

## X. ONGOING FORMATION

Address	Course	Date
Director NBCLC, Postbag 8426 Hutchins road 2nd cross, Bangalore 560 084 seminar@nbclcindia.in	Catechetical Course for teachers, religious and Catechist "Mission to proclaim; learn, to be sent"	17-24 May 2019
Director, NVSC, Near Christ the King Church, Wadgaonsheri Road, Sainikwadi, Pune 411014 Ph: 9021146762 nvscpune@yahoo.com	Anthropology of Christian vocation and pedagogy for integral formation	07-20 July 2019
	Therapeutic journey to wholeness	22 September to 13 October 2019
	Training for skills in counselling (TSC II)	20 October to 10 November 2019
	Diploma in counselling and religious formation	20 June 2019 to 22 March 2020
Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth Pontifical Athenaeum of Philosophy and Religion Post Box 3022, Nagar Road, Ramwadi, Pune 411014, India punejdv@gmail.com 09822119006 for the exact dates, please check: jdv.edu.in	Master's/ Diploma in pastoral management	Degree 2 Year programme Diploma 1 year programme
	Jnana-deepa Sabbatical programme	June-September 2019
	Certificate course in Spiritual Direction and counselling	Eight weeks programme October to December 2019

# The

# Chanda Samachar

CHANDA DIOCESAN BULLETIN



## Thy Kingdom Come (Mt. 6:10)

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



Vol. XLII

March-April 2019

No. 2

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## IX. HEAVENLY BRETHERN

### 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  |

### MAY

- |                                 |             |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Fr. Mathew Kaniyampampil CMI | 05-05-2011  | Pala        |
| 2. Sr. Darsana SJB              | 07.05. 2012 | Kuriachera  |
| 3. Sr. Lia CMC                  | 08-05-2001  | Thommana    |
| 4. Sr. Rose Margaret CMC        | 08-05-2012  | Thommana    |
| 5. Fr. George Chakkalackal CMI  | 10.05.2012  | Trichur     |
| 6. Sr. Shaify FCC               | 25-05-2002  | Kadukutty   |
| 7. Bro. Jomon Mattapillil CMI   | 30-05-1997  | Bellampalli |

\*\*\*\*\*

Please pray for the departed soul of Mr. Devassy Punchayil, brother of Fr. Thomas Punchayil

### OBITUARY

Let us pray for the Departed soul of Sr. Mary Esther SHSp who was a pioneering missionary to Chanda.

Born	: 19.05.1946
Died	: 25.02.2019



### OBITUARY

Let us pray for the Departed soul of Fr. Jebin Maruthoor, a priest of the diocese of Adilabad.



## VIII. NEWS FROM FORMATION HOUSES

### - Sant Vianney Gurukul

1. Rector's Day was celebrated solemnly on 1st January on the occasion of the birthday of Fr. Binu Muthalakuzhyil, rector, Sant Vianney Gurukul.
2. Republic day was celebrated on 26 January. Fr Mathew Kandasankunnel hoisted the flag and Bro Linto Vallathukaran gave the message of the day.
3. Brothers participated *Vocatio* 2019 (the minor seminarians', aspirants' and candidates', gathering of Adilabad and Chanda diocese) at CMI Provincial House, Bellampalli on 2 February.
4. We participated in the conclusion of *Aaradhana Varsh 2018* at St. Thomas Church, Chandrapur on 3rd February.
5. All brothers had pilgrimage on foot with Rector to Warur on 11 February on the occasion of Grotto Feast.
6. Mission league coordinators from Thamarassery diocese visited SVG on 23rd February.
7. SVG Community had mission tour for two days to Brahmapuri and Allapalli zones on 27th and 28 th February.
8. Sacerdotal Ruby Jubilee of Rev Fr. Mathew Kandasankunnel, the spiritual director was solemnly celebrated in SVG Community on 2nd March.
9. Please remember our brothers who are appearing for the annual exams.

## SHEPHERD'S VOICE

SV.2/2019

Rev. Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear People,

### They Kingdom come!

The launch of home mission was a great blessing for our diocese. In the span of three years, we could complete visiting almost 90% of the families in the diocese. It was indeed an eye-opener to everyone of us that number of families have left Christian faith (not less than 600) due to lack of our care for them and there are number of marriages requiring rectification besides many broken families who need our help to counseling to set things on the track. In the light of which our mission task is great and wide. We resolve to do our best to keep things on right path. More focus on families is a dire need. We must therefore go deeper into the unique riches of the family's mission and probe its contacts, which are both manifold and unified. With love as its point of departure and making constant reference to it, the Synod on family (1981) emphasized four general tasks for family: (i) Forming a community of persons. (ii) Serving life (iii) Participating in the development of society (iv) Sharing in the life and mission of the Church (*Familiaris Consortio* #17). Let us do something for families (a) to bring back the families to Christian faith, (b) rectification of marriages, (c) assistance to the broken families. May I request everyone to focus attention in these three areas. Needless to say it is an urgent need. Let us be serious. Wishing you all a fruitful Lent and Happy Easter.



Your Shepherd in the Lord

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ephrem Nariculam".

† Ephrem Nariculam  
Bishop. Eparchy of Chanda.

## PASTORAL LETTER I

PL 3/2019/March 1

### *Bible Vaachan Varsh - III*

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear People,

### **Thy Kingdome come!**

'God's word is the catalyst that can transform the human hearts'.

"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" (Heb. 4:17). This verse of the divine author answers our question what do we gain by reading the word of God/Holy Bible. It gives not only knowledge about God and God-experience, but also transform us into better persons a change from bad to good, hatred to love, injustice to justice, discord to harmony, conflict to peace etc.

A gradual transformation is effected in every human person who reads the divine word with unction and devotion. Our attitude, aptitude and demeanours change according to the divine inspiration. God become our source, means and goal of life. It overcomes pessimism, and instils optimism. It sifts away negatives energy and infill positivity. Thus, a divine taste is added to every aspect human life. "Taste and see how good is it's the Lord" (Ps. 34:8). The Divine word itself witness its power: "Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in to pieces?" (Jer. 29:23).

The word of God is effective, efficacious, empowering, endearing enduring; enticing, and encompassing! To such a source what is my response?

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **1. Marriage Preparation Course**

- Date & Time : 2019 April 5<sup>th</sup> (Friday) 5 pm to 7<sup>th</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.

### **2. Couples Seminar**

Parish - Shanti Nivas Church, Wirur

Date - 03/03/2019 (Sunday)

Recourse Team - CLC, Ballarshah

### **3. Marathi Retreat**

Place - Divine Vachan Ashram, Bamini

Date - 31<sup>st</sup> March 4.00 pm to 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2.00pm

Recourse Team - Tabore Retreat Team, Bombay

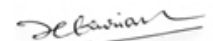
Organizors - CLC, Chanda Diocese

### **4. Lay Leaders Training Programme with Pilgrimage to Kerala**

Place - Divine Retreat Center, Chalakudy

Date - April 2019

Organizors - CLC, Chanda Diocese



Fr. Kurian Panayalil  
CLC Department

## VII. DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

### - CLC

#### **SAPIENZA**

The catechism department conducted diocesan level Bible Quiz competition “SAPIENZA 2018-19” on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at Bishop's Home, Balharshah. This year the preliminary rounds were conducted in zonal level and the winners were selected for the grand finale. 4 teams containing 3 members from 4 parishes participated in this event. At the end of a very tough competition, team from Kalmana parish emerged as winners while teams from Brahmपुरi and Ettapally bagged the second and third place. The winners were awarded with trophies and rewards. Bp. Ephrem Nariculam 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 2019 at Bishop's Home, Balharshah for the Balharshah, Brahmपुरi, Wardha and Wirur foranes and for the Allapally forane it was conducted in the Forane church, Allapally. More than 270 children from our diocese participated in this event. The winners of the previous year examinations were honoured with cash awards and trophies during the concluding ceremony of “Sapienza” by most Rev Bp Ephrem Nariculam. May they be the guiding light of this world and grow in God's grace.

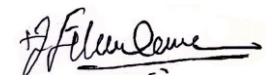
#### **Home Mission Programme**

The Family Apostolate Ministry along with the kind hands of 10 Sisters of Holy Spirit conducted home mission in Tera Prem Church, Warur on 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019. Two sisters from CMC also carried out home mission in Gajemandi parish from 26<sup>th</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019. We happily acknowledge the co operation of the priests and the sisters in the evangelizing mission of Christ.

How do I avail that source in my life Is such word produce expected results in my life? Do people experience the power of the word in my words and deeds? Have I submitted fully to the divine word? Do I allow the word to work through me? Am I faithful to the reading of the Divine Word daily? Have I taken *Bible Vaachan Varsh* seriously? Are they consoling others and showing adequate considerations to the needy, the poor, the abandoned and the marginalized? Is Christ, the word enfleshed, communicated/manifested in my person? These are, but the effects of the word in my life. Can I claim like St Paul “It is not I but Christ who lives in me” (Gal. 2:20).

The *Bible Vaachan Varsh* is meant not only to sanctify us but also our families, neighbourhood, parish, society etc. We have to become intermediaries - medium of sanctification. Jesus prayed for his disciples “For their sake I sanctify myself” (Jn 17:19). As Christians, it is also our duty to become the medium of sanctification for the society. When I am not sanctified, how can I become a medium for the same. It is here the importance of the reading of the divine word. So dear missionaries and my dear people, let us resolve to take the *Bible Vaachan Varsh* seriously and show great fidelity to it so that we may be immersed in the divine word by its daily reading. May God bless you all.

Your Shepherd in the Lord



† Ephrem Nariculam  
Bishop. Eparchy of Chanda.



## SPEECH - I

April 1/2019

**Catholic School Association, Chanda  
(Speech on Green Campus Campaign by Bp. Ephrem  
Nariculam at biannual meeting of CSA at Vianney  
Jubilee School, BPQ on 16 February 2019)**

Dear CSA office bearers, the principals, Fathers,  
Brothers and Sisters,

First of all, I place on record my sincere thanks for your genuine co-operation in the activities of CSA as well as your full hearted support and contribution in the field of education. All our schools are running in a quality way - everyone is putting their heart and soul to do their best in the school ministry. As a result, though we have some issues came up in our schools could be easily and amicably settled. I thank you for the same. Hearty congratulations to Mount Carmel High School, Chandrapur, which is the first school in the mission diocese of Chanda, on the occasion of their Golden Jubilee. I also avail the opportunity to thank you for your financial support to Balbhavan Fund from your schools. Those who have not done it yet for this year, please do so as early as possible.

To leave a message on this auspicious occasion of your annual gathering, I rely on some points from the encyclical letter of Pope Francis - *Laudato Si*. Its lion's part is set aside for the care of earth and nature - a cosmological perception is the need of the hour is the sense of the encyclical. Industrial Revolution and Green Revolution have given us progress and prosperity, but had done great havoc to the nature. The emissions from industries and use of chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides etc.) have increased yielding/production but adversely

Brief to the members of Carmel Buds with the help of the OFFBEAT-Exhibition on CMC in the shadow of the Most High.  
H. Distributed Chavarul in English to the students and in Hindi to the parents and workers.

i. Conducted competitions to the sisters based on Bible and CMC Constitutions.

### III. Material Level

A. Based on the idea of St. Chavara's 'Pidi Ari', food articles were collected and distributed to the workers.

B. 790 Kg wheat and 250 Kg Dal were distributed to 23 families, a Kit worth Rs.500/- containing provisions were supplied to 20 families and 13 poor children were given dress. One of the convents in our Province supplied stationary items to the 'Akasaparavakal' and boarding children.

C. One time meal was given to the mentally challenged children.

D. Visited the sick people in the locality and gave Rs.31,000/- to a kidney patient and to a partially paralyzed man Rs. 25,000/-.

E. Gave Rs. 70,000/- as educational aid to a poor girl.

F. Gave saplings to the families in the parish and one community planted a creeper sapling in front of the convent to mark the foundation of the CMC.

G. Education kits were given to near by schools Rs. 25000/-.

### Evangelization Programme:-

As the member of the Central Evangelization Team of our Congregation our Dear Sr.Rose gave classes to most of the Schools in Balasore Diocese in Orissa.

### Simple life style and village exposure programme:-

Four of our candidates and Srs.Amala and Roswin conducting 10 days simple life style and village exposure programme at Marakbodi village under the guidance and support of Rev.Fr.Tony. Best wishes dear sisters !!!!



Mahotsav 2019 Committee and Shivbhakth Society.

**Foundation Day Celebrations February 13, 2019**

All the Convents and Institutions of Carmelodaya Family undertook the following programmes to make the 154<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day meaning and memorable.

**I. Spiritual Level**

- a. 13 Hours Adoration was conducted in all our communities along with the staff, students and parishioners.
- b. Prayer service was conducted in some of our institutions explaining the 'Chavarul'.
- c. A day of silence was observed in one of our Schools.
- d. Conducted a solemn procession and prayer service for the workers in the campus and gave them tea and snacks.
- e. Arranged a joint celebration (CMC,CMI together) along with the parishioners followed by fellowship meal to all the participants to foster 'family spirit'.
- f. Presented 154 Rosaries to the non- Catholic students. In few of our schools workers were also given Rosaries.
- g. Distributed a small statue of Mother Mary to the families in the parish.
- h. Held Prayer meeting in the village.



**II. Knowledge Level**

- a. Held one day seminar on Healthy parenting.
- b. Displayed the sayings of St. Chavara on the school notice board and explained its significance through speech, talks and classes to children and parents.
- c. Video CD of CMC Foundation exhibition was displayed in the smart board of all the classes and showed the same in the village explaining it in the local language.
- d. Enacted the History of CMC in the form of 'Vallam kali' and puppet show in the school.
- e. A documentary on 'Reminiscence' of CMC is made and shown to the students.
- f. Members of 'Carmel buds' displayed the important details and photos of CMC Foundation on the school notice board.
- g. Showed the video on the history of CMC and explained it in

affected the nature and our health. Economic prosperity has become the sole motive of all human endeavours. Not only that we used nature for our use but also over-used, abused, misused and exploited. For various reasons cases of under-use are also reported from some corners of the world. Undoubtedly it created an ecological imbalance. God created nature/world and entrusted to 'the human' to take care of it (Gen 2:15). We are not owners but only stewards. The nature is not only for us - 'the humans' but also for all living beings (animal kingdom and vegetative beings) on earth and also for future generations. The basic principle that we should have followed was/is Respect, Subsistence and Dependence. As crown of creation we should have respected nature, loved it, cared and nurtured it like a mother to its child but what we did was just opposite - we mercilessly exploited the nature. Now that the nature started reacting - the ecologists say some of the natural calamities like landslide, flood, heat waves, soil erosion, earth quakes etc. are but a few examples, for nature's 'rampage'. The animal kingdom too started reacting - their habitat is encroached by 'the humans' so they started grazing in human habitat and attacking 'the humans' and their life-stalk as well as their farm land. Pope Francis in *Laudato Si* passionately pleads to put a STOP to this human cruelties. He earnestly requests everyone to start love nature and care it with concern and compassion. Earth is our home - respect it and sustain its divine sanctity.

While talking of ecology of daily life Pope Francis categorically affirms our responsibility to show concern for others. I quote, "Authentic development includes efforts to bring about an integral improvement in the quality of human life, and this entails considering

the setting in which people live their lives. These settings influence the way we think, feel and act. In our rooms, our homes, our workplaces and neighbourhoods, we use our environment as a way of expressing our identity. We make every effort to adapt to our environment, but when it is disorderly, chaotic or saturated with noise and ugliness, such overstimulation makes it difficult to find ourselves integrated and happy" (LS 147), unquote. In another paragraph in *Laudato Si*, Pope continues: I quote, "Given the interrelationship between living space and human behaviour, those who design buildings, neighbourhoods, public spaces and cities, ought to draw on the various disciplines which help us to understand people's thought processes, symbolic language and ways of acting. It is not enough to seek the beauty of design. More precious still is the service we offer to another kind of beauty: people's quality of life, their adaptation to the environment, encounter and mutual assistance. Here too, we see how important it is that urban planning always take into consideration the views of those who will live in these areas"(LS 150), unquote. Indeed the encyclical very strongly recommends a compassionate approach to the nature with due respect while maintaining concern for others - all inclusive of whatever is in the nature!

In this context I propose to start a green school campaign in our diocese so as to protect nature and develop a culture of loving the nature. My Ten Point Green School Campaign are the following. We may call it a Decalogue for Nature as well.

1. Plant trees in the campus as many as possible.
2. Make our campus plastic free - no glass, no

## **- Carmelodaya Province, Wardha**

### **Joint Celebration of the feast of Saint Chavara:-**

We the CMI & CMC jointly celebrated our founder St.Chavara's feast day at Darsana Ashram on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019. Rev.Fr.Varghese Puthuparambil our V.G presided over the function. It was also a family gathering where we could experience the unity and togetherness and enjoy the Divine love and care as the psalmist speaks, "How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony".(Ps.133/1)

### **Vocation Camp:-**

Three days vocation camp was held at Kagaznagar on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Eight girls participated in it. Srs.Jency, Keerthana, Agnet and Christy were guiding them.

### **Golden Jubilee Celebration:-**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January 2019 a grant *Golden Jubilee celebrations* of Mount Carmel Convent was held at Chandrapur officiated by our beloved Bishop Mar.Ephrem Nariculam. The *Golden Jubilee celebrations* offer us all an occasion to thank the Almighty for all He has done to make possible



the growth into full manhood and womanhood of so many through the growth of Mount Carmel Convent School, Chandrapur. We wish and hope that the Mount Carmel Convent School will continue to strive hard to achieve excellence in academics, co-curricular & extra-curricular activities and sports in the years to come.

### **Spiritual Nourishment:-**

A *spiritual Awakening* is allowing ourselves to be open and inviting the living *Spirit* of God and the love of God to enter our heart. Keeping this desire in mind our dear Srs.Josy and Anannya spent 50 days and 60 days respectively in prayer and spiritual renewal programme at Dhoni.

### **Achievement:-**

Best teacher award,( Aadarsh Shikshak Puraskar ) is given to our dear Sr.Mercilin, the Provincial Councillor for the Renewal, the Principal of Carmel Convent School, Badlapur, by Badlapur



## VI. NEWS FROM THE MISSION STATIONS

### Ballarpur Zone

- St. Thomas Cathedral, Ballarpur

1. We had the election for new members for Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019 soon after the Holy Mass.
2. We conducted annual Catechism exam on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
3. On 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019, we had the First Holy Communion and Confirmation of 21 parishioners. Bp. Ephrem Nariculam was the main celebrant.
4. Our children participated in the Diocesan level Bible quiz competition and Diocesan level Catechism exam.

### Wardha Zone

Amala Sadan, DM Convent, Wardha

#### 1. Mission

As a Part of the formation 3 regents under the leadership of two sisters have done their exposure program by visiting houses, and conducting Christian program in Lethona, Siktia (Jharchant and Bela - Adilabad)

Two sisters visited the houses in nearly 23 villages in Nasik and spread the Good News

#### 2. Vocation Power retreat

Sr. Emilin And Sr. Ashish attended the vocation power Retreat held in Christeen center ,Kottayam on 5<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> February

#### 3. Meeting & Courses

We had our superiors meet on 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> January. Fr. Suresh Thomas was the resourced person.

Rev Mother Flower Maria attended the AFFI meeting (Franciscan gathering )held in JDV, Pune on 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Sisters attended the 5 weeks Community Health program, arranged by CHAI.

3. Bags, no plates etc.
3. Stop burning of waste unless greatly needed.
4. Take measures immediately for rain water harvesting.
5. Take every step for natural farming - begin demo farming in the school campuses.
6. Do not waste water - utilize water to the best way possible.
7. Introduce recycling awareness programmes.
8. Make every celebration in the campus and everything in the school eco-friendly - Christmas, Holi, School Anniversary etc. and other solemn occasions - avoid use of chemical colours, plastic, thermocol etc.
9. Celebrate a day every year as 'Eco-Friendly Day' and do some activities - seminar, exhibition, awareness posters, rally etc.
10. Spread the eco friendly activities to the vicinity and neighbouring villages.

I think if you can do some of these, if not all, it will be a great beginning. Once again I thank you for your presence, support, encouragement and co-operation. God bless you all.

Jai Bharat. Jai Christ!

Your Shepherd in the Lord



*Ephrem Nariculam*

† Ephrem Nariculam  
Bishop. Eparchy of Chanda.

### III. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

#### March

- 2 - PPT Meeting
- 3 - Boarding blessing Gatta
- 4 - Ash Day, Cathedral
- 4-6 - 40 Hours Adoration, Cathedral
- 7-9 - PPT Meeting
- 11 - Finance Council
- 11-12 - PPT Meeting
- 19 - Nagpur
- 20-21 - Quinquennial Meeting, Ballarpur
- 22-24 - Bishop's canonical visitation, Kalmana
- 28 - Bishop Januarius Death Anniversary, Ballarpur

#### April

- 14 - Palm Sunday, Shengaon
- 16 - Muron Holy Qurbana, Cathedral, Ballarpur
- 18 - Maundy Thursday, Ettappilly
- 19 - Good Friday, Allapalli
- 21 - Easter Sunday, Cathedral, Ballarpur
- 26-27 - Priests and Religious' seminar, Ballarpur
- 29-30 - Major Seminarians' Gathering, Ballarpur

#### May

- 1-10 - Major Seminarians' Gathering, Ballarpur
- 11 - Minor Orders & Vestition, Ballarpur
- 14 - Profession, Snehagiri Sisters, Palai
- 15 - Ordination, Dn. Nikhil Chakkiath
- 16 - Solemn Holy Qurbana, Madackal parish, Cherthala
- 17-19 - Kanjirapilly
- 20 - Meeting, Kalady
- 22-31 - Guwhati-Shillong

### HOMILY TIPS

(Extracts from *EVANGELII GAUDIUM* by Pope Francis)

#### Preparing to preach III.

145. Preparation for preaching is so important a task that a prolonged time of study, prayer, reflection and pastoral creativity should be devoted to it. With great affection I wish to stop for a moment and offer a method of preparing homilies. Some may find these suggestions self-evident, but I consider it helpful to offer them as a way of emphasizing the need to devote quality time to this precious ministry. Some pastors argue that such preparation is not possible given the vast number of tasks which they must perform; nonetheless, I presume to ask that each week a sufficient portion of personal and community time be dedicated to this task, even if less time has to be given to other important activities. Trust in the Holy Spirit who is at work during the homily is not merely passive but active and creative. It demands that we offer ourselves and all our abilities as instruments (cf. *Rom* 12:1) which God can use. A preacher who does not prepare is not “spiritual”; he is dishonest and irresponsible with the gifts he has received.

### TEN FANTASTIC WORDS

Most selfish **ONE** letter word: **I** : Avoid it

Most satisfying **TWO** letter word: **WE** : Use it

Most poisonous **THREE** letter word: **EGO** : Overcome it

Most used **FOUR** letter word: **LOVE** : Value it

Most pleasing **FIVE** letter word: **SMILE** : Keep it

Fast spreading **SIX** letter word: **RUMOUR** : Ignore it

Hardest working **SEVEN** letter word: **SUCCESS** : Achieve it

Most enviable **EIGHT** letter word: **JEALOUSY** : Distance it

Powerful **NINE** letter word: **KNOWLEDGE** : Acquire it

Most valued **TEN** letter word: **FRIENDSHIP** : Maintain it

through different areas of project execution in all locations. As they were here to supervise the productivity of projects they inspected the construction projects whether they corresponded to the submitted plans, repairs and renovations as indicated in the proposals, purchase of equipments verifying manually, empowerment programmes visiting the villages and interacting with the beneficiaries, income generation programmes by evaluating the output through cross checking of variables etc.

Although generally they are happy with the ongoing projects they have observed alterations in the execution of certain construction projects, incomplete purchase of equipments, improper finding of beneficiaries and ineffective execution of people oriented projects etc. They also have expressed serious concern over the lack of proper communication, timely reporting and documentation, pre-permission to alter the approved plan/budget etc.

I personally thank Manos Unidas for their concern towards the people of our area and appreciate their commitment to the development and welfare of humanity. The interest of Mrs. Elena on the submitted projects from our diocese is praiseworthy and commendable. Before leaving our diocese they met with Bp. Ephrem and briefed their feedback and thanked him for the partnership of the diocese in executing Manos Unidas projects in the diocese.

I also avail this opportunity to thank our bishopji, priests and religious for keen interest in availing projects of Manos for the betterment of needy people of all categories in the diocese. Special thanks to all those who welcomed the team during the visits.

Fr. Joshy Chettianchira  
Project Coordinator, Manos Unidas

#### IV. BISHOP'S DIARY

##### January 2019

- 01- Ordained Dn. Aisteen CMI at Thavalappara Parish in Ernakulam- Angamaly archdiocese. In the afternoon bishop blessed the new CMI house of Chanda Marthoma Province at Karayamparambu.
- 02- Ordained Dn. Bijoy CMI at Villooni Parish in the archdiocese of Changanassery. In the afternoon bishop presided over festal Holy Qurbana and gave message at Chavara feast, Mannanam CMI Monastery Parish.
- 03- Bishop left for Kuwait.
- 4-5- Offered Holy Qurbana and met with catechism children in all four Syro-Malabar Parishes in Kuwait. He also inaugurated SyroMalabar Culture Association (SMCA) annual gathering and blessed the new children's library at the Syro-Malabar cultural center. He also attended cultural association annual gathering of Knanaya Catholic Association.
- 06- Presided over First Holy Communion and Confirmation Holy Qurbana at Bharath Rani Church, Vathakkad in Ernakulam-Angamaly archdiocese.
- 07- Offered Holy Qurbana at SH minor seminary, Thrikkakara, of archdiocese Ernakulam -Angamaly
- 7-18- Attended Synod of Bishops at Mount St. Thomas Kakkanad.
- 09- Visited Vincentian Generalate at Edappilly and met with Bishop Abraham D. Mattam at Edappilly hospital.
- 10- Bishop was accorded a reception at St. John the Baptist Church, Palarivattom in the archdiocese of Varapoly
- 11- Visited Fr. Thomas Punchail's Home and offered office of the dead for his Brother Mr. Devassy.
- 12- Offered Holy Qurbana in connection with the feast of St Sebastian at Wadel Church in the archdiocese of Varapoly, later he attended a wedding reception at

Ernakulum.

- 13- Offered Holy Qurbana in connection with the feast of Little Flower and St. Sebastian at Little Flower Church Thrikkakara. In the afternoon bishop attended Ramapuram Church blessing and visited Palai Bishop's House.
- 16- Offered Holy Qurbana at SABS Assumption Hostel, Rajagiri, Thrikakkara.
- 18- Visited St Josephs' Seminary, Mangalapuzha, Aluva.
- 19- Presided over Chandrapur Mount Carmel High School Golden jubilee celebration.
- 20- Bishop left for Bangalore.
- 21-24- Attended theological colloquium at St John's Medical College. Bangalore, along with other thirty bishops and 20 theologians from all over India, arranged by Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, Rome.
- 26- Hoisted national flag and delivered Republic day message at Vianney Jubilee School, Ballarpur.
- 27- Visited Nagpur Seminary and also attended installation ceremony of the new archbishop of Nagpur.
- 28- Blessed the newly constructed Boys Boarding at Marakbody.
- 29- Presided over Memorial Requiem Holy Qurbana for Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil at Cathedral BPQ and blessed the memorial slab in the Cathedral cemetery.
- 30- Attended Ballarpur Pastors' meeting at Pastoral Centre, Ballarpur, in connection with World Peace Day.

#### **February 2019**

- 02- Offered Holy Qurbana for *Vocatio* 2019, the minor seminarians', aspirants' and candidates', gathering of Adilabad and Chanda diocese at Bellampally CMI Provincial House. He visited also Asifabad and Reppalliwada stations. In the evening bishop presided over annul day celebration of Koatha School
- 03- Presided over *Aradhana Varsh* Conclusion holy Qurbana and Eucharistic procession at Chandrapur Parish.
- 06- Visited Jiwathy, Wani, Shengaon, Pattagude and Lakkdakot

#### **Report of the Visit of Manos Unidas to Chanda**

On 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 the area incharge of Manos Unidas Mrs. Elena together with Miss. Nieves reached in the diocese for their regular visit to their different projects under progress.

#### **Schedule of the visit:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> evening Meeting with Fr. Jobin, Director, LSSS on the proposed projects at Ettapalli and Aheri
- 9<sup>th</sup> Visited Gilbeli (a tribal village, Project, LSSS near Junona) Gomini, Gatta and Ettapalli
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nagepalli hospital, Sironcha, repenpalli and Nagepalli Hostel
- 11<sup>th</sup> Bhamaragarh, Kopreli, and Warur
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jarawandi, Marakbody, Wasa and Mul
- 13<sup>th</sup> Wirur, Chincholi and Wani
- 14<sup>th</sup> Babupet, Christ hospital (Mahakali Ward-Medical camp and Wayegaon)
- 15<sup>th</sup> left for Zari Jamani diocese of Amaravati

At present there are almost 17 projects going on in the diocese specially in the districts of Chandrapur and Gadchiroli supported by Manos and more than 10 new proposals have been discussed with them for their consideration for the coming year.

As a whole the visit was very fruitful for the diocese as Manos is showing very keen and productive interest in the proposals and projects of the diocese especially for the children and women. The representatives of Manos also consider their collaboration with the diocese as beneficiary oriented and progressive in nature.

As part of the visit the agency has meticulously gone

**CONFIRMATION AND SOLEMN (FIRST) HOLY COMMUNION.**

Everyone is expected to note the following while the celebration of the following: Confirmation and Solemn (first) Holy Communion:

1. Confirmation is to be administered immediately after homily followed by Karozuza.
2. Candle should not be lighted (burning candle) at the time of reception of Holy Communion for its careless use can lead to burning of one's dress besides inconvenience in distribution of Holy communion by the celebrant.
3. Continued spiritual support for making confession for some more time after their first confession is very necessary for newly professed Christians.
4. A rehearsal of the ceremony will give a beauty to the liturgy and an order in doing it.

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**INFANT JESUS CHURCH, DELANWADI**

Delanwadi is a newly evangelized mission, under Kurkheda. It is 25 Kms away from Kurkheda and 55 Kms away from Gadchiroli. This church is in a rented room. We have started this mission one and half years ago. It is the first time that we celebrated the feast of Infant Jesus our patron. There was three days' retreat for the people in connection with the feast. There were around 75 people for the retreat. The retreat was preached by Fr. Prakash, Fr. Lawrence and Fr. Sunil CMF. The feast of our patron 'Infant Jesus' was celebrated on 25th February 2019. The main celebrant was Bp. Ephrem Nariculam. Fr. CC George and Fr. KS Joseph concelebrated. Fr. CC George preached the Homily. We had procession after the Holy Qurbana. There were around 250 people for the celebration.

Fr. Jeevan KD  
Priest-in-charge

stations.

- 07- SD General Sr. Raisy SD visited bishop in the Bishops Home.
- 08- Visited Mul and Brhmapuri Stations.
- 09- Blessed Nagabir SABS Convent and offered Holy Qurbana.
- 10- Presided over the first Holy Communion and Confirmation at Cathedral Parish, Ballarpur. In the evening bishop offered holy Qurbana at Mul in connection with Church feast. SAB Provincial Sr. Lillies SAB met with bishop in the Bishops' Home.
- 11- Offered holy Qurbana at Grotto feast, Warur. SH Provincial Sr. Elseena John SH met with bishop at Bishops' Home.
- 14- The Manos Unidas representatives met with bishop in the Bishops' Home.
- 16- Attended CSA meeting at Vianney Jubilee School, Ballarpur. Bishop visited Alipur Station and SJB Provincial House, Masala.
- 17- Presided over Holy Qurbana for the Jubilee of SJB sisters at Wardha. Later bishop visited Padri Thana and Kalmeshwar CMI House.
- 18- Offered Holy Qurbana at DM Convent, Kalmeshwar. Bishop visited Waddhamana CMI house, Nagpur Seminary, DM Convent, Ajni, CMC Convent, Jam. He met with MSFS Provincial at Nagpur.
- 19- Blessed the newly constructed School building at Aksapur.
- 19- Attended CMI Fathers' Jubilee celebration and reception to new priests at Tukum.
- 22- Arrived Jarawandi at 11. 15 am. Immediately he had core team meeting. In the afternoon bishop had Holy Qurbana at Kasansoor village. Around 100 people participated in the Qurbana. Bishop visited all Catholic houses in the village and blessed. He also met with the families of Fr. Fabianus CMF, Bro. Bernard Kujur and Bro. Arun Panna (Banasur, Kuthri and Shuttan Tola village people came together). Bishop returned to Jarawandi around 7.30 pm.

- 23- Inspected Boys and Girls boarding. Visited Bunkam Tola village and had Holy Qurbana. Visited all houses in the village and blessed. Met with Fr. Prakash, Sr. Nirmala SHSp, Bro. Rahul and Rohit family members. Said office of the dead at cemetery. On the way back bishop visited also Bandha station in Jagdalpur diocese. In the afternoon bishop had Holy Qurbana in Jamulgatta village and visited all families in the village and blessed every house. Bishop visited all sick in families and specially prayed for them.
- 24- Met with boarding children, youth (35), parish assembly (175) and parish council (20). Afternoon bishop presided over Festal Holy Qurbana and administered Solemn Holy Communion and Confirmation to almost 30 children and adults. There was procession after Holy Qurbana followed by adoration and a short felicitation meeting. Bishop met with priest-in-charge to evaluate parish running.
- 25- Met with Sisters and priest-in-charge separately and also together for a final evaluation of canonical visitation. Later bishop visited Sinsur village before leaving the parish. Thus canonical visitation came to an end at 11.30 am.
- 25- Visited Wasa mission station. In the evening Bishop presided over Festal Holy Qurbana at Infant Jesus' mission, Dalenwadi. Canonical visitation of the bishop to Jarawadi parish.
- 26- Presided over Annul Day celebration at Aksapur School.
- 25-28- Animated Diocesan Pastoral orientation programme at Ballarpur.
- 27- CMI Provincials of Trichur, Muvattupuzha, Hyderabad, and Chanda met with bishop in the Bishop's Home. Bp. Prince Panegadan and priests from Adilabad visited Bishop's Home. Bishop along with Bp. Prince offered office of the dead when Fr. Jebin's body (a priest of Adilabad) was brought to Bishop's Home.
- 27-28- Offered Holy Qurbana at Nandgaon parish Church.

### Tribute paid to Martyrs of Pulwama Attack



Rich tributes were paid to the 40 CRPF martyr jawans killed in Pulwama terror attack in Kashmir recently. A special prayer meet was organised at St. Antony Church,

Wardha on 17 February 2019. Bp. Ephrem Nariculam, Bishop of Chanda, was prominently present. He placed a candle in front of the photos of the martyrs and offered floral tributes. Special prayers were also offered for their bereaved families. The bishop said that we live in peace and prosperity because of the soldiers who protect the motherland from the enemy. Sr. Arpitha Mathew SJB, Superior General, Sr. Vidya Joseph SJB, provincial, Fr. Suresh Madapattu CMF, Fr. Tomy Chirapurath CMI and Simon Lawrence were among those who offered the floral tributes. Fr. Raju Avoorkaran, Parish priest, St. Antony's Church, Wardha conducted the proceedings. A large number of people were present.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

CBSE has appointed Rev. Fr. Binoy Checkonthayil CMI as the First Chief Nodal Supervisor of X/XII Examinations and BJM Carmel Academy Senior Secondary School has been elected as the First Nodal centre of Chandrapur District.



May 04 1 Samuel 25 - 26 Psalm 119:121 -144 Luke 22:47 - 22:71  
 May 05 1 Samuel 27 - 28 Psalm 119:145 -172 Luke 23:1-25  
 May 06 1 Samuel 29 - 31 Psalm 120 Luke 23:26-23:56  
 May 07 2 Samuel 1 - 2 Psalm 121 Luke 24:1 -24:35  
 May 08 2 Samuel 3-4 Psalm 122 Luke 24:36 - 24:53  
 May 09 2 Samuel 5-6 Psalm 123 John 1:1 -1:28  
 May 10 2 Samuel 7-8 Psalm 124 John 1:29 -1:51  
 May 11 2 Samuel 9-10 Psalm 125 John 2  
 May 12 2 Samuel 11 -12 Psalm 126 John 3:1-3:18  
 May 13 2 Samuel 13 -14 Psalm 127 John 3:19 - 3:36  
 May 14 2 Samuel 15 -16 Psalm 128 John 4:1 -4:30  
 May 15 2 Samuel 17 -18 Psalm 129 John 4:31 -4:54  
 May 16 2 Samuel 19-20 Psalm 130 John 5:1 - 5:24  
 May 17 2 Samuel 21 - 22 Psalm 131 John 5:25 - 5:47  
 May 18 2 Samuel 23 - 24 Psalm 132 John 6:1 - 6:21  
 May 19 1 Kings 1-2 Psalm 133 John 6:22 - 6:44  
 May 20 1 Kings 3-4 Psalm 134 John 6:45 - 6:71  
 May 21 1 Kings 5-6 Psalm 135 John 7:1 - 7:27  
 May 22 1 Kings 7-8 Psalm 136 John 7:28 - 7:53  
 May 23 1 Kings 9 - 10 Psalm 137 John 8:1 - 8:27  
 May 24 1 Kings 11-12 Psalm 138 John 8:28 - 8:59  
 May 25 1 Kings 13 -14 Psalm 139 John 9:1 - 9:23  
 May 26 1 Kings 15 -16 Psalm 140 John 9:24 - 9:41  
 May 27 1 Kings 17 -18 Psalm 141 John 10:1 -10:23  
 May 28 1 Kings 19 - 20 Psalm 142 John 10:24 -10:42  
 May 29 1 Kings 21 - 22 Psalm 143 John 11:1 -11:29  
 May 30 2 Kings 1-2 Psalm 144 John 11:30-11:57  
 May 31 2 Kings 3-4 Psalm 145 John 12:1 -12:26

**Catholic School Association (CSA)**

Dear Principals and Managers of schools,

CSA General body meetings will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays of August and February. Kindly note the date and schedule your programmes accordingly.

Sr. Dally SAB  
Secretary, CSA

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR LENT 2019**

**“For the creation waits with eager longing  
for the revealing of the children of God” (Rm 8: 19)**

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Each year, through Mother Church, God “gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ” (*Preface of Lent I*). We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfilment of the salvation we have already received as a result of Christ's paschal mystery “for in hope we were saved” (*Rom 8:24*). This mystery of salvation, already at work in us during our earthly lives, is a dynamic process that also embraces history and all of creation. As Saint Paul says, “the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God” (*Rom 8:19*). In this perspective, I would like to offer a few reflections to accompany our journey of conversion this coming Lent.

**1. The redemption of creation**

The celebration of the Paschal Triduum of Christ's passion, death and resurrection, the culmination of the liturgical year, calls us yearly to undertake a journey of preparation, in the knowledge that our being conformed to Christ (cf. *Rom 8:29*) is a priceless gift of God's mercy.

When we live as children of God, redeemed, led by the Holy Spirit (cf. *Rom 8:14*) and capable of acknowledging and obeying God's law, beginning with the law written on our hearts and in nature, *we also benefit creation* by cooperating in its redemption. That is why Saint Paul says that creation eagerly longs for the revelation of the children of God; in other words, that all those who enjoy the grace of Jesus' paschal mystery may experience its fulfilment in the redemption of the human body itself. When the love of Christ transfigures the lives of the saints in spirit, body and soul, they give praise to God. Through prayer, contemplation and art, they also include other creatures in that praise, as we see admirably expressed in the “Canticle of the Creatures” by Saint

Francis of Assisi (cf. *Laudato Si'*, 87). Yet in this world, the harmony generated by redemption is constantly threatened by the negative power of sin and death.

## 2. The destructive power of sin

Indeed, when we fail to live as children of God, we often behave in a destructive way towards our neighbours and other creatures and ourselves as well since we begin to think more or less consciously that we can use them as we will. Intemperance then takes the upper hand: we start to live a life that exceeds those limits imposed by our human condition and nature itself. We yield to those untrammelled desires that the Book of Wisdom sees as typical of the ungodly, those who act without thought for God or hope for the future (cf. 2:1-11). Unless we tend constantly towards Easter, towards the horizon of the Resurrection, the mentality expressed in the slogans “*I want it all and I want it now!*” and “*Too much is never enough*”, gains the upper hand.

The root of all evil, as we know, is sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself, to which we are linked in a particular way by our body. This rupture of communion with God likewise undermines our harmonious relationship with the environment in which we are called to live, so that the garden has become a wilderness (cf. *Gen 3:17-18*). Sin leads man to consider himself the god of creation, to see himself as its absolute master and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for his own interests, to the detriment of other creatures.

Once God's law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes over. The sin that lurks in the human heart (cf. *Mk 7:20-23*) takes the shape of greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. It leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment, due to that insatiable covetousness which sees every

## Bible Vaachan Varsh 2019 Read the whole Bible in a Year Reading for April & May

April 1 Joshua 7-8 Psalm 91 Luke 6:27 - 6:49  
April 2 Joshua 9-10 Psalm 92 Luke 7:1 -7:30  
April 3 Joshua 11-12 Psalm 93 Luke 7:31 -7:50  
April 4 Joshua 13-14 Psalm 94 Luke 8:1 -8:25  
April 5 Joshua 15-16 Psalm 95 Luke 8:26-8:56  
April 6 Joshua 17-18 Psalm 96 Luke 9:1 -9:17  
April 7 Joshua 19-20 Psalm 97 Luke 9:18-9:36  
April 8 Joshua 21 - 22 Psalm 98 Luke 9:37-9:62  
April 9 Joshua 23 - 24 Psalm 99 Luke 10:1 -10:24  
April 10 Judges 1-2 Psalm 100 Luke 10:25 -10:42  
April 11 Judges 3-4 Psalm 101 Luke 11:1 -11:28  
April 12 Judges 5-6 Psalm 102 Luke 11:29-11:54  
April 13 Judges 7-8 Psalm 103 Luke 12:1 -12:31  
April 14 Judges 9 -10 Psalm 104 Luke 12:32 -12:59  
April 15 Judges 11 -12 Psalm 105 Luke 13:1 -13:22  
April 16 Judges 13-14 Psalm 106 Luke 13:23 -13:35  
April 17 Judges 15-16 Psalm 107 Luke 14:1 -14:24  
April 18 Judges 17-18 Psalm 108 Luke 14:25 -14:35  
April 19 Judges 19-21 Psalm 109 Luke 15:1 -15:10  
April 20 Ruth 1 - 2 Psalm 110 Luke 15:11 -15:32  
April 21 Ruth 3-4 Psalm 111 Luke 16  
April 22 1 Samuel 1-2 Psalm 112 Luke 17:1 -17:19  
April 23 1 Samuel 3-4 Psalm 113 Luke 17:20 -17:37  
April 24 1 Samuel 5-6 Psalm 114 Luke 18:1 -18:23  
April 25 1 Samuel 7-8 Psalm 115 Luke 18:24 -18:43  
April 26 1 Samuel 9-10 Psalm 116 Luke 19:1 -19:27  
April 27 1 Samuel 11-12 Psalm 117 Luke 19:28 -19:48  
April 28 1 Samuel 13-14 Psalm 118 Luke 20:1 -20:26  
April 29 1 Samuel 15 -16 Psalm 119:1 -119:24 Luke 20:27-20:47  
April 30 1 Samuel 17 -18 Psalm 119:25-119:48 Luke 21:1 -21:19  
May 01 1 Samuel 19 - 20 Psalm 119:49-119:72 Luke 21:20-21:38  
May 02 1 Samuel 21-22 Psalm 119:72 -119:96 Luke 22:1 -22:30  
May 03 1 Samuel 23 - 24 Psalm 119:97-120 Luke 22:31 -22:46



## 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, मरुभूमी की मन्ना रूपी रोटी, मेध स्तंभ आदि इस्राएल जनता के प्रति तेरे परिपालन के प्रतीक है। अब हम यह पास्का रोटी और खीर आपस में बाँटने के लिए यहाँ एकत्रित हुए हैं। हमारा नमः 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 छिडकाया जाता है और रोटीयों में से एक तोड़ी जाती है। इस दौरान गायकसंघ एक योग्य गीतगाते हैं।)

### पास्का 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, मरु 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 करितो. आमच्या प्रभु ख्रिस्ता द्वारे आमेन.....!

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

desire as a right and sooner or later destroys all those in its grip.

### 3. The healing power of repentance and forgiveness

Creation urgently needs the revelation of the children of God, who have been made “a new creation”. For “if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold, the new has come” (2 Cor 5:17). Indeed, by virtue of their being revealed, *creation itself can celebrate a Pasch*, opening itself to a new heaven and a new earth (cf. Rev 21:1). The path to Easter demands that we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness, so as to live fully the abundant grace of the paschal mystery.

This “eager longing”, this expectation of all creation, will be fulfilled in the revelation of the children of God, that is, when Christians and all people enter decisively into the “travail” that conversion entails. All creation is called, with us, to go forth “from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (Rom 8:21). Lent is a sacramental sign of this conversion. It invites Christians to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely in their personal, family and social lives, above all by fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to “devour” everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. *Prayer*, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy. *Almsgiving*, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Dear brothers and sisters, the “lenten” period of forty days spent by the Son of God in the *desert* of creation had the goal of making it once more that *garden* of communion with God that it was before original sin (cf. *Mk* 1:12-13; *Is* 51:3). May our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be “set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (*Rom* 8:21). Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus' Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

**Pope Francis**

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

**MARCH**

Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities  
That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

**APRIL**

Doctors and their Collaborators in War Zones  
For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

**MAY**

The Church in Africa, a Seed of Unity  
That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent.

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.

**SEASON OF LENT**

The passion, death and resurrection of Jesus mark the climax of His salvific acts. The seven weeks between Denha and the feast of Easter are set apart for prayer, fasting, abstinence and reparation. The basis of this lenten season is the forty days fast of Jesus. Still, we call this period 'Anpathu Nombu' (50 days' fasting). Probably, because St. Thomas Christians fasted and abstained from 'pethurtha' Sunday to Easter Sunday. The Syriac term 'pethurtha' means 'returning', 'ceasing' etc. Lent is a season set apart mainly for repentance and reconciliation.

The Church reminds us to spend the Lenten period in fervent prayers, sincere fasting and generous almsgiving and to eradicate our evil desires. Like Jesus who conquered death and entered into life, let us also die to sin and enter into eternal life. All the parish priests/priests-in-charges are requested to remind the faithful about the importance of Prayer, Penance, Fasting and abstinence.

**Pastoral Guidelines for  
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 Lakkadakott.

**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 the special day. Chanda Family wishes a HAPPY FEAST.

Prot. No. 0383/2019

**Circular of the Major Archbishop after the XXVII Synod  
of the Bishops of the Syro-Malabar Church, Session 1,  
held from 07 to 18 January 2019  
in the Major Archiepiscopal Curia at Mount St Thomas,  
Kakkanad.**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As you are aware, it was not possible to hold the second session of the 26<sup>th</sup> Synod on account of the flood situation prevailing in our state at that time. Hence the first session of the 27<sup>th</sup> Synod, January 2019, was extended for two weeks and was held at Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad. The bishops at the Synod expressed their deep sorrow at the loss of lives and the destruction of the property that took place as a consequence of the flood. They also offered their prayers and all kinds of assistance to those who experienced pain, the loss of their loved ones and the destruction of their property. The relief works done by the members of the Church revealed the unbounded generosity, volunteering and sacrifices of our brothers and sisters in and outside the country. The Synod expressed its gratitude and appreciation to those who extended their help to all those who experienced deep pain and sacrifices.

It is a fact that all have participated very sincerely in the relief works after the flood. According to the latest facts and figures, the Syro-Malabar Church through its eparchies,

parishes, the religious congregations and the laity have contributed around 187 crores ( Rs.187,59,94805) worth of relief assistance to the flood victims in different parts of the State. Of this, a cheque of one crore thirteen lakhs and five thousand (Rs. 1,13,05000) was given directly to the Chief Minister. This was collected through the SPANDAN, the social development network department of the Syro-Malabar Church. Also the Church gave a contribution of 50 lakhs through the KCBC when it gave one crore to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

The Synod offered a special welcome to the new bishops of Idukki and Sagar, Mar John Nellikunnel and Mar James Athikalam MST for their presence at the Synod for the first time. The Synod also offered its greetings to Mar Jacob Manathodath who has taken over as the Administrator of Ernakulam-Angamaly Archeparchy. The Synodal session began with a review of its previous Synodal decisions and expressed its satisfaction at the implementation of those decisions at the diocesan and parish levels.

### **Pastoral Approaches and Renewal of the Church**

The bishops have put in special efforts to understand the events which the Church had to face recently in a spirit of humility and reverence. The priests and the religious have to pay more serious attention to their call and responsibility. It is necessary that all should absorb the spirit of the priestly ministry of Jesus Christ, avoiding all kinds of superiority and institutionalization. Everyone was of the opinion that there should be a permanent ecclesiastical solution to these problems. There was an examination of conscience with regard to the fundamental responsibility of bearing witness to Jesus as well as to finding a permanent solution to the problems that arise from time to time. The Synod decided that there should be a spiritual renewal and that efforts for holiness

### **MEMORIAL DAY**

41<sup>st</sup> Memorial day of Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil was observed on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019. There was Requiem Holy Qurbana at 10.30 am at St. Thomas Cathedral, Ballarpur, presided over by Bp. Ephrem Nariculam. The occasion was blessed by the presence of many Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and Lay people. Fr. Jomy's mother, Brother and sister-in-law were present for the memorial Qurbana. A souvenir "Died.. to Be Born" a tribute to late Fr. Jomy Chakkalatharayil, was published soon after the Holy Qurbana, by bishop. There after everyone proceeded to cemetery for office for the dead. Bishop blessed the memorial plaque of Fr. Jomy. Everyone offered floral tribute before the memorial plaque. Thereafter a documentary on Fr. Jomy was shown in the pastoral centre refectory by Audio-Visual department. Lunch was served for everyone. Around 300 people attended the function.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Chanda Family congratulates Bro. Jose Zade, (represented St. Ephrem Seminary, Satna) who got the **SECOND PRIZE** for the Ruhlaya (Ujjain) Inter-Seminary Bible Quiz competition which took place on 10th of February based on the book of **ISAIAH**.



### **CALVARIGIRI PILGRIMAGE LAKKADAKOT**



**GOOD FRIDAY,  
19 APRIL 2019**

## HONOURING THE GUESTS

1. Guest should be honoured with respect and concern.
2. Respect guest by not imposing our wishes on them with regard to food items. Leave the guests free to choose. It is good to enquire from them about their diet requirements.
3. Keep guest room neat, tidy and clean. Make sure that it is done before guest is accorded to the room.
4. Furnish guest room with necessary toilet items as per custom (Soap, Oil, Comb, Mirror, Hanger etc).
5. Make sure that the following are adequately clean: Mirror and its stand, bed sheet, Mug, closet commode, sink etc.
6. See that the following are functional: Light, fan, switches, taps, door and window latches, closet flesh and cover of commode etc.
7. See that the following are there in the room: Cot, Chair, Pillow, Bed and cover, waste paper basket, pen, paper, time schedule of the house, Bible, calendar (of date) etc.
8. Ask the guest about any additional needs like warm water, drinking water, woollen blanket, hot water in flasks etc.
9. Give guests, always and only clean and washed clothes (Bathing towel, other towels, bed sheet, pillow cover, linen etc). Even if they are newly bought it should be given for use only after washing. The newly bought such items being used without washing is not healthy and hygienic.
10. Guests are requested to make sure that the rooms are not shabby when they leave the room.

should be exhibited at all levels of the Church, from the top to bottom. A circular highlighting those decisions was read at all parishes of the Syro-Malabar Church.

The Synod Fathers paid special attention to solving the problems faced by the Church in the changing social and political contexts of today's world. Discussions were held in solving these problems without losing our Christian self-identity and credibility.

Our Church which has celebrated the silver jubilee of its establishment as a *sui iuris* Church has to return to a more vigorous witnessing and spiritual growth. All the sections of the Church have to become more conscious of their vocation as well as of their call to holiness. We have to strengthen more deeply the witness of our priests and the dedication of the religious.

We have to reevaluate the working style of our family units, prayer meetings and other spiritual organizations. The participation of the religious and the laity in the social spheres has to be made in conformity with the Church and the faith and by adopting new ways for the practice of faith. It was decided by the Synod to ask all the eparchies to institute Grievance Redressal Cells so that they could decide on the complaints that come from within and outside the Church. The lay participation in these Cells is to be strongly enforced and that decisions should be made within a reasonable time frame so that justice would not be denied to the complainants.

In solving problems that arise from time to time, there should be an equitable participation of the religious, the laity and the clergy and their opinions should be seriously listened to in proper forums by the authorities. It was discussed whether it would be possible to set apart a day before the official beginning of the Synod to have a consultative meeting with the representatives of the lay faithful including the secretaries of

pastoral councils and other religious organizations.

### **Safe Environment Programme**

It was decided by the Synod to establish a safe environment for children and women to work in churches, schools, rectories, religion classes, monasteries, orphanages etc. in accordance with the safe- environment regulations instituted by the Vatican and by the CBCI. The Safe Environment Programme published by the KCBC is endorsed by the Major Archbishop with a Decree for the Syro-Malabar Church. All the eparchies and religious congregations/institutes have to form new committees and directors for this purpose. Vicars, superiors of the consecrated and others entrusted with this responsibility have to implement this. If there is a failure in this matter, they would necessarily be subject to the punishments according to the Indian penal code.

### **Reflections on the Influence of the Media**

The Synod discussed the fast-developing changes in the social and the electronic media and their highly negative influences over the minds of the people. The need for media literacy and the moral positions to be adopted have to be fostered in our communities.

Spreading falsehoods and erroneous pieces of news can never be justified. To spread calumnious stories and to denigrate the activities of the Church are not good journalism or media ministry. We cannot close our eyes to the manner in which the social media are being used to denigrate the Church. We have to train our youths to become aware of these hostile attitudes of the media towards the Church. I would like to inform you that a media commission is being constituted to coordinate the media services of the Syro-Malabar Church.

### **New Trends in the formation of seminarians**

The Synod discussed the existing formation programmes in the seminaries and examined the report of the

### **Venerable Augustine John Ukken**



Augustine John Ukken was born on December 19, 1880, in Parappur, located in the state of Kerala in India. Augustine was the second son born to Punnapar and Chalaki Ukken. Sadly, both of his parents died when he was only six years old. The boy was taken in by the parish priest who provided him with a home and an education.

In 1895, based on the recommendations of his priest and mentor (name unknown) the Bishop, Adolphus Mediycoth had Augustine enrolled in the Monir Seminary in Trichur. Upon completing his studies there he moved Kandy, in Sri Lanka, to begin his study for the priesthood. He was ordained a priest by the Bishop Clement Pagany on December 21, 1907.

Father was assigned to St. Thomas College in Thrissur, where he taught French and Latin from 1908 to 1909. In 1910 he became the Rector of the Minor Seminary and remained at that post also serving as Secretary to Archbishop John Manachery from 1913 until 1917. At that point, he was assigned to assist at different parishes doing the work of a parish priest. In 1921 he was named as the Manager of St. Thomas College and remained in that post until 1925.

From 1925 and on, Father Augustine spent time in different parishes getting deeply involved with the poor and starving people and children. Inspired by St. Vincent de Paul, he prayed for guidance so he might help them. On November 21, 1944, he founded the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity.

The mission of the new order was the “caring of the sick, tending those who are in deathbed, uplifting the poor and giving catechetical formation.” The new order was approved by the Metropolitan Archbishop of Thrissur, George Alapatt.

Father Augustine John Ukken passed away on October 13, 1956 when he was 75. He was declared a Servant of God on August 24, 2008, and on December 22, 2018, declared Venerable.

**Venerable Augustine John Ukken, please pray for us.**

## **AARADHANA VARSH 2018 Conclusion:**

### **A Report**

As the *Aaradhana Varsh* culminated in its glory, a concluding ceremony with a solemn Holy Qurbana followed by Solemn Eucharistic procession was held at St Thomas Church, Chandrapur. Bp Ephrem Nariculam was the main celebrant of the solemn thanksgiving Qurbana and Rev Fr Varghese Puthuparampil CMI, the proto-synellus led the Eucharistic procession. Together a group of 1500 members including the children, youth, elders, priests and the nun were present for the event. Thanks to all the respective parish priests along with their core community for their co-operation and dedication in the proclamation of God's glory.

I take this opportunity to express sentiments of gratitude to the Fellowship Ministry (A Syro-Malabar Laity Initiative for Mission), who took a great effort and initiative to come to the diocese and taking up the ministry of Eucharistic Adoration. At this juncture it is important to remember Fr. Jaison Marokki, the director of Fellowship ministry and Mr. James Vadakkan, Mission co-ordinator and Mr. Paulose, Chairman for their selfless commitment and charism. The lay brothers spent their time in adoration at our parishes and mission stations. The name of the members of the fellowship ministry who rendered their selfless service is mentioned below:

Sl. No	Name	Days
1	Mr. K R Jacob, Ammadam	156
2	Mr. Sunny Kattapana	85
3	Mr. Joseph K J	57
4	Mr. Xavier Velanganni	45
5	Mr. V J James	45
6	Mr. K R Simon Ollur	45
7	Mr. Paul K V	40
8	Mr. Jose Paulose	35
9	Mr. Sijo Jose	33
10	Mr. Sebastian Kattapana	32
11	Mr. P K Antony	30
12	Mr. George Soorathe	21
13	Mr. K D Antony	7
14	Mr. Babu K M	7

May the Eucharistic Lord Bless us.

Fr Kurian Panayalil  
Co-ordinator, Aaradhana Varsh

working of the seminaries. The training of future priests should become relevant to our times and have to be ecclesial. The pastoral ministry of the seminarians during the formation period should be encouraged. It was noted that training in the use of the media is as important as the pastoral ministry for the seminarians. They should be helped to attain emotional and mental maturity. The bishops emphasized the need to involve the laity and the religious in the formation of seminarians.

### **Pastoral Ministry for the Migrants**

The pastoral ministry for migrants living outside Kerala and India were always foremost in the thoughts of the Fathers of the Synod. In the context of the establishment of the eparchy of Shamshabad, the migrants living outside Kerala are asked to get the necessary documents from the parishes where they live, when they come to Kerala to receive sacraments and other religious services. The Bishops will be giving necessary instructions in this matter. The needs of the migrants in the Gulf countries were also discussed at the Synod. The visit of the Holy Father to the Gulf countries has given a great fillip to the faithful there. I could sense that during my visit there at that time. It is necessary to foster the feelings of closeness to the Church not only in the Gulf areas but also in other places. I remember with great delight on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the eparchies of Sagar, Satna and Ujjain, experiencing the faith and attachment of the people there to the Church. I also offer my prayers and best wishes to the Bishop and the faithful of the Mississauga, Canada on its erection as a new Eparchy.

### **New Possibilities of Evangelization**

That the Church has got the right of evangelization and pastoral care all over India is a sign that we have to develop and expand the opportunities for evangelization. Holy Father Pope Francis has emphasized this aspect of renewed emphasis on

evangelization all over India in his letter published on 9 October, 2017. We have to organize and formulate the evangelizing efforts of the Church, taking into account the needs of the times in the light of the spirit of evangelization. There are plenty of possibilities of new ways of evangelization through the various activities of the Church as well as through our personal witnessing. For this, the priests, the religious and lay volunteers from home eparchies have to extend their cooperation to the missionaries. There was a thinking that the newly ordained priests and those priests who are interested should be given an opportunity to work for a few years in mission areas. It should also be discussed whether it would be possible for financially capable parishes in home eparchies could adopt parishes in the mission eparchies. I remember with gratitude the services of many eparchies and parishes who have adopted parishes and eparchies in the mission areas.

### **Challenges in the Educational Front**

The Church views with a lot of anxiety the problems experienced by the minority institutions in the educational front. The Church views with great sympathy and understanding the pain of teachers whose appointments are not yet regularized by the Government. Reservations granted to each community should be preserved in their totality. It is not proper to club all the reserved communities together which would deprive some of the communities their right to reservation.

### **Problems of Farmers**

The Church expects swift and permanent solutions from the part of the Government with regard to the problems experienced by the farmers in the case of getting their tenancy rights, protection of their farm lands from the attacks of wild animals and from the low pricing of their produce. More programmes to create the awareness of the problems of the farmers should be organized. The activities of the Catholic

### **Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Programme (MSDFP) 2019 (Gathering)**

Venue : Bishop's Home/Pastoral Centre, BPQ  
 Date : Monday 29 April to Saturday 11 May 2019  
 Arrival : Sunday 28 April 2019  
 Mission Seminar : Monday 29 April 2019  
 Resource Person : Fr. Justin Vettukallel MST  
 Minor Orders : Saturday 11 May 2019.  
 NB: Kindly submit assignments, accounts, budgets as per schedule (on or before 10 April 2019).

Fr. Binu Muthalakuzhy  
 Formation Coordinator

### **LANGUAGE STUDY CENTRE, BALLARPUR**

1. English Language Course:  
 Date: 01 - 17 April 2019  
 Venue: Pastoral Centre, Ballarpur
2. Marathi/Hindi language course for Fathers, Brothers and Sisters:  
 Date: 27 May to 22 June 2019  
 Venue: Pastoral Centre, Ballarpur

Kindly register your names before 15 May 2019. For more information and registration contact:

Fr. Johny Narikkat  
 Director, Language Study Centre  
 Ph: 09423398141



### **PLEASE PRAY**

**Dn. Nikhil (Joseph) Chakiath**  
 Date of Ordination: **15/05/2019**  
 Place: **St. Mary's Church,**  
**Thundathumkadavu,**  
 (Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamali)



### HINDI HOLY WEEK TEXT

Everyone is expected to use New Hindi Holy Week text from passion week celebration wherever Hindi is the medium of language for liturgy in the eparchy of Chanda.

By order  
Chancellor

### CHANGE OF DATES

#### MISSIONARY CONFERENCE & CHANDA FAMILY DAY 2019

As per the calendar the Missionary Conference is scheduled on September 14 and Chanda Family Day on October 8. Due to *Ad Limina* visit in Rome, Bishop will be away in the scheduled dates. So the **Missionary Conference** is anticipated to **August 12** and **Chanda Family Day** is postponed to **November 12**. Accordingly the Diocesan Pastoral Council scheduled on 12 November is postponed to Saturday 30 November (10.00 am). Kindly note the change of dates in the calendar.

Fr. Vigil Parassery  
Secretary

### Admission to

#### APOSTOLIC BOARDING

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,  
Greetings from Kalmana!

Please take extra interest in promoting vocation! Send students who have some likings to priesthood and religious life for Std V, VI, VII and VIII. Ten each seats are available for boys and girls. Parish priests/priests-in-charge are requested to do the needful.

Fr. Anoop Aerimattam  
Priest-in-charge, Apostolic Boarding

Congress (AKCC) should be revitalized. It should be more actively involved in solving the problems of the farmers and getting the due rights to the Dalits.

#### Organizational Activities

The Synod extended its temporary approval of the Constitution of the SMYM for three more years. The Fathers of the Synod appealed to make the activities of the SMYM active in all the eparchies and to energize the youth in their practice of faith. The Synod also approved the statutes of the *Cherupushpa Mission League* (CML) and the Guidelines for Vocation Promotion in our Church.

#### Putting into Practice the Resolutions of the Assembly

It was possible to put into practice last year ten of the resolutions of the Fourth Major Archiepiscopal Assembly held in August 2016. As a follow-up to that, the present Synod has approved the following ten more resolutions for putting into practice. They are the following:

1. Special training is to be given in the practice of the simplicity of life style to all those who hold leadership positions in the Church, especially to the office-bearers of religious organizations, trustees, altar servers, catechists, family unit leaders etc. More encouragement is to be given for holding retreats, training sessions etc according to their age in family groups and in common.
2. Bureaucratic administrative style should be abandoned at all the administrative set-ups of the Church. All the administrative offices of the Church should maintain a pastoral attitude by being readily available to the faithful.
3. The statements and comments coming from the priests and the religious should be more gentle and courteous.
4. Parishes and institutions should implement green projects to protect the environment.
5. Helpdesks should be established at forane/eparchial levels in order to make available to the job seekers and those affected by

sicknesses to get assistance from the Govt.

6. The marginalized are enduring a lot of hardships. We have to come forward to assist the Dalit, children, women and religious minorities and implement programmes that empower them.
7. Missionaries should be invited to parishes and eparchies to share their experiences.
8. Feast celebrations in the parishes should be organized ensuring the participation of all. The tendency to find an individual or a family as sponsor of the parish feast is to be discouraged.
9. Priests and the religious should offer help to broken families and they should be given assistance to lead a secure family life.
10. The Congregations of the consecrated men and women should establish houses and provinces in areas where the migrant communities live.

The Synod felt happy about the starting of Perpetual Adoration at the Mount St. Thomas chapel. The intentions of the Church are specially remembered on each day. It is also gratifying to note that the Apostolic Nuncio, Most Rev. Giambattista di Quattro was present at the Synod and met individually with the Bishops.

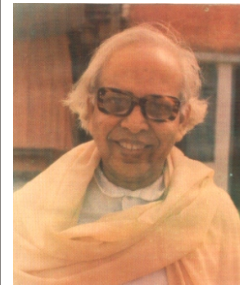
The Synod also expressed its appreciation of the services rendered by Fr. Antony Kollanur and Fr. Mathew Pulimoottil who served as Chancellor and Finance Officer respectively in the Major Archbishop's Curia for a good number of years.

The Synod concluded on Jan 18<sup>th</sup> after two weeks of very fruitful reflections and discussions. I request your prayers so that all the deliberations and decisions of the Synod may help the growth and the good of the Church.

Yours cordially in Christ,

George Cardinal Alencherry  
Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church

### **24<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary**



Bp. Januarius' 24<sup>th</sup> death anniversary falls on Thursday 28 March 2019. Please observe the day befittingly in every parish and institutions in the diocese. There will be Holy Qurbana and office of the dead at Cathedral, Ballarpur at 6.30 PM.

### **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, 16 April 2019  
Venue : St. Thomas Cathedral, BPQ  
Schedule : 10.00 AM Talk - Fr. Binoy Chekonthayil CMI  
11.15 AM Holy Qurbana  
01.00 PM Lunch, Departure

### **BISHOP'S CANONICAL VISIT SCHEDULE - 2019**

Kalmana	-	March 22 - 24
Wirur	-	June 20 - 23
Wardha	-	July 9 -14
Shengaon	-	July 26 - 30
Kopreli	-	November 14 -17

Fr. Vigil Parassery  
Vice-Chancellor & Secretary

### V. CURIA MATTERS

Sl. No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
1	Fr. Somy Thannickapara		Asst. Manager, St. Thomas School, Jivathi.	14 February 2019
2	Fr. Prince Munjanattu CMI		Priest-in-Substitute, (Additional, Temporary) Nandgaon	20 February 2019
3	Fr. Dinny OFM Cap.	Priest-in-Substitute, Wani		04 March 2019
4	Fr. Sharon OFM Cap.		Priest-in-Substitute, (Additional, Temporary) Pattaguda	04 March 2019

### MISSION SEMINAR FOR PRIESTS & RELIGIOUS

A seminar on Missions is scheduled for priests and religious in the eparchy on Friday and Saturday 26 & 27, April 2019. All priests and religious are expected to attend **EITHER OF THE DAYS**. To make sure the maximum number of participation, it is kept in two days. Please mark it in your calendar. Any **ONE** day attendance is sufficient. Please inform about your participation to Fr. Dinesh Mate (09420141004), Administrator, Bishop's Home.

Venue : Bishop's Home Campus  
 Dates : Friday 26 **OR** Saturday 27, April 2019  
 Time : 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM  
 Resource person : Fr. Justin Vettukallel MST

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Bp. Ephrem Nariculum**

### Caritas India's Lenten Campaign against Hunger and Disease

Your Eminence, Your Grace, Your Excellency,  
**Greetings from Caritas India!**

Caritas India's General Body (CBCI Standing Committee) in its May 2018 Meeting had approved the new Strategic Plan of Caritas India for the next 5 years. The Strategic Plan was also shared and discussed with the Directors of Regional Fora and the Directors of Diocesan Social Service Societies during Caritas India's National Assembly of Diocesan Directors of Social Apostolate in October 2018 in Bangalore.

The Strategic Plan of Caritas India chiefly consist of 4 key strategic pillars -Empowering Animation, Dialogue, Promotion of Volunteerism, and Promotion of Sharing Communities. Of these, the 2 key pillars of Promotion of Volunteers for the social cause and Mobilizing enhanced local resources can be meaningfully achieved with the innovative ways of taking up Caritas India's Annual Lenten Campaign against Hunger and Disease by each Diocese in our country. The pattern and trend of Caritas India's Lenten Campaign collection in the Dioceses was also discussed a few times in Caritas India's Board Meetings and CBCI Standing Committee Meetings in the past. Accordingly, it was suggested that Caritas India and the Dioceses take the lead to strengthen the Campaign through different innovative ways.

In this regard, it is heartening to note that several Bishops and the Directors of Social Works of our country make concerted efforts to promote Caritas India's Lenten Campaign in their Dioceses by sensitizing the laity by issuing Pastoral Letters by the Bishops at the start of the Lenten Season, encouraging the Religious Congregations

and Lay Faithful within the Diocese to show their solidarity with the poor through Lenten almsgiving and sharing of their resources and sending the collected local donations to Caritas India. The funds received by Caritas India through the Annual Lenten Campaign is utilized in financing emergency and other programs which seek to address abject poverty in our country.

It is also noted that some of the Dioceses do not make sufficient effort to promote the Annual Lenten Campaign of Caritas India but would send a token amount to Caritas India as annual donation. There are also a sizable number of Dioceses which do not contribute any donation to Caritas India by way of Lenten Campaign. While Caritas India's continued engagement and request for financing different charitable, welfare and development projects in our Dioceses are on the rise, the local donations raised through the Annual Lenten Campaign in our country is not growing proportionately. This is a matter of real concern!

It is also commonly agreed that only 50% of the total Annual Lenten Campaign amount collected in the Diocese needs to be sent to Caritas India. Of the remaining 50 percent, 5% of the collection for the CBCI Commission for SC/BC and 3% for CBCI Commission for Tribal Affairs both of which need to be sent directly to CBCI Centre, New Delhi. The remaining amount of the Lenten Campaign collection can be retained in the Diocese/Diocesan Social Service Society for local charitable needs of the Diocese.

In order to make a concerted effort to meaningfully promote the Lenten Campaign with the active involvement of the Lay Faithful of the Diocese, from this year it is being proposed to have State level and Diocese level launches of the Lenten Campaign in the Cathedral Church/other prominent Parish India have been given the responsibility of organizing the

Church on any of the Sundays of Lent. The Directors of Regional Fora and the Zonal/State Officers of Caritas India have been given the responsibility of organizing the State level launch of Lenten Campaign in consultation with the respective Archbishop/Bishop and the Diocesan Director of Social Works. So also, the Diocesan Director of Social Works has been requested to organize the Diocesan level launch of the Lenten Campaign in consultation with the Archbishop/Bishop of the Diocese. Caritas India has already sent the promotional materials of the Lenten Campaign to each Diocese/Diocesan Social Service Society.

Hence may I request Your Eminence/Your Grace/Your Excellency to kindly extend your support and cooperation in promoting Caritas India's Annual Lenten Campaign in your Archdiocese/Diocese and organize a Diocesan level launch of the same on one of the Sundays of Lent this year by involving the Lay Faithful of your Archdiocese/Diocese. This will help in sensitizing the Lay Faithful about the plight of the poor of our country and encouraging them to make their voluntary solidarity contributions towards Caritas India's Lenten Campaign.

As we commence the Holy Season of Lent, remembering the passion and death of our Blessed Lord, together with our reparation and penance, let us also remind ourselves and our communities of the needs of the poor and our call to reach out to them in Christian charity and solidarity.

Yours in the Good Shepherd,

Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro CSC  
Chairman, Caritas India