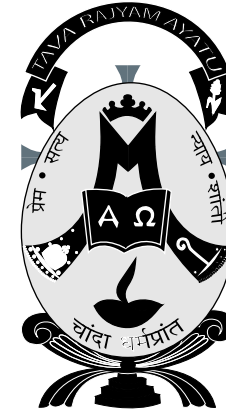


The

# Chanda Samachar

CHANDA DIOCESAN BULLETIN



Thy Kingdom Come (Mt. 6:10)

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



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## I. SHEPHERD'S VOICE

**SV.2/2020**

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and My dear People

**Thy Kingdom come!**

The two poles of paschal event of Christ's mission on earth are the incarnation, the Christmas and the Resurrection. They connect Christ's redemptive act on earth saving the humankind from the clutches of sin. We are once again entered into great lent in preparation for paschal week. We shall resolve to avail the opportunity to make our life better and missionary commitment deeper. It is our mission to live the life of risen Christ in our daily life and transmit it to others genuinely and generously. Mind you - the mission work is not doing charity, the social apostolate - but evangelization. It is communicating the message of Christ through our words and deeds - a call to witness Christ's values in daily life. Social apostolate - whether up-liftment of the poor, education ministry or service in the health sector, is nothing but unfurling mission of evangelization in personal witness. Let us keep priorities in order so as to keep the first always the First. May all our mission activities be personification of evangelization. Our Lenten acts once again chisel and sharpen the mission of proclamation in the *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh*. I wish you a fruitful Lent and Happy Easter.



Your Shepherd in the Lord

*Ephrem Nariculam*

† Ephrem Nariculam  
Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

**PASTORAL LETTER I****PL 2/ March 2020****On Bishop Januarius Palathuruthy CMI,  
the first bishop and the architect of Chanda**

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

**“THY KINGDOM COME”**

It is now twenty five years elapsed since Bp. Januarius CMI, the architect and the first bishop of Chanda departed us for eternal rest. May his soul Rest In Peace. Bp. Januarius completes twenty five years on 28 March 2020 of his life in heavenly abode. We shall firmly believe that he is interceding for us before God Almighty. On this auspicious occasion I felt it is worth looking back to his contribution to the Chanda Mission and his 'being' to the Church and CMI Congregation.

He was a tireless worker, a visionary, a missionary to the poor and who touched the soul of the land. He was for the poor and of the poor. Simplicity was a trait of his character not only in his person but also in his missionary endeavours. He knew Christ in depth, the Christ who had no place to lay his head (Lk. 9:58), Christ who was solace for the broken hearted (Ps. 34:18), Christ who healed the sick (Lk. 5:17-26) and Christ who gave bread to the hungry (Mt. 25:35-40). Bp. Januarius exhorted his missionaries to follow the suit. He was not for big structures, projects and he was not for institutions but he was for evangelization, communication and animation. He intended to share life, the divine, with others in abundance (Jn. 10:10), which Christ brought and shared with us. He kept simplicity as a style not only in life but also in constructions, travel and use of things for daily affairs.

His witty axioms manifested his person: He often used to

tell his missionaries that he is for “*Periphery to Centre*”. He stood for the abandoned and marginalized and sought for them in the peripheries. There lives - the displaced, the abandoned and the marginalized, so much so even now 80% of the mission stations of Chanda diocese are in villages. *To parents through children* was another axiom that induced him to start boardings in the diocese. The presence of children in the parish/mission stations not only gave life to the stations but also opened new entry points to the people's lives and villages. *'Micro versus Macro'* clearly articulates his orientation for poverty, simplicity and complacency. He believed that money is for genuine need and not for luxury. He attracted the missionaries to be happy with the bare minimum and make the maximum utility of what is already available. So much so, he always preferred small projects rather than larger ones.

He was exceptionally open to the living realities around. Religious tolerance was very much appreciated by him and he firmly stood for the same. He was open to dialogue and respected people of all faiths and traditions. Religions should not become barriers in human relations. On the other hand it should be a connecting thread among persons of different faiths. He maintained human relations irrespective of any such barriers. He kept warm relations with Vinobha Bhave, Baba Amte and people of all walks of life. He was hospitable to all those who visited him and he took time to visit others as time and occasions permitted.

As a philosopher he had sharp memory and target orientation in mission endeavours. He availed every opportunity to share everything dynamically divine with others. Interestingly it was his Episcopal motto: 'To share everything dynamically

divine' (*Sambhajemahi Dhivyani*). He had targets, planned projects and implemented them effectively. He bought land practically attached to every station and highly encouraged farming. His vision was that every station should run by its own income. As the time passed, the things have changed and farm yieldings are not supportive yet the land bought are great assets today to the respective stations.

Another striking character in him was his hospitality. He took great strides to receive guests in his residence and took care of them even to the least of their needs. He did not take pride in being a bishop but moved with everyone, even to strangers freely and fairly. He had great concern for missionaries. He kept visiting them regularly and made up-to-date about every missionary and every station at regular intervals. Before executing any project or program in the mission he made sure that a study/research preceded to make the project/program feasible to execute effectively. He took interest to give continuous guidance to his co-missionaries with regard to mission endeavours, evangelization pedagogy, missionary life-style, liturgical life, cultural adaptation etc.,

He challenged his missionaries by his life-style. His famous words "we did not imitate, we did not compete but Chanda was a challenge of the time" really challenged everyone. So much so many were attracted to come to Chanda mission to be missionaries. Under his leadership they did a great job in Chanda mission. So much so in a span of 25 years, by the jubilee year of the mission the number of Catholics increased from 600 in 1962 to above 20,000 in 1987. The increase in the number of mission stations was by 10 times - just from four to above forty. Thanks to all the pioneering missionaries. The pioneering missionaries

have become a challenge to us even today. Let us reconnect ourselves to keep the spirit alive and be genuine missionaries. Mission work is not the job of Fathers, Brothers and Sisters only, but of all Christians. By the reception of baptism, every Christian is called to be a missionary.

Bishop Januarius had a unique approach to evangelization. "The missionary vision of Bishop Januarius is widely acclaimed as something very unique. This is an attempt to dive deep into that uniqueness of his vision and missionary methodology, and to draw from that analysis, a deeper inspiration and a clearer orientation for our future course of evangelization in North Indian Missions" (Mathew Kaniampampil, *A unique Approach to Evangelization in Missiology for Third millennium*, Ed. Thomas Aikara p.31). "The spiritual vision, the intellectual acumen and the St. Paul like mission zeal of Bp. Januarius has brought mission into its evangelical maturity" acclaimed Cardinal Antony Padiyara in 1988. "He inspired the missionaries to penetrate the interior villages and understand their problems and needs, identifying themselves with the poor and the marginalized. He had a special soft corner for the oppressed and the downtrodden. He would visualize plans for their integrated development. He inspired the Fathers to prepare and execute projects for their social, economic, cultural and educational development" (ibid. 36).

So my dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear People, on the occasion of the happy memories of the twenty fifth death anniversary of Bp. Januarius, let us be resolved to take up the challenge once again to translate his vision into a great mission, paving the way for a greater change in this entire area and era, assisting the people to improve themselves by the power of the

gospel values. Indeed, the challenges have multiplied today, than of his times, let us rely on the faith, hope and zeal of St. Paul: If Christ is with us, who is against us? (Rom: 8.31). May his soul Rest In Peace. May our souls reverberate in pursuance of his zeal for souls, love for the people, and hope for the establishment of God's kingdom.



With warm regards  
Yours devotedly in Jesus Christ

† Ephrem Nariculam  
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

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## PASTORAL LETTER II

PL 3/ April 2020

On 'Word of God Sunday'

Dear Missionaries,

### Thy Kingdom Come!

By apostolic letter *Aperuit Illus* (30.09.2019) Pope Francis instituted the Sunday of the Word of God. It is great that a Sunday is dedicated to the Word of God, though it is nothing new to our diocese as we have dedicated a whole year - 2019, *Bible Vaachan Varsh* - for the divine word. However, the celebration of the Sunday of the word of God is an annual event in the universal Church is an amazing news for all of us. Undoubtedly it will boost the importance of the word of God in the life of the Church. Pope has assigned the third Sunday in ordinary time as per liturgical calendar of the Latin Church, which falls in the second part of January every year. We shall celebrate it as per the direction from the Major archiepiscopal Curia, Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad (See page 26). In this pastoral letter, I wish to highlight the pope's intention of establishing it and the importance of the divine word in the life of a

Christian and in particular that in our missionary endeavours.

Holy Father started the apostolic letter with a gospel quote: "He opened their minds to understand the scripture" (Lk. 24:45). I firmly believe and it is my experience that, the word of God is effective to open our minds to transform our hearts to be good and godly. The author of Hebrews corroborates the transforming power of the word of God in 4:12: "Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart". One who submits oneself to the divine word allows it to change us according to the divine plan. God's word allows the Holy Spirit to sink into the brokenness, abandonment and woundedness of human life and heal it. It is an experience of salvation and healthy living in mind, body and spirit.

St. Ephrem the Syrian, the great doctor of the Church of Eastern tradition reminds us of the unfathomable riches of the divine word in his commentary on the *Diatessaron* (1;18): "The Lord has coloured his word with diverse beauties, so that those who study it can contemplate what stirs them. He has hidden in his word all treasures, so that each of us may find riches in what he or she contemplates". It is apt to quote St. Jerome here: "Ignorance of scriptures is ignorance of Christ". Indeed the divine word is Emmanuel - God with us. As St. Augustine reminds us: when we read the divine word, God speaks to us and when we pray God listens to us. He reminds us again: "Bible is God's love letter to the humankind". So my dear missionaries let us avail the treasures of divine wisdom within our reach, always and everywhere, to touch and taste how good is our God (Ps. 34:8).

In the light of these reflections, it is befitting to read again contemplatively the recent documents on the word of God in particular the Vatican II dogmatic constitution *Dei Verbum* and Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Benedict XVI *Verbum Domini*. The

former delineates the importance the Holy Scripture for the life of the Church and the latter emphasizes in particular the performative character of the Word of God, especially in the context of the liturgy, in which its distinctively sacramental character comes to the fore.

A take away for pastoral life of missionaries particularly priests is intention of well prepared homilies. "In this unity born of listening, pastors are primarily responsible for explaining sacred Scripture and helping everyone to understand it. Since it is the people's book, those called to be ministers of the word must feel an urgent need to make it accessible to their community. The homily, in particular, has a distinctive function, for it possesses "a quasi-sacramental character" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 142). Helping people to enter more deeply into the word of God through simple and suitable language will allow priests themselves to discover the "beauty of the images used by the Lord to encourage the practice of the good" (*ibid.*). This is a pastoral opportunity that should not be wasted! For many of our faithful, in fact, this is the only opportunity they have to grasp the beauty of God's word and to see it applied to their daily lives. Consequently, sufficient time must be devoted to the preparation of the homily. A commentary on the sacred readings cannot be improvised. Those of us who are preachers should not give long, pedantic homilies or wander off into unrelated topics. When we take time to pray and meditate on the sacred text, we can speak from the heart and thus reach the hearts of those who hear us, conveying what is essential and capable of bearing fruit. May we never tire of devoting time and prayer to Scripture, so that it may be received "not as a human word but as what it really is, the word of God" (*1 Thess 2:13*). Catechists, too, in their ministry of helping people to grow in their faith, ought to feel an urgent need for personal renewal through familiarity with, and study of, the sacred Scriptures. This will help them foster in their hearers a true dialogue with the word of God" (*Aperuit Illis #5*).

In paragraph 6 the pope vehemently affirm the inevitable and indissoluble connection of the word of God with the Holy Eucharist. Regular reading of sacred scripture and the celebration of the Eucharist make it possible for us to see ourselves as part of one another. As the Vatican Council II teaches, "the Church has always venerated the Lord's body, in that she never ceases, above all in the sacred liturgy, to partake of the bread of life and to offer it to the faithful from the one table of the word of God and the body of Christ (*Dei Verbum*, 21). In the Apostolic letter pope earnestly and gently reminds every priest to take homily seriously, sincerely and sensibly. I suggest that we take homily as a daily spiritual nourishment not only for listeners but also for ourselves.

Towards the end of the Apostolic Letter pope pose a challenge the word of God raises that has to do with love. God's word constantly reminds us of the merciful love of the Father who calls his children to live in love. It is to show God's compassion in daily life. The parable of Lazarus and rich man points to it (Lk. 16:19-31). In other words we are called to witness God's compassion palpable to our people in all our interactions. "Love one another as I have loved you" (Jn. 13:34). It is Christ's great command.

So my dear missionaries, let us resolve to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God every year meaningfully and faithfully. It is befitting that we focus attention on the importance of the Word of God and that of proclamation as we celebrate 2020 as *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh*. God bless you all.



Yours Shepherd in the Lord

*Ephrem Nariculam*

† Ephrem Nariculam  
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

**III. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS****MARCH**

- 1 - Office of the dead for Agnes teacher at Cathedral church, Balharshah.
- 2 - Holy Qurbana Cathedral, Balharshah. PPT Meetings
- 3-4 - Quinquennial meet of priests at Balharshah.
- 5-7 - PPT meeting
- 7 - Health Co-ordinators' Meeting, Balharshah
- 9 - To Ujjain Seminary
- 10-12 - Ujjain
- 13 - Back from Ujjain
- 14 - Balharshah Zonal Women's Desk seminar, Balharshah
- 16 - Finance Council, Presbyteral Council and Curia meeting
- 17 - Curia meeting, International Women's Day Programme, Dilasagram
- 18-22 - Mumbai
- 26-29 - Pastoral Visit, Chincholi

**APRIL**

- 4 - Bishop Januarius' Death Anniversary
- 5 - Palm Sunday, Nagbir
- 7 - Muron Holy Qurbana, Cathedral Balharshah
- 8 - Wadsa Altar consecration & Holy Qurbana
- 9 - Maundy Thursday, Marakbody
- 10 - Good Friday service, Gadchiroli and Calvarigiri pilgrimage, Lakkadakot
- 12 - Easter, Cathedral, Balharshah
- 14 - Seminar on Preaching, Wardha
- 15 - Seminar on Preaching, Balharshah
- 16-19 - Pastoral Visit, Mul
- 23 - Engagement, Kanjoor
- 24 - FIAT Exhibition, Thrissur

- 27-28 - Major Seminarians formative programme, Balharshah
- 29 - Ordination, Allappally
- 30 - Youth Seminar for Decennial priests

**MAY**

- 1 - Youth Seminar for seminarians, Balharshah
- 2 - Seminar for youth leaders, Balharshah
- 3-8 - Major seminarians formation programme, Balharshah
- 9 - Minor Orders
- 17 - Holy Qurbana, Hinganghat
- 20 - Kurkheda Blessing
- 21 - To Delhi
- 28 - To England/ Ireland

**QUOTES ON BP. JANUARIUS**

“My own experience about Bp Januarius is this: Nothing could disturb him, nothing could change his mind, nothing could change his ways. When he was praised or wounded by his people he remained the same. He was a man of deep faith and conviction. Bishop Januarius was a great man; but he was not aware of his greatness. He was so humble a man.”

Late Antony Cardinal Padiyara  
Major Archbishop of Syro Malabar Church

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“Having visited Chanda twice during his tenure, I have seen for myself the work he did. This is all a pioneering effort. Archbishop's House here was a Bombay base for him. Even some of the domestic staff knew him so well that they immediately took him to the room”

Late Simon Cardinal Pimenta  
Archbishop of Bombay

**IV. BISHOP'S DIARY****JANUARY 2020**

- 1 - Met with Fr. Jose Parayil, Provincial Superior of CFIC at Mariapuram at CFIC home.
- 2 - Ordained to holy priesthood Deacon Mathukutty Thanolil CFIC at St. Sebastian Church, Dharmagiri, Gudallur in Manathavady diocese.
- 3 - Offered Holy Qurbana at S. H Provincial House, Thamarassery and met with Sr. Elseena SH, the provincial superior. Bishop visited MSMI generalate Kulathuvayal and met with Sr. Fincy MSMI, Superior General.
- 4 - Presided over marriage engagement at Koratty parish. In the afternoon bishop presided over Jubilee Holy Qurbana at Sanjopuram parish in Ernakulam-Angamaly archdiocese.
- 5 - Administered holy baptism at Little flower Church, Potta and offered festal Holy Qurbana at Little Flower parish, Mariapuram in Thamarassery diocese.
- 6 - Attended Syro-Malabar missionary bishops' meet at Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad.
- 7-9 - Attended retreat for Syro-Malabar Synodal members at Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad.
- 7 - Attended funeral Qurbana of Fr. Joseph Pallipadan at Little Flower Church, Thirumudikunnu.
- 9 - Hoisted flag in preparation for Little Flower feast at Nadel Parish and presided over *Preshitha Sangamam*.
- 10-15 - Attended Synod of bishops at Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad.
- 12 - Blessed a holy Matrimony at Mary Immaculate Church, Thumbarassery in Irinjalakuda diocese.
- 16 - Presided over festal Raza Qurbana at Kadanad parish in

Palai diocese.

- 17 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Kottayam Seminary and met with Chanda Seminary Bros. Alwin and Nikhil. In the evening bishop presided over Eucharistic procession at Holy Family Parish, Thabore.
- 18 - Presided over festal Holy Qurbana at St. George parish, Chully in Ernakulam-Angamaly diocese.
- 19 - Presided over festal Holy Qurbana at St. Mary's Forane Church, Kanjoor.
- 23 - Presided over Jubilee Qurbana at CMC Carmelodaya Provincial House, Wardha.
- 24 - Presided over School day at St. Antony's National School, Wardha.
- 25 - Visited St. Charles' Seminary, Nagpur and met with our seminary Bros. Bernard, Josekutty and Romario.
- 26 - Inaugurated Syro-Malabar Nagpur Mission at Holy family Church, Untkhana and offered Holy Qurbana in connection with the feast of St. Sebastian.
- 29 - Sr. Therese Thayamkeril, Provincial Superior of Sisters of Charity of Sts. B. Capitanio & V. Gerosa (SCCG) of New Delhi Province, visited bishop at Bishop's Home.
- 30 - Attended Pastors' meeting of Balharshah zone on the occasion of International Day of Peace.

**FEBRUARY 2020**

- 1 - Presided over School day celebration of Christ School, Wirur.
- 2 - Conferred Minor Orders to Brothers Priju and Vishal at Sant Vianney Gurukul, New Daheli.
- 3-7 - Animated Deacon's Pastoral Orientation Course at Bishop's



- Home, Balharshah.
- 8 - Delivered message at CSA meeting, Mul and visited the following stations - Santwadi, Wasa, Kurkheda and Brahmapuri.
- 9 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Wadsa station and met with people. Later bishop visited Sanjose Convent, Nagbhir. In the evening bishop blessed the newly constructed Church at Banchadi under Mul station.
- 11 - Presided Holy Qurbana in connection with the Jubilee of DM Sisters at Amala Sadan Provincial House, Wardha and met with Bp. Thomas Mar Anthonius of Khadki diocese at Wardha. In the evening bishop led the Eucharistic procession at Grotto Feast, Warur.
- 12 - Presided over funeral service of Sr. Arnalda CMC at Carmelodaya Provincial House, Wardha. Later he left for Bangalore to attend CBCI.
- 13-20 - Attended CBCI Plenary Assembly at Bangalore.
- 22 - Blessed a wedding at Holy Family Parish, Thabore in Ernakulam-Angamaly archdiocese. In the afternoon bishop conferred baptism to a child at St. George Basilica, Angamaly. Bishop blessed a home in Josepuram parish Ernakulam-Angamaly archdiocese. Bishop visited St. Joseph's Seminary, Mangalapuzha and met with Bro. Joby Illimoottil.
- 24 - Attended 40 Hours Adoration at Cathedral, Balharshah and conducted Ash Day service.
- 25-26 - Attended 40 Hours Adoration at Cathedral, Balharshah and presided over Eucharistic procession on 26 Feb 2020.
- 27 - Attended Monthly Recollection at Balharshah.
- 28 - Presided over funeral service of Mrs. Mary Joseph in the church at Chandrapur parish.

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR LENT 2020**

***“We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God”  
(2 Cor 5:20)***

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favourable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. We must continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity.

***1. The paschal mystery as the basis of conversion***

Christian joy flows from listening to, and accepting, the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This *kerygma* sums up the mystery of a love “so real, so true, so concrete, that it invites us to a relationship of openness and fruitful dialogue” (*Christus Vivit*, 117). Whoever believes this message rejects the lie that our life is ours to do with as we will. Rather, life is born of the love of God our Father, from his desire to grant us life in abundance (cf. *Jn* 10:10). If we listen instead to the tempting voice of the “father of lies” (*Jn* 8:44), we risk sinking into the abyss of absurdity, and experiencing hell here on earth, as all too many tragic events in the personal and collective human experience sadly bear witness.

In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*: “Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love, and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew” (No. 123). Jesus' Pasch is not a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer.

## 2. *The urgency of conversion*

It is good to contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God's mercy has been bestowed upon us. Indeed, the experience of mercy is only possible in a "face to face" relationship with the crucified and risen Lord "who loved me and gave himself for me" (*Gal 2:20*), in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent. Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God's love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will.

In this favourable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. *Hos 2:14*), so that we can at last hear our Spouse's voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us. May we not let this time of grace pass in vain, in the foolish illusion that we can control the times and means of our conversion to him.

## 3. *God's passionate will to dialogue with his children*

The fact that the Lord once again offers us a favourable time for our conversion should never be taken for granted. This new opportunity ought to awaken in us a sense of gratitude and stir us from our sloth. Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God's unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us. In the crucified Jesus, who knew no sin, yet for our sake was made to be sin (cf. *2 Cor 5:21*), this saving will led the Father to burden his Son with the weight of our sins, thus, in the expression of Pope Benedict XVI, "turning of God against himself" (*Deus Caritas Est*, 12). For God also loves his enemies (cf. *Mt 5:43-48*).

The dialogue that God wishes to establish with each of us through the paschal mystery of his Son has nothing to do with empty

chatter, like that attributed to the ancient inhabitants of Athens, who "spent their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new" (*Acts 17:21*). Such chatter, determined by an empty and superficial curiosity, characterizes worldliness in every age; in our own day, it can also result in improper use of the media.

## 4. *A richness to be shared, not kept for oneself*

Putting the paschal mystery at the centre of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence. They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry.

Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness. We can and must go even further, and consider the structural aspects of our economic life. For this reason, in the midst of Lent this year, from 26 to 28 March, I have convened a meeting in Assisi with young economists, entrepreneurs and change-makers, with the aim of shaping a more just and inclusive economy. As the Church's magisterium has often repeated, political life represents an eminent form of charity (cf. Pius XI, *Address to the Italian Federation of Catholic University Students*, 18 December 1927). The same holds true for economic life, which can be approached in the same evangelical spirit, the spirit of the Beatitudes.

I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. *Mt 5:13-14*).

Francis

## CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE CBCI

President : His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias

Vice-President I : Most Rev. Joshua Mar Ignathios

Vice-President II : Most Rev. Mar George Njaralakatt

Secretary General : Most Rev. Felix Anthony Machado

### The new Chairmen for the 4 National Centres

Caritas India : Most Rev. Sebastian Kallupura (Buxar)

NBCLC : Most Rev. Pauly Kannookadan (Irinjalakuda)

St. John's : Most Rev. George Antonysamy (Madras-Mylapore)

CBCI SME-NI : Most Rev. Anand Jojo (Hazaribag)

## CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA XXXIV PLENARY ASSEMBLY, ST. JOHN'S NATIONAL ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, BENGALURU, 13-19 FEBRUARY 2020

### Final Statement

#### Dialogue: The Path to Truth and Charity

#### INTRODUCTION

We, the 192 member Bishops of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, assembled for our XXXIV Plenary Assembly at St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bengaluru from 13-19 February 2020. Prompted by our fidelity to Jesus Christ and unflinching loyalty to our beloved motherland we reflected, meditated and deliberated on the ever relevant theme, "Dialogue: The Path to Truth and Charity." We also sought to sincerely evaluate the quality of our apostolic ministry and be renewed in the Spirit to be servant leaders of our people after the heart of Christ who came "to serve and not to be served" (Mark 10, 48).

The Church, the community of faith in Jesus Christ, has integral and all-inclusive dialogue at her heart. Indeed dialogue belongs to the very essence of the Christian faith. All through her history the Church has made earnest efforts to engage in dialogue at different levels. As a community of human beings the Church lives in civil society and body politic, continuously inspiring us to be loyal citizens of India. The

noteworthy contribution of the Church in the field of education, health care and social transformation has been consistently acknowledged by the people of India.

#### INDIA: UNITY IN DIVERSITY

The hallmark of Indian society is its pluralism. From ancient times, India has been a mosaic of many religions, cultures and languages with a strong Indian identity. What unites us is stronger and deeper than what divides us. We are proud of our Constitution that envisions a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic which resolved to secure for all its citizens Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity as enshrined in the Preamble. Justice is spelt out as social, economic and political; Liberty is explained as liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; and Equality is understood as equality of status and opportunity. These Constitutional values form the ethos of Indian identity that promotes Fraternity which leads to the dignity of the individual and unity and integrity of the nation. Every citizen must be ever vigilant against any attempt to undermine the ennobling human vision of the Constitution so that our beloved country ever remains united.

#### BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

Various streams of thoughts running through the biblical texts enrich our understanding of the necessity of dialogue among peoples and cultures. Dialogue with other religions is integral to the Biblical Revelation. The different aspects of dialogue in the Bible are rooted in our faith in God as Trinity: God as the Creator of all, the universal presence of God's Spirit, and Jesus as the Saviour of all mankind. In the Gospels, Jesus' encounters with people reveal that God is the Father of all. The Kingdom of God that Jesus preached embodies the love of God, irrespective of race, sex, colour, class, language and creed. The Good News of Jesus calls upon humanity to establish a society of justice, equality, love, forgiveness and peace. Dialogue begins and grows when we open ourselves to the Lord, and by committing ourselves to his words and deeds, live the mystery of his death and resurrection which paves the path to truth and charity. For example, in the dialogue with the Samaritan woman, Jesus unveils the true

horizons of relating with God in truth and spirit. He starts with the dialogue of life and moves to the dialogue of action which is followed by the dialogue of sharing the religious experience, and eventually the dialogue leads to the witnessing of truth.

### **CHURCH TEACHINGS**

The Church encourages believers to respect each other and one another's religious tradition, thus cooperating with one another to promote peace and harmony and work for the common good of all. Pope Francis has urged all people of good will to make every effort to establish peace in society by "inviting all persons who believe in God to unite and work together, so that it may serve as a guide for future generations to advance a culture of mutual respect in the awareness of the great divine grace that makes all human beings brothers and sisters...called to express this human fraternity by safeguarding creation and the entire universe, and supporting all persons, especially the poorest and those most in need..." (Document on Human Fraternity, 4th February 2019, Abu Dhabi).

Dialogue is rooted in the very vocation of the Church. Being open to dialogue, calls for being absolutely consistent with one's own religious tradition. Believers enter into each other's depth of life through dialogue.

### **DIALOGUE WITH CULTURES AND RELIGIONS**

Every community that lives in India possesses its own cultural identity with its richness, which must be respected at any cost. Attempts to homogenize and impose a mono-cultural pattern pose serious threats to the cultural patrimony of our country. As our Constitution envisions, there cannot be any meaningful dialogue of culture without acknowledging the primacy of human person. People of every culture and religion and those who profess no religion must be esteemed with mutual respect which eventually leads to human fraternity. No culture or religion shall dominate over other cultures and religions. Subduing certain cultures by the dominant culture will destroy the peace and harmony existing in the country. "The enemy of fraternity is an individualism which translates into the desire to affirm oneself and

one's own group above others. Religious behaviour, therefore, needs continually to be purified from the recurrent temptation to judge others as enemies and adversaries." (Document on Human Fraternity, 4th February 2019, Abu Dhabi).

### **DIALOGUE WITH THE POOR, THE DALITS AND TRIBAL PEOPLE**

Dialogue with the poor, the Dalits and Tribal people is an urgent priority in the context of India. The Dalits and Tribal people are continually denied their human rights socially. Every step taken in favour of their liberation by eradicating poverty, exploitation, discrimination, and every other form of sinful structures of society is an effective means of dialogue. However, dialogue with the poor shall not be limited only to the works of mercy. The term 'the Church of the poor' reflects the constant self-understanding of Christians that the poor stand in the place of Christ, and therefore charity and justice must be an essential and central dimension of what it means to be a follower of Christ. In this context, we urge the State authorities to take adequate steps to ensure justice to the Dalit Christians and the Tribal people.

### **DIALOGUE WITH NATURE**

Dialogue with nature is another important aspect. The earth, our common home, which was created to support life and give praise to God, is crying out with pain because human activity is destroying it. All who believe in God and all people of good will have an obligation to protect the ecological equilibrium of the earth, intended by the Creator. Therefore dialogue with nature includes serious steps to mitigate climate change, clean the land and the seas, and start treating all of creation with respect and concern.

### **DIALOGUE WITH THE UNBORN**

Dialogue should not be limited to those who are born; rather the right to life of the unborn must also be taken seriously into account. We believe that the human being is to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception, that each and every human life has inherent dignity, and thus must be treated with the respect due to a human person from womb to tomb. The steps to legalise abortion even to the extent of

six months must be condemned as a gross injustice which undermines the right to life of the unborn. We appeal to the State authorities that it immediately withdraw the Bill in the Parliament.

### **DIALOGUE OF PEACE**

Interreligious dialogue is one of the most pressing needs of our times. There will be no peace among nations without peace among religions. There will be no peace among religions without dialogue among religions. We are alarmed by continuous persecution on a global level endured by innocent people at the hands of fundamentalist and terrorist groups. Dialogue in India should aim at collaboration in areas such as peace-building, protection of the environment, eradication of poverty and ensuring the human dignity of all, especially of women and children. Besides, it means that we condemn all wars, violence and terrorism that create insurmountable blocks to dialogue. We pledge ourselves to engage in a process of dialogue for a reconciled society.

### **A FERVENT APPEAL**

We believe that patriotism is different from narrow and divisive cultural nationalism, which is radically different from Constitutional nationalism. No one has the right to question the patriotism of any Indian citizen on subjective grounds. Authentic patriotism unites us amidst divergences. Patriotism is defined as directing the attention of the citizens to the good of the whole human family, united by the different ties which bind together races, people and nations. "All Christians must be aware of their sense of responsibility and their service of the common good. They must recognize the legitimacy of different opinions with regard to temporal solutions, and respect citizens, who, even as a group, defend their points of view by honest methods" (Church in the Modern World, no. 75). False nationalistic ideologies that instigate contempt for cultures other than the majoritarian dominant culture are capable of perpetrating atrocities. It is necessary to clarify the essential difference between patriotism and pseudo nationalism. Patriotism builds up the nation while pseudo nationalism destroys the integrity, unity and harmony of the nation. Nationalism, particularly in its most radical and extreme forms, is thus

the antithesis of true patriotism. We appeal to the State authorities to ensure that pseudo nationalism does not continue to give rise to new forms of totalitarianism. Together with the framers of the Constitution, we, the Catholic Bishops of India, affirm that religion shall not be a criterion for determining Indian citizenship. The authorities should come forward with sincere and effective means to erase the sense of fear, anxiety and uncertainty spreading in the country, especially among the religious minorities. Needless to say that dissent should not be misconstrued as un-patriotism. Democracy cannot be built on monologue. We call upon the State authorities that it is right time to sit around the common table, a place of conversation and of shared hopes. Against the attempts at creating cultural isolation in our beloved country, dialogue will make the elements that are seemingly a barrier or a wall, a bridge of relationship. "Identity and dialogue are not enemies. Our own cultural identity is strengthened and enriched as a result of dialogue with those unlike ourselves. Nor is our authentic identity preserved by an impoverished isolation." (Pope Francis, Querida Amazonia, n. 37).

### **CONCLUSION**

Dialogue is indeed the path to truth and charity. Let us pray that dialogue grows in every family, at all levels of the Church, among the Christians, among religions and cultures, and among the nations so that God's Kingdom of reconciliation, justice, peace and love may be established. Though deeply concerned and anguished with what is happening in our country, we are filled with hope inspired by faith and the innate goodness of all our fellow citizens. We appreciate the majority who uphold the secular values of our nation. We are determined to continue to collaborate in the work of building our great nation, Mother India.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, who manifested the exemplary spirit of dialogue through her maternal intercession, guide each one of us on the path of truth and charity!



### PATRON'S DAY

Our Major Archbishop celebrates his Patron's day on April 24. Let us specially pray for God's choicest blessings on him on this special day. Chanda Family wishes a HAPPY FEAST.

**Cardinal George Alenchery**  
**Major Archbishop**  
**Syro-Malabar Church**



Prot No. 1864/2019

12 December 2019

Dear Archbishops and Bishops,

I write you this on the basis of a letter jointly signed by His Eminence Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches and Archbishop Rino Fisichella, the President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, inviting our Church to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God in our Church with due importance as envisaged by Holy Father Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter *Aperuit illis*. The Sunday of the Word of God is instituted on the III Sunday of the Ordinary time according to the Latin liturgical calendar. As mentioned in the letter indicated above, this Sunday falls between 21 and 27 January every year. As per the Syro-Malabar liturgical calendar, this Sunday falls in the season of Epiphany. The observation of this Sunday is very much linked to the Unity Octave which is from 18-25 January. So inevitably, this

Sunday is either during the Unity Octave or the Sunday immediately after the Unity Octave. In 2020, the Sunday dedicated for the Word of God is 26 January.

The directive part of the *motuproprio* is as follows: "The various communities will find their own ways to mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity. It is important, however, that in the Eucharistic celebration the sacred text be enthroned, in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God's word. On this Sunday, it would be particularly appropriate to highlight the proclamation of the word of the Lord and to emphasize in the homily the honour that it is due. ...In this regard, renewed efforts should be made to provide members of the faithful with the training needed to be genuine proclaimers of the word..." (No. 3). Let us earnestly respond to the invitation of the Holy Father with enthusiasm and make every attempt to celebrate this Sunday with solemnity so that our faithful can make use of this occasion to deepen their knowledge in the Word of God and make it more experiential. Please find herewith attached the letter I received from the above mentioned prelates and a copy of the Apostolic Letter *Aperuit illis*.

I request you to give necessary instructions regarding the celebration of this Sunday in your Eparchy/Archeparchy.

Yours cordially in Christ,

George Cardinal Alenchery

Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church

**V. CURIA MATTERS****SEMINAR ON PREACHING MINISTRY**  
*Susamachar GhoshanaVarsh 2020*

“Owe to me if I do not preach” (1Cor. 9:16)

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!  
(Rom. 10:15)

“He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons”  
(Mk. 3: 14-15)

“Therefore go 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 I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”  
(Mt. 28:19-20)

**Date & Venue:** April 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Antony's Church Campus, Wardha  
April 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas Cathedral, Ballarpur

**Time** : 09.30 am to 05.00 pm

**Resource Person:** Fr. Baby Veranickal CSSR

Every missionary in our diocese is expected to attend the seminar and sharpen our tongues to be genuine evangelizers. PLEASE, I earnestly request every missionary to avail the opportunity and make ascertain your PARTICIPATION. Kindly mark it in your calendar. I repeat again kindly do not take exception! Be on TIME and in FULL ATTENDANCE to the END. It is enough that you attend it **either of the days**. It is kept in two days so as to make sure participation of maximum number of missionaries in the seminar. Those who are attending it at Wardha please inform Fr. Raju Avookaran (Ph: 8411097591) and at Ballarpur to Fr. Vigil Parassery (Ph:9545641645) before 31 March 2020.



Yours devotedly in Jesus Christ

*Fr. Ephrem Nariculam*

† Ephrem Nariculam

Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

**25<sup>th</sup> DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF**  
**BP. JANUARIUS PALATHURUTHY CMI**

25 years since Bp. Januarius Palathuruthy CMI departed us for eternal rest. Let us come together around the eucharistic table for the memorial Holy Qurbana to pray for our beloved Bp. Januarius and thank the Lord for giving us such a great missionary :

Date : **Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Venue : **St. Thomas Cathedral, Balharshah**

(Bishop's Home Campus, Chanda diocese)

Programme:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 10.00 AM | - Holy Qurbana<br>Homily: Bp. Joseph Kunnath CMI   |
| 11.30    | - Office of the Dead   |
| 11.45    | - Memorial Meeting   |
| 12.45 PM | - Book Release: <i>In His Footprints: Legacy of Bishop Januarius Palathuruthy CMI in Chanda Mission</i> - (Ed.) Ephrem Nariculam |
| 01.00    | - Lunch, Bye... Bye...<br>Fr. Varghese Puthuparampil CMI   |

**PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL**

The next Presbyteral Council will be held on 16 March 2020 at 11.00 am at Blessed Rani Maria Conference Hall, Bishop's Home, Ballarpur.

Fr. Dinesh Mate

**MURON HOLY 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, 07 April 2020

Venue : St. Thomas Cathedral, Ballarpur

Schedule : 10.00 AM Talk

11.15 AM Holy Qurbana

01.00 PM Lunch, Departure

**SEMINAR****TRAINING TO BE YOUTH LEADERS**

The youth department is conducting the following seminars to impart Training to be youth leaders.

SL. No.	Date	Time	Target Group
1	April 30	10 AM to 6 PM	Decennial Priests (Others are also welcome)
2	May 1&2	9 AM to 9 PM	Major Seminarians
3	May 3	10 AM to 5 PM	Youth Leaders of the diocese (Maximum number 30)

It will be a training programme to be youth leader/ animator

- How to deal with the youth of today
- Techniques to interact with the youth
- Organizing the youth for community building
- Training children to grow into effective adulthood

Resource person: Fr. William D' Souza SDB (Bangalore)

Please mark the date in the calendar  
Bp. Ephrem Nariculam

**LANGUAGE COURSES 2020**

English	01 <sup>st</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> April
Marathi	17 <sup>th</sup> May - 12 <sup>th</sup> June
Hindi	08 <sup>th</sup> June - 04 <sup>th</sup> July

For more details please contact:

Fr. Johny Narikkat (Ph: 9423398141)

Fr. Antony Munjanattu (Ph. 9404387627)

**CALVARIGIRI PILGRIMAGE  
LAKKADAKOT**

**GOOD FRIDAY,  
10 APRIL 2020**

**PRAYER REQUEST**

Please pray for our Deacons.....



Dn. Francis Minj

Date of Ordination  
29<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Venue: Seva Sadan Church,  
Allapalli

Time: 9.30 AM



Dn. Jose Zade

**BISHOP'S CANONICAL VISIT SCHEDULE - 2020**

Chincholi	-	26-29 March
Mul	-	16-19 April
Marakbody	-	24-27 September
Wasa	-	15-18 October
Gatta	-	25-29 November

Fr. Vigil Parassery

**DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS**

Dear Fathers, you are requested to hand over the following collections to DFO latest by 31 March 2020:

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

Your are requested to make the following collections:

1. Lenten Campaign (Handover to LSSS)
2. Good Friday Collection for Holy Land (10 April)

**“Unless you have a definite, precise, clearly set goals,  
you are not going to realize  
the maximum potential that lies within you”**

**Zig Ziglar**



**DIOCESE OF CHANDA**  
**WHEN.... Preparing a Budget**  
**(General Guidelines)**

1. Read through previous years' presented budget carefully
2. Collect all accounts of income and expenditure as per respective heads in the budget format.
3. Make sure all bills, vouchers, receipts are ready/available with date, serial number etc. (there should be pakka bills for all items).
4. Update bank pass book and check cash balance (make cash balance around Rs.1000/- or less).
5. Ascertain that when all payments (salary, shopping, maintenances, nursery, school, dispensary, loan repayments, donations etc.) are done and receipts are received.
6. Renew FD receipts as required.
7. Enter all diocesan/church collections to the journal.
8. Make sure no cheque payment is in pending (ref. - cheque issued and not yet credited). See that all cheques are cleared/debited from our account in the bank (issue cheques accordingly at least 2 weeks in advance).
9. Implementation of projects and it should be made up to date as per the budget stipulations.
10. Discuss in the core-team with regard to the needs of the station to propose new projects for the budget year and also long term needs. If possible state reasons for the new projects.
11. Check whether all worship expenses are properly entered into the journal.
12. Calculate farm products of the station (vegetables, dairy income, field yieldings, livestock etc.) and enter into the accounts. Enter them in the income and expenditure columns.

13. Add all receipts of sale of old things from campus (scrap selling).
14. Check all medical bills are paid and entered into account.
15. Normally the budget is presented with actual of 9 months and budget of 12 months.
16. Make sure all payments of electricity, taxes & rates, water connection, news paper, telephone etc. is done before budget preparation starts.
17. Any pending bills (uniform, *kirana* etc.) either should be paid or transfer to the next year and ask for new dated bill for the forthcoming year.
18. Check that previous year's budget is followed as per the direction from the Diocesan Finance Office/Curia.
19. As soon as PPT Meeting date is announced start preparation of the budget in consultation with the Finance department.
20. Budget preparation should be started by 1 December every year as PPT meeting falls in January.
21. Make sure that PF, TDS (Tax Deduction at Source) are paid for the year before budget is prepared.
22. Vehicle insurance, land, building tax are paid on time and entered into journal. (Personnel vehicle, if any, cannot be paid for such items from the common fund and vice versa)
23. Make sure that tri-monthly account is submitted regularly and up to December is done by all means before budget is prepared each year.
24. 10% of Sunday collection to be given to Bishop's Charity Fund from all stations that are declared parishes. Naturally it should be accounted separately in the daily journal.

Bp. Ephrem Nariculam

## CHANGE REPORT OF THE SOCIETIES IN THE DIOCESE

(IMPORTANT & URGENT)

All secretaries of Registered Trusts/Societies in the Diocese are earnestly requested to make update the change report with the existing ex-officio members of the Societies as per the appointment of eparchial Bishop. In accordance with the provisions of the FCRA act we have to submit the correct list of officials to the Ministry of Home affairs. More over the Finance Bill 2020 demands the registration under section 12A of the Income tax act by June 2020 and FCRA renewal process is due by October 2020. So we will have to file a correct list in both the cases. As per information received by me even after a lapse of five years also the name of ex officio President and secretary is not changed in few places. This may adversely affect the future functioning of the Society. Hence we have to act immediately and file the change report before June 2020 to facilitate the re-registration process. The secretary of the Society is the responsible person to do it. However if such responsible priest is transferred, the priest-in-charge in the mission/parish has to take the turn to do the same. **May I earnestly request everyone to take this matter seriously and sincerely and do what is needful.** Kindly contact Fr. Mathew Nirappel, DFO or Mr. Jose Thannipara, Chief Accountant for details. The responsible persons as per the list given below will do needful for the same latest by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Sl.No	Society	Responsible Person	Present Secretary
1.	Diocese of Chanda Society	Fr. Mathew Nirappel	Fr. Mathew Nirappel
2.	Jyothi Bhavan Church Society Babupeth	Fr. Kurian Panayalil	Fr. Dinesh Mate
3.	Navjyoti Catholic Church Society Aksapur	Fr. Pius Mathew	Fr. Ajay Khalkho
4.	Loksamgraha Social Service Society	Fr. Jobin Ovelil	Fr. Jobin Ovelil
5.	Kisanwadi Church Society Kopreli	Fr. Thomas PUNCHAYIL	Fr. Thomas PUNCHAYIL
6.	Seva Sadan Church Society, Allapalli	Fr. Sebastian Orapuzhickal CMI	Fr. Sebastian Orapuzhickal CMI

7	St. Antony's Catholic Church Society, Wardha	Fr. Raju Avookaran	Fr. Raju Avookaran
8.	Jeevan Jyothiociety, Hinganghat	Fr. James Thuruthiyil CMI	Fr. James Thuruthiyil CMI
9.	Christanand Educational Society, Brahmपुर	Fr. Joseph Kalathil	Fr. Mathew Nirappel
10.	St. Mary's Church Society Balapur	Fr. Joshy Madathiparampil	Fr. Sebastian Orapuzhickal CMI
11.	Asha Niketan Church Society Wasa	Fr. Prakash Kerketta	Fr. Kurian Panayalil
12.	Chavara Bhavan Church Society Ettapally	Fr. Jacob Eraly	Fr. Shyju Madapallikunnel
13.	Tera Prem Church Society Warur	Fr. Shyju Madapallikunnel	Fr. Joshy Chettianchira
14.	Aranya Niwas Catholic Church Society, Lakkadkot	Fr. Shyju Madapallikunnel	Fr. Lawrence Burle
15.	Ashirwan Church Society Chincholi	Fr. Sijo Kattookaran	Fr. Rajat Valiyamangalam
16.	Shanti Niwas Church Society Wirur	Fr. Robinson Chekkathadathil	Fr. Robinson Chekkathadathil



Soliciting everyone's co-operation

*(Signature)*

† Ephrem Nariculam

Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda

### DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL (DPC)

#### REPORT

DPC meeting of the Diocese of Chanda at Bishop's Home Ballarpur on 30-11-2019

#### Time Table

Prayer

Welcome and introductory Talk: Bishop

Reading of the report of the last DPC and Action Taken Report-  
Vicar General

Departmental sharing

Tea Break

Departmental sharing

General discussions

Vote of Thanks,

Angelus.

Lunch, Good Bye

### **Agenda**

Presentation of the departments

Fr. Antony Munjanattu	-	Youth director
Fr. Vincent Pangola	-	Audio Visual Department
Fr. Jobin Ovelil	-	LSSS and Kalabhavan
Fr. Binu Muthalakuzhy	-	Vocation promotion and evangelization
Announcements	-	Bishop
General Discussion		

### **Report**

The Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) meeting of the diocese for the year 2019 began by a prayer song invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit. Fr. Varghese Puthuparambil CMI, the Vicar General, welcomed every one and Report of the previous year was presented. Bp. Ephrem presided over the meeting.

Keynote was given by Bishop Ephrem Nariculam. In his introductory speech, he reminded everyone the importance of DPC in a diocese. He spoke about Role of the Laity in the Church. It is a forum to listen to the laity. Bishop insisted that the new initiatives in the diocese as well as various challenges that the Church faces today would be discussed in the DPC meeting. DPC meeting is also a forum to know the various activities of the departments in the Diocese.

After the tea break bishop announced some of the forthcoming events in the diocese. The ordinations of Bro. Jose Zade and Bro. Francis Minj will be at Allapally Church in the month of April 2020. Year 2021 will be dedicated as *Harith Varsh*. Focus of *Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh 2020* should be on evangelization. The purpose of the year is to bring back the flock

who had left the Church. Claretian Fathers have started a mission at Murumgaon. Kurkheda mission is flourishing. Bishop shared about his *Ad Limina* visit to Rome on 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2019 and his experience of 3 hours of being with the Pope along with other Syro-Malabar bishops.

Then bishop shared about the dream projects and its present status such as Talent Club, Post-metric hostel and Mul project etc. He told that the pastoral plan is ready for the next fifteen years. Coming years will be celebrated with specific purposes as follows.

2020 - Year of evangelization.

2021 - Green Year.

2022 - Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese. Diocese will be constructing 60 houses.

2023 - Year of Sacrament

2024 - Year of Decalogue

2025 - Year of the precepts of the Church

2026 - Year of Creed

2027 - Year of Beatitudes

2028 - Marian Year

2029 - Year of Saints

2030 - Year of Family

2031 - Year of Aged and the Sick

2032 - Year of Youth and Children

2033 - The Great Jubilee Year of Jesus' Paschal Event

Bishop also shared about some of the important initiatives taken place in the diocese such as inauguration of Holy Childhood Association. Youth, children and women empowerment programmes are of great concern of the diocese. Village chapel renovations are started and by 2025 it is hoped to be completed. Bishops Canonical visits are going on in the parishes. Bishop

Januarius' 25<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary will be celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> April in the diocesan level at Balharshah.

### **There was the presentation of the departments.**

#### **Fr. Antony Munjanattu: Youth Department**

Youth programmes like Carrier guidance and PSC coaching will be conducted at Zonal level. Youth seminar will be conducted in parish level. Youth representative leaders training will be conducted. Youth convention will be conducted during the Diwali holidays. Miss Manisha from Wirur Zone suggested to focus on the youth in the parishes.

#### **Fr. Vincent Pangola, Audio: Visual department.**

Many activities are conducted for the faith formation. Daily Bible verses are being sent through the Whatsapp groups in relation to the *Bible Vachan Varsh*. Sunday Homilies and homilies on Saints life were broadcasted. A Youtube channel is created and the videos of the homilies and the glimpse of the important events of the diocese are being uploaded.

Department has a plan to conduct carol singing competition for the parishes in the month of December. During the advent 25 days Christmas message video will be uploaded in the YouTube channel. Father asked suggestions to celebrate the year of evangelization. Some of the suggestions came up as conducting "*Pathanattya*", upload testimonies and daily bible reflections in the Youtube channels.

#### **Fr. Jobin Ovelil: LSSS and Kalabhavan**

LSSS has different projects in the diocese. Its working for the poor and marginalized. Projects are supported by different funding agencies. Caritas India is supporting two projects known JEEVAN Empowering animation, in Jiwathi block. PLDP project is funded by Miserior. To Solve and to Save project supported by Manos Unidas. IGSS is supporting to run the project Suposhan. CHAI with the support of the Lillian Fond is supporting for the

140 differently abled children. Save A Family Plan India has a project in Rajura block covering 10 villages. Special supports are given by the requests of the parish priests. 40 girls are doing nursing studies. Income generation programmes are given for the poor families. Tailoring centers are supported. Financial support is given for the housing. LSSS is running a Railway CHILDLINE project at Balharshah railway station with the support of the ministry of women and child development.

52 Catholic children are staying and studying at Kalabhavan. Kalabhavan focuses on the holistic development of the children. In Post-matric hostel 6 students are there. Last year music course was conducted and 45 children participated. 35 children are taken to Kerala for study tour. Nineteen children acquired Black belt in Karate.

#### **Fr. Binu Thomas Vocation Promotion and Evangelization.**

Vocation promotion is necessary and we must pray for the vocation promotion. Parish priest should cooperate to promote vocations from the parishes.

Fr. Binu told that all the departments are doing Evangelization. Evangelization will be given the priority. Retreats are conducted in many parishes. This ministry need more prayers. Coming year is declared in our diocese as the year of Evangelization. Various programs will be planned as per the requirements.

#### **General discussions**

Free meals for the poor.

Admission for the catholic students in the catholic schools.

Bishop thanked everyone for the presence and support to the diocese. Fr. Varghese Puthumparambil CMI proposed vote of thanks. With Angelus, the meeting came to an end at 1 PM.

Fr. Jobin Ovelil  
Secretary

## Pesaha Bread and Milk Blessing Prayer (Hindi and Marathi)

पास्का रोटी तोडने की प्रार्थना

पिता, पुत्र और पवित्र आत्मा के नाम पर, आमेन।

हे हमारे पिता जो स्वर्ग में हैं.....

हे सर्व शक्तिमान पिता ईश्वर, हमने अभी अभी पवित्र बलिदान में तेरे पास्का भोजन का स्मरण किया है। पवित्र बलिदान संस्कार में तू सच मुच विद्यमान होता है। लाल सागर का पारगमन, मरूभूमी की मन्ना रूपी रोटी, मेध स्तंभ आदि इस्राएल जनता के प्रति तेरे परिपालन के प्रतीक हैं। अब हम यह पास्का रोटी और खीर आपस में बाँटने के लिए यहाँ एकत्रित हुए हैं। हमारा नम्र निवेदन है कि तू हमें और इनको आशीर्वाद दे, ताकि हम आपस में भी एक जुट रहें। पिता, पुत्र और पवित्रात्मा के नाम पर, आमेन।

(पास्का रोटी और खीर पर पवित्र जल छिड़काया जाता है और रोटीयों में से एक तोड़ी जाती है। इस दौरान गायकसंघ एक योग्य गीत गाते हैं।)

पस्का भाकर मोडण्याची प्रार्थना

पिता, पुत्र आणि पवित्र आत्मा यांच्या नावे आमेन.

हे आमच्या स्वर्गीय बापा.....

हे सर्वशक्तिमान देवबापा तुझी आम्ही पवित्र बलिदानामध्ये तुझ्या पास्का भोजनाचे स्मरण केले आहे. पवित्र बलिदानात तुझी उपस्थिती आहे. लाल सागर ओलांडून, मरू भूमीतील मन्ना, मेध स्तंभ, ही सर्व इस्राएल लोकांकरीता तू दिलेली स्वरक्षणप्रतीक आहेत. आता आम्ही ही भाकर व खीर आपसात ग्रहण करणार आहोत. ह्याच्या द्वारे आम्हां सर्वांना एकत्र होण्यास साहय कर ही आम्ही विनंती करीतो. आमच्या प्रभु ख्रिस्ता द्वारे आमेन.....!

(पास्का भाकर व खीर ह्यावर पवित्र पाण्याने आशिर्वाद केला जातो व वाटप केल्या जातो. गायक मंडळी ह्यासमयी भजन गातत.)

## EXTRACTS FROM EPARCHIAL STATUTES REGARDING PASSION WEEK CELEBRATION

427. §1. On *Pesaha* (Maundy Thursday), as we commemorate the institution of the Holy Qurbana, it is highly recommended to have Eucharistic adoration, keeping the spirit of Lent. On that day according to the liturgical tradition, Eucharist is not to be exposed in the monstrance but to be adored in the tabernacle, preferably in both species.

§2. On *Pesaha* (Maundy Thursday), there shall be only one Holy Qurbana in a parish and if there are more priests, they are to concelebrate. There shall not be Holy Qurbana in the religious houses on that day and all are to participate in the Holy Qurbana in the Parish Church.

§3. *Pascha Bhojan/Pascha* meal and such other traditional observances of our families are to be continued. *Pascha Bhojan* in the parish churches or family units is not a substitute to the *Pascha Bhojan* traditionally observed in the family.

428. §1. The salvific passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ is commemorated on Passion Friday and hence all Christian faithful are obliged to attend the liturgical celebrations with devotion and love. There is no Holy Qurbana on that day. The liturgy is to be celebrated as per the liturgical norms.

§2. On Passion Friday, the way of the cross is to be conducted in the most solemn way in all the parishes of our Eparchy together with the liturgical services of the day or separately.

§3. Pilgrimage to Lakkadakot Calvarigiri is highly recommended.

429. There shall be a Holy Qurbana on Holy Saturday. If there are more than one priest, they are to concelebrate on that day.

430. Care should be taken not to have dramatic presentations of the paschal mysteries during the Holy Week in the Sanctuary violating its sanctity. (Pastoral Guidance Appendix I)

## 8. PASSION/HOLY WEEK /EASTER CELEBRATION

1. A solemn Palm leaves procession with a wooden cross/any metal cross, but not necessarily crucifix (whenever possible) in the front is

- highly recommended. This procession is to be led by the celebrant. Use the wooden cross to knock at the church door during liturgy.
2. Cover decently the Crucifix in the Church before Palm Sunday liturgy. It is left covered until Good Friday service.
  3. It is highly recommended that all priests, and to the best possible the sisters working in the diocese, participate in the Muron Qurbana (Chrism Mass) which is customarily done on Tuesday of Passion/Holy week.
  4. The faithful should be properly instructed about their obligation of annual confession and Holy Communion during Passion/Holy week. Every priest in charge should make adequate preparation for the same in every parish.
  5. The congregation should be properly instructed that the highlight of Holy Thursday is the institution of Priesthood and Holy Eucharist. It is good that people are chosen in advance and prepare them for feet washing ceremony. For instance: a short recollection, a special prayer service with them on 6 Sundays or any other days in a week during Lent, special fasting, abstinence during Lent etc.
  6. The Holy Thursday Qurbana ends with the final two prayers before the final blessing. As Eucharistic procession takes place and adoration commences immediately after Holy Communion, our tradition is that no final blessing of the Qurbana is given on Maundy Thursday. The Eucharistic procession after which should be done with solemnity, but within the Church. The Eucharist is kept in both species for adoration. Pesaha bread and milk may be shared, if such customs are prevalent in the parish.
  7. It may be good to conduct all Good Friday liturgies in the morning so that everyone can go for Calvary mount pilgrimage at Lakkadakot.
  8. Baptismal renewal, blessing of water, fire etc. may be done on Saturday morning along with Qurbana or in the evening as Easter vigil. If it is done on Easter vigil, a simple Qurbana in Saturday morning is greatly desired. Kindly note that there should be fire in the Gamela/Ganj before prayers of blessing is recited over it. Immediately after the blessing that fire is taken into Thurible for incensing.

9. A procession with Risen Lord's statue will add solemnity to the Easter celebration.
10. Lenten recollections/retreats are highly encouraged.
11. Simple/some decoration for Holy Thursday adoration and Easter Sunday Resurrection Liturgy will give a better spiritual experience of the liturgy.
12. All celebrations (feasts, B'days) with extravagant solemnity is to be avoided during Great Lent.

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### **Extracts from Eparchial Statutes Regarding Holy Muron**

451. In the Old Testament, persons, places and things were sanctified and set apart with the consecration by the Holy Muron. This tradition is followed in the Church for Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick, Consecration of the Church etc.
452. Holy Muron, which is made from the oil of olives or other vegetable oils and from aromatics, is confectioned only by a bishop (c. 693).
453. The priests are permitted to bless the oil used for Anointing of the Sick and for Baptism using the Holy Muron blessed by the Bishop. (cf. Pastoral guidelines Appendix I)
454. §1. The Bishop consecrates the Holy Muron on Tuesday during Holy Week together with the priests, religious and the lay persons.  
§2. They have to burn the old Holy Muron and cottons before the new Muron is refilled.  
§3. An appropriate place is to be allotted in the sanctuary or in the sacristy for preserving the Holy Oil.

### **HOLY OILS**

- **OC** (*Oleum Catechumenorum*) or **OS** (*Oleum Sanctum*) for Baptism.
- **SC** (*Sanctum Chrisma*) for Holy Orders, Confirmation and Church consecration.
- **OI** (*Oleum Infirmorum*) for Anointing the sick.

**Susamachar Ghoshana Varsh 2020****Daily Bible Reading****March (Exodus 11-40) & Leviticus 1**

1 Ex. 11	6 Ex. 16	11 Ex. 21	16 Ex. 26	21 Ex. 31	26 Ex. 36
2 Ex. 12	7 Ex. 17	12 Ex. 22	17 Ex. 27	22 Ex. 32	27 Ex. 37
3 Ex. 13	8 Ex. 18	13 Ex. 23	18 Ex. 28	23 Ex. 33	28 Ex. 38
4 Ex. 14	9 Ex. 19	14 Ex. 24	19 Ex. 29	24 Ex. 34	29 Ex. 39
5 Ex. 15	10 Ex. 20	15 Ex. 25	20 Ex. 30	25 Ex. 35	30 Ex. 40
					31 Lev. 1

**April (Leviticus 2-27) & (Numbers 1-4)**

1 Lev. 2	6 Lev. 7	11 Lev. 12	16 Lev. 17	21 Lev. 22	26 Lev. 27
2 Lev. 3	7 Lev. 8	12 Lev. 13	17 Lev. 18	22 Lev. 23	27 Num. 1
3 Lev. 4	8 Lev. 9	13 Lev. 14	18 Lev. 19	23 Lev. 24	28 Num. 2
4 Lev. 5	9 Lev. 10	14 Lev. 15	19 Lev. 20	24 Lev. 25	29 Num. 3
5 Lev. 6	10 Lev. 11	15 Lev. 16	20 Lev. 21	25 Lev. 26	30 Num. 4

**May (Numbers 5-35)**

1 Num. 5	6 Num. 10	11 Num. 15	16 Num. 20	21 Num. 25	26 Num. 30
2 Num. 6	7 Num. 11	12 Num. 16	17 Num. 21	22 Num. 26	27 Num. 31
3 Num. 7	8 Num. 12	13 Num. 17	18 Num. 22	23 Num. 27	28 Num. 32
4 Num. 8	9 Num. 13	14 Num. 18	19 Num. 23	24 Num. 28	29 Num. 33
5 Num. 9	10 Num. 14	15 Num. 19	20 Num. 24	25 Num. 29	30 Num. 34
					31 Num. 35

**THE MAJOR SEMINARIANS' DIOCESAN FORMATION PROGRAMME (GATHERING)****Schedule:**

April 26	-	Arrival by evening
27	-	Inaugural session
28	-	Preparation for ordination
29	-	Ordination, Allapalli
30	-	Free Day
May 1-2	-	Seminar on youth Resource person - Fr. William D' Souza SDB
3-5	-	Assignment, Sharing etc.
6-8	-	Retreat for the theologians Clean Campus Campaign for the philosophers
09	-	Vestition and Minor Orders

Fr. Binu Muthalakuzhiyil  
Formation Co-ordinator

**2020 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS  
MAY 3**

The purpose of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly celebrate vocations to ordained ministry and religious life in all its forms. Let us celebrate it befittingly.

“Dear friends, it is not always easy to discern our vocation and to steer our life in the right direction. For this reason, there needs to be a renewed commitment on the part of the whole Church – priests, religious, pastoral workers and educators – to provide young people in particular with opportunities for listening and discernment. There is a need for a youth ministry and a vocational promotion that can open the way to discovering God’s plan, above all through prayer, meditation on God’s word, eucharistic adoration and spiritual accompaniment.”

--Pope Francis, World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 2019.

**Prayer for World Day of Prayer for Vocations**

*Holy Spirit, stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood, and permanent diaconate.*

*Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability.*

*Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call.*

*Inspire parents, families, and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service.*

*Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about monastic life, apostolic life, missionaries, cloistered contemplative life, and evangelical Franciscan life.*

*Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for religious sisters, brothers, deacons, and priests to live in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized.*

*Disrupt our comfortable lives and complacent attitudes with new ideas to respond courageously and creativity with a daily 'YES!' Amen.*

(<https://nrvc.net/292/publication/11357/article/15674-2020-world-day-of-prayer-for-vocations-may-3>)

**40 HOURS OF ADORATION AT BALHARSHAH**

February 24, 25 & 26 (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday), 2020 were days of special grace for the entire diocese of Chanda. Those were days of Adoration for 40 hours in the Cathedral at Balharshah. On Monday adoration began at 06.15 am and concluded at 6.00 PM followed by Ash day services. On Tuesday Adoration began after the Hoy Qurbana and concluded at 8.00 PM. On Wednesday Adoration began at 6.15 am and concluded with Eucharistic procession led by Bp. Ephrem Nariculam followed by Holy Qurbana in the evening. Monday was set apart for the Priests, Religious and the laity from the zones of Allapally and Brahmपुर and Tuesday to those from Wardha and Wirur zones. Wednesday was specially assigned to the Priests, Religious and the laity of Balharshah zone. Priests were available for confession on all three days. The participants in the Adoration experienced the feeling that they were able to enter into the season of Lent with an added fervour. These were days of memorable spiritual renewal and enrichment.

**QUOTES ON BP. JANUARIUS**

“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.”

Late Archbishop Eugene D'Souza  
Archbishop of Nagpur

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“He did pioneering work in building up the diocese with a broad vision and great sense of inculturation. He was a true missionary bishop”

Late Bp. Valerian D'Souza  
Bishop of Poona

**PRISON MINISTRY IN INDIA**

“I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me”  
(Mt. 25:36)

Prison Ministry India (PMI) is a voluntary organization with its head office in Bangalore. Established in the year 1986, PMI serves 1,401 prisons across India, through its 850 branches.

**VISION**

We shall renew, reform and rehabilitate prisoners through committed volunteers: plan and execute effective measures for crime prevention; build a community with a sensitive and positive attitude to those in prison; facilitate empowerment of prisoners and their families towards social re-integration with dignity.

**MISSION**

We shall be present in all prisons in India and provide opportunities for prisoners, their families and the authorities to be aware of PMI and avail of our progressive services both within prisons and in the community.

**WHAT WE DO**

Our guiding principles of “Renew, and Rehabilitate” have enabled us to reach out to thousands of prisoners and their families, thus transforming lives and building better communities. We give a helping hand and partner with government and prison authorities for the outreach programs mentioned below.

**Inside the prison**

- Vocational training and education: Organize job-oriented training (tailoring, handicraft, computers, English, literacy), conduct competitions, develop talents and skills, setup equipment to support job-specific



- training.
- **Counselling:** Develop coping skills and an attitude of hope for social re-integration.
  - **Fellowship and inter religious appreciation:** Celebrate different festivals like Christmas, Diwali, Raksha Bandhan etc., conduct sessions for spiritual growth and upliftment.
  - **Health and hygiene:** Conduct periodic medical camps to assess and identify skin, dental, eyes and general health issues, talks to highlight the importance of health and hygiene.
  - **Sports and Recreation:** Conduct competitions to develop talents and encourage team spirit, provide entertainment and relief from an otherwise monotonous routine. Tree plantation to promote environment sensitivity.
  - **Motivational Talks:** Conduct inspirational sessions for renewal, reformation and rehabilitation with an aim to prevent re-entry into crime or abuse.
  - **Legal support:** provide legal aid services, attend hearings, facilitate payment of bail

#### **Outside the prison**

- **Employment:** Provide employment opportunities for prisoners and their families through tie-ups with different organizations agencies.
- **Skill training:** Provide further training to equip prisoners and their families with skills to enhance financial independence.
- **Counselling:** Continuous counselling to help deal with social stigmas, to prevent falling back into old/bad habits, to deal with small discouragements and failures.

- **Children's education:** provide support for the education of the children of prisoners for improved well-being and educational attainment.
- **Equipment:** Provide / facilitate equipment (handcarts, rickshaws, computers, technical tools etc.) to help released prisoners and their families earn a livelihood and live with dignity.

**“HE WHO OPENS A SCHOOL DOOR,  
CLOSES A PRISON”**

**Victor Hugo**

#### **YOUTH SEMINAR GRANT**

The Youth Department is arranging grant for parish/zonal youth seminar as per directions given below;

- Per person for a day Rs. 100 up to three days for maximum number of participants 30 per seminar.
- For resource person Rs.1000 per person for a day, up to two animators- for two days Rs. 1500/- and for three days Rs. 2000 /- person.
- The seminar should be conducted before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021
- Please inform the department the details of seminar at least 30 days in advance so as to facilitate youth director to visit and address the participants ( kindly allot at least 30 minutes for youth director to address the participants).
- The department can support during this year with maximum number of participants, up to 500 in total for the whole diocese. First come first served.

Thanking you  
Fr. Antony Munjanattu  
Youth Director

## VI. NEWS FROM THE MISSION STATIONS

### BALLARPUR ZONE

#### - Gojoli

- ❖ Sr. Bindu Joseph, member of AMI Bhavan Gojoli got transferred to Adilabad Mission. She was doing her service under Gojoli parish from 2012 onwards. We welcome Sr. Minimol Philip AMI, new Responsible of AMI Bhavan and Sr. (Dr.) Rosamma who is getting ready to start a Clinic at Dhaba.

### WARDHA ZONE

#### CMC Carmelodaya Province, Wardha

##### ❖ 150<sup>th</sup> St. Chavara Day...

150<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of St Chavara inaugurated along with our CMI fathers at Darsana on 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020. All our neighboring communities and faithful of our parish were also present for the same.

##### ❖ Silver Bells chime in Carmelodaya...

Manifold are the graces and blessings showered on Carmelodaya Province Wardha, during the past 25 years since the erection of the Province. We witnessed to the historical moments of the celebrations of the threefold Jubilee: Silver Jubilee of the Province, Golden Jubilee of Sr. Geeta, Silver Jubilee of 9 of our sisters on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020. The Solemn Holy Eucharist was officiated by Mar Ephrem Nariculam, Bishop of Chanda and Mar Prince Antony, the Bishop of Adilabad. The gracious presence of many Fathers and Sisters from far and near added joy and merriment to the celebrations. The sisters who secured highest marks in the various examinations and quiz contest held in the Province level were awarded with prizes during the Silver Jubilee celebrations.

##### ❖ General Level Zonal Meet at Macherial

15 of our Sisters participated in the General level Zonal

Mission gathering at Mancherial Provincial House on 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020. It was the golden chance to meet, to know each other and share the love and communion.

##### ❖ Village exposure to Lahan Wani

Our Candidates Anita, Akansha, Irina, Sweetie, Ravina, Neelu accompanied by Sr. Amala and Sr. Sharon spend their 10 days in the village, visiting families and spending time with them listening and praying with them. They were inspired and contended by the simple life style of the people and they could share Christ experience with them. Thanks to Fr. Tony who welcomed them into his parish and made all the needful arrangements for them to stay. We also thank DM sisters and Lahan Wani parishioners for their love and concern.

##### ❖ In Loving Memory

Our dear Sr. Arnalda who joined Wardha community in the year 2010 with the apostolate of prayer. She spent long hours in prayer and spiritual reading. She showed great boldness and will power during her sickness. For past four months, she underwent very painful suffering being bedridden due to stroke by high blood pressure and other ailments like diabetes and Parkinson disease. She was called for her eternal reward on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at 10.25 am at the age of 86 on her heavenly patron's day.

Her funeral rites was conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30 pm by Mar Ephrem Nariculam Bishop of Chanda Diocese and Mar Joseph Kunnath Bishop Emeritus of Adilabad Diocese. Many priests and sisters from Chanda and Adilabad diocese, seminarians from Darsana and Claritian Ashram were present for the funeral ceremony.

#### DM Amala Province, Wardha

- ❖ Inter-School Teachers' meet of Amala Province was conducted at Claretian Ashram for two days. A Quiz Competition was conducted on the topic of founder and Co-founders. Orientation class, competitions and prayer service

were conducted. Rev. Fr. Suresh Thomas Madappattu CMF, Rev. Fr. Francis Aikaraparamble CMI, Sr. Stephany DM, Sr. Prima DM enriched the teachers with their inspiring classes in different topics.

- ❖ The Golden Jubilee of the religious profession of Sr. Prima DM and the silver jubilee of Sisters Mother Flower Maria, Sr. Arpana, Sr. Krupa Maria, Sr. Maritta Jocab DM, Sr. Vinaya Jose DM were celebrated at the provincial house. Most Rev. Bishop Mar Ephrem Nariculam was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana and Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios (Eparchy of St. Ephrem Khadki, Pune), Rev. Fr. Raju Avookaran the parish priest, and priests from CMI, CMF and SAC were the co-celebrant of the Holy Eucharist.

- ❖ Amalites conducted chain Rosary on the world sick day

#### **SJB Agragami Provincial House, Wardha**

##### ❖ **Adoration**

48 hours adoration was held at Sanjeevani Ashram from 31<sup>st</sup> January 6.00 am to 2<sup>nd</sup> February 6.00 am. Fathers, sisters and parishnors from Wardha pleaded before the Lord for various intentions especially for those affected by Corona virus.

##### ❖ **Training Programme**

Composite Regional Centre For Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Yashwant Stadium, Dhantoli, Nagpur organized “PwD's Training Programme for ST Candidates on Disability Rights & policies” at Jeevan Vikas Society, run by Society of Sisters of St. John, Wardha on 11/01/2020. Mrs. Kavita Ghodmare, Special Educator, CRC Nagpur was the Coordinator of the Program. Sister Sima Jose, Head of the Jeevan Vikas Society, Wardha, Mrs. Ashwini Dahat, Lect. Occupational Therapy, CRC Nagpur, were the chief persons of the program. The resource persons guided the people with disability about the various govt. schemes and policies and the role of CRC (Composite Regional Centre)

for Skill Development, Rehabilitation & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities & present “Rights of Persons with Disabilities ACT 2016.” PwD'S, parents of PwD'S and staff of Society of sisters of St. John, Wardha actively participated in the program.

##### ❖ **Silver Jubilee**

Silver Jubilee of Srs. Varsha, Sally, Shilpa & Rupa was celebrated on 18 January, 2020. The solemn Holy Eucharist was presided over by his Grace Arch Bishop Elias Gonsalvas, Archbishop of Nagpur. We were indeed grateful to our Archbishop for accepting our invitation and making his maiden visit to our provincial house. The gracious presence of priests from Parish, Darsana, Claretian, dioceses of Chanda, Nagpur, Jagdalpur and Behrampur added more flavor to the celebrations of the day. The celebrations were enriched with the benign presence of family members of the jubilarians, sisters from our neighbouring communities, parishioners, friends and well-wishers. Holy Eucharist was followed by short felicitation programme and agape.

##### ❖ **Inspire Award**

Master Shivam Ajay Gawande from St. John's High School, Hinganghat has been selected for the National level Inspire Award 2019-20. Topic of the project is “Traffic Signals with display board for Ambulances”. He has improved the traffic control system by fixing a display board. The length of the green channel Zone at junctions can be set to dynamic mode that can be defined by traffic police depending on traffic flow during peak and non-peak hours. The project has a direct impact on humanity.

#### **WIRUR ZONE**

##### **St. Thomas Church, Shengaon**

- ❖ St. Thomas Nursery School was celebrated combined with boarding day in Shengaon. Fr. Tony presided over the function.

**VII. DEPARTMENTAL NEWS****CLC Department****SAPIENZA**

The catechism department conducted diocesan level Bible Quiz competition “SAPIENZA 2020-” on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at Bishop's Home, Balharshah. This year the preliminary rounds were conducted in zonal level and the winners were selected for the grand finale. 7 teams containing 3 members from 7 parishes participated in this event. At the end of a very tough competition, team from Bhamaragad parish emerged as winners while teams from Durgapur parish and Ballarpur parish bagged the second and third place. The winners were awarded with trophies and rewards. Rev. Fr. Mathew Nirappel graced the occasion with his presence and message. Kudos to all the hard work and dedication of Catechism department for conducting this event for several years now. Kudos to our proud achievers

**Diocesan level Catechism Annual Exam**

The catechism department conducted Diocesan level Catechism Annual Exam on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at Bishop's Home, Balharshah for the Balharshah, Brahmapuri, Wardha and Wirur foranes and for the Allapally forane it was conducted in the Forane church, Allapally. More than 250 children from our diocese participated in this event. The winners of the “SAPIENZA 2020” were honoured with awards and trophies during the concluding ceremony of “Sapienza” by Rev. Fr. Mathew Nirappel. May they be the guiding light of this world and grow in God's grace.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS****1. Marriage Preparation Course**

- Date & Time : 2020 March 20<sup>th</sup> (Friday) 5 pm to 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sunday) 1 pm.
- Venue : Pastoral Centre, Bishop's Home, Ballarpur.
- Participants : Candidates who are to be married in one year. Recently married couples who have not attended this particular course are also welcome.
- Registration Fee Rs 250/-
- Each participant may bring a Bible, diary or note book, pen, bed sheets and other toilet articles.
- To get the course completion certificate one has to bring a letter from their respective parish priest and should attend all sessions in full. Those who have already fixed their marriages are encouraged to attend this course together.

**Fr. Kurian Panayalil**  
**CLC Department**

**VIII. NEWS FROM FORMATION HOUSES****Sant Vianney Gurukul**

- Rector's Day was celebrated on 1 January 2020 and we had the community outing to Abdul Kalam park, Chandrapur
- Inter-seminary get together was held on 8 January 2020 at St. Thomas More CMI Aspirants' House, Bamini. There were various competitions and cultural programmes. It was a great experience for our Brothers.
- Republic day was celebrated with solemnity.
- Minor orders conferred to Bro. Priju Puthenpurackal (Karoyusa & Haeupudiaknusa) and Bro. Vishal Jangam (Karoyusa) on 2 February 2020 by His Excellency Mar Ephrem Nariculam, Bishop of Chanda.
- We celebrated Ash Day (*Vibhuti*) on 24 February 2020.

# RIP

Born	- 03 <sup>rd</sup> October 1933
Ordained Priest	- 29 <sup>th</sup> June 1961
Ordained Bishop	- 25 <sup>th</sup> September 1977
Born to Eternal Life	- 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2020



Bishop Valerian D'Souza  
Bishop Emeritus of Poona

Eternal Rest grant unto him O Lord and may your light shine upon him.



## Sr. Arnalda CMC

**Born: 12/06/1934**  
**First Vows: 13/05/1956**  
**Death: 10/02/2020**

**“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.” (Ps. 115:15)**

Lilly (Sr. Arnalda) was born on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1934 as the 2<sup>nd</sup> child of Inasu and Mary. They were 10 children- 3 boys and 7 girls. Among 7 girls two of them entered into CMC Congregation and two into SD congregation. She hails from Theckinieth family in the parish of Edathuruthy, Irinjalakuda Diocese. She did her education in St. Mary's High School, Ollur and she was fortunate and privileged to see and enjoy the presence of St. Euphrasia. The exemplary and simple life of the CMC sisters at Ollur and two of her aunts who were nuns influenced her to embrace religious life. Moreover her uncle who was a priest used to provide many English spiritual books on saints and became a source of inspiration to join the religious life. Being a brilliant student she used to read all those books and even translates it to others. She was a devotee of St. Little Flower. After completing Teachers training in Cheroor she joined CMC Trichur Province and later she opted for

Wardha Province.

She made her first commitment in Carmel on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1956 and made her final vows on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1959. She began her apostolate being a primary teacher at Manalur, Trichur. Her journey continued in being a teacher at Kanikkamatha, Kottapadi, Kanimangalam, Kaghaznagar, Elinjipra, Chandrapur and Bangalore for long 36 years. She served many communities as Superior, such as Kanimangalam, Chandrapur, Bangalore, Kaghaznagar, Thommana and Cement Nagar. She served as Superior at Chennai for 1 year. It was a delightful experience for her to spend long hours before the Blessed Sacrament in rapt attention. She wished to be a little key that opens the tabernacle. There was an earnestness to know, learn and understand that led her to read a lot of spiritual books and contemporary teachings even in her sick bed. She had a special devotion to Mother Mary and St. Joseph. She had a very creative spiritual practices and collection of little prayers to keep up the presence of God. There was a relentless flow of wisdom and a piece of advice for those who approach her. She always elevated the mind of the other towards God through her enchanting nature.

She celebrated her Golden Jubilee in 2006. She joined Wardha community in the year 2010 with the apostolate of prayer. She spent long hours in prayer and spiritual reading. She showed great boldness and will power during her sickness. For past four months, she underwent very painful suffering being bedridden due to stroke by high blood pressure and other ailments like diabetes and Parkinson disease. She was called for her eternal reward on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at 10.25 am at the age of 86 on her heavenly patron's day.

Her funeral rites was conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30 pm by Mar. Ephrem Nariculam Bishop of Chanda Diocese and Mar. Joseph Kunnath Bishop Emeritus of Adilabad Diocese. Many priests, sisters, brothers from Chanda and Adilabad diocese, and parishioners from Wardha were present for the funeral ceremony.

May her soul rest in peace...



### RIP

Mrs. Agnes Louis Peter (Agnes Teacher) a member of cathedral Parish was called to eternal rest on 19 January 2020. Born on 1 March 1947, she was an active member of the Cathedral Parish. She was teacher in a school in Balharshah from 1981 to 2007.

Almost 15 years she taught Hindi to our seminarians in our minor seminary. She was actively involved in regular catechism classes, marriage preparation classes, as well as training of catechumens and for Holy Communion students for many years. She also served as parish council member of Cathedral parish for few times. May her soul Rest in Peace. The Chanda Family pray for the repose of her soul and convey condolence to her bereaved family members.

### IX. HEAVENLY BRETHREN

#### MARCH

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

#### APRIL

- |                                   |            |              |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. Fr. George Nedumpalakunnel CMF | 04-04-2007 | Kuravilangad |
| 2. Sr. Anil Maria FCC             | 08-04-2007 | Hoshangabad  |
| 3. Fr. Silas Vadakkayil CMI       | 24-04-2003 | Kalamassery  |

### OBITUARY

Please pray for the departed souls of...

1. Mr. Mathew Jose (72), 29/12/2019, Father of Fr. Dennis Arupathumkalayil CMF
2. Mr. Joseph Punchayil (78), 24/02/2020, Elder brother of Fr. Thomas Punchayil.
3. Mrs. Mary Joseph (77), 25/02/2020, Niece of Fr. George Canisius CMI

### X. ONGOING FORMATION

Address	Course	Date
The Director NBCLC, Post bag 8426 Hutchins Road 2nd Cross Bangalore 560 084 Ph: 080 25472369 Email:director@nbclcindia.org	Catechetical Course: "Mission to proclaim: Learn, to be sent"	18-25 May 2020
	Seminar: "Religious Leadership" (Batch 1)	11-18 July 2020
	Counseling Skills: "Theory & Practice"	20-27 July 2020
	Seminar: "Religious Leadership" (Batch 1)	29 July to 5 August 2020
	Retreat -cum-Seminar: "Care for Mother Earth! Eco- Spirituality"	10-15 August 2020
	Intensive Bible Course: "Walking with the Word"	31 August to 26 September 2020
	Laity Seminar: "Lay Leaders to the fore" ( Laity Marathi)	31 October to 08 November 2020
	The Program Co-ordinator Atma Darshan Gyan Ashram Campus Mahakali Caves Road Andheri (East), Mumbai 400093 Ph: 09769694422 atmasvd@gmail.com	Lenten Journey with Jesus
Healing One's Hurts		27-29 March 2020
Managing Our Emotions		21-23 August 2020
Fully Human Fully Divine Retreat		14-22 September 2020
Coping with Stress		25-27 September 2020

Address	Course	Date
	Renewal programme for Silver Jubilarians	11-24 November 2020
The Programme Co-ordinator Ishvani Kendra Post Box - 3003, Sainikwadi Vadgaonsheri Road Pune 411 014 Ph: 020 27033507 ishvanikendra@gmail.com	E-Evangelization: Photography and social media tools	18 March to 04 April 2020
	Leadership for Superiors and formators	03-22 August 2020
	Personal Growth and Transformation for Mission	11 January to 06 March 2021
Rector Don Bosco Renewal Centre, SOS Post Bannerghatta Road Bangalore 560 076 Tel: 080 -26584115 admitdbrc@gmail.com	Leadership & Animation of Communities	08 March to 04 April 2020
	Counselling & Value Training for educators	13-25 April 2020
	Personal Growth & Renewal	28 May to 20 June 2020
	Fully Alive after 50	25 June to 10 July 2020
	Renewal Course & Retreat for Silver Jubilarians	06 August to 03 September 2020
	Formation of formators	01-28 November 2020
	Practice of Spiritual direction & Counselling	02-15 December 2020