



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: L

NO.03

MARCH 2023



Lent



WORLD CANCER DAY



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

MARCH

2023

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2023

Lenten Penance and the Synodal Journey

Dear brothers and sisters!



The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke all recount the episode of the Transfiguration of Jesus. There we see the Lord's response to the failure of his disciples to understand him. Shortly before, there had been a real clash between the Master and Simon Peter, who, after professing his faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, rejected his prediction of the passion and the cross. Jesus had firmly rebuked him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (Mt 16:23). Following this, "six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and led them away to a high mountain" (Mt 17:1). The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline—*asceticism*—as God's holy people.

Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which,

as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience.

In his “retreat” on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared.

For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking along side those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is “synodal”, since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus is himself the Way, and therefore, both in the liturgical journey and in the journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Saviour.

And so we come to its culmination. The Gospel relates that Jesus “was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light” (*Mt 17:2*). This is the “summit”, the goal of the journey. At the end of their ascent, as they stand on the mountain heights with Jesus, the three disciples are given the grace of seeing him in his glory, resplendent in supernatural light. That light did not come from without, but radiated from the Lord himself. The divine beauty of this vision was incomparably greater than all the efforts the disciples had made in the ascent of Tabor. During any strenuous mountain trek, we must keep our eyes firmly fixed on the path; yet the panorama that opens up at the end amazes us and rewards us by its grandeur. So too, the synodal process may often seem arduous, and at times we may become discouraged. Yet what awaits us at the end is undoubtedly something wondrous and amazing, which will help us to understand better God’s will and our mission in the service of his kingdom.

The disciples’ experience on Mount Tabor was further enriched when, alongside the transfigured Jesus, Moses and Elijah appeared, signifying respectively the Law and the Prophets (cf. *Mt 17:3*). The newness of Christ is at the same time the fulfilment of the ancient covenant and promises; it is inseparable from God’s history with his people and discloses its deeper meaning. In a similar way, the synodal journey is rooted in the Church’s tradition and at the same time open to newness. Tradition is a source of inspiration for seeking new paths and for avoiding the opposed temptations of immobility and improvised experimentation.

The Lenten journey of penance and the journey of the Synod alike have as their goal a transfiguration, both personal and ecclesial. A transformation that, in both cases, has its model in the Transfiguration of Jesus and is achieved by the grace of his paschal mystery. So that this transfiguration may become a reality in us this

year, I would like to propose two “paths” to follow in order to ascend the mountain together with Jesus and, with him, to attain the goal.

The first path has to do with the command that God the Father addresses to the disciples on Mount Tabor as they contemplate Jesus transfigured. The voice from the cloud says: “Listen to him” (Mt 17:5). The first proposal, then, is very clear: we need to listen to Jesus. Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us. And how does he speak to us? First, in the word of God, which the Church offers us in the liturgy. May that word not fall on deaf ears; if we cannot always attend Mass, let us study its daily biblical readings, even with the help of the internet. In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need. Let me say something else, which is quite important for the synodal process: listening to Christ often takes place in listening to our brothers and sisters in the Church. Such mutual listening in some phases is the primary goal, but it remains always indispensable in the method and style of a synodal Church.

On hearing the Father’s voice, the disciples “fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Rise, and do not be afraid.’ And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone” (Mt 17:6-8). Here is the second proposal for this Lent: do not take refuge in a religiosity made up of extraordinary events and dramatic experiences, out of fear of facing reality and its daily struggles, its hardships and contradictions. The light that Jesus shows the disciples is an anticipation of Easter glory, and that must be the goal of our own journey, as we follow “him alone”. Lent leads to Easter: the “retreat” is not an end in itself, but a means of preparing us to experience the Lord’s passion and cross with faith, hope and love, and thus to arrive at the resurrection. Also on the synodal journey, when God gives us the grace of certain powerful experiences of communion, we should not imagine that we have arrived – for there too, the Lord repeats to us: “Rise, and do not be afraid”. Let us go down, then, to the plain, and may the grace we have experienced strengthen us to be “artisans of synodality” in the ordinary life of our communities.

Dear brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations.

*Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 January,
Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul*

POPE FRANCIS



Archbishop's Message



The principal occupation of Christ's faithful and His priestly ministry in His one Catholic Church during Lent, is to learn and become educated in the truth and practice of the baptismal promises so as to be able to renew and profess them truthfully and conscientiously during the Easter vigil. For, the Son our Lord Jesus Christ established the mission of His Holy Spirit in the 'inner nature' of the person being baptized, as the Paraclete promised by His Eternal Father (Ezekiel 36:26-27) and as 'the Spirit of Truth' who will lead the baptised person to worship His Eternal Father 'in spirit and truth,' *strictly on condition* that he or she will habitually fulfil his or her baptismal promises. The day the baptized person *wilfully ignores* his or her baptismal promise 'to renounce the Devil and his empty promises' and 'believe in the commandments and promises of the Eternal Father for our everlasting life of holiness, immortality and glory with Him, *that day* the mission of the Spirit of Truth diminishes in him or her and the nascent development of the baptized person's communion with the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit *tragically ebbs away*. Then begins, the dismal history of that person's 'communion with the Devil' through his or her unimpeded journey of faith and hope in the empty promises of the Devil, seeking for happiness, greatness and glory in the fulfilment of 'the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life' in the Devil's *organised* human world of sin and death. It is only by re-educating oneself in the truth of one's baptismal promise that one can *retreat* from one's journey to everlasting damnation and seriously *advance* in the narrow path of salvation revealed to all human persons by the earthly journey of God's only begotten Son *in His human nature* to bring it to inherit the immortality and glory of His divine Sonship and enjoy it at the right hand of His Eternal Father. This grace is offered by Him to all of us during the Lenten season everyday: 'Repent and believe in the gospel and be saved. If today you hear My voice harden not your hearts.' In fact, meditation and reeducation and reorganization of one's daily personal life in accordance with one's baptismal promises to our Lord and to His Eternal Father is *a necessary condition* for receiving God's forgiving gift of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of reconciliation.

St. Paul teaches us the truth and demands of our baptismal promises in a most profound manner when he declares: 'Do you not know that all of us who have been

baptised into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?’ What personal needs in His human nature was Jesus despising and what personal need in it was He striving to fulfil in freely undergoing that death at the command of His Eternal Father? When any person dies, his corporeal or bodily needs and his psychological needs for his personal life in the world of creatures disappear. Only the need in the ‘inner nature’ of the corporate human nature for the sublime bliss of everlasting communion and immortal bodily life with the Eternal Father remains. The Son was always busy with this need of His human nature all His earthly life and uncompromisingly despised the psychological needs created by the Devil and its angels for perpetual happy life in the world of creatures (‘kingdom of the world’) and sought the eschatological fulfilment of this ‘inner need’ through His unfailing obedience of faith to His Eternal Father unto death on the Cross and obtained it through His bodily resurrection from the dead in the Holy Spirit ‘by the glory of the Father’. Likewise the baptized person is said to have been buried into Christ’s death to the extent he or she habitually despises the same threefold psychological needs that Christ despised and concentrate on growing in the Father’s favour for the eschatological fulfilment of that same need in the inner nature of his or her corporate human nature. To do so, St Paul advises us “the appointed time has grown very short; from now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the form of this world is passing away (1 Cor.7:29-31).’ And St John confirms this teaching in his first epistle: ‘Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passes away and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides for ever (1 Jn.2:15-17).’

POPE’S INTENTION: MARCH 2023

For victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



Solemnities and Feasts

MARCH 20TH

ST. JOSEPH SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Holy Father's words came during his General Audience in Paul VI Hall in his third edition of his lessons about the saint who is not quoted in the Bible but has a role of action as the Father of Jesus. Like Joseph, the Pope suggested everyone needs silence. "Joseph's silence is not mutism, he is not taciturn; it is a silence full of listening, an industrious silence, a silence that brings out his great interiority," the Pope said. "The Father spoke a word, and it was his Son," comments St John of the Cross, the Father said a word and it was his Son – 'and it always speaks in eternal silence, and in silence it must be heard by the soul.' How good it would be if each one of us, following the example of Saint Joseph, were able to recover this contemplative dimension of life, opened wide in silence.



But we all know from experience that it is not easy: silence frightens us a little, because it asks us to delve into ourselves and to confront the part of us that is true. And many people are afraid of silence, they have to speak, and speak, and speak, or listen to radio or television... but they cannot accept silence because they are afraid." The philosopher Pascal observed that "all the unhappiness of men arises from one single fact, that they cannot stay quietly in their own chamber".

Source: @vaticanmedia

MARCH 25TH

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

The Annunciation is the beginning of God's salvific plan for humankind. In other words, God entered into history as human for the salvation of all. The angel declared to Mary, "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." This was an echo of sublime prediction of the Messianic kingdom mentioned in the Old Testament. Jesus' mission was to dwell among his people as human, to inscribe the word of God over their hearts, and to bring God's kingdom among people through unconditional love. Mary was unique in human history because of the fruit of her womb Jesus. Jesus' way of life, his behaviour and attitudes towards people, his mission of life, and his public ministry brought greatness to his mother, Mary. Similarly, sons and daughters of the family bring good names to their parents through their way of life, attitudes, behaviours and achievements. Mary was "Blessed" because she fully believed in God's message. Certainly hearing the word of God, believing and teaching a child God's way of life is a true blessedness granted to all mothers of the world. Though Mary might not have fully grasped the meaning of the heavenly message yet accepted trusting on God's favour.



Source: www.popefrancisdaily.com

Archbishop's Engagements

N.B.: "In office days", Please call the secretary before coming. Ph No : 72079 40883

MARCH 2023

01-02. Wed-Thu	:	Pontifical Mission Organization, Chennai
03. Fri (Morning)	:	In Office
05.00 p.m.	:	BIRDY
04. Sat 09:30 a.m.	:	Meeting with TCBC Comission for Education at St. Mary's Pharmacy, Sec'bad.
05. Sun	:	Memorial Mass of Mr. Poola Balaraju at Kurnool
06. Mon 11:00 a.m.	:	Women's Day Celebration at HASSS
07. Tue 9: 30 a.m.	:	Blessing and Inauguration of Fathima Matha School Extended Block, Balajinagar
08. Wed (Morning)	:	In Office at Nalgonda
09-10. Thu-Fri (Morning)	:	In Office
13. Mon	:	Bellary
14-17. Tue-Fri	:	TCBC Meeting at St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur
18. Sat 10:00 a.m.	:	Golden Jubilee of St. Joseph Church, Alirajpet Parish
20. Mon (Morning)	:	In Office
04.30 p.m.	:	Silver Jubilee of St. Joseph's Degree and PG College, King Koti
21. Tue (Morning)	:	In Office
22. Wed (Morning)	:	In Office at Nalgonda
23-24. Thu-Fri (Morning)	:	In Office
25. Sat 06:30 p.m.	:	Annual Feast of Our Lady at Nirmalagiri Shrine, Eluru
27-28. Mon-Tue (Morning)	:	In Office
30. Thu (Evening)	:	Chrism Mass in Kadapa

28thFebruary 2023
Archbishop's House

+ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

Communications

1. MONTHLY RECOLLECTION AND CHRISM MASS:

- a. Archdiocesan Monthly Clergy Recollection is arranged at Archbishop's House, on 3rd April, 2023 (Monday in the Holy Week) from 09.30 am to 01.00 pm. All the Archdiocesan Clergy and Religious are to participate in this recollection for the good and immediate preparation for the Holy Week and Easter.
- b. Chrism Mass will be held on 3rd April, 2023 (Monday in the Holy Week) at 05.15 pm at St. Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad. The Clergy, Religious and the Faithful are invited to participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist **Parish Priests are requested to announce the same in the your parishes and encourage everyone to attend the Chrism Mass.**

2. A SEMINAR ON 'LITURGICAL SINGING' :

The Archdiocese in collaboration with HAC is organizing a one-day Seminar on 22nd March, 2023 on **"Liturgical Singing"** at Pastoral Centre, Gunfoundary. All the English, Telugu & Tamil Choir Leaders, and Choir leaders of Charismatic/Retreat centers are asked to participate in this seminar.

It is a need of the Hour that we revive our Liturgical Singing keeping up with the Norms of the Church and following the General Instructions in the Roman Missal and Sacro Sanctum Concilium.

All the Parish Priests are asked to send the Choir masters and choir members of all language choir for this Seminar. Please contact Fr. Dion the Pastoral Centre Director for more details and to enroll for the Seminar. Contact number. +91 - 9949158988

3. SEMINAR FOR EDUCATIONALISTS OF T. S AND A. P :

TCBC Commission for Education is organizing a Seminar cum meeting for all the General & Provincial Superiors, Superiors, Diocesan General Managers, Education Secretaries, Education Councilors, Principals, Correspondents, Directors from Diocese, men and women Religious Congregations and other invited laity. **THEME: OUR PREPAREDNESS TO ROLLOUT THE NEW EDUCATION POLICY-20**, on 4th March, 2023 in St. Mary's College of Pharmacy, Secunderabad at 9 am. For further details please contact Rev. Fr. V.K. Swamy, General Secretary. Contact number. +91 - 9849385922

4. REMINDER:

All Parish Priests and Heads of the Institutions, who have not yet paid the special collections and Second Sunday Collections, are requested to pay as soon as possible. Please clear all dues till March, 2023.

5. NO FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AT ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, SEC'BAD FROM 25TH MARCH TO 1ST APRIL, 2023:

As the financial year 2022-2023 will end on 31st March 2022, there will be no financial transactions in the Archbishop's House, Sec'bad from 25th March to 1st April, 2023. All Fathers, Sisters and Brothers are requested to take note of it and arrange your financial matters with the Procurator accordingly.

6. AUDIT 2022-2023:

Audit programme for the parishes for the financial year 2022-2023 (**01-04-2022 to 31-03-2023**) will be held from 17th April to 20th April, from **10.00 A.M TO 5.00 P.M.** at Archbishop's House, Secunderabad. Kindly keep the following ready for physical Audit Programme. Depending on the completion of the work on hand, the audit of parishes will be taken up, please plan to stay till your parish audit is completed.

A NOTE FROM AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

All Parishes are asked to get the following documents/books of accounts/statements before coming for audit as given here below.

1. Receipts & Payments Account for the period from 1st April, 2022 to 31st March, 2023 for as many sets of accounts are being maintained.
2. Cash book, Ledger and other books like Daily Collection Register, Salary Register, along with supporting documents like Receipts books, Documentary evidence for payments duly signed by the person in charge/authorized, and sanction letter.
3. The Annexure to be prepared and submitted for the audit will be sent to individual parish/In charge priest.
4. Bank Statements for all the Bank Accounts maintained by Parishes for the period of the as mentioned above, Fixed Deposits receipts original and copies held as on 31-03-2023.

5. Certificate from the Bank for Closing Bank & Fixed Deposits Balance as on 31st March, 2023

S.NO	NAME OF DEANERY	DATE OF AUDIT
1	NIZAMABAD DEANERY SHAMSHABAD DEANERY VIKARABAD DEANERY SANGAREDDY DEANERY	17-04-2023 (2pm onwards)
2	HYDERABAD DEANERY EMJALA DEANERY GAGILAPURAM DEANERY	18-04-2023
3	PASTORAL CENTRE YOUTH OFFICE BOWENPALLY DEANERY SECUNDERABAD DEANERY	19-04-2023
4.	TRIMULGHERRY DEANERY GAJWEL DEANERY RAMANATHAPUR DEANERY	20-04-2023

RECEIPT OF LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS		
Date	Parish/Individual	No. of Masses
26-01-2023	Begumpet	277
01-02-2023	Bolarum	50
02-02-2023	Trimulgherry	400
02-02-2023	Trimulgherry	400
06-02-2023	Mettuguda	2000
16-02-2023	Khairathabad	606
20-02-2023	Emjala	1500
20-02-2023	Rev. Fr. Stephen Thomas	15
20-02-2023	Dammaiguda	1000
		6248

7. 2ND SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2023

Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount	Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount
1		Aliabad		50		Madinaguda	
2		Alirajpet		51		Mahendra Hills	
3	11-01-2023	Ammuguda	2500	52		Mallapur	
4		Armoor		53		Manikonda Mission	
5		Arogya Nagar (Mission)		54		Medchal	
6		Arul Colony		55	03-02-2023	Medipalle	2690
7	08-02-2023	Balaji Nagar	2220	56	06-02-2023	Mettuguda	13880
8		Balaiah Nagar		57	16-02-2023	Miyapur	2500
9	24-01-2023	Band Lines	6000	58		Moula - Ali	
10		Bandlaguda Jagir (Kismatpur)		59	06-02-2023	Mudfort	13000
11	11-02-2023	Banjara Hills	10000	60		Muthangi	
12		Basuregadi		61		Nacharam	
13		Bayyaram		62		Nandrakal	
14	23-01-202	Bazar Ghat	1500	63		Narayankhed	
15	20-02-2023	Begumpet	5540	64		Nedunoor	
16	30-01-2023	BHEL - MIG	3245	65		Neela Camp	
17	21-01-2023	Bhoiguda	15000	66		Nizamabad	
18		Bodhan		67		Pargi	
19		Boduppal		68		Patancheru	
20	01-02-2023	Bolarum	12310	69	21-01-2023	Ramachandrapuram	8500
21		Borabanda		70	10-01-2023	Ramanthapur	3200
22	10-02-2023	Bowenpally	8948	71	30-01-2023	Ramnagar	11503
23	16-02-2023	Cherkapally	800	72	20-01-2023	Sadasivpet	1200
24		Chintalacheruvu		73		Sainikpuri	
25		Church Colony		74	17-01-2023	Sanathnagar	20000
26	14-02-2023	Dayanandnagar	3600	75		Sangareddy	
27		Dharmaram		76		Santhoshnagar	
28	20-02-2023	Emjala	20000	77	10-01-2023	Sappers Lines	1050
29	19-01-2023	Gaddiannaram	11608	78	13-01-2023	Secunderabad	60320
30		Gagillapuram		79	25-01-2023	Seethaphalmandi	2500
31		Gajwel		80		Shabad	
32	09-01-2023	Gandhinagar	6000	81		Shamshabad	
33	10-01-2023	Garrison (Trimulgherry)	2304	82	19-01-2023	Shantinagar	4680
34		Ghatkesar		83		Shapurnagar	
35	18-01-2023	Golconda	12986	84		Siddipet	
36		Hyderabad, Gunfoundry		85		Sultan Bazar	
37		Jadi Jamalpur		86	12-01-2023	Suraram	3000
38	09-01-2023	Jagadgirigutta	3500	87		Tandur	
39		Jahanuma		88		Toopran	
40		Jogipet		89	02-02-2023	Trimulgherry	20000
41		Joipet		90		Uminthal	
42		Kalwakole		91		Vanasthalipuram	
43		Kamareddy		92		Venkatapuram	
44	16-02-2023	Khairatabad	18000	93		Vikarabad	
45		Kissan Nagar		94	17-01-2023	Yapral	3300
46	16-01-2023	Kukatpally	20000	95		Yeddumylaram	
47		L. B. Nagar		96		Yellareddy	
48		Lallaguda		97		Zaheerabad	
49	06-03-2023	Lillipur	641			Total	338025

Pastoral News

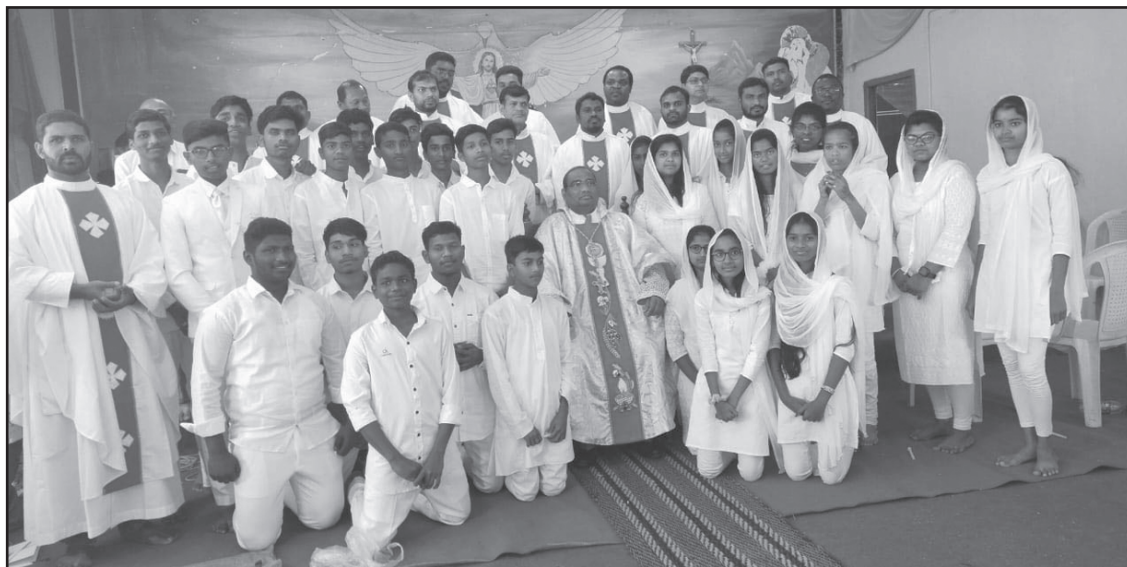
- 01. MASS: BLESSING & INAUGURATION OF NEW PRESBYTERY AT MARIA RANI CHURCH, MARIAPURAM ON 01ST FEBRUARY 2023 AT 06:00 P.M.**



- 02. FESTIVE MASS AT RENTACHINTALA, GUNTUR ON 02ND FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10:00 A.M.**



03. CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. GONZALO GARCIA CHURCH, PARIGI ON 05TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 11:30 A.M.



04. INAUGURAL MASS FOR PROVINCIAL CHAPTER (HOLY SPIRIT FATHERS) AT PROVINCIALATE, RAMANTHAPUR ON 07TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 05:00 P.M.



**05. FESTIVE MASS AT GUNADALA MATHA SHRINE, VIJAYAWADA ON
11TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 07:00 A.M.**



**06. ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS AT SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL,
EXTENSION BLOCK, TARNAKA ON 11TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT
05:00 P.M.**



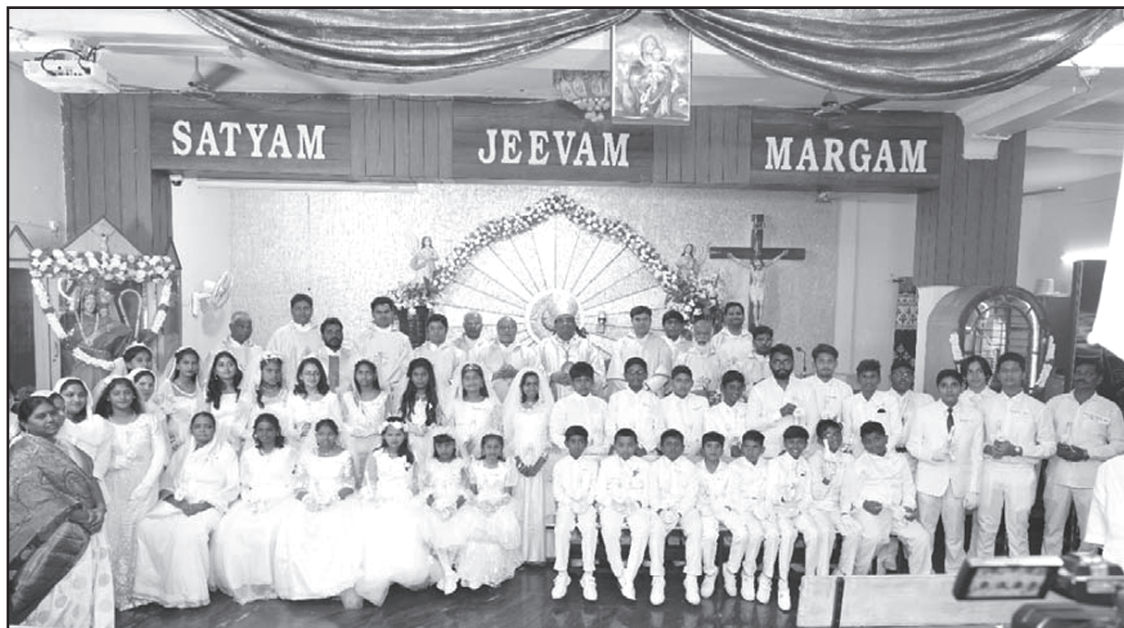
07. ANNUAL FEAST OF INFANT JESUS SHRINE, EMJALA ON 12TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 11:30 A.M.



08. CENTENARY JUBILEE, CANONICAL ERECTION OF THE PROVINCE OF ST. ANN'S OF PROVIDENCE AT ST. ANN'S HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS, BOLARUM ON 18TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 06:00 P.M.



09. ANNUAL FEAST, 1ST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATIONS AT MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH, SANTHOSH NAGAR ON 19TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10.00 A.M.



10. BLESSING OF THE RENOVATED CHURCH & PRESBYTERY AT ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH, GADDIANARAM ON 05TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 05:00 P.M.



**11. FESTIVE MASS AT LOURDU MATHA CHURCH, CHURCH COLONY
ON 20TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10.30 A.M.**



**12. ASH WEDNESDAY: MASS AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SEC'BAD ON
22ND FEBRUARY 2023 AT 06:00 A.M.**



Archdiocesan News

1. IN LOVING MEMORY OF MR. POOLA BALARAJU



MR. POOLA BALARAJU

Date of birth 1-1-1966, Date of death: 23-02-2023

We are deeply saddened to hear such a sudden and tragic loss of Mr. Poola Balaraju (58) the younger Brother of Cardinal Poola Anthony. Our heart felt condolences and prayers to Our Cardinal Poola Anthony and the family members of Mr. Balaraju. May his soul be rest in Peace.

2. A SEMINAR ON "SAFETY OF CHILDREN"

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad Organised a Seminar on "Safety of Children" at Archbishop's house on 16th February 2023. More than 100 Priests participated in this seminar. It was conducted by Dr. Diana Monteiro a renowned psychologist in Hyderabad. Dr. Diana Monteiro, founder of the Hyderabad Academy of Psychology (HAP), has completed her Doctorate in Counseling Psychology in the University of Southern Mississippi, USA and worked



as a licensed psychologist. In her interactive lively session, Dr. Diana has put forth the facts on child abuse cases and has emphasized that the priests can play a significant and responsible role of gate-keepers and child protectors in the society. The priests participated with great enthusiasm and sought out clarifications from the resource person and she has received a lot of appreciations from Cardinal Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad.

3. BLESSING OF THE NEW PRESBYTERY, MARIA RANI CHURCH, AT MARIAPURAM

Maria Rani Church, Mariapuram, Adibatla is the 102nd new Parish in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. This parish is located close to St. Paul of the Hermit Church, Nanrakal, RR Dt, and it was a sub-station of Nanrakal. The new presbytery foundation stone was laid on the 1st of March 2022 and successfully was completed in January 2023. On the 1st of February 2023, we the parishioners of Mariapuram had the privilege to have His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, Metropolitan Archbishop of Hyderabad, priests, and religious from Emjala denary for the Blessing of New Presbytery and New Tabernacle in the Church. His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, Metropolitan Archbishop of Hyderabad, thanked and felicitated Mr. Kata Jayaraj and his family for their initiative and support in funding and constructing the new Presbytery. Fr. Victor, The Chancellor and procurator of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad also thanked and said, “Every parish must have a couple like Mr. Kata Jayaraj and his family in supporting and building the local church.” We ended our celebration with a fellowship meal.



- Fr. Michael Samala, Parish Priest

4. BCC ANIMATORS MEETING HELD ON 8TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT PASTORAL CENTER

The BCC (Basic Christian Community) has conducted faith formation Sunday on 19th February, 2023 at Mariapuram in Uminthal Parish. Rev. Fr. Madanu Anthony, Regional Director of Jyotirmai Society and Rev. Fr. Dion Isaac Pastoral Centre

Director, Hyderabad along with the Animator Mr. Papaiah have conducted the faith formation day. The service began with Bible procession followed by the celebration of the Holy Mass. Holy mass by Fr. Dion Isaac and sermon “on the importance of faith in the present world” by Fr. M. Anthony. After the Holy Mass a group photo was taken along with the parishioners.



5. BCC REPORT OF UMINTHAL PARISH AT MARIAPURAM ON 19TH FEBRUARY, 2023

BCC animators meeting presided by Rev. Fr. M. Anthony, the Regional Director on 8th February from 9.30 a.m. to 01:00 p.m. at Pastoral Center. The animators presented their respective parish reports and activities. Fr. Dion Isaac celebrated the Holy Mass, while Fr. M. Anthony preached about the importance of the Animators’ Ministry. the animators were given the transport allowance followed by lunch.



6. REPORT FROM JYOTIRMAI

Jyotirmai has conducted Bible Quiz this year. The prizes were distributed according to category wise.

Category 1: T. Charan 95 marks and G. Bala 95 marks. Both got Rs 500 each from Gagilapuram Parish.

M. Pranavi 83 marks from Medchal parish (700 rupees)

Category 2: First Prize to Amrutha 99 marks from Suraram Parish (1000 Rupees). Second Prize to Kaushik Reddy 96 marks from Gagilapuram Parish (700 Rupees)

Category 3: First Prize to Soumya 99 marks from Church Colony (1000 Rupees). Second Prize to Keerthi 98 marks from Gunfoundry Parish (700 Rupees)

Category 4: First Prize to K. Regina 99 marks from Jagathgirigutta Parish (1000 Rupees). Second prize to Ann Jyoti 98 marks from Gagilapuram Parish (700 Rupees)

Added to the above 20 consolation Prizes were given. We thank all the Parish Priests and BCC Animators for cooperating with us to conduct the exam.

HASSS

1. HASSS DECLARES FEBRUARY 2023 AS CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Under the guidance of Cardinal Poola Anthony, The Archbishop of Hyderabad, Fr. Anthony Madanu, Executive Director of HASSS announced that February 2023 will be observed as “Cancer Awareness Month” by HASSS. Cancer Awareness Rally: As part of the Cancer Awareness program and on the occasion of World Cancer Day (Feb 4), HASSS organized a Cancer Awareness Rally with 600 Students from St. Mary’s High School, Secunderabad. The program began by spreading awareness to the students. Students clarified their doubts and were willing to spread awareness to the general public through a rally.

Students marched on the streets of Secunderabad shouting slogans like “Early Detection is a Better Choice”, “Cancer Kills”, “Don’t Smoke”, “Don’t Consume Alcohol” “Eat health Food” etc. The rally with students was a success as many passers-by took notice and were interacting with children and the staff about the Cancer. The program concluded at St Mary’s High School grounds. Executive director thanked Rev. Fr. Pasala Innaiah, Principal of the school and others for enthusiastically participating in the rally along with students. An alarming fact is that the Cancer has become second-leading cause of death worldwide. Approximately one crore people die from cancer every year. The magnitude of the situation is concerning. Hence, HASSS through the Cancer Awareness Rally HASSS reached out to 600 students, hundreds of commuters directly and thousands indirectly with a message that people should detect Cancer at an early stage and get cured.

Uniting our voices and taking action: In collaboration with the diocese of Shamshabad, HASSS organized a interaction meeting with 25 cancer patients with aim to unite our voices and take action towards cancer care. The meeting was Platform for the cancer patients to interact with experts and a doctor regarding the queries they have. Rev. Fr. Madanu Anthony, Executive Director of HASSS, Rev. Fr. Jibi form diocese of Shamshabad and Dr. Anusha were present for the meeting to raise awareness about the global impact of cancer and to encourage action to reduce the number of cancer cases and deaths worldwide. This year, the theme of World Cancer Day is “Uniting our voices and taking action”. On the occasion, the 25 cancer patients were distributed with dry ration kit.

Five (5) Rupee Campaign to Aid Cancer Patients: HASSS has begun a Five (5) Rupee Campaign to Aid Cancer Patients. As part of the noble campaign, students from St Mary’s High School volunteered to collect Rupees five from their fellow students and pool the money which amounted to Rs 18,000 to support a deserving cancer patient.

Regional News



TELUGU CATHOLIC BISHOPS' COUNCIL

[Regional Body of Bishops of Telugu States of A.P. & T.S. – earlier known as APBC - Regd. No. 262 of 2011]

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February 10, 2023

To
All the Telugu Catholic Bishops' Council Members

Sub: Ongoing formation for the Diocesan Priests

Your Eminence/Grace/Excellency/Administrator,

The TCBC Regional Commission for Vocations, Seminaries, Clergy and Religious (VSCR) is pleased to inform you that, it organizes two days seminar for all the diocesan priests of 11 years and above of their priesthood as part of their ongoing formation for aggiornamento at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad on March 8th and 9th, 2023. This two days seminar begins at 9:00 am on March 8th, 2023 and ends at 1:00 pm on March 9th 2023.

Theme: Synodality in the Life and Mission of the Diocesan Priests

Resource Person: Rev. Fr. Raymond Joseph Irudhayasamy

Rev. Fr. Raymond Joseph Irudhayasamy is from Sivagangai diocese. He holds the Doctorate in Biblical Theology from Austria. He has penned many articles and papers and books both in Tamil and in English. He has taught in St. Paul's seminary, Trichy. He has conducted the seminars for the priests. He was Executive Secretary of CCBI Commission for VSCR from 2014 to 2022.

I make special appeal to you, Bishops to kindly pass on the information regarding this important seminar to your diocesan priests. I request you to make it mandatory for 7 of your priests to attend this seminar. Those who come previous day evening the accommodation is provided to them. For more information kindly contact Rev. Fr. Pentareddy Raja, Secretary for the VSCR Commission.

With kind regards and prayerful wishes

Yours sincerely

+ Ch. Bhagyaiah

+ Ch. Bhagyaiah

Bishop of Guntur &

TCBC Chairman for the Commission VSCR



The Members of Telugu Catholic Bishops' Council (TCBC) from State of Andhra Pradesh: Archbishop of Vishakhapatnam and Bishops of Cuddapah, Eluru, Guntur, Kurnool, Nellore, Srikakulam and Vijayawada; and from Telangana State: Archbishop of Hyderabad and Bishops of Adilabad, Khammam, Nalgonda and Warangal.

International News

1. POPE FRANCIS: ASHES REMIND US OF THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Pope Francis reflects on the meaning of receiving ashes on our foreheads at the beginning of Lent, and during the Ash Wednesday Mass, invites us to “set out on the path of charity, prayer, and fasting.” The rite of the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of the faithful – which takes place during the liturgy at the beginning of Lent – marks the beginning of our “return journey” to God, Pope Francis said during his homily for the Mass of Ash Wednesday. The Holy Father explained that the imposition of ashes is an exhortation both to return to the truth about ourselves, and to return to God and to our brothers and sisters. The Lord is God, we are the work of His hands. The ashes, he said, remind us of who we are, recalling the “essential truth of our lives: that the Lord alone is God and we are the work of His hands.” Lent, then, becomes a time to remember that we rely on God, and at the same time “to drop the pretense of being self-sufficient.”

Rebuilding relationships with God and others

The Pope then turned to a second step in the journey back to God: returning to God and to our brothers and sisters. By dropping every presumption of self-sufficiency, and all forms of idolatry of self, we can begin to learn that “life is a relationship we receive from God and our parents,” and that we can always revive and renew our relationships “thanks to the Lord and those he puts at our side.” Lent, then, is a season of grace when we can rebuild our relationship with God and with others, opening our hearts in the silence of prayer and emerging from the fortress of our self-sufficiency.”

The paths of charity, prayer, and fasting

Finally, in order to make this journey, Pope Francis reminds the faithful of the three great paths of almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, that are traditionally encouraged during Lent. The Pope noted, “Jesus warns us that rather than mere external rites, these must be actions expressing the renewal of our hearts.” All too often, he warned, “our gestures and rites have no impact on our lives, but remain superficial.” But he said, if we remain humbly in the sight of God, our “almsgiving, prayer, and fasting will not simply remain outward displays, but will express what we truly are: children of God, and brothers and sisters to one another.” Pope Francis concluded his homily with the exhortation to “bow our heads, receive the ashes, and lighten our hearts,” to set forth on the paths of charity, prayer, and fasting.

“Let us not neglect the grace of this holy season,” he said, “But fix our gaze on the Cross and set out, responding generously to the powerful promptings of Lent.” “At the end of the journey, we will encounter with greater joy the Lord of life, who alone can raise us up from our ashes.”

Dates & Events to Remember

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 07. Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Mrtrs (M) |  | 20. St Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S) |
| 08. St John of God, Rgs (Op.M) | | 23. St Turibius of Monrovejo, Bp (Op. M) |
| 09. St Frances of Rome, Rgs (Op.M) | | 25. The Annunciation of the Lord (S) |
| 17. St Patrick, Bp (Op.M) | | |
| 18. St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bp & Dr (Op. M) | | |

Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 01. Fr. Chinnabathini Gnanaprakash |  | 17. Fr. Yeruva Bala |
| 07. Fr. Viji Joseph | | 18. Fr. Therukunnel M. Mathew |
| 11. Fr. Madanu Francis Showry | | 18. Fr. Kata Joseph |
| 12. Fr. Dodda Bala | | 23. Fr. Thirumal Reddy Showreddy |
| 14. Fr. Madanu Lourdu Vijay Kumar | | 23. Fr. Wilson Davis |
| 16. Fr. Bandanadam Prashanth | | 24. Msgr. Yeruva Bala showreddy |
| 17. Fr. Thomas Andrew Raj | | |

Happy Ordination day Dear Fathers

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 04. Fr. Selva Kumar Aloysius | 19. Fr. Madanu Francis Showry |
| 06. Fr. Madanu Joseph (Sr.) | 19. Fr. Michael Thaigaraj |
| 12. Most Rev. Dr. Thumma Bala
Archbishop Emeritus
(Episcopal Ordination) | 21. Fr. Yeruva Thomas |
| 12. Fr. Marneni Varaprasad | 21. Fr. Yeruva Joji Reddy |
| 13. Fr. Mettu Arogyam | 22. Fr. Gade Showreddy |
| 14. Fr. Kandi Marreddy | 23. Fr. Dodda Bala |
| 14. Fr. Madanu Joseph (Jr.) | 24. Fr. Lancelot Menezes |
| 14. Fr. Yeruva Bala | 25. Fr. Guvvala Anthony |
| 18. Fr. Mettu Johannes | 26. Fr. Govindu Arogyaswamy |
| 18. Fr. Thanugundla Gabriel | 27. Fr. Michael Selvaraj |
| 19. Fr. Chinnabathini Charles | 27. Fr. Chinnabathini Gnanaprakash |
| 19. Fr. Chinnabathini Jayaraj | 29. Fr. Madanu Chinniah |
| 19. Fr. Gangarapu Balaswamy | 30. Fr. Mettu Arogyam |
| | 31. Fr. Thatireddy Jayaraj Reddy |

Necrology

01. Fr. Vatti Albin Reddy



05. Fr. Bandanadam Marianna (Sr.)

25. Fr. Ignatius Elenthott

**MAY ALL THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED,
THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN.**

Local news items, which might be of interest to the Archdiocese may be addressed to :

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