

IX. ONGOING FORMATION

Address	Course	Date
The programme Coordinator Atmadarshan Gyan Ashram Campus Mahakali caves Road Andheri (East) Mumbai 400 093 9769694422 atmasvd@gmail.com	Psycho-spiritual inner healing retreat (For laity, Priests & Religious)	21-23 Feb. 2020
	Lenten Journey with Jesus Retreat (For laity, Priests & Religious)	21-23 March 2020
	Affective Maturity (For young religious and Seminarians)	17-19 April 2020
	Guided Retreat (For laity, priests and religious)	20-27 April 2020

**“It is no use walking somewhere to preach
unless our walking is our preaching”
St. Francis Assisi**

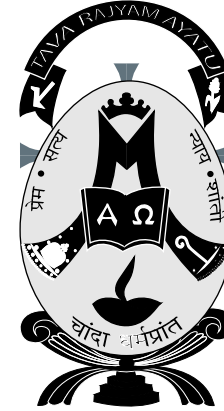
**“Be a witness of mercy,
in your daily mission, in your parish
and in your community.
Be a witness of mercy
wherever you can.
Offer your service with love...
Above all, let your heart always
be a place of mercy and hope,
Where everyone is welcomed,
loved and forgiven”**

Pope Francis

The

Chanda Samachar

CHANDA DIOCESAN BULLETIN



Thy Kingdom Come (Mt. 6:10)

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



Vol. XLII

November-December 2019

No. 6

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I. SHEPHERD'S VOICE

SV.5/2019

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and My dear people,

Thy kingdom come!

“He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree” - Roy L. Smith.

The “humanization” of God in Christ Jesus is the central event of Christmas (Phil 2:7). All the others Santa Claus, Christmas tree, Christmas cake, Christmas star, Carol Singing etc. are celebrations added to it, to embellish and to solemnize the occasion. Many consider it a holiday season yet another occasion for celebrations and exchange of gifts. CHRISTMAS becomes a meaningful celebration only when Christ is born again in our hearts, in our families, in our human relations, in our workplaces, in our parishes, in our society and in the world at large.

“For a child has been born for us, a Son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince
of Peace” (Is 9:6).

I wish you a **HAPPY CHRISTMAS & GRACE-FILLED YEAR 2020.**



Your Shepherd in the Lord

Ephrem Nariculam

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

PASTORAL LETTER I**PL 9/2019 November 1****On *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh* 2020**

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear people,

Thy kingdom come!

In preparation for the diamond jubilee year of the eparchy, we have decided to dedicate 2020 as the year of the Proclamation of the Divine Word, '*Susamachar Ghoshna Varsh*'. We are switching over to the *Susamachar Ghoshna Varsh* from *Bible Vaachan Varsh*. I am sure, 2019 as *Bible Vaachan Varsh*, many have taken interest in reading the Word of God on regular basis. Indeed it was one of the target of observing *Bible Vaachan Varsh* to create a habit of reading Bible daily. It is God's words and when we read it God speaks to us, we listen to God's voice and we are filled with his message. In the sense *Susamachar Ghoshna Varsh* is the fruit of *Bible Vaachan Varsh*. What is read, what is understood and what is assimilated has to be proclaimed and to be shared (Mk 3:13-15, Mt 28:19-20). So *Susamachar Goshna Varsh* is the year of sharing the message of God's love unfurled in the Holy Bible (1 Cor 9:16).

Mk 3:13-15, the evangelists categorically states that, Jesus called the disciples "to be with him," "to send out" and "to drive away the evil spirits." Every disciple of Christ for that matter any baptized Christian is called to be with him (Jn 15:4) to learn from him, to be sent out (Mt 10:16) to share with others, the message of love and to drive out evil spirit (Mt 12: 28) to give a healing touch to the sick (Mt 4, Mk 5&7). One who does not share and cannot share with others is not a Christian at all. "In reply he said to them, whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and

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70. Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Programme 2019 (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.47
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74. Decree of Establishment of Holy Childhood Association (May-June, Vol. XLII No.3) P.12
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88. The Policy for the safety of Minors and Vulnerable Adults-

48. Congratulation to new Provincial Team of CMC, Wardha (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P.37
49. Include Us ! Listen to Us ! Guide Us ! (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) Pp. 38-45
50. The Intentions of Pope Francis (March-April, Vol. XLII No.2) P.18
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56. Hindi Holy Week Text (March-April, Vol. XLII No.2) P.33
57. Change of Dates (March-April, Vol. XLII No.2) P.33
58. Admission to APOSTOLIC BOARDING (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.33
59. *Aaradhana Varsh 2018* Conclusion-Report (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.34
60. Venerable Augustine John Ukken (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.35
61. Honouring The Guests (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.36
62. Memorial Day (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.37
63. Pastoral Guidelines for Passion/Holy Week/Easter Celebration (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.38-39
64. Season of Lent (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.39
65. Pesaha bread & Milk Blessing Prayer (Hindi & Marathi) (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.40
66. *Bible Vaachan Varsh 2019* (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.41
67. Tribute paid to Martyrs of Pulwama Attack (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.43
68. Confirmation & Solemn Holy Communion (March-April Vol. XLII No.2) P.44

whoever has food must do likewise” (Lk 3:11). Sharing material benefits with others is good, all the more great is sharing love and message of compassion with others (Jn 13:34). Sharing love in words and deeds is our primary responsibility. “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (Jn 13:35).

Sharing is a basic trait of a follower/disciple of Christ (Acts 4:32-35). The great command of Christ is that: “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). Church by her very nature is missionary, exclaims the Vat. II document *Ad Gentes*. Proclamation of the good news is the primary duty of a Christian (1 Cor 1:17). A Christian bears his name as CHRISTIAN only when he is aware of his duty to proclaim and thus do it with utmost commitment to it. The theme of *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh* is **To be sent, To Proclaim and To Heal** (Mk 3:13-15). Proclamation is not an option of a Christian but a command. It is an “essential task” (AG 7) entrusted to every Christian by the Sacrament of holy baptism. The Church is to remain faithful to herself and to preach Jesus crucified and resurrected for all. The living and merciful saviour then prompted by the Holy Spirit she must walk the same path Christ walked; a path of poverty and obedience, of service and self-sacrifice” (AG 5).

As Christians we have to grow in missionary and evangelical zeal. May the love for the Church's mission which is a passion for Jesus and passion for his people grow even stronger in our missionary endeavours (*Evangelii Gaudium* 15). A zeal for the word has to engulf us to burn in flames to witness Gospel values.

May the celebration of the *Susamachar Goshna Varsh* enkindle us to be valorous and vigorous preachers and teachers of the Divine Word. Please read the 15 itemized Pastoral Action Plan for the *Susamachar Goshna Varsh* (cf. CS Nov-Dec. 2019, pg. 23). It will be great if you are able to follow the proposals. May God bless you all.



Your Shepherd in the Lord

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

PASTORAL LETTER II

PL 10/2019 December 1

On Prayer

Dear Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters and my dear People,

Thy Kingdome Come!

Prayer is often defined as communication with God, listening to God and talking to God. It has different forms such as adoration, thanksgiving, petition, reconciliation etc. While affirming that prayer is communication, with all its different forms, a necessary dimension of prayer is life in the presence of God. It means to live with 'a sense' that God is present with us always. In other words to live in the presence of God at every moment of our life. Live as if God is watching us and observing every move that we take. It can also be called to live in "prayer-consciousness."

When Paul exhorts "pray constantly" (1Thes. 5:17) it means, not praying always with rosary in the hands or a prayer book, but be spiritual-persons led by the Spirit. Guided by the Holy Spirit, one does always what God wants. Such a person always seeks the will of God. Prayer of Jesus at Gethsemane is beautiful: "My Father, if it be

C. Curia, From Major Archbishop, CBCI, WRBC

26. Circular of the Major Archbishop after the XXVII Synod of the Bishops of the Syro Malabar Church, Session 1, held from 07 to 18 January 2019 (March-April, Vol. XLII No.2) Pp. 19-26
27. Caritas India's Lenten Campaign against Hunger and Disease (March-April, Vol. XLII No.2) Pp.27-29
28. Canonical Matters concerning Syro-Malabar Migrants outside Kerala (May-June, Vol. XLII No.3) Pp.20
29. CBCI Team makes Suggestions and proposals to the Honourable Prime Minister towards "Sankalp Patra" for 2019 Lok Sabha Polls (May-June, Vol. XLII No.3) Pp.40-42
30. "Walls do not create prisons" Prison Ministry Sunday (July-August, Vol. XLII No.4) Pp.18-22

D. Appointments

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32. March-April Vol. XLII No.2, P.10
33. May-June Vol. XLII No.3, P.16
34. July-August Vol. XLII No.4, P.10
35. Sept-Oct Vol. XLII No.5, p. 14

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36. *Aaradhana Varsh* 2018 Conclusion (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P.11
37. Archbishop Elias Gonsalves (Jan-feb, Vol. XLII No. I) P.15
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39. Mission Seminar for Priest & Religious (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 29
40. Vianney's Feast (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 29
41. Priests' Retreat 2019 (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 29
42. 40 Hours Adoration 2019 (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 30
43. Pope's day Jan-Feb, (Vol. XLII No.1) P. 30
44. The Intentions of Pope Francis (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 30
45. Quinquennial Priests' Meet (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 31
46. Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) 2018 (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) Pp. 32-36
47. Congratulation to new Provincial Team of SJB, Wardha (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) P. 37

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3. Bible Vaachan Varsh III (Jan-Feb, Vol. XLII No.1) Pp. 4-5
4. Circular 2/2019 (March-April, Vol.XLII No.2) Pp. 30
5. On Holy Childhood Association (May-June, Vol. XL II No.3) Pp.3-5
6. Homily- Muron Qurbana (May-June, Vol.X L II No.3) Pp.6-7
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14. Circular 6/13 August 2019 Boardings /Hostels (Sep-Oct, Vol. XLII No.5) Pp.11-12
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17. Homily Silver Jubilee of ASMI Sisters (Nov-Dec, Vol. XLII No.6) Pp. 8-10

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21. For the 2019 World Day of Vocations (May-June, Vol. XL II No.3) Pp. 21-24
22. "Christus Vivit" Document released (May-June, Vol. X L II No.3) P.25
23. For the 53rd World Communications Day (July-August, Vol. XL II No.4) Pp.13-17
24. For World Mission Day 2019 (Sep-Oct, Vol. XLII No.5) Pp.17-21
25. Third World Day of the Poor Nov-Dec, Vol. XLII No.6) Pp. 12-19

possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will" (Mt. 26:39). Life of a Christian is a constant seeking of the will of God. A person who lives in the awareness of the presence of God, seeks God's will what may come, such a person can accept God's will easily and peacefully.

When one live prayerfully in God's presence he/she witness godliness in daily life. Such a person serves others gracefully, loves one another faithfully and respects each one generously. They build up community, establish harmony in the society and allow God to work in him/her gratuitously. As God's creatures and social beings we are oriented towards it. It is not charity but it is our duty. By the sacrament of baptism we are bound to this task.

Another effect of prayer as living in the presence of God is personal holiness. Mathew 5:48 we read "Be holy as your heavenly Father is holy." Every Christian is called to holiness. We are obligated to participate in God's holiness. In Hebrew context 'holiness' is primarily understood as self-dedication consecration of one's self for the task entrusted to the person concerned in the family, in the Church, and in the society. In other words, it is acting responsibly out of conviction and dedication. Everyone has some responsibilities and each one should do it for the common good. However, one cannot dismember the importance of prayer life, connected to spiritual exercises. They are part and parcel of our spiritual life. It will be wrong if one equates spiritual life with spiritual exercises. They are means by which one builds up one's spirituality. Spiritual exercises for the sake of it do not produce much spiritual fruits in any person. On the other hand, it can produce counter effect - a spiritual pride.

St. John of the cross explains in the Spiritual Canticle, the three effects in a person living in the presence of God a genuine prayerful person. God is present by essence - created in God's image and

likeness, the divine essence is present in every person. Secondly God is present in a person by divine grace one receives it when a person is favored by God. One loses it when one commits mortal sin. The third way by which God is made present in a person is 'presence by affection'. It is acquired by loving relationship and right human relations. God grant this to any devout person. Let us make great efforts to be men and women of prayer in the right sense. God bless you all.



Your Shepherd in the Lord

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

HOMILY I

(Homily delivered by Bp. Ephrem Nariculam on the occasion of Silver Jubilee of ASMI Sisters 10 August 2019, Allapalli)

Dear Fathers and Sisters,

Jubilee Greetings to Srs. Dessy Francis and Merin Francis. God bless you in all your endeavors. Thanks to ASMI congregation for your presence and service in the diocese. Your work among the poor particularly for the leprosy patients is laudable. May God reward you for the same.

Humility, docility, availability and radicality are chief components of religious commitment. We know all these but have we read between the lines of these virtues when we practice them in our daily life.

Humility: "Christ did not consider his equality with God something to be retained but emptied himself and became in the level of human and even to be crucified on wooden cross (Phil 2:2-9).

VIII. HEAVENLY BRETHREN

NOVEMBER

1. Fr. Felician Vadakumcherry CMI	09-11-1998	Bellampally
2. Sr. Borgia ASMI	11-11-1989	Allapally
3. Sr. Emil Mary SD	12-11-2018	Wardha
4. Fr. Jose Parayaruthottam CMI	20-11-1988	Ballarpur
5. Fr. Mathew Poovakulam CMI	23-11-1978	Ballarpur
6. Sr. (Dr.) Gabriel ASMI	26-11-2013	Rampur
7. Br. Chacko Urumbil CMI	28-11-2013	Koodathai
8. Sr. Serine CHF	11-11-2014	Palakkad

DECEMBER

1. Fr. George Vettukallupuram CMI	01-12-2008	Bellampally
2. Sr. Bonitus CMC	02-12-2000	Wardha
3. Sr. Neena Varghese CHF	04-12-2005	Palakkad
4. Fr. Chrisostom Thomas	06-12-2015	Pala
5. Sr. Rose Mary ASMI	10-12-1989	Cherthala
6. Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil	16-12-2018	Ballarpur
7. Sr. Lysa Rose FCC	17-12-2003	Kadukutty
8. Bro. Thomas Chakkunnumpuram CMI	25-12-1973	Ballarpur
9. Bro. Chacko Pinakkatt CMI	29-12-1977	Ballarpur

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	16-01-199	Pavaratty
8. Sr. (Dr.) Fidelis SD	17-01-2008	Gaziabad
9. Fr. Polycarp CMI	20-01-2007	Kalamassery
10. Fr. George Pullankav CMI	21-01-2011	Karikkattur
11. Sr. Jaina Therese DM	25-01-2009	Wardha
12. Fr. Johny Arackparampil	29-01-2007	Thevara

11. Rev. Fr. James Kallungal VC Provincial of Angamaly addressed the seminarians on 1st October and exhorted the seminarians to grow in holiness.
12. The ten days of Solemn Rosary commenced on 1st October and ended on 10th October. All parishioners joined us on the last day. It was a day of renewal for many have visited the the sacrament of reconciliation.
13. OFM Cap Fathers visited SVG along with the Sumthana community on 2nd October. The sharing with them were the moments of enlightenment and new vigour for all of us.
14. SVG community participated in the feast of Rajura parish on 6th October.
15. SVG choir added more flavour to the jubilee celebration of Rev. Sr. Nirmala SCCG Sasthi on 8th October.
16. Rev. Fr. Mathew Vathaloor CMI spent his most valuable time with our brothers to share his profound experience of the growth of Chanda diocese from its infancy. Long 29 years of his services in various capacities in Chanda has amplified its growth. All brothers were very eager to gather many information and insights form dear Father.
17. Annual retreat for the Seminarians of Chanda conducted from 23rd to 27th October. Fr Amal OFM Cap was the preacher. All of us had a best time for God experience. Thanks be to God.
18. Special Marathi language course was conducted for all the regent bothers of Chanda at SVG from 27th October to 2nd November.

DELIVERANCE AND HEALING RETREAT FOR SISTERS

Language : English
 Venue : Balharshah Divine Vachan Ashram
 Dates : 2019 December 27th Friday 5 pm to 2020
 January 2nd Thursday 2 pm

You are most welcome!

Please share this good news to your community members.

Fr. Glanson Chacko VC,
 Director, Divine Vachan Ashram

So humility means not only humble services but also being humiliated for the sake of Christ and in the name of the Church we are ready for humble services but when we are humiliated we react. Let us reflect.

Docility: It cannot be restricted to sheer obedience. It has wider spectrum of meaning. It goes much beyond obedience. To be obedient to God's commands, Church's precepts, social laws, the superiors, parents and elders is only beginning of docility. Indeed docility is a complete surrender to God for the common good. It is but being led by the Spirit and always seek the good of others. Do we have that docility in our religious commitment?

Availability: Genuine humility and docility leads one to availability. It has two ways directions, available to God in prayer and available to the others in service. Availability in manifestation of genuine communion with God and love for fellow brethren. It is God's love personified in our being with others. As Jesus reminds "there is no greater love than laying down our life for others" (Jn 15:13). In other words to be with others in the name of Christ and to be with God for the sake of the people. As missionaries we became intermediaries between God and the human the channels of God's grace for the people. Are we doing it and are we ready for it?

Radicality: Christ is clear in his invitation to follow him. "If anyone wants to be my disciple, leave everything behind and take up the cross and follow me" (Mt 16:24). Placing hands on plough and turning back is not worthy of me (Lk 9:62). To follow Jesus is a complete and total YES to God. What is my disposition in this regard? Is my radical following explicit in my words, deeds, life style and services? Let us resolve to gird up to be radical in our following Christ but not at all radical attitude towards faith and traditions.

Let us take these four points for our reflection, not only for the

jubilarians but also for all the missionaries present here. I repeat humility, docility, availability and radicality, they are the sign posts of our commitment to Christ and witness of our missionary zeal for Christ. God bless you all. Amen.

RESOLUTIONS FOR *SUSAMACHAR GHOSHANA VARSH*

The following are the **10** resolutions that we can focus on the year *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh* which will help every missionary a step further in preaching ministry:

1. I shall never offer a Holy Qurbana without a homily/reflection.
2. I shall read the readings of the day at least once before Holy Qurbana especially Gospel passage.
3. I shall take seriously and sincerely the 'daily bible reading' a chapter a day.
4. I shall reflect and prepare (Monday to Saturday) a contextual homily for every Sunday.
5. I shall avail every opportunity to improve my preaching ministry.
6. I shall visit every village in my parish and communicate the message of Christ in different ways as often as possible.
7. I shall read at least one book on homiletics or ministry of preaching.
8. I shall genuinely co-operate with all *Susamachar Goshana Varsh* activities in the diocese.
9. I shall listen to as many as possible (at least one per week) homilies/spiritual reflections or talks of retreat preachers or speakers from social media (eg. Youtube).
10. I shall be a better preacher than today from next year, 2021.

Catechism class. The TA could be collected by any of the Parish Core Team members from the CLC Office after the programme. If it is to be given to the children, the respective parish priest may please inform the dept. through letter, e-mail or phone, the number of participants and the amount required.

- Lunch will be provided after the exam and after that the children may remain for the Bible quiz competition.

VII. NEWS FROM FORMATION HOUSES

Sant Vianney Gurukul, Diocesan Minor Seminary

1. Teacher's day was celebrated on 5th September.
2. SVG family participated in the feast of the Nativity of our Lady on 8th September at St. Thomas Cathedral.
3. Onam was celebrated with its cultural grandeur on 11th September. Solemn banquet and cultural competitions added gaiety to the celebration.
4. The newly ordained priest Rev. Fr. Nikhil Chakkiath was given a grand reception on 12th September. He has guided the seminarians during the monthly recollection on the same day.
5. SVG hoisted a warm farewell programme for Rev. Sr. Mini DW on 14th September. She has rendered her valuable services for two academic years in forming the seminarians.
6. S.S.S General Rev. Sr. Josiya Kannamchira and a few sisters visited SVG and addressed the seminarians. She motivated the brothers to become dynamic missionaries.
7. Rev. Fr. Benny Mulackal, visited SVG and shared his joy with us.
8. The feast of St. Mathew was celebrated with more joy and wished Fr Rector and Fr Mathew Kandassankunnel on 21th September. Special Cultural events were arranged by the seminarians on this occasion.
9. The members of Light Mission from Kerala visited SVG and expressed their special concern and prayers for the seminarians on 25th September.
10. Rev. Fr. Dinny OFM Cap was given a farewell on 26th September. We salute for his dedication and valuable service given to SVG during two academic years.

VI. DEPARTMENTAL NEWS**CLC****Upcoming Events****1. SAPIENZA 2019-20**

Like every year this year also we are conducting Diocesan level Bible Quiz competition SAPIENZA 2019-20 on 19th February 2020. For a change this time preliminary rounds will be conducted on zonal basis at CLC Hall, Ballarshah on 19th February at 10.00 am. And the winners will be selected for the grand finale at C L C Hall, Balharshah on 19th February at 1.30 pm.

Schedule and venue for the preliminary round

Reference Sources : Gospel of St. Luke : 70%

- : The Letter of Paul to the I Corinthians Chapters 1-8: 20%
- : General & Church Teachings: 10%

Timing : 10.00 am Ballarshah Zone
: 10.45 am Wirur Zone
: 11.30 am Brahmapuri Zone
: 12.15 am Allapally Zone
: 12.45 am Wardha Zone

Participants : The competition will be parish wise.
: Maximum number of participants from each parish is three.
: They should be in or under 12th Std. in the school.

2. Diocesan Level Catechism Annual Exam

- **Date & time** : 19th Feb. 2020, 11 am - 12.30 pm.
- **Venue** : For Balharshah, Brahmapuri, Wardha & **Wirur Zone** : Pastoral Centre, BPQ. And for Allapilli **Zone** : Seva Sadan Bhalbhavan, Nageppalli.
- **Languages** : Hindi / Marathi / English
- **Participants** : Catholic students of 5th to 10th Std. of catechism class. Any number of children may attend the exam.
- **Prizes** : Cash awards of Rs. 750 and Rs. 500 as the first and second prizes with certificates will be given to the toppers in each std.
- **TA** : TA could be provided to the C & B category parishes, if needed, to one student each from every std. - 5th to 10th of

III. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS**November 2019**

- 2 - All souls day, Ballarpur
- 4-9 - Priests' Retreat, Ballarpur
- 9 - Convent blessing, Chimur
- 12 - Chanda Family Day
- 13 - Claretian Mission Inauguration, Dhanora
- 14-17 - Canonical Visitation, Kopreli
- 19 - Executive meeting, WRBC, Mumbai
- 21 - School Jubilee, Allappally
- 23 - MSMI Jubilee, Wardha
- 24 - Blessing, Arvi
- 25 - Diaconate ordination, SVG, New Daheli
- 27 - SVG Day, New Daheli
- 28 - School Jubilee, Warora
- 30 - Diocesan Pastoral Council, Ballarpur

December 2019

- 7 - School Day, Brahmapuri
- 13-15 - WRBC, Vasai, Mumbai
- 21 - Monthly Recollection, Requiem Holy Qurbana for Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil, Ballarpur (The first Death anniversary)
- 22 - Holy Qurbana, Chellawada (Repanpalli)
- 25 - Christmas, Ballarpur
- 26 - Holy Qurbana, Kasansur, (Jarawandi)
- 27 - Holy Qurbana, Jarawandi

January 2020

- 2 - Ordination, Dharmagiri, Koodallur
- 4 - Jubilee, Sanjopuram
- 5 - AM Baptism, Potta
PM Festal Qurbana, Mariyapuram, Thamarassery
- 7-15 - Synod of Bishops
- 12 - Wedding, Thumbarassery
- 19 - Festal Qurbana, Kanjoor
- 23 - Jubilee, CMC Provincial House, Wardha

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS***THIRD WORLD DAY OF THE POOR******34th Sunday in Ordinary Time******17 November 2019******The hope of the poor shall not perish for ever***

1. “The hope of the poor will not perish for ever” (Ps 9:19). These words of the Psalm remain timely. They express a profound truth that faith impresses above all on the hearts of the poor, restoring lost hope in the face of injustice, sufferings and the uncertainties of life.

The Psalmist describes the condition of the poor and the arrogance of those who oppress them (cf. 10, 1-10). He invokes God's judgment to restore justice and overcome evil (cf. 10, 14-15). In his words, we hear an echo of age-old questions. How can God tolerate this disparity? How can he let the poor be humiliated without coming to their aid? Why does he allow oppressors to prosper instead of condemning their conduct, especially in the light of the sufferings of the poor?

The Psalm was composed at a time of great economic development that, as often happens, also led to serious social imbalances. The inequitable distribution of wealth created a significant number of poor people, whose condition appeared all the more dramatic in comparison with the wealth attained by a privileged few. The Psalmist, observing the situation, paints a picture as realistic as it is true.

It was a time when arrogant and ungodly people hounded the poor, seeking to take possession even of what little they had, and to reduce them to bondage. The situation is not much different today. The economic crisis has not prevented large groups of people from accumulating fortunes that often appear all the more incongruous when, in the streets of our cities, we daily encounter great numbers of the poor who lack the bare necessities of life and are at times harassed and exploited. The words of Book of Revelation come to mind: “You

of our Province sisters went to visit the mission stations on 12th October. They visited some of the Mission centres of Chanda Diocese such as Divine Vachanashram, Rajura, Wani, Shengaon, Pattaguda, Jiwathi and Korpana. Rev. Fr. Johny and Fr. Sunil were with us to guide us. It boosted us to become a zealous missionary.

8. Silver Jubilee Inauguration

Silver Jubilee Bells of Carmelodaya rang on 17th October 2019. The Music is grander and sweeter, for the great Composer has gifted Carmelodaya a Jubilee year, transposing all the strains from the minor into the major. And the wail of nature has given the way to the glad harmony of the everlasting jubilee. Yes Carmelodaya proclaims aloud and rejoices for the great things the Lord has done in her life, as we inaugurate the silver jubilee of our Province. There was a solemn Holy Mass offered by Rev. Fr. Varghese Puthuparampil CMI. Silver Jubilee candle, Prayer and Anthem given to all the Superiors of each community. Presence of all the Fathers and sisters of our neighbouring communities made this day more colourful and memorable.

9. Superiors' meet

The local Superiors of Carmelodaya Province, gathered at Carmelodaya Provincial House, Wardha from 18th to 20th October 2019 to participate in the course for Superiors. Rev. Fr. Francis CMI enlightened us from his vast knowledge and deep God experience through his classes. He talked about Evangelical authority today, 'portrait of a good superior', and how to be an effective religious superior today. Provincial Superior Sr. Lilly Grace and Sr. Sharon guided them through different classes and evaluation.

on 22/09/2019. It was a day enriched with prayer and fellowship. we could experience the oneness and unity of each communities.

3. Financial Management

A Seminar on Financial Management was held in the Provincial House under the leadership and guidance of Sr. Philo, the Provincial Councillor for finance and Sr. Mary, the finance Secretary on 28 & 29 Sept. 2019. 37 sisters of our Province attended and updated their knowledge on financial matters.

4. My Community, My Family

On 31st August to 2nd September 2019, 44 Daughters of Carmelodaya reached the Provincial House from far and near with great enthusiasm and zeal to re-charge the draining batteries of life to enhance the warmth and sweetness of community life. Resource person Dr. Sr. Mercy SCSC reached well in advance to storm our hearts with the whirlpool of her experiences as a Counsellor and a clinical officer.

5. Rosary Devotion

In all the convents of our Province Solemn Rosary was conducted for ten days with much love and devotion to Mother Mary.

6. Spiritual Refreshment

1st session of the Annual Retreat was held in the Provincial House from 5th October to 11th October 2019. 40 sisters of our Province attended the retreat led by Rev. Fr. Thomas Valanmanal. These days of retreat made all to be nourished with the word of God and enjoy His ever living presence.

7. Mission Tour

As per the decision taken in connection with the Silver Jubilee

say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing. You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind and naked” (Rev 3:17). The centuries pass, but the condition of rich and poor remains constant, as if history has taught us nothing. The words of the Psalm, then, are not about the past, but about our present, as it stands before God's judgement.

2. Today too, we must acknowledge many new forms of bondage that enslave millions of men, women, young people and children.

Daily we encounter *families* forced to leave their homeland to seek a living elsewhere; *orphans* who have lost their parents or were violently torn from them by brutal means of exploitation; *young people* seeking professional fulfilment but prevented from employment by shortsighted economic policies; *victims* of different kinds of violence, ranging from prostitution to the narcotics trade, and profoundly demeaned. How can we overlook, too, the millions of *immigrants* who fall victim to any number of concealed interests, often exploited for political advantage, and are refused solidarity and equality? And all the *homeless* and ostracized persons who roam the streets of our cities?

How many times do we see poor people rummaging through *garbage bins* to retrieve what others have discarded as superfluous, in the hope of finding something to live on or to wear! They themselves become part of a human garbage bin; they are treated as refuse, without the slightest sense of guilt on the part of those who are complicit in this scandal. Frequently judged parasites on society, the poor are not even forgiven their poverty. Judgment is always around the corner. They are not allowed to be timid or discouraged; they are seen as a threat or simply useless, simply because they are poor.

To make matters worse, they can see no end to the tunnel of extreme poverty. We have come to the point of devising a hostile architecture aimed at ridding the streets of their presence, the last places left to them. They roam from one end of the city to the other in the hope of getting a job, a home, a sign of affection... The least offer becomes a

ray of light; yet even where justice might be expected to prevail, they meet with violence and abuse. Forced to work endless hours under a burning sun to gather seasonal fruits, they receive ridiculously low pay. They labour in unsafe and inhuman conditions that prevent them from feeling on a par with others. They lack unemployment compensation, benefits, or even provision for sickness.

The Psalmist describes with brutal realism the attitude of the rich who rob the poor: “They lie in wait that they may seize the poor... and drag them off in their net” (cf. *Ps* 10:9). As in a hunt, the poor are trapped, captured and enslaved. As a result, many of them become disheartened, hardened and anxious only to drop out of sight. In a word, we see before us a multitude of poor people often maligned and barely tolerated. They become for all effects invisible and their voice is no longer heard or heeded in society. Men and women who are increasingly strangers amid our houses and outcasts in our neighborhoods.

3. The setting of the Psalm is tinged with sadness at the injustice, the suffering and the disappointment endured by the poor. At the same time, it offers a touching definition of the poor: they are those who “put their trust in the Lord” (cf. v. 10), in the certainty that they will never be forsaken. In the Scriptures, the poor are those who trust! The Psalmist also gives the reason for this trust: they “know” the Lord (cf. *ibid.*). In the language of the Bible, such “knowledge” involves a personal relationship of affection and love.

Impressive and completely unexpected as this description is, it simply expresses the grandeur of God, as shown in the way he relates to the poor. His creative power surpasses all human expectations and is shown in his being “mindful” of each individual (cf. v. 13). It is precisely this confidence in the Lord, this certainty of not being forsaken, that inculcates hope. The poor know that God cannot abandon them; hence, they live always in the presence of the God who is mindful of them. God's help extends beyond their present state of suffering in order to point out a path of liberation that profoundly

competitions were also held on the same theme, thus creating an awareness among the students about their 'right to vote'.

- **Amala, DM Province, Wardha**

1. Plenary Assembly

The Plenary Assembly was held at DM Provincialate, Wardha from 7th to 10th September 2019. The key notes were delivered by Rev. Provincial Superior Mother Flower Maria DM.

2. Annual Retreat 2019

Annual Retreat of 2019 was held at Wardha on 1st to 7th October. Rev. Fr. Blesson CMI was the retreat preacher.

3. The Franciscan Family Meet 2019

This year marks the 8th centenary of the encounter between St. Francis of Assisi and the Sultan Malik Al Kamil. Around 60 Brothers and sisters from Nagpur, Chandrapur, Wardha and Umred were assembled under the umbrella of Amala Sadan, Wardha on St. Francis's Day. Sr. Flower Maria DM, The Provincial Superior of Amala gave a talk on the relevance of the encounter between Francis of Assisi and Sultan. Rev. Fr. Francis Rozaris OFM celebrated the Solemn holy mass followed by Franciscan happy hour and agape. The guests were presented with green sapling.

- **Carmelodaya, CMC Province, Wardha**

1. Gathering of Vocation promoters

Realizing the grave need of our time the vocation promoters from 14 convents gathered in the Provincial House on 14th and 15th September 2019 for two days program to enhance and empower oneself for the effective vocation promotion. Provincial Superior Mother Lilly Grace and Fr. Ajeesh VC a spirit filled, zealous priest enkindled their hearts with more zeal and zest to become the powerful instruments of the Lord to draw many young hearts to the master.

2. Zonal gathering

As usual this year too we had our Zonal gathering at Jam convent

Rev. Fr. Joshi Vazhappilly CMI shared his mission experience and Sr. Sangeeta SJB shared her miraculous healing experience which inspired, enriched and challenged the group to live our life trusting in God's providence, doing our best for the growth of the mission in all possible ways. Night vigil was concluded with Eucharistic procession followed by Holy Mass.

5. Province day and the feast of our Provincial Rev. Sr. Vidya Joseph SJB were celebrated meaningfully and colorfully. Congregation anthem "**Saakshini**" was released on the occasion. Thus the long cherished dream of St. John's family was realized into reality.

6. Two training programmes for the differently abled children of Wardha were organized by Society of Sisters of St. John, Wardha at Jeevan Vikas Sevagram.

a) Training of '**Self advocates and mentors on self advocacy**'.

This programme was supported by Parivar NCPO, Pune and CBM, on 20th and 21st September.

b) '**Parents training programme**' of the differently abled children was conducted with the support of CRC, Nagpur on 16th October.

7. **Deep Utsav Celebration** - To commemorate Gandhi Jayanti, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Atragami High School Pipri, Wardha had a unique way of celebrating it with the local people on 2nd October evening at major square at Karla. The students and teachers of Atragami High School Pipri, Wardha actively took part in cleaning the area from Atragami High School to major square at Karla, giving the message of environmental protection and cleanliness. On this great occasion the students presented a skit on the life of Mahatma Gandhi and 150 clay lamps were lit highlighting the importance and message of the day.

8. On the occasion of 'Vidhan Sabha Election' to create an awareness among the people about "**Right to vote**", the students of Atragami High School Pipri, Wardha took a rally in Punjab colony, Pipri. Rangoli, drawing and essay writing

strengthens and transforms the heart.

4. Scripture constantly speaks of God acting on behalf of the poor. He is the one who "hears" their cry" and "comes to their aid"; he "protects" and "defends" them; he "rescues" and "saves" them... Indeed, the poor will never find God indifferent or silent in the face of their plea. God is the one who renders justice and does not forget (cf. *Ps* 40:18; 70:6); he is their refuge and he never fails to come to their assistance (cf. *Ps* 10:14).

We can build any number of walls and close our doors in the vain effort to feel secure in our wealth, at the expense of those left outside. It will not be that way for ever. The "day of the Lord", as described by the prophets (cf. *Am* 5:18; *Is* 2-5; *Jl* 1-3), will destroy the barriers created between nations and replace the arrogance of the few with the solidarity of many. The marginalization painfully experienced by millions of persons cannot go on for long. Their cry is growing louder and embraces the entire earth. In the words of Father Primo Mazzolari: "the poor are a constant protest against our injustices; the poor are a powder keg. If it is set on fire, the world will explode".

5. We can never elude the urgent appeal that Scripture makes on behalf of the poor. Wherever we look, the word of God points to the poor, those who lack the necessities of life because they depend on others. They are the oppressed, the lowly and the downcast. Yet, faced with countless throngs of the poor, Jesus was not afraid to identify with each of them: "Whatever you did to one of the least of these my brethren, you did to me" (*Mt* 25:40). If we refuse to make this identification, we falsify the Gospel and water down God's revelation. The God that Jesus came to reveal is a Father who is generous, merciful, unfailing in his goodness and grace. He gives hope especially to those who are disillusioned and lacking in hope for the future.

How can we fail to note that the Beatitudes with which Jesus began his preaching of the kingdom of God open with the words: "Blessed are you who are poor" (*Lk* 6:20)? The meaning of this paradoxical

message is that the kingdom of God belongs to the poor because they are in a position to receive it. How many poor people do we encounter each day! It seems that the passage of time and the advances of civilization increase their numbers rather than diminishing them. Centuries go by and the Beatitude appears even more paradoxical: the poor are always poorer, and today they are poorer than ever. Yet Jesus who inaugurated his kingdom by placing the poor at the centre, wanted to tell us precisely this: he *inaugurated* the kingdom, but he has entrusted to us, his disciples, the task of carrying it forward with responsibility for giving hope to the poor. Especially at times like our own, there is a need to revive hope and to restore confidence. This responsibility is not something that the Christian community may underestimate. The credibility of our proclamation and the witness of Christians depends on it.

6. In closeness to the poor, the Church comes to realize that she is one people, spread throughout many nations and called to ensure that no one feels a stranger or outcast, for she includes everyone in a shared journey of salvation. The situation of the poor obliges us not to keep our distance from the body of the Lord, who suffers in them. Instead, we are called to touch his flesh and to be personally committed in offering a service that is an authentic form of evangelization. Commitment to the promotion of the poor, including their social promotion, is not foreign to the proclamation of the Gospel. On the contrary, it manifests the realism of Christian faith and its historical validity. The love that gives life to faith in Jesus makes it impossible for his disciples to remain enclosed in a stifling individualism or withdrawn into small circles of spiritual intimacy, with no influence on social life (cf. Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, 183).

Recently, we were saddened by the death of a great apostle of the poor, Jean Vanier, whose dedication opened up new ways of showing solidarity with the marginalized and working for their advancement. God gave Jean Vanier the gift of devoting his entire life to our brothers and sisters with grave disabilities, people whom society often tends to

V. NEWS FROM THE MISSION STATIONS

WARDHA ZONE

-Aragami Provincial House - SJB sisters, Wardha

1. A mission talk was organized for the Parishioners of Wardha, on occasion of '**Extra ordinary Mission Month**' by SJB sisters, Wardha on 6th October. Rev. Fr. Raju Avookaran, the Parish Priest of Wardha Forane Church gave the introductory talk. Sr. Divya SJB was the resource person. Theme of the mission talk was '**Lead an austere life rooted in faith for Evangelization**'. She gave a spirit filled talk about the mission of Christ, how this mission was carried out in the Church by the apostles and their followers. With the help of video clips and personal mission life experience, she highlighted the challenges we face in the mission and the need for adequate preparation to meet the present day challenges in the mission. She emphasized the importance of family prayer and faith formation for Evangelization. She challenged everyone explaining the need of going out to the people and give witness through our very life. Ms. Arti Chaudhary a Hindu girl from Warud village, Sevagram who became a believer of Christ through Sanjeevani Ashram run by SJB sisters, shared her faith experience in Christ, which was inspiring and heart touching. Now she continues the work of evangelization bringing her family members and neighbours for prayer in Sanjeevani Ashram.
2. Prayer for '**Extra ordinary Mission Month**' was distributed to all after the mission talk. So that in every family and institution we could pray the prayer which was prepared by the commission for Evangelization.
3. We also make use of the Bible reading and reflection given by the '**Commission for Evangelization**' for our daily meditation. It is an inspiration and enrichment for our missionary journey.
4. A night vigil was organized for the Parishioners of Wardha, on the occasion of '**Extra ordinary Mission Month**' by SJB sisters, Wardha on 12th October 9.00 p.m to 13th October 5.00am.

BIBLE Vaachan Varsh 2019
Read the whole Bible in a Year
Reading for December

December 01	Jonah 3-4	Sirach 21	2 Peter 3
December 02	Micah 1 - 3	Sirach 22	1 John 1
December 03	Micah 4-5	Sirach 23	1 John 2
December 04	Micah 6 - 7	Sirach 24	1 John 3
December 05	Nahum 1	Sirach 25	1 John 4
December 06	Habakkuk 1	Sirach 26	1 John 5
December 07	Zephaniah 1	Sirach 27	2 John 1
December 08	Haggai 1	Sirach 28	3 John 1
December 09	Zechariah 1-2	Sirach 29	Jude 1
December 10	Zechariah 3 - 4	Sirach 30	Revelation 1
December 11	Zechariah 5-6	Sirach 31	Revelation 2
December 12	Zechariah 7-8	Sirach 32	Revelation 3
December 13	Zechariah 9 -10	Sirach 33	Revelation 4
December 14	Zechariah 11-12	Sirach 34	Revelation 5
December 15	Zechariah 13-14	Sirach 35	Revelation 6
December 16	Malachi 1-4	Sirach 36	Revelation 7
December 17	1 Maccabees 1 - 2	Sirach 37	Revelation 8
December 18	1 Maccabees 3-4	Sirach 38	Revelation 9
December 19	1 Maccabees 5-6	Sirach 39	Revelation 10
December 20	1 Maccabees 7-8	Sirach 40	Revelation 11
December 21	1 Maccabees 9-10	Sirach 41	Revelation 12
December 22	1 Maccabees 11 -12	Sirach 42	Revelation 13
December 23	1 Maccabees 13-14	Sirach 43	Revelation 14
December 24	1 Maccabees 15-16	Sirach 44	Revelation 15
December 25	2 Maccabees 1-2	Sirach 45	Revelation 16
December 26	2 Maccabees 3-4	Sirach 46	Revelation 17
December 27	2 Maccabees 5-6	Sirach 47	Revelation 18
December 28	2 Maccabees 7-8	Sirach 48	Revelation 19
December 29	2 Maccabees 9-10	Sirach 49	Revelation 20
December 30	2 Maccabees 11 -12	Sirach 50	Revelation 21
December 31	2 Maccabees 13-15	Sirach 51	Revelation 22

exclude. He was one of those saints “next door”; thanks to his enthusiasm, he gathered around himself great numbers of young people, men and women, who worked daily to give love and restore a smile to many vulnerable persons, offering them a true “ark” of salvation from marginalization and solitude. His witness changed the life of countless persons and helped the world to look differently at those less fortunate than ourselves. The cry of the poor was heard and produced an unwavering hope, creating visible and tangible signs of a concrete love that even today we can touch with our hands.

7. “The option for those who are least, those whom society discards” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 195) is a priority that Christ's followers are called to pursue, so as not to impugn the Church's credibility but to give real hope to many of our vulnerable brothers and sisters. Christian charity finds concrete expression in them, for by their compassion and their willingness to share the love of Christ with those in need, they are themselves strengthened and confirm the preaching of the Gospel.

The involvement of Christians in this *World Day of the Poor* and especially in the events of everyday life, goes beyond initiatives of assistance. Praiseworthy and necessary as the latter may be, they should have the goal of encouraging in everyone a greater concern for individuals in any kind of distress. “Loving attentiveness is the beginning of true concern” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 199) for the poor and the promotion of their genuine welfare. It is not easy to be witnesses of Christian hope in the context of a consumerist culture, a culture of waste concerned only for the spread of a shallow and ephemeral wellbeing. A change of mentality is needed, in order to rediscover what is essential and to give substance and verve to the preaching of the kingdom of God.

Hope is also communicated by the sense of fulfilment born of accompanying the poor not for a brief moment of enthusiasm, but through a constant commitment over time. The poor acquire genuine hope, not from seeing us gratified by giving them a few moments of

our time, but from recognizing in our sacrifice an act of gratuitous love that seeks no reward.

8. I ask the many volunteers, who merit recognition for being the first to see the importance of such concern for the poor, to persevere in their dedicated service. Dear brothers and sisters, I encourage you to seek, in every poor person whom you encounter, his or her true needs, not to stop at their most obvious material needs, but to discover their inner goodness, paying heed to their background and their way of expressing themselves, and in this way to initiate a true fraternal dialogue. Let us set aside the divisions born of ideological and political positions, and instead fix our gaze on what is essential, on what does not call for a flood of words, but a gaze of love and an outstretched hand. Never forget that “the worst discrimination which the poor suffer is the lack of spiritual care” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 200).

Before all else, the poor need God and his love, made visible by “the saints next door”, people who by the simplicity of their lives express clearly the power of Christian love. God uses any number of ways and countless means to reach people's hearts. Certainly, the poor come to us also because we give them food, but what they really need is more than our offer of a warm meal or a sandwich. The poor need our hands, to be lifted up; our hearts, to feel anew the warmth of affection; our presence, to overcome loneliness. In a word, they need love.

9. At times, very little is needed to restore hope. It is enough to stop for a moment, smile and listen. For once, let us set statistics aside: the poor are not statistics to cite when boasting of our works and projects. The poor are persons to be encountered; they are lonely, young and old, to be invited to our homes to share a meal; men women and children who look for a friendly word. The poor save us because they enable us to encounter the face of Jesus Christ.

In the eyes of the world, it seems illogical to think that poverty and need can possess saving power. Yet that is the teaching of the Apostle, who tells us: “Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose

would like to share with you, this Christmas time, is that no matter what the circumstances be that surround us, no matter what the propaganda may be, there are some very sacred and common matters that concern all of us citizens. As I mentioned earlier, our Constitution, has provided us many rights and freedoms. Our freedom to practice and propagate our religion, the freedom to set up our educational institutions, to choose any occupation, all are important and they must be safeguarded. This is the bedrock of our democracy and the foundation for our strong growth. We must, above all things, respect our Constitution and seek to live by it, so that we are contributing citizens of this nation. Constitutionalism, in its letter and spirit should be our only guiding ideology.

9. Further, as Lord Jesus taught his disciples to pray, asking God to forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, let us share this message of forgiveness with all those around us. Let us become tolerant and compassionate people, let us keep anger and hatred away, and let us not allow the poison of division to soil the very heart of India. Birth of Jesus brought Joy, let this joy be in your hearts, in your homes, in your neighbourhood and fill our nation with Joy. Birth of Jesus brought peace, let this Christmas bring tidings of peace to all people in our country. This is my wish for you this Christmas.

10. Once again Merry Christmas to all citizens of our country. And may Lord Jesus bless each one of us. Merry Christmas!

Jai hind!

spirit was never conquered and she remains unsubdued and unconquered. About her illusive quality of a legend of long ago some enchantment seems to have held her mind. She is a myth and an idea, a dream and a vision, and yet real and present and pervasive” (Unquote). There can be many conflicting visions of the idea of India, but we can all agree that India is a truly beautiful idea that very naturally encompasses all its conflicting visions. Sooner than later, it is this idea of India which will prevail. Our history bears testimony to this.

Friends, Ladies & Gentlemen,

6. The most enduring image of the Catholic Church in India are the crores of Indians, who get educated in the schools and Colleges set up by the Church and millions of patients who got treated in the Holy Family Hospitals. The Catholic Clergy in India is personified by the Priest or nun in a habit, the very image of whose brings to one's mind, discipline and dedication. It is the heartening images of Missionaries of Charity led by Mother Teresa, tending to the last person on the margin of society that personifies the Church in India.
7. Having existed in India for more than 2000 years, when St. Thomas, one of the twelve Disciples of Christ came and settled here, the Christian Church has been more Renaissance and Reformation and rarely about Evangelism. Indigenization, adaptation and respect of local customs and traditions have made Christianity as Indian a religion as the ones that originated in its ancient geographical boundaries.
8. On this joyous occasion, the most important thought I

what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God” (*1 Cor* 1:26-29). Looking at things from a human standpoint, we fail to see this saving power, but with the eyes of faith, we see it at work and experience it personally. In the heart of the pilgrim People of God there beats that saving power which excludes no one and involves everyone in a real journey pilgrimage of conversion, to recognize the poor and to love them.

10. The Lord does not abandon those who seek him and call upon his name: “He does not forget the cry of the poor” (*Pss* 9:12), for his ears are attentive to their voice. The hope of the poor defies deadly situations, for the poor know that they are especially loved by God, and this is stronger than any suffering or exclusion. Poverty does not deprive them of their God-given dignity; they live in the certainty that it will be fully restored to them by God himself, who is not indifferent to the lot of his lowliest sons and daughters. On the contrary, he sees their struggles and sorrows, he takes them by the hand, and he gives them strength and courage (cf. *Pss* 10:14). The hope of the poor is confirmed in the certainty that their voice is heard by the Lord, that in him they will find true justice, that their hearts will be strengthened and continue to love (cf. *Pss* 10:17).

If the disciples of the Lord Jesus wish to be genuine evangelizers, they must sow tangible seeds of hope. I ask all Christian communities, and all those who feel impelled to offer hope and consolation to the poor, to help ensure that this *World Day of the Poor* will encourage more and more people to cooperate effectively so that no one will feel deprived of closeness and solidarity. May you always treasure the words of the prophet who proclaims a different future: “For you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings” (*Mal* 3:20 [4:2]).

Pope Francis

IV. CURIA MATTERS

Inauguration of *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh 2020*

After year end midnight Qurbana or on 1st January or on the first Sunday of the month in January the parish priest/priest-in-charge can release the *Susamachar Ghoshna Varsh 2020* flex in the Church and give a short explanation to it as given in the pastoral letter (cf. Vol. XLII No. 6). It is highly recommended to give some idea of action plan in the parish.

Bible *Vaachan Varsh 2019*

Though Bible *Vaachan Varsh 2019* observance ends by 31 December 2019, the habit of reading the Bible daily should continue. Kindly encourage people to start reading one chapter a day from Genesis' first chapter from January 1, 2020 onwards. Those who have not yet completed reading the Bible may continue the reading and complete the circle. I request every parish priest, priest-in-charge and Rev. sisters to encourage people to continue the habit of reading the Bible daily.

PRIESTS' RETREAT

Those who are not able to make annual retreat in common, are requested to do it before 31 December 2019 and kindly inform Bishop's office all details regarding the same. All diocesan priests are requested to offer mandatory Holy Qurbanas as per Eparchial Statutes (#247 §5) and inform Bishop's office latest by the end of December.

Chancellor

Unity Octave 2020 (January 18–25)

Theme: They Showed Us Unusual Kindness (cf. Acts 28:2)

Once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (cf. John 17:21). Please observe the Unity Octave and arrange special ecumenical prayer services wherever possible.

struggle between classes, religions, castes or gender. To my mind, it was essentially the playing out of the struggle between the universal good and its antithesis wherein at the end it was always the former that won. Aberrations of a crusade, a jihad or violent struggles between sects in India, were always defeated in the favour of longer reigning brotherhood, peace and resultant prosperity of mankind.

Friends, Ladies & Gentlemen,

4. In the above context we are definitely going through troubled times. Divisive tendencies, intolerance and prejudiced "fear of the other" seem to be defining us in place of the composite and yet diverse nation that we emerged, as over 5000 years of co-existence, acceptance, adaptation and assimilation. However, it is my considered belief that this, like in the past, is a temporary phase. India and Indians will tenaciously fight this in order to once again establish our unique national identity which has emerged out of our civilizational values and remains etched ever so clearly in our Magna Carta - the Constitution of India.
5. We are a nation of 1.3 billion people who use more than 122 languages and 1600 dialects in their everyday lives, practice 7 major religions, belong to 3 major ethnic groups - Caucasians, Mongoloids, and Dravidians and yet live under one system, one flag and one identity. The identity of being an Indian - a *Bharatiya*. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru so vividly expressed in the 'Discovery of India', and I quote, "*India is a geographical and economic entity, a cultural unity amidst diversity, a bundle of contradictions held together by strong but invisible threads. Overwhelmed again and again, her*

**SPEECH BY SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE, FORMER
PRESIDENT OF INDIA ON THE OCCASION OF
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS ORGANIZED BY
CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA
(CBCI) ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2018 AT CBCI
CENTRE, NEW DELHI**

My dear fellow citizens,

1. It gives me immense pleasure to be present here for the celebration of Christmas by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India. On this joyous occasion I convey my heartfelt good wishes and join you in celebrating the eternal and omnipresent values of **Compassion, Forgiveness and Universal Love** that Lord Jesus - the son of God, stood for. It were the values of "Love of God and Neighbours", "Fidelity", "Renunciation of Vengeance and worldly goods" and "Forgiveness" that inspired Swami Vivekananda to say and I quote, "**Had I lived in Palestine in the days of Jesus of Nazareth, I would have washed his feet, not with my tears, but with my heart's blood**". (Unquote)

Eminences, Friends, Ladies & Gentlemen,

2. The emergence of religions in the history of evolution of mankind essentially ensured the addition of civilizational aspects to human existence. It raised the level of human consciousness from mere survival to spiritual. Be it in any part of the world, each and every religion, strove to direct human endeavours towards the three basic tenets of **Truth, Compassion and Righteousness**. It was these tenets that comprised the Ram Rajya of Hinduism, Dharma of Buddhism, the Holy Kingdom of Christianity and many more.
3. The civilizational history of mankind was not a history of

**First Death Anniversary
Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil**

The first death anniversary of Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil falls on 16 Dec. 2019. For convenience sake we shall keep it on Saturday 21 December along with monthly recollection for priests and Men religious. **The Sisters are also welcome.**



Venue : St. Thomas Cathedral

Time Schedule

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 09.00 am | - Adoration & confession |
| 10.00 am | - Talk |
| 11.15 am | - Requiem Holy Qurbana followed by office of the dead in the cemetery. |
| 12.45 pm | - Lunch bye..bye... |

Fr. Varghese Puthuparampil CMI
Proto-synellus

40 HOURS ADORATION 2020

40 hours adoration will be held at Cathedral, Ballarpur on **February 24-26** (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday). February 26 is Ash day. On all days Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after Holy Qurbana at 6:15 AM and it will be reposed at 8 PM. There will be facility for confession on all the days of Adoration. Whoever can, please do come and adore the Lord. It may be good to keep the following zonal arrangements:

- Monday 24 February - Allapally & Bramhapuri zones
Tuesday 25 February - Wardha & Wirur zone
Wednesday 26 February - Ballarsha Zone

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF
POPE FRANCIS**

NOVEMBER 2019

Dialogue and Reconciliation in the Near East

That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

DECEMBER 2019

The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

JANUARY 2020

Promotion of World Peace

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Programme**(MSDFP) 2020****(Gathering)**

Venue : Bishop's Home/Pastoral Centre, Ballarpur

Date : Monday 27 April to Saturday

09 May 2020

Arrival : Sunday 26 April 2020

27-29 April : Seminar on Youth Mission

Minor Orders : Saturday 09 May 2020.

NB: Kindly submit assignments, accounts, budgets as per schedule (on or before 10 April 2020).

Fr. Binu Muthalakuzhy

COLLECTIONS

Seminary Fund Collection: Advent collection is meant for seminary fund. Please announce it in the Church and make collection on Sunday before Christmas and send it to DFO not later than 30 January 2020.

- 25 - Dussehra
26-31 - Annual retreat for Priests and Men religious by Fr. Tomy Churathil SAC
29 - Id e-milad
- November**
- Catechism Children's Get Together - Wani
- Career Guidance, Ballarpur
- Home Mission
- 3 - Catechism Children's Get Together
10 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Kalmana
12 - SVG Day
14 - Diwali
17 - World Communication Day, Anti-Tobacco Day
24 - Christ the King feast
30 - Guru Nanak Jayanti
- December**
- Advent collection for Seminary Fund
- Marriage Preparation Course
- Home Mission
- 1 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Pattaguda
- World AIDS Day
3 - World Handicapped Day
8 - Immaculate Heart of Mary
- Catechism Children's Get Together - Shengaon
10 - Birthday of Bp. Ephrem
15 - Advent collection for seminary fund
- Catechism Children's Get Together - Warur
16 - First Death Anniversary of Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil
21 - Fr. Jomy's death anniversary memorial Qurbana
- Monthly Recollection for Priests & Men religious
22 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Lakkadakot
25 - Christmas
29 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Awarpur
31 - Year ending, *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh* ends

September

- Catechism Children's Get Together - Ettapally
- Catechism Children's Get Together - Gatta
- 1 - Eight days fast in preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary begins
- 2 - Ganesh Chaturthi
- 5 - St. Theresa of Calcutta
- 8 - Feast of Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 11 - Onam
- 12 - Missionary Conference, 2021 Year Plan Committee
- 15 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Ashti
- 19 - Diocesan Pastoral Council
- 22 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Kopreli
- 23 - World Children's Day
- 29 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Gomini

October

- Marathi course for regents
- Catechism Children's Get Together - Gatta
- 1 - St. Theresa of Child Jesus
- 2 - Diocesan fasting day in preparation for Chanda Family Day
- Gandhi Jayanthi
- 4 - St. Francis of Assisi, Patron's Day - Pope Francis
- Sunday for the old and aged
- 9 - Chain Adoration in preparation for Chanda Family Day.
- 10 - Chanda Family Day
- 13 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Chamorshi
- 16 - Blessed Kunjachan
- 17 - Mission Sunday
- 20 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Gojoli
- 24 - Episcopal ordination anniversary of Bp. Ephrem

Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh 2020**Diocese of Chanda****(Year of Proclamation of the Divine word)****Theme: Called: To be sent****To proclaim****To heal (Mk. 3:13-15)**

The following are envisioned to be implemented in the diocese in connection with the *Susamachar Goshna Varsh 2020*. A committee with Fr. Kurian Panayalil as convener and Frs. Binu and Fr. Vincent as members is constituted to monitor and co-ordinate different activities of the celebrations. I earnestly request the co-operation of every missionary in the diocese for a faithful and successful celebration of the year of Proclamation of the Divine Word. God bless you.

Bp. Ephrem Nariculam

Action plan

1. *Vachanolsav* in every parish (3 days **The retreat with proclamation, adoration, Holy Qurbana chorus, dance skit etc.** There will be Bible and mission exhibition as well.)
 2. Prepare a team of Priests, Brothers, Sisters and Laity for preaching ministry.
 3. Formation of catechists (Training in preaching)
 4. Seminar on preaching for missionaries - homiletics by CSSR priests.
 5. Thematic preaching in parishes.
- The same theme on particular Sunday in every parish/institution in the diocese (Once a month preferably the first Sunday of the month).
- | | |
|----------|--|
| January | - Word of God is inspired (2 Tim. 3:16-17) |
| February | - Word of God is eternal (Jn. 1:1-13 & 6:60-71) |
| March | - Word of God converts the hearts (Repentance) (Mk. 1:14-15) |
| April | - Word of God is redemptive (Jn. 11:17-27) |

- May - Word of God heals (Lk. 6:17-19)
 June - Word of God is compassionate (Mk. 6:34-44)
 July - Word of God is effective/fruitful (Mk.4:35-41)
 August - Word of God is the source of sanctity/Holiness (Mt. 17:1-8)
 September - Word of God is the food /medicine to the soul (Jn. 6:25-59)
 October - Mary who bore the Word in her womb (Lk. 1:26-38)
 November - Word of God that gives joy in our life (Jn. 16:16-24) (Joy of the Gospel/*Evangelium Gaudium*)
 December - Word of God that made flesh (Mt. 1:18-25)
6. Continue Bible Reading - A chapter a day from January 2020 - starting with Genesis. (Make a meditative reading and if possible with the help of Bible commentaries)
7. Bible study in different levels - once a week/month for youth, children, elders, missionaries.
8. Bible reading day/week/month (day time or day and night).
9. Learning by-heart word of God, one verse per week/day.
10. Different competitions: Bible Quiz, Bible re-writing, Bible posters, Bible declamation, Bible dance, Bible skit, Bible tableau etc.
11. Bible verses in the campus: On wall, posters, Bible tree, Divine Word Box, Cube etc.
12. Bible exhibition.
13. More Marathi Retreats in Divine Vachan Ashram.
 Arrange Marathi Retreat in Divine Vachan Ashram for different zones taking into consideration the availability of people.
14. Join for any Bible correspondence course.
15. Read Bible commentaries and prepared homilies or listen to homilies or Bible speeches of great preachers from social media/ mass media
- A tentative schedule given below.

July

- Home Mission
 3 - St. Thomas the Apostle, *Sabhadinam* Collection
 5 - Catechism Academic year inauguration
 7 - Monthly Recollection for the diocesan priests
 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Mul
 14 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Nandgaon
 16 - Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 21 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Gadchiroli
 28 - St. Alphonsa
 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Markbodi
 31 - Bakri Id

August

- Home Mission
 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Jarawandi
 1 - Fifteen days fast in preparation for the feast of Assumption of our Lady begins
 3 - Monthly Recollection for diocesan priests
 4 - Vianney Day (SVG)
 8 - Convent Superiors' meeting, Ballarpur
 9 - Day for Chanda Heavenly brethren (parish Level), Priests Sunday
 11 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Wasa
 12 - Janmashtami
 15 - Feast of Assumption, Independence Day
 16 - Chanda establishment day mission collection (1962)
 17-28 - Pray for Synod of Bishops (Mount St. Thomas, Kakkannad)
 22 - Chanda establishment day collection
 25 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Repanpally
 29 - St. Euprasia

- 12 - Easter
 13 - Ram Navami
 14 - Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti
 14-15 - Seminar on Preaching (Redemptorist Fathers)
 24 - Patron's Day of Major Archbishop Cardinal George Alenchery
 26 - World Vocation Sunday
 26 - Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Programme begins (up to 8 May)
 27-29 - Seminar for Major Seminarians on Youth Mission (Salesians)
 30 - Ordination
- May**
- Prayer Day for priests, religious and people (Parish Level) (one day recollection in the parish)
 - Home Mission
 7 - Buddha Poornima
 1-8 - Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Programme
 9 - Minor Orders
 17 - Hindi & Marathi Language Course (up to 12 June)
 18 - Transfers in the diocese
- June**
- Zonal level Monthly Recollection and Presbyterium (on any convenient day)
 01-12 - Hindi & Marathi Language course
 02 - Feast of Ascension
 5 - World Environment Day
 8 - St. Mariam Thresia
 9 - Patron's Day - Bp. Ephrem
 16 - Feast of Holy Trinity
 23 - Feast of Corpus Christi

Susamachar Ghoshna Varsh Marathi Retreat

(Zonal wise schedule)

February	-	Wirur zone
March	-	Wardha zone
June	-	Allappally zone
August	-	Brahmapuri
October	-	Ballarsha zone
November	-	General for all in the diocese

Bible Reading schedule 2020

January	February	March	April	May	June
GENESIS	1 Gen. 32	1 Ex. 11	1 Lev. 2	1 Num. 5	1 Num. 36
1 Gen. 1	2 Gen. 33	2 Ex. 12	2 Lev. 3	2 Num. 6	DEUTERONOMY
2 Gen. 2	3 Gen. 34	3 Ex. 13	3 Lev. 4	3 Num. 7	2 Deut. 1
3 Gen. 3	4 Gen. 35	4 Ex. 14	4 Lev. 5	4 Num. 8	3 Deut. 2
4 Gen. 4	5 Gen. 36	5 Ex. 15	5 Lev. 6	5 Num. 9	4 Deut. 3
5 Gen. 5	6 Gen. 37	6 Ex. 16	6 Lev. 7	6 Num. 10	5 Deut. 4
6 Gen. 6	7 Gen. 38	7 Ex. 17	7 Lev. 8	7 Num. 11	6 Deut. 5
7 Gen. 7	8 Gen. 39	8 Ex. 18	8 Lev. 9	8 Num. 12	7 Deut. 6
8 Gen. 8	9 Gen. 40	9 Ex. 19	9 Lev. 10	9 Num. 13	8 Deut. 7
9 Gen. 9	10 Gen. 41	10 Ex. 20	10 Lev. 11	10 Num. 14	9 Deut. 8
10 Gen. 10	11 Gen. 42	11 Ex. 21	11 Lev. 12	11 Num. 15	10 Deut. 9
11 Gen. 11	12 Gen. 43	12 Ex. 22	12 Lev. 13	12 Num. 16	11 Deut. 10
12 Gen. 12	13 Gen. 44	13 Ex. 23	13 Lev. 14	13 Num. 17	12 Deut. 11
13 Gen. 13	14 Gen. 45	14 Ex. 24	14 Lev. 15	14 Num. 18	13 Deut. 12
14 Gen. 14	15 Gen. 46	15 Ex. 25	15 Lev. 16	15 Num. 19	14 Deut. 13
15 Gen. 15	16 Gen. 47	16 Ex. 26	16 Lev. 17	16 Num. 20	15 Deut. 14
16 Gen. 16	17 Gen. 48	17 Ex. 27	17 Lev. 18	17 Num. 21	16 Deut. 15
17 Gen. 17	18 Gen. 49	18 Ex. 28	18 Lev. 19	18 Num. 22	17 Deut. 16
18 Gen. 18	19 Gen. 50	19 Ex. 29	19 Lev. 20	19 Num. 23	18 Deut. 17
19 Gen. 19		20 Ex. 30	20 Lev. 21	20 Num. 24	19 Deut. 18
20 Gen. 20	EXODUS	21 Ex. 31	21 Lev. 22	21 Num. 25	20 Deut. 19
21 Gen. 21	20 Ex. 1	22 Ex. 32	22 Lev. 23	22 Num. 26	21 Deut. 20
22 Gen. 22	21 Ex. 2	23 Ex. 33	23 Lev. 24	23 Num. 27	22 Deut. 21
23 Gen. 23	22 Ex. 3	24 Ex. 34	24 Lev. 25	24 Num. 28	23 Deut. 22
24 Gen. 24	23 Ex. 4	25 Ex. 35	25 Lev. 26	25 Num. 29	24 Deut. 23
25 Gen. 25	24 Ex. 5	26 Ex. 36	26 Lev. 27	26 Num. 30	25 Deut. 24
26 Gen. 26	25 Ex. 6	27 Ex. 37		27 Num. 31	26 Deut. 25
27 Gen. 27	26 Ex. 7	28 Ex. 38	NUMBERS	28 Num. 32	27 Deut. 26
28 Gen. 28	27 Ex. 8	29 Ex. 39	27 Num. 1	29 Num. 33	28 Deut. 27
29 Gen. 29	28 Ex. 9	30 Ex. 40	28 Num. 2	30 Num. 34	29 Deut. 28
30 Gen. 30	29 Ex. 10	LEVITICUS	29 Num. 3	31 Num. 35	30 Deut. 29
31 Gen. 31		31 Lev. 1	30 Num. 4		

July	August	September	October	November	December
1 Deut. 30	1 Judg. 3	1 1 Sam. 9	1 2 Sam. 8	1 1 Kings 15	1 2 Kings 23
2 Deut. 31	2 Judg. 4	2 1 Sam. 10	2 2 Sam. 9	2 1 Kings 16	2 2 Kings 24
3 Deut. 32	3 Judg. 5	3 1 Sam. 11	3 2 Sam. 10	3 1 Kings 17	3 2 Kings 25
4 Deut. 33	4 Judg. 6	4 1 Sam. 12	4 2 Sam. 11	4 1 Kings 18	1 CHRONICLES
5 Deut. 34	5 Judg. 7	5 1 Sam. 13	5 2 Sam. 12	5 1 Kings 19	4 1 Chr. 1
JOSHUA	6 Judg. 8	6 1 Sam. 14	6 2 Sam. 13	6 1 Kings 20	5 1 Chr. 2
6 Josh. 1	7 Judg. 9	7 1 Sam. 15	7 2 Sam. 14	7 1 Kings 21	6 1 Chr. 3
7 Josh. 2	8 Judg. 10	8 1 Sam. 16	8 2 Sam. 15	8 1 Kings 22	7 1 Chr. 4
8 Josh. 3	9 Judg. 11	9 1 Sam. 17	9 2 Sam. 16	2 KINGS	8 1 Chr. 5
9 Josh. 4	10 Judg. 12	10 1 Sam. 18	10 2 Sam. 17	9 2 Kings 1	9 1 Chr. 6
10 Josh. 5	11 Judg. 13	11 1 Sam. 19	11 2 Sam. 18	10 2 Kings 2	10 1 Chr. 7
11 Josh. 6	12 Judg. 14	12 1 Sam. 20	12 2 Sam. 19	11 2 Kings 3	11 1 Chr. 8
12 Josh. 7	13 Judg. 15	13 1 Sam. 21	13 2 Sam. 20	12 2 Kings 4	12 1 Chr. 9
13 Josh. 8	14 Judg. 16	14 1 Sam. 22	14 2 Sam. 21	13 2 Kings 5	13 1 Chr. 10
14 Josh. 9	15 Judg. 17	15 1 Sam. 23	15 2 Sam. 22	14 2 Kings 6	14 1 Chr. 11
15 Josh. 10	16 Judg. 18	16 1 Sam. 24	16 2 Sam. 23	15 2 Kings 7	15 1 Chr. 12
16 Josh. 11	17 Judg. 19	17 1 Sam. 25	17 2 Sam. 24	16 2 Kings 8	16 1 Chr. 13
17 Josh. 12	18 Judg. 20	18 1 Sam. 26	1 KINGS	17 2 Kings 9	17 1 Chr. 14
18 Josh. 13	19 Judg. 21	19 1 Sam. 27	18 1 Kings 1	18 2 Kings 10	18 1 Chr. 15
19 Josh. 14	RUTH	20 1 Sam. 28	19 1 Kings 2	19 2 Kings 11	19 1 Chr. 16
20 Josh. 15	20 Ruth 1	21 1 Sam. 29	20 1 Kings 3	20 2 Kings 12	20 1 Chr. 17
21 Josh. 16	21 Ruth 2	22 1 Sam. 30	21 1 Kings 4	21 2 Kings 13	21 1 Chr. 18
22 Josh. 17	22 Ruth 3	23 1 Sam. 31	22 1 Kings 5	22 2 Kings 14	22 1 Chr. 19
23 Josh. 18	23 Ruth 4	2 SAMUEL	23 1 Kings 6	23 2 Kings 15	23 1 Chr. 20
24 Josh. 19	1 SAMUEL	24 2 Sam. 1	24 1 Kings 7	24 2 Kings 16	24 1 Chr. 21
25 Josh. 20	24 1 Sam. 1	25 2 Sam. 2	25 1 Kings 8	25 2 Kings 17	25 1 Chr. 22
26 Josh. 21	25 1 Sam. 2	26 2 Sam. 3	26 1 Kings 9	26 2 Kings 18	26 1 Chr. 23
27 Josh. 22	26 1 Sam. 3	27 2 Sam. 4	27 1 Kings 10	27 2 Kings 19	27 1 Chr. 24
28 Josh. 23	27 1 Sam. 4	28 2 Sam. 5	28 1 Kings 11	28 2 Kings 20	28 1 Chr. 25
29 Josh. 24	28 1 Sam. 5	29 2 Sam. 6	29 1 Kings 12	29 2 Kings 21	29 1 Chr. 26
JUDGES	29 1 Sam. 6	30 2 Sam. 7	30 1 Kings 13	30 2 Kings 22	30 1 Chr. 27
30 Judg. 1	30 1 Sam. 7	31 2 Sam. 7	31 1 Kings 14		31 1 Chr. 28
31 Judg. 2	31 1 Sam. 8				

Prayer Request

Kindly pray for the forthcoming Synod of Bishops (7-15 January).

The test of a preacher is that his congregation goes away saying,
not "What a lovely sermon"

but, "I WILL DO SOMETHING".

St. Francis De Sales

11	- Grotto Pilgrimage, Warur
13-21	- CBCI, Bangalore
17	- Catechism Children's Get Together - Bhamragarh
19	- Diocesan level catechism exam & Bible Quiz
	- Maha Shivrathri
24-26	- Forty Hours Adoration, Ballarpur
26	- Ash Wednesday
27	- Presbyteral Council, Monthly Recollection for Priests and Men Religious (General Presbyterium)
27-29	- PPT
March	
	- Marriage Preparation Course
	- Zonal Monthly Recollection for Missionaries
2	- PPT Meeting
3-4	- Quinquennial Priests' Meet
5-7	- PPT Meeting
8	- World Women's Day
16	- Finance council.
17-19	- PPT
21	- Holi
23	- Patron's Day of Bp Vijay Anand Nedumpuram CMI
28	- Bp. Januarius' (25 th) Death Anniversary.
April	
	- Vocation Camp
	- Music Course (April-May)
	- Career Guidance
1-17	- English language course
5	- Palm Sunday
6	- Mahavir Jayanti
7	- Muron Holy Qurbana
9	- Holy Thursday
10	- Good Friday, Lakkadakot Pilgrimage

DIOCESAN YEAR PLAN 2020: CHANDA
(*Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh*)

January

- Youth Meet, Catechists Programme, Family Apostolate

- 1 - *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh* Inauguration
 3 - St. Chavara Kuriakose
 6 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Aksapur
 6-12 - Syro-Malabar *Preshitha Varam* (Sunday Collection on 12)
 7-15 - Pray for Synod of Bishops (Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad)
 13 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Wardha
 18-25 - Church Unity Octave
 20 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Brahmapuri
 26 - Republic Day
 27, 29 & 31 - PPT
 28 - Consulters' Meeting and Monthly Recollection of Diocesans, Diocesan Presbyterium
 30 - World day of peace, Ecumenical prayer meeting, Ballarpur
 - Stations/Parishes/Institutions (of the diocese) submit budgets by the end of the month

February

- Lenten campaign
 - Lay Leaders training (CLC)
 - Home Mission
 1, 3 & 4 - PPT
 3 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Allapally
 3-7 - Deacons' Pastoral Course
 8 - CSA Executive & General Body meeting
 10 - PPT
 - Catechism Children's Get Together - Wirur

Ad Limina Apostolorum, Rome

(2019 October 3-14)

The *Ad Limina* visit of Syro-Malabar bishops was held in Rome from 3rd to 14th October 2019. *Ad Limina Apostolorum* literally means at the threshold of the apostles. It is a custom started in the Church to manifest and experience the communion of all the Churches in the world with the See of Peter in Rome. In 1585 Pope Sixtus V issued the constitution *Romanus Pontifex*, which set forth the norm for visits *Ad Limina*. On December 31, 1909, Pope Pius X stated in a Decree for the Consistorial Congregation that a bishop needs to deliver an account of the state of his diocese to the pope once every five years, starting in 1911. The current requirements for the *Ad Limina* visit are the subject of canon 399400 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law and canon 208 of the 1990 Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches.

The *Ad Limina* visit started with the Holy Qurbana celebrated at the tomb of St. Peter the Apostle in the Vatican Basilica on 3rd October morning. Later all the bishops numbering 48 from India and abroad had audience with the Pope. His holiness spent not less than two hours with the bishops and freely interacted with everyone. In the following days the bishops met with the Cardinal Prefects and officials of different congregations of Vatican Curia. The bishops could visit and interact with the following congregations: Congregation for the Clergy, Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life, Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, Pontifical Council for the Unity among Christians, The Secretariat of State, Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue, Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, Pontifical Council for New Evangelization, Congregation for the Oriental Churches, Dicastery for the Integral Human Development, Congregation for Catholic Education, Pontifical Council for Culture, Supreme Tribunal of Apostolic Signatura, Dicastery for Social

Communication, Congregation for the Cause of Saints.

On 6th October was the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Syro-Malabar parish in Rome at Divine Amore pilgrim Centre. The bishops offered Holy Qurbana at Damascene College (where priests from Syro-Malabar Churches from India are doing studies in Rome) on 7th October. On 8th Holy Qurbana was celebrated at St. John's Lateran Basilica. On 9th a Symposium was held at Oriental Institute for Syro-Malabar Diaspora. A pilgrimage to Assisi was held on 10th October. Holy Qurbana was celebrated St. Paul's Basilica on 11th October. The Inauguration of Syro-Malabar Church procura - DOMUS MAR THOMA - was held on 12th October in the morning and in the afternoon was Vigil prayer in preparation for the Canonisation of Blessed Mariam Thresia at St. Mary Major Basilica which was followed by dinner hosted by Mr. Siby George, the Indian Ambassador to Holy See. 13 October was the day of Canonisation of Blessed Mariam Thresia at Vatican Square by Pope Francis. Almost 250 Bishops and Cardinals, not less than 1000 priests and religious Sisters besides others participated in the Holy Qurbana. The thanksgiving Holy Qurbana was held on 14th October at St. Anastacia church, Rome. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the smooth running of the Ad Limina and Canonization Holy Qurbana.



Many Happy returns of the day (10 December) dear Bishopji... Assurance of our sincere prayers... May the Good Shepherd shower His choicest blessings that you become an effective instrument in realizing God's Kingdom here on earth... We love you and thanks for your love...

ST MARIAM THRESIA

Mariam Thresia (born Thresia Chiramel Mankidiyan; 26 April 1876 - 8 June 1926) was an Indian Syro-Malabar Catholic professed religious and the founder of the Congregation of the Holy Family. Thresia Mankidiyan became known for receiving frequent visions and ecstasies as well as even receiving the stigmata which she kept well-guarded. She had been involved in apostolic work in her entire life and pushed for strict adherence to the rule of her order amongst her fellow religious.



Pope John Paul II beatified the late nun on 9 April 2000. Pope Francis approved a second miracle attributed to her at the beginning of 2019 and she was canonized on 13 October 2019. Mariam Thresia is the foundress of the congregation of the Holy Family which was established on 14th May 1914. Born in Puthenchira, Thrissur. She lived her 50 years of life of blessedness from 1876 to 1926. Guided by the Lord and trained by the Holy Virgin Mary she pioneered the Apostolate of the Families in and around her village. Mariam Thresia broke all the prevailing convictions and traditions of the society and took revolutionary steps in her ministry filled with compassionate love. She boldly reached out to the families of the sick and sinners dying and downtrodden.

St. Mariam Thresia is the first stigmatist of the Indian Church. She contemplated the mystic life following her patron saint Teresa of Avila. The tomb of Mother Mariam Thresia at Kuzhikkattusery, Thrissur is a source of power and comfort to thousands of people today regardless of religion and cast. "I know nothing, but I desire very much that God's will and my will be one." - Prayed St. Mariam Thresia. Her ministry of Family Apostolate continued in the continents of Asia, America, Africa and Europe through her daughters of Holy Family conducting family visits, home mission units and family retreats. All glory to God for raising Mariam Thresia daughter of Kerala to sainthood.