



NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: LI

NO.02

FEBRUARY 2024



+ ASH WEDNESDAY



Hearty Congratulations on your
Ordination Anniversary
His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony 20th Feb





GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS & THANKSGIVING HOLY MASS AT FR. ROCH MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL, KHAIRATABAD ON 25TH JANUARY, 2024



THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY – 2024, ORGANIZED BY THE ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECUMENISM



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

FEBRUARY

2024



Archbishop's Message



Do we stop to recollect and realise that the origin of our present eschatological existence in this world as God's one holy Catholic Church in the Holy Spirit and God's promised 'kingdom of heaven' on earth, was the decision of God's only begotten Son to become God's promised servant in His human nature (Is.42:1f), by receiving John's 'baptism of repentance' in order to take upon Himself 'the sins of the many,' 'atone for them' once for all on the Cross 'like a lamb led to the slaughter house' and is 'dumb before its shearers (Is.53:7,10a), and be raised from the dead and exalted at the Eternal Father's 'right hand' as the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world' (Jn.1:29, Rev.5:6-10,12)' and give definitive birth to this promised kingdom and Church on Pentecost day as promised by God to His Remnant in Babylon: 'I shall gather the Israelites together from everywhere and bring them to their own soil... and make them one nation... save them from the acts of infidelity they have committed and cleanse them; they shall be My people and I shall be their God. My servant David shall reign over them, one shepherd for all; they shall follow My judgements, respect My laws and follow them... I shall make a covenant of peace with them, an eternal covenant with them... I shall set My sanctuary among them forever... And the nations shall know that I am the Lord, the sanctifier of Israel when My sanctuary is with them forever (Ezekiel 37:20-28).

This is the kingdom that the Son our Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed in the length and breadth of the promised land saying ‘the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel’ Was it not into this promised kingdom that we received ‘birth from above’ and which we entered by being sacramentally ‘born of water and the Spirit’? Are we this synodal people of this kingdom of heaven who constitute the Church which the Son Jesus Christ our Lord builds on the rock of Peter, on the one hand because they have been called by God the Father to belong to this kingdom through the birth ‘from above’ which He gives them (Jn. 3:3), and on the other hand because He leads them to worship God the Father ‘in spirit and truth’ in union with Himself in His sacramental liturgical sacrifice of the Cross on the altars of His kingdom and Church as their life-giving Head, in order to unite them to God His Father forever in the glory of His resurrection on ‘the last day’? And as ministers ordained into His one priesthood and as consecrated religious and as the synodal people of God, are we giving Him the required service to enable Him to carry out this awesome and unspeakably burdensome task successfully, for the greater glory of His Eternal Father and for our salvation and that of all mankind for whom He laid down His life once for all on the Cross? Surely, our task as the synodal people of God during the current ordinary Sundays preceding Ash Wednesday, is discover truthful answers to these questions in our personal, community and ecclesial lives for our conversion unto God, sanctification and salvation and everlasting happiness.

POPE’S INTENTION: FEBRUARY 2024

For the Terminally ILL: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.



CARDINAL’S INTENTION: FEBRUARY 2024

For All God’s People: We pray for the “Purity of Heart” in order to become worthy instruments of God in His Vineyard.



Solemnities and Feasts

FEBRUARY 2nd

The Presentation of The Lord (Feast)

This feast commemorates how Jesus, as a baby, was presented to God in the Temple in Jerusalem. This presentation finds its complete and perfect fulfilment in the mystery of the passion, death and Resurrection of the Lord. The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a combined feast, commemorating the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child to God in the Temple and his buying back (redemption) from God.

It is also known as the Feast of the Purification of Mary, and the Feast of Candlemas. It is also called the Feast of Encounter (Hypapante in Greek) because the New Testament, represented by the baby Jesus, encountered the Old Testament, represented by Simeon and Anna. Joseph offered two pigeons in the Temple as sacrifice for the purification of Mary after her childbirth and for the presentation and redemption ceremonies performed for baby Jesus. *Source: www.catholic.org*



FEBRUARY 14th

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the

dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel"

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's palm Sunday Mass. It is important to remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of penitential prayer and fasting. Some faithful take the rest of the day off work and remain



home. It is generally inappropriate to dine out, to shop, or to go about in public after receiving the ashes. Feasting is highly inappropriate. Small children, the elderly and sick are exempt from this observance. It is not required that a person wear the ashes for the rest of the day, and they may be washed off after Mass. However, many people keep the ashes as a reminder until the evening.

Recently, movements have developed that involve pastors distributing ashes to passersby in public places. This isn't considered taboo, but Catholics should know this practice is distinctly Protestant. Catholics should still receive ashes within the context of Mass. In some cases, ashes may be delivered by a priest or a family member to those who are sick or shut-in. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

Source: www.catholic.org

FEBRUARY 22ND

Chair of St. Peter (Feast)

The Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the apostle reminds us of what the Lord said to Peter, "You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church" Matthew 16:18, and "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" Matthew 16:19. St. Peter's life is so important to the Church that he has more than one feast day during the year. Today's feast is another way the Church celebrates this. The chair of St. Peter is a symbol of authority, as Jesus refers to this in Matthew 23: 2, when he commands and warns the crowd and his disciples, "The Scribes and Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses". The "chair" is metaphorically referring to the teaching and judging office that Moses held in the Name of God. The name that Jesus gives to Peter is a second metaphor for an office of teaching and judging, and to drive the point home, Jesus uses a third metaphor by speaking of the "Keys of the kingdom of Heaven" Matthew 16:19. The "power of the keys" is used in many ways; some are specific to the Office of St. Peter the Papacy, others are shared with those ordained to priestly ministry, the Sacrament of Confession. His feast day is an anniversary and celebration of the "authority" of the Papacy, and the particular mission entrusted to St. Peter by Jesus. The Roman Missal explains, the symbol of the chair, and emphasizes the mission of teacher and pastor of Christ conferred upon Peter, to whom He formed in His person and in St. Peter's successors, a visible foundation of unity of the Church. The chair, literally is a fixed seat of the supreme Pontiff and the Bishops, permanently placed in the Mother Church of the Diocese – Cathedral, and is the symbol of the Bishop and his ordinary magisterium in the local church. The Chair of St. Peter indicates his position in the Apostolic College, established by the express will of Jesus, who assigned the task of "feeding" the flock, to lead the People of God, the Church.



Source: www.vaticannews.va

Archbishop's Engagements

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

FEBRUARY

Jan 29 th - 07 th Feb	:	CCBI/CBCI Meeting at St John's, Bangalore.
08. Thu	10.00 a.m.	: New Church blessing & First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Vajinepally, Dondapadu Parish, Nalgonda.
09. Fri	(Morning)	: In Office
	5.00 p.m.	: Annual Day Celebration at Ave Maria International School, Ramanthapur.
10. Sat	4.30 p.m.	: Inauguration and Blessing of Good Samaritan Cancer Hospital, Eluru.
11. Sun	11.00 a.m.	: Festive Mass at Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala.
12. Mon	4.30 p.m.	: Platinum Jubilee of Vijaya Mary Hospital, Khairathabad.
13. Tue	10:30 a.m.	: Graduation Ceremony at St. Joseph's High School, Trimulgherry.
14. Wed	06:00 a.m.	: Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad.
15. Thu	(Morning)	: In Office
16. Fri		: National Conference on Synodality, Bangalore.
17. Sat	05:00 p.m.	: Mass of World Marriage Day at St. Mary's Pharmacy, Secunderabad.
19-20 (Mon-Tue)		: In Office
21. Wed		: In Office at Nalgonda
22. Thu		: Festive Mass & First Holy Communion and Confirmations at St. Peter's Church, Rayapuram, Nalgonda.

24. Sat	11:00 a.m.	:	Triple Jubilee Celebrations (Silver, Golden, Diamond) of JMJ Sisters, Somajiguda.
	5.30 p.m.	:	Annual Day Celebrations at St. Mary's Centenary Degree College.
25. Sun.	9.00 a.m.	:	First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Fathima Matha Church, Thimmapur, Nalgonda.
27. Tue		:	International Seminar at Vidhya Jyothi College of Theology, Delhi.
28-29. (Wed-Thu)		:	In Office

ARCHBISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS: TENTATIVE

MARCH

03. Sun	04:00 p.m.	:	Unity Sports Academy, 2 nd Cardinal Cup Football Tournament, Trimulgherry.
05-07 (Tue-Thu)		:	TCBC, Ramanthapur.
17. Sun	8:30 a.m.	:	Festive Mass at St Patrick's Church, Garrison.
19. Tue	10.00 a.m.	:	Blessing and Inauguration of Holy Spirit School, Jeedimetla.
21. Thu	09.30 a.m.	:	Clergy Recollection
	05.30 p.m.	:	Chrism Mass
24. Sun	(Morning)	:	Psalm Sunday Mass at Maria Rani Cathedral, Nalgonda
25. Mon	09.30 a.m.	:	Clergy Recollection and Chrism Mass at Nagonda
28. Thu	05.30 p.m.	:	Maundy Thursday Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry.
30. Sat	11.00 p.m.	:	Easter Vigil Mass at St Mary's Basilica, Sec-bad.
31. Sun	09.00 a.m.	:	Easter Sunday Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry.

31st January, 2024
Archbishop's House

+ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

Communications

1. RECOLLECTION IN FEBRUARY - 2024

All the Deans are here-by requested to conduct the Recollection at Deanery level for the month of February, 2024. 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 Archbishop’s House, Secunderabad.

2. THE WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2024:

The world day of the sick is celebrated on 11th February 2024. As per the direction and instructions given by the Holy Father Pope Francis, we need to observe the World Day of the Sick on 11th February, 2024 (The Feast Day of our Lady of Lourdes). World Day of the Sick is a Catholic Church awareness day, or observance, on February 11, aimed at praying for the sick. All are invited to pray for the sick and provide medicine, food and counseling to the needy. Pope Francis invites everyone to see the face of Christ in his or her ailing brother or sister.

The theme given by the Holy Father for the World Day of the Sick 2024 is Healing Love: Witnessing to Compassion and Service.

3. SEASON OF LENT 2024:

I. ASH WEDNESDAY: This year, Ash Wednesday falls on 14th February, 2024, on which the holy Lenten period begins. All the Parish Priests are requested to make sure that the way of the cross is conducted in all our Parish Churches/ Chapels/ Mass Centres on every Wednesdays and Fridays during the Lenten season. All the Heads of the Institutions are requested to make sure that our Catholic children/ youth participate in the “Way of the Cross “service in Parish Churches/ Chapels/ Mass Centres on Wednesdays and Fridays. It is the great responsibility of

all of us to promote solid and strong Catholic Faith Formation to all our Catholic children/ adults in our Parishes and in our Institutions, which is to be lived, celebrated and shared with others.

II. LAW OF ABSTINENCE (KEEPING AWAY FROM MEAT): The Catholics who have completed 14 years of age are to observe the law of abstinence on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of the year.

III. LAW OF FASTING: The law of fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, by all those who have completed 18 years of age and have not yet begun the 60th year of their age.

4. MONTHLY RECOLLECTION AND CHRISM MASS IN MARCH:

4.1 Archdiocesan Monthly Clergy Recollection will be held at Archbishop’s House, on 21st March, 2024, Thursday, from 09.30 am to 01.00 pm. All the Archdiocesan and Pastoral Clergy are to participate in this recollection for the good and immediate preparation for the Holy Week and Easter.

4.2 Chrism Mass will be held on 21st March, 2024 at 05:30 pm in St. Mary’s Basilica, Secunderabad. The Clergy, Religious and the Faithful are invited to participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

RECEIPT OF LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS		
Date	Parish/Individual	No. of Masses
06-01-2024	Cherlapally	63
15-01-2024	Khairathabad	600
17-01-2024	Secunderabad	570
23-01-2024	Divine Light Ministry	40
24-01-2024	Trimugherry	550
Total		1823

5. 2ND SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF DEC. 2023

Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount	Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount
1	12-12-2023	Aliabad	1050	51	23-01-2024	Mahendra Hills	2100
2	11-01-2024	Alirajpet	300	52		Madinaguda	
3	23-01-2024	Ammuguda	2500	53		Mallapur	
4		Arogya Nagar (Mission)		54		Manikonda Mission	
5		Arul Colony		55	14-12-2023	Mariapuram(Adibatla)	857
6		Balaji Nagar		56		Medchal	
7		BalaiahNagar(Old Alwal)		57		Medipally	
8	21-12-2023	Band Lines	6500	58	23-12-2023	Mettuguda	11270
9	25-01-2024	Bandlaguda	Jagir	59		Miyapur	
		(Kismatpur)	18872	60		Moul-Ali	
10	11-12-2023	Banjara Hills	10000	61		Mudfort	
11		Basuregadi		62		Muthangi	
12		Bayyaram		63		Nacharam	
13	05.01.2024	Bazar Ghat	2000	64		Nandrakal	
14	13-12-2023	BHEL - MIG	3100	65		Narayankhed	
15	14-12-2023	Begumpet	6415	66		Nedunoor	
16	19-01-2024	Bhoiguda	15000	67		Neela Camp	
17	14-12-2023	Bodhan	300	68	14-12-2023	Nizamabad	3000
18		Boduppall		69		Pargi	
19	13-12-2023	Bolarum	15500	70	27-12-2023	Patancheru	950
20		Borabanda		71		Ramachandrapuram	
21	10-01-2024	Bowenpally	10000	72	13-12-2023	Ramanthapur	3200
22	06-01-2024	Cherlapally	2000	73		Ramnagar	
23		Chintalacheruvu		74	30-11-2023	Sadasivpet	150
24		Church Colony		75		Sainikpuri	
25		Dammaiguda		76	13-12-2023	Sanathnagar	20000
26	14-12-2023	Dharmaram	1000	77		Sangareddy	
27	13-12-2023	Dayanandnagar	4500	78		Santhoshnagar	
28	23-01-2024	Emjala	20000	79	05-01-2024	Sappers Lines	1500
29		Gaddiannaram		80	17-01-2024	Secunderabad	56070
30		Gagillapuram		81		Shabad	
31		Gajwel		82		Shamshabad	
32	12-12-2023	Gandhinagar	10000	83	21-12-2023	Shanthinagar	3100
33	13-12-2023	Garrison (Trimulgherry)	1874	84		Shapurnagar	
34		Ghatkesar		85		Siddipet	
35		Gokonda		86		Seethaphalmandi	
36		Gothumakunda		87		Sultan Bazar	
37		Gunfoundry		88	14-12-2023	Suraram	3000
38		Jadi Jamalpur		89		Tandur	
39	15-12-2023	Jagadgirigutta	3500	90		Toopran	
40		Jahanuma		91	21-12-2023	Trimulgherry	34500
41		Jogipet		92		Uminthal	
42		Joipet		93	12-12-2023	Vanasthalipuram	3000
43	14-12-2023	Kalwakole	230	94		Venkatapuram	
44	17-01-2024	Kamareddy	500	95		Vikarabad	
45	14-12-2023	Khairatabad	18000	96	12-12-2023	Yapral	3500
46		KissanNagar(Armoor)		97	05-01-2024	Yeddu mylaram	810
47		Kukatpally		98	17-01-2024	Yellareddy	1061
48		Lallaguda		99	14-12-2023	Zaheerabad	250
49		L. B. Nagar					
50		Lillipur				Total	301459

Pastoral News

1. BLESSING OF THE RENOVATED HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH AT CHINTALCHERU PARISH, REDDYPALEM VILLAGE ON 07TH DECEMBER, 2023



The Renovated Holy Spirit Church was blessed on 07th December, 2023 by Rev. Msgr. Y. Balashowry, Vicar General, Archdiocese of Hyderabad, during the Concelebrated Solemn Holy Mass at 06.00 p.m. The program began with Rev. Msgr. Y. Balashowry blessing

of the plaques reflecting a glimpse of the Catholic Faith Community of the Parish, followed by the blessing of the new CC Road laid in the Church Campus; blessing and inauguration of new Piata Statue; blessing of the renovated Church front elevation including Veilankanni Mata's Statue and St. Joseph's Statue, and then the blessing of the renovated Sanctuary followed by Holy Mass. I would like to thank whole heartedly Rev. Msgr. Y. Balashowry, VG, Rev. Fr. Ch. Benjamin, Dean of Gagillapuram Deanery, and all other concelebrant Priests for gracing the occasion.

I also would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Mr. Edara Anthony Reddy, who generously sponsored for the renovation of Sanctuary and Front Elevation of the Church, in memory of late Edara Showreddy, Anthonamma and Dr. Edara Regina. The main theme of the renovation of the sanctuary reflects the 3 main faith elements of Catholic Faith,



namely, Birth, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ; and Holy Spirit above the Altar has Pneumatological significance, namely, it implies the key role the Holy Spirit plays in strengthening the Parish Faith Community. I express my heartfelt thanks to Mr. Thumma Rajapreddy and Sleevamma for generously contributing new Piata Statue. My sincere thanks to all other sponsors, namely, Mr. Thumma Prathap Reddy, Mr. Kancharla Yesu, Mr. Thanugundla Innareddy, Mr. Thanugundla Arogya Reddy, Mr. Thanugundla Elias Reddy, Mr. Thumma Sleeva Reddy, Mr. Thanugundla Gnanamma, Mrs. Pasala Lourdhamma, who have contributed for the following renovation works of the Church, namely, renovation of Church roof, new electrical wiring for the entire Church and painting inside the Church. Special thanks to Mr. Edara Solomon Reddy, who has been a constant support in this regard. I also would like to whole heartedly thank Mr. Thumma Showreddy, Sarpanch, and all the Village Elders, who have played an important role in getting CC Road laid in the Church Campus. My sincere appreciation to the Carmel High School Montfort Brothers' Community, Sisters of St. Ann's Bangalore Community, Church Elders, Mahila Mandal, Sacristan, Choir, Youth, Children and all the members of the Catholic Faith Community of Chintalcheru Parish for all your constant support, cooperation and collaboration during the renovation works and also on the day of the blessing.

-Rev. Fr. Y. Amal Francis, Parish Priest, Chintalcheru Parish.

2. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH, MALLAPUR ON 06TH JANUARY, 2024



3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, GANDHINAGAR, RK PURAM ON 07TH JANUARY, 2024

It is with great joy and happiness that we the Parishioners of St. Anthony's Church, Gandhinagar Celebrated the First Holy Communion & Confirmation on 7th Jan 2024, administered by our beloved, His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, The Archbishop of Hyderabad. The Cardinal was grandly welcomed by the Parish Priest, Parishioners, Parents and a big crowd of relatives of the communicants.



Archbishop in His homily exhorted and encouraged the children to live a holy life worthy of Jesus. And also as it was the Feast of Epiphany, He shared that He was inspired by the Rector of his Seminary days, that the Christmas Star has to be removed on the same day on the Eve of Epiphany because it implies that we all become another Shining Star to show the way to Christ. Which was a beautiful story, we never heard before.

Our communicants joyfully expressed their GRATITUDE to His Eminence for administering the sacraments; Rev. Sr. Flavia from Asha Kiran, and the tutors for imparting their knowledge and preparing them thoroughly to receive the Lord in a very spiritual manner; All the members of various committees involved in preparing for the whole celebration and also Rev. Sr. Deepti, Superior of Daughter's of Mercy and Her community for their Participation. Our Parish Priest felicitated His Eminence with a Shawl & beautiful bunch of roses. And His Eminence was very much taken-up by it.

Our Parish Council member Mr. Rasu Martin, showcased the works of the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Dominic Savio for all the developments that He has done both Materialistic and Spiritually as well and He was felicitated & appreciated by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony.

Large number of the faithful participated in the Holy Eucharistic celebration, presided over by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, along with His secretary Rev. Fr. Naveen and other senior Priests. Everything was meticulously arranged. It was a grand success and mind-blowing event.

-Jack Charles (Gen. Secretary of the Parish Pastoral Council)

4. GOLDEN & DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF SISTERS OF ST. ANN'S OF PROVIDENCE AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SECUNDERABAD ON 13TH JAN, 2024.



5. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. ANTHONY'S SHRINE, METTUGUDA ON 13TH JANUARY, 2024



6. BLESSING OF CHEMISTRY LAB AT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, SECUNDERABAD ON 17TH JANUARY, 2024

Pharmacy 17th January 2024, was a great day for St Mary's College of Pharmacy, When His Eminence Cardinal Most Rev. Dr. Poola Anthony inaugurated newly designed and renovated modular Pharmaceutical Chemistry laboratory. Students,

Principal and Faculty members were delighted to receive the Cardinal for inauguration program at 11.30 a.m. After the lighting of the lamp and felicitation at auditorium, His Eminence shared Sankranti greetings to all. He insists upon “*Manavathuva*” - Service to



the needy; being pharmacists beside their goal, they should help the people in need. His Eminence spent quality time in visiting other labs and with the faculty members and congratulated them.

Rev. Fr. Gade Showreddy, Director St.Mary's College of Education and Rev.

Fr. Pasala Innaiah, Treasurer, HAES also witnessed the program. Finally we expressed our gratitude by proposing the vote of thanks.

-Rev. Fr. Yeruva Bala Reddy, Director, St. Mary's College of Pharmacy.

7. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BOLLARAM ON 21ST JANUARY, 2024



8. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, MUDFORT ON 21ST JANUARY, 2024



9. ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS OF ST. MARY'S CENTINERY JUNIOR COLLEGE, SECUNDERABAD ON 23RD DECEMBER, 2023.



10. BLESSING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR PRESBYTERY & PARISH COMMUNITY HALL AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, TRIMULGHERRY ON 23RD JANUARY, 2024

‘Unless **the Lord builds the house, the builders labour invain.**’ -Psalm 127:1

Tuesday, 23rd of January 2024 was an auspicious day in the history of Holy Family Church, Trimulgherry. The more than 100 years old presbytery building was demolished a few months ago and today the new foundation for a new Presbytery and Parish community hall was blessed by his Eminence Cardinal Dr. Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad. The ceremony commenced with the gathering of Priests, religious and the faithful at the foundation site. His Eminence the Archbishop arrived at 7.30 am and fondly greeted all those present. The Rite of Blessing then commenced with an invocation to the Holy Spirit and a reading from the Scriptures (**Luke 6: 47-49**).



The rite of Blessing for the foundation was then prayed by his Eminence after which the ceremonial excavation and Blessing of the Foundation was completed. The blessing of the congregation gathered for this ceremony was followed by an address by his Eminence wherein he thanked the parish priest and all those present and encouraged the congregation to support the Parish Priest in this venture. The Parish priest then thanked his Eminence for his blessings and presence and closed the ceremony with words of thanks to those present. Breakfast was then served to all present after which the ceremony concluded.

-Fr. Kommareddy Marreddy, Parish Priest: Holy Family Church.

11. ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS OF ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL, SECUNDERABAD ON 24TH JANUARY, 2024.



12. GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS&THANKSGIVING HOLY MASS AT FR. ROCH MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL, KHAIRATABAD ON 25TH JANUARY, 2024

From its humble beginnings in 1974, Fr. Roch Memorial High School has grown leaps and bounds, and now stands tall and proud, equipped with the latest innovations in technology. The school has grown from strength to strength under the able guidance of 15 Principals, and now occupies the place of pride in HAES (Hyderabad Archdiocese of Educational Society). The Golden Jubilee Celebration with much excitement and enthusiasm of the teachers, the students and the parents, began on 25th January 2024 morning at 10.30 am, with a Thanksgiving Holy Mass, presided by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony. Rev. Fr. Y. M. Joseph, the Founder Principal, Rev. Fr. M. Kennedy (the present Principal), former principals and around 25 co-celebrants thanked the Almighty God for his benevolence and guidance throughout 50 golden years. His Eminence thanked all the former principals, for their valuable services rendered to the institution's mile stones. In his homily he mentioned about the importance of Celebrations of the achievements and that everyone has a reason to rejoice and renew our plans. The gathering after the Holy Mass at the Fr. Roch's Bust paid homage to school's Mentor.



Cultural Programme:

The Golden Jubilee Celebration could well be called 'A Time of Gratitude', because we have so much to be grateful for. This Jubilee of Fr. Roch Memorial High School-Khairatabad, is a milestone to be celebrated, to recall the amazing and marvellous ways in which the school has fulfilled its Mission. The principal in view of the Golden Jubilee initiated a new Vision, which is intended to fulfil in the coming years ahead

“VISION: DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT WITH INTEGRATED APPROACH AND CHARACTER EXCELLENCE” and the staff under his leadership will do its best to complete all the future plans like Counselling Parents, Formation of NCC, introduction of smart boards and many more.

The festivities included a plethora of exciting events depicting the 50 years of its service to the students, making it one of the most festive and memorable periods in the history of the school. The celebrations continued with a grand colourful and scintillating cultural programme in the evening, showcasing the former principals' service in its golden history. Our principal Rev. Fr. Kennedy highlighted the Vision and its strategic plans to march towards the Vision of the School. The students spoke, sang, act and danced, everything from the heart.

The esteemed guests included dignitaries of the Church, former Principals, retired teachers and students. Fr. RHMS was privileged to have His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, the Chief Guest of the day. Rev. Fr. Bala Showreddy (Vice-chairman- HAES), Rev. Fr. Y. M. Joseph (Founder Principal), Dr.Ch.V.Ram Mohan (Additional Secretary- PMO, New Delhi) and Mr. G. Sudheer (CEO – U.S.A) were the guests of honour. The guests, the distinguished alumni and former Principals were felicitated on stage. The celebration not only celebrated at the past achievements, but also looked forward to the future. The celebration was a great success and a very different experience for the students. The involvement of students in various events made the whole journey of painstaking practices a new learning experience for every participant. Above all His Eminence's appreciation in his message to the schools, about the performances, school report and innovative way of presenting the history of the school made everyone rejoice, and made us feel proud of our hard work. Our hearty thanks to Vice Chairman, the former principals, priest and all the near and dear ones. The Guests,

former principals, retired staff, special recognition for teachers were all awarded with personalized mementos.

Mega alumni gathering:

A Grand Alumni Gathering for 34 batches was well received by the Alumni with a good response from 500 plus students who had turned into Scientists, Entrepreneurs, Government servants, business people etc., on 27th January evening was a mega event and a memorable evening. Along with the school staff and Rev. Fr. Kennedy organized in the school campus and it was filled with excitement, emotions, and nostalgia as the alumni, both recent and older, came together to relive their school days and connect with their old classmates and teachers. Rev. Fr. Y. M. Joseph in his Chief Guest's message was so heart touching when he mentioned - ***"I am because we are, you are because we are"***. The Hallmark feature of the celebration was that irrespective of the holding high position and status, everyone leaving their ego, became childlike and did have an incredible evening. The event was not only a celebration of the school's legacy, but it was also an opportunity for the alumni to network and to give back to the school in various ways. The event ended with a promise to meet again next year, for a yet another successful Annual Alumni Meet

GLORIOUS PAST FOCUSED FUTURE

- ***Mr. Bernard Rajesh, Staff Member, Fr. Roch Memorial High School***

13. FESTIVE MASS & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH, SHANTHINAGAR ON 28TH JANUARY, 2024



Archdiocesan News

1. WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Dear Fathers,

World Marriage Day has become a God-given opportunity to focus our attention on Married Couples and appreciate their life-commitment, in 'good times and in bad, in sickness and in health'. What may have appeared easy and very romantic on their wedding day can turn out to be very challenging in daily life. God is the Third Person who walks with them, and the Church wants to accompany them through their years of marriage.

Let us all put our resources together and meaningfully celebrate World Marriage Day. We can support them with our prayers, our appreciation, our moral support to them in their marriage.

Please note the following important points for the celebration of World Marriage Day: Theme: **LOVE BEYOND WORDS**

This theme brings out a truth:

The permanent, faithful and fruitful love in a Sacramental Marriage is truly beyond words

Married couples find this journey towards sacramental love as a challenging one. We, as the Church, parish and deanery can support couples during all stages of their married life by our support and prayers.

We will have an Archdiocesan **Event on Saturday 17th February 2024 at St. Mary's Pharmacy Auditorium, Secunderabad.**

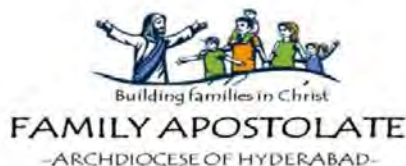
Eucharist: We will begin with the Eucharist presided over by **Cardinal Poola Anthony** at 5:00 p.m.

The Eucharist will be followed by felicitation of Jubilees couples.

Deanery/Parish Events

Since we can not accommodate all the couples from all the parishes of the Archdiocese, we are happy to encourage Parish and Deanery celebrations at the

Archdiocesan News



local level based on the same theme as mentioned above.

Parishes can take the initiative to bring together couples to celebrate this occasion. Please choose a convenient date and location, preferably on or before 18 February 2024 and organize WMD at the local level. We suggest the following format for the localized celebration of World Marriage Day.

Date: Choose a date around 14th February that is convenient, preferably a Sunday before (11th January) or the Sunday after (18th January)

Plan:

Plan a Eucharist—The Liturgy will be sent/attached to your respective emails.

Plan an Interactive assembly of Couples

The event could be open to all couples or only to those celebrating a Jubilee

Initiate an interaction, a time of sharing and interventions from the assembly

Have a cultural/social evening of celebration

Felicitate silver and golden couples of the deanery/parish

Important: Capture this occasion to strengthen Family Cells or initiate Family Cells at the local level.

Special Liturgy: Family Apostolate is sending an elaborately prepared special liturgy for World Marriage Day. Please take these notes and prepare one specifically for your Parish/Deanery. These notes will also be made available on the Archdiocesan Website. For details on Family cells please contact the Family Apostolate Office.

Please feel free to contact Family Apostolate office (**9490941460**) and we would be happy to guide you.

Sincerely in Christ,

For the Family Apostolate

Fr. David Francis, Director, Family Apostolate
Archdiocese of Hyderabad

2. THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY-2024, ORGANIZED BY THE ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECUMENISM

The Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was observed from the 18th to 25th January 2024 with the proposed theme for reflection: “You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself.” (Luke 10:27). Under the direction of Fr. Anthaiah Kondaveeti, Regional Secretary, TCBC Commission for Ecumenism,



could reach out to different Church Councils, Church Federations, and Church organizations like the Telangana Council of Churches - TCC, Telangana State Federation of Churches - TSFC, United Christmas Celebrations Committee – UCCC, Twin-Cities Pastors Fellowship, and several other Christian denominations to celebrate the unity octave in various churches in the Archdiocese.

Along with Fr. K. Anthaiah, Fr. Raju Alex, and a few other pastors and lay representatives from various churches, the Unity Week Prayer Services were organized in different churches in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad from 18th to 25th of January, in which many people participated to pray for Unity among Christians. On 18th January, the 1st Day of Unity Octave, a prayer service was held at Bethlehem Mennonite Brethren Church, Malakpet; on 19th the Unity Octave took place at Shanthimandiram Mar Thoma Church, Neredmet; on the 20th at the Syro Malabar Church Cathedral, Kukatpally; on 21st at Good Shepherd Church Cathedral, Kompally, on 22nd at St Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry, on 23rd at Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lakidikapool, on 23rd; on 24th at Sheetz Memorial Methodist Church, Budvel and on 25th, the final day, at CSI Medak Cathedral, Medak. There were eminent Pastors,



Priests, and Church Leaders who shared their reflections each day on the need for Christian unity as desired by Jesus our Lord.

This is the first time we were able to organize Unity Octave prayers in four different Cathedrals, especially the historic CSI Cathedral at Medak. We are grateful to the Holy Spirit for the bond of unity and for inspiring us in the path of Christian unity. We are happy that the pastors and heads of churches from all these communities welcomed us, organized Unity octave prayer and provided snacks and fellowship meals to everyone. Our appreciation and thanks to Mr SleevaGalleli of UCCC, Rev. Dr Baskaraiah CSI, Secretary of TCC, Rev. Rahul CSI, Rev. Santhos CSI, Dr Robert Surya Prakash of Baptist church & treasure of TCC and James Sylvester,



General secretary of UCCC, Rev. Jeevan of Lutheran church Rev. Fr. Giribabu (Good Shepherd Church of India, Suchitra, Rev. John George A. (Bethel M. T. C., Neredmet), Rev. Prem John P. George (Santhimandiram M. T. C., Secunderabad) Dr. P. S. Prakash Rao (Lutheran Church, ECIL), Evg. Anil Thomas (Santhimandiram M. T. C. Secunderabad), Mr. SleevaGalleli (Former General Secretary, U. C. C.), Mr Biju Mammen (Treasure, Santhimandiram Mission), Mr. Oommen Mathew (Santhimandiram Mission L. A. C. Member), without whose collaboration it would not have been possible to organize the unity octave in a meaningful way. Finally my sincere thanks to His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, the Archbishop of Hyderabad for his keen interest in the ministry of Ecumenism and for all the encouragement and support he provides me with in this work of Christian Unity. Guided by the Spirit of God, may we all be committed to the priestly prayer of Jesus Christ, “that they may all be one” and learn to walk together, pray together and work together with all Christians in the realization of God’s Kingdom.

Rev. Fr. Michael Samala, Archdiocesan Director of Ecumenism

3. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP (CCBI) DIOCESAN LEVEL AT ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE ON 20TH JANUARY, 2024. (The Talk given by Cardinal Poola Anthony)

A Spiritual Process Strategic Planning Workshop that transcends the boundaries of seminars, discussions, or study sessions. Today, we gather not as mere participants, representatives, or observers but as stakeholders of a vision, and contributors to a dream that is destined to shape the future of the Church in India (CCBI) by the year 2033.



In the next few hours, we embark on a spiritual exercise, a discernment guided by the Holy Spirit, where the emphasis lies not on what we take back but on what we contribute. This is not a mere gathering; it is a sacred space where we actively listen to the whispers of God's words more than we express our own. Our purpose is to enrich the strategic planning of CCBI, setting goals and objectives that align with what God envisions for us in 2028/2033.

Remember, this is not about individual dioceses or regions but a collective effort for the greater good. You have been specifically chosen and invited, recognized for your ability and expertise, as a stakeholder of CCBI from our Archdiocese. Today, your broad outlook and vision will play a pivotal role in shaping the Commissions that will define the Church in India in the years to come.

As we delve into this goal-oriented, scientific, and logical process, let us not forget the dynamic nature of our faith. Our predecessors had pastoral plans in the 1980s and 1990s, and today, we stand on the shoulders of their efforts. Now is our time to revisit, update, and contribute to the evolving narrative of the Church in India. If you already have a plan, consider modifying and updating it or share your valuable experiences for the benefit of the nation. This one-day workshop is not just about strategic planning for CCBI; it's about setting the course for our regions and dioceses. Through collective energy and ownership, we aim to be more result-oriented, gathering the fruits of our pastoral engagements.

May this day be filled with inspiration, divine guidance, and a shared commitment to the vision of CCBI. Let us actively contribute to the moulding of our Commissions and the realization of God's plan for the Church in India by 2033. Thank you, and may God's grace be with us throughout this sacred journey.

Regional News

1. THE JUBILEE YEAR – 2025

Pope Francis has announced that the Church will celebrate a Jubilee Year in 2025, with the theme of “Pilgrims of Hope”. Pope Francis urges Catholics to prepare for the Jubilee by spending time in studying the four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council and focusing on prayer. The most recent ordinary jubilee took place in the year 2000, as the world and the Catholic Church prepared to enter the new millennium.

The Jubilee Year is a special year of grace, in which the Church offers the faithful the possibility of obtaining a plenary indulgence. Traditionally, it begins just before Christmas and ends on the Epiphany of the following year. **The Pope inaugurates the Holy Year with the rite of the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter’s Basilica. After that, the Holy Doors of the other papal basilicas – St John Lateran, St Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major – are opened and remain so until the end of the Jubilee Year.**

Preparation and Celebration for Jubilee 2025

Introduction

Our Holy Mother Church has completed the First Session of the XVI General Assembly of the Synod on synodality, reflecting on ‘communion, mission, participation.’ The journey began in October 2021 with the Diocesan Phase, when all the faithful of the Local Churches were involved in the process of sharing, listening and discerning in the light of the 10 thematic nuclei; in the Continental Phase, we discerned on different voices that emerged across the Episcopal Conferences; and in the Universal Phase, discernment has been made on communion, mission, and participation, and the synthesis report, ‘A Synodal Church in Mission’ is its fruit.

Jubilee in the Bible

Etymologically, the word ‘jubilee’ comes from the Hebrew word ‘*yobel*’ (ram’s horn) which was used as a trumpet to announce the beginning of the 50th year, i.e.,

the completion of 49 years (7 times 7 years). According to Lev 25:8-13 the celebration of the jubilee year entails release of slaves, forgiveness of debts, repatriation of property. In other words, jubilee is understood as four **R**'s: **Rest** (the land is given rest); **Review** (an inventory of life, livestock, personnel, and land is taken); **Restore** (setting the societal clock back to zero); and **Reconcile** (aligning our relationships right with God and one another). The 'holy year' which the Prophet Isaiah (cf. Isa 61: 1ff; see also Lk 4: 16ff) speaks of also alludes to jubilee. Here, the holy year is understood as the year of recalling and announcing God's favour and mercy. From the biblical point of view, celebration of a jubilee makes us retrospect the **past** (liberation), live in the **present** (consolation), and set our vision on the **future** (moving forward). Besides, jubilee is the celebration of time, and since it is the celebration of time it is a gift from God. That is why we pray at the Easter Vigil: 'all times belong to him and all ages.'

Jubilees in History

The first ordinary jubilee year ('holy year') was announced in 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII. Initially, ordinary jubilee was celebrated once in 100 years; Pope Clement VI in 1343 began to celebrate it every 50 years; in 1470 Pope Paul II made it every 25 years. There have also been 'extraordinary' holy years: in 1933 Pope Pius XI celebrated 1900th anniversary of the Redemption; in 2015 Pope Francis proclaimed the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. The previous ordinary jubilee was the Great Jubilee 2000, for which we had three years of preparation: 1997 (with focus on God the Son), 1998 (with focus on God the Holy Spirit), and 1999 (with focus on God the Father). Jubilee events entail entering the holy door, undertaking pilgrimages, obtaining indulgences, etc.

Characteristics of the Jubilee

The Dicastery for Evangelization, Section for Fundamental Questions regarding Evangelization in the World, which coordinates the celebrations, spells out seven characteristics of the Jubilee: **(i) Pilgrimage** (*journey, crossing of boundaries, going across the fields, with other journeying companions*); **(ii) Holy Door** (*powerful sign, four Roman Basilicas, Jesus is the Door, journey to the interior of a church*); **(iii) Reconciliation** (*placing God at the centre of our lives, restoration of social justice, confession*); **(iv) Prayer** (*being open to God's presence and his offer of love*); **(v) Liturgy** (*public prayer of the Church, summit and font, opening of the door*); **(vi) Profession of faith** (*identity of the baptized person, Apostolic Creed, Nicene Creed*); and **(vii) Indulgences** (*experience of God's mercy, offering up sufferings*).

The threefold purpose of the Jubilee

- **To celebrate Jesus**, the incarnate Son of the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit. We commemorate his birth, life, teaching, ministry, passion, death, and resurrection. We take conscious and fruitful efforts ‘to know him more clearly, to love him more dearly, and to follow him more nearly.’
- **To celebrate the Church**, which is our Mother and Teacher. We renew our commitment to our Holy Catholic Church by owing our communion and contribution.’
- **To celebrate each one of us**, with unique gifts and charisms, vocations and ministries, lifestyles, and values.

Preparation and Celebration for Jubilee 2025

‘Pilgrims of Hope’ is the motto of the celebrations of Ordinary Jubilee 2025. Our Holy Father Pope Francis underscores the importance of hope in Christian life amidst uncertainties and hardships created by the pandemic and wars. **Learn, Pray, and Walk** – these are the three words that we need to remember as we journey together. **In the preparatory year (2023-2024)**, we shall promote the study of the Four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council: *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, *Dei Verbum*, *Lumen Gentium* and *Gaudium et Spes* in order to understand the general themes of the Council, and to explore Jesus, the Church, and our lives in the world today. The Dicastery of Evangelization has brought forth 35 booklets giving background information to the Second Vatican Council and to the Four Constitutions. **In the year of prayer (2024)**, we are called to pray with the Universal Church, in the Local Churches, for the entire humanity. We shall reflect on prayer in Christian life, sacraments, sacramentals, pious practices, and popular devotions as well. The Dicastery has published 9 notebooks on prayer. **In the year of Jubilee celebration (2025)**, we will be invited to walk the Jubilee Doors in Rome making a pilgrimage to the Four Basilicas as well to undertake similar pursuit in our Archdiocese of Hyderabad as per the guidance given by our Archbishop. We are also invited to enter the doors for hope, lighting a ray of hope in prisons, homes for the elderly, the dying and the destitute, the hospitals, the migrants, the marginalised, etc. ***The Ordinary Jubilee 2025, an integral part of the synodal journey***, invites us to be pilgrims of hope, givers of hope, and lovers of hope.

Theme and Logo

The logo for the Jubilee 2025 shows four figures in four colours representing the entire humanity hailing from the four corners of the earth. They embrace each other in solidarity and fraternity. The figure at the front holds fast to the cross, which gives us hope. The rough waves under the figures represent the present context of the world which is marked by turmoil and troubles. The lower part of the cross has been elongated and turned into the shape of an anchor which is a symbol of hope. The image illustrates the pilgrim's journey not as an individual effort, but as a collective enterprise. At the bottom of the logo lies the motto of the Jubilee Year 2025: '*Peregrinantes in Spem*' ('Pilgrims of Hope'). The Jubilee 2025 is meant to celebrate God, the Church, and each of us. The post-pandemic war-hitting world today needs 'hope.' As pilgrims of hope let us light candle of hope in our families, workplaces, parishes, deaneries, Archdiocese, and society.



Inauguration of the Preparation in the Archdiocese:

Integrating the synodal journey, and responding to the invitation of the Holy Father, the Church in India, inaugurated the preparations for the Ordinary Jubilee 2025. The CCBI in its circular dated 26th September, requested to inaugurate the Preparations for the Ordinary Jubilee 2025 in each of the Dioceses on Sunday, 26th November 2023, the Solemnity of Christ the King. In the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, the preparations for the Jubilee Year 2025 were inaugurated by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony on November 26, 2023, on the occasion of solemn feast of Christ the Universal King, at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry at 8.30 a.m. Mass. In some of the parishes and parish units in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, the preparations for the Jubilee Year 2025 were inaugurated on December 3, 2023, the first Sunday of Advent. The logo to be unveiled was sent to you in the form of a scroll, which has to be hung in a prominent place and unveiled after the homily. Jubilee prayer cards were also sent to your parishes. This prayer is to be recited every day, at every Mass after the Post-Communion Prayer. The Archdiocese of Hyderabad also printed special stickers with Jubilee logo which can be pasted on the doors of our catholic parishioners' houses and to the vehicles etc. the stickers are available at Archbishop's House office and each sticker costs only Rs.1/- (Rupees one only). Kindly collect and distribute in your parishes.

The programme for this preparation phase, i.e., from November 26, 2023, to November 23, 2024 (From the solemn feast of Christ the King 2023 to Feast of Christ the King in 2024), will be gradually unfolded to you from time to time. Hence, let us take this opportunity to learn, pray and journey together and celebrate God, celebrate the Church as the People of God, and let us celebrate each one of us on this synodal journey. May this period of preparation for the Jubilee be an occasion for our spiritual enrichment.

CELEBRATING THE SYNOD AND THE JUBILEE 2025 IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD/PARISHES/COMMUNITIES

Ideas: **(i)** Create Synod-Jubilee 2025 consciousness (logo, symbols, flags, colours); **(ii)** Choose synod (communion-mission-participation), jubilee 2025 (Bible, Liturgy, Church, World) as your themes for reflection; **(iii)** Prayer rally or prayer service; **(iv)** Visits to the prisons, hospitals, refugee camps, old age homes, orphanages, and other where people need hope; **(v)** Visits to the shrines and the basilicas; and **(vi)** Reflect on the Diocesan Synthesis and identify areas of enhancement.

Themes for Parish Novenas / Feasts / Seminars / Workshops:

1. The Second Vatican Council: Scope and Impacts.
2. Divine Revelation and Human Response.
3. Sacred Liturgy: Mystery of Faith and Mystical Body of Christ
4. Identity and Vocation of the Church: The Call to the People of God to Holiness.
5. Reading the Signs of the Times in the Light of the Gospel.
6. Religious Freedom and Unitive Relationship: Paths and Avenues for Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialogue.
7. The Apostolates of the Lay Faithful: in the Church and the Society.
8. Office of the Bishops, Ministry and Life of Priests: Renewal.
9. Missionary Activities of the Church: New Perspectives.
10. Journey towards the Synodal Church: Moving Forward

Suggestions to the parishes how to prepare/organize for Jubilee 2025

- Organize Bible classes for parishioners
- Organize frequent family Get togethers
- Explain about Liturgy
- Organize seminars for different age groups in your respective parishes; to the children, youth, women, married and elderly etc

The Jubilee 2025 invites us to 'remember' God, to 'review' our relation to God and God's Church, and to 'restore' our relationships with God and God's people. Celebration of Jesus, Church, and us will only happen in the context of our synodal journey in communion, mission, and participation.

*Fr. Kurapati Jaya Prathap, Secretary, Liturgical Commission
Archdiocese of Hyderabad*

2. ON GOING FORMATION FOR THE DIOCESAN PRIESTS AT ST. JOHN'S REGIONAL SEMINARY ON 11TH & 12TH JANUARY, 2024.



National News

CBCI OFFICE FOR HEALTH CARE

St John's Medical College and Hospital Campus
Koramangala 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560034, Karnataka State.
cbcihealth@gmail.com, www.cbcihealth.org



Ref. No. CBCI/CHC/24/17

13, January 2024

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PASTORAL CARE IN THE HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS OF INDIA FOR THE CHAPLAINS, PRIESTS AND SISTERS IN SPIRITUAL CARE OF THE SICK

Dear Bishops, Priests and Sisters,
Greetings from CBCI Commission for Health Care!

Care of the Sick is a central mission through which the Church witnesses the love and compassion of Christ. The Words of Christ provide inspiration for Catholic Health Care: "I was sick and you cared for me" (Mt 25:36). Jesus healed holistically, recognizing the indivisibility of the body and spirit. Catholic Health Care seeks a total healing of the person in order that they may have "life and life in its fullness" (Jn10:10).

Pastoral Care is integral to Health Care in the Church. It includes both spiritual services and a listening presence; helping patients to deal with pain, distress and alienation. Priests and the religious involved in pastoral care of the sick need to be specially trained in the light of the complexity of medical care today.

Therefore, the CBCI Commission for Health Care is organizing a National Conference on Pastoral Care in the Health Care Institutions of India for the Chaplains, Priests and Sisters involved in the Spiritual care of the sick, on the 28th and 29th of February 2024, at St. John's Medical College and Hospital Campus, Annex -3, Bangalore, Karnataka State.

The Conference will enable the Pastoral Care providers the essential teachings of the Church and will equip them to be fervent in providing the Pastoral care to the sick. Therefore for this Conference, kindly send from your Diocese the Chaplains, Priests and Sisters who are in the Spiritual care of the sick.

The registration fees will be Rs.2,000 which includes food and accommodation. The Diocese or respective Health Care Institutions are requested to support the

Participants with registration fees and the travel expenses.

For Registration, kindly contact Fr. Santhosh Dias, National Secretary, CBCI Commission for Health Care - 9448109594, frsanthosh69@rediffmail.com Thank you,

With Kind regards,

Fr. Santhosh Dias

National Secretary, CBCI - Commission for Health Care
St John's Medical College Hospital campus, Bengaluru - 560034
Tel No.: 9448109594

Chairman: Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, Bishop of Agartala

Members : Most Rev. Thomas Elavanal, Bishop of Kalyan and Most Rev. Jojo Anand, Bishop of Hazaribag

Secretary: Fr. Santhosh Dias, Email: frsanthosh69@rediffmail.com, M - 9448109594

**CBCI COMMISSION
FOR HEALTH CARE
ORGANISING**

**NATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
PASTORAL CARE IN THE
HEALTH CARE
INSTITUTIONS
OF INDIA**



**For the Chaplains, Priests and Sisters in spiritual
care of the sick**

**Date: 28th and 29th
February 2024**

Supported by:

- St. John's Medical college and Hospital, Bengaluru.
- Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI)

**St. John's Medical College and
Hospital Campus
Annex-3, Bengaluru - 560034**

**Registration fees:
Rs 2,000
(Includes food and accommodation)**

**Register before:
25th January 2024**



**For registration
contact: 9448109594
frsanthosh69@rediffmail.com**

International News

1. POPE TO PRIESTS OF ROME: WE ARE IN A MISSIONARY LAND

Pope Francis meets with over 800 priests of the Diocese of Rome in the Basilica of St. John Lateran, and calls the clergy to bear credible witness to Christ and to keep their homilies brief and direct.

By Vatican News

A “missionary land”. This was how Pope Francis described the Diocese of Rome on Saturday morning.

He met in the city’s Cathedral Basilica of St. John Lateran for his annual encounter with the clergy of Rome.

The Pope arrived shortly after 9 AM, and was welcomed by Cardinal Angelo De Donatis, the Diocesan Vicar.

To the over 800 priests, diocesans, religious, and permanent deacons serving the Diocese, the Bishop of Rome launched an appeal for the evangelization of the entire ecclesiastical community.

The Pope also announced that he will resume visiting the parishes of the diocese, after the pause imposed by the pandemic.

Open, friendly dialogue

The meeting, which lasted about three hours, was reported in a statement from the Diocese of Rome to have taken place “with an open and familiar dialogue in cordial atmosphere.”

Following Midmorning Prayer, Cardinal De Donatis greeted the Pope, who then opened up the floor for questions.

He invited them to ask questions freely and sincerely, fielding about thirty questions.

Pope Francis spoke about the necessity of evangelization in a pagan context, emphasizing the importance of bearing credible witness.

Blessing people, not sin

He then responded to questions about blessing homosexual couples, stating that the doctrine on the Sacrament of Marriage between a man and a woman has not changed, saying that people are blessed, not sin.

To a question from an African-born priest, he said that African culture does not accept these blessings because there are different sensitivities. He added that

this has been clarified with Cardinal Fridolin Ambongo, Archbishop of Kinshasa and President of SECAM (Symposium of the Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar).

Pope Francis stated that many do not read well the texts of the Church. Good listening is required, he emphasized, noting that conflicts must be managed but not hidden.

The Pope then urged the priests of Rome to always forgive. “I always forgive; one must always have mercy,” he said.

On the topic of permanent deacons, he said they must be among the people, serving those in need.

In conclusion, Pope Francis recalled that homilies should be brief, about 7/8 minutes, direct, and must capture the spirit of the Word of God.

2. POPE’S WORLD DAY OF SICK MESSAGE: HEAL RELATIONSHIPS TO HEAL THE ILL

Pope Francis releases his message for the 32nd World Day of the Sick, and calls for a ‘therapeutic covenant’ between people who are ill and their caregivers, family members, and God.

By Devin Watkins

“It is not good that man should be alone—Healing the Sick by Healing Relationships,” is the theme of Pope Francis’ message for the 2024 commemoration of the World Day of the Sick, held on 11 February.

In his message, released on Saturday, the Pope explores the fundamental importance and healing power of our relationships with others and with God.

Drawing on God’s words about Adam in the Biblical Book of Genesis, he notes that God’s first thought for the first man was that he should be in communion and relationship with other beings.

“Our lives, reflecting in the image of the Trinity, are meant to attain fulfilment through a network of relationships, friendships and love, both given and received,” says the Pope. “We were created to be together, not alone.”

This relational aspect of humanity, he adds, retains its importance even in moments of vulnerability, illness, and insecurity, which are often caused by the onset of a serious illness.

Therapeutic covenant

Pope Francis points out that the Covid-19 pandemic and ongoing wars have isolated many people.

Yet, he says, even countries living in peace and enjoying greater resources have a large number of people who face solitude and even abandonment due to old age and sickness.

Our “throwaway cultures” exalt productivity and individualism at the cost of those unable to produce an economic gain.

Politicians, says the Pope, are thus tempted to water down the “fundamental right to health and access to healthcare” by turning healthcare into a mere “provision of services” and wounding the dignity of the human person.

The Holy Father calls for healthcare systems to be accompanied “by a ‘therapeutic covenant’ between physicians, patients, and family members.”

God’s project of communion for humanity

Returning to God’s words—“It is not good for man to be alone”—Pope Francis says human sin wounds a person by severing their relationships “with God, with themselves, with others, with creation” and going against the “profound meaning of God’s project for humanity.”

“Such isolation causes us to miss the meaning of our lives,” he says. “It takes away the joy of love and makes us experience an oppressive sense of being alone at all the crucial passages of life.”

The Pope therefore invites everyone to offer compassionate and loving closeness to those who are ill, following the example of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37). “To care for the sick thus means above all to care for their relationships, all of them: with God, with others—family members, friends, healthcare workers—with creation and with themselves.”

Healing wounds of solitude and isolation

Each of us, says the Pope, came into the world because our parents welcomed us, and we were each “made for love” and are called to communion and fraternity.

The best therapy for those who are ill, he adds, is to offer them our love and communion, despite the pace of our own frenetic lives.

“To those of you who experience illness, whether temporary or chronic, I would say this: Do not be ashamed of your longing for closeness and tenderness!” says the Pope. “Do not conceal it, and never think that you are a burden on others.”

In conclusion, the Holy Father invites Christians to draw inspiration from Jesus’ compassion-filled gaze through prayer and the Eucharist, so as to “heal the wounds of solitude and isolation.” “The sick, the vulnerable, and the poor are at the heart of the Church,” concludes Pope Francis. “They must also be at the heart of our human concern and pastoral attention.”

Dates & Events to Remember

02. The Presentation of The Lord (F)
 03. St. Blaise, Bp & Mrtr and St. Ansgar, Bp (Op. M)
 05. St. Agatha, Mrtr (M)
 06. Sts Paul Miki and Companions, Mrtr (M)
 07. St. Gonsalo Garcia, Mrtr (M)



08. St. Jerome Emilani, Pt & St. Josephine Bakitha Vgn, (Op. M)
 10. St. Scholastica (M)
 14. ASH WEDNESDAY
 22. Chair of St. Peter (F)

Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

03. Fr. Lancelot Menezes
 03. Fr. Yelugu Jude Raj
 08. Fr. Samala Marianna Michael



11. Fr. Bandanadam Prem Kumar
 26. Fr. Dodda Sunder

Happy Ordination day Dear Fathers

03. Fr. Kata Joseph
 10. Fr. Dion Isaac
 10. Fr. Gopu Sunder Reddy
 10. Fr. Pentareddy Gnanareddy
 11. Fr. Madanu Hruday Kumar
 11. Fr. Thumma Solomon
 11. Fr. Swarna Bernard
 12. Fr. Gorantla Dhanraj
 12. Fr. Bonagiri Albert

13. Fr. Kandula Charles
 13. Fr. Dominic Savio
 13. Fr. Kommareddy Marreddy
 13. Fr. Madanu Arogyam
 14. Fr. Thumma Arla
 16. Fr. Viji Joseph
 17. Fr. Udumala J. Chinnappa Reddy
 20. **Cardinal Poola Anthony (Priestly Ordination)**
 20. Fr. Allam Arogya Reddy

Necrology



03. Fr. Marneni Devanand
 07. Fr. Kakumanu Rayanna
 09. Fr. Annapareddy Innaiah
 13. Most Rev. Vigano Pietro, PIME

13. **Archbishop S. Arulappa**
 28. **Archbishop Gopu Mark**
 28. Fr. Dominic Sylvester

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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2023: YEAR OF LEARNING

- ◆ FOUR CONSTITUTIONS OF THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL.
- ◆ GENERAL THEMES OF THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL.
- ◆ JESUS – CHURCH – US.

2024: YEAR OF PRAYING

- ◆ PRAYING WITH THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH,
FOR THE ENTIRE HUMANITY.
- ◆ PRAYER IN CHRISTIAN LIFE.
- ◆ PRAYERS, SACRAMENTS, SACRAMENTALS, PIOUS PRACTICES.

2025: YEAR OF CELEBRATION/ENTERING THE JUBILEE DOOR

- ◆ JUBILEE DOOR IN ROME (FOUR BASILICAS)
- ◆ IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE.
- ◆ ENTERING THE DOORS FOR HOPE
(PRISONS, HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY
AND THE DYING DESTITUTE, HOSPITALS, REFUGEE CAMPS, ET AL)



WE THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS &
FAITHFUL OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD
CONGRATULATE BISHOP
MAR RAPHAEL THATTIL,
FOR BEING ELECTED
AS NEW HEAD OF
SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH.

CONGRATULATIONS
CONGRATULATIONS
CONGRATULATIONS

Prayerful Greetings

Mar Raphael Thattil

Newly Elected Major Archbishop
of the Syro-Malabar Church

SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH



**STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP (CCBI) DIOCESAN LEVEL AT BISHOP'S HOUSE
ON 20TH JANUARY, 2024.**

