



# SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: L

NO.09

SEPTEMBER 2023

MARY BORN WITHOUT SIN  
PRAY FOR US

SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>







**THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD ORGANISED A PEACE RALLY IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF MANIPUR ON 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**



# SHEPHERD'S CALL

**NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD**

SEPTEMBER

2023



## *Archbishop's Message*



Holy Mother Church gives us the blessedness and the joy of liturgically celebrating the feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael on the 29<sup>th</sup> September this year and that of our Guardian Angels a few days later. In doing so, the Church unswervingly affirms and reminds us that the world of the blessed Angelic spirits in which these three Archangels exercise their leadership for our salvation *truly exists*, and further, that our merciful God habitually exercises His merciful providence for the well-being, safety and salvation of all human persons on earth who fear Him and seek His heavenly providence for themselves through the powerful and diligent service of these 'blessed citizens of heaven' to Him: 'God our Father, in your loving providence you send your holy angels to watch over us. Hear our prayers, defend us always by their protection and let us share your life with them forever.' And Holy Scripture unequivocally declares that Archangel Michael heads the messianic war waged against the Devil and his angels by the Son our Lord Jesus Christ as the glorious Son of Man for our eschatological deliverance and salvation.

Let us not forget our connaturality with these Angelic spirits as human persons created in the image and likeness of God in our 'inner natures' through which we are called to enjoy veritable communion of eternal life with them in Christ and in the Holy Spirit. May St. Michael and all the other Archangels and our Guardian Angels and all the other holy Angels who are 'continuously in the presence of the heavenly Father' intercede for us, and direct our personal and ecclesial life during our synodal pilgrimage of faith on earth until we join them in the everlasting blessedness of heaven forever.

# Solemnities and Feasts

**SEPT 5<sup>th</sup>**

## ST. MOTHER THERESA

The remarkable woman who would be known as Mother Teresa began life named Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. Born on August 26, 1910 in Skopje, she was the youngest child born to Nikola and Drane Bojaxhiu. Receiving her First Communion at the age of five, she was confirmed in November 1916. Her father died while she was only eight years old leaving her family in financial straits.



Gonxha's religious formation was assisted by the vibrant Jesuit parish of the Sacred Heart in which she was very involved as a youth. Subsequently moved to pursue missionary work, Gonxha left her home in September 1928 at the age of 18 to join the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Sisters of Loreto, in Ireland. She received the name Sister Mary Teresa after St. Therese of Lisieux. In December of 1929, she departed for her first trip to India, arriving in Calcutta. After making her First Profession of Vows in May 1931, Sister Teresa was assigned to the Loreto Entally community in Calcutta and taught at St. Mary's School for girls. Sister Teresa made her Final Profession of Vows, On May 24, 1937, becoming, as she said, the "spouse of Jesus" for "all eternity." From that time on she was called Mother Teresa.

Source: <https://www.catholic.org/>

**SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>**

## NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

This is one of the most ancient Marian feasts. It is thought that this feast originated in connection with the Feast of the dedication of a church dedicated to Mary, now the Church of St Ann, in Jerusalem in the 6th century. Tradition holds that this is where the house of Mary's parents, Joachim and Ann, stood and where she would have been born. The Feast began to be celebrated in Rome in the 8th century with Pope Sergius I (+ 8 September 701). It is the third such feast



of a "nativity" on the Roman Calendar: The Nativity of Jesus, the Son of God (Christmas); the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (24 June); and the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8 September). Nothing can be found in the Gospels to confirm this feast. The primary event in Mary's life always remains the Annunciation. The Church looks on her as the Mother of God, but even more so as the disciple who can best offer us an example and model of the Christian life. In her faith, in her obedience to her Son, in the way she made herself a neighbour toward her cousin Elizabeth and to the couple in Cana on their wedding day, Mary is the woman to imitate especially in the trust shown during the darkest moments in the life of Jesus, her Son. Here, and in many other moments, she explains why the people of God know they can find their refuge and comfort, help and protection in her. In Milan, evidence of the celebration of this feast dates back to the 10th century.

Source: [www.vaticannews.in](http://www.vaticannews.in)

**SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

## THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

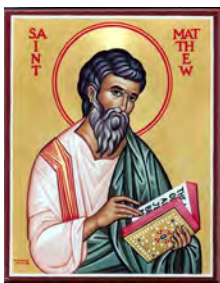
On 13 September 335, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (also called the Church of the Resurrection) was dedicated. The following day, the cross that Empress Helena had discovered on 14 September 320, was venerated in a solemn ceremony. In 614, the Persian King, Chosroes II, waged war on the Romans. After conquering Jerusalem, he confiscated many treasures, among which was the Cross of Jesus. The Byzantine emperor Heraclius initiated peace negotiations, but was rejected. He then waged war and won near Nineveh, asking for the restitution of the Cross, which then returned to Jerusalem. Today, the cruelty of the Cross is not what is exalted, but the Love that God manifested to humanity by accepting death on the Cross: "Who, though in the form of God, emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. This is the glory of the Cross of Jesus!"



Source: [www.vaticannews.in](http://www.vaticannews.in)

**SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>**

## ST. MATTHEW



Levi organized a great banquet for Jesus, who went with his disciples, stirring up the scorn of scribes and Pharisees because there were in attendance publicans and sinners. Jesus' answer greatly touched Matthew. "They that are well have no need of a physician, but they that are sick," said the Nazarene, adding, "For I came not to call the just, but sinners." Matthew, who was a sinner, left everything and followed Jesus, becoming one of the Twelve. He is also named a few times in the Acts of the Apostles. The proclamation of Christ would be his mission. He is the author of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, which was almost certainly written not in Greek but Aramaic. The Gospel of Matthew is written with an audience of Christians of Jewish origin in mind: the text emphasizes that Jesus is the

Messiah who fulfils the promises of the Old Testament

Source: [www.vaticannews.in](http://www.vaticannews.in)

**SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>**

## STS. MICHAEL, GABRIEL, RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS

The three Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are the only angels named in Sacred Scripture and all three have important roles in the history of salvation. Saint Michael is the "Prince of the Heavenly Host," the leader of all the angels. His name is Hebrew for "Who is like God?" and was the battle cry of the good angels against Lucifer and his followers when they rebelled against God. He is mentioned four times in the Bible, in Daniel 10 and 12, in the letter of Jude, and in Revelation. Michael, whose forces cast down Lucifer and the evil spirits into Hell, is invoked for protection against Satan



and all evil. Pope Leo XIII, in 1899, having had a prophetic vision of the evil that would be inflicted upon the Church and the world in the 20th century, instituted a prayer asking for Saint Michael's protection to be said at the end of every Mass. Christian tradition recognizes four offices of Saint Michael: (i) to fight against Satan (ii) to rescue the souls of the faithful from the power of the enemy, especially at the hour of death. (iii) to be the champion of God's people, (iv) to call away from earth and bring men's souls to judgment. Saint Gabriel, whose name means "God's strength," is mentioned four times in the Bible. Most significant are Gabriel's two mentions in the New Testament: to announce the birth of John the Baptist to his father Zacharias, and the at Incarnation of the Word in the womb of Mary. Christian tradition suggests that it is he who appeared to St. Joseph and to the shepherds, and also that it was he who "strengthened" Jesus during his agony in the garden of Gethsemane. Saint Raphael, whose name means "God has healed" because of his healing of Tobias' blindness in the Book of Tobit. Tobit is the only book in which he is mentioned. His office is generally accepted by tradition to be that of healing and acts of mercy. Raphael is also identified with the angel in John 5:1-4 who descended upon the pond and bestowed healing powers upon it so that the first to enter it after it moved would be healed of whatever infirmity he was suffering.

Source: [thecatholictelegraph.com](http://thecatholictelegraph.com)

## *Archbishop's Engagements*

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

### **SEPTEMBER 2023**

|                  |          |   |                                                                                                   |
|------------------|----------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01. Fri          |          | : | In Office                                                                                         |
| 02. Sat          | 10.30 am | : | Decennial Celebration of Catholic Hub TV at Sacred Heart Church, Basuragadi.                      |
| 04. Mon          |          | : | Occupied                                                                                          |
| 05. Tue          | 09.00 am | : | Teachers Day Celebration and Investiture Ceremony at Ave Maria School, Ramanthapur                |
| 06. Wed          | 10.30 am | : | Blessings and Inauguration of St Mary's Centenary College of Management, Secunderabad.            |
| 07. Thu          |          | : | In Office                                                                                         |
| 08. Fri          | 10.30 am | : | Festive Mass at Our Lady of Good Health Shrine, Khairtabad.                                       |
| 09-11. Sat- Mon  |          | : | Golden Jubilee Celebration at Palayamkottai Diocese.                                              |
| 12-14. Tue-Thur  |          | : | TCBC, Ramanthapur                                                                                 |
| 17. Sun          | 10.00 am | : | Festive Mass and First Holy Communion and Confirmation at Vellankanni Matha Church, Balaji Nagar. |
| 18. Mon          |          | : | In Office                                                                                         |
| 19. Tue          |          | : | In Office                                                                                         |
| 20. Wed          |          | : | Meeting with Higher Education Scholarship Committee                                               |
| 21-24. Thur- Sun |          | : | Shrine of St Padre Pio, Philippines.                                                              |
| 26. Tue          |          | : | In Office                                                                                         |
| 27. Wed          |          | : | In Office                                                                                         |
| Sep 29- Oct 31   |          | : | 16 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, Rome.                         |

31<sup>st</sup> August, 2023  
Archbishop's House

**+ Cardinal Poola Anthony**  
Archbishop of Hyderabad

# *Communications*

## **1. BIRTHDAY OF BLESSED MOTHER 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:**

“On this special day, celebrating the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, may her grace and blessings shine upon us all. May her purity and love inspire us to walk the path of faith, hope, and compassion. Happy Birthday to the Mother of Jesus and the guiding light of our hearts.” I wish all of you a happy Feast and God’s Blessings. May the intercessions of Our Heavenly Mother continue to guide and strengthen the Church.

## **2. THE SYNOD:**

I was elected by the CCBI to participate in the **16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops to be held from 3<sup>rd</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.** As the preparatory retreat will begin on the 30<sup>th</sup> September, I will be leaving for Rome on the 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 and will be away until the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023. Msgr. Yeruva Balashowry will be in charge while I am away.

## **3. PEACE RALLY FOR MANIPUR:**

I thank everyone who participated in the Peace Rally, to show our solidarity with the people of Manipur, organized by the Archdiocese. Your presence at the Peace Rally has truly been a testament to the power of unity and the shared vision of a harmonious world. Your commitment to promoting peace, understanding, and solidarity is inspiring and heartwarming.

Thank you for taking a stand for a better tomorrow, for believing in the potential for positive change, and for joining hands in support of a more peaceful and just society. Your participation has not only brought light to this event but also to the lives of those around you.

Let’s continue to carry the spirit of this rally forward, working together to create an environment of empathy, tolerance, and compassion. Each step we take in this direction brings us closer to the world we envision.

## **4. DEANERY LEVEL MONTHLY RECOLLECTION:**

All the Deans are here-by requested to conduct the Monthly Recollection at Deanery level in the month of September, 2023. All the clergy are requested to attend the “Deanery Level Recollection” and if anyone is unable to attend the



recollection, please inform the respective Deans. All the Deans are here-by requested to note down the minutes of the meetings with the list of the participants and send a copy of the same to the Archbishop's House, Secunderabad.

## 5. TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Fr. Madanu Ajith Kumar : Parish Priest, St. Peter's Church, Bodhan
2. Fr. Yelugu Jude Raj: Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Jodi Jamalpur
3. Fr. Bandanadam Dennis Bhaskar: Priest In-charge,  
Jeevana Datha Church (Annuciation Church), Pedda Umenthal Parish
4. Fr. Chinnabathini Charles: Spiritual Renewal
5. Fr. Ambati Pranith, Youth Director, Archdiocese of Hyderabad

## Ministry in Abroad

1. Fr. Pallela Sunil Kumar Reddy
2. Fr. Madanu Balashowry
3. Fr. Vemparala Vijay Shekar

### POPE'S INTENTION: SEPTEMBER 2023

**For people living on the margins:** We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



| RECEIPT OF LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS |                   |               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Date                             | Parish/Individual | No. of Masses |
| 07-08-2023                       | Bowenpally        | 126           |
| 07-08-2023                       | Mettuguda         | 2000          |
| 22-08-2023                       | Gandhi Nagar      | 60            |
| 23-08-2023                       | Trimulgherry      | 545           |
|                                  | <b>Total</b>      | <b>2731</b>   |



## 6. 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2023

| Sl No. | Date       | Place                        | Amount | Sl No. | Date       | Place             | Amount        |
|--------|------------|------------------------------|--------|--------|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1      | 18-07-2023 | Aliabad                      | 1150   | 50     |            | Madinaguda        |               |
| 2      | 22-07-2023 | Alirajpet                    | 300    | 51     |            | Mahendra Hills    |               |
| 3      |            | Ammuguda                     |        | 52     |            | Mallapur          |               |
| 4      |            | Arogya Nagar (Mission)       |        | 53     |            | Manikonda Mission |               |
| 5      | 24-08-2023 | Arul Colony                  | 20437  | 54     | 20-07-2023 | Mariapuram        | 800           |
| 6      | 07-08-2023 | Balaji Nagar                 | 1000   | 55     |            | Medchal           |               |
| 7      |            | Balaiah Nagar                |        | 56     |            | Medipalle         |               |
| 8      |            | Band Lines                   |        | 57     | 20-07-2023 | Mettuguda         | 12000         |
| 9      |            | Bandlaguda Jagir (Kismatpur) |        | 58     |            | Miyapur           |               |
| 10     | 12-07-2023 | Banjara Hills                | 10000  | 59     |            | Moula - Ali       |               |
| 11     |            | Basuregadi                   |        | 60     | 23-08-2023 | Mudfort           | 9000          |
| 12     |            | Bayyaram                     |        | 61     |            | Muthangi          |               |
| 13     |            | Bazar Ghat                   |        | 62     |            | Nacharam          |               |
| 14     | 18-08-2023 | Begumpet                     | 5820   | 63     |            | Nandrakal         |               |
| 15     | 14-07-2023 | BHEL - MIG                   | 3180   | 64     |            | Narayankhed       |               |
| 16     | 18-07-2023 | Bhoiguda                     | 15000  | 65     |            | Nedunoor          |               |
| 17     | 11-08-2023 | Bodhan                       | 300    | 66     | 17-07-2023 | Neela Camp        | 300           |
| 18     |            | Boduppal                     |        | 67     | 21-07-2023 | Nizamabad         | 1500          |
| 19     | 11-07-2023 | Bolarum                      | 15220  | 68     |            | Pargi             |               |
| 20     | 24-07-2023 | Borabanda                    | 10102  | 69     |            | Patancheru        |               |
| 21     | 07-08-2023 | Bowenpally                   | 10000  | 70     | 15-02-2023 | Ramachandrapuram  | 9000          |
| 22     | 10-08-2023 | Cherlapally                  | 2000   | 71     | 13-07-2023 | Ramanthapur       | 3200          |
| 23     |            | Chintalacheruvu              |        | 72     |            | Ramnagar          |               |
| 24     |            | Church Colony                |        | 73     |            | Sadasivpet        |               |
| 25     |            | Dammaiguda                   |        | 74     |            | Sainikpuri        |               |
| 26     | 02-08-2023 | Dayanandnagar                | 4700   | 75     | 10-07-2023 | Sanathnagar       | 19830         |
| 27     | 17-08-2023 | Dharmaram                    | 2100   | 76     |            | Sangareddy        |               |
| 28     |            | Emjaka                       |        | 77     |            | Santhoshnagar     |               |
| 29     |            | Gaddiannaram                 |        | 78     |            | Sappers Lines     |               |
| 30     |            | Gagillapur                   |        | 79     |            | Secunderabad      |               |
| 31     |            | Gajwel                       |        | 80     |            | Seethaphalmandi   |               |
| 32     | 19-07-2023 | Gandhinagar                  | 8000   | 81     |            | Shabad            |               |
| 33     | 11-07-2023 | Garrison (Trimulgherry)      | 1480   | 82     |            | Shamshabad        |               |
| 34     |            | Ghatkesar                    |        | 83     | 15-07-2023 | Shantinagar       | 5245          |
| 35     | 01-08-2023 | Golconda                     | 17103  | 84     |            | Shapurnagar       |               |
| 36     |            | Gunfoundry                   |        | 85     |            | Siddipet          |               |
| 37     |            | Jadi Jamalpur                |        | 86     |            | Sultan Bazar      |               |
| 38     | 12-07-2023 | Jagadgirigutta               | 3500   | 87     | 10-07-2023 | Suraram           | 3000          |
| 39     |            | Jahanuma                     |        | 88     |            | Tandur            |               |
| 40     |            | Jogipet                      |        | 89     |            | Toopran           |               |
| 41     |            | Joipet                       |        | 90     | 20-07-2023 | Trimulgherry      | 33500         |
| 42     |            | Kalwakole                    |        | 91     |            | Uminthal          |               |
| 43     |            | Kamareddy                    |        | 92     |            | Vanasthalipuram   |               |
| 44     |            | Khairatabad                  |        | 93     |            | Venkatapuram      |               |
| 45     | 20-07-2023 | Kissan Nagar(Armoor)         | 500    | 94     |            | Vikarabad         |               |
| 46     | 15-08-2023 | Kukatpally                   | 20000  | 95     | 17-07-2023 | Yapral            | 3500          |
| 47     | 10-07-2023 | L. B. Nagar                  | 2628   | 96     |            | Yeddumylaram      |               |
| 48     | 22-08-2023 | Lallaguda                    | 15000  | 97     |            | Yellareddy        |               |
| 49     |            | Lillipur                     |        | 98     |            | Zaheerabad        |               |
|        |            |                              |        |        |            | <b>Total</b>      | <b>249958</b> |

# Pastoral News

## 1. FESTIVE MASS AT ST. JOHN MARIA VIANNEY CHURCH, BHOIGUDA ON 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.

With great joy and enthusiasm, the **Annual Feast of St. John Marie Vianney** was celebrated at New Bhoiguda Parish, a day filled with spiritual reverence and vibrant festivities. With four masses conducted throughout the day, the pinnacle was the special 9:30 AM mass solemnised by His eminence **Cardinal Bishop Poola Anthony**. His sermon resonated deeply, delivering a message of faith, compassion, and unity.

As part of the celebrations, we embraced the spirit of giving back. We encouraged our devoted parishioners to contribute stationery items that would be graciously distributed to children in rural mission areas. This act of kindness resonated with the core values of our community, spreading joy beyond the confines of our parish.

Following the solemn mass and thoughtful gesture, we transitioned into a lively fete celebration. The Parish council orchestrated a variety of engaging activities, creating an atmosphere of joy and camaraderie. A vibrant canteen was set up, offering delectable treats to tantalize our taste buds. The sounds of laughter and excitement filled the air as parishioners of all ages participated in multiple games and competitions. The Feast of St. John Marie Vianney served as a reminder of the strength and togetherness within our parish. It was a day of spiritual enrichment, generosity, and festive merriment that left a lasting impact on all who attended.

*-Fr. Madanu Prathap*





**2. FESTIVE MASS AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SECUNDERABAD  
ON 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.**



**3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT  
ST. ALPHONSE'S CHURCH, BANJARA HILLS ON 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.**



**4. JMJ SISTERS, INAUGURATION OF PROVINCIAL CHAPTER ON 21<sup>ST</sup>  
AUGUST, 2023.**



**5. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH, LOYOLA ACADEMY, ALWAL PARISH ON 27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.**



**6. MASS AND INAUGURATION OF DWAJA STHAMBAM AND PARISH HALL AT KHAIRATHABAD ON 27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.**





# *Archdiocesan News*

## **1. ASSOCIATIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS – CITY UNIT**

### **Archdiocese of Hyderabad**

#### **Objects:**

To preserve the teachings of the Catholic Church in the Educational institutions enunciated by CBCI / TCBC through its guidance and directives.

To empower every institution based on Gospel values and sharing the best practices among the member institutions.

To work together for mutual learning, mutual support and mutual enrichment to offer an affordable and quality education.

To update and upskill the faculty/ Principals and share the common resources so that even the upcoming institution will get equal opportunity to excel.

To conduct common examinations, competitive examinations and nurture the talent pool in every institution.

To cooperate or to represent the local government or any other authorities when an institution is confronted with some issues.

And any other relevant matter as the members deems it necessary to find a common solution.

**Note** : The term of the office bearers and members 2-3 years.

**Chief Patron** : His Eminence Cardinal Anthony Poola, Archbishop of Hyderabad.

1. Secretary-General: Br. Shajan SG, (Little Flower HS, Abids)
2. Joint Secretary1: Fr Innaiah (St Mary's HS)
3. Joint Secretary-2: Fr Elango SJ (St Patrick's HS)
4. Treasurer: Sr. Aruna, St Anns HS (SSC)

#### **Members:**

1. Ex officio Member - local CRI President (Fr Sharath SDB)
2. Ex Officio Member- Secretary, TCBC Commission for Education (Fr. VK Swamy)
3. Br. G Show Reddy (St Marks Boys Town)
4. Fr G. Praveen (Sacred Heart HS)
5. Fr. M. Kennedy (Roch Memorial HS)
6. Sr. Felicita, St Ann's HS, (ICSE), Pet bhasheerbad
7. Sr Vijaya Rani, St Ann's HS, Vijaya Nagar Colony
8. Sr Emmy, Rosary Convent, Hyderabad
9. Sr Gracy Mandonca, St Francis HS, Secunderabad
10. Sr T Sujatha Principal, St Anthony's HS, Secunderabad.



## **2. PASTORAL CENTRE NEWS**

### **CATHOLIC LAITY ASSOCIATION (CLASS)**

#### **ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD CATHOLIC LAITY INITIATIVE**

The Catholic Laity Association (CLASS) has conducted an award function ceremony on AUGUST 20, 2023, at St Ann's High School (I,S,C.) from 3.45 to 6 p.m.

Cardinal Poola Anthony, the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, was the chief guest for the programme. The programme was attended by many parents and the students who achieved a 9.5 GPA (SSC, CBSE), 95% (ISC), Intermediate with a, and Intermediate with a minimum of 90%. Dr. Prasad, the President of CLASS, has very meticulously outlined the aims and objectives of CLASS.



Mr. Thumma Vijayapal Reddy, the Vice President of CLASS, encouraged the parents and the students not to lose hope but to avail themselves of the opportunities and privileges given by the government and, more specifically, by CLASS.

Archbishop Poola Anthony, in his address, gave his own example and enlightened the gathering that as one receives help, so also the receiver should help the needy and the poor. He also said that those who received help from him came back to him at a later stage as well-settled professionals in different fields. After his speech, he congratulated all the students for their achievement of getting such a good percentage in their academics. He felicitated the principals of schools and colleges and felicitated the parents of the students with a shawl and a memento for the students.

Mr. Anthony, the member of the team, proposed the vote of thanks, and the programme concluded with a group photo.

## **3. PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY CELEBRATED ON 13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2023**

The Prison Ministry of India is recognised by the C.B.C.I. as the ministry for the welfare of the prisoners both spiritually and mentally. With the encouragement and blessing of our beloved Cardinal Archbishop Poola Anthony, the Chairman of the Prison Ministry (T.C.B.C.) Bandlines Community has participated in the

celebration prayerfully. I, Fr. Dion Isaac, the State Coordinator, celebrated holy mass in honour of St. Maximillian Kolbe, the Patron Saint of Prison Ministry, and preached about St. Maximillian Kolbe's sacrifice by saving the other prisoner from the execution death sentence. After the mass, some of us



gathered around the prison ministry banner and prayed for the prisoners welfare, for the volunteers of the ministry, for our chairman, and for our founder, Fr. Francis Kodiyan. After the prayer, a group photo was taken to express our willingness to encourage the ministry. I also thank all the state coordinators, the parish priests, for announcing the ministry in their parishes and dioceses, respectively. I once again thank our chairman, Cardinal Poola Anthony, for his blessing and encouragement

#### **4. COMMISSION FOR BASIC ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES**

The Commission for Basic Ecclesial Communities has conducted a meeting for southern states BEC's diocesan directors and secretaries in Mangalore from August 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. The meeting began with the enthronement of the Bible, followed by seven steps of prayer. Bishop Sylvester, the chairman of the commission, and Msgr. Noronha, the Vicar General of Bangalore, enlightened us about the importance of BECs in the parishes. The next morning, Bishop Sylvester celebrated the Holy Mass and preached to us that one needs to encounter Christ to lead others to Christ. He gave the example of Apostle Phillip.

The day began with a talk given by Fr. Gorge, the national executive member of the commission. He spoke about the vision, mission, and structure of the commission. He also said that the growth of the commission can be done only through systematic planning. He said that the purpose of the BEC is to grow in holiness, to serve others, and to build the church. The meeting ended with the bishop's encouraging words that one needs to have the mind of Christ (Jn. 13:1b). He said that one can ease others problems by giving them a patient hearing. Appreciating Pope Francis on Synod on Synodality, he said that listening is very important to help others.

I thank God for giving me this opportunity to attend the meeting and to know about BEC, and I am grateful to our Archbishop Poola Anthony for encouraging such pastoral activities.

## 5. FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY AT NIZAMABAD

Faith Formation Sunday was observed at Infant Jesus church, a substation to St. Mathias Church, Nizamabad on 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 from 10am to 1pm.

Rev. Fr. John the Parish Priest of the Parish along with elders welcomed Rev. Fr. Anthony, Jyotirmai Regional Director and the Team for the programme. Br. Varghese took the first session from 10 am to 12 pm. He



spoke on the sacramentsreferring Bible from different texts. He also said about Mother Mary's Immaculate Conception and the talk was applauded by the congregation. Holy Mass was celebrated and Fr. Anthony, Jyotirmai Regional Director preached on the importance of personal experience of Christ is important to witness Christ to others. After the Holy Mass Fr. Anthony, distributed few Study material to few deserving students in the Parish. The congregation participated in the programme very well.

*- Fr. Dion Isaac, Pastoral Centre Director*

## 6. FROM FAMILY APOSTOLATE

### Family Retreat 2023

The Hyderabad Archdiocese Family Apostolate is organizing a **three-day family retreat** at Jeevan Jyothi, Begumpet, Secunderabad from Monday 23rd October 2023 (9 a.m.) to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (4 p.m.). As it will be a closed retreat (live in) the numbers of participants are restricted to maximum of 60 (20 families). Families will include parents and children above the age of 14 years. Registration fee will be Rs. 600/- per person (For Family Of three Rs. 1800/-). Famous lay retreat preacher Mr. Colin Calmiano from Bangalore and his team will be conducting this retreat Details of the same will be sent through e-posters along with Google form for registrations. Please contact Fr. David Francis (9490941460), or Henry and Maria Sanjiv (9100494987) or Roger and Jessy (7207779086) for details and registrations. Registrations will be on the first come first serve basis. Parish priests are requested to announce the same during the Sunday masses at the earliest.

*-Fr. David Francis & The family Apostolate Team.*



# HASSS

## 1. WORKING WITH EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS FOR PROMOTION OF ACCEPTANCE & INCLUSION OF TRANSGENDERS.

The Hyderabad Archdiocese Social Service Society (HASSS) organized a program focused on promoting acceptance and inclusion of the Transgender community with the Support of Misereor, held at



- St. Alphonsa High School in Banjara Hills on 24-08-2023.
- St. Vincent's High School in Alirajpet — Siddipet District on 25-08-2023.
- St. Valerian Grammer High School in Bollaram on 28-08-2023.

The event aimed to foster understanding and empathy towards transgender individuals, shedding light on the challenges they face in society.

The program commenced with an introduction by principals of schools, highlighted HASSS significant contributions to society. They emphasized the importance of embracing diversity and ensuring equal rights for all individuals, irrespective of their gender identity.

Subsequently, Fr. Anthony, Director of Hyderabad Archdiocese Social Service Society, elucidated HASSS ongoing efforts to eradicate discrimination against the transgender community with the support of Misereor. He discussed the societal prejudices that transgender individuals often encounter and the organization's commitment to combatting such biases.

As a pivotal part of the event, Dr. Ms. Nanditha, a transgender woman, engaged with the children present. Ms. Nanditha shared her personal experiences, illustrating the challenges she and others like her face within their families and society at large. She described instances of parental rejection, societal mistreatment, and economic exploitation. Ms. Nanditha highlighted how private transporters, landlords, and medical professionals take advantage of transgender individuals, demanding exorbitant fees for their services.

Ms. Nanditha further explained the difficulties transgender individuals encounter in securing employment despite possessing education and skills. Her account shed light on the discrimination and bias that often hinder their professional opportunities.

In conclusion, the events at Schools served as a platform for fostering awareness, empathy, and acceptance towards the transgender community. The speakers, Fr.

Anthony, and Ms. Nandhitha, collectively advocated for a more inclusive society that values and respects the rights and dignity of all individuals, regardless of their gender identity.

The program saw a robust turnout from three prominent schools. St Alphonsa School was represented by 1430 students, accompanied by 57 teaching staff and 13 non-teaching staff. St Vincent's School contributed 890 students, along with 36 teaching staff and 12 non-teaching staff. St Valerian School had 680 students, with 36 teaching staff and 12 non-teaching staff in attendance. The event successfully brought together a total of 3000 students and 129 staff members from the three schools. This impressive participation showcased the schools' commitment to engaging and fostering a vibrant educational community.

*- David Raju D, Coordinator*

### **St. Alphonsa High School in Banjara Hills on 24-08-2023.**



### **St. Vincent's High School in Alirajpet - Siddipet District on 25-08-2023.**



### **St. Valerian Grammer High School in Bollaram on 28-08-2023.**



# Regional News



## APBC COMMISSION FOR DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY

**Chairman: Most Rev. Udumala Bala**

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**Secretary: Fr. Reddimasu Papaiah,** Email: apbc.theo@gmail.com

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**The Note to be published in the August/September issues of your Diocesan  
News Letter**

**Seminar of the Telugu Catholic Theological Forum: Oct. 4 & 5, 2023**

TCBC Commission for Doctrine & Theology is conducting the 9th Seminar of the Telugu Catholic Theological Forum (TCTF) on 04 & 05, October, 2023 at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad. The theme of the Seminar is "Telling the Story of Jesus in a Synodal Way in the Context of Telangana and Andhra." The participation in the Seminar is for Priests/ Sisters who are working in Andhra & Telangana who have done some higher theological studies in theology or at least Masters in theology (M.Th.) in case of Priests and at least Bachelors in theology (B. Th) in case of sisters.

This Year we wish to invite Lay people with a diploma in theology and the Lay faithful (men and women) who were actively involved in the Project of Synodality in the TCBC Region.

Kindly register yourself via an email with your name, address and contact number with tcbc.theo@gmail.com. Please contact Fr. Reddimasu Papaiah, Secretary of the Commission, at the above email address for any further information regarding the Seminar.

Your Suggestions are valuable to us for improvement. Kindly introduce the seminar to fresh Theologians and Vice-Versa!

**+Udumala Bala, Chairman**  
TCBC Commission for Theology & Doctrine

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"Reflection on faith will have to be intensified, so as to help all believers in Christ to acquire a more conscious and vigorous adherence to the Gospel, especially at a time of profound change such as humanity is currently experiencing." - Pope Benedict XVI (*Porta Fidei*,9)



## *International News*

### **1. POPE FRANCIS: LIKE OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, MOTHERS CAN BE GREAT EVANGELIZERS TODAY**

Our Lady of Guadalupe proclaimed the Gospel in “mother tongue,” Pope Francis said Wednesday in a message that highlighted the important role mothers play in passing on the faith to the next generation.

In his catechesis on evangelization on Aug. 23, the pope spoke about how the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1531 helped to spread the Gospel across the Americas, praising her as an inspired model of motherhood and inculturation.

“The Virgin of Guadalupe ... appears dressed in the clothing of the native peoples, she speaks their language, she welcomes and loves the local culture. Mary is Mother, and under her mantle, every child finds a place. In her, God became flesh and, through Mary, he continues to incarnate himself in the lives of peoples,” Pope Francis said in his general audience in Paul VI Hall.

“Our Lady, in fact, proclaims God in the most suitable language, the mother tongue. And to us too Our Lady speaks in our mother tongue, the one we understand well. ... And I would like to say thank you to the many mothers and grandmothers who pass the Gospel on to their children and grandchildren: faith is passed on with life; this is why mothers and grandmothers are the first evangelizers.”

When Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill in Mexico City on Dec. 12, 1531, she told him: “Let nothing frighten you or trouble your heart: [...] Am I not here, I who am your mother?” Pope Francis highlighted this quote as an example of how the Virgin Mary always “consoles us, makes us go forward and thus allows us to grow, like a good mother who, while following in her son’s steps, launches him into the world’s challenges.”

“Our Lady always chooses those who are simple, on the Hill of Tepeyac in Mexico, as at Lourdes and Fatima: Speaking to them, she speaks to everyone, in a language suitable for all, comprehensible, like that of Jesus,” Francis said.

In the apparition on Dec. 9, Our Lady of Guadalupe entrusted Juan Diego with

a mission to go to the bishop to ask him to build a church where she had appeared. Juan Diego was met with great difficulty when the bishop did not believe him and turned him away, the pope explained, making a joke about bishops.

“Here is the difficulty, the trial of proclamation: Despite zeal, the unexpected arrives, sometimes from the Church itself. To proclaim, in fact, it is not enough to bear witness to the good, it is necessary to know how to endure evil,” Pope Francis said.

“A Christian does good but endures evil. Both go together; life is like that. Even today, in so many places, inculturating the Gospel and evangelizing cultures requires constancy and patience, not being afraid of conflict, not losing heart. I am thinking of countries where Christians are persecuted because they are Christians and cannot practice their religion in peace.”

Pope Francis pointed out that it was the Blessed Virgin Mary who encouraged St. Juan Diego to persevere in this moment of trial. And his obedience to her message led to the miraculous image on his tilma that can be seen today in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, a shrine that receives more than 10 million pilgrims each year.

The Virgin Mary asked Juan Diego to go to the arid hilltop to pick flowers, he explained. “It was winter, but, nevertheless, Juan Diego found some beautiful flowers, put them in his cloak, and offered them to the Mother of God, who invited him to take them to the bishop as proof.”

“He goes, waits his turn patiently, and finally, in the presence of the bishop, opened his tilma ... to show the flowers — and behold! The image of Our Lady appeared on the fabric of the cloak, the extraordinary and living image that we are familiar with.”

“This is God’s surprise. When there is willingness and obedience, he can accomplish something unexpected, at the time and in ways we cannot foresee. And so, the shrine requested by the Virgin was built.”

Pope Francis underscored the importance of Marian shrines and pilgrimage destinations, like the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, as places where the Gospel continues to be proclaimed today.

“We need to go to these oases of consolation and mercy, where faith is expressed in a maternal language; where we lay down the labours of life in Our Lady’s arms and return to life with peace in our hearts, perhaps with the peace of children,” Pope Francis said.

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com>

## **2. APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO PORTUGAL ON THE OCCASION OF THE XXXVII WORLD YOUTH DAY (2 - 6 August 2023)**

*Dear young people, good evening!*

Welcome and thank you for being here. I am pleased to see all of you, and also to hear the delightful noise you are making! This makes me share your infectious joy. It is good to be together in Lisbon. You were invited here by me, and by the Patriarch of Lisbon, whom I thank for his words of greeting. You were invited also by your Bishops, priests, catechists and youth leaders. Let us thank all those who invited you and all those who worked to make this meeting possible. Let’s give them a fine round of applause! Yet, above all, it is Jesus who called you here: let us thank Jesus with another round of applause!

You are not here by accident. The Lord has called you, not only in these days, but from the very beginning of your days. He called you by name. Let us listen to the word of God that called us by name. Try to imagine these three words written in large letters. Then consider that they were written within you, on your hearts, as if setting the direction of your lives, the meaning of who you are: you have been *called by name*. Each of us is *called by name*. You, you and you, all of us here, myself included: all of us have been called by name. Not impersonally, but by name. Think of this: Jesus called me by name. His words are inscribed in our hearts, and we come to realize that they are written in the hearts of every one of us, as a kind of title that tells people who we are, who you are. *You have been called by name*. None of us is a Christian by chance; all of us were called by name. At the beginning of the story of our lives, before any talents we may have, before any shadows or wounds we may be carrying in our hearts, we were called. Why? Because we are loved. This is something beautiful. In God’s eyes, we are precious children, and he calls us each day in order to embrace and encourage us, to make of us a unique and



original masterpiece. Each of us is an “original”, whose beauty we can only begin to glimpse.

Dear young people: at this World Youth Day, let us help each other to recognize this reality: may these days be *vibrant echoes of God’s call of love*, for we are precious in God’s eyes, despite the fact that sometimes our own eyes are dimmed by negativity and dazzled by distractions. Let these be days when my name, and your names, spoken with friendship by brothers and sisters of many languages and nations, resonate as unique news in history, for God’s heart beats uniquely for you. Let these be days when we fully realize in our hearts that we are loved just as we are. Not as we want to be, but as we are now. This is the starting point of World Youth Day, but above all it is the starting point of our lives. Young men and women, we are loved the way we are, without makeup. Do you understand that? And each of us is called by name.

That is no mere figure of speech; indeed, it is the word of God (cf. *Is* 43:1, *2 Tim* 1:9). Dear friends, if God calls you by name, it means that for God none of us is a number, but a face and a heart. I would like each of you to remember that many people know your name, yet they do not call you by name. Certainly your name is known, it appears on social networks and is processed by algorithms that associate it with likes and preferences, all of which is useful for market research, yet it does not begin to approach you in your uniqueness. How many wolves hide behind smiles of false goodness, saying that they know you, though they do not love you. They insist that they believe in you and promise that you will become someone, but then abandon you when you no longer matter. These are the illusions of the virtual world and we must be careful not to let ourselves be deceived, for many realities that attract us and promise happiness are later shown to be what they really are: soap bubbles, superfluous things that we don’t need and that leave us empty inside. Let me tell you: Jesus is not like that. He trusts you, each of you, each of us, because each of us matters to him, each one of you matters to him. That is how Jesus is.

That is why we, his Church, are *the community of those who are called*: not of people who are better than others – no, absolutely not – but of sinners, called as such. Let us think seriously for a moment about that: we are called as we are, with our problems and limitations, our overflowing joy, our desire to be better and to

get ahead in this world. We are called as we are. Think of this: Jesus calls me as I am, not as I would like to be. We are the community of brothers and sisters of Jesus, sons and daughters of the same Father.

Friends, I want to be clear with you, for you are allergic to falsity and empty words: in the Church, there is room for everyone. Everyone. In the Church, no one is left out or left over. There is room for everyone. Just the way we are. Everyone. Jesus says this clearly. When he sends the apostles to invite people to the banquet which a man had prepared, he tells them: “Go out and bring in everyone”, young and old, healthy and infirm, righteous and sinners. Everyone, everyone, everyone! In the Church there is room for everyone. “Father, but I am a wretch, is there room for me? There is room for everyone! All together now, everyone, repeat with me in your own language: Everyone, everyone, everyone. I can’t hear you: again! Everyone. Everyone. Everyone. That is the Church, the Mother of all. There is room for everyone. The Lord does not point a finger, but opens his arms. It is odd: the Lord does not know how to do this (pointing), but that (opening wide). He embraces us all. He shows us Jesus on the cross, who opened his arms wide in order to be crucified and die for us.

Jesus never closes the door, never, but invites you to enter: come and see. Jesus receives, Jesus welcomes. In these days, each of us transmits the love of Jesus. God loves you. God calls you. How lovely this is! God loves me. God calls me. He wants me to be close to him.

You too, this evening, have asked me questions, a lot of questions. Don’t ever stop asking questions, because that is good; it is better, often, than giving answers, because asking questions is a sign of restlessless, and *restlessness* is the best remedy for mere *routine*, for sometimes routine can dull the soul. Each of us has his or her own questions. Let us bring those questions with us and let us share them in dialogue among ourselves. Let us bring them with us when we pray in God’s presence. As life goes on, those questions get answered; we just have to wait for them. Here is something interesting: God loves surprises. He is not a robot; his love is always surprising. He loves to surprise. He always keeps us alert and he keeps us surprised.

Dear young friends, I encourage you to reflect on the beautiful fact that God

loves us. God loves us as we are, not how we want to be or how society wants us to be. As we are! He calls us with our faults and failings, our limitations and our hopes in life. That is how God calls us. Trust, because God is a Father and a Father who loves us. This is not very easy. And for this reason we need a great help, the Mother of the Lord. She is our Mother too. She is our Mother.

That is all I wanted to tell you. Don't be afraid, take heart, move forward, knowing that all of us are "mortgaged" by the love God has for us. God loves us. Let us say it all together: God loves us. Louder, I can't hear you. Thank you. Good-by.

### **3. POPE FRANCIS: PEOPLE — NOT MACHINES — ARE THE VALUE OF WORK**

Pope Francis told a group of entrepreneurs this week that work's greatest value comes from human beings, not from machines.

He also said businessmen and businesswomen can contribute to the common good through job creation, especially for young people.

"Today, an increasingly important way of participating in the common good is to create jobs, jobs for everyone, especially young people — trust young people: They need work, and you need them," he said in the message delivered Aug. 28.

"Every new job created is shared wealth," the pope said, "which does not end up in the banks to generate financial interest but is invested so that new people can work and make their lives more dignified."

"Work is legitimately important," he underlined. "For if it is true that work ennobles man, it is even truer that it is man who ennobles work. It is we, and not the machines, who are the true value of work."

Francis' message was read by Bishop Matthieu Rougé of the Diocese of Nanterre, France, on the first day of the Meeting of Entrepreneurs of France at the Paris Longchamp Racecourse Aug. 28–29.

Rougé also participated in part of the event's program, a religious debate Aug. 28 on the topic of "the sacred and the profane: faith in the future."

The debate included representatives from Islam and Judaism as well as a philosopher. Sister Nathalie Becquart, undersecretary of the Vatican's Synod of Bishops, also participated.

Pope Francis noted that, like many people today, the business world is facing



challenges such as the war in Ukraine and the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Entrepreneurs suffer when their business suffers, and they suffer a great deal when the business goes bankrupt and has to close,” he said. “The Book of Job,” the pope added, “teaches us that misfortune is not synonymous with fault, because it also strikes the righteous, and that success is not immediately synonymous with virtue and goodness.”

“The Church understands the suffering of the good entrepreneur, she understands your suffering. She welcomes it, she accompanies you, she thanks you,” he underlined. Pope Francis told entrepreneurs: “The first capital of your company is you: your heart, your virtues, your will to live, your justice.” Human capital is worth more than economic and financial capital, he said, encouraging entrepreneurs to live their jobs like a vocation and “moral task.”

He also urged them to contribute their creativity to civil society. “Without new entrepreneurs, our planet will not withstand the impact of capitalism. So far, you have done something, some of you have done a lot. But it is not enough. This is an urgent time, a very urgent time: We must, you must, do more. The children will thank you, and I with them,” Francis said.

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com>

#### **4. POPE HEADS TO MONGOLIA TO MINISTER TO ITS FEW CATHOLICS AND COMPLETE CENTURIES-OLD EAST-WEST MISSION**

VATICAN CITY (AP) — When Pope Francis travels to Mongolia this week, he will in some ways be completing a mission begun by the 13th-century Pope Innocent IV, who dispatched emissaries east to ascertain the intentions of the rapidly expanding Mongol Empire and beseech its leaders to halt the bloodshed and convert.

Those medieval exchanges between Roman pope and Mongolian khan were full of bellicose demands for submission and conversion, with each side claiming to be acting in the name of God, according to texts of the letters that survive.

But the exchanges also showed mutual respect at a time when the Catholic Church was waging Crusades and the Mongol Empire was conquering lands as far west as Hungary in what would become the largest contiguous land empire in world history.

Some 800 years later, Francis won't be testing new diplomatic waters or seeking to proselytize Mongolia's mostly Buddhist people when he arrives in the capital Ulaanbaatar Friday for a four-day visit.

His trip is nevertheless a historic meeting of East and West, the first-ever visit by a Roman pontiff to Mongolia to minister to one of the tiniest, newest Catholic communities in the world.

"In a way, what's happened is that both sides have moved on," said Christopher Atwood, professor of Mongolian and Chinese frontier and ethnic history at the University of Pennsylvania. "Once upon a time, it was either/or: Either the world was ruled by the pope, or the world was ruled by the Mongol Empire. And now I think both sides are much more tolerant"

Officially, there are only 1,450 Catholics in Mongolia and the Catholic Church has only had a sanctioned presence since 1992, after Mongolia shrugged off its Soviet-allied communist government and enshrined religious freedom in its constitution. Francis last year upped the Mongolian church's standing when he made a cardinal out of its leader, the Italian missionary Giorgio Marengo.

"It is amazing (for the pope) to come to a country that is not known to the world for its Catholicism," said Uugantsetseg Tungalag, a Catholic who works with Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity in a nursing home in the capital. "When the pope visits us, other countries will learn that it has been 30 years since Catholicism came to Mongolia."

The Mongol Empire under its famed founder Genghis Khan was known for tolerating people of different faiths among those it conquered, and Francis will likely emphasize that tradition of religious coexistence when he presides over an interfaith meeting Sunday. It was after all, one of Genghis Khan's descendants, Kublai Khan, who welcomed Marco Polo into his court in Mongol-ruled China, providing the Venetian merchant with the experiences that would give Europe one of the best written accounts of Asia, its culture, geography and people.

Invited to Francis' interfaith event are Mongolian Buddhists, Jewish, Muslim and Shinto representatives as well as members of Christian churches that have established a presence in Mongolia in the last 30 years, including the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, which officially claims more than 12,500 members in Mongolia in 22 congregations.

In a message to Mongolians ahead of his visit, Francis emphasized their interfaith traditions and said he was travelling to the “heart of Asia” as a brother to all.

“It is a much-desired visit, which will be an opportunity to embrace a Church that is small in number, but vibrant in faith and great in charity; and also to meet at close quarters a noble, wise people, with a strong religious tradition that I will have the honor of getting to know, especially in the context of an interreligious event,” Francis said Sunday.

Aside from the historic first, Francis’ trip holds great geopolitical import: With Mongolia sandwiched between China and Russia, Francis will be travelling to a region that has long been one of the thorniest for the Holy See to negotiate.

Francis will fly through Chinese airspace in both directions, allowing him a rare opportunity to send an official telegram of greetings to President Xi Jinping at a time when Vatican-Chinese relations are once again strained over the nomination of Chinese bishops.

As Russia’s war in Ukraine and China’s crackdown on religious minorities grind on, Francis will be visiting a relatively neutral player but one that is striving to show its regional importance in the shadow of its two powerful neighbors, said Manduhai Buyandelger, a professor of anthropology at MIT and a Mongolia scholar.

“I think Mongolia is a very safe arena for the pope to land to demonstrate his outreach, as well as to show Mongolia’s belonging on equal stage with the rest of the world,” she said from Ulaanbaatar.

Mongolia’s environmental precariousness, climate shocks and the increasing desertification of its land are likely to be raised by the pope, given he has made combatting climate change and addressing their impacts on vulnerable peoples a priority of his 10-year pontificate.

Mongolia, a vast, landlocked country historically afflicted by weather extremes, is considered to be one of the most affected by climate change. The country has already experienced a 2.1-degree Celsius (3.8-degree Fahrenheit) increase in average temperatures over the past 70 years, and an estimated 77% of its land is degraded because of overgrazing and climate change, according to the U.N. Development Program.

The cycles of dry, hot summers followed by harsh, snowy winters are



particularly devastating for Mongolia's nomadic herders, since their livestock are less able to fatten up on grass in summer before cold winters, said Nicola Di Cosmo, a Mongolian historian and professor of East Asian Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey.

"If these events become more and more common and more frequent ... this change interferes with this very delicate pastoral economy, which is a delicate balance between the resources of the grassland and the animals using those resources," Di Cosmo said.

Already, many of Mongolia's herders, who comprised about a third of the population of 3.3 million, have abandoned their traditional livelihoods to settle around Mongolia's capital, stressing social services in a country where already nearly 1 in 3 people live in poverty.

More recently, Mongolia has turned to extraction industries, particularly copper, coal, gold, to fuel the economy, which gets more than 90% of its export revenue from minerals. Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said Francis would likely refer to this trend in his remarks; Francis has frequently spoken out about the harm caused by extraction industries, particularly on the natural environment and local populations.

Munkh-Erdene Lkhamsuren, a professor of anthropology at the National University of Mongolia, said he hoped Francis would speak out about "predatory" Western mining companies which, he said, together with Mongolian officials, are robbing Mongolia of its natural wealth.

In December, hundreds of people braved freezing cold temperatures in the capital to protest corruption in Mongolia's trade with China over the alleged theft of 385,000 tons of coal.

The government has declared 2023 to be an "anti-corruption year" and says it is carrying out a five-part plan based on Transparency International, the global anti-graft watchdog that ranked Mongolia 116th last year in its corruption perceptions index.

"It is well known fact that most common Mongolians now see their country as a victim of a neo-colonialism," Lkhamsuren said.

Source:<https://apnews.com>

## Dates & Events to Remember

- |                                                                          |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 05. St Mother Theresa, Vgn (M)                                           | 21. St Matthew, Ap & Ev (F)                                    |
| 08. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (F)                              | 23. St Pious of Pietrekina, Pt (M)                             |
| 09. St Peter Claver, Pr (Op. M)                                          | 26. Sts. Cosmas and Damain Mtrs (Op. M)                        |
| 13. St John Chrysostom, Bp & Dr (M)                                      | 27. St Vincent de Paul, Pt (M)                                 |
| 14. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (F)                                 | 28. Sts. Wencelaus and St Lawrence Ruiz & Comps, Mrtrs (Op. M) |
| 15. Our Lady of Sorrows (M)                                              | 29. Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels (F)             |
| 16. Sts. Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bp, Mrtrs (M)                       | 30. St Jerome, Pt & Dr (M)                                     |
| 19. St Januarius, Bp & Mrtr (op. M)                                      |                                                                |
| 20. Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Pt, and Paul Chong Hasang & Comps, Mrtrs (M) |                                                                |



## Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 02. Fr. Govindu Arogyaswamy       | 16. Fr. Madanu Arogya Swamy         |
| 03. Fr. Gorantla Dhanraj          | 17. Fr. Thanugundla Gabriel         |
| 08. Fr. Sunil Kumar Reddy Pallela | 18. Fr. Pasala Joseph (Jr.)         |
| 08. Fr. Jogu Naveen               | 18. Fr. Pasala Jose Paul            |
| 12. Fr. Dasari Gova Showraiah     | 26. Fr. David Francis               |
| 13. Fr. Bandanadam Anand          | 28. Fr. Jerome Emmanuel Lewis       |
| 15. Fr. Gade Showreddy            | 29. Fr. Narishetty Anthony Paul Raj |



## Necrology



- |                           |                                     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10. Fr. Thumma Francis    | 18. Most Rev. Domenico Barero, PIME |
| 16. Fr. Bandanadam Joseph | 25. Fr. Batherapally Peter          |

**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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**BLESSING AND INAGURATION OF INFANT JESUS SCHOOL &  
RENOVATED PILGRIM QUARTERS AT GAJWEL, ON 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.**



**BLESSING OF OUR LADY OF EXPECTATIONS STATUE AND CARDINAL BLOCK  
AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH, SAINIKPURI ON 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023.**





# Grand Inaugural Ceremony



We Cordially invite you for the  
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## St. Mary's Centenary College of Management

Managed by Hyderabad Archdiocese Educational Society (HAES)  
(Approved by AICTE and Affiliated to Osmania University)

With Blessings from  
His Eminence

### Cardinal Poola Anthony

Archbishop of Hyderabad & Chairman of HAES



Date:

Wednesday, 06<sup>th</sup> September 2023 @ 10.30am

Venue:

MBA Block, St.Mary's Campus, Sec-bad.

**ADMISSIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024 ARE IN PROGRESS.....**

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