

Shepherd's Voice

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and My beloved People,

**Thy Kingdom Come!
Greetings in the name of the Risen Christ!
Happy Easter to everyone!**

"Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven (Mt 18:3).

"Children are not things to be molded, but are people to be unfolded" - Jess Lair.

Pope Francis announced on 8 December 2023 that the Catholic Church will celebrate its first World Day of Children on 26 May 2024. "Like Jesus, we want to put children at the centre and care for them" said the Holy Father. Children must be celebrated every day. World Day of Children is a stark reminder of the responsibility we hold towards our most vulnerable. Millions of Children globally face poverty, injustice, and unimaginable hardships. We relate with number of children on daily basis in our schools, boardings/hostels, in the streets, on our journeys etc. What kind of world do we wish to pass on to the children who are growing up? We shall avail the World Children Day to revere our children and show them a luminous future ahead.

"And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them" (Mk 10:16).

I invite everyone to celebrate the day befittingly.

With good wishes
Your Shepherd in the Lord

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

