



## GOT TO PRAY A LOT



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I wish everyone a Happy New Year filled with grace and peace. Christmas has opened the doors of this New Year challenging us, like Jesus our Saviour, if we too are prepared to share in some way in the poverty, the suffering, the insecurity and the shame of our people. I have noted with great pleasure that how every one of our personnel, Priests, Religious and Catechists was involved in preparing our people for this greatest feast. You must have noted that that we must not only be for but also be with our people. Only then we will have a personal experience of Immanuel, God-with-us.

The country is facing a lot of disturbances. The ongoing controversy and demonstrations and counter demonstrations concerning the Citizenship Act is a cause of great anxiety for all of us and it could harm the country. There is a danger that there could be a polarization of our peoples along religious lines, which is very harmful for the country.

Religion should never be the criterion for citizenship of a country. Nor is violence a solution when there is a

difference of opinion. It is necessary that the Government dialogues with those opposing the Act, and come to an agreement about the way forward with justice equity and fairness.

We need, therefore, to pray for our country as well as our State in particular, with this idea of shifting the Secretariat and the Judiciary to two other different cities. Everyone is very sceptic about the outcome and the demonstrations though in small numbers are also going on. So we have enough material for our prayer to storm heavens.

May 2020 bring all of us showers of blessings, joy and zeal for Christ and his Gospel.

Yours sincerely,

**+ Thelagathoti J. Raja Rao, S.M.M.**  
Bishop of Vijayawada

**BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS : JANUARY - MARCH 2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<b>JANUARY, 2020</b>		
04	Saturday	: School Jubilee Function of SFS School, Agiripalli Parish, 05:30 p.m.
06-10		: Retreat for Junior Clergy
08	Wednesday	: Holy Childhood Celebration at Gunadala, 12:00 noon.
09	Thursday	: School Day Celebration of Holy Cross English Medium High School, Kaikaluru, 4:30 p.m.
10	Friday	: Silver Jubilee of Sahayamatha School, Mudinepalli, 5:30 p.m.
11	Saturday	: Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession of Sr. Jyothi MSI at Penamaluru, 4:30 p.m.
12	Sunday	: Holy Mass at Holy Cross Parish, Machilipatnam, 8:00 a.m.
13	Monday	: Not Available
14	Tuesday	: In the office (receives by appointment)
15	Wednesday	: Death Anniversary of Bro. Joseph Thambi, Mass at Peddavutapalli, 7:00 a.m.
17	Friday	: Feast day Mass at Jagannadhapuram Parish 10:00 a.m.
18	Saturday	: Priestly Ordination of Deacon Namburi Bhagya (for Jammu & Kashmir Diocese) at Korukollu, 4:00 p.m.
21	Tuesday	: Blessing of New Parish Church, Sacred Heart Parish Nunna, 10.00 a.m.
23	Thursday	: Silver Jubilee of Priesthood, Sattenapally, 5:30 p.m.
24	Friday	: Visit of Sr. Celine Jacob, FMA, 10.30 a.m.
25	Saturday	: Conversion of St. Paul, St. Paul's Cathedral, 6:00 p.m.
26	Sunday	: Mass at St. Agnes Church, Guntur, 6:00 p.m.
27	Monday	: Mass for St. Peter Claver Sisters, Gannavaram, 7.00 a.m.
28	Tuesday	: Leaving for Hyderabad
29	Wednesday	: TCBC Extraordinary Meeting on Regional Dalit Policy
30	Thursday	: Chapel Blessing at Chinna Avutapalli, 10:00 a.m.
31	Friday	: Blessing of Grotto- Confirmations at Saradanagar, 10:00 a.m. Flag hoisting-Gunadalamatha Festival, 5:00 p.m.

**FEBRUARY, 2020**

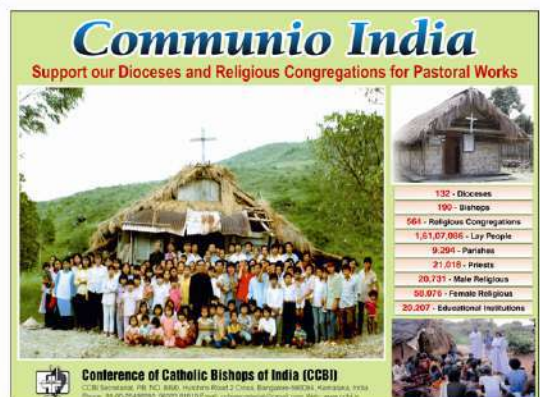
02	Sunday	: Fourth Anniversary of Episcopal Consecration of Bishop : Laying of the Foundation Stone for the New Church in Gunadala, 5:00 p.m.
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- 04 Tuesday : School Day Function of St. Anthony's U.P.School, Atkur 3:30 p.m.
- 06 Thursday : Holy Family Feast Day, Mass at Velagalagudem 6:30 p.m.
- 07 Friday : 100° years of the arrival: Sr. Mary Glowrey, Guntur, 4:00 p.m.
- 08 Saturday : Provincial Chapter of SAB, Inaugural Mass, 7:00 a.m.
- 09 Sunday : First day of Gunadala Feast, Bishop Rayarala Vijaya Kumar PIME
- 10 Monday : Second Day of the Feast, Bp U. Bala & Bp Anthony Prince.
- 11 Tuesday : Final Day of the Feast, Solemn Eucharist at 7.00 .a.m.
- 12 Wednesday : Leaving for Bangalore for CBCI Meeting
- 13 -19 : CBCI Plenary, St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore.
- 20 Thursday : Returning to Vijayawada
- 22 Saturday : Arogyamatha Chapel blessing, Lankala Kalavakonta, Konkepudi Parish, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Sunday : Feast of Siluvagirinagar Parish, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Monday : Rajavaram Feast, Agripalli Parish, Mass at 6:30 p.m.
- 25 Tuesday : Recollection, PIME Community, Eluru, 9.00 a.m.
- 26 Wednesday : ASH WEDNESDAY, St. Paul's Cathedral
- 28 Friday : Feast of the Holy Cross, Siluvagattu, 6:30 p.m.

**MARCH, 2020**

- 02 Monday : Leaving for Hyderabad
- 03 - 05 : TCBC Meeting, Hyderabad
- 06 Friday : Returning to Vijayawada
- 09 -18 : Pastoral Visits to Parishes.
- 19 Thursday : New Chapel Blessing, Joseph Nagar, Telaprolu, 10:00 a.m.
- 20 Friday : Our Lady of Lourdes Feast, Bodavada-Jammavaram, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 - 04 April : Pastoral Visits to Parishes

**COMMUNIO INDIA SUNDAY:** As it is already published in the IVC, November, 2019 Issue, **Communio India Sunday** in our diocese is shifted to the first Sunday of February, 2020 in order to facilitate better contributions by placing it at a more suitable period of the year within the context of calendar of collections in the diocese. We will take the special collection for Communion India on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020.





Clerical Congregation of  
**MISSIONARIES OF FAITH**  
 St. Peter's Province



Provincial's House, N.T.R. Colony, West Lock, Eluru - 534 001. West Godavari District, AP, India.

To,  
**The Most Reverend Bishops of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**  
**The Priests, Religious and the People of God**

## NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

After deep prayer and reflection, seeking the concurrence of the members of the Provincial Chapter held on 9-14<sup>th</sup> December 2019, the councillors of the Province and after informing to **Rev. Fr. Jesus Dajac mf**-the Superior General of the Clerical Congregation of Missionaries of Faith, I hereby inform all the clergy, religious and people of God that **Rev. Fr. Joseph Madanu** was placed under suspension for one year with effect from 16-12-2019 to 15-12-2020 in accordance with the provisions of the **Canon 665 §1, 696§1, 283§1, 285 §1, Missionaries of Faith Constitution General Directory art.218**. He was not only voluntarily and deliberately violating these canons time and again but also not in communion with the **Province Governance**, the Local Church and eventually with the universal Church for past 18 months.

Hence with immediate effect **Rev. Fr. Joseph Madanu** has no faculties and consequently he is not authorized to celebrate Holy Mass in the public, hearing confessions or administration of any other sacraments or any other related ministries of Priesthood.

I request you to take note of this.

Date: 16-12-2019

*Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf*

**Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf,**  
 Provincial Superior,  
 Province of St. Peter,  
 Missionaries of Faith,  
 NTR Colony, West Lock, Eluru-534001,  
 West Godavari Dt, Andhra Pradesh, India.



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Clerical Congregation of

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Provincial's House, N.T.R. Colony, West Lock, Eluru - 534 001. West Godavari District, AP, India.

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Hence with immediate effect **Rev. Fr. Prabhakar Vangala** has no faculties and consequently he is not authorized to celebrate Holy Mass in the public, hearing confessions or administration of any other sacraments or any other related ministries of Priesthood.

I request you to take note of this.

Date: 16-12-2019

*Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf*

**Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai mf**,  
Provincial Superior,  
Province of St. Peter,  
Missionaries of Faith,  
NTR Colony, West Lock, Eluru-534001,  
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INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER  
JANUARY, 2020

**Promotion of World Peace**

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



POPE'S QUOTE

**“A baby’s smile is a sign of God’s love”**

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE  
**53rd WORLD DAY OF PEACE, 1 JANUARY 2020**  
**PEACE AS A JOURNEY OF HOPE:**

**DIALOGUE, RECONCILIATION AND ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION**

**1. *Peace, a journey of hope in the face of obstacles and trial***

Peace is a great and precious value, the object of our hope and the aspiration of the entire human family. As a human attitude, our hope for peace is marked by an existential tension that makes it possible for the present, with all its difficulties, to be “lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal, if we can be sure of this goal, and if this goal is great enough to justify the effort of the journey”.<sup>[1]</sup> Hope is thus the virtue that inspires us and keeps us moving forward, even when obstacles seem insurmountable.

Our human community bears, in its memory and its flesh, the scars of ever more devastating wars and conflicts that affect especially the poor and the vul-

nerable. Entire nations find it difficult to break free of the chains of exploitation and corruption that fuel hatred and violence. Even today, dignity, physical integrity, freedom, including religious freedom, communal solidarity and hope in the future are denied to great numbers of men and women, young and old. Many are the innocent victims of painful humiliation and exclusion, sorrow and injustice, to say nothing of the trauma born of systematic attacks on their people and their loved ones.

The terrible trials of internal and international conflicts, often aggravated by ruthless acts of violence, have an enduring effect on the body and soul of humanity. Every war is a form of fratricide that destroys the human family’s innate vocation to brotherhood.

War, as we know, often begins with the inability to accept the diversity of others, which then fosters attitudes of aggrandizement and domination born of selfishness and pride, hatred and the desire to caricature, exclude and even destroy the other. War is fueled by a perversion of relationships, by hegemonic ambitions, by abuses of power, by fear of others and by seeing diversity as an obstacle. And these, in turn, are aggravated by the experience of war.

As I observed during my recent Apostolic Journey to Japan, our world is paradoxically marked by “a perverse dichotomy that tries to defend and ensure stability and peace through a false sense of security sustained by a mentality of fear and mistrust, one that ends up poisoning relationships between peoples and obstructing any form of dialogue. Peace and international stability are incompatible with attempts to build upon the fear of mutual destruction or the threat of total annihilation. They can be achieved only on the basis of a global ethic of solidarity and cooperation in the service of a future shaped by interdependence and shared responsibility in the whole human family of today and tomorrow”.<sup>[2]</sup>

Every threatening situation feeds mistrust and leads people to withdraw into their own safety zone. Mistrust and fear weaken relationships and increase the risk of violence, creating a vicious circle that can never lead to a relationship of peace. Even nuclear deterrence can only produce the illusion of security.

We cannot claim to maintain stability in the world through the fear of annihilation, in a volatile situation, suspended on the brink of a nuclear abyss and enclosed behind walls of indifference. As a result, social and economic decisions are being made that lead to tragic situations where human beings and creation itself are discarded rather than protected and preserved.<sup>[3]</sup> How, then, do we undertake a journey of peace and mutual respect? How do we break the unhealthy mentality of threats and fear? How do we break the current dynamic of distrust?

We need to pursue a genuine fraternity based on our common origin from God and exercised in dialogue and mutual trust. The desire for peace lies deep within the human heart, and we should not resign ourselves to seeking anything less than this.

## ***2. Peace, a journey of listening based on memory, solidarity and fraternity***

The *Hibakusha*, the survivors of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, are among those who currently keep alive the flame of collective conscience, bearing witness to succeeding generations to the horror of what happened in August 1945 and the unspeakable sufferings that have continued to the present time. Their testimony awakens and preserves the memory of the victims, so that the conscience of humanity may rise up in the face of every desire for dominance and destruction. “We cannot allow present and future generations to lose the

memory of what happened here. It is a memory that ensures and encourages the building of a more fair and fraternal future”.<sup>[4]</sup>

Like the *Hibakusha*, many people in today’s world are working to ensure that future generations will preserve the memory of past events, not only in order to prevent the same errors or illusions from recurring, but also to enable memory, as the fruit of experience, to serve as the basis and inspiration for present and future decisions to promote peace.

What is more, memory is the horizon of hope. Many times, in the darkness of wars and conflicts, the remembrance of even a small gesture of solidarity received can lead to courageous and even heroic decisions. It can unleash new energies and kindle new hope in individuals and communities.

Setting out on a journey of peace is a challenge made all the more complex because the interests at stake in relationships between people, communities and nations, are numerous and conflicting. We must first appeal to people’s moral conscience and to personal and political will. Peace emerges from the depths of the human heart and political will must always be renewed, so that new ways can be found to reconcile and unite individuals and communities.

The world does not need empty words but convinced witnesses, peacemakers who are open to a dialogue that rejects exclusion or manipulation. In fact, we

cannot truly achieve peace without a convinced dialogue between men and women who seek the truth beyond ideologies and differing opinions. Peace “must be built up continually”;<sup>[5]</sup> it is a journey made together in constant pursuit of the common good, truthfulness and respect for law. Listening to one another can lead to mutual understanding and esteem, and even to seeing in an enemy the face of a brother or sister.

The peace process thus requires enduring commitment. It is a patient effort to seek truth and justice, to honour the memory of victims and to open the way, step by step, to a shared hope stronger than the desire for vengeance. In a state based on law, democracy can be an important paradigm of this process, provided it is grounded in justice and a commitment to protect the rights of every person, especially the weak and marginalized, in a constant search for truth.<sup>[6]</sup> This is a social undertaking, an ongoing work in which each individual makes his or her contribution responsibly, at every level of the local, national and global community.

As Saint Paul VI pointed out, these “two aspirations, to equality and to participation, seek to promote a democratic society... This calls for an education to social life, involving not only the knowledge of each person’s rights, but also its necessary correlative: the recognition of his or her duties with regard to others. The sense and practice of duty are themselves conditioned by the capacity for self-mastery and by the acceptance of responsibility and of the limits placed

upon the freedom of individuals or the groups”.<sup>[7]</sup>

Divisions within a society, the increase of social inequalities and the refusal to employ the means of ensuring integral human development endanger the pursuit of the common good. Yet patient efforts based on the power of the word and of truth can help foster a greater capacity for compassion and creative solidarity.

In our Christian experience, we constantly remember Christ, who gave his life to reconcile us to one another (cf. *Rom* 5:6-11). The Church shares fully in the search for a just social order; she continues to serve the common good and to nourish the hope for peace by transmitting Christian values and moral teaching, and by her social and educational works.

### **3. *Peace, a journey of reconciliation in fraternal communion***

The Bible, especially in the words of the Prophets, reminds individuals and peoples of God’s covenant with humanity, which entails renouncing our desire to dominate others and learning to see one another as persons, sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters. We should never encapsulate others in what they may have said or done, but value them for the promise that they embody. Only by choosing the path of respect can we break the spiral of vengeance and set out on the journey of hope.

We are guided by the Gospel passage that tells of the following conversation between Peter and Jesus: “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven” (*Mt* 18:21-22). This path of reconciliation is a summons to discover in the depths of our heart the power of forgiveness and the capacity to acknowledge one another as brothers and sisters. When we learn to live in forgiveness, we grow in our capacity to become men and women of peace.

What is true of peace in a social context is also true in the areas of politics and the economy, since peace permeates every dimension of life in common. There can be no true peace unless we show ourselves capable of developing a more just economic system. As Pope Benedict XVI said ten years ago in his Encyclical Letter *Caritas in Veritate*, “in order to defeat underdevelopment, action is required not only on improving exchange-based transactions and implanting public welfare structures, but above all on gradually increasing openness, in a world context, to forms of economic activity marked by quotas of gratuitousness and communion” (No. 39).

### **4. *Peace, a journey of ecological conversion***

“If a mistaken understanding of our own principles has at times led us to justify mistreating nature, to exercise tyranny over creation, to engage in war, injustice and acts of violence, we believers

should acknowledge that by so doing we were not faithful to the treasures of wisdom which we have been called to protect and preserve”.[8]

Faced with the consequences of our hostility towards others, our lack of respect for our common home or our abusive exploitation of natural resources – seen only as a source of immediate profit, regardless of local communities, the common good and nature itself – we are in need of an ecological conversion. The recent Synod on the Pan-Amazon Region moves us to make a pressing renewed call for a peaceful relationship between communities and the land, between present and past, between experience and hope.

This journey of reconciliation also calls for listening and contemplation of the world that God has given us as a gift to make our common home. Indeed, natural resources, the many forms of life and the earth itself have been entrusted to us “to till and keep” (*Gen 1:15*), also for future generations, through the responsible and active participation of everyone. We need to change the way we think and see things, and to become more open to encountering others and accepting the gift of creation, which reflects the beauty and wisdom of its Creator.

All this gives us deeper motivation and a new way to dwell in our common home, to accept our differences, to respect and celebrate the life that we have received and share, and to seek living conditions and models of society that

favour the continued flourishing of life and the development of the common good of the entire human family.

The ecological conversion for which we are appealing will lead us to a new way of looking at life, as we consider the generosity of the Creator who has given us the earth and called us to a share it in joy and moderation. This conversion must be understood in an integral way, as a transformation of how we relate to our sisters and brothers, to other living beings, to creation in all its rich variety and to the Creator who is the origin and source of all life. For Christians, it requires that “the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them”.[9]

##### 5. “*We obtain all that we hope for*”[10]

The journey of reconciliation calls for patience and trust. Peace will not be obtained unless it is hoped for.

In the first place, this means believing in the possibility of peace, believing that others need peace just as much as we do. Here we can find inspiration in the love that God has for each of us: a love that is liberating, limitless, gratuitous and tireless.

Fear is frequently a source of conflict. So it is important to overcome our human fears and acknowledge that we are needy children in the eyes of the One who loves us and awaits us, like the father of the prodigal son (cf. *Lk 15:11-24*). The culture of fraternal encounter shat-

ters the culture of conflict. It makes of every encounter a possibility and a gift of God's generous love. It leads us beyond the limits of our narrow horizons and constantly encourages us to a live in a spirit of universal fraternity, as children of the one heavenly Father.

For the followers of Christ, this journey is likewise sustained by the sacrament of Reconciliation, given by the Lord for the remission of sins of the baptized. This sacrament of the Church, which renews individuals and communities, bids us keep our gaze fixed on Jesus, who reconciled "all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross" (Col 1:20). It requires us to set aside every act of violence in thought, word and deed, whether against our neighbours or against God's creation.

The grace of God our Father is bestowed as unconditional love. Having

received his forgiveness in Christ, we can set out to offer that peace to the men and women of our time. Day by day, the Holy Spirit prompts in us ways of thinking and speaking that can make us artisans of justice and peace.

May the God of peace bless us and come to our aid. May Mary, Mother of the Prince of Peace and Mother of all the peoples of the earth, accompany and sustain us at every step of our journey of reconciliation.

And may all men and women who come into this world experience a life of peace and develop fully the promise of life and love dwelling in their heart.

*From the Vatican, 8 December 2019*

*Franciscus*

FRANCIS

## COMMUNICATIONS

### THANKS FOR THE GREETINGS:

I would like to express my thanks to all the priests and the religious who conveyed greetings of Christmas and New Year either in person or through greeting cards. I wish you all a JOYFUL NEW YEAR 2020. May the New Year bring you all God's choicest blessings!

**JANUARY-2020 RECOLLECTION:** As the junior clergy will have their Annual Retreat in January, the Vicariate Recollections will stand cancelled.

### FR.REDAELLI PIME, SCHOLARSHIPS:

This is to request the parish priests who are still to submit Application Forms for Fr. Redaelli Scholarships. Please instruct the students to send their respective applications by Registered Post with the self addressed postal envelope at the earliest.

*Fr. M. Balaswamy, President, Fr. Redaelli Educational Society, Gannavaram Parish*

**ORDO - 2020:** The Priests and religious are requested to collect ORDO- 2020 from Fr. Marlapati Bhanu Yeshwanth Kumar, the Secretary to Bishop. (Cell No: 8522936636). We thank Fr. Nakka David Raju, the Diocesan Director of Commission for Liturgy, who has prepared this Ordo and made it available to us on time.

**CHRISTMAS GIFT:** “God’s Word 2020: Daily Reflections” published by St. Paul’s India, is given to the pastoral clergy and the heads of the religious communities of our diocese as a Christmas gift. Please collect your copy from Rev. Fr. Marlapati Bhanu Yeshwanth Kumar, the Secretary. It will not be available after 31 January

**ANNUAL RETURNS FORMS-2019:** Parish Priests, Heads of the Institutions and Convents are hereby requested to collect the Annual Returns Forms from the Bishop’s House and submit the same duly filled in, to the Bishop’s House before **31st January 2020**. When filling the forms, kindly pay attention to the record of the previous year in order to avoid glaring inconsistencies and irregularities. Undue delay in submitting these forms causes a lot of inconvenience to the office. Therefore, you are requested to return the duly filled forms by the end of January 2020.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE:** All the parish priests are requested to send the names of the office bearers of Parish Pastoral Council

and Parish Finance Committee to the Bishop’s Secretariat at the earliest. Very few parish priests have sent the names. For any guidance on the formation of these councils/committees, please approach Fr. Kolakani Marianna, the Judicial Vicar.

**DATA OF THE LOCAL VOCATIONS:**

We are trying to take stock of the Vocations to Priesthood/Religious Life that the diocese has produced and we seek the assistance of all the Parish Priests in order to collect this data. The data has already been requested from the Parish Priests through an email from the Bishop’s office.

We appeal once again to the Parish Priests to collect the data of all Vocations to Priesthood/Religious Life that your parish has produced. Please take the help of the Catechists in your parish to collect this information. The data required is the following:

1. **Name and Surname of the Priest/Brother/Sister:**
2. **Name of the Village from which he/she hails:**
3. **Name of the Religious Congregation/Diocese to which he/she belongs:**
4. **Year of Ordination/Religious Profession:**
5. **Current Appointment/Place of Work:**
6. **Contact Information: Address, Mobile Number, Email**
7. **Date of Death, if expired:**

Kindly collect the above information for each of the Priest/Brother/Priest/Seminarian hailing from your parish and send the same to the Secretaries of the Bishop.

**ANNUAL RETREAT FOR THE JUNIOR CLERGY:** The annual retreat for the Junior Clergy (10 years of Priesthood) will be held from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2020. It will start at 9.00 a.m. on 6<sup>th</sup> January and conclude at 1.00 p.m. on 10<sup>th</sup> January. Fr. Tony Menezes SVD will preach the retreat for the Junior Clergy.

The Junior clergy and the priests who did not attend the senior clergy retreat are expected to attend this Retreat without fail. Express permission of the bishop is required for exemption from attending this Retreat.

**UNITY OCTAVE WEEK:** We observe the Christian Unity Octave Week 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 to deepen our ecumenical communion. I appeal to all the parish priests and the religious to do whatever is possible to promote good relationships with other Christian Communities, especially the pastors and other leaders. This week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a wonderful occasion to renew and strengthen our efforts to promote unity and fellowship. Please take initiative to conduct at least one prayer service with members of other Churches in your parish area.

**FEAST OF BRO. JOSEPH THAMBY, AVUTAPALLI:** The annual feast of Bro. Joseph Thamby will be celebrated at Avutapalli on 13, 14 & 15 January 2020. All the priests and religious in the diocese are requested to extend the needed cooperation to the Shrine committee of Avutapalli and encourage the faithful to attend the festival and reap the spiritual benefits.

**GUNADALAMATHA FESTIVAL:** Gunadalamatha Festival will be celebrated with solemnity on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. This being the principal shrine of the diocese, I appeal to all the Priests, religious and laity in our diocese, to extend the necessary cooperation for an orderly and meaningful celebration of the festival by physical presence and involvement. All the priests and heads of the institutions are hereby requested to encourage the faithful to participate in the feast.

Please do extend all the collaboration and cooperation to Fr. Eleti William Jaya Raju, the Rector of Gunadalamatha Shrine, and to all those who are in charge of different committees and are given special responsibilities. The presence of priests, both diocesan and religious, is desired by the devotees for praying and blessing them in the church, at the Grotto and the Cross. This is a diocesan festival and none of us should shun ourselves from being present whenever and wherever needed so that the festival is celebrated meaningfully. Please attend to the duties allotted to

you responsibly and enthusiastically. In the preparatory meeting a lot of lay people expressed their desire to see more priests for confessions, and for praying over the devotees that come. Therefore, I request the priests to make themselves available to these ministries.

I also request all the priests in the diocese, especially those in the pastoral ministry, to prepare the people spiritually for the Gunadalamatha Feast by making arrangements for the novena prayers in all the parish headquarters and wherever possible in the villages too. These efforts will help the whole Christian Community in each parish to be part of the celebrations at this diocesan shrine. May this festival promote unity and togetherness in the diocese!

### COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL CENTRE:

#### **Bible Exam for the Catechists 2020:**

This is to bring to the kind notice of all the parish priests that Bible Exam for the Catechists for the year 2020 will be conducted on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 at Pastoral Centre from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. The syllabus for the exam is the Book of Revelation and the epistle of St. Jude.

**The Diocesan Catechism Exam for the School Children 2020:** This is to remind the Correspondents/Headmasters/Headmistresses of the Catholic schools of our diocese of the Diocesan

Catechism Exam for 2020 for the Catholic children of 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> classes which will be conducted on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Bishop Grassi High School, Gunadala, from 10.00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Therefore, I request you to prepare your students and bring only three students from each class for the final exam.

#### **General Instructions**

- Please conduct the Exam in your School according to your convenience before the final exam.
- Please bring only those who secure First, Second and Third in your local exam for the Final Exam.
- Lunch will be provided for the teachers and students.

For any Clarifications please contact Fr. Vijaya Kumar Damala:9550758297

#### **CONDOLENCES:**

- Mr. Varakala Arlappa (66), father of Fr. Varakala Gaspar Raju, passed away on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2019. We express our heartfelt condolences to Fr. V. Gaspar Raju and to other bereaved members of the family. May the Lord of mercies grant him Eternal Rest!
- Mrs. Lanke Nirmala (65), Mother of Rev. Fr. Lanke Sridhar, passed away on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019. We express our heartfelt condolences to Fr. L. Sridhar and to other bereaved members of the family. May the Lord of mercies grant her Eternal Rest!

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO DIOCESE IN DECEMBER, 2019****SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

S.No.	PARISH	CONTRIBUTION	S.No.	PARISH	CONTRIBUTION
1.	St. Paul's Cathedral	₹ 15,697	38.	Kaikaluru	₹ 2,100
2.	St. Peter's Co-Cathedral	₹ 16,220	39.	Kalidindi	₹ 1,530
3.	Agiripalli	₹ 317	40.	Kambhampadu	₹ 163
4.	Ajithsinghnagar	₹ 2,798	41.	Kanchikacherla	₹ 2,001
5.	Arugolanu	₹ 904	42.	Kankipadu	₹ 2,484
6.	Assisi Nagar (Konkepudi)	₹ 1,240	43.	Kanuru	₹ 4,007
7.	Avanigadda	₹ 1,655	44.	Keesara	₹ 587
8.	Avutapalli	₹ 6,843	45.	Kesarapalli	₹ 4,851
9.	Azzampudi	₹ 1,159	46.	Koduru	₹ 646
10.	Bantumilli	₹ 545	47.	Kondapalli	₹ 1,790
11.	Bhaskaraopeta	₹ 400	48.	Kondapavuluru	₹ 834
12.	Bhyravapatnam	₹ 830	49.	Korukollu	₹ 350
13.	Bodavada-Jammavaram	₹ 981	50.	Kotapadu	₹ 170
14.	Bommuluru	₹ 1,465	51.	Kothapalli	₹ 160
15.	Carmelnagar	₹ 932	52.	Kuchipudi	₹ -----
16.	Challapalli	₹ 1,964	53.	Labpipeta	₹ 4,050
17.	Chandarlapadu	₹ 466	54.	Lourdunagar	₹ 926
18.	Chanubanda	₹ 295	55.	Machilipatnam	₹ -----
19.	Chatrai	₹ 707	56.	Mallavalli	₹ 608
20.	Chillakallu	₹ -----	57.	Manginapudi	₹ 626
21.	Christurajapuram	₹ 2,710	58.	Mariapuram (Lakshmpuram)	₹ 835
22.	Edara	₹ 2,240	59.	Mucchintala	₹ 1,100
23.	Edulagudem	₹ 814	60.	Mudinepalli	₹ 1,220
24.	Enikepadu	₹ 950	61.	Mulapadu	₹ 985
25.	Gampalagudem (Nov. - 535)	₹ 595	62.	Munagalapalli	₹ 581
26.	Gannavaram	₹ 1,310	63.	Musunuru	₹ 626
27.	Gollapudi	₹ 1,880	64.	Mylavaram	₹ 2,014
28.	Goodmanpeta	₹ 1,808	65.	Nagayalanka	₹ 1,073
29.	Gudivada	₹ 3,000	66.	Nandigama	₹ 3,250
30.	Gudlavalleru	₹ 2,050	67.	Nawabupeta	₹ 760
31.	Gunadala	₹ 42,190	68.	Nehrupeta	₹ 1,233
32.	Guntupalli	₹ 1,445	69.	Nunna	₹ 1,220
33.	Jagannadhapuram	₹ 480	70.	Nuzvid-Town	₹ 1,816
34.	Jaggayyapeta	₹ -----	71.	Pamaru	₹ 574
35.	Jakkampudi (Jeevan Nagar)	₹ 437	72.	Pedda-Mustabad	₹ 1,240
36.	Joji Nagar	₹ 3,879	73.	Pedana	₹ 988
37.	Jyothinagar	₹ 2,215	74.	Penamaluru	₹ 2,086

## COMMUNICATIONS

S.No.	PARISH	CONTRIBUTION	S.No.	PARISH	CONTRIBUTION
75.	Penugolanu	₹ 210	89.	Tiruvuru	₹ 931
76.	Pezzonipeta	₹ 6,376	90.	Uppaluru	₹ 1,660
77.	Polukonda	₹ 1,025	91.	Vanukuru	₹ 1,205
78.	Pydurupadu	₹ 310	92.	Vatsavai	₹ 188
79.	Rajareswaripeta	₹ 1,147	93.	Velagalagudem	₹ 418
80.	Ramanakkapeta	₹ 700	94.	Vellaturu	₹ 933
81.	Ranigarithota	₹ 808	95.	Velpur	₹ 730
82.	Sahayanagar (Ibrahimpattam)	₹ 1,070	96.	Vennanapudi	₹ -----
83.	Saradhanagar	₹ 1,030	97.	Ventrappagada	₹ 470
84.	Satyanarayanapuram	₹ 2,871	98.	Vissannapeta	₹ 1,138
85.	Siluvagattu	₹ 256	99.	Vuyyuru	₹ 2,156
86.	Siluvagirinagar	₹ 422	100.	Yesupuram	₹ 380
87.	Telaprolu	₹ 972			
88.	Thukkuluru	₹ 773			
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>₹ 2,01,084</b>

## MASSES

09.12.2019	Edara	@Rs.100	332	₹	33,200
10.12.2019	Uppaluru	@Rs.100	07	₹	700
16.12.2019	Gannavaram	@Rs.100	70	₹	7,000
20.12.2019	Gudivada	@Rs.100	10	₹	1,000
31.12.2019	Gundalamatha Shrine	@Rs.100/-	632	₹	63,200
31.12.2019	Kesarapalli	@Rs.100/-	100	₹	10,000
31.12.2019	St. Peter's Co-Cathedral	@Rs.100	105	₹	10,500
31.12.2019	St. Paul's Cathedral	@Rs.100	36	₹	3,600
31.12.2019	Kankipadu	@Rs.100	50	₹	5,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>1342</b>	<b>₹</b>	<b>1,34,200</b>

## FAMILY CARDS

31.12.2019	Gunadalamatha Shrine	₹	7,660
31.12.2019	St. Peter's Co-Cathedral	₹	7,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>₹</b>	<b>14,660</b>

## ANIMATORS' FUND

21.12.2019	Anonymous	₹	5,000
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**GUNADALAMATHA FESTIVAL - 2020**  
**CELEBRANTS FOR THE MASSES ON NOVENA AND FESTIVAL DAYS**  
**31.01.2020 Friday: Flag Hoisting by Most Rev. Thelagathoti J. Raja Rao S.M.M., Bishop of Vijayawada**

Date	Name	Theme
31-01-2020 Friday	<b>Rev. Fr. Valle Vijaya Joji Babu</b> (Chancellor & Procurator, Diocese of Vijayawada)	Mary: The Temple of God
01-02-2020 Saturday	<b>Rev. Fr. Bodula James Bhanu, S.A.C.</b> (Pallotti Vidhyanam, Nidamanuru)	Mary: The Treasure House of Divine Grace
<b>02-02-2020 SUNDAY</b>		
<b>Laying of the Foundation Stone of the New Shrine Church of Gunadalamatha at 5.00 p.m.</b> <b>by Most Rev. Thelagathoti J. Raja Rao S.M.M., Bishop of Vijayawada</b> <b>on the occasion of the Feast of the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple</b>		
02-02-2020 Sunday	<b>Rev. Fr. Katam Balthazar</b> (St. Joseph's Dental College, Eluru)	Mary: The Immaculate Heart
03-02-2020 Monday	<b>Rev. Fr. Molugumati Suguna Rao</b> (Parish Priest, Tiruvuru)	Mary: The Refuge of Sinners
04-02-2020 Tuesday	<b>Rev. Fr. Pili Anthony Das</b> (Diocese of Nellore, Professor at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyd.)	Mary: The Spouse of the Holy Spirit
05-02-2020 Wednesday	<b>Rev. Msgr. Kommareddy Inna Reddy</b> (Vicar General, Diocese of Guntur)	Mary: The Mirror of Justice
06-02-2020 Thursday	<b>Rev. Fr. Nagipogu Jaya Raju, O.S.B.</b> (Parish Priest, Jakkampudi)	Mary: The Joy of The Just
07-02-2020 Friday	<b>Rev. Fr. Nimmagadda Joshi Ramesh</b> (Correspondent, All Saints Eng. Med. High School, Chillakallu)	Mary: Blessed Among Women
08-02-2020 Saturday	<b>Rev. Msgr. Muvvala Prasad</b> (Vicar General & Parish Priest, St. Peter's Co-Cathedral, Vijayawada)	Mary: The Gate of Heaven
<b>Date</b>		
<b>Morning</b>		<b>Evening</b>
09-02-2020 Sunday	<b>Rev. Fr. Kattrukudiyil Abraham Thomas</b> (Golden Jubilarian) <b>Rev. Fr. Dovari Joseph</b> (Silver Jubilarian)	<b>Most Rev. Rayarala Vijaya Kumar P.I.M.E.</b> Bishop of Srikakulam
10-02-2020 Monday	<b>Most Rev. Udumula Bala</b> Bishop of Warangal	<b>Most Rev. Antony Prince Panengaden</b> Bishop of Adilabad
11-02-2020 Tuesday	<b>Most Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao S.M.M.</b> Bishop of Vijayawada	

**GUNADALAMATHA FESTIVAL 2020**

**Assignments at the Cross**

**Overall In-charge at the Cross: Fr. Katta Vijaya Sleeva Babu**

**09-02-2020 Sunday**

S.No.	Name	Date	Time
1	Sch. Jagadeesh, SJ, Sch. Lavanya, SJ	09-02-2020 Sunday	9.00 am – 11.00 am
2	Sch. Aseet, SJ, Sch. Ashim, SJ	09-02-2020 Sunday	11.00 am – 1.00 pm
3	Fr. Matta Lazar, Fr. Chilukoti John Babu	09-02-2020 Sunday	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm
4	Fr. Antony Bala Joseph, SAC Fr. Moganati Thambi, CPPS	09-02-2020 Sunday	3.00 pm – 5.00pm
5	Fr. Tera Raraju Fr. Nimmagadda Joshi Ramesh	09-02-2020 Sunday	5.00 pm – 7.00 pm
6	Fr. Inna Babu, OFM Cap. Fr. Vinay Sagar Setty, CM	09-02-2020 Sunday	7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
7	Fr. Lingathoti Ratna Kishore Fr. Kathula Sunil Babu	09-02-2020 Sunday	9.00 pm – 11.00 pm
8	Sch. Sunit, SJ, Sch. Vishal, SJ	09-02-2020 Sunday	11.00 pm – 1.00 am

**10-02-2020 Monday**

9	Sch. Prasad, SJ, Sch. Pawan, SJ	10-02-2020 Monday	1.00 am – 3.00 am
10	Sch. Jagadeesh, SJ, Sch. Lavanya, SJ	10-02-2020 Monday	3.00 am – 5.00 am
11	Sch. Aseet, SJ, Sch. Ashim, SJ	10-02-2020 Monday	5.00 am – 7.00 am
12	Fr. Sankurla Santhi Raju Fr. Karem Sekhar Babu	10-02-2020 Monday	7.00 am – 9.00 am
13	Fr. Mende Francis, Fr. Kama Christu Raju	10-02-2020 Monday	9.00 am – 11.00 am
14	Fr. Nemukuri Gabriel, MF Fr. Ravi Shastri, MoC	10-02-2020 Monday	11.00 am – 1.00 pm
15	Fr. Chebrolu Joseph Thambi, Fr. Gaddam Joji	10-02-2020 Monday	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm
16	Fr. Kama Anil, Fr. Jangam Vijay Kumar	10-02-2020 Monday	3.00 pm – 5.00pm
17	Fr. Kovvala Joji Babu, Fr. Kuchipudi Prasanth	10-02-2020 Monday	5.00 pm – 7.00 pm
18	Fr. Menyam Sarath Francis Fr. Merugumala Anil Kumar	10-02-2020 Monday	7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
19	Fr. Nandipam Jojappa, Fr. Neelam Lourdu Raju	10-02-2020 Monday	9.00 pm – 11.00 pm
20	Fr. Paragati Bernard, Fr. Maddala Vinay Kumar	10-02-2020 Monday	11.00 pm – 1.00 am

**11-02-2020 Tuesday**

21	Sch. Sunit, SJ, Sch. Vishal, SJ	11-02-2020 Tuesday	1.00 am – 3.00 am
22	Sch. Prasad, SJ, Sch. Pawan, SJ	11-02-2020 Tuesday	3.00 am -5.00 am
23	Fr. Kondru Velangani Raju, Fr. Gone Naresh	11-02-2020 Tuesday	5.00 am -7.00 am
24	Fr. Goremucchu Joseph Fr. Thamalam Ravi Kumar	11-02-2020 Tuesday	7.00 am - 9.00 am
25	Fr. Neeluri Mariadas, Fr. Bapatla Thomas	11-02-2020 Tuesday	9.00 am -11.00 am
26	Fr. Bondala Sleeva Raju Dn. Thokala Suresh	11-02-2020 Tuesday	11.00 am -1.00 pm
27	Fr. Sale Vinay Kumar Fr. Konda Mahesh Babu	11-02-2020 Tuesday	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm
28	Sch. Jagadeesh, SJ, Sch. Lavanya, SJ	11-02-2020 Tuesday	3.00 pm – 5.00pm
29	Sch. Aseet, SJ, Sch. Ashim, SJ	11-02-2020 Tuesday	5.00 pm – 7.00 pm
30	Sch. Sunit, SJ, Sch. Vishal, SJ	11-02-2020 Tuesday	7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
31	Sch. Prasad, SJ, Sch. Pawan, SJ	11-02-2020 Tuesday	9.00 pm -11.00 pm

**Assignments at the Grotto**  
**Over-all In-charge at the Grotto: Fr. Pulapaka Jacob Prasad**  
**09-02-2020 Sunday**

S.No	Name	Date	Time
1	Dn. Birudugadda Ravi Kumar Dn. Medipalli Thomas	09-02-2020/ Sunday	9.00 am- 11.00 am
2	Dn. Vasipalli Rajesh, Dn. Merugumala Vinodh	09-02-2020/ Sunday	11.00 am -1.00 pm
3	Sch. Abhinay, SJ, Sch. Bhaskar, SJ	09-02-2020/ Sunday	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm
4	Fr. Bavuluri Raju, MF, Fr. Joseph Surya, VC	09-02-2020/ Sunday	3.00 pm – 5.00pm
5	Fr. Allam Pratap, OFM Cap., Fr. Nagipogu Jaya Raju, OSB	09-02-2020/ Sunday	5.00 pm – 7.00 pm
6	Fr. Gudise Jaya Raju, Fr. Gotru Merlo Babu	09-02-2020/ Sunday	7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
7	Fr. Kolikepogu Anil Francis, Fr. Kommathoti Anil Joshi	09-02-2020/ Sunday	9.00 pm - 11.00 pm
8	Fr. Kommavarapu Joseph Thambi Fr. Mocherla Balayesu	09-02-2020/ Sunday	11.00 pm -1.00 am

**10-02-2020 Monday**

9	Sch. Dominic, SJ, Sch. Donald, SJ	10-02-2020/ Monday	1.00 am –3.00 am
10	Sch. Niranjan, SJ, Sch. Poul, SJ	10-02-2020/ Monday	3.00 am –5.00 am
11	Sch. Pradeep, SJ, Sch. Rex Kumar, SJ	10-02-2020/ Monday	5.00 am - 7.00 am
12	Fr. Macherla Balaswamy, OCD Fr. Abbadasari John Kishore, OMI	10-02-2020/ Monday	7.00 am - 9.00 am
13	Fr. M. Bhaskar, SAC, Fr. N. Showry Kishore SJ	10-02-2020/ Monday	9.00 am -11.00am
14	Fr. Bavanu Vijaya Raju, Fr. Dara Balaswamy	10-02-2020/ Monday	11.00 am -1.00pm
15	Fr. Tenali Thomas, Fr. Nuthalapati Kishore	10-02-2020/ Monday	1.00 pm – 3.00pm
16	Fr. Marri Philomen Raju Fr. Muvvala Solomon Raju	10-02-2020/ Monday	3.00 pm – 5.00pm
17	Fr. Maddala Joseph Fr. Molugumati Joseph Suguna Rao	10-02-2020/ Monday	5.00 pm – 7.00pm
18	Fr. Mathew (Shaiju), CFIC, Fr. M. Moses Csr	10-02-2020/ Monday	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm
19	Fr. Mandapati Louis Raju, Fr. Kamatham Mariyadas	10-02-2020/ Monday	9.00 pm -11.00pm
20	Fr. Darsi Jeeva Kumar, Fr. Salikiti Immanuel	10-02-2020/ Monday	11.00 pm -1.00am

**11-02-2020 Tuesday**

21	Sch. Vidya Sagar, SJ, Sch. Vijay, SJ Sch. Abhinay, SJ	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	1.00 am – 3.00 am
22	Sch. Bhaskar, SJ, Sch. Dominic, SJ Sch. Donald, SJ	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	3.00 am – 5.00 am
23	Sch. Niranjan, SJ, Sch. Poul, SJ Sch. Pradeep, SJ	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	5.00 am – 7.00 am
24	Sch. Rex Kumar, SJ, Sch. Vidya Sagar, SJ	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	7.00 am – 9.00 am
25	Fr. Amire Ajay Kumar, Fr. Bandanadam Francis	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	9.00 am -11.00 am
26	Fr. Thota Sunil Raju, Fr. Pulapaka Jacob Prasad	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	11.00 am -1.00 pm
27	Fr. Molugumati Prakash, Fr. Polimetla Christu Raju	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm
28	Fr. Katta Vijaya Babu, Fr. Gudapati Pratap	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	3.00 pm – 5.00pm
29	Dn. Vasipalli Rajesh, Dn. Merugumala Vinodh	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	5.00 pm - 7.00 pm
30	Dn. Medipalli Thomas, Dn. B. Ravi Kumar	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm
31	Sch. Vijay, SJ, Sch. Abhinay, SJ Sch. Bhaskar, SJ	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	9.00 pm -11.00 pm
32	Sch. Dominic, SJ, Sch. Donald, SJ Sch. Niranjan, SJ	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	11.00 pm -1.00 am

**Assignments in the Church**  
**Over-all In-charge in the Church: Fr. Polisetty Jaya Raju**  
**09-02-2020 Sunday**

S.No.	Name	Date	Time
1	Sr. Rachael, MSI, Sr. Melania, MSI Sr. Lancy, MSI, Sr. Swapna, MSI	09-02-2020/ Sunday	9.00 am – 10.00 am
2	<b>Charismatic Prayers:</b> Fr. Pamu Sudhakar & Diocesan Charismatic Team	09-02-2020/ Sunday	<b>10.00 am – 11.30 am</b>
3	<b>Eucharistic Celebration</b> Fr. Boddu Anand Babu	09-02-2020/ Sunday	<b>11.30 am</b>
4	<b>Charismatic Prayers:</b> Fr. Pamu Sudhakar & Diocesan Charismatic Team	09-02-2020/ Sunday	<b>1.00 pm – 3.00pm</b>
5	Fr. Basani Papi Reddy Fr. Bontha Lourdhu Francis Sr. Bhagya Rekha, SAL, Sr. Felista, SAL Sr. Roja, SAL	09-02-2020/ Sunday	3.00 pm – 5.00 pm
6	Fr. Guzzula Michael Fr. Golla Vijaya Kumar Sr. Dayamani, SAL, Sr. Mary Ramya, SAL Sr. Yesu Maria, SAL	09-02-2020/ Sunday	5.00 pm – 7.00 pm
7	Fr. Imandi Swaminadham Fr. Johnny D'Cruz Sr. Barshisha, SAL, Sr. Ashritha, SAL Sr. Sahaya Sherine, SAL	09-02-2020/ Sunday	7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
8	Fr. Thalamala Jaya Raju Sr. Sabitha Sebastian, SAL Sr. Sindhu, SAL, Sr. Julia, SAL	09-02-2020/ Sunday	9.00 pm – 12.00 pm

**10-02-2020 Monday**

1	Sr. Rachael, MSI, Sr. Melania, MSI Sr. Lancy, MSI, Sr. Swapna, MSI	10-02-2020/Monday	5.00 am – 7.00 am
2	Fr. Mesapam Joseph, Fr. Amarlapudi Karunakar Sr. Bhagya Rekha, SAL, Sr. Felista, SAL Sr. Roja, SAL	10-02-2020/Monday	7.00 am – 9.00 am
3	Fr. Kandula Maria Babu, Fr. Kondru Simharayalu Sr. Dayamani, SAL, Sr. Mary Ramya, SAL Sr. Yesu Maria, SAL	10-02-2020/Monday	9.00 am – 10.00 am
4	<b>Charismatic Prayers:</b> Fr. Pamu Sudhakar & Diocesan Charismatic Team	10-02-2020/Monday	<b>10.00 am – 11.30 am</b>
5	<b>Eucharistic Celebration</b> Rev. Pulapaka Jacob Prasad	10-02-2020/Monday	<b>11.30 am</b>
6	<b>Charismatic Prayers:</b> Fr. Pamu Sudhakar & Diocesan Charismatic Team	10-02-2020/Monday	<b>1.00 pm – 3.00pm</b>

7	<b>Eucharistic Celebration</b> Rev. Fr. Sale Vinay Kumar	10-02-2020/Monday	<b>3.00 pm</b>
8	Fr. Lamu Jaya Raju, Fr. P.D.Datt Sr. Barshisha, SAL, Sr. Ashritha, SAL Sr. Sahaya Sherine, SAL	10-02-2020/Monday	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
9	Fr. Polimetla Joachim, Fr. Thirividhi Daniel Sr. Sabitha Sebastian, SAL Sr. Sindhu, SAL, Sr. Julia, SAL	10-02-2020/Monday	6.00 pm – 8.00 pm
10	Fr. Mandagiri Jojaiah, MSFS Fr. Allam Pratap Reddy, MSFS Sr. Rachael, MSI, Sr. Melania, MSI Sr. Lancy, MSI, Sr. Swapna, MSI	10-02-2020/Monday	8.00 pm – 10.00 pm
11	Dn. Birudugadda Ravi Kumar Dn. Medipalli Thomas, Dn. Vasipalli Rajesh	10-02-2020/Monday	10.00 pm – 12.00 am

**11-02-2020 Tuesday**

	Sr. Bhagya Rekha, SAL Sr. Felista, SAL Sr. Roja, SAL	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	5.00 am – 7.00 am
	Sr. Dayamani, SAL Sr. Mary Ramya, SAL Sr. Yesu Maria, SAL	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	7.00 am – 9.00 am
25	Fr. Thomas Enthackal, CM Fr. Polisetty Dhana Raj, OCD Sr. Barshisha, SAL Sr. Ashritha, SAL Sr. Sahaya Sherine, SAL	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	9.00 am – 10.00 am
26	<b>Charismatic Prayers:</b> Fr. Pamu Sudhakar & Diocesan Charismatic Team	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	<b>10.00 am -11.30 am</b>
27	<b>Eucharistic Celebration</b> Rev. Fr. Sankurla Santhi Raju	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	<b>11.30 am</b>
28	<b>Charismatic Prayers:</b> Fr. Pamu Sudhakar & Diocesan Charismatic Team	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	<b>1.00 pm – 4.00pm</b>
29	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	<b>4.00 pm –</b>
30	Sr. Sabitha Sebastian, SAL Sr. Sindhu, SAL Sr. Julia, SAL	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
31	Sr. Rachael, MSI Sr. Melania, MSI Sr. Lancy, MSI Sr. Swapna, MSI	11-02-2020/ Tuesday	8.00 pm – 11.00 pm



**Most Rev. Thelagathoti J. Raja Rao SMM**  
Bishop of Vijayawada



**Fr. William Jaya Raju Eleti**  
Rector & Parish Priest

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

### The Re-dedication of St. Ann's Chapel at Malleswaram, Bantumilli Parish

The faithful of Malleswaram, the substation of Bantumilli parish had a great day



of joy on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019. On that day His Excellency Most Rev.

Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, SMM, blessed the renovated chapel and re-dedicated it to St. Ann the patroness. His Excellency presided over the Holy Eucharist on that festive day. The chapel was renovated with the generous help of Cluny Sisters and the contribution from the local people. His Excellency hailed the generous act of the faithful and the religious nuns. The people especially the children were very happy to celebrate the pre-Christmas with the shepherd of the diocese after the mass. More than thousand people from all the substations of the parish participated in the celebration and had the festive meal.

*Fr. Bandanadam Francis, Parish Priest, Bantumilli*

## NEWS FROM THE RELIGIOUS

### The Celebration of Final Profession of the Sisters of St. Ann's, Luzern.

It was a great day of rejoicing for the family of St. Ann's Luzern, as six of our Tertians made their perpetual Vows to the Lord on 7th December, 2019. We were blessed to have the gracious presence of His Lordship most Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, SMM, the Bishop of Vijayawada diocese, Rev. Msgr. Muvvala Prasad, the Vicar General and many other Reverend Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and our well-wishers. We are grateful to His Lordship for offering the Holy Eucharist, presiding over the profession ceremony and imploring

God's blessings on our Sisters and all of us. His inspiring and thought-provoking message enables us to proceed with enthusiasm and courage in our religious life without losing focus and direction.

His Lordship, in his sermon, exhorted



our Sisters that religious life in the past was considered as a way of perfection and more insistence was given to renunciation but today religious life calls each of us for a deeper immersion into the world as a radical disciple of Jesus. He told each of them to become the conscience of the society as the society has lost its conscience. He gave the example of St. Theresa of Calcutta, St. Catherine of Sienna and Sr. Rani Maria etc. who became the conscience of the Society. His Lordship quoted Pope Francis who challenged the priests and religious to go to the periphery, to have the smell of the sheep. He challenged the gathering specially the Sisters who made their Perpetual Vows to take a 'U' turn in life not as efficient administrators but as spiritual guides. He did explain to them the



importance and relevance of the three Evangelical Vows.

After the conclusion of the Holy Mass a short felicitation was arranged for the guests and the perpetually professed Sisters. The programme was concluded with a delicious meal served for all.

We are indeed grateful to His Excellency, Most Rev. Dr. Thelagathoti Joseph

Raja Rao SMM, the Bishop of Vijayawada, for his gracious presence on this occasion with his prayers and blessings. We do thank all the Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, friends and well-wishers who were present for this holy ceremony and prayed for our Sisters.

*Sr. Ancilin SAL, Secretary to Provincial,  
Prasanth Bhavan*

### **Inauguration and Blessing of New Convent at Bantumilli**

We, the Daughters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (DSHJ), began our services at Bantumilli Parish, Vijayawada diocese on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The parish priest and parishioners of Bantumilli extended a warm welcome to us. His Excellency, Most Rev. Joseph Raja Rao, blessed our convent building and the dispensary in the gracious presence of our Provincial, Rev. Sr. Rosemary Aniyaryil. Later, the Bishop officiated the solemn Holy Eucharist. The celebration ended with an agape meal. We are very grateful to His Excellency, Bishop Joseph Raja Rao, the Bishop of Vijayawada, for inviting us to this diocese and offering us Bantumilli parish to institute our community and render



our services. We are also grateful for all the assistance extended by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Bandanadam Francis, in organizing the day's event and helping us to settle in the new place. We also thank all the Catechists of the parish and about 150 faithful who attended this event. We were delighted with the presence of two of our sisters from the community of Khammam. Sr. Shybi Puthuparambil and Sr. Bindu Naduparambil are the members of the new community at Bantumilli.

*Sr. Shybi DSHJ, Bantumilli*

### **Ordination of SDM Priest at Chintalavalli village, Musunuru Parish**

21<sup>st</sup> December 2019 was a red-letter day in the history of Chintalavalli village, the substation of the parish of Musunuru. On that day, Deacon Pulapaka James, be-



longing to the Order of the Society of St. Eugene De Mazenod was ordained priest by His Excellency, Most Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao SMM, Bishop of Vijayawada, during the mass celebrated at St. Antony's Church, Chintalavalli, Musunuru Parish.

Fr. Sleevaraju SDM, the councilor delegated by the Superior General Fr. Antony Swami SDM, presented the candidate. Fr. Ruben Lourdusamy SDM, the councilor, and other priests of the SDM congregation, Fr. P.D.Dath, the Vicar Forane of Nuzvid Vicariate, several OMI priests, priests of other Congregations, and religious sisters graced the occasion with their presence. There were about 25 priests and a good number of faithful present for this great occasion. On the next day, the new priest, Fr. P.James offered his First Thanksgiving Mass in Chintalavalli village.

*Fr. A. John Kishore, OMI, Parish Priest, Musunuru*

### **Ordination of Salvatorian Priest at Rayapuram village, Vellaturu Parish**

The faithful of Rayapuram village, the substation of Vellaturu Parish witnessed the great moment of elevation of Deacon Velpuri Sunil Babu, the son of the soil to the Sacred Order of Priesthood on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Rayapuram.



On that day, Deacon Sunil Babu, who belongs to the Order of the Society of Divine Saviour (Salvatorians) was or-

ained priest by His Excellency, Most Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao SMM, Bishop of Vijayawada, during the mass celebrated at St. John's Church, Rayapuram, Vellaturu Parish.

Fr. Vimal Raju SDS, the Vicariate Administrator who was delegated by the Superior General and Fr. Alexis Aseervadam SDS, Vicariate Superior of Indian Mission, presented the candidate. Few Salvatorian Priests and Sisters were present for this great occasion. Several priests of other Congregations and the diocese, and religious sisters took part in the Priestly Ordination Ceremony. There were about 30 priests and a big number of faithful present for this celebration. Fr. Sunil Babu offered his First Thanksgiving Mass in Rayapuram village on 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2019.

*Fr. Tera Raraju, Parish Priest,  
Vellaturu*

### **Final Profession of Nirmala Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent, Gudivada**

Five MSI sisters committed themselves in final profession to Christ and to the MSI Congregation on December 28, 2019, Saturday at Sacred Heart Convent, Gudivada. Sr. Maria Kousalya Sahayam, Sr. Divya D'Souza, Sr. Kalavathi Nimma, Sr. Leela Mandala and Sr. Sanjukta Digal professed their final vows before the Provincial, Rev. Sr. Amala Rani MSI, and other sisters, their parents, relatives, friends and the parishioners gathered at Sacred Heart Convent for the ceremony of the solemn vows. His Excellency, Most Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao SMM,

Bishop of Vijayawada, officiated the solemn Eucharistic celebration.

The Bishop invited and congratulated the five Missionary Sisters of the Im-



maculate for their perpetual YES to the Lord. Bishop Raja Rao, in his homily, reiterated the significance of religious life and the new way of living the consecrated life by getting involved in the world and serve the Lord and the mission wholeheartedly. He also elucidated the three vows vividly in the light of the life of Jesus. He explained the rich meaning of the vows. Poverty means to live a simple life, chastity is to include everyone and obedience is the willingness to do anything that is demanded of a person.

The bishop also appreciated the mis-



sionary nature of the congregation and invited everyone to be evangelizers in the modern world. Several priests and sisters of the other congregations besides MSI sisters were present for the celebration. The choir sang delightful hymns in various languages and invoked also the saints in chanting the Litany of the saints as according to the tradition of the Church during the final vows ceremony while the five sisters lay themselves down on the floor invoking the

Holy Spirit to fill them with grace and power.

A short felicitation ceremony was conducted in which the Bishop and the newly professed were honoured by the Provincial. The memorable day ended with the agape meal.

*Sr. Jerry, Secretary to Provincial,  
Nirmala Niketan, Vijayawada*

## NEWS FROM THE CENTRES / COMMISSIONS

### **Pezzonipeta team gets first prize in LIVE Carol singing on Divyavani TV!**

As the Christmas season began this year, Divyavani TV has announced 'LIVE Christmas Carol Singing Competitions 2019', between 12 dioceses of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states in both parish and Institution category. December 15<sup>th</sup> witnessed a mega festive celebration at St. Francis Degree College for women, Begumpet, Hyderabad with the LIVE carol singing by 17 teams from various Parishes & Institutions of Telugu region.

It was a moment of pride for our diocese to receive the first prize in the parish category. An evergreen and youthful team from Pezzonipeta Parish performed exuberantly which secured them the prestigious prize for the year 2019. An excellent performance was also given by Maris Stella College Students who participated in the institutions category and won the hearts of everyone

with their heavenly appearance and soulful singing. A well-known Music Director Anup Rubens was one of the



judges for the completions and the other judge being Mrs. Baby, who got fame over internet with her singing talent. Anup Rubens congratulated and awarded the First Prize & certificates to our winning team from Pezzonipeta. One of the youth, exclaimed 'It was a dream come true moment, singing live on TV and receiving the award from famous music director Anup Rubens!' Congratulations to both the teams from Pezzonipeta parish & Maris Stella College.

Special thanks to all those who encouraged and supported our teams to be part of these competitions, especially Fr. Thota Mariadas sdb, parish priest of Pezzonipeta, Fr. John Babu, Diocesan Youth Director, Sr. Jacintha Quadras, the Principal, Sr. Innyasamma, Sr. Lavanya, sisters of Maris Stella college and Divyavani TV Zonal office team, Vijayawada.

*Fr. M. Lazar, Director, Divyavani TV Zonal Centre, Vijayawada*

### **Pre-Christmas celebration for the Catechists**

As a preparation for Christmas and to bring all the catechists together in joy and happiness, a day of prayer and reflection was arranged for the catechists followed by pre-Christmas Celebrations on 12th December 2019. Our Bishop, Most Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao SMM, addressed the catechists and said that unless we bear Christ in our lives, we cannot give Christ to others.

Rev. Fr. Nagipogu Jaya Raju, OSB the



Parish Priest of Jakkampudi animated the prayer service. Rev. Fr. Eleti Will-

iam Jaya Raju, (Rector, Gunadalamatha Shrine) and Rev. Fr. M. Lazar (The Zonal Co-ordinator, Divyavani Television), conveyed their message and greetings. Later, the catechists organized a short cultural programme and the celebration went on till 4.00 pm. I am glad to say that around 400 catechists have attended the Prayer Service. I express my heartfelt thanks to Mr. Y. Joji Babu (co-ordinator, Jyotirmai) and to the inmates of Pastoral Centre for their help to make the celebration a grand success.

*Fr. Damala Vijaya Kumar, Director, St. Joseph's Pastoral Centre, Carmel nagar*

### **Three Day Meeting of TCBC Commission for Youth in Eluru Diocese from 29/11/2019 to 01/12/2019**

All the diocesan core committee members and a few youth members of our diocese attended three days of TCBC



YOUTH COMMISSION FOR YOUTH organized in Eluru diocese for Regional Executive Committee Elections and Regional Youth Cultural Competitions. It was great experience to participate in the regional level meeting and to know how the youth is encouraged to carry

the mission of Jesus in their day-to-day life. Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, the Bishop of Eluru, and all the youth directors of TCBC presented themselves along with their youth. The new regional executive committee was elected under the leadership of Bishop Jaya Rao Polimera. The newly elected REXCO came forward and swore the oath and offered themselves for the service of youth in the regional level. We are happy to say that one of our core committee members, Ms. Mrunalini from Velpuru parish was elected as the treasurer of the regional committee. We wish her all the best at the regional level. The programme ended up with the Holy Eucharistic celebration at 4:00 pm.

### **Diocesan Youth Christmas Celebrations and Cultural Competitions at Youth Centre, Gunadala**

The Grand Diocesan Youth Christmas celebrations and Cultural Competitions were organized at the diocese level at the Youth Centre in Carmel Nagar on



8<sup>th</sup> December where almost 550 youth were present for the celebrations and competitions, hailing from 42 parishes of the diocese. The day opened with the

introductory words of Rev. Fr. Vijaya Kumar Damala, the Director of Pastoral



Centre, who welcomed the gathering, wished all the best and declared open the competitions: Group Dance, Group Singing and Solo Singing. The chief guest of the programme, Rev. Fr. Valle Vijaya Joji Babu, the procurator and chancellor of the diocese, delivered the Christmas message. He said that there were many stars in the different fields such as cricket, cinemas, etc. in society today, but the ultimate star to follow for the youth should be the star of Bethlehem, Jesus, through whom the fallen human values can be brought back to the humanity. He was honoured by Fr. John Babu, the youth director along with his diocesan core committee and the Christmas cake was cut by him.

The winners of the competitions were as follows:

#### **Group Dance:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Satyanarayanapuram
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Nandigama
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Pezzonipeta

**Group Singing:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Pezzonipeta  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Bhaskaraopeta  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize : Satyannarayanapuram

**Solo Singing:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Vissannapeta  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Ajithsinghnagar  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Nawabupeta

All the winners were congratulated with prize money and diocesan youth memento. The new diocesan youth calendar was inaugurated by Fr. John Babu along with his core committee members. The programme ended at 5:30 pm with distributions of Christmas cake and consolation prizes to all the participants. Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Matta Lazar, Zonal Director of Divyavani, Rev. Sr.Valsa Thomas SAL and Mr. Ram Babu Chilukoti for judging the competitions. Also, thanks to all the parish priests who encouraged and supported their youth for this competitions.

**Formation of YSM/YCM at Don Bosco High School, Guntupalli**

On 28-11-2019, the formation of YSM/YCM was held at Don Bosco High School, Guntupalli, where 85 students of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> were present for this movement. Rev. Fr. Nathan, the Correspondent and Principal of the school encouraged the students to participate in this movement. YSM/YCM was formed to evolve a new society, where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual, where each and every person is re-

spected in dignity, hence valuing peace, love, truth, justice and equality. This programme was launched by Fr. John Babu, the youth director and his team. He addressed the young students and briefed the history of YSM/YCM move-



ment and explained to them how to conduct the cell meetings in their schools. He also discussed with them the various activities of the movement in detail. All the students were divided into groups and elected one president, secretary and treasurer in each group. All the young students participated enthusiastically in the event and were ready to implement the movement in their lives.

*Fr. Chilukoti John Babu, Diocesan Youth Director, Vijayawada*

**The Meeting of the Committee of All India Catholic Union(AICU)**

AICU Working Committee meeting was held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Social Service Centre Gunadala, Vijayawada. It began with the Holy Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Muvvala Prasad, Vicar General of the diocese at 9.00 a.m. along with Fr.Kanaparthi Prakash, the Regional Director of Laity Commission, Fr.

I.M.Swaminadham, the Diocesan Director of Laity Commission and Fr. Pasala Thomas, Director of Social Service Centre. There were 60 participants that came from all over the country. Fr.Muvvala Prasad preached the homily in which he appreciated the services of Catholic Union and explained about the role of



laity in our society. At 10.30 a.m., the working committee gathered for the first session. Mr.Lancy D'Cunha, the National President of AICU, National members, and Fr.I.M. Swaminadham, State President (A.P & Telangana) and the Regional Body were present for this meeting. Dr. Madala Anthony, the National Coordinator and Dr. John Dayal, the spokesperson of AICU led the seminar. It was the Centenary celebration of AICU which was formed and approved by CBCI.

At 6.00 p.m., there was a public meeting with local MLA Mr. Malladi Vishnu and with other leader of Christian denominations. I thank Rev. Fr. Muvvala Prasad V.G. of our diocese, Fr. Kanaparthi Prakash, the Regional Director of Laity commission, Fr. Pasala Thomas, Director of Social Service Centre

for their gracious presence. I also thank Franciscan Sisters for their beautiful singing during the Mass. Special thanks to Dr. Madala Anthony, National Coordinator, our diocesan AICU Secretaries Mr. Garikimukku Ashok Vardhan, Mr. Repudi Vijaya Kumar, Mr. MahakaliJayaraju, all the Regional AICU Members, Mr. Jayaraju, the State Secretary and all the participants.

*Fr.I.M. Swaminadham, Diocesan Director for Laity Commission, Labbipeta*

### **Christmas Celebrations at District Jail: Prison Ministry India Vijayawada Unit.**

Prison Ministry of Vijayawada unit celebrated Christmas in District Jail on 22<sup>nd</sup>December 2019 for 200 jail inmates. 50 volunteers of PMI, including children



participated in the programme with great joy under the guidance of Fr. Pasala Thomas, Director of Social Service Centre and PMI.

The programme started with a Prayer

Song by Sisters of Vijaya Mary School, Carmelnagar, followed by Bible Reading by Sr. Sangeetha from Nirmala Niketan and a prayer by Shri.Ch Rosaiah of St. Paul's Cathedral, Patamata. Intercessory Prayers were conducted by Sr. Rakkini of St. Joseph's Convent, Gunadala. Sr. Suguna of St. Ann's Bhavan, Surampalli greeted the inmates in her address.

The cultural programmes were staged by St. Ann's Hospital, Vijayawada, St. Anthony Convent, Vijayawada,



St. Joseph's Convent, Gunadala and St. Ann's Bhavan, Surampalli. Fr. Pasala Thomas gave vibrant Christmas message of God's immense love for those who go astray and inviting the inmates to leave the past and get motivated to start a new life.

The Prison campus was filled with joy of sharing the love of Christmas by wishing each other greetings of Christmas and New Year, 2020. Fr. Pasala Thomas thanked the authorities of jail for their cooperation. Sr. Constantine of Nirmala Convent coordinated the programme. The programme ended with

the distribution of cakes and fruits and final blessings and prayer by Fr. Thomas.

*Fr. Pasala Thomas, Director, Social Service Centre & PMI, Vijayawada*

### **International Day of Differently-Abled Persons Celebrations at Nagayalanka**

The theme for the International Day of Differently-Abled Persons for the Year - 2019 is **"THE FUTURE IS ACCESSIBLE"** which means that all the differently-abled persons should enjoy the life as normal people do, with the help and support of the Government. The Social service Centre is working for the Rights of the Differently-Abled persons since one and half year in 20 rural communities of Koduru and Nagayalanka villages.

Our main objective is "Inclusion of Differently-Abled persons in all the activities and programs of government and the community in which the Differently-Abled persons are living." In this context, we have celebrated in all the 20 communities, the international day of Differently-Abled persons and on 27<sup>th</sup> of December we have concluded the celebrations by organizing grand celebrations at Nagayalanka Mandal at the MDO office. In these celebrations we gave sewing machines to three Differently-Abled women who are trained and skilled in tailoring. Three Differently-Abled men who were trained were given motors for their tailoring machines. How-

ever, the importance of these celebrations is to boost the self-confidence and to motivate the Differently-Abled per-



sons to lead their life with courage and hope. Social Service Centre is striving to bring into the mainstream the Differ-

ently-Abled persons so that they will be included in all the Government schemes of education, health, social life and other programmes meant for normal people. Fr. Thomas Pasala, the executive Director of SSC, M.D.O of Nagayalanka Mandal, Mr. Prasad, the member of the Differently-Abled Persons Union, SSC Staff and scores of Differently-Abled people have participated in the celebration.

*Fr. Thomas Pasala, Executive Director, Social Service Centre, Gunadala*

## NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

### **Silver Jubilee of Christ the King English Medium School, Christurajapuram, Vijayawada.**

Christ the King English Medium School celebrated the Silver Jubilee of the school on 2nd December 2019. It is befitting to thank and praise the almighty God for his loving protection and providence all through the past twenty-five years. It was a great occasion for the school and the management. The celebrations were a grand success due to the commendable efforts of our correspondent, Rev. Fr. Dr. M. Louis Raju, headmistress, and staff. The day was filled with the graceful presence of our chief guest, His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, Rev. Fr. Guzzula Michael, DGM of the RCM Schools, Rev. Sr. Rosita, the provincial of South East India Province -Cluny Sis-

ters and other special guests. Our Lordship congratulated the management and staff of the school for serving the society by extending the value-based education and forming responsible citizens for our country and expressed his confidence that the school, with its remarkable standards of teaching and discipline, has been a powerful instrument



of social transformation. The event was attended by a huge gathering of people who were enthralled by many cultural

and message-oriented programmes staged by the students of the school. The presence of many priests, religious,



parents and well-wishers added joy to the celebration. We implore God's blessing to continue His mission faithfully to the people around Christurajapuram.

### Annual day Celebration of St. Joseph's English Medium School, Gunadala

The School Annual Day of St. Joseph's English Medium High School, Gunadala, was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2019. It was really a joyous celebration and a



great event for the children of the school to put up a talented and wondrous show. The presence of the General Manager of the RCM Schools, Krishna Dt., Most

Rev. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, SMM, Bishop of Vijayawada, Rev. Fr. Guzzula Michael DGM of the RCM Schools, Rev. Fr. Eleti William Jaya Raju, Rector and Parish Priest of Gunadalamatha Shrine, Rev. Fr. Kondru



Simaharayalu, the Vicar Forane and Parish Priest of St. Paul's Cathedral, Rev. Fr. Inti Anthony, the Correspondent of Bishop Grassi High School, Rev. Fr. Pasala Thomas, the Director of Social Service Centre, Rev. Sr. Molly, the Provincial Superior of the Sisters of St. Aloysius and other priests and religious of the neighbourhood added grandeur to the occasion. The bishop appreciated the management and the staff for their efficient management of the school and services. He congratulated the students and urged the parents to strive for the good of the institution. The children compered the whole programme and performed several cultural programmes which exhibited their talents. The proficiency prizes were distributed by the dignitaries. The teachers thanked the esteemed guests, the students and the parents.

*Sr. N. Nirmala, Headmistress,  
St. Joseph's E.M. High School,  
Gunadala*

## NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### No harm in backtracking on citizenship law: Cardinal Gracias

Mumbai, Dec 26, 2019: There is no harm in backtracking if the government thinks it has erred in amending citizenship laws, says Cardinal Oswald Gracias, head of the Catholic Church in India.

“Religion should never be made a dividing factor,” asserted the cardinal



when asked about the political turmoil in India over the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act 2019 (CAA) and the implementation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

However, the prelate disapproved people indulging in violence to get their voices heard. “Violence is not right. A continuous discussion must take place,” the Bombay archbishop told friends and well-wishers who on December 24 greeted him on his 75th birthday.

Cardinal Gracias, president of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India and an adviser of Pope Francis, says he is “very keen” on inter-religious

dialogue between people of different faiths. “This will knock off any prejudices and eventually help to understand and appreciate each other. I want the Catholic community to be at the forefront of this... to build bridges,” he added.

The Indian Church leader termed the love for the nation as an important trait of citizens. “If we truly feel strongly about India, then we must work for the country, to the point of being ready to sacrifice for it,” the cardinal asserted.

To foster patriotism, the cardinal suggests people engage in reflection and exchange of ideas. “Reading and knowing the thoughts of others helps one’s own thoughts to mature and conceptualize a better India, in which everyone is like one big family. This is what should be our priority,” Cardinal Gracias explained.

He urged students protesting against the CAA to come forward and discuss their difficulties with the authorities. “The government should be willing to engage. The government wants a better India, and if after reflection, they feel that they have made some mistake, then there is no harm in backtracking. We need to look at the larger picture,” he added.

The cardinal celebrated his birthday at the Archbishop’s House in Colaba amid followers, friends, well-wishers and parishioners.

After the blessing ceremony in the courtyard at 12 noon, some friends of the cardinal said a few words inside the main hall. This was followed by a chorus of "Happy birthday to you" while the cardinal cut the cake, and some fun activities and games between staffers.

Speaking to Mid-Day amid the celebrations, Cardinal Gracias stressed the importance of having an inter-religious dialogue, and the responsibilities that come with being "men of service."

"I have held multiple offices (he is also the president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India) and I have realized that it is important to be men of service and have faith in God, no matter which religion you belong to," he said.

"There are many challenges...in some circumstances, one might be pressured to do the wrong thing, but in these cases, it is even more important to do what is right. If you appease people, then you will repent later."

### **Cardinal Alencherry addresses 12th world confluence of humanity**

December 30, 2019 Matters India  
Kolkata, Dec 29, 2019: Spiritual leaders from six religions, including Cardinal George Alencherry, attended the 12th World Confluence of Humanity, Power and Spirituality in Kolkata.

Karan Singh, noted scholar, philosopher and politician, delivered the keynote

address on the opening day on December 28.

"We live in an age of turmoil," Singh noted in his speech. According to him, despite technical advancement humanity is lost between a 'vanishing past' and an 'indeterminate future.'

"Climate change and global warming have caused millions of ecological refugees; terrorism has become international, posing global challenges. We all must get our spiritual side together and introspect," Singh added.

According to him, an inter-faith movement would help meet the challenges and urged the gathering to accept multiple paths to the divine.

"Faith cannot tie down the illimitable splendor of the divine to one path. To relieve sufferings, gender equality, promoting positive values through education, cherishing our natural environment and nurturing earth and honoring mother nature and enhancing the quality of human consciousness and achieving something higher, should be the goals the goals of the inter-faith movement. We can no longer be different on the basis of religion and the time has come for us to awake, arise and walk boldly towards a confluence or sangam of religion," he said.

The two-day program was organized by H P Kanoria, chairperson of World Confluence of Humanity, Power and Spirituality. The participants included leaders from Buddhism, Christianity,

Hinduism, Islam, Sikh, and Zoroastrianism

The speakers on the opening day included Cardinal George Cardinal Alencherry, head of the Kerala-based Syro-Malabar Church.

He started the day one session by highlighting three major issues ailing the



world. “First, the wealth is being concentrated among few countries and few individuals causing hardship to others. Second, conflict and communal strife are undermining peace and harmony. Our selfish interests are

dividing the people and causing many ills. Third, an ecological imbalance has assumed major proportion. A new dialogue to make our planet livable for all of us and for the posterity is essential. We have to be alert and correct ourselves and our society through introspection. The whole earth is our mother.”

The cardinal urged people never to create communal disharmony, “All are created by the same God and come from the same source and are interconnected. The human society has to find its own internal unity and harmony,” he said in his closing remarks.

The World Confluence of Humanity, Power and Spirituality is organized by Srei Foundation and Kanoria Foundation that are engaged in spreading awareness for inculcating humanitarian values, carry out social welfare activities and meet sustainable environmental goals.



## VATICAN NEWS

### What a decade! A look at the biggest Catholic stories of the 2010s

Vatican City, Dec 21, 2019 / 04:00 am (CNA).- When Church historians look back on the last ten years, they’ll have several historic and important moments to study. And Catholics who’ve lived through the last decade may feel that changes, often one right after another, were both dizzying and exciting. As a

new decade begins on January 1, 2020, CNA offers a look back at some of the most important stories for the Church in the 2010s:



### 2013 : Pope Benedict XVI announces his retirement

When Pope Benedict XVI announced that he would retire in February 2013, he was the first

pope to relinquish his office since 1415. The pope emeritus said that he would “serve the Holy Church of God in the future through a life dedicated to prayer.”

### **Pope Francis, first Latin American pope, elected**

After the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI, the conclave of cardinals elected Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio of Buenos Aires, who took the name Pope Francis. The pope is the first Latin American to be elected to the papacy, and the first Jesuit.

### **2014 : Pope St. John Paul II and Pope St. John XXIII canonized**

John Paul II had been beatified in 2011 by his successor, Pope Benedict XVI.

John XXIII had been beatified in 2000, by Pope John Paul II.



The two were canonized together by Pope Francis.

Pope John XXIII convoked the Second Vatican Council, and Pope John Paul II, the first Polish pope, has been the longest-reigning pope since Vatican II, Pope Francis pointed out during the canonization.

At the canonization, Pope Francis praised John Paul II’s “untiring service, his spiritual guidance, and his extraordinary testimony of holiness.”

### **2015 : Pope Francis releases Amoris laetitia**

Pope Francis’ pastoral exhortation on marriage and family life is written as a



guide for both families and their pastors, and intended to address the unique challenges of family life in the modern world.

The document has proven controversial, however, and the debate has framed much of the dialogue regarding the pontificate of Francis. Critics say the document is ambiguous regarding some aspects of sacramental discipline and the theology of the conscience, and episcopal conferences have disagreed regarding its interpretation.

In 2016, a group of cardinals presented questions to the pope about the document’s theological meaning, and some Catholics have raised concerns that those questions have not yet been answered.

### **2016 : Mother Teresa canonized**



Among the most well-known Catholic figures of the 20th century, Mother Teresa of

Calcutta died in 1997 after decades of service among the poor in India and around the world, with her religious order, the Missionaries of Charity. She was named a saint by Pope Francis in September 2016.

### **2019 : Theodore McCarrick laicized**

In 2018, revelations about the sexual abuse and coercion of then-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick amplified a global

crisis regarding clerical sexual abuse and misconduct.

Before the McCarrick scandal emerged, Pope Francis had already faced a crisis in Chile, which led to mass protests during his January 2018 visit to Latin America, and eventually culminated in every Chilean bishop submitting his resignation to the pope.

The McCarrick scandal, however, caught the attention of the globe, and led to a raft of charges from Archbishop Carlo Vigano, to the resignation of Cardinal Donald Wuerl, and to the eventual laicization of McCarrick.

The McCarrick scandal also led to new norms from Pope Francis on investigating allegations of abuse or misconduct by bishops, and has led to the emergence of several other scandals regarding bishops.

### The Saints And Blesseds of the 2010s



Vatican City, Dec 22, 2019 / 05:00 am (CNA).- Since a new decade begins Jan. 1, CNA offers a

look back at some of the men and women named saints or blessed during the last ten years.

**2011** : Blessed Hermann Lange, Eduard Müller and Johannes Prassek, priests martyred under the Nazi regime:

**2012** : St. John of Avila and St. Hildegard of Bingen named doctors of the Church.

**2013** : Hundreds of Italian martyrs can-

onized.

**2014** : Popes John Paul II and John XXIII canonized as saints.

**2015** : St. Gregory of Narek named a doctor of the Church. Junipero Serra, California missionary, canonized by Pope Francis in DC.

**2016** : Mother Teresa of Calcutta canonized.

Pope Francis beatifies martyrs of the Spanish Civil War.

Pope Francis canonizes Sister Elizabeth of the Trinity, a Carmelite nun of the 20th century

**2018** : Pope Francis canonizes Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Oscar Romero. Pope Francis beatifies Bishop Pierre Claverie and his 18 companions, who were martyred in Algeria between 1994 and 1996.

**2019** : Pope Francis canonizes Cardinal John Henry Newman.

### Pontifical Biblical Commission examines question: What is man?

A new book-length study by the Pontifical Biblical Commission examines the Scriptural understanding of the human being. Entitled “What is man? An itinerary of biblical anthropology”, the document aims not at giving an answer to every question about man, but rather,



providing foundational principles for discernment.

That's according to Father Pietro Bovati, SJ, the secretary for the Commission. In an interview with Vatican News, he explained the significance of the document. "The Pope wanted this theme to be addressed starting precisely from Scripture, which is the foundation and soul of all Christian reflection", Fr Bovati said. "At the basis of this is a question: what is man? This question runs through the whole of the Bible as an itinerary".

### **Providing fundamental principles**

Emphasizing the need to be guided by Scripture, Fr Bovati said that "Scripture teaches man the truth about man". This kind of "methodology of biblical theology", he explained, is not intended to give answers to every possible question, but to provide foundational principles "for a discernment of the sense of man in history".

The Commission's study is composed of four chapters, dealing with major themes including man as created by God; man in relation to the rest of creation; the relational reality of anthropology (focusing on spousal, parental/filial, and fraternal relationships); and the salvific plan of God for humankind.

### **Helping respond to modern questions**

With regard to specific questions about human beings (for example, questions related to gender) Father Bovati said the Commission did not intend to go beyond what the Bible actually says about those questions. "So we agreed to address the issues, respecting the level of information that we have from Scripture", he

said. Recognizing that our "cultural situation" is very different from the situations in which the Biblical books were written, Fr Bovati noted that we cannot necessarily find "immediate and precise" answers to contemporary questions in the Bible. Nonetheless, in the Scriptures we can find principles, "useful indications for reflection" which can help "theologians, moralists, pastors" respond to modern concerns.

### **A systematic work**

Father Bovati said the Commission "kept in mind... the whole Christian tradition" in the work, but at the same time wanted to do the preliminary work of "showing what Scripture really says". That work, he explained, "had never been done", since theologians normally only cite texts that are useful for the arguments they are making. "We, on the contrary, wanted to do a systematic work", he said, "in order to offer a path of what the Bible says about all the complexity of the human being".

This work, said Fr Bovati, is one of the most original contributions of the new document. "We have not only tried to clarify some points, and perhaps give a more mature, more complex interpretation even of certain biblical texts". The originality, he continued, "lies in the itinerary, in offering to theologians, to those involved in the transmission of the faith, an understanding of man that is more complex, more organic, more in conformity with our Biblical traditions". In response to the question, "What is the truth of man?", Fr Bovati said "the Bible gives some indications that must be considered absolutely fundamental for all".

## DAYS TO REMEMBER IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY

### ORDINATION DAY : HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS



- 1<sup>st</sup> Frs. Roy Thalian VC, A. Pratap OFM, Thomas Enchackal CM
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Frs. Palamarasetty Inna Babu OFM, Kadavy Francis VC
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Frs. Melchior K, OFM, Suresh K. OCD
- 5<sup>th</sup> Frs. Puthussery Jojan VC, Vidyasagar SDB
- 6<sup>th</sup> Fr. Jose Parathottam OSB
- 17<sup>th</sup> Fr. Dodda Praveen Kumar OFM
- 21<sup>st</sup> Fr. N. Gabriel MF
- 27<sup>th</sup> Frs. Macherla Balaswami OCD, Dhanaraj OCD

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY : MANY RETURNS OF THE DAY



- 1<sup>st</sup> Fr. Gudise Jaya Raju,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fr. Joseph Puthukulangara
- 4<sup>th</sup> Frs. Karem Sekhar Babu, Kakumanu Kiran
- 6<sup>th</sup> Fr. Kamatham Mariyadas
- 7<sup>th</sup> Fr. Bondala Sleeva Raju
- 9<sup>th</sup> Fr. Gorumuchu Joseph
- 14<sup>th</sup> Fr. Gorantla Datham
- 21<sup>st</sup> Fr. Damala Vijay Kumar
- 29<sup>th</sup> Frs. Medepalli Solomon Raju, Bathula Joji Sudhakar

### OBITUARY : MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fr. Arlati Paulo PIME (1971)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Fr. Leonardo Redaelli PIME (2018)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Fr. Merlo Carlo PIME (1957)
- 20<sup>th</sup> **Bishop Gorantla Johannes (2007)**
- 26<sup>th</sup> Fr. John Leoncini PIME (2002)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Fr. Lombardi Augusto PIME