



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: LII

NO.01

JANUARY 2025

COME LET US ADORE HIM





DEANS AND JUBILEE COMMITTEE MEETING AT ST. VIANNEY HALL, ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, SEC-BAD ON 02ND DECEMBER, 2024.



BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK, EDUCATION LABS AND CLASS ROOMS AT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SEC-BAD ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2024.



NATIONAL LEVEL MANAGEMENT FEST – EMPRESAS ON 19TH AND 20TH OF DEC, 2024 AT ST. MARY'S CENTENARY COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT.

SHEPHERD'S CALL

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JANUARY

2025



Archbishop's Message



A happy and blessed New Year to one and all of you in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Mother Earth began her yearly voyage in space around the Sun just after the winter solstice of 23rd of December 2023 and has presently completed it on the winter solstice of 23rd December 2024 on the Tropic of Capricorn (at the latitude of twenty three and a half degrees south of the equator). Now it has begun that same yearly voyage around the Sun which it will complete once again, through the benign Providence of her Creator, on the winter solstice of 23rd December 2025. As Mother Earth makes her yearly voyage around the Sun, she presents her face full of living beings once every 24 hours to the Sun to fulfil the yearning of these living beings to receive the necessary heat and light from the Sun to continue as living beings on earth. And we too, with our *biological* human bodies, experienced and partook of this global yearning! 'Very natural' you may say, but very wonderful indeed! if only you stop for a moment to reflect on the profundity of the ramifications of this 'yearly' experience, and discover that 'the year' is the time period for all living beings, and particularly for us human beings, to yearn for and experience the fulfilment of their existential needs and how faithfully they are fulfilled by their Creator through the unfailing service given to Him by the Sun He has established for this purpose.

Now behold! Holy Mother Church presents her face full of Her children born of the Father through the blood of His Son our Lord Jesus Christ and who revere His Name (Mal.4:2), as She too began, at the end of the recent winter solstice on Christmas day, to make Her yearly pilgrimage of faith (on the ship of Mother Earth) in the Holy Spirit around 'the Sun of righteousness' with 'healing in its wings (Mal. 4:2)' gloriously reigning over them from His 'true tabernacles' divinely erected all over the face of the earth. And She does so through all the hours of the day, that their yearning for 'eternal life' may be fulfilled as they express it to Him in the Liturgy of the Hours, and 'leap like calves from the stall (Mal.4:2)' to meet the 'Sun of righteousness' in His one memorial sacrifice of the Cross that He offers to His Eternal Father with them on the altar of His true tabernacle and eat and drink of it, in order to join Him with their bodily selves in His own worship of His Eternal Father 'in spirit and truth' and express it all through the day in their interior lives and exterior works until they are ready, at the end of the cycles of their yearly liturgical pilgrimage of faith on earth, to join Him gloriously in the eternal mansions of His Eternal Father. May the unspeakable spiritual happiness of belonging to this most wonderful eschatological liturgical culture divinely established by the Son our Lord Jesus Christ on earth through the unceasing works of His high priesthood 'according to the order of Melchisedek' be yours during each day of this new year, through 'the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God our Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit' for the praise of the glorious grace of our Eternal Father in our lives, now and forever.

POPE INTENTION: JANUARY, 2025

For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.



CARDINAL'S INTENTION: JANUARY, 2025

For the Infants: Dear Lord, we pray for these little ones, so innocent and pure. Keep them safe and healthy, and fill their hearts with love. Amen.



Solemnities and Feasts

JANUARY 01

Mary the Mother of God (Solemnity)



The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God is a liturgical celebration observed on January 1st which falls exactly one week after Christmas, the end of the octave of Christmas.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is honored as the Mother of God because she conceived and gave birth to Christ, who is the incarnation of God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. It is fitting to honor Mary as Mother of Jesus, following the birth of Christ. When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, we are not only honoring

Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human. Since the first centuries of Christianity, the Church customarily has regarded the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the Mother of God for a simple, logical reason; By the power of the Holy Spirit, she conceived Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Since the divine Person, God the Son, assumed, or took on, human nature, she is the Mother of God in the fullest since: "What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ" (CCC 487). The Church solemnly defined this belief at the Ecumenical Council of Ephesus AD 431.

Source: www.franciscanmedia.org

JANUARY 05

The Epiphany of The Lord (Feast)

At the time of Jesus' birth, it was commonly believed that a new star would appear whenever a new ruler was born. The Father in Heaven used this belief to honor His Son Who was born as the new King. The three Magi from the East were astrologers. When they saw this "new star," they chose to follow it to discover the new King. Creation itself, in the form of a star, pointed the way, thus giving glory to the newborn King, manifesting Him to the whole world as symbolized by the Magi. The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation." Therefore, as we honor this moment in time when the Christ Child was made manifest to the world, we need to look into our own hearts. There, we discover Christ's ongoing manifestation to us so that we can worship Him Who has also chosen to be born within our hearts. We must diligently seek out that manifestation of God within us and respond to it in the same ways that the Magi responded.



The Magi brought the Christ Child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. God was honored and glorified through His creation by the giving of these gifts. God created gold to manifest His beauty and dignity. It was a gift that symbolized kingship. When we ponder

the natural gift of gold given to the Christ Child, we are inspired to give Him our own gift of symbolic gold by prayerfully acknowledging Him as our own King to whom we pledge our complete submission. Made from the sap of trees found in India, northeastern Africa, and the Arabian peninsula, frankincense and myrrh are also fruits of God's creation. Used in worship to symbolize prayers rising to heaven, frankincense symbolizes the Christ Child's divinity. We offer frankincense to Christ when we acknowledge His divine nature, since He is God in the flesh. Often used in burial, myrrh honors the Christ Child Who came to give His life as a sacrifice for many. We offer myrrh to profess our belief in the saving power of Christ's death on the Cross and our need for that gift of salvation.

Source: catholicagency.org

JANUARY 12

The Baptism of the Lord (Feast)



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry. Jesus begins His ministry through an act of deep solidarity with the fallen human race. John the Baptist had been preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance. John's

baptism was not the same as our baptism today. Instead, it was only a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, had nothing to repent of. He was sinless in every way. But that didn't stop Him from freely choosing to receive the baptism of repentance. Why would He do that?

Simply put, Jesus chose to unite Himself with fallen humanity, taking upon Himself our own sins and suffering their consequences. He humbly allowed Himself to be identified as a sinner in need of repentance. This was done out of love for us and out of His longing to become one with us so that we could become one with Him. By bowing His sacred head to receive the baptism of repentance, Jesus united Himself and His divinity to everyone who had already chosen to repent. And He gave power to every forthcoming act of repentance others would make, even until today. When we repent today, we meet Jesus in that same water of repentance. It was not only the Eternal Son Who was present at that baptism of repentance, but the Father and the Holy Spirit as well. The Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, and the Father's Voice spoke to acknowledge His oneness with His Son. Therefore, every time we make a humble act of repentance, such as when we combine the crucifixion, the Trinity, and holy water upon entering a church and blessing ourselves, we not only meet our Lord but also receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and share more fully in our adoption as sons and daughters of the Father in Heaven.

Source: mycatholic.life/saints

The Conversion of St. Paul (Feast)



Saint Paul's entire life can be explained in terms of one experience—his meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. In an instant, he saw that all the zeal of his dynamic personality was being wasted, like the strength of a boxer swinging wildly. Perhaps he had never seen Jesus, who was only a few years older. But he had acquired a zealot's hatred of all Jesus stood for, as he began to harass the Church: "...entering house after house and dragging out men and women,

he handed them over for imprisonment" (Acts 8:3b). Now he himself was "entered," possessed, all his energy harnessed to one goal—being a slave of Christ in the ministry of reconciliation, an instrument to help others experience the one Savior. One sentence determined his theology: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5b). Jesus was mysteriously identified with people—the loving group of people Saul had been running down like criminals. Jesus, he saw, was the mysterious fulfilment of all he had been blindly pursuing. From then on, his only work was to "present everyone perfect in Christ. For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me" (Colossians 1:28b-29). "For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and [with] much conviction" (1 Thessalonians 1:5a). Paul's life became a tireless proclaiming and living out of the message of the cross: Christians die baptismally to sin and are buried with Christ; they are dead to all that is sinful and unredeemed in the world.

Source: www.franciscanmedia.org

RECEIPT OF LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Parish/Individual	No. of Masses
28-11-2024	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF HEALTH	650
29-11-2024	REV FR. LANCY MENEZES	13
29-11-2024	INFANT JESUS SHRINE	80
02-12-2024	ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH	601
02-12-2024	AUXILIAM CHURCH	100
02-12-2024	ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH	176
02-12-2024	ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH	30
05-12-2024	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL	400
07-12-2024	DIVINE LIGHT MINISTRIES	40
16-12-2024	HOLY FAMILY CHURCH	550
12-12-2024	OUR LADY OF PERPRTUAL HELP	70
16-12-2024	ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH	38
21-12-2024	ST ANTHONY'S SHRINE	5000
	TOTAL	7748

Archbishop's Engagements

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

ARCHBISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

JANUARY 2025

- 03-04. Fri-Sat : In Office
05. Sun 9.30 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at St Joseph's Church, Bollaram.
- 06.00 p.m. : Blessing and Inauguration of Our Lady of Fathima's Grotto at Our Lady of Fathima Church, Dhammaiguda.
- 06-07. Mon -Tue : In Office
09. Thu 10.00 a.m. : Episcopal Ordination of the Bishop Elect Msgr. Dr. Pilli Anthony Das, Nellore.
11. Sat 4.30 p.m. : Annual Day Celebrations at St. Paul's High School, Khammagudem, Emjala.
12. Sun 11.00 a.m. : Festive Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Begumpet
- 05.00 p.m. : Mass for the Regional Youth at Sanathnagar.
13. Mon 10.30 a.m. : Silver Jubilee Mass of Rev. Fr. E. Innareddy SVD at Holy Spirit Church, Chinthalcheruvu.
15. Wed 5.00 p.m. : Thanksgiving Mass on the occasion of 150 years of SVD Foundation at Divine Retreat Centre, Muthangi.
16. Thu : In Office
17. Fri 05.00 p.m. : Annual Day of St. Joseph's School & College, Trimulgherry.

18. Sat 07.30 a.m. : Inauguration of General Chapter Meeting (MC) at Shrine of Our Lady of Grace, Aliabad.
06. 00 p.m. : Inaugural Function of Ecumenical Week of Unity Octave Prayer at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundary.
19. Sun 10.00 a.m. : Festive Mass & First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Infant Jesus Shrine, Gajwel.
- 05.30 p.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmation at St. Sabastian's Church, Sainikpuri.
21. Tue : In Office
22. Wed 04.30 p.m. : Sports Day at St. Mary's High School, Sec-bad.
- 23-25. Thu-Sat : Solemn Declaration of Minor Basilica of Our Lady of Divine Grace, Mokama, Patna Diocese.
26. Sun 09.00 a.m. : Festive Mass and Inauguration of the New Church at St. John's Parish, RC Puram.
- 27-31. Mon-Fri : CCBI 96th Plenary Assembly at Xavier University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
31. Fri 6.00 p.m. : Festive Mass at Don Bosco Shrine, Bandlaguda.

TENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS: FEBRUARY

01. Sat 06:00 p.m. : Mass at Jeevan Jyothi (LCRI)
02. Sun 09:30 p.m. : Festive Mass and First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Mary Help of Christians Parish, Santosh Nagar.
06. Thu 04:30 p.m. : Annual Day Celebrations at Sacred Heart School, South Lalaguda.

07. Fri 10.00 a.m. : Silver Jubilee Celebration of Rev Fr. Balashowry at Alirajpet
- 04:30 p.m. : Annual Day Celebrations at Mount Carmel High School, Bowempally.
08. Sat 11:00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at St. Anthony's Shrine, Mettuguda.
09. Sun 08:00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at St. Anthony's Church, Mudfort
- 11:00 a.m. : Festive Mass at Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala.
- 10-12. Mon-Wed : International Conference
15. Sat 10.30 a.m. : Mass & Blessing of Formation House and School at St. Ann's Convent, Madinaguda.
16. Sun 9.30 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at St. Theresa's Church, Sanathnagar.
22. Sat 06.00 p.m. : Family Day at Mount Carmel Church, Bowenpally.
23. Sun 08:00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Miyapur.
25. Tue a.m. : Silver Jubilee Celebration of Rev Fr. Jojappa (ALCP/OSS) at Church Colony, Ramanthapur.
26. Wed : Bicentenary Celebrations at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundary.

31st December, 2024
Archbishop's House

+ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

Communications

1. A VERY HAPPY, GRACE FILLED & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR- 2025:

I wish all the Priests, Religious, the Faithful and all Brothers& Sisters, A VERY HAPPY, GRACE-FILLED and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR-2025. May the blessings of God come upon all of you throughout the Year. May it bring us true Peace, Harmony, Joy, Good Health and Prosperity. May our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph continue to help us in every way and bring us ever closer to Jesus Christ our Good Shepherd.

2. SYNOD ON SYNODALITY TO JUBILEE 2025:

Synodality, a central theme of Pope Francis' papacy, which emphasizes journeying together as a community, mutual listening and valuing marginalized voices. Christian life, viewed through this lens, becomes "synodal – Walking together" highlighting God's act of accompaniment through Jesus' humble birth. It invites the Church to embody the same humility and care, walking alongside those who suffer and embracing a mission of service, justice and love.

As we begin a New Year, the Church emphasises on the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025, themed "Behold, I make all things new!" (Revelation 21:5). This Jubilee emphasizes renewal, reflection and embracing God's transformative love. It calls the Church to reflect on its past, celebrate new beginnings and deepen its commitment to inclusivity, humility and love. This Jubilee encourages the faithful to embrace a synodal spirit, emphasizing listening, mutual respect and solidarity. It is a call to build a Church that embodies inclusivity, humility and love, reflecting Christ's life and ministry.

Central to the Jubilee is the opportunity to obtain indulgences as a profound expression of God's mercy. Indulgences, either partial or plenary. To receive a plenary indulgence, the faithful must:

- Be truly repentant and free from attachment to sin.
- Perform a prescribed act such as a pilgrimage, charitable work, or pious visit
- Receive the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion.
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

The Church, drawing on the merits of Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints, offers this grace to inspire spiritual renewal. Priests are urged to facilitate access to the Sacraments, plan penitential celebrations and guide the faithful in embracing the Jubilee's spirit of mercy and forgiveness.

As we prepare for this Blessed Year, the Jubilee reminds us of our mission to walk together as a Church, promoting justice, peace and love. This Christmas season and in the New Year, we are called to reflect on how we live as a community of faith, listening to God's call and responding to the needs of the world. The Jubilee is an invitation to transformation, uniting the Church in hope and faith and encouraging all to be agents of God's mercy and renewal.

3. JUBILEE YEAR 2025 ANNOUNCEMENT:

In celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025, as per the call of His Holiness Pope Francis, we grant special privileges to five designated churches within the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. These churches have been chosen as sites of pilgrimage and spiritual renewal, where the faithful may gain a Plenary Indulgence by fulfilling the necessary conditions.

The Five Designated Churches:

- 1. St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry**
- 2. St. Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad**
- 3. Our Lady of Health Shrine, Khairatabad**
- 4. St. Anthony's Shrine, Mettuguda**
- 5. Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala**

Special Privileges:

- **Plenary Indulgences:** Available to pilgrims who visit any of these churches during the Jubilee Year, provided they:
 - Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - Participate in the Holy Eucharist and receive Communion.
 - Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.
 - Perform an act of charity or mercy.

Pilgrim Opportunities:

The Archdiocese invites all faithful to participate actively in this Jubilee Year by visiting these churches, engaging in prayerful reflection and deepening their faith. All the Parish Priests are asked to organize Pilgrimages, Special events,

Retreats and Seminars throughout the year to enhance the spiritual experience of the Jubilee.

We encourage every member of the faithful to take this opportunity to renew their spiritual lives and seek the abundant Grace available during this Holy Year.

Let us journey together in faith, hope and love as we celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025.

4. WORD OF GOD SUNDAY:

In his Apostolic Letter *Aperuit illis* issued September 30, 2019, Pope Francis instituted the celebration of Sunday of the Word of God. In 2025, it will be celebrated on the **26th January, 2025**. All the Parish Priests are asked to observe Word of God Sunday in your respective parishes by organizing special programmes like, Enthronement of the Bible, Bible Quiz, Distribution of Bibles and conduct Bible connected activities. We encourage you all to organize inter – parish and inter – Deanery competitions or programmes in this regard. Keep in mind the Calibration of the Jubilee 2025 in all the aspects. The motto chosen is taken from the book of the Psalms: **“I hope in your Word” (Ps 119:74)**.

5. ECUMENICAL SUNDAY:

The Parish Priests/Religious/ Heads of the Institutions are requested to observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from 18th to 25th January, 2025 and the Ecumenical Sunday on 19th January, 2025. Kindly offer prayers for the unity of Christians as desired and prayed by the Lord Jesus Christ himself (cf. Jn.1:21). The chosen theme for 2025 is **“Do you Believe This?” Jn 11:26**. Please contact Fr. Michael Samala the Diocesan Director for Ecumenism and Dialogue for further details.

6. ANNUAL RETURNS:

All Parish Priests and Heads of the Institutions are requested to send the Annual Returns for the year 2024, from January to December, which are to be sent to Rome in the First Quarter of 2025. Forms of Annual Returns were sent to you by post. If you have not received the forms by 1st January 2025, please contact Chancellor or Secretary. Please send back the filled-in forms by 15th January 2025 to the office at the Archbishop's house, Sec'bad. You may post the form or scan the filled in form and forward to: archdiohyd@gmail.com

7. RECOLLECTION IN JANUARY - 2025

All the Deans are here-by requested to conduct the Recollection at Deanery level for the month of January, 2025. All the Clergy are requested to attend the “Deanery Level Recollection.”

The Deans are asked to discuss, in the Recollection, about the Jubilee 2025 Celebrations in the Jubilee Year especially, spreading the Devotion of the Cross and Parish Level and Deanery Level Celebrations.

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.

8. HEARTY WELCOME TO REV. DEACON PENTAREDDY MANOHAR AKHIL:

We Are happy to welcome Rev. Deacon Pentareddy Manohar Akhil to the Archdiocese after completing his Seminary formation at St. John’s Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur. He is appointed for Pastoral Ministry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Seethaphalmandy Parish. We wish him all the best and God’s Blessings.

9. TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS:

1. Rev. Fr. Viji Joseph: Relieved from Priest in-charge of St. Joseph’s Church, Cherlapally Parish, In-Charge of Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad and In-Charge of Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN) and all other responsibilities in the Archdiocese until further communication.
2. Rev. Fr. G. Arogya Swamy: Director of Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad and In-Charge of Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN) together with the present assignment.
3. Rev. Fr. Sagayaraj Ponnudurai SVD: Priest In-Charge (**Ad-Tempus**) of St. Joseph’s Church, Charlapally Parish.
4. Rev. Deacon Pentareddy Manohar Akhil: Pastoral Ministry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Seethaphalmandy Parish.

9. 2ND SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2024

Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount	Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount
1		Aliabad		50		Lillipur	
2		Alirajpet		51		Mahendra Hills	
3		Ammuguda		52		Madinaguda	
4		Arogya Nagar (Mission)		53	12-12-2024	Mallapur	1200
5		Arul Colony		54		Manikonda Mission	
6		Balaji Nagar		55	28-11-2024	Mariapuram (Adibatla)	410
7	12-12-2024	Balaiah Nagar (Old Alwal)	10450	56		Medchal	
8	22-11-2024	Band Lines	1600	57	04-11-2024	Medipally	2650
9	10-12-2024	Bandlaguda Jagir (Kismatpur)	43000	58		Mettuguda	
10	20-12-2024	Banjara Hills	2880	59	19-11-2024	Miyapur	3000
11		Basuregadi		60		Moul-Ali	
12		Bayyaram		61	15-11-2024	Mudfort	6000
13		Bazar Ghat		62		Muthangi	
14		BHEL - MIG		63		Nacharam	
15		Begumpet		64		Nandrakal	
16		Bhoiguda		65		Narayankhed	
17	12-12-2024	Bodhan	300	66		Nedunoor	
18		Boduppal		67		Neela Camp	
19	22-11-2024	Bolarum	16,600	68	22.11.2024	Nizamabad	2600
20		Borabanda		69		Pargi	
21		Bowenpally		70		Patancheru	
22		Cherlapally		71		Ramachandrapuram	
23		Chintalacheruvu		72		Ramanthapur	
24	09-12-2024	Church Colony	2500	73		Ramnagar	
25		Dammaiguda		74		Sadasivpet	
26	22.11.2024	Dharmaram	1600	75		Sainikpuri	
27		Dayanandnagar		76	09-12-2024	Sanathnagar	10000
28		Emjala		77		Sangareddy	
29		Gaddiannaram		78		Santhoshnagar	
30		Gagillapuram		79		Sappers Lines	
31	29-11-2024	Gajwel	350	80	27-11-2024	Secunderabad	64708
32	12-11-2024	Gandhinagar	3000	81		Shabad	
33	29-11-2024	Garrison (Trimulgherry)	1161	82		Shamshabad	
34	15-11-2024	Ghatkesar	800	83	12-12-2024	Shanthinagar	2850
35	16-12-2024	Golconda	18266	84		Shapurnagar	
36		Gothumakunda		85		Siddipet	
37		Gunfoundry		86		Seethaphalmandi	
38		Jadi Jamalpur		87	13-11-2024	Sultan Bazar	3000
39	04-11-2024	Jagadgirigutta	3500	88	15-11-2024	Suraram	3000
40		Jahanuma		89		Tandur	
41		Jogipet		90		Toopran	
42		Joipet		91	13-11-2024	Trimulgherry	35,500
43		Kalwakole		92		Uminthal	
44		Kamareddy		93	29-11-2024	Vanasthalipuram	2500
45		Khairatabad		94		Venkatapuram	
46		Kissan Nagar(Armoor)		95		Vikarabad	
47		Kukatpally		96	11-11-2024	Yapral	3500
48	02-12-2024	Lallaguda	13000	97	18-12-2024	Yeddumylaram	730
49	14-12-2024	L. B. Nagar	2250	98		Yellareddy	
				99		Zaheerabad	
						Total	262905

Pastoral News

1. PERPETUAL PROFESSION CELEBRATION AT ST. ANN'S PROVINCIALATE, MADINAGUDA



The perpetual profession of seven junior sisters was joyfully celebrated at St Ann's Provincialate, Madinaguda, Hyderabad. His Eminence, Most Rev. Dr. Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad, officiated the Eucharistic celebration, joined by 13 concelebrants. Mother Anthonamma, the Superior General, received the vows in the presence of the Provincial Superior, the General and Provincial Teams, sisters, family members, and well-wishers. The event was a profound moment of grace and commitment, witnessed with great joy and devotion.

2. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SIDDIPET ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2024.



3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SECUNDERABAD ON 01ST DECEMBER, 2024.



4. 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ANN'S SCHOOL AT ST. ANN'S CONVENT, TARNAKA ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2024.



Archdiocesan News

1. ST. MARY'S CENTENARY JUNIOR COLLEGE LECTURERS LATEST SKILLS SEMINAR

St. Mary's Junior College has organized for the pressing and challenging times in the changed scenario a seminar for Lecturers "EFFECTIVE TEACHING SKILLS TO EFFICIENT LECTURERS BY Fr. V. K. Swamy a well informed and applying latest



tequniques seasoned speaker. Post Corona, tequesavy students, especially Junior College students with temperamental challenges and changes, teaching professon should be an Art, absorbing changes, emotionally intelligent to handle students, being empathetic, using the APPS like ChatGPT, GEMINI AI, and 30 more online methods also to attract students, Positive, collaborative, questioning and many more

methods to make teaching FRUITFFUL, EFFECTIVE AND FULFILLING. It was truly helpful to Lecturers.

-Principal - Rev. Fr. P. Gnanareddy

2. HYDERABAD ARCHDIOCESAN CHOIR – HAC CELEBRATES A DECADE OF SACRED MUSIC MINISTRY

The Hyderabad Archdiocesan Choir - HAC marked its 10th anniversary with a grand Eucharistic celebration at St. Joseph's Cathedral. Our patron, His Eminence Anthony Cardinal Poola was the main celebrant and he chanted some of the celebrant parts in Latin. HAC sang English hymns and Latin chants.

On this day, this is what our Cardinal had to say to HAC and our Director;

"Dear HACs, I thank you for your dedication and contribution in making the Liturgy solemn. You are an asset to the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. Your voices are the faith track to our community, uplifting and inspiring us to deeper prayer and worship. You contribute to the spiritual life of the Archdiocese. Thank you for sharing your gift of music with us. Your hard work, dedication and passion for music are evident every time you sing for different Archdiocesan events. We are grateful for your commitment to excellence. My dear choir members, you are not just a choir; you are a family, a team, testament, power of faith to our community."

"Dear Michael Peria, your passion, your art is known not only to me, our Priests,

and lay people of the Archdiocese but also at the national level CBCI, CCBI and FABC. Many are aware of your contributions to the Universal Church. It fills me with pride, and for all of us, whenever we hear bishops speak about you



and our HAC. You are truly gifted. The members of HAC are inspired by your discipline and commitment to the Church and her Liturgy. You keep them together as a single family of Sacred Music Singers. My sincere appreciation to you.”

Founded in February 2015 with 25 members, the choir has now grown into a vibrant 60-member group from 22 parishes across the twin cities. Among our members, we have choir leaders, accompanists, and some who are music teachers in schools. As one of the activities of the Diocesan Pastoral Center, we meet once a month at the pastoral center and occasionally in different parish halls on Sundays. During our gatherings, we delve into the Church’s teachings on Sacred Music, learning what is appropriate to sing during the Liturgy and what is not, understanding the differences between Liturgy and Para-Liturgy, and distinguishing between hymns and songs. Our sessions also focus on vocal development, sight-singing, and learning rubrics-based hymns and chants in various languages including English, Latin, Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi. We believe that we are in an ARMY where commitment, dedication, discipline, and clear objectives are paramount. We learn and then return to our parishes to train our choirs, sharing the knowledge and skills we have acquired. Our choir is often invited to sing in different parishes for Sunday evening mass and in the significant events of the archdiocese.

After the Holy Mass the felicitation program began with a chant for PEACE, praying for unity among choir members across the country, especially in regions where multi-lingual issues arise among different choirs. HAC sang one of Mozart’s famous classical compositions from the 17th century, “Dona Nobis Pacem” (Grant Us Peace). Our beloved Cardinal Poola presented a memento to every member of the HAC, recognizing their dedication and contributions. An overview of HAC’s objective and activities was presented through an audio-visual presentation and a demonstration of our website (www.hyderabadarchdiocesanchoir.com).

As the choir looks ahead, Michael Peria expressed his gratitude for the unwavering support of the clergy and faithful. “Our goal is to sing the right hymns and chants for the Divine Worship. Our 10-year journey stands as a testament to

the power of music to unite, inspire, and uplift, and we will continue to be a vital part of the Archdiocese's mission to serve God and neighbour." He concluded his thank you note by recalling the words of our Holy Father Pope Francis: "The Priest celebrates the Mass, and the choir sings the Mass."

- Florentina, (Member for 10 years in HAC)

3. CLASS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2024

Catholic Laity Association (CLASS) felicitated this year's meritorious students of Class 10 and Class 12/Intermediate. Top performing schools and jr. colleges from both religious and lay Catholic managements were also felicitated. His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony was the Chief Guest. The function was held at St Ann's High School (ISC), S.P. Road, Secunderabad.



A total of 91 students were felicitated. They were given trophies, merit certificates and cash awards of Rs.5,000, Rs.3,000 and Rs.2,000 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranks respectively. All the other students were awarded Rs.1,000 each.

Among the religious management schools and jr. colleges, the ranking was as follows: Class 10 (SSC) – 1st Rank St. Paul's High School, Hyderguda; 2nd Rank St. Elizabeth Ann Seton High School, Kisan Nagar, Nizamabad; 3rd Rank All Saints High School, Abids. Class 10 (CISCE & CBSE) – 1st Rank Little Flower High School (CBSE), Uppal; 2nd Rank St. Ann's High School (CISCE), Petbasheerabad; 3rd Rank St. Ann's High School (CISCE), S.P. Road, Secunderabad. Class 12 (CBSE & ISC): 1st Rank St. Ann's High School, S.P. Road, Secunderabad. Jr. Colleges: 1st Rank Little Flower School, Uppal; 2nd Rank Loyala Jr. College, Old Alwal; 3rd Rank St. Ann's Jr. College, Bolaram.

Ranking in the lay Catholic management schools and jr. colleges was as follows: Class 10 – 1st Rank St. Anthony's High School, Suchitra; 2nd Rank St. Anthony's High School Kompally; 3rd Rank St. Peter's High School, Bowenpally. Class 12/Jr. Colleges: 1st Rank St. Peter's High School, Bowenpally; 2nd Rank St. Anthony's Jr. College, Kompally; 2nd Rank St. Anthony's Jr. College, Kompally.

- Rev. Fr. G Arogya Swamy, Director, Pastoral Center.

4. CRIB AND CAROLS 2024

The Crib and Carols 2024 event, hosted recently, was a joyful celebration of the Christmas spirit, bringing together individuals and families in a vibrant and festive atmosphere. The celebration was conducted on December 7th at St.

Anthony's Church, Sappers Lines by the Youth Commission under the guidance of Rev Fr. Pranith the Diocesan Youth Director and Rev Fr. Bartholomew the parish priest and the youth. It was marked by a series of competitions and performances under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope", emphasizing the Jubilee Year's message of unity, hope, and love.

The day commenced with a Drawing and Painting competition, where participants presented their artistic interpretations of the Jubilee Year theme and the Christmas message. The artwork reflected the vision of Pope Francis, focusing on the hope-filled journey of the faithful. Following this, the event proceeded to the Crib-making competition, where participants showcased their creativity through detailed and eco-friendly representations of the Nativity story. The evening culminated in the Carol competition, with melodious performances by various choirs filling the venue with festive cheer.



Naveen, Mr. Naveen Jayarah, and Mrs. Benita.

The judges for the competitions were carefully selected to ensure fairness and expertise. For the Drawing and Painting competition, the panel included **Mrs. Jessie, Mrs. Shiela, and Mr. Arun.** The Crib competition was judged by **Mr. Paras Nathan, Mr. William, and Rev. Fr. Bartholomew,** the parish priest. The Carol competition panel included **Rev. Fr.**

A special address was delivered by the chief guest, Rev. Fr. Naveen, the Secretary to the Cardinal. His inspiring message encouraged the audience to embrace the true essence of Christmas—faith, generosity, and togetherness. Adding a unique touch to the event was a lively auction for a handmade star crafted by the youth, with proceeds directed toward charitable initiatives, showcasing the community's commitment to giving back.

The event's success was evident in the enthusiastic participation from various groups, fostering community bonding and leaving a lasting impact. The feedback from attendees praised the seamless organization, festive ambiance, and meaningful activities, with suggestions to expand the competitions in the future.

The winners of the competitions were as follows:

Drawing and Painting Competition

First Place: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Bandlines

Second Place: Our Lady of Fatima Church, Suraram

Third Place: St Joseph's Church, Moulali

Crib Competition

First Place: St Joseph's Church, Moulali

Second Place: St. Ann's Church, Mallapur

Third Place: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Bandlines

Carol Competition

First Place: St. Anthony's Church, Mudfort

Second Place: Shrine of Our Lady of Health, Khairthabad

Third Place: St. Joseph's Church, Moulali

This event would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the Diocesan Youth Commission team, the parish youth of St. Anthony's Church, Sappers Lines, and the generous support of sponsors and participants. Crib and Carols 2024 was not merely an event but a testament to the strength of faith and the joy of coming together as a community to celebrate the birth of Christ



-Fr. Pranith, Youth Director

5. "HEALING HANDS: A CELEBRATION OF LOVE AND INCLUSION THIS CHRISTMAS"

On Sunday, December 1, 2024, the Family Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad hosted its annual *HEALING HANDS*, a Christmas event for specially-abled individuals, at St. Mary's School Grounds, Secunderabad. It is also held before the International Day for Specially-abled person which is held on the 3rd of December every year. Around 140 children and adults, accompanied by their parents and guardians, attended the event.

His Eminence, Cardinal Poola Anthony, graced the event as Chief Guest, despite a prior commitment. Also present were Fr. Y. M. Joseph, Fr. Thumma Lourdu, Fr. Victor Emmanuel, Fr. M Innaiah, Fr. G Anthony, Fr. Anthaiah, Fr. Vincent Mill Hill and Fr. Raju Alex. The event, skillfully compered by Sr. Mabel, SSCG, began under an overcast sky with a prayer by Sr Flavia, followed by carols by the choir from St John the Baptist Church, Arul Colony, and a skit and action songs by youth from St. Joseph's Church, Bolarum. Sign language was used to convey the Christmas message to those with hearing difficulties.

Rain interrupted the outdoor event, prompting a swift and seamless transition to an adjoining hall, demonstrating the cooperation of both the organizers and the

specially-abled attendees.

Cardinal Poola was warmly welcomed and felicitated by representatives of the specially-abled. In his address, he highlighted the true meaning of Christmas as a celebration of love and the birth of Jesus Christ, urging everyone to keep Christ at the center of their celebrations and to embrace kindness, generosity, and family togetherness. He also referenced Pope Francis' papal bull "*Spes Non Confundit*" (*Hope Does Not Disappoint*) and shared a hymn in Telugu.

The program included stage performances by children from St. Ann's Special School, Pet Basheerabad, under the guidance of Sr. Vanitha, and a skit by children from the Home for the Disabled, Bansilalpet. Carlton Moody, a veteran with 20 years of experience in community service, introduced his company, Kreavate, and its offerings. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Anoop Francis of the Family Apostolate, with a special mention of gratitude to the many donors to the event, and the distribution of gift hampers to the special guests.

-Sylvester Isaac (Family Apostolate team member)

6. EMPRESA 2024 (*A Feast for the Mind*)

A Two-day National Level Management Fest, 19-20 December, 2024

St. Mary's Centenary College of Management proudly hosted the **National Level Management Fest – EMPRESA 2024**, a premier platform for fostering innovation, leadership, and managerial excellence on 19th and 20th of Dec, 2024. The event, themed "*A Feast for the Mind*," was held in the prestigious St. Mary's Auditorium and



attended by students from leading institutions all over India, including IITs, IIMs, NITs, to showcase their talent, exchange ideas, and sharpen their entrepreneurial skills.

The event was inaugurated by **His Excellency Sri Jishnu Dev Varma**, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he commended the college for

creating an inspiring platform that nurtures the leaders of tomorrow. His message focused on the importance of education and an inclusive educational policy which are crucial to achieve the vision of VIKSIT BHARAT.

The event was graced by **His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony**, Archbishop of Hyderabad & Chairman of the Hyderabad Archdiocese Educational Society (HAES), Msgr Y Bala Showry, Vice-chairman HAES, Smt Minnie Matthew, Retd. IAS

Officer, Sri Matthew Kunnumkal, Retd. IAS Officer, Sr Prof D Sreeramulu, Dean DBM, OU, Prof Chetan Srivastava from university of Hyderabad, Dr G Vidya Sagar Rao, DAA, OU, Rev Fathers, Rev Sisters and representatives from Hyderabad Archdiocese Educational Society.

His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony in his address reiterated the commitment of the Hyderabad Archdiocese Educational Society in providing quality education to all the sections of the society without any discrimination. He lauded the event for fostering innovation and building a culture of excellence.

Rev. Fr. Dr. P. Anthony Vinay, Director & Principal, St. Mary's Centenary College of Management expressed his joy in hosting such a prestigious event which provides a platform for all the students to exchange knowledge and build professional networks.

EMPRESA 2024 featured a series of workshops, competitions, and interactive sessions that enabled participants to demonstrate their talents, engage in creative problem-solving, and build networks with like-minded individuals. The students of MBA II yr who stood as toppers in Osmania University examinations were felicitated by HIS Excellency Hon'ble Governor of Telangana.

Over the two days of the fest, more than 1500 students from various colleges participated in all the events. All the participants and winners were given merit certificates and prizes. The event concluded on a high note, leaving participants inspired, enriched, and motivated to contribute to the world of management and innovation.

-Fr. P. Vinay

7. YOUTH GATHERING AT JEEVAN DATHA CHURCH, PEDDA UMMENTHAL ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2024.

A vibrant youth gathering took place at Jeevan Datha Church in Pedda Ummenthal, bringing together young individuals from three substation Villages. The event aimed to foster spiritual growth, community building, and personal development among the attendees. The gathering featured inspiring sermons and talks by Rev. Fr. Vijay J focusing on themes of Sacrament of Matrimony, Confessions, Youth Role in the Church And Sunday Obligation of attending Holy Mass. Energetic worship sessions, led by a talented team of musicians, filled the atmosphere with joy and devotion. After Lunch we had games for the youth.

The youth gathering at Jeevan Datha Church had a profound impact on the attendees. Many participants expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and deepen their spiritual roots.

The youth gathering at Jeevan Datha Church, Pedda Ummenthal, was a resounding success. The event provided a platform for young individuals to come together, grow spiritually, and develop meaningful connections. special thanks to Rev.Fr Vijay. J. and Rev Fr .Jogu Naveen For Facilitating this Youth Gathering.

-Fr. Vincent S, Parish Priest



8. PRISON MINISTRY TELANGANA

Prison ministry Telangana-A unit of PMI

Christmas celebration with prisoners' children at Asha Kiran Home, Gandhi Nagar, from 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm.

This year, 2024, the Christmas celebration was celebrated with prisoner's children, on 20th of December at Asha Kiran Home, Gandhi Nagar, Secunderabad. The volunteers, teachers and students of St. Christopher's school reached Asha Kiran Home at 4.00pm at



Asha Kiran home, and Sr. Christine, the Home received us along with some children present at the Asha Kiran Home, and said that few more children of the home will be returning shortly from school. So all the volunteers waited for them. And thus the program began at 4.45 pm as the children returned from the regular school. With an opening prayer by me, Fr. Dion Isaac, Telangana, state coordinator, gave a short Christmas message about the birth of Christ emphasizing on love, joy, peace and hope in the Lord. I have conveyed the Christmas greetings of our beloved Cardinal Most Rev. Dr. Poola Anthony, the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, to which the children responded back happily wishing him. Sr. Gertrude, read the word of God from the Bible. Mrs. Clara and Rebecca, and the volunteers prayed and sang hymns in Telugu. Sr. Anitha, the in charge of Asha Kiran Home, and Sr. Lynda, the principal of St. Pius school, Ramnagar and other volunteers of prison ministry were present for the program. In memory of Dr. Bridget Micheal, the Assistant state coordinator of PMI Telangana, asked every one of us to maintain one minute silence as a mark of respect. A musical Nativity skit was presented by St. Christopher's school staff and students. After that, the children sang Christmas carols in different languages like Telugu, Hindi, and English. Asha Kiran Home children also sang Christmas songs, and greeted the volunteers and cheered the participants with joy.

I, Fr. Dion Isaac, felicitated Sr. Anitha, Sr. Lynda, and Volunteers with a shawl and Bouquet for the dedicated and outstanding service and love for the prison ministry. A child from the Asha Home thanked all the members present at Asha home.

Ms. Regina, secretary, prison ministry Telangana, gave vote of thanks and thanked Fr. Dion Isaac, the state coordinator, for his cooperation and timely support; she also thanked Sr. Anitha for giving us the permission and she appreciated Sr. Lynda for her presence and moral support for the prison ministry. She thanked Dr. Bridget Micheal's family members for their continues-cooperation and

participation in the prison ministry. She thanked the staff and students for presenting the musical nativity skit and carols especially singing jingle Bells with great joy and happiness. After the cutting of Christmas cake, snacks were distributed to all. The program ended with a closing prayer by me.

- Fr. Dion Isaac, State Coordinator, Telangana PMI.

9. FEAST TIME TABLE OF SHRINE OF INFANT JESUS-GAJWEL



"The more you honour me the more I will bless you"

SHRINE OF INFANT JESUS

Gajwel

Annual Feast - 2025

SUNDAY, 19 JANUARY 2025

09-01-2025 Thursday at 6 pm

: Flag Procession
: Blessing and Hoisting of Infant Jesus's Flag by
Rev. Fr Mallavarapu Sunder
 (PP, Immaculate Conception Church, Kukatpally)
Rev. Fr Thonta Prabhudas
 (PP & Dean, Infant Jesus Shrine, Gajwel)
 followed by Holy Mass

NOVENA DAYS : JANUARY 10th TO 18th 2025

Date	Time	Theme	Main Celebrant and Parish
10 JAN 2025 Friday	06.00 pm	I am the Light of the world (Jn. 8:12)	Rev. Fr Chinnabathini John Paul (PP) Velangani Mattha Church, Shamshabad
11 JAN 2025 Saturday	06.00 pm	I am the good Shepherd (Jn. 10:4)	Rev. Fr Priestly Mathew MC (PP) Shrine of our Lady of Grace, Allabad
12 JAN 2025 Sunday	06.00 pm	I am the True Vine (Jn. 15:1)	Rev. Fr Thathireddy Anil (PP) St Joseph Church, Alirajpet
13 JAN 2025 Monday	06.00 pm	I am the Resurrection (Jn. 11:25)	Rev. Fr Madanu Ignatius Maria Shekar (PP) St Michael's Church, Golkonda
14 JAN 2025 Tuesday	06.00 pm	I am the bread of life (Jn. 6:35)	Rev. Fr Gaddam Carlo SDB (Rector) Pre- Novitiate, Manoharabad
15 JAN 2025 Wednesday	06.00 pm	I am from Above (Jn. 8:23)	Rev. Fr Thathireddy Julian (PP) St Andrew's Church, Siddipet
16 JAN 2025 Thursday	06.00 pm	I am the Son of God (Jn. 10:36)	Rev. Fr Poliseti Balaswamy (PP) St John de Britto Church, Bayyaram
17 JAN 2025 Friday	06.00 pm	I am the Door (Jn. 10:9)	Rev. Fr Gorantla Dhanaraj (PP) Fathima Mattha Church, Toopran
18 JAN 2025 Saturday	04.00 pm	Procession with Miraculous Statue of Infant Jesus	
	06.00 pm	I am the way, the truth, and the life (Jn. 14:6)	Rev. Fr Gopu Joseph Reddy SCJ SCJ Retreat Center, Nambur

19 JANUARY 2025, SUNDAY - ANNUAL FEAST OF INFANT JESUS

08.00 am	Holy Mass in English	Rev. Fr Raju Alex (Deputy Secretary of TCBC)
09.00 am	Holy Mass in Tamil	Rev. Fr Sagayaraja (Principal, St Joseph's Degree College, King Koti)
10.30 am	Solemn Holy Mass in Telugu	His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony (Archbishop of Hyderabad)

Closing day Ceremony:
20 January 2025 | 06.00 pm Holy Rosary
Thanks giving Mass & lowering the Flag

All Are Welcome
Festive Meal @ 1.00 pm

Please send your
PRAYER REQUESTS & MIRACLES / FAVOURS
 Received through the
 Infant Jesus.
 Parish Priest
 Infant Jesus Shrine
 Gajwel, Siddipet Dt.
 502278, TG, INDIA

Mass offerings and Donations:
 Bank details: Infant Jesus Shrine Gajwel
 A/C No. 0246053000012799
 IFSC: SIBL0000246
 South Indian Bank, Secunderabad.

Rev. Fr Thonta Prabhudas
 Parish Priest & Dean
 Religious, Parish Council and Parish Community
 Ph: 9182409287



Google Maps

Regional News

1. STATEMENT OF THE GBM OF THE CATHOLIC OF INDIA (CCI) (15th – 17th November 2024)



To the Church of India, The CBCI and the World

The Catholic Council of India (CCI), is the National Pastoral Council of India under CBCI (Catholic Bishops' Conference of India) which has 174 dioceses in 14 regions belonging to the 3 sui juris churches – Latin, Syro-Malabar and Syro-Malankara. The CCI, as the Indian Church in Council, met from 15th to 17th November 2024 at the Alphonsian Pastoral Institute, Pala, Kerala for the 15th GBM. 175 members representing Catholic Bishops, Priests, Religious, Laity, National Institutions and Offices attended the GBM.

The Theme for the GBM was '**The Vital Role of the Laity in the Socio-Political Context of India**'. In light of the Synod on Synodality, the CCI reaffirmed the critical role of the laity in shaping the mission of the Church. The GBM reflected on the role of the laity which is key for a synodal missionary church as exhorted by Pope Francis.

The members declared that we will journey together with all people of goodwill, sharing in each other's joys and sorrows. We want to ensure that our families, communities and institutions continue to imbibe and promote the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Indian Constitution. We will also focus on continuous formation of the laity.

We, as baptised Christians, are aware of our duties mandated to us by Jesus Christ to be missionaries in the modern world, witnessing to the Gospel under the guidance and in collaboration with the hierarchy, listening, sharing and discerning under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Key Commitments and Resolutions:

1. Promoting Constitutional Values

We are proud that we have been at the forefront in our Nation building, especially in the areas of education, health care and social uplift and we commit ourselves to continue this. We are aware that we have to protect human rights, constitutional rights and the rights of women, children and the marginalized.

2. Encouraging Active Participation of the Faithful

- a. The faithful are encouraged to engage actively in the governance of the state.
- b. Members of the CCI are urged to address social, economic and political issues in their neighbourhoods.
- c. The laity should be organized at various levels including youth and other stakeholders, ensuring that the Church's strength is built on their active involvement.

3. Strengthening Media and Legal Support

A strong media presence and the establishment of a legal cell are essential for addressing challenges and providing legal advice to the community.

Internaional News

1. Cycle of Catechesis. The Spirit and the Bride. The Holy Spirit guides the people of God towards Jesus our hope. 17. *The Spirit and the Bride say: "Come!". The Holy Spirit and Christian hope*

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

We have arrived at the end of our catecheses on the Holy Spirit and the Church. We will devote this final reflection to the title we gave to the entire cycle, namely: *"The Holy Spirit and the Bride. The Holy Spirit guides the People of God towards Jesus our hope"*. This title refers to one of the last verses of the Bible, in the Book of Revelation, which says: "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come'" (Rev 22:17). Who is this invocation addressed to? It is addressed to the risen Christ. Indeed, both Saint Paul (cf. 1 Cor 16:22) and the *Didaché*, a text from apostolic times, attest that in the liturgical meetings of the first Christians there resounded the cry in Aramaic, *"Marànatha!"*, which indeed means "Come, Lord!". A prayer to Christ, for Him to come. At that earliest time, the invocation had a background we would describe today as eschatological. Indeed, it expressed the ardent expectation of the glorious return of the Lord. And this cry, and the expectation it expresses, have never been extinguished in the Church. Still today, in the Mass, immediately after the

consecration, she proclaims Christ's death and resurrection "*as we await the blessed hope and [His] coming*". The Church awaits the coming of the Lord.

But this expectation of the *final* coming of Christ has not remained the one and only. It has also been joined by the expectation of his *continuous* coming in the present and pilgrim situation of the Church. And it is this coming that the Church thinks of above all, when, animated by the Holy Spirit, she cries out to Jesus: "Come!". A change, or better, let's say, a development, full of meaning, has occurred with regard to the cry "Come", "Come, Lord!". It is not habitually addressed only to Christ, but also to the Holy Spirit Himself! He who cries out is now Him to whom we cry out. "Come!" is the invocation with which we begin almost all the hymns and prayers of the Church addressed to the Holy Spirit: "Come, Holy Spirit", we say in the *Veni Creator*, and "Come, Holy Spirit", "*Veni Sancte Spiritus*", in the sequence of Pentecost; and so on, in many other prayers. It is right that it should be so, because, after the Resurrection, the Holy Spirit is Christ's true "*alter ego*", He who takes His place, who makes Him present and operative in the Church. It is He who "declare[s] ... the things that are coming" (cf. *Jn* 16:13) and makes them desired and expected. This is why Christ and the Spirit are inseparable, also in the economy of salvation.

The Holy Spirit is the ever-gushing source of Christian hope. Saint Paul left us these precious words, this is what Paul says: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (*Rm* 15:13). If the Church is a boat, the Holy Spirit is the sail that propels it and lets it advance on the sea of history, today as in the past! Hope is not an empty word, or a vague desire of ours that things may turn out for the best; hope is a certainty, because it is founded on God's fidelity to His promises. And this is why it is called a theological virtue: because it is infused by God and has God as its guarantor. It is not a passive virtue, which merely waits for things to happen. It is a supremely active virtue that helps make them happen. Someone who fought for the liberation of the poor wrote these words: "The Holy Spirit is at the origin of the cry of the poor. He is the strength given to those who have no strength. He leads the struggle for the emancipation and full realization of the people of the oppressed".

The Christian cannot be satisfied with *having* hope; he or she must also *radiate* hope, be a sower of hope. It is the most beautiful gift that the Church can give to all of humanity, especially at times in which everything seems to be dragging down the sails.

The apostle Peter exhorted the first Christians with these words: "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope". But he added a recommendation: "But do it with gentleness and reverence" (*1 Pt* 3:15-16). And this is because it is not so

much the strength of the arguments that will convince people, but rather the love that we know how to put in them. This is the first and most effective form of evangelization. And it is open to everyone!

Dear brothers and sisters, may the Spirit always, always help us to “abound in hope by virtue of the Holy Spirit! Thank you.

APPEAL

Every day I am following what is happening in Syria, in this moment that is so delicate in its history. I hope that a political solution may be reached that, without further conflicts or divisions, may responsibly promote the stability and unity of the country. I pray, by the intercession of the Virgin Mary, that the Syrian people may live in peace and security in their beloved land, and that the different religions may walk together in friendship and mutual respect for the good of the nation, afflicted by so many years of war.

Special greetings:

I extend a warm welcome to the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today’s Audience, especially those coming from England and the United States. I pray that each of you and your families may experience a blessed Advent in preparation for the coming, at Christmas, of the newborn Jesus, Son of God and Prince of Peace. God bless you!

Summary of the Holy Father’s words:

Dear Brothers and Sisters: In this final catechesis on the Holy Spirit and the Church, we consider the Spirit as the source of the Church’s hope for the Lord’s return in glory and the fulfilment of his saving plan at the end of time. The New Testament ends with the Spirit and the Bride, the Church, crying out in ardent expectation, “Come, Lord Jesus” (cf. Rev 22:17.20). The Church’s tradition likewise invokes the Spirit with the ancient prayer, “*Come, Holy Spirit*”, asking that he confirm our trust in Christ’s promises and strengthen us in fidelity to our mission of bearing witness to the hope offered by the Gospel. As Christians, we are called not only to *have* hope but also to *radiate* hope, so that all may come to know the Lord and joyfully await the coming of his kingdom of holiness, justice and peace.

2. Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. *Jesus Christ our Hope. I. The Infancy of Jesus. 1. Genealogy of Jesus (Mt 1,1-17). The entry of the Son of God in history.*

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today we will begin the cycle of catechesis that will continue throughout the Jubilee Year. The theme is “Jesus Christ our Hope”: for He is the aim of our pilgrimage, and He Himself is the way, the path to follow. The first part will look at

the childhood of Jesus, which is narrated to us by the Evangelists Matthew and Luke (cf. *Mt* 1-2; *Lk* 1-2). The Infancy Gospels recount Jesus' virginal conception and His birth from Mary's womb; they recall the messianic prophecies fulfilled in Him and speak of the legal paternity of Joseph, who grafted the Son of God onto the "trunk" of the Davidic dynasty. We are presented with an infant, child and adolescent Jesus, submissive to his parents and, at the same time, aware that He is wholly devoted to the Father and His Kingdom. The difference between the two Evangelists is that while Luke recounts the events through Mary's eyes, Matthew does so through Joseph's, insisting on this unprecedented fatherhood.

Matthew begins His Gospel and the entire New Testament canon with the 'genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham' (*Mt* 1:1). It is a list of names already present in the Hebrew Scriptures, to show the truth of history and the truth of human life. In fact, "the Lord's genealogy consists of the true story that includes a number of figures who are problematic to say the least, and the sin of King David is also emphasized (cf. *Mt* 1:6). Yet, everything culminates with Mary and Christ (cf. *Mt* 1:16)" (*Letter on the Renewal of the Study of Church History*, 21 November 2024). Then, there appears the truth of human life that passes from one generation to the next, bringing three things: a name that encompasses a unique identity and mission; belonging to a family and a people; and finally, the adherence of faith to the God of Israel.

Genealogy is a literary genre, that is, a form suitable for conveying a very important message: no one gives life to himself, but receives it as a gift from others. In this case, the chosen people, and those who inherit the legacy of faith from their forefathers, in passing on life to their children, also convey to them the faith in God. Unlike the genealogies of the Old Testament, however, where only male names appear – because in Israel it is the father who imposes the name on his son – in Matthew's list of Jesus' ancestors, women also appear. We find five of them: Tamar, the daughter-in-law of Judah who, left a widow, pretends to be a prostitute in order to ensure an offspring for her husband (cf. *Gen* 38); Racab, the prostitute of Jericho who allows the Jewish explorers to enter the promised land and conquer it (cf. *Jas* 2); Ruth, the Moabite who, in the book of the same name, remains faithful to her mother-in-law, takes care of her and will become King David's great-grandmother; Bathsheba, with whom David commits adultery and, after having her husband killed, begets Solomon (cf. *2 Sam* 11); and finally Mary of Nazareth, wife of Joseph, of the house of David: from her the Messiah, Jesus, is born.

The first four women have in common not the fact that they are sinners, as is sometimes said, but the fact that they are *foreign* to the people of Israel. What Matthew brings out is that, as Benedict XVI has written, "through them the world of the Gentiles enters ... into Jesus' genealogy - his mission to Jews and Gentiles

becomes visible” (*The Infancy Narratives*, Milan-Vatican City 2012, 15). While the four previous women are mentioned alongside the man who was born of them or the one who begot him, Mary, on the other hand, acquires particular prominence: she marks a new beginning. She herself is a new beginning, because in her story it is no longer the human creature who is the protagonist of generation, but God Himself. This is clearly seen from the verb “was born”: “Jacob [was] the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born” (*Mt* 1:16). Jesus is the son of David, grafted by Joseph into that dynasty and destined to be the Messiah of Israel, but He is also the son of Abraham and of foreign women, destined therefore to be the “*Light of the Gentiles*” (cf. *Lk* 2:32) and the “*Saviour of the world*” (*Jn* 4:42). The Son of God, consecrated to the Father with the mission of revealing His face (cf. *Jn* 1:18; *Jn* 14:9), enters the world like all children of man, so much so that in Nazareth He will be called “son of Joseph” (*Jn* 6:42) or “son of the carpenter” (*Mt* 13:55). True God and true man. *Brothers and sisters, let us awaken in ourselves the grateful memory of our ancestors. And above all, let us give thanks to God, who, through Mother Church, has generated us to eternal life, the life of Jesus, our hope.*

APPEAL

Dear brothers and sisters, let us pray for peace. Let us not forget the people who suffer because of war: Palestine, Israel, and all those who are suffering, Ukraine, Myanmar... Let us not forget to pray for peace, that the wars may end. Let us ask the Prince of Peace, the Lord, to give us this grace: peace, peace in the world. War, lest we forget, is always a defeat, always! War is always a defeat.

Special greetings:

I extend a warm welcome to the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors, especially those coming from Malta. I pray that each of you, and your families, may experience a blessed Advent in preparation for the coming of Jesus our Saviour at Christmas.

Summary of the Holy Father’s words:

Dear brothers and sisters: We now begin a new series of catecheses for the Holy Year on the Jubilee theme of “Jesus Christ our Hope.” Today we reflect on the Gospel accounts of Jesus’ genealogy, which remind us that his life and identity belong to a greater history that embraces his ancestry, his family and the faith of the entire people of Israel. The presence of four Gentile women in Matthew’s genealogy reminds us that Jesus was ultimately sent to be the Saviour of all peoples. The birth of Jesus from the Virgin Mary is itself a sign of a new beginning for our human family. As Christmas approaches, let us give thanks for our own genealogy, and renew our commitment to embody the gifts of reconciliation, peace and hope which our Lord brought into this world by his Incarnation.

Dates & Events to Remember

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| 01. Mary the Mother of God (S) | 17. St. Anthony, Abbot (M) |
| 02. Sts. Basil the great and Gregory Nazianzen (M) | 20. Sts. Fabian and Sebastian (Op. M) |
| 03. The Most Holy name of Jesus (Op. M) | 21. St. Agnes, Virgin (M) |
| 05. The Epiphany of The Lord (F) | 24. St. Francis de Sales (M) |
| 12. The Baptism of the Lord (F) | 25. The Conversion of St. Paul (F) |
| 13. St. Hilary, Bp and Dr (Op. M) | 27. Sts. Timothy and Titus (M) |
| 16. St. Joseph Vaz (M) | 28. St. Thomas Aquinas (M) |
| | 31. St. John Bosco (M) |
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Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 01. Fr. Pasala Innaiah | 15. Fr. Pidikirala Prabhudas |
| 01. Fr. Vemparla Vijaya Shekar | 18. Fr. Madanu Ajith Kumar |
| 02. Fr. Reddimasu Anand Rao | 26. Fr. Chinnabathini Jojappa |
| 06. Fr. Pamiseti Praveen Kumar | 28. Fr. Vaddamalla Vinod Kumar |
| 06. Fr. Vedomuthu Kulandai Swamy | |
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Happy Ordination day Dear Fathers

02. Fr. Kata Rajulu
02. Fr. Marneni Arogyam
13. Fr. M. H. Wilson Davis
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Necrology



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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 02. Fr. Christie Daniel | 12. Fr. Francis Perez |
| 08. Msgr. Kambam Joseph | 15. Fr. Marneni Maraiah |
| 11. Fr. George Parathiparambil | 17. Fr. Allam Marreddy |
| | 27. Most Rev. Alfred Fernandez |
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MAY ALL THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

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CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS OF 'HASSS' AT OUR LADY OF FATHIMA CHURCH, SURARAM PARISH ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2024.



CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SEC-BAD ON 24TH DECEMBER, 2024.



HOLY FAMILY FEAST MASS AND UNVEILING OF THE JUBILEE 2025 CROSS AT ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL, GUNFOUNDRY ON 29TH DECEMBER, 2024.

