



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: LII

NO.09

SEPTEMBER 2025



14 SEPTEMBER - FEAST

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



**8TH SEPTEMBER,
FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF MARY, AND
FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH.
HAPPY FEAST!**

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. John 3:17



NATIONAL YOUTH DAY AT THE ARCHDIOCESAN LEVEL



Annual Conference of Telugu Region Lawyers' Forum (TRCLF)

22nd and 23rd August 2025 at St. Mary's Pharmacy Auditorium, Secunderabad, Chief Guest Hon'ble Dr. M. Shyam Sree, the Principal Family court judge, at Secunderabad, Cardinal Poola Anthony the Chairperson, Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera Chairman Bishop and all the advocates of TRCLF.



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

SEPTEMBER

2025



Archbishop's Message



All the school communities in our country celebrate 'Teacher's day' joyfully and prayerfully on the 5th of September every year, with an appropriate sense of justice, respect and affection. And so, this year too! But on this day the Church celebrates the feast of (Mother) St. Teresa of Kolkota as the God-given patron of Catholic Teachers. She had been not only a school teacher but headmistress too as a Loretto nun, in the Loretto convent school in Kolkota, until she received the divine vocation from the Eternal Son our Lord Jesus Christ to join Him in His service for 'the poorest of the poor'.

Did (Mother) St. Teresa of Kolkota understand the meaning of 'poorest of the poor' at the time our Lord called her? How could she? For, one finds 'poor people' and often 'very poor people', everywhere. But where can one find a 'poorest of poor'. The Eternal Son Who though eternally rich 'in the form of God' but became poor in 'the form of man' would have to teach her its meaning in a very practical manner by joining her to His work for the 'poorest of the poor'. And so, He directed her to pick up an economically worthless and socially discarded dying man, tidy him up and make him 'socially human' and prepare him for worthily receiving His divine and priestly act of giving that dying man His promised new birth 'from above' and a new birth 'of water and the Holy Spirit,' to join Him, clothed in the

holiness and immortality of His own divine Sonship, and enjoy eternal life with Himself and with His Immaculate Virgin Mother Mary and with all His Saints and holy Angels forever in the everlasting home of His Eternal Father. And as that sanctified dying man exited his economically worthless and socially discarded mortal body, he left it in the hands of (Mother) St. Teresa of Kolkota as the eschatological relic of the Son our Lord Jesus Christ's definitive and eschatological victory over the Devil's power of Sin and Death over the human race as a consequence of Adam's original sin. And as (Mother) St. Teresa gazed on the eschatological relic left by that blessed man in her hands, the Holy Spirit made her understand the truth of 'the poorest of the poor,' namely, that it is only at the point of one's bodily death that every human person, be he rich or poor, becomes a 'poorest of the poor.' Not earlier! For, it is only at that moment that a human person loses not merely all his earthly goods but he or she loses the very needs which would make him or her seek for the acquisition, possession and enjoyment of any earthly goods, and in this manner he becomes a 'poorest of the poor.' With the physical death of the human body all its biological and psychological needs disappear even as the human person to whom that body belonged becomes totally and irreversibly disconnected from this visible world. Thereafter, he or she is left with one single need in his or her spiritual soul, namely the need for eternal life with God the Eternal Father in His Eternal Son our Lord Jesus Christ and in their one Holy Spirit. As the Eternal Son our Lord Jesus Christ hung upon the Cross, two criminals were also hanging on their crosses on either side of Jesus. Guess what? Both of them were truly the 'poorest of the poor'! But one had the wisdom to turn to our Lord and request Him 'Lord, remember me in Your kingdom!' and immediately got the divine answer 'Today, you will be with me in paradise.' But the other 'poorest of the poor,' bereft of divine wisdom, died hopelessly in the twin miseries of bodily and spiritual death, all the while tragically ignorant of the Author of Eternal Hope dying on the Cross beside himself. How will it be with me when the Son of Man arrives at a moment I do not expect, to make me also, one more of the 'poorest of the poor'?

POPE'S INTENTION: SEPTEMBER 2025

For our relationship with all of creation: Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect



CARDINAL'S INTENTION: SEPTEMBER 2025

Let us pray for **harmony among all religions in our country**, that peace and mutual respect may prevail. May there be no place for violence or religious atrocities, and may the leaders of our nation act with fairness and integrity in bringing justice



RECEIPT OF LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Parish/Individual	No. of Masses
01-08-2025	GUNFOUNDRY	132
01-08-2025	DAMMIGUDA	151
05-08-2025	RAMANTHAPUR	40
12-08-2025	BOWENPALLY	210
18-08-2025	GANDHINAGR	300
20-08-2025	GAGILLAPURAM	410
22-08-2025	DIVINE LIGHT MINSITRIES (SEC - BAD))	35
23-08-2025	METTUGUDA	5000
	Total	6278

Solemnities and Feasts

SEPT 5th

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu in Skopje, felt a deep call to serve the poor at the age of twelve. At eighteen, she left home forever to join the Loreto Sisters in Ireland, later moving to India in 1929. For twenty years, she taught in Calcutta. On September 10, 1946, while traveling to Darjeeling, she experienced a “call within a call” an inner voice of Jesus asking her to leave the convent and serve Him in “the poorest of the poor.” After two years of discernment, spiritual testing, and obtaining Church approval, she began her mission in 1948.



In 1950, she founded the Missionaries of Charity, taking a fourth vow to serve the most destitute. Her work spread from Calcutta to every continent, reaching the homeless, sick, and abandoned. Honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, she always pointed attention to Christ in the poor. For decades, she endured a profound interior darkness, offering her service without selfish motive pure love born of faith and hope. Canonized in 2016, she remains a shining witness of humility, compassion, and total dedication to Christ's thirst. *Saint Mother Teresa, you lived to quench Christ's thirst by loving the poorest of the poor. Pray for me, that I may give myself wholly to others, with a pure heart and unwavering trust in Jesus.*

SEPT 08th

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The Church joyfully celebrates the **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary** on September 8, exactly nine months after the Solemnity of her Immaculate Conception (December 8). This feast invites us to rejoice in the birth of the one chosen by God to be the **Mother of His Son, Jesus Christ**.

Mary's birth is a dawn of hope for humanity. With her coming into the world, God prepared a pure vessel for the Incarnation of His Son, the Savior of the world. Just as the rising of the morning star announces the light of day, so Mary's birth heralds the coming of Christ, the true Light. Tradition tells us that Mary was born to **Saints Joachim and Anne**, who longed for a child and were blessed in their old age. Their daughter, filled with grace from her very beginning, grew to become the humble maiden of Nazareth who said “Yes” to God's plan. The feast of Mary's nativity is therefore not only a celebration of her birth but also a reminder of God's providence in salvation history. It calls us to imitate Mary's humility, faith, and openness to God's will. As we honor the Mother of our Savior, let us ask her intercession that our lives, too, may bring Christ into the world through our words and actions. *O Mary, born without sin and full of grace, pray for us, that we may always walk in faith and love, bringing Christ to others as you did.*

On September 14, the Church celebrates the **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**, a feast that honors the instrument of our salvation. What was once a symbol of shame and suffering has, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, become the sign of victory, hope, and eternal life.

The feast has its origins in the 4th century, when St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered the True Cross in Jerusalem. Later, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built on the site of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection, and the Cross was solemnly venerated there.

This day reminds us that the Cross is not merely an object but a powerful mystery: the place where Jesus gave His life in love, conquering sin and death. For Christians, to "exalt" the Cross means to embrace it in our own lives — accepting sacrifices with faith, offering our struggles with love, and uniting them with Christ's redeeming sacrifice.

The Cross is thus both a challenge and a comfort: it calls us to die to selfishness and sin, yet assures us of God's victory and glory. *We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.*



On September 29, the Church celebrates the feast of the **Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael**, heavenly messengers of God who play unique roles in salvation history.

St. Michael ("Who is like God?") is the protector of the Church and leader of the heavenly hosts in the battle against evil (Revelation 12:7–9). He defends us in spiritual warfare and reminds us to stand firm in faith.

St. Gabriel ("God is my strength") is the messenger of the Incarnation, announcing to Mary that she would be the Mother of the Savior (Luke 1:26–38). He is a herald of good news and bearer of God's promises.

St. Raphael ("God heals") appears in the Book of Tobit as a companion and guide, bringing healing and protection. He is invoked especially for travelers and the sick.

This feast reminds us that angels are not distant figures, but part of God's providential care for humanity. They are protectors, guides, and messengers, sent to assist us on our journey of faith. As we honour the Archangels, let us seek their intercession: St. Michael, defend us from evil, St. Gabriel, help us to listen to God's Word, St. Raphael, bring us God's healing and peace. *Heavenly Father, through the protection of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, guard us in faith, guide us in hope, and heal us in love. Amen.*



Archbishop's Engagements

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

SEPTEMBER 2025

- 01-02. Mon-Tue : In Office
03. Wed 11.00 am- 1.00 pm : 11th Annual General Meeting- Divyavani, Ramanthapur
05. Fri 11.00 a.m. : Holy Mass - On Going formation for Catechism Teachers at Pastoral Centre, Gunfoundry
06. Sat : Mini Convention Meeting
07. Sun 08.00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations, Blessing of the Newly Built Arch & Laying of Foundation Stone for the New Pilgrim Quarters at Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala
08. Mon 11.00 a.m. : Festive Mass at Shrine of Our Lady of Good Health Church, Khairathabad
- 09-10. Tue- Wed : 98th CCBI Executive Committee Meeting, New Delhi
- 11-12. Thu-Fri : CBCI Standing Committee Meeting, New Delhi
13. Sat 11.00 a.m. : 30 years of Jesus Youth Telugu Region Jubilee – Holy Mass at St. Francis Girls High School, Secunderabad
14. Sun 05.30 p.m. : Festive Mass at Karunagiri Shrine, Suraram
- 15-16. Mon-Tue : In Office
- 18-19. Thu- Fri : In Office
20. Sat 05.00 p.m. : Graduation Day at St. Mary's Centenary College of Management, Secunderabad
21. Sun 10.00 a.m. : Festive Mass, First Holy Communion at Mother of Compassion Church, Medipally
- 22-26. Mon-Fri : Clergy Retreat, SVD Retreat Centre, Habsiguda.
- 23-25 Tue-Thu : TCBC Meeting, St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur

27. Sat 6.00 p.m. : Holy Mass, Blessing and Inauguration of Adoration Chapel, Multi-purpose Hall at St. Bernard's Church, Ammuguda
28. Sun 09.30 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Sacred Heart Church, Lallaguda
29. Mon 05.30 p.m. : Festive Mass at St. Michael's Church, Pedavadlapudi, Guntur Diocese

TENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS: OCTOBER 2025

02. Thu 09.30 a.m. : Festive Mass, 50 years of Salesian Presence & 25 years Jubilee of Fr Kollithanathu Jose SDBat St. Theresa's Church, Sanathnagar
03. Fri 10.30 a.m. : 50 years Jubilee of Ancillae Secular Institute at Lillipur
04. Sat : Mass at Divine Light Ministry Convention
05. Sun : Festive Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Ramnagar
11. Sat 05.30 p.m. : Holy Mass, Sisters of St. Joseph of Annecy, at Vishakhapatnam
19. Sun 8.30 a.m. : First Holy Communion & Confirmation at Holy Trinity Church, Begumpet
24. Fri : Golden Jubilee Celebrations of MSFS, Guwahati, Assam
25. Sat 05.30 p.m. : Festive Mass, First Holy Communion & Confirmation at Auxilium Church, Mahendra Hills
26. Sun 10.30 a.m. : Annual Feast Mass at St. Jude's Shrine, Vikarabad
29. Wed 07.00 a.m. : Inaugural Mass at PMI International Convention, Diocese of Kothamangalam, Kerala
31. Fri 09.30 a.m. : Inauguration Ceremony of the Science Fest at Ave Maria School, Ramanthapur
- 05.00 p.m. : First Holy Communion & Confirmation, Closing of Marian Month at St. Agnes Church, Shapur Nagar.

31th August, 2025
Archbishop's House

✠ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

Communications

I. BIRTHDAY OF BLESSED MOTHER 8th SEPTEMBER:

Today, the Church rejoices in the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the dawn that heralded the coming of Christ. Chosen from all eternity, Mary was preserved pure and immaculate to become the holy dwelling place of the Son of God. Her birth brought hope to a world longing for redemption, and her life became a perfect model of faith, humility, and selfless love.

On this joyful feast, may the light of her virtues inspire us to grow in holiness and charity. Let us seek her maternal intercession, that she may lead us ever closer to her Son and help us bear witness to the Gospel in our families, parishes, and communities. Wishing you all a Blessed Feast and an abundance of God's blessings through the loving prayers of Our Lady.

II. ANNUAL RETREAT 2025:

- Annual Retreat for the Senior Clergy of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad will be held from September, 22nd to 26th September, 2025 at SVD Provincial/Retreat House, Ramanthapur. Since this will be a closed retreat, please come with your personal belongings. **Should there be any valid reason for anyone in active ministry in the Archdiocese to be unable to attend this retreat, he is required to obtain prior permission from the Archbishop no later than 08th September, 2025 (two weeks before the retreat begins). In such a case, kindly mention in your request the date and place where you will be making your annual retreat for the year.**
- The Junior Clergy (Ordained between 2010-2025) will have their Ongoing formation cum Retreat from 06th to 11th October, 2025 at Don Bosco Retreat House, Tamil Nadu.

III. RECOLLECTION IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER:

As we have two batches of Retreats, All the Clergy are asked to make your Personal Recollection in the months of September and October, 2025.

IV. GNANA JYOTHI BIBLE EXAM - 2025 (ENGLISH & TELUGU)

This is to inform you that the **Gnana Jyothi Bible Exam**, organized by the A.P. Jyotirmai Society, will be held on **Sunday, 9th November 2025**. We request you to encourage children, youth, and elders from your parish, school, and boarding to participate. Please make the necessary announcements in your respective institutions, For Syllabus, Category and for further details, please contact: Rev. Fr. P. Prabhudas Director, Pastoral Centre, Gunfoundry OR Mr. Papaiah - 8688058345

V. TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS:

1. Rev. Fr. Thumma Arla - Director of Retired/Sick Priests' Home, Khairatabad
2. Rev. Deacon K. Naveen IVD - Our Lady of Health Shrine, Khairatabad

VI. ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTS

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
1.	Cardinal Poola Anthony	15.11.1961	20-02-1992	Archbishop
2.	Fr. Y. M. Joseph	02.06.1944	18.12.1970	Retired- Garrison
3.	Fr. T. Lourdu	01.12.1942	19.12.1972	Retired- Khairathabad
4.	Fr. T. M. Matthew	18.03.1948	06.05.1975	Retired - Garrison
5.	Fr. Joseph Murickan	21.05.1949	07.05.1975	Retired- Khairathabad
6.	Fr. Kandula Charles	20.05.1947	12.02.1976	Retired Priest in Residence, St. Mary's Basilica, Sec'Bad
7.	Fr. Bonagiri Albert	17.05.1950	12.02.1977	Leave, St. Paul's High School, Kammaguda
8.	Fr. Thumma Arla	29.08.1949	14.02.1977	Retired- Khairathabad
9.	Fr. Udumula J Chinnappa	07.06.1949	17.02.1977	Retired
10.	Fr. Swarna Bernard	19.08.1952	11.02.1979	Parish Priest, St. Patrick's Church, Garrison
11.	Fr. Thumma Solomon	30.04.1952	11.02.1979	Retired- Khairathabad
12.	Fr. Thomas Stephen	28.08.1939	19.10.1980	Professor, St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur
13.	Fr. Vedamuthu Kulandai Swamy	21.05.1952	15.12.1981	Parish Priest, St. Alphonsus Church, Banjara Hills
14.	Fr. Marneni Arogyam	19.07.1955	02.01.1982	Parish Priest, St. Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad
15.	Fr. Kata Rajulu	31.05.1951	02.01.1982	Retired
16.	Fr. Thomas Andrew Raj	17.03.1951	07.05.1983	Retired - Khairathabad

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
17.	Fr. Marneni Varaprasad	23.06.1957	12.03.1983	Medical Leave
18.	Fr. Lancelot Menezes	03.02.1955	24.03.1984	Confessor/Spiritual Director at Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala
19.	Fr. Dominic Savio	01.06.1956	01.02.1986	Parish Priest, St. Thomas Church, Sultan Bazar
20.	Fr. Kata Joseph	18.03.1958	03.02.1986	Ministry Abroad - Germany
21.	Fr. Dodda Bala	27.07.1959	23.03.1987	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Fatima Church, Godumakunta
22.	Fr. Susai Anthony (Tony)	30.03.1955	31.05.1987	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Jahanuma
23.	Fr. Yeruva Joji	02.04.1961	21.03.1988	Parish Priest, Karunagiri Shrine, Suraram
24.	Fr. David Francis	26.09.1961	29.12.1988	Director Family Apostolate, Pastoral Centre, Gunfoundry
25.	Fr. Michael Thaigaraj	09.07.1944	19.03.1988	Chaplain, Home for the Aged, Bhoiguda
26.	Fr. Kandi Marreddy	08.10.1962	14.03.1989	Parish Priest, Divine Mercy Church, Madinaguda
27.	Fr. Yeruva Bala	15.05.1962	14.03.1989	Director, St. Mary's College of Pharmacy, Secunderabad
28.	Fr. Raju Alex	18.06.1961	19.04.1989	Deputy Secretary TCBC, Sikh Village
29.	Fr. Valentine J. D'mello	10.10.1962	21.04.1990	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Fatima Church, Dammaiguda
30.	Fr. Thathireddy Julian	04.10.1961	25.04.1990	Parish Priest, St. Andrew's Church, Siddipet
31.	Fr. Gangarapu Balaswamy	13.12.1960	19.03.1991	Parish Priest, St. Francis Xavier Church, Yapral
32.	Fr. Gade Showreddy	10.05.1962	22.03.1991	Parish Priest, Christ the King Church, Ramanthapur
33.	Msgr. Yeruva Balashowreddy	02.05.1961	09.04.1991	Director & Correspondent, St. Joseph's Deg. & P.G.Col. King Koti
34.	Fr. Mallavarapu Sunder Rao	17.03.1965	11.04.1991	Parish Priest, Immaculate Conception Church, Kutakpally
35.	Fr. Mettu Johannes	17.04.1963	18.03.1992	Parish Priest, Sacred Heart Church, Lallaguda
36.	Fr. Guvvala Anthony	13.10.1967	25.03.1992	Director, St. Mary's B.Ed. College, Secunderabad

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
36.	Fr. Gorantla Dhanraj	10.04.1964	12.02.1992	Parish Priest, Fatima Mata Church, Toopran
37.	Fr. Thanugundla Gabriel	17.09.1965	18.03.1992	Head Master, St. Ignatius High School, Gagillapur
38.	Fr. Michael Selvaraj	30.10.1964	27.03.1993	Parish Priest, Shrine of Our Lady of Good Health, Khairathabad
39.	Fr. Mettu Arogyam	19.06.1965	30.03.1993	Parish Priest, St. Anthony's Church, Venkatapuram
40.	Fr. Thathireddy Jayaraj	25.11.1966	31.03.1993	Parish Priest, Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala
41.	Fr. Gali Samson	17.06.1963	13.04.1993	Parish Priest, Mary Help of Christians Church, Santhosh Nagar
42.	Fr. Thirumalareddy Anthony	13.12.1966	13.04.1993	Principal, Infant Jesus College, Shamshabad
43.	Fr. Chinnabathini Jayaraj	10.07.1965	19.03.1994	Parish Priest, Maria Rani Church, Mariapuram (Adibatla).
44.	Fr. Madanu Francis Showry	04.05.1964	19.03.1994	Medical Leave- Kamareddy
45.	Fr. Chinnabathini Gnanaprakash	20.01.1968	27.03.1995	Parish Priest, Holy Trinity Church, Begumpet
46.	Fr. Madanu Chinaiah	20.06.1964	29.03.1995	Parish Priest, St Agnes Church Shapurnagar
47.	Fr. Dion Issac	16.08.1970	10.02.1996	Parish Priest, St. Anthony's Church, Gandhinagar
48.	Fr. Gopu Sunder Reddy	06.03.1969	10.02.1996	Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Bolarum
49.	Fr. Pentareddy Gnanareddy	21.05.1967	10.02.1996	Principal, St. Mary's Intermediate College, Sec-derabad
50.	Fr. Madanu Prathap	01.06.1970	07.04.1997	Parish Priest, St. John Maria Vianney Church, Bhoiguda
51.	Fr. Mirapakayala Melchizedek Kennedy	05.11.1967	07.04.1997	Principal, Roch Memorial School, Khairathabad
52.	Fr. Golamari Louis	07.12.1969	07.04.1997	Ministry Abroad- USA
53.	Fr. Swarna Bala Prabhakar	14.09.1969	07.04.1997	Priest in Residence at Sacred Heart Extn. Block, Lallaguda.
54.	Fr. Thirumalareddy Showreddy	23.03.1970	07.04.1997	Ministry Abroad- USA
55.	Fr. Kommareddy Marreddy	07.02.1971	13.02.1998	Parish Priest, Holy Family Church, Trimulgherry

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
56.	Fr. Madanu Hrudaya Kumar	26.12.1971	11.02.1998	Ministry Abroad- Germany
57.	Fr. Vincent Arokiadas	03.08.1968	30.04.1999	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Bowenpally
58.	Fr. Anthony Sagayaraja	06.07.1965	06.05.1999	Principal, St. Joseph's Degree and P.G. College, King Koti
59.	Fr. Narishetty Anthony Paul Raj	29.06.1970	19.05.1999	Ministry at Guntur Diocese
60.	Fr. Viji Joseph	07.03.1969	16.02.2000	———
61.	Fr. Allam Arogya Reddy	05.12.1972	20.02.2000	Parish Priest, St. Mother Teresa Church, Manikonda
62.	Fr. Selva Kumar Aloysius	02.07.1974	04.03.2000	Parish Priest, St. Anthony's Shrine, Mettuguda
63.	Fr. Madanu Joseph (Sr.)	03.06.1972	06.03.2000	Principal, St. Mark's High School, Tandur
64.	Fr. Kommareddy Lourdu Marreddy	18.05.1973	02.04.2001	Rector, St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur
65.	Fr. Govindu Arogyaswamy	25.06.1974	26.03.2001	Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry.
66.	Fr. Dasari Gova Showraiah	15.05.1975	30.04.2001	Ministry Abroad- USA
67.	Fr. Bandanadam Dennis Bhaskar	31.08.1974	01.05.2002	Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Cherlapally
68.	Fr. Bandanadam Anand	18.07.1975	27.04.2002	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Seethaphalmandi.
69.	Fr. Dodda Sunder Reddy	01.01.1975	29.04.2002	Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Moula Ali
70.	Fr. Tharigopala Victor Emmanuel	02.07.1975	06.05.2002	Chancellor and Procurator
71.	Fr. Pasala Anthony	18.09.1973	27.04.2002	Ministry Abroad - Germany
72.	Fr. Madanu Joseph (Jr)	25.05.1976	14.03.2003	Parish Priest, St. Ann's Church, Nizamabad
73.	Fr. Chinnabathini Charles	13.07.1972	19.03.2003	Medical Leave - Kerala
74.	Fr. Samala Marianna Michael	08.02.1975	20.03.2005	Parish Priest, St. Ignatius Church, Gagillapur
75.	Fr. Madanu Lourdu Vijay Kumar	14.03.1977	11.03.2005	Parish Priest, St. Sebastian Church, Sainikpuri.
76.	Fr. Kurapati Jaya Prathap	03.04.1979	26.04.2006	Principal, Ave Maria School, Ramanthapur
77.	Fr Chinnabathini Benjamin	10.08.1971	06.04.2006	Parish Priest, St. Jude Shrine, Vikarabad

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
78.	Fr Pasala Sleeva Raju	10.04.1977	23.05.2006	Ministry Abroad- USA
79.	Fr Thumma Udaya Bhaskar	30.10.1978	30.04.2007	Head Master, St. Philomena's High School, Bhoiguda
80.	Fr Bandaru Baltharaj	12.07.1978	12.04.2007	Head Master, Mount Carmel High School, Bowenpally
81.	Fr Pasala Innaiah	12.05.1980	12.04.2007	Head Master, St. Mary's High School, Secunderabad
82.	Fr Pasala Joseph (Sr.)	08.10.1974	12.04.2007	Principal, St. Joseph's Junior College, Trimulgherry
83.	Fr Yeruva Showreddy	20.04.1979	12.04.2007	Parish Priest, St. Anthony's Church, Bazar Ghat
84.	Fr Madanu Balashowry	26.12.1978	12.04.2007	Ministry Abroad- USA
85.	Fr Mekala Sleeva Raju	10.04.1977	12.04.2007	Ministry Abroad- USA
86.	Fr Madanu Ignatius Maria Shekar	16.11.1981	30.04.2008	Parish Priest, St. Michael's Church, Golconda
87.	Fr Pasala Maria Raju	27.04.1980	30.04.2008	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Dharmaram & Principal of St. Joseph's High School Dharmaram.
88.	Fr Udagandla Julian	13.06.1981	30.04.2008	Parish Priest, Auxilium Church, Mahendra Hills
89.	Fr Madanu Isaac	31.05.1977	30.04.2008	Ministry Abroad- USA
90.	Fr. Vemparala Vijaya Shekar	01.01.1979	30.04.2008	Ministry Abroad- USA
91.	Fr Chinnabathini Jojappa	26.01.1980	17.04.2009	Parish Priest, St. Stanislaus Church, Gaddianaram
92.	Fr. Daniel Selvaraj	31.12.1972	17.04.2009	Parish Priest, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Lillipur
93.	Fr Gollapudi Praveen Kumar	06.11.1981	17.04.2009	Head Master, Sacred Heart High School, Lallaguda
94.	Fr Mayaluri Jeevan Kumar	02.08.1982	17.04.2009	Ministry Abroad- Germany
95.	Fr. Reddimasu Anand Rao	02.01.1981	17.04.2009	Ministry Abroad- Austria
96.	Fr. Richard John	18.08.1982	17.04.2009	Ministry Abroad- USA
97.	Fr. Thumma Fatima Reddy	23.06.1979	17.04.2009	Ministry Abroad- USA
98.	Fr. Yeruva Amal Francis	06.10.1980	15.04.2010	Principal, Infant Jesus Int. School, Shamshabad
99.	Fr. Madanu John	10.06.1985	15.04.2010	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Jagadgirigutta
100.	Fr. Golamari Arogya Reddy	15.07.1982	29.12.2010	Head Master, St. Mark's School, Tandur

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
101.	Fr. Golamari Vinay Kumar	01.03.1984	15.04.2010	Head Master, Valerian Grammar High School, Yaprall
102.	Fr. Madanu Anthony (Sr)	18.07.1982	15.04.2010	Jyothirmal Director, Sikh Village
103.	Fr. Bandanadam Prashanth	16.03.1983	15.04.2010	Ministry Abroad- USA
104.	Fr. Yelugu Jude Raj	03.02.1983	15.04.2010	Medical Leave- Bangalore
105.	Fr. Bandanadam Prem Kumar	10.11.1984	11.05.2011	Head Master, St. Alphonsus School, Banjara Hills
106.	Fr. Chinta Mohan Michael D'souza	02.11.1984	11.05.2011	Head Master, St. Joseph's High School, Trimulgherry
107.	Fr. Thonta Prabhudas	15.08.1984	11.05.2011	Parish Priest, Infant Jesus Shrine Church, Gajwel & H.M. Infant Jesus School, Gajwel
108.	Fr. Madanu Arogya Swamy	16.09.1985	11.05.2011	Parish Priest, St. Vincent's Church, Nedunoor.
109.	Fr. Polisetty Anthony Vinay Kumar	20.11.1984	11.05.2011	Director, St. Mary's College of Management and Principal of St Mary's Degree College, Sec-bad
110.	Fr. Pamisetty Praveen Kumar	09.03.1982	11.05.2011	Ministry Abroad -USA
111.	Fr. Chinnabathini John Paul	17.06.1986	11.04.2012	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Velankanni Church, Shamshabad
112.	Fr. Madanu Anthony (Jr)	16.12.1982	11.04.2012	HASSSExecutive Director, Secunderabad
113.	Fr. Gali Mathyas Reddy	13.06.1984	11.04.2012	Parish Priest, St. Bernard's Church, Ammuguda
114.	Fr. Yeruva Marreddy	16.05.1987	11.04.2012	Priest In-charge, Maria Rosa Mystica Church, L.B. Nagar.
115.	Fr. Madanu Amal Raj	17.10.1983	11.04.2012	Ministry Abroad – USA
116.	Fr. Pasala Jose Paul	18.09.1985	11.04.2012	Ministry Abroad – USA
117.	Fr. Pallela Sunil Kumar Reddy	07.09.1985	08.04.2013	Ministry Abroad – USA
118.	Fr. Vinodkumar Vaddemala	28.01.1986	03.05.2014	Parish Priest, Maria Rani Church-Neela Camp Parish
119.	Fr. Pidikirala Prabhudas	07.06.1982	03.05.2014	Director, Pastoral Centre, Gunfoundry
120.	Fr. Pasala Joseph (Jr)	31.05.1984	03.05.2014	Ministry Abroad - USA
121.	Fr. Manikya Hrudayam Wilson Davies	23.03.1989	13.01.2018	Parish Priest, Vailankanni Matha Church, &Head Master of Fatima Mata School, Balaji Nagar

Sl. No	Names	Date of Birth	Date of Ordination	Present Status
122.	Fr. Yeruva Sudheer	09.06.1990	23.04.2019	Head Master, Infant Jesus School, Jagadgirigutta
123.	Fr. Jerome Emmanuel Lewis	28.09.1991	23.04.2019	Youth Director, Gunfoundry
124.	Fr. Madanu Ajith Kumar	18.01.1992	02.06.2020	Parish Priest, St. Peter's Church, Bodhan Parish
125.	Fr. Susai Vincent Raj	04.10.1993	04.08.2021	Parish Priest, Jeevan Datha Church, Umenthal
126.	Fr. Jogu Naveen	06.08.1993	04.08.2021	Parish Priest, St. Paul the Hermit Church, Nandrakal
127.	Fr. Ambati Pranith Reddy	14.05.1990	04.08.2021	Parish Priest, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Bandlines parish, Vice-Principal & Accounts Administrator of St. Joseph's P.G & Degree College, Academic In-charge at St. Joseph's Ext. Campus
128.	Fr. Seelam Prince Xavier	23.07.1993	04.08.2021	Canon Law Studies- Bengaluru
129.	Fr. Thathireddy Anil Kumar	18.10.1993	23.05.2022	Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Alirajpet Parish
130.	Fr. Gunda Balakiran	01.05.1995	17.05.2022	Parish Priest, St. Mathias Church, Jojipet Parish
131.	Fr. Romald Joseph	05.07.1994	17.04.2023	Parish Priest, Holy Spirit Church, Chinthalacheruvu.
132.	Fr. Polisetty Bala Swamy	25.12.1990	17.04.2023	Parish Priest, St John the Britto Church, Bayyaram
133.	Fr. Vijay Kumar	30.06.1993	17.04.2023	Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Jadi Jamalpur
134.	Fr. Thathireddy Pranay Kumar	04.05.1992	20.04.2024	Assistant Parish Priest, St. Anthony's Shrine Mettuguda
135.	Fr. Christopher Joseph Michael	27.03.1997	13.04.2024	Cardinal's Secretary
136.	Fr. Pentareddy Manohar Akhil	26.06.1997	24.04.2025	Assistant Parish Priest, Our Lady of Lourdes Church & Assistant at St. Joseph's High School Dharmaram

With Regards and Prayers

**✠ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad**

VI.Certificate Course in Basic Counselling Skills (BCS) – Part I

“Be the instrument of God in healing others”

The Family Apostolate, Archdiocese of Hyderabad is conducting Training in Basic Counselling skills (Part I). This course is open for Individuals, Couples, Religious, Priests, and Seminarians interested in General & Family Counselling

Course Details : This course will equip you with listening skills to counsel individuals and families. Part of the training includes psychotherapies to help those who are in emotional distress, facing traumatic situations, having behavioural challenges, lacking self-awareness and possessing skewed perceptions with erroneous thinking.

Participants will also acquire skills in:

- Basic Counselling skills
- Approaches to Counselling
- Psycho-therapies
- That will help instil self-awareness, self-confidence, self-esteem and self-growth.
- A chance to be healed and spread the healing across your society.

At the end of the course certificates will be provided by Peyton Institute for Families in Bangalore. Classes will begin on Saturday 27th September 2025 and will continue for 12 Saturdays. Timings are from 9:00 a.m. to 4: p.m.

Venue: Jeevan Jyothi, Begumpet, Secunderabad

Timings: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tea will be provided. Lunch to be brought

Limited registrations – 30 numbers only

Registration fee: Rs.500/- (Last date for registrations is 20th September 2025)

Course Fee: Rs. 5,000/- per participant – to be paid before or during the course (For those who find it difficult to pay the whole amount a small scholarship can be arranged). **Parish Priests are requested to announce in their respective parishes.**

**- Fr. David Francis (Family Apostolate, Hyderabad) &
Fr. Shiju CSC Director, Peyton Institute, Bangalore)**



ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, H.No. 9-1-17/1, 11, SARDAR PATEL ROAD,
SECUNDERABAD - 500 003, Telangana, INDIA

Mobile : +91 72079 40882, +91 72079 40883

E-mail: archdiohyd@gmail.com Website: www.archdioceseofhyderabad.org

Chancery Notice

25th August, 2025

To the Clergy, Religious and Faithful of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad.

Dear Rev. Fathers, Rev. Sisters and Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from the Archdiocese of Hyderabad.

It has come to the notice of the Archdiocese that certain individuals/groups have been visiting Catholic families and institutions, claiming that they have been appointed or authorized by the Archdiocese of Hyderabad to deal with matters such as marriage problems, school and college admissions, concessions, and even day-to-day issues in the parishes and institutions.

We wish to state very clearly that no such appointments or authorizations have been given by the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. Even if, under certain circumstances in the past, such permissions might have been extended, **they stand herewith revoked with immediate effect.**

For the sake of order and authenticity, all matters requiring assistance, depending on the issue, be referred to the **respective Parish Priest, the Dean of the Deanery, HAES office bearers, or the Religious in charge.** They will **either look into the matter directly, or, if needed, bring it to the notice of the Archdiocese.**

Furthermore, whenever necessary in matters where the assistance or involvement of individuals is genuinely required, **the Archdiocese, or the Priest/Head of the Institution concerned, will directly contact and officially authorize them. In such situations, the Archdiocese or the Priest/Head of the Institution will inform all concerned regarding the authorization.**

We strongly urge all the Priests, Heads of Institutions and the Faithful, not to entertain any persons claiming to be representatives of the Archdiocese. This measure is taken to ensure transparency, accountability, and the proper pastoral care of our people.

We place our trust in your cooperation and pastoral prudence in handling such concerns with clarity and unity.

With prayerful regards,

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Victor Emmanuel T

Chancellor & Procurator of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad.



The Archdiocese of Hyderabad is a registered society under the Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Public Societies Registration Act, 1350 Fasli (Act. of 1350 F.) Regd. No. 196/73

IX. 2ND SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2025

Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount	Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount
1		Aliabad		52		Mahendra Hills	
2		Alirajpet		53	23-07-2025	Madinaguda	2500
3	21-07-2025	Ammuguda	2500	54	23-07-2025	Mallapur	928
4	23-07-2025	Arogya Nagar (Mission)	150	55		Manikonda Mission	
5		Arul Colony		56	11-08-2025	Mariapuram (Adibatla)	1000
6		Balaji Nagar		57		Medchal	
7	17-07-2025	Balaiah Nagar (Old Alwal)	11440	58	14-07-2025	Medipally	2300
8		Band Lines		59		Mettuguda	
9	30-07-2025	Bandlaguda Jagir (Kismatpur)	53200	60	22-08-2025	Miyapur	3000
10	26-07-2025	Banjara Hills	10500	61	12-08-2025	Moul-Ali	4700
11		Basuregadi		62		Mudfort	
12		Bayyaram		63		Muthangi	
13		Bazar Ghat		64		Nacharam	
14	23-07-2025	BHEL - MIG	3220	65		Nandrakal	
15	16-07-2025	Begumpet	7040	66		Narayankhed	
17		Bodhan		67		Nedunoor	
18		Boduppall		68	23-08-2025	Neela Camp	300
19	17-07-2025	Bhoiguda	10000	69		Nizamabad	
20	21-07-2025	Bolarum	15110	70		Pargi	
21		Borabanda		71		Patancheru	
22	12-08-2025	Bowenpally	10500	72	25-07-2025	Ramachandrapuram	8500
23		Cherlapally		73		Ramanthapur	
24		Chintalacheruvu		74	25-07-2025	Ramnagar	20000
25	07-08-2025	Church Colony	2500	75		Sadasivpet	
26	18-07-2025	Dammaiguda	13400	76		Sainikpuri	
27	22-07-2025	Dharmaram	1500	77	21-07-2025	Sanathnagar	19500
28		Dayanandnagar		78		Sangareddy	
29		Emjala		79	17-07-2025	Santhoshnagar	2000
30		Gaddiannaram		80		Sappers Lines	
31	20-08-2025	Gagillapuram	2500	81	24-07-2025	Secunderabad	48783
32		Gajwel		82		Shabad	
33	18-08-2025	Gandhinagar	3000	83		Shamshabad	
34		Garrison (Trimulgherry)		84	15-07-2025	Shanthinagar	2689
35	23-07-2025	Ghatkesar	800	85		Shapuram	
36		Golconda		86		Siddipet	
37	06-08-2025	Gothumakunda	800	87		Seethaphalmandi	
38	01-08-2025	Gunfoundry	16400	88	15-07-2025	Sultan Bazar	5000
39		Jadi Jamalpur		89	23-07-2025	Suraram	3000
40	14-07-2025	Jagadgirigutta	3500	90		Tandur	
41		Jahanuma		91		Toopran	
42		Jogipet		92	23-07-2025	Trimulgherry	32500
43		Joipet		93		Uminthal	
44		Kalwakole		94		Vanasthalipuram	
45		Kamareddy		95		Venkatapuram	
46	21-07-2025	Khairatabad	25000	96		Vikarabad	
47		Kissan Nagar (Armoor)		97	14-07-2025	Yapral	5000
48		Kukatpally		98	21-07-2025	Yeddumylaram	800
49		Lallaguda		99		Yellareddy	
50		L. B. Nagar		100		Zaheerabad	
51		Lillipur				Total	274550

Pastoral News

1. ANNUAL FEAST CELEBRATIONS OF ST JOHN MARIA VIANNEY CHURCH, BHOIGUDA, SECUNDERABAD

St John Maria Vianney Church, Bhoiguda celebrated its Church Feast on 10th August, 2025. The



celebrations were marked by Nine Days of Spiritual Preparation, Vibrant Participation, Spiritual Competitions and Community Bonding, culminating in a grand Feast Day on the theme of peace.

The highlights of the Novena and the Church Feast were the Recollection and Vianney Day, Deliverance and Healing Service, Feast Day and Fiesta.

Monthly Recollection and Vianney Day on 4th August organized for the clergy under Secunderabad denary by Fr Madanu Prathap, the Parish Priest and animated by Rev Fr Joji Babu, Professor at St John's Regional Seminary, followed by the Solemn Eucharistic Mass and Eucharistic Veneration. On the 8th Day of Novena, the faithful of the parish experienced the healing and the comforting hand of God in the Deliverance and Healing Service, animated by Rev Fr Jerome Lewis and Team.

His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony graciously presided over the Solemn Pontifical Holy Mass on the Joyful occasion of the Parish Feast of St John Maria



Vianney Church. Eminence' spirit filled message and presence added a great reverence and significance to the celebration. It was enriched by the Angelic Singing and instrumental accompaniment of Vianney Youth elevating heavenly atmosphere and leaving a lasting impression on the faithful.

Vianney Fiesta was organized by the Vianney Youth with fun games and engaging activities for all age groups fostering spirit among the faithful. Besides, it provided the exposure to one another and fulfillment in spending the time for the Lord. The celebrations concluded with the Lowering of the Flag on Monday, 11th August after the Holy Mass, marking the end of a grace-filled and memorable feast.

- Fr Madanu Prathap (Parish Priest)

2. ANNUAL FEAST OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SECUNDERABAD

Annual Feast of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was joyfully celebrated on 15th August 2025 at St. Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad, in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad.

The Pontifical High Mass in English was solemnly celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad.

In preparation for the feast, a 9-day Novena was held from 6th to 14th August, with daily Mass at 6:00 p.m., reflecting on different titles of our Blessed Mother with the themes Liturgy being organized by the area of zonal leaders of the parish community. Novena days mass was Celebrated by various priests. A special Parish Mission was preached by Rev. Fr. Sijo SVD, a team member from Muthangi, on 8th, 9th, and 10th of August, which spiritually enriched the faithful.

On the feast day, a grand Marian Car Procession took place at 6:15 p.m., with a large number of faithful participating devoutly. Under the able guidance of Rev. Fr. Marneni Arogyam, Parish Priest and Assistant parish priests of St. Mary's Basilica and with the wholehearted involvement of the Parish Council, Religious from various congregations, Youth members and Marian devotees from far and near, the celebration was a resounding success.

The procession concluded with a Eucharistic Benediction, followed by a fellowship meal shared joyfully among the faithful. By the maternal intercession of Our Lady, the celebrations were blessed with favorable weather, without any disturbance of rain.

- Fr. Marneni Arogyam (Rector and Parish Priest); Fr. Robinson MMI & Fr. Vinod SCJ (Asst. Parish priests)

3. FESTIVE MASS AT NIRMAL HRIDAY BHAVAN, MOTHER TERESA'S HOME FOR THE SICK & DYING DESTITUTES, NEW BHOIGUDA.



4. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION AT ST. MOTHER TERESA PARISH IN MANIKONDA

A Day of Faith and Fellowship at St. Mother Teresa Parish, Manikonda.

It was a day of profound spiritual significance for 28 young members of St. Mother Teresa Parish in Manikonda, as they received their First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The solemn Mass was celebrated by His Eminence Most Rev. Cardinal Anthony Poola, with Vicar General, Msgr. Yeruva Balashowry and Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Allam Arogya Reddy concelebrating, alongside former parish priest Rev. Fr. Thumma Arla. The beautiful ceremony took place at the Scholars Academy,



marking a milestone in the children's faith journey.

Following the Mass, His Eminence honoured T. Sridhar Reddy, Chairman and Managing Director Scholars Academy School and Shilpa Thanam, Director, Scholars Academy for their generous support, which has been instrumental in providing a place for worship.



The ceremony also brought exciting news for the community, as the church construction committee announced that work on the new building is set to begin soon, sharing a brief presentation with His Eminence and parishioners. The well-attended and meticulously organized event was a testament to the parish's vibrant spirit and strong community bonds.

5. INAUGURAL OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR (2025-2026) OF THE MIRACULOUS SHRINE OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA, METTUGUDA

On Sunday, August 24, 2025, the Inaugural day of the Golden Jubilee Year (2025-2026) of the Shrine of St Anthony of Padua at Mettuguda, His Eminence, Cardinal Poola Anthony unveiled/blessed 4 things specific to the Jubilee.

Firstly, a 40x12 feet Wallscape was designed and incorporated with four elements, namely, (1) The Jubilee Logo, (2) The Image of the miraculous Statue of St Anthony of Padua, (3) The Timeline of the Shrine since 1925 to 2025 and (4) the names of the former Parish Priests of Mettuguda. The Wallscape is installed on the façade of the Shrine, right behind the Flag Pole.

Secondly, the Golden Jubilee Logo. The Jubilee Logo has four elements, namely, (1) the



Cross, which occupies the central position, (2) the numerals 50, (3) a silhouette of the miraculous Statue of St Anthony, and (4) the Bible/Breviary.

The curves and angles in the Logo are noteworthy, and significant. In the Litany of St Anthony, the saint is addressed as “Terror of demons”. In many picturizations, the “devil” is presented as having a pointed tail. The number “5” is curved in such a manner as to symbolize the pointed tail of the devil. It wants to rise up, but is suppressed by the power of the Cross. The horizontal bar of the cross, therefore, on the one hand suppresses sin & death, and on the other hand points the way heavenward, to His kingdom.

On this our heavenward journey, we have the example and the assistance of St Anthony who embraced the child Jesus and kept Him always close to him. As pilgrims of hope, who are in this heavenward journey, through the Scriptures and the Sacramental life of the Church (symbolized by the Bible/Breviary in the hands of the Saint) we are able to obtain the fulfilment of the promises of God. The Shrine, as a place worship, offers hope and trust, where intercession is offered for the sick, the suffering and the lost

Thirdly, a Golden Jubilee Prayer was composed specially for the occasion. It was printed and distributed in the form of a Prayer Card, so that parishioners and devotees can pray it during the year. At the Shrine, this prayer will be recited after every Mass.

Fourthly, a Shrine Information Brochure was compiled and presented in the form of a Timeline, so that basic information about the Shrine would be handy, for anyone who is interested in knowing a bit about the Shrine and its development over the years. After a meaningful and soul-stirring Liturgy, all the parishioners and devotees joined for a fellowship meal. About 2500 people savoured the delicious lunch. We believe the miraculous intercession of St Anthony of Padua, will always accompany all who approach him with a sincere heart, especially during this Golden Jubilee Year.

*- The Jubilee Celebration Committee,
St Anthony's Shrine, Mettuguda*

Archdiocesan News

1. GAGILLAPUR DEANERY YOUTH NIGHT VIGIL AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA KARUNAGIRI SHRINE, SURARAM.

The Youth Commission of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, together with the Church Gagillapur Deanery, organized a Night Vigil on the theme “Awaken in Spirit and Hope” at Our Lady of Fatima Karunagiri Shrine, Suraram, from 10:00 PM on 14th August to 6:00 AM on 15th August 2025. The vigil was animated by Very Rev. Fr. Samala Mariana Michael (Dean & Parish Priest of Gagillapur), Rev. Fr. Jerome Emmanuel Lewis (Youth Director, Archdiocese of Hyderabad), along with parish priests of the deanery.



The vigil began with the solemn recitation of Asia’s longest Holy Rosary, invoking the intercession of Mother Mary and uniting the youth in prayer. Rev. Fr. Samala Mariana Michael then led a heartfelt invocation to the Holy Spirit, reminding the participants that the vigil was a sacred encounter with Christ.

A praise and worship session led by Mrs. Bernadine Juliana Rebert and team lifted hearts in joy and prepared the youth to receive the Word of God.



Fr. Jerome Emmanuel Lewis delivered a powerful talk on three essential pillars of Christian life: The Word of God as a guiding lamp, The Eucharist as the source and summit of life, Love in the Community as the true witness of discipleship. He urged the youth to rise as active witnesses of Christ, carrying His light into families, parishes, and society.

Rev. Fr. Vidyasagar, Assistant Parish Priest, reflected on the theme of hope, encouraging the youth to anchor their lives in the resurrection and eternal life.

During the night, the Sacrament of Confession was made available, offering many a chance for reconciliation and renewal. This was followed by the Divine Mercy Prayer and a profound Eucharistic Adoration led by Fr. Jerome, where silence, healing, and deep encounters with Christ marked the experience for many.



The vigil reached its high point with the Holy Mass, celebrated by Rev. Fr. Joji Reddy, Parish Priest of Karunagiri Shrine, together with Fr. Jerome and Fr. Vidyasagar. The Mass united the faithful in thanksgiving and renewed the youth's commitment to live as authentic disciples.

The program concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. Harry Joshua, Deanery Youth President, followed by the hoisting of the Indian National Flag in honor of Independence Day — a reminder to the youth to be faithful Christians and responsible citizens.

The vigil was truly a night of grace and renewal, filled with prayer, reflection, sacraments, and joyful fellowship. It strengthened the faith of the youth, deepened unity in the community, and inspired all to live as witnesses of Christ.

Special thanks were expressed to Rev. Fr. Joji Reddy, Rev. Fr. Vidyasagar, priests, organizers, volunteers, and youth leaders whose dedication made the event spiritually enriching. Reported by *Mr. Revanth ChGeneral Secretary, Gagillapur Church Deanery*
- Fr Michael Samala (Dean of Gagillapuram)

2. GRAY & GRACEFUL – SENIORS GROUP AT BOWENPALLY PARISH

A seniors' get-together was organised at Mount Carmel Church, New Bowenpally with the support of Gray & Graceful Team from the Archdiocese of Hyderabad on Thursday 21st of August 2025 which incidentally was International Seniors' Day

This Program is a gathering designed to foster social interaction and to promote well-being while creating a sense of belongingness and community feel among older Catholic adults. These casual meetups at Parish Church or even in someone's home, focusing on conversation, shared snacks and recreational activities like short skits, singsongs, playing a games like bingo or passing of the parcel etc... In order to

Reduced feelings of Social Isolation and Loneliness among seniors which can negatively impact physical, mental and spiritual health.

Gray & Graceful is an opportunity to invite seniors to be part of a community and take part in activities that can boost self-esteem and provide a sense of purpose to them. Gray and Graceful, as the seniors are called, ensures that all seniors feel welcome and included, regardless of their physical or cognitive abilities and offers opportunities for seniors to connect and celebrate togetherness.



Fr. David Francis the Family Apostolate Director and the team from Gray & Graceful inaugurated the Mount Carmel Parish Grey & Graceful Community

On every 3rd Thursday of the Month Seniors of Mount Carmel Church, New Bowenpally will meet up from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Parish Church.

- Fr. Vincent Arokiadas (Parish Priest, Mount Carmel Church)

3. NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY 2025

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad came alive on 24th August 2025 as around 600 young people gathered at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Ramnagar to celebrate National Youth Sunday at Archdiocese level with faith, energy, and joy.

The day began with the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Viji Joseph (main celebrant), joined by Fr. Praveen (parish priest), Fr. Jerome (our youth director) and Fr. Sleeva (regional youth director). The youth-led liturgy was marked with a colourful procession with flags of different parishes. After the proclamation of the Gospel, and a moving youth oath of commitment, Fr. Viji, in his homily, inspired the gathering to be authentic witnesses of Christ in today's world.

Later in the day the youth expressed their joy in a flash mob, followed by interactive sessions on witnessing in faith, the Focolare vision, and Christ-centred communication. Later inputs included Artificial Intelligence, Mental Health awareness, and practical ways to live the Gospel in the digital era.

The afternoon featured games, gospel band performances, adoration, and a

creative prayer with thumbprints symbolizing personal commitment. The Revelation band helped the young to adore the Lord where Jessy and Roger John prayed for the young. The celebration concluded with a Eucharistic procession led by Msgr. Yeruva Balashowry, filling the atmosphere with reverence and youthful devotion. The event was a true blend of faith, fellowship, and formation, empowering the youth to be joyful witnesses in Church and society.

- Fr. Jerome (Youth Director)

4. ARCHDIOCESE HYDERABAD YOUTH COMMISSION YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS/YOUNG STUDENT MOVEMENT

DTA/DTS Meeting - 26 August 2025

The DTA/DTS meeting was attended by different schools from the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, the schools which participated in this meeting are

1. Fr Rock Memorial High School
2. Rosary Convent High School
3. St Ann's High School Bolarum
4. St Ann's High School Pet Basheerbagh Kompally
5. St Ann's High School ICSE Secunderabad
6. St Ann's High School Tarnaka
7. St Francis Girls' High School
8. Sacred Heart High School

The meeting began with a prayer song by St Ann's High School Bolarum unit and an interreligious prayer by Sacred Heart High School unit. Mr. Joseph, DTA President, welcomed Fr. Jerome, Diocesan Chaplain, along with the National Nexco Master Ronald Chris and Master Shawn Morris, DTS President. The Chaplain Fr. Jerome was felicitated with a shawl by Mrs. Mercy Binny and Mrs. Louisa, and with words of welcome by Mr. Joseph.



Later, the students were divided into different cells and were asked to discuss what YCS -YSM is and prepare action songs. Students actively participated. Mr. Joseph had a session on what is YCS -YSM and the role of its members in this movement. Chaplain Fr. Jerome gave a brief talk on leadership.

After which the members dispersed for lunch at 1 PM and gathered at 2 PM. Mrs. Mercy Binny and Mrs. Cheryl instructed the different units about the rules and regulations of the elections. The election process started with a prayer song by St. Ann's High School, ICSE Secunderabad, followed by a prayer by Chaplain Fr. Jerome.



The following members were elected as members of DTS:

- Master Anish Tirky (President), Sacred Heart High School
- Master Prince (Vice-President, Boy), Fr. Rock Memorial High School
- Miss Ashmita (Vice-President, Girl), Saint Ann's High School Pet Bashreerbag Kompally
- Miss Rachel Marian (Secretary), St. Ann's High School Bolaram
- Miss Priscilla (Treasurer), St. Francis High School
- Miss Nivedita (Spokesperson), St. Ann's High School ICSE Secunderabad

The members took the oath as the DTS team.

The following animators were elected as DTA:

- Mr. Joseph (President), Sacred Heart High School
- Mrs. Mercy Binny (Vice-President), St. Ann's High School Bolaram
- Mrs. Cheryl (Secretary), St. Francis Girls' High School
- Mrs. Louisa (Assistant Secretary), Fr. Rock Memorial High School
- Mrs. Reshma (Treasurer), St. Ann's High School Pet Bashreerbag Kompally
- Mrs. Rachel (Spokesperson), St. Ann's High School ICSE Secunderabad



Fr. Jerome spoke about the duties and responsibilities of DTA/DTS. The meeting concluded with the YCS -YSM anthem and clap

- Mr. Joseph.

Regional News

1. ANNUAL MEETING OF TELUGU REGION LAWYERS FORUM ON THEME, “COMMUNITY MEDIATION A NEW TREND”

The Annual Meeting of the Telugu Region Lawyers Forum, which brings together Catholic advocates, priests, and religious nuns, was held today at St Mary’s Pharmacy College.

The session focused on the significance of mediation in addressing community disputes. Mr. Mohd. Asif Amjad, a trained mediator from the Telangana High Court, delivered an insightful talk on the importance of mediation and the functioning of Christian Community Mediation Centres. He explained how mediation can help resolve conflicts at the community level and spoke on court-annexed mediation, stressing that mediators are committed to assisting every person who approaches them in finding solutions.



The Chief Guest, Hon’ble Dr. Shyam Sree, Principal Judge of the Family Court, Secunderabad, addressed the gathering on the various possibilities of family mediation. She highlighted the need to encourage counselling and mediation centres at the parish and grassroots level. Dr. Shyam Sree emphasized that disputes—especially marital issues—should ideally be resolved amicably through mediation before reaching the courts. She called upon mediators to render selfless service in the best interest of the community. The mediators can lessen the heavy burden of the courts is what she wished from all the advocates who were the audience.



Bishop Jaya Rao Polimera, Chairman of the TRCLF, reminded the Catholic lawyers of their responsibility to be well-versed in the Indian Constitution so as to effectively serve society, particularly the Christian community. He called upon our legal institutions, and civil society to invest in community mediation not merely as a legal experiment, but as a national mission — to build a more humane, more harmonious India.

Let this trend not fade as a passing policy but grow as a moral culture — rooted in justice, compassion, and collective wisdom.

At the valedictory session, Cardinal Poola Anthony underscored that “mediation is the soul of the community,” stressing that Christians are called to be peacemakers, as written in the Bible. The Community Mediation offers a breath of hope.

This approach, which seeks to resolve disputes outside the formal court system with the help of neutral community mediators, is not only a legal innovation — it is a moral and spiritual opportunity. It reflects the very essence of our Indian heritage and the teachings of all great faiths — that peace begins with dialogue, not with a judgment order or decree.

In Christian teaching, we are reminded, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.” Peacemaking is not passive — it requires courage, listening, empathy, and humility. And it is precisely these virtues that community mediation calls forth from all of us.

He encouraged the establishment and active use of Christian mediation centres to promote reconciliation and harmony. Cardinal also emphasized that we must not, however, see community mediation as a replacement for the judiciary, but rather as a strong companion. The law is still our backbone — but mediation is the heart that pumps compassion and understanding into our system.

As people of faith, we must promote this movement in our churches, mosques, temples, schools, and homes. We must encourage our youth to be trained as mediators, to become ambassadors of dialogue in a world so easily torn apart by anger and misinformation. The meeting concluded with a felicitation ceremony and a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Fr. Raju Alex Advocate and Deputy Secretary of TCBC.

-Fr. Raju Alex TCBC Deputy secretary, Hyderabad

2. CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY MEDIATION CENTRE INAUGURATED IN SECUNDERABAD, AUGUST 20, 2025

A significant step towards promoting peace and reconciliation within the Christian community was taken with the inauguration of the Christian Community Mediation Centre on August 19 at the Amruthavani Communication Centre, adjacent to St. Patrick’s High School, Secunderabad.

The centre was formally inaugurated by Sri Ch. Panchsakhshi, Member Secretary of the Telangana State Legal Services Authority (TSLSA). Addressing the gathering, he highlighted the importance of mediation in reducing unnecessary litigation and providing people with an opportunity to resolve disputes amicably.

The mediation centre has certified mediators authorised by the High Court of Telangana, who will be offering their services voluntarily and free of cost. The initiative is aimed particularly at assisting members of the Christian community in Secunderabad and surrounding areas, enabling them to explore peaceful settlements before legal proceedings become necessary.

Special gratitude was expressed to Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, Chairman of the Amruthavani Communication Centre, and its Director, Fr. Sudhakar, for generously allocating space for the centre free of rent, thereby facilitating this initiative. Advocate Mohd Asif Amjad (MCPC) gave brief instructions on the functioning of the mediation centre.

The programme also recalled the words of Scripture—Matthew 5:25 and Luke 12:58—reminding the faithful of the Christian call to reconciliation and harmony in resolving conflicts.

The establishment of this mediation centre came with the blessing and consent of His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad, who emphasised the need for such centres across the Archdiocese to strengthen peace, unity, and fraternity within the Christian community.

The organisers expressed hope that this centre would become a model of Christian witness, where disputes are settled in the spirit of dialogue, forgiveness, and justice. Fr. Raju Alex, advocate and legal advisor for the Archdiocese, thanked Sri Ch. Panchsaksri, Member Secretary of TSLSA, for his presence and encouraging words for the mediators, and extended gratitude to all gathered for the occasion.

-Fr. Raju Alex TCBC Deputy secretary, Hyderabad



3.TELUGU REGION CATHOLIC LAWYERS FORUM

The Telugu Region Catholic Lawyers Forum convened a meeting on 22nd August 2025 at the hall of St. Mary's Centenary College of Management in Secunderabad to discuss various legal and spiritual matters affecting the Church and society. Around 40 Catholic priests and religious sisters who are also lawyers participated in the event, which was inaugurated by Most Rev. Polimera Jaya Rao, Bishop of Eluru,

who serves as Chairman of the Forum. The gathering featured talks, reflections, and discussions on marriage, mediation, and community responsibility.

The meeting commenced with the inauguration by Most Rev. Polimera Jaya Rao in the presence of Fr. Vinay Polisetty.

The session opened with a prayer led by Fr. Dion, followed by Bishop Jaya Rao Polimera introductory address, which set the tone for the day.



Fr. Mallavarapu Sundar, Judicial Vicar in the Archdiocese of Hyderabad Tribunal, delivered an insightful talk on the Sacrament of Marriage, highlighting the essential elements of Catholic marriage, the importance of annulments, impediments, and the spiritual and legal dimensions of marital life. Mrs. Aruna Bahuguna, IPS (Retd), addressed the theme “Preparedness in Challenging Times”, urging community vigilance and collective responsibility amid current societal challenges.

Sr. Jessy Kurian presented a session on “Court Annexed Mediation”, illustrating how mediation can serve as an effective conflict resolution tool. The meeting concluded with Fr. Raju Alex, Deputy Secretary of the Telugu Catholic Bishops Council, inspiring the legal community to play an active role in the Church’s Synodal mission, urging greater engagement and meaningful participation in ecclesial life.

-Fr. Raju Alex TCBC Deputy secretary, Hyderabad

4. “BLACK DAY”

10 August is considered a “Black Day” in India by many Dalits, Adivasi, and marginalized Christian communities due to a historic and discriminatory presidential order. It will be observed on 9th August here in Hyderabad and on 11th August at Sacred Heart Cathedral, New Delhi. On 10 August 1950, the President of India signed the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, which restricted Scheduled Caste (Dalit) status only to those who profess the Hindu religion. Later, this was slightly modified to include Sikhs (in 1956) and Buddhists (in 1990). However, Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims are still excluded from the constitutional protections and reservations under Article 341.

Why is it Called a “Black Day”?

Because Dalits who converted to Christianity or Islam to escape caste discrimination were:

Denied Scheduled Caste status
Excluded from benefits like reservation in education, employment, and political representation
Still suffering caste-based discrimination, but not recognized by law
This religious discrimination is seen as a violation of the secular nature of the Indian Constitution.



What is the Demand?

To amend the Presidential Order of 1950 and include Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims as Scheduled Castes. Many human rights organizations, churches, and civil society groups have been fighting this for decades. Protests, prayers, rallies, and seminars are held on August 10 every year. Churches and Dalit organizations wear black, hoist black flags, and conduct awareness programs.

Supreme Court & Government Stance

The issue has been pending in the Supreme Court of India for decades.

Several government-commissioned reports (like the Ranganath Misra Commission) recommended extending Scheduled Caste status to Dalit Christians and Muslims — but no action has been taken. On 8th August 2025 we gave press statement along with TCBC deputy secretary Fr. Alex and NCDC (National Council and Dalit Christians) and NCCI (National Council of Churches in India) and NDCW stating that “**Justice delayed is justice denied.**” We demand the Government of India to amend constitutional provisions to recognize Dalit Christians and Muslims as Scheduled Castes. We have emphasized that true secularism and democracy can only be achieved when all Dalits, irrespective of religion, are given equal justice in every aspect of life—social, economic, educational, and political.

- Fr. Thonta Prabhudas (Secretary for SC/BC Commission)

International News

1. CATECHESIS OF THE HOLY FATHER

GENERAL AUDIENCE Saint Peter's Square Wednesday, 30 July 2025

Cycle of Catechesis - Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our hope. II. The life of Jesus. The healings. 12. *The healing of a deaf man with a speech impediment. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."* (Mk 7:37)

Dear brothers and sisters,

With this catechesis, we conclude our journey through the public life of Jesus, marked by encounters, parables, and healings.

This time in which we live also needs healing. Our world is marked by a climate of violence and hatred that demeans human dignity. We live in a society that is becoming ill due to a kind of "bulimia" of social media connections: we are hyperconnected, bombarded by images, sometimes false or distorted. We are overwhelmed by countless messages that stir within us a storm of contradictory emotions.

In this scenario, it is possible that within us arises the desire to turn everything off. We may come to prefer not to feel anything anymore. Even our words risk being misunderstood, and we may be tempted to close ourselves in silence, into a lack of communication where, despite our closeness, we are no longer able to say to one another the most simple and profound things.

In this regard, today I would like to reflect on a passage from the Gospel of Mark that presents us with a man who cannot speak or hear (cf. Mk 7:31–37). Just as it can sometimes happen to us, perhaps this man chose not to speak anymore because he did not feel understood; he chose to shut off every voice because he had been disappointed and wounded by what he had heard. In fact, it is not he who goes to Jesus to be healed, but others bring him. One may think that the people who take him to the Master are concerned about his isolation. The Christian community, however, has also seen in these people an image of the Church, which accompanies each person to Jesus so that they may listen to His word. The episode takes place in pagan territory, so we are in a context where other voices tend to drown out God's voice.

Jesus' behavior may initially seem strange, because He takes this person aside (v. 33a). In this way, He seems to emphasize his isolation, but on closer look, it helps us to understand what lies behind the silence and closure of this man, as if Jesus had perceived his need for intimacy and closeness.

Before anything else, Jesus offers him silent closeness, through gestures that speak of a profound encounter: He touches this man's ears and tongue (cf. v. 33b). Jesus does not use many words; He says only what is necessary in that moment: "Be opened!" (v. 34). Mark uses the word in Aramaic—*Eph'phatha*—as though to let us hear, almost "in person" its sound and breath. This simple and beautiful word contains the invitation that Jesus addresses to this man who had stopped listening and speaking. It is as if Jesus were saying to him: "Be opened to this world that frightens you! Be opened to the relationships that have disappointed you! Be opened to the life you have given up facing!". Closing in on oneself, in fact, is never a solution.

After the encounter with Jesus, that person not only begins to speak again, but he does so "plainly" (v. 35). This adverb, inserted by the Evangelist, seems to suggest something deeper about the reasons for his silence. Perhaps this man had stopped speaking because he felt he was saying things the wrong way, perhaps he felt inadequate. All of us experience what it means to be misunderstood, to feel that we are not truly heard. All of us need to ask the Lord to heal our way of communicating, not only so that we may be more effective, but also so that we may avoid wounding others with our words.

To begin speaking correctly again is the start of a journey, it is not yet the destination. In fact, Jesus forbids that man from talking about what has happened to him (cf. v. 36). To truly know Jesus, one must complete a journey; one must remain with Him and also pass through His Passion. When we have seen Him humiliated and suffering, when we have experienced the saving power of His Cross, then we can say that we have truly come to know Him. There are no shortcuts to becoming disciples of Jesus.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us ask the Lord that we may learn to communicate with honesty and prudence. Let us pray for all those who have been wounded by the words of others. Let us pray for the Church, that she may never fail in her mission to lead people to Jesus, so that they may hear His Word, be healed by it, and in turn become bearers of His message of salvation.

2. GENERAL AUDIENCE, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, WEDNESDAY, 6 AUGUST 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. III. The Passover of Jesus. 1. The preparation of the supper. “Make the preparations for us there” (Mk 14:15)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Let us continue our Jubilee journey in the discovery of the face of Christ, in whom our hope takes shape and consistency. Today we will start to reflect on the mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. Let us begin by meditating on a word that seems simple but holds a precious secret of Christian life: prepare.

In the Gospel of Mark, it is told that “on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, ‘Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?’” (Mk 14:12). It is a practical question, but also filled with anticipation. The disciples perceive that something important is about to happen, but they do not know the details. Jesus’ answer seems almost to be a riddle: “Go into the city and a man will meet you, carrying a jar of water” (v. 13). The details become symbolic: a man carrying a jar, a typically feminine gesture at that time; an upstairs room already prepared; an unknown host. It is as if everything has been arranged in advance. In fact, this is exactly the case. In this episode, the Gospel shows that love is not the result of chance, but of a conscious choice. It is not a simple reaction, but a decision that requires preparation. Jesus does not face his passion out of fatalism, but out of fidelity to a path freely and carefully accepted and followed. This is what comforts us: knowing that the gift of his life stems from conscious intention, not a sudden impulse.

That “upstairs room already prepared” tells us that God always precedes us. Even before we realize we need to be welcomed, the Lord has already prepared a space for us where we can recognize ourselves and feel we are his friends. This place is, fundamentally, our heart: a “room” that may seem empty, but which awaits only to be recognized, filled and cherished. The Passover, which the disciples must prepare, is in reality already present in Jesus’ heart. He has already thought of everything, arranged everything, decided everything. However, he asks his friends to do their part. This teaches us something essential for our spiritual life: grace does not eliminate our freedom, but rather awakens it. God’s gift does not eliminate our responsibility, but makes it fruitful.

Today too, like then, there is a supper to prepare. It is not only a matter of

the liturgy, but of our readiness to enter into a gesture that transcends us. The Eucharist is not celebrated only at the altar, but also in daily life, where it is possible to experience everything as an offering and giving of thanks. To prepare to celebrate this thanksgiving does not mean doing more, but leaving room. It means removing what encumbers us, reducing our demands and ceasing to hold unrealistic expectations. Indeed, too often we confuse preparations with illusions. Illusions distract us; preparations guide us. Illusions seek a result; preparations make an encounter possible. True love, the Gospel reminds us, is given before it is reciprocated. It is an anticipatory gift. It is not based on what is received, but on what one wishes to offer. It is what Jesus lived with his disciples: while they still did not understand, while one of them was about to betray him and another to deny him, he was preparing a communion supper for them all.

Dear brothers and sisters, we too are invited to “prepare the Passover” of the Lord. Not only the liturgical one: that of our life too. Every gesture of willingness, every gratuitous act, every forgiveness given in advance, every effort patiently accepted, is a way to prepare a place where God can dwell. We can ask ourselves, then: what spaces in my life do I need to put in order so that they are ready to receive the Lord? What does it mean for me today to “prepare”? Perhaps to renounce a demand, to stop waiting for others to change, to take the first step. Perhaps to listen more, to act less, or to learn how to trust in what has already been prepared.

If we accept the invitation to prepare the place of communion with God and among ourselves, we will discover we are surrounded by signs, encounters and words that guide us towards that room, spacious and already prepared, in which the mystery of an infinite love, sustaining us and always preceding us, is celebrated unceasingly. May the Lord grant us to be humble preparers of his presence. And, in this daily readiness, may that serene trust also grow in us, allowing us to face everything with a free heart. Because where love has been prepared, life can truly flourish.

3. GENERAL AUDIENCE , WEDNESDAY, 13 AUGUST 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. III. The Passover of Jesus. 2. The betrayal. “Surely it is not I?” (Mk 14,19)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Let us continue our journey in the school of the Gospel, following Jesus’ steps in the final days of his life. Today we will pause at an intimate, dramatic, yet also

profoundly true scene: the moment at which, during the Passover supper, Jesus reveals that one of the Twelve is about to betray him: “Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me” (*Mk 14:18*).

Strong words. Jesus does not utter them to condemn, but to show how love, when it is true, cannot do without the truth. The room on the upper floor, where shortly beforehand everything was carefully prepared, suddenly fills with a painful silence, made up of questions, suspicions, vulnerability. It is a pain we too know well, when the shadow of betrayal is cast over the closest relationships.

And yet, the way in which Jesus speaks about what is about to happen is surprising. He does not raise his voice, nor point his finger, nor utter the name of Judas. He speaks in such a way that each one can ask himself the question. And this is exactly what happens. Saint Mark tells us: “They began to be distressed and to say to him, one by one, ‘Surely it is not I?’” (*Mk 14:19*).

Dear friends, this question – “Surely it is not I?” – is perhaps among the sincerest that we can ask ourselves. It is not the question of the innocent, but of the disciple who discovers himself to be fragile. It is not the cry of the guilty, but the whisper of him who, while wanting to love, is aware of being able to do harm. It is in this awareness that the journey of salvation begins.

Jesus does not denounce in order to humiliate. He tells the truth because he wants to save. And in order to be saved, it is necessary to feel: to feel that one is involved, to feel that one is beloved despite everything, to feel that evil is real but that it does not have the last word. Only those who have known the truth of a deep love can also accept the wound of betrayal.

The disciples’ reaction is not anger, but sadness. They are not indignant, they are sorrowful. It is a pain that arises from the real possibility of being involved. And precisely this sorrow, if welcomed with sincerity, becomes a place for conversion. The Gospel does not teach us to deny evil, but to recognize it as a painful opportunity for rebirth.

Jesus then adds a phrase that troubles us and makes us think. “But woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It would be better for that man if he had never been born” (*Mk 14:21*). They are harsh words, certainly, but they must be understood well: it is not a curse, but rather a cry of pain. In Greek, that “woe” sounds like a lamentation, an “alas”, an exclamation of sincere and deep compassion.

We are used to judging. Instead, God accepts suffering. When he sees evil, he does not avenge it, but grieves. And that “better if he had never been born” is not a condemnation imposed *a priori*, but a truth that any of us can recognize: if we deny the love that has generated us, if by betraying we become unfaithful to ourselves, then we truly lose the meaning of our coming into the world, and we exclude ourselves from salvation.

And yet, precisely there, at the darkest point, the light is not extinguished. On the contrary, it starts to shine. Because if we recognize our limit, if we let ourselves be touched by the pain of Christ, then we can finally be born again. Faith does not spare us from the possibility of sin, but it always offers us a way out of it: that of mercy.

Jesus is not scandalized by our fragility. He knows well that no friendship is immune from the risk of betrayal. But Jesus continues to trust. He continues to sit at the table with his followers. He does not give up breaking bread, even for those who will betray him. This is the silent power of God: he never abandons the table of love, even when he knows he will be left alone.

Dear brothers and sisters, we too can ask ourselves today, with sincerity: “Surely it is not I?”. Not to feel accused, but to open a space for truth in our hearts. Salvation begins here: with the awareness that we may be the ones who break our trust in God, but that we can also be the ones who gather it, protect it and renew it.

Ultimately, this is hope: knowing that even if we fail, God will never fail us. Even if we betray him, he never stops loving us. And if we allow ourselves to be touched by this love – humble, wounded, but always faithful – then we can truly be reborn. And we can begin to live no longer as traitors, but as children who are always loved.

Dates & Events to Remember

- | | |
|---|---|
| 03. St Gregory the Great (M) | 20. Sts. Andrew Kin Tae-Gon, Pt Paul Chnng |
| 05. Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, Vrg (Op.M) | Ha-Sang, & Comp., Mrtr (M) |
| 08. The Nativity of the BVM (F) | 21. St Matthew, Ap & Ev (F) |
| 09. St Peter Claver, Pt (Op.M) | 23. St Pius of Pietrelcina, Pt (M) |
| 12. The Most Holy Name of Mary (Op. M) | 26. Sts. Cosmas & Damian, Mrtrs (Op. M) |
| 13. St John Chrysostom, Bp & Dr (M) | 27. St Vincent De Paul, Pt (M) |
| 14. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (F) | 28. Wenceslaus, St. Lawrence Ruiz & |
| 15. Our Lady of Sorrows (M) | Companions, Mrtrs (Op.M) |
| 16. Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian, Mrts (M) | 29. Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels |
| 17. St Robert Bellarmine, Bp & Dr (Op.M) | (F) |
| 19. St Januarius, Bp & Mrtr (Op. M) | 30. St Jerome, Pt & Dr (M) |



Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

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



Necrology



10. Fr. Thumma Francis
16. Fr. Bandanadam Joseph
18. Most Rev. Domenico Barero, PIME
24. Fr. Akkanti Innareddy
25. Fr. Batherapally Peter

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

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

The Editorial Team, SHEPHERD'S CALL

Archbishop's House, H.No: 9-1-17/1, 11, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad 500 003, T.S.

Tel. 040-27805545, 27805418, Fax: 040-27800709

E-mail: shepherds�all1953@gmail.com Website: www.archdioceseofhyderabad.org

Published from the Archbishop's House and printed at Jeevan Institute of Printing, Sikh Village, Sec'bad 500 009, T.S.

JOB MELA ORGANIZED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD IN COLLABORATION WITH DHISHA



FESTIVE MASS AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA, SECUNDERABAD



INAUGURATION OF GOLDEN JUBILEE OF ST. ANTHONY'S SHRINE, METTUGUDA

