-12-2022

XI. ONGOING FORMATION

ADDRESS	COURSE	DATE
Prof. Dr. Peter Ignatius SJ Jnana Deepa, Pune registrar@jdv.edu.in Ph: 8421895331	Licentiate/Diploma in Pastoral Management	2023-2025 Admission ends 31 March 2023
	Licentiate/One year Diploma in Spirituality & Counseling	2023-2025
	Licentiate in Sacred Theology and Biblical Studies	2023-2025
	Licentiate Systematic Theology, Missiology and Moral Theology	2023-2025
Sumedha Centre Email : sumedhacentre@gmail.com Ph: 9410941799 A Don Bosco Institution New Delhi, Jeolikote & Jhamari (Punjab)	Post-Midlife Spirituality and Graceful Aging	15-29 January 2023
	Enhancing Formation Skills	07-21 May 2023
	Enhancing Leadership Skills	May 27 - June 11 2023
	Sumedha Sadhana (A Psychospiritual Wholeness Journey)	February 12 - May 02 2023
		July 01- September 18 2023
October 01- Dec. 15 2023		
Atma Darshan Andheri East Mumbai Web. www.atmadarshan-svd.org Email: atmasvd@gmail.com Ph: 9769694422	Personal Transformation & Commitment	02-28 May 2023
	Diploma in Advanced Counseling	June - Feb 2023 (18 Sat 9.30 am-12.30 pm)
	Skills in Counseling & Spiritual Direction	August 21 - September 02 2023
	Renewal Program for Silver Jubilarians	Sep 18 - Oct 01 2023

Divine retreat Centre, Muringoor, Chalakudy, Kerala Email: divinebiblecourse@gmail.com Ph: 8848264921	Short Term Bible Courses	January 15 – March 04 2023
		April 16 – June 03 2023



Congratulations...

Congratulations to Bro. Lious Kurungattu for the composition.
 The song was release on 5th November 2022
 and it is available in Fr. Mathews Payyappilly MCBS Youtube Channel



PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for our Deacons.....



Dn. Linto Varghese

(Diocese of Chanda)

Date of Ordination : 16th May 2023
 Venue : St. George Church,
 Mothirakanny, Irinjalakuda
 Time : 09.00 AM

Dn. Naveen Varghese

(Diocese of Chanda)

Date of Ordination : 17th May 2023
 Venue : Our Lady of Fatima Church,
 Kottanellur, Irinjalakuda
 Time : 09.00 AM



Dn. Alwin Varghese

(Diocese of Chanda)

Date of Ordination : 18th May 2023
 Venue : St. Xavier's Forane
 Church, Pattikad, Trichur
 Time : 09.00 AM



Dn. Deepak Tirkey

(Diocese of Chanda)

Date of Ordination : 26th April 2023
 Venue : St. Chavara Church,
 Ettapalli, Diocese of Chanda
 Time : 09.00 AM



Dn. Vishal Janagam

(Diocese of Chanda)

Date of Ordination : 26th April 2023
 Venue : St. Chavara Church,
 Ettapalli, Diocese of Chanda
 Time : 09.00 AM



OBITUARY



Bishop Simon Stock Palathra CMI
 (Eparchy of Jagdalpur)

Birth : 11.10.1935
First Profession : 16.05.1958
Priestly Ordination : 01.12.1964
Episcopal Ordination : 19.03.1993
Death : 19.11.2022

Most Reverend Bishop Simon Stock Palathra CMI, Bishop emeritus of Eparchy of Jagdalpur was passed away on 19.11.2022. He hailed from St. Mary's Church, Vadakkekara in the Archeparchy of Changanachery. He was born on 11th October 1935 to Late D. Philip and Late Mrs. Mary Philip Palathra. His baptismal name was Joseph. After his High School education in St. Berchman's Changanachery and St. Ephrem's Mannanam, he joined the CMI Congregation in 1954. He had his Minor Seminary at Mannanam and Novitiate at Chethipuzha. He made his first profession on 16th May 1958. He had his Philosophical and Theological studies in Dharmaram College, Bangalore and was ordained a priest on 01.12.1964 during the Eucharistic Congress at Mumbai. Before coming to Bastar in 1972 as one among the pioneer missionaries, he served as a pioneer missionary in Sagar. He was the secretary to CMI Prior General and also secretary to CMI provincial at St. Joseph Province Kottayam. While he was the prior at St. John's Monastery Mutholy, he opted for the newly erected Exarchate of Jagdalpur in 1972. He was the Pro-Exarch of the Exarchate of Jagdalpur from 1972 till it became the Diocese in 1977. He was the first director of Social Work Department and Parish Priest of Jagdalpur. He started village mission stations at Karitgaon and Chiurgaon. He was the Vicar General of the Diocese and served as provincial of CMI Nirmal Province Jagdalpur for two terms. He also was the Novice Master for the CMI Mission Novitiate at Mancherial in the present day Adilabad Diocese. He was the parish priest at Dugoli and also the Finance Officer of the Diocese. He was ordained Bishop of the Eparchy of Jagdalpur on 19.03.1993 by His Beatitude Cardinal Antony Padiyara. After completing 75 years of age, he retired in 2013 from the post of Bishop of Jagdalpur and was taking rest in CMI Novitiate House at Bhanpuri. Then he moved to CMI Provincial House at Dharampura in 2019 for better treatment facilities. He was admitted in MPM hospital Jagdalpur on 13th of November 2022, due to cerebral stroke and was called to eternal rest on 19.11.2022 morning at 1.30 am.

More than 50 years of service as a zealous missionary, he virtually actualised his motto "For God and His people" in Bastar. His life was of total sacrifice and dedication, humility and humaneness. He encouraged all his coworkers and collaborators to start new ventures and institutions for the service of the people of Bastar. He was known for his very committed prayer and spiritual life and his simplicity and humility. The contribution of Bishop Simon Stock Palathra CMI in strengthening the diocesan clergy and the care and devotion he had for their formation, is very significant. He established the Vianney Bhavan, the Diocesan Minor Seminary in 1997 at Parpa and Gurukul at Kondagaon in 2000 to foster diocesan clergy. He encouraged all religious congregations to have ample formation facilities and thus Jagdalpur became a formation hub.

He expanded the missions to the interior areas of Bastar and promoted rural education through establishing many English medium schools in rural areas. The well reputed MPM Hospital, Jagdalpur is one of his brain child, which is a great support for the suffering patients of Bastar. The Jagdalpur Eparchial Pastoral Council (JEPC) was established under the guidance of Bishop Simon Stock. Since he was a highly respected and regarded missionary in Bastar, there was a widespread acceptance for him.

With gratitude the Eparchy of Jagdalpur remembers Bishop Simon Stock Palathra CMI for his committed service to the Eparchy and to the People of God. Let us thank God for the blessings that we have received through the committed, simple and loving life of Bishop Simon Stock Palathra CMI. Let us pray that may God grant him everlasting bliss.

+ Joseph Kollamparampil CMI
 Bishop of Jagdalpur

