

The

Chanda Samachar

CHANDA DIOCESAN BULLETIN



Thy Kingdom Come (Mt. 6:10)

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SHEPHERD'S VOICE

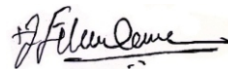
SV.3/2018

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear people,

Thy Kingdom Come

"Worship the Lord in truth and Spirit" (Jn 4:24). These words of Jesus to the Samaritan woman are striking and an invitation to examine our commitment in faith, participation in liturgy, prayer life and acts of mercy or Charity. It is a matter of basic sincerity in worship, words and deeds. Jesus affirms "When you have to say yes, say yes, and no, say no" (Mt 5:37). Our words and deeds should be in correspondence. Jesus reminds us again "our prayer should not be a lips exercise" (Mt 15:8). Genuineness in life, transparency in character, maturity in human relations, sobriety in words, simplicity in life, sincerity in faith experience are but a few indicators of true worship. Please examine our life pattern and please do the needful. *Aaradhana Varsh* is a providential time to develop a true worship not only in matters of faith and spiritual exercises but also in spiritual life and human relations. Let us resolve to avail the opportunity and do better. God bless you.

Your Shepherd in the Lord



†Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda



PASTORAL LETTER

PL 4/2018/May 1

Witness in Evangelization

Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Thy Kingdom Come!

The encyclical *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (Pope Paul VI, 1975) is a mile-stone in the Catholic teachings on evangelization. The mission theology of the encyclical is centered on personal witness of the missionary by words and deeds. Evangelization by preaching has to be necessarily confirmed by personal witness. Simplicity, sacramental life, sincerity, availability, humility, obedience, etc. are but a few characteristic traits of a genuine missionary. Practicing what is preached, fidelity to Church's teachings, the divine word as the *raison d'être* of evangelization, human centered approach in mission work etc. add charm to our missionary endeavors. In this context it is good to read through a few quotes from the Papal encyclical *Evangelii Nuntiandi*:

"Above all the Gospel must be proclaimed by witness. Take a Christian or a handful of Christians who, in the midst of their own community, show their capacity for understanding and acceptance, their sharing of life and destiny with other people, their solidarity with the efforts of all for whatever is noble and good. Let us suppose that, in addition, they radiate in an altogether simple and unaffected way their faith in values that go beyond current values, and their hope in something that is not seen and that one would not dare to imagine. Through this wordless witness these Christians stir up irresistible questions in the hearts of those who see how they live: Why are they like this? Why do they live in this way? What or who is it that inspires them? Why are they in our midst? Such a witness is already a silent proclamation of the Good News and a very powerful and effective one" (EN 21).

"...for the Church, the first means of evangelization is the witness of an authentically Christian life, given over to God in a communion that nothing should destroy and at the same time given to one's neighbor with limitless zeal. .. *Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses...*" (EN41)

"Techniques of evangelization are good, but even the most advanced ones could not replace the gentle action of the Spirit. ... Without Him the most highly developed schemas resting on a sociological or psychological basis are quickly seen to be quite valueless" (EN75).

"Either tacitly or aloud - but always forcefully - we are being asked: Do you really believe what you are proclaiming? Do you live what you believe? Do you really preach what you live?" (EN76).

"And may the world of our time, which is searching, sometimes with anguish, sometimes with hope, be enabled to receive the Good News not from evangelizers who are dejected, discouraged, impatient or anxious, but from ministers of the Gospel whose lives glow with fervor, who have first received the joy of Christ, and who are willing to risk their lives so that the kingdom may be proclaimed and the Church established in the midst of the world." (EN80).

On 15 January 2017, Pope Francis visited the Parish of Santa Maria in Selleville, Rome. While speaking to the faithful, he emphasised the Church's commitment to mission. However he was careful to distinguish between mission and proselytizing. He encouraged the community to witness to its faith in joy, not just to engage in proselytism. He emphasised the value of Christian witness, in talking about the Lord with joy. From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks. Witnessing to Good News are born of the joy of Christian faith. Merely carrying out an obligation grudgingly is not witness.

If a sad witness is no mission, an aggressive effort to convince someone as though all that mattered were one more name in the register, is just proselytizing. The Holy Spirit is the principal agent of mission. If this basic truth is forgotten, there is a danger of replacing witness with a kind of missionary salesmanship. There are some fringe Christian groups that carry out mission mainly on salesman terms. A good missionary may also be a good salesman. But mere salesmanship does not make one a missionary. It could make him a proselytizer.

In this context we have to examine today's mission strategies. We have beautiful examples of pioneering CMI missionaries who dedicated their life and energy for Chanda mission. Some have gone to their eternal rest, the others are still with us, some are still quite active in the mission. One of their strategies which made Chanda experiment a success was their availability to the people - the regular village visit. Somehow we have lost the taste of village visit today. Whatever be the reasons it remains a fact. Wherever it is done the mission is very active and people are happy about it. It is high time that we have to revitalize our village visit. Take our Christian families - youth and children in particular into confidence, keep our fold together with us is the need of the hour. Keeping our fold together, visiting villages regularly, communicating with our people frequently, and celebrating sacraments for our people will keep their Christian faith active and alive. It is the evangelization that we need to engage in today. Preaching is not a side business of our social apostolate, it is vice versa, the latter is to confirm our evangelizing mission. It is high time to regain the strategies of our pioneering missionaries of Chanda. Archbishop Eugene D'souza of Nagpur, after a few years of starting Chanda mission declared: " a barren land is bloomed with missionary enthusiasm". Today we have to work hard not to reverse the Archbishop Eugene's words of appreciation!

We have great task ahead of us. We have more missionary personnel today, monetary resources have increased, living facilities and conveyance are better, yet our mission work compared to that of pioneering missionaries is less in zeal, volume and enthusiasm. We have to gird up to work hard and to do better. Our lord went around in villages and towns doing good and preaching good news (Mt. 9:35) must inspire us and empower us.

With every best wishes,



Your shepherd in the Lord,

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

BISHOP'S HOMILY

Holy Muron Qurbana
(Diocese of Chanda)
27.03.2018

My dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear People,
Holy Muron Qurbana is an important occasion of our communion in Christ Jesus, and renewal of our missionary commitment as Christians, the members of the mystical body of Christ. This celebration of the blessing of Holy Muron has a special significance for all priests working in the diocese as it points to their special relation with the bishop in the ministry of serving the people with salvation of souls as primary duty of priests in pastoral field. The Eastern Code of Canon Law, 281/1 states as follows (I quote): "The pastor is to be a presbyter to whom, as the principal co-operator of the eparchial bishop, is entrusted the care of souls as their proper shepherd in a determined parish under the authority of the same eparchial bishop" (unquote) "Care of souls" is our primary duty and every missionary of Christ should

participate in this ministry by their whole hearted cooperation. Accordingly we are called to nourish our people by proclaiming the word, administering the sacraments and leading them in the right path showing the way to the kingdom of God. Needless to say that visit to villages and individual families is the pre-requisite to accomplish this task. The evangelist Mathew beautifully narrates it in ch. 9:35-36 (I quote) "Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd". It was Jesus' style and our pioneering missionaries in Chanda followed it. We are called to follow the suit. The care of souls is our primary task, divine mission and pivotal to our ministry.

The three important aspects of the "care of souls" are: (i) Formation of Eucharistic communities, (ii) Men and women of prayer in personal and communal level and (iii) Nourish people of God with the divine word. Let me explain them, one by one.

I. Formation of Eucharistic Communities:- It is with this aim in view that we have declared 2018 as the *Aaradhana Varsh*. Holy Eucharist is the sacramental presence of Christ among us. In the Old Testament the Ark of the Covenant reminded the people, of the presence of God amidst them. Exodus chapters 26-27 beautifully narrate the tent of Lord's presence. Today the tabernacle takes the place of Tent of the OT and you and I, are invited by the sacrament of holy baptism, to be the mobile tabernacles carrying the presence of Christ among people. We have to seriously reflect and examine our conscience, how far we are faithful to this mission? Let us avail the opportunity of *Aaradhana Varsh* to adore the Lord and share the fragrance of presence of Christ in us through our works of charity, compassion and love. We must be able

to proclaim as St. Paul did (2 Cor. 2:15) "For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing". Indeed the theme of today's talk very much places us in the context: "Eucharistic Worship as the Lord's invitation to overcome idol worship". Let us break the idols of mammon of our lives. May the *Aaradhana Varsh* facilitate it better, to transform us to be the bearers of Christ, forming Eucharistic communities in our parishes.

II. Men and women of prayer in personal and communal life:- As Christians, priests, religious, and missionaries, we are called to be men and women of prayer. We have to lead people into prayer and lead prayer for the people. Unless there is a habit of personal prayer we cannot effectively lead people in prayer and pray for our people above all. Generally the prayer is understood as communication with God, indeed it is truly life in the presence of God a prayer consciousness. St. Paul exhorts "pray constantly" (1 Thess 5:17). The question Jesus asks Peter: "Simon, are you asleep? Weren't you able to stay awake even for an hour?" (Mk 10:37), should reverberate in our minds and should inspire us to be men and women of prayer. Then Jesus said to them: "Keep watch, and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Mk 14:38). Prayer, supports against wild desires of human flesh and orientate towards divine inspiration. It is God's work, God expects human cooperation. Let us again and again insist on the importance of daily prayer in personal life and in family life as well as in our communities. 2017 as Year of Family Prayer has embarked a spirit and enthusiasm in Family Prayer in our diocese. Let us follow it up sincerely and faithfully.

III. Nourish people of God with the divine word:- The power of the word of God is superbly great. "Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged

sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). The word of God is living, powerful, forgiving, loving, transforming, reconciling, dispelling darkness, knowing everything, turning sorrow into joy, etc. It has never failed. It yields fruit. It never returns ineffectively. As prophet Isaiah reminds us in 55:11 "so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it ". Let us recall the words of St. Augustine: "Holy Bible is the love letter to the human kind". God's love is perfumed and permeated in the Bible which contains God's words. In this context, particularly next year 2019 it is proposed to observe as the 'Year of Bible Reading - Bible Vaachan Varsh ' in our diocese. We have to ask ourselves: what is my attitude towards this word? What is my aptitude for this word? How far and how deep has the word sunk into me, into my life, in my ministry, in my family, in my community, and in my human relations. The word is faithful and it brings to effect what it intends. We have to develop the culture of daily reading of the word, meditating it, praying it and studying it, above all proclaiming it. St. Paul's assertion: "If I do not preach, woe to me" (1 Cor 9:16). "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the word of God" (Rom 10:15). How beautiful are my feet? Let us transform ourselves to be men and women who proclaim the word by mouth and by action. That is our priority. Our pioneering missionaries have done it and we are enjoying the fruit of their labour. Let us follow their footsteps and be evangelizers rather than social workers. Indeed our social apostolate, education and healing ministries are meant to proclaim the word of God. Let us try to be more and more faithful to our mission and avail every opportunity in our ministry to do our mission i.e.

evangelization, proclamation of the word. Let us live the word in life and proclaim it in place in season and out of season (2 Tim 4:2)

So dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear people, the Holy Muron Qurbana in the year 2018 instil in us, inspires us and invigorates us to be men and women who form Eucharistic communities, who witness Christian prayer in personal life and community/ family and the living pillars that radiate divine wisdom by our preaching of the word of God.

God bless every one of you. Amen

CIRCULAR

Cir. 2/April 19/2018

My dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear People,

Rest In Peace. Prayers for the repose of the soul of Archbishop Abraham Viruthakulangara.

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you about the demise of Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham Viruthakulangara, the Archbishop of Nagpur. He was present for both Episcopal Ordinations - Ahmedabad on 14 April and Sagar on 17 April. Later he was in Delhi for Hindi Region Bishops' meeting. The end came at sleep on 18th night. Probably a massive heart attack. Let us continue to pray for the repose of his soul. As our metropolitan archbishop he was kind to me and to our diocese. We gratefully remember his service to the Church in the diocese of Khandwa and archdiocese of Nagpur in the past 42 years. His services to CBCI and WRBC are greatly acknowledged. He was a bishop reaching everywhere, nationally and internationally, helping and dealing down to earth manner. As bishop of Chanda I gratefully acknowledge his guidance, encouragement and support in my Episcopal ministry. I lost a mentor in my ministry as bishop. I acknowledge all he has been to the diocese of Chanda. The Chanda Family offer sincere prayers for the late Archbishop. Solemn Qurbana shall be offered in all our parishes/mission

stations/institutions in one of these days and remind people to pray for the repose of the soul and for the archdiocese of Nagpur (Eparchial Statutes # 79). The funeral is scheduled on Monday 23 April 2018 at 3.30 PM at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Nagpur. I exhort all those who can, please participate in the funeral service and pray for our Archbishop. May his soul Rest In Peace.

Yours devotedly in the Lord



† Ephrem Nariculam

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Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

III. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

May

- 1-11 - Major Seminarians' gathering, BPQ
- 9 - Wedding, Cathedral BPQ
- 10 - Blessing Multipurpose Hall, Babupeth
- 12 - Diaconate, Minor Orders and Vestition, BPQ, To Aluva
- 14 - FHGS Vestition and Profession, Akaparambu
- 15 - Requiem High Holy Qurbana, Sanjopuram
- 16 - Ordination, Cheppukulam
- 17 - Ordination, Vannappuram
- 18 - Kanjirapally
- 19 - Solemn Holy Communion, Manimala
- 20 - Betrothal, Elamkulam
- 21 - Kalamassery
- 23 - Wedding, Kodungalloor
- 24 - Holy Qurbana, Sanjopuram
- 25 - Munnar
- 26 - Wedding, Fort Kochi

- 27 - Confirmation, Puthenpally
Solemn Holy Communion, Kolleckavu
- 28 - Wedding - Chattamkottunada
(Thamarassery)
- 29 - Diocesan Vocation Camp, Malayattoor

June

- 2 - Arriving BPQ
- 28 - Monthly Recollection
- 29 - Prayer Day

July

- 10 - Nasik
- 11-12 - WRBC, Mumbai
- 14 - CMC, Chandrapur
- 27 - Prayer Day

IV. BISHOP'S DIARY

March

- 3 - Bishop met with parishioners at Modha, and Markalmetta and offered Holy Qurbana at Lamboori under Jiwathi parish.
- 4 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Jiwathi.
- 5-8 - Bishop animated Deacons' Pastoral Orientation Programme at BPQ
- 6 - Attended Manos Unidas Project holders' meeting at BPQ
- 8 - Met with all the regents at BPQ
- 9 - Fr. Francis Areekal and team from Neduvanoor parish who are sponsoring Gatta parish met with bishop
- 11 - Offered Holy Qurbana for Marriage Preparation course at pastoral centre, BPQ.
- 12 - Blessing Palliative Care Centre, Shengaon
- SABS Provincial of Kanjirappilly Sr..... Visited bishop
- 13-16 - Bishop chaired PPT meeting

- 18 - Archbishop George Valiyamattam, Archbishop Emeritus of Tellichery visited bishop at BPQ.
- Bishop along with Archbishop Valyamattam gave final blessing at Cathedral for annual retreat of the people.

- 18-21 - Archbishop George Valiyamattam's mission tour in the diocese.

- 19 - Presided over Holy Qurbana at Babupeth in connection with feast of St. Joseph.

- 25 - Presided over Palm Sunday Holy Qurbana at Durgapur parish.

- 27 - Presided over Holy Muron Qurbana at Cathedral BPQ. Bishop chaired Finance Council.

- 28 - Offered Holy Qurbana for the repose of the soul of Bp. Januarius, BPQ

- 29 - Presided over Holy Thursday Service at Cathedral, BPQ.

- 30 - Presided over Good Friday Service at Wani parish and gave blessing at Lakkadakot calvary Good Friday pilgrimage.

April

- 1 - Easter Holy Qurbana at Babupeth parish

- 3-4 - Mission tour with regents to Adilabad diocese. Bishop visited Lakkadakot, Rebbena, Reppaliwada, Mancherial, Chennur, Sironcha, Repenpally and Allapalli stations. Participated in laying foundation stone for 'Ephatha' the new retreat centre of Adilabad diocese in Rebbena.

- 5 - Chaired curia-core team meeting at Shengaon. Miss Emily AMI Responsabile visited bishop at BPQ.

- 7 - Gave message on the occasion of Devotional Musical Orchestra - YESUVA Ministries - performed at churchyard, St. Antony's Church, Wardha. Visited Sumthana, Darsana, SD and DM Provincial Houses in the diocese.

- 8 - Blessed renovated chapel of Laban Tola, Kopreli parish. Bishop visited Aksapur, Ashti, Chamorshi, and Ghot stations.

- 9 - Bishop chaired PPT meetings
- 11 - Bishop spoke to the participants of three days grass root level comic training programme for physically challenged children at pastoral centre arranged by LSSS and Dilasagram - sponsored by CHAI.
- Fr. Mathew Keechara CMF, the Claretian provincial vicar and Fr. George Thelliyankal CMF the Economist, visited bishop.
- 12 - Blessed the renovated parish church of Wasa. Bishop visited Mul, Balapur, and Brahmपुरi stations.
- 14 - Episcopal Ordination, Ahemadabad
- 17 - Episcopal Ordination, Sagar
- 18 - Offered Holy Qurbana at Nirmal Jyothy CMC provincial House, Bina
- 21 - Blessed the newly renovated church at Visapur.
- 22 - Offered Requiem High Holy Qurbana for the repose of the Soul of His Grace Abraham Viruthakulangara, Archbishop of Nagpur, at Cathedral BPQ. Bishop also felicitated Sr. Annies FDSHJ who celebrates her Silver Jubilee of perpetual profession and distributed prizes to the catechism students of cathedral parish.
- 23 - Bishop along with a few priests from the diocese attended the funeral service of Archbishop Abraham Viruthakulangara of Nagpur. Bishop offered prayer at the tomb of Fr. Paily Mandoth OP at Seminary Hills cemetery.
- 26 - Attended Monthly Recollection for the Diocesan Priests at BPQ. Bishop chaired diocesan Presbyterium
- 27 - Offered Holy Qurbana for Talent Club English Coaching students at SVG.
- 28 - Distributed certificates for Talent Club English Coaching students at SVG.
- 29 - Holy Qurbana, Chotta Betia in Jagdalpur diocese. Bishop visited Gadchiroli Complex, Bandhe (Jagdalpur diocese), Jarawandi, Marakbodi stations.

Message of the Holy Father Francis for the 33rd World Youth Day (Palm Sunday, 25 March 2018), 22.02.2018

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God” (Lk 1:30)

Dear young people,

World Youth Day 2018 represents another step in preparation for the international WYD due to take place in Panama in January 2019. This new stage of our pilgrimage falls in the same year that the Ordinary Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will meet on the theme: *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*. This is a happy coincidence. The focus, prayer and reflection of the Church will turn to you young people, with the desire to receive and, above all, to embrace the precious gift that you are to God, to the Church and to the world.

As you already know, we have chosen to be accompanied on this journey by the example and intercession of Mary, the young woman of Nazareth whom God chose as the Mother of his Son. She walks with us towards the Synod and towards the WYD in Panama. If last year we were guided by the words of her canticle of praise “The Almighty has done great things for me” (Lk 1:49) teaching us to remember the past, this year we seek, together with her, to listen to the voice of God who inspires courage and bestows the grace needed to respond to his call: “Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found favour with God” (Lk 1:30). These are the words addressed by God's messenger, the Archangel Gabriel, to Mary, an ordinary girl from a small village in Galilee.

1. *Do not be afraid!*

As is understandable, the sudden appearance of the angel and his mysterious greeting: “Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you” (Lk 1:28), strongly *disturbed* Mary, who was surprised by this first revelation of her identity and her

vocation, as yet unknown to her. Mary, like others in the Sacred Scriptures, trembles before the mystery of God's call, who in a moment places before her the immensity of his own plan and makes her feel all her smallness as a humble creature. The angel, seeing the depths of her heart, says: "Do not be afraid"! God also reads our inmost heart. He knows well the challenges we must confront in life, especially when we are faced with the fundamental choices on which depend who we will be and what we will do in this world. It is the "shudder" that we feel when faced with decisions about our future, our state of life, our vocation. In these moments we are troubled and seized by so many fears.

And you young people, what are your *fears*? What worries you most deeply? An "underlying" fear that many of you have is that of not being loved, well-liked or accepted for who you are. Today, there are many young people who feel the need to be different from who they really are, in an attempt to adapt to an often artificial and unattainable standard. They continuously "photo-shop" their images, hiding behind masks and false identities, almost becoming *fake* selves. Many are obsessed by receiving as many "likes" as possible. Multiple fears and uncertainties emerge from this sense of inadequacy. Others fear that they will not be able to find an emotional security and that they will remain alone. Many, faced with the uncertainty of work, fear not being able to find a satisfactory professional position, or to fulfil their dreams. Today a large number of young people are full of fear, both believers and non-believers. Indeed, those who have accepted the gift of faith and seek their vocation seriously are not exempt from fears. Some think: perhaps God is asking or will ask too much of me; perhaps, by following the road he has marked out for me, I will not be truly happy, or I will not be able to do what he asks of me. Others think: if I follow the path that God shows me, who can guarantee that I will be

able to follow it through? Will I become discouraged? Will I lose my enthusiasm? Will I be able to persevere for the whole of my life?

In moments when doubts and fears flood our hearts, *discernment* becomes necessary. It allows us to bring order to the confusion of our thoughts and feelings, to act in a just and prudent way. In this process, the first step in overcoming fears is to identify them clearly, so as not to find yourself wasting time and energy by being gripped by empty and faceless ghosts. And so, I invite all of you to look within yourselves and to "name" your fears. Ask yourselves: what upsets me, what do I fear most in this specific moment of my life today? What blocks me and prevents me from moving forward? Why do I lack the courage to make the important choices I need to make? Do not be afraid to face your fears honestly, to recognize them for what they are and to come to terms with them. The Bible does not ignore the human experience of fear nor its many causes. Abraham was afraid (cf. *Gen* 12:10ff), Jacob was afraid (cf. *Gen* 31:31; 32:7), and so were Moses (cf. *Ex* 2:14; 17:4), Peter (cf. *Mt* 26:69ff) and the Apostles (cf. *Mk* 4:38-40; *Mt* 26:56). Jesus himself, albeit in an incomparable way, experienced fear and anguish (cf. *Mt* 26:37; *Lk* 22:44).

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" (*Mk* 4:40). In admonishing his disciples Jesus helps us to understand how the obstacle to faith is often not *scepticism* but *fear*. Thus understood, the work of discernment identifies our fears and can then help us to overcome them, opening us to life and helping us to calmly face the challenges that come our way. For us Christians in particular, fear must never have the last word but rather should be an occasion to make an act of faith in God... and in life! This means believing in the fundamental goodness of the existence that God has given us and trusting that he will lead us to a good end, even through

circumstances and vicissitudes which often bewilder us. Yet if we harbour fears, we will become inward-looking and closed off to defend ourselves from everything and everyone, and we will remain paralyzed. We have to act! Never close yourself in! In the Sacred Scriptures the expression “do not be afraid” is repeated 365 times with different variations, as if to tell us that the Lord wants us to be free from fear, every day of the year.

Discernment is indispensable when searching for one's vocation in life. More often than not our vocation is not obvious or evident at first but rather something we come to understand gradually. Discernment, in this case, should not be seen as an individual effort at introspection, with the aim of better understanding our interior make-up so as to strengthen us and acquire some balance. In such instances the person can become stronger, but is still confined to the limited horizon of his or her possibilities and perspectives. Vocation, however, is a *call from above*, and discernment in this context principally means opening ourselves to the Other who calls. Prayerful silence is therefore required in order to hear the voice of God that resounds within our conscience. God knocks at the door of our hearts, as he did with Mary; he longs to establish friendship with us through prayer, to speak with us through the Sacred Scriptures, to offer us mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and to be one with us in the Eucharist.

It is also important to dialogue with and encounter *others*, our brothers and sisters in the faith who have more experience, for they help us to see better and to choose wisely from the various possibilities. When the young Samuel hears the voice of the Lord, he does not recognize it immediately. Three times he runs to Eli, the older priest, who in the end proposes the right response to give to the Lord's call: “If he calls you, you shall say: 'Speak Lord, for your servant hears.'” (1 Sam

3:9). In your doubts know that you can rely on the Church. I know that there are very good priests, consecrated men and woman and lay faithful, many of whom are also young, who can support you like older brothers and sisters in the faith. Enlivened by the Holy Spirit, they will help you to make sense of your doubts and understand the plan of your own vocation. The *other* is not only a spiritual guide, but also the person who helps us open ourselves to the infinite riches of the life that God has given us. It is important to create spaces in our cities and communities to grow, to dream and to look at new horizons! Never lose the enthusiasm of enjoying others' company and friendship, as well as the pleasure of dreaming together, of walking together. Authentic Christians are not afraid to open themselves to others and share with them their own important spaces, making them spaces of fraternity. Dear young people, do not allow the spark of youth to be extinguished in the darkness of a closed room in which the only window to the outside world is a computer and smartphone. Open wide the doors of your life! May your time and space be filled with meaningful relationships, real people, with whom to share your authentic and concrete experiences of daily life.

2. *Mary!*

“I have called you by name” (Is 43:1). The first reason not to fear is the fact that God has called us *by name*. The angel, God's messenger, called Mary by name. To God belongs the power to give names. In the work of creation, he calls into existence every creature by name. There is an identity behind a name, that which is unique in every single thing, in every single person; that intimate essence that only God truly knows. This divine prerogative was shared with man when God invited him to name the animals, the birds and also his own offspring (Gen 2:19-21; 4:1). Many cultures share this profound biblical vision; they recognize in a name the

revelation of the profound mystery of life and the meaning of existence.

When God calls someone by name, he also reveals to the person his vocation, his plan of holiness and fulfilment, through which the person becomes a gift to others and is made unique. And when God wants to expand the horizons of life, he gives a new name to the person he is calling, as he did with Simon, whom he called "Peter". From here comes the custom of taking a new name when entering a religious congregation, to indicate a new identity and mission. Since the divine call is unique and personal, we need the courage to disentangle ourselves from the pressure of being shaped by conforming patterns, so that our life can truly become an authentic and irreplaceable gift to God, to the Church and to all.

Dear young people, to be called by name is therefore a sign of our great dignity in the eyes of God and a sign of his love for us. God calls each one of you by name. All of you are *the "you" of God*, precious in his eyes, worthy of respect and loved (cf. *Is 43:4*). Welcome with joy this dialogue that God offers you, this appeal he makes to you, calling you by name.

3. *You have found favour with God*

The main reason why Mary need not be afraid is that she has found favour with God. The word "grace" speaks of love freely given, not owed. How much we are encouraged to know that we do not have to earn the closeness and help of God, by presenting a "*Curriculum Vitae* of excellence", full of merits and successes! The angel says to Mary that she has *already* found favour with God, not that she will obtain it in the future. And the same formulation of the angel's words helps us understand that divine grace is continuous, not something passing or fleeting; for this reason, it will never fail. Even in the future, the grace of God will always be there to sustain us, especially in moments of trial and darkness.

The continuous presence of divine grace encourages us to embrace our vocation with confidence; our vocation demands a commitment of faithfulness that needs to be renewed each day. Our vocational path is not without its crosses: not only our initial doubts, but also the frequent temptations that crop up along the way. The feeling of inadequacy accompanies Christ's disciple to the end. Yet he or she knows the help of God's grace.

The Angel's words descend upon our human fears, dissolving them with the power of the Good News of which we are heralds: our life is not pure chance or a mere struggle for survival, rather each of us is a cherished story loved by God. That we have "found grace in his eyes" means that the Creator sees a unique beauty in our being and that he has a magnificent plan for our lives. The awareness of this certainty, of course, does not resolve all our problems nor does it take away life's uncertainties. But it does have the power to transform our life deeply. The unknown that tomorrow holds for us is not a dark threat we need to overcome, but a favourable time given to us for living out the uniqueness of our personal vocation, and for sharing it with our brothers and sisters in the Church and in the world.

4. *Courage in the present moment*

From the certainty that God's grace is with us comes the strength to take courage in the present moment: the courage to carry forward what God asks of us here and now, in every area of our lives; courage to embrace the vocation which God reveals to us; courage to live out our faith without hiding or diminishing it.

Yes, when we open ourselves to God's grace, the impossible becomes a reality. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (*Rom 8:31*). God's grace touches the "now" of your lives, "takes hold" of you as you are, with all your fears and limits, but it also reveals his marvellous plans! You young people

need to know that someone truly believes in you: please know that the Pope has confidence in you, that the Church has confidence in you! For your part, have confidence in the Church!

To the young Mary was entrusted an important task, precisely because she was young. You young people have strength as you go through a phase of your lives where energy is not lacking. Make use of this strength and this energy to improve the world, beginning with the realities closest to you. I want important responsibilities to be given to you within the Church; that there may be the courage to make space for you; and that you may be prepared to take on these responsibilities.

I invite you once again to contemplate Mary's love: a caring, dynamic and concrete love. A love full of boldness and focused completely on the gift of self. A Church permeated by these Marian qualities will always be a Church going forth, one that goes beyond her own limits and boundaries to let the grace she has received overflow. If we allow ourselves to be truly touched by Mary's example, we will live out authentically that charity which urges us to love God above all else and above ourselves, to love those with whom we share our daily life. And we will also love those who may seem hardly lovable in themselves. It is a love that is service and dedication, above all towards the weakest and poorest, love that transforms our faces and fills us with joy.

I would like to end with the beautiful words Saint Bernard used in a famous homily on the mystery of the Annunciation, words that express the anticipation of all humanity for Mary's response: "You have heard, O Virgin that you will conceive and bear a son; you have heard that it will not be by man but by the Holy Spirit. The angel awaits an answer... We too, O Lady, are waiting for your word of compassion... In eet... Answer quickly, O Virgin" (*Sermon 4, 8-9; Opera Omnia*).

your brief response we are to be remade in order to be recalled to life... This is what the whole earth waits for, prostrate at your feet... Answer quickly, O Virgin" (*Sermon 4, 8-9; Opera Omnia*).

Dear young people, the Lord, the Church, the world are waiting for your answer to the unique call that each one receives in this life! As World Youth Day in Panama draws closer, I invite you to prepare yourselves for our gathering with the joy and enthusiasm of those who wish to participate in such a great adventure. WYD is for the courageous! Not for young people who are searching only for comfort and who withdraw whenever difficulties arise. Do you accept the challenge?

FRANCIS

V. CURIA MATTERS

Appointments

Regents (2018-2019)

Bishop's Office	- Bro. Naveen Kallaparambil (April 20)
Wasa	- Bro. Abhilash Kurungattu (May 14)
Mul	- Bro. Linto Vallathukaran (May 14)
Warur	- Bro. Vishal Jangam (May 14)
Wani	- Bro. Christo Kavil (June 11)
Ettapally	- Bro. Ajay Devassy (June 11)
Pattaguda	- Claretian Brother (June 21)
SVG	- Bro. Alwyn Vattamkattil
Chandrapur	- Bro. Deepak Tirkey

**Abstracts from the
STATUTES OF THE EPARCHY OF CHANDA
Contribution / Tithe**

488. §1. The Christian faithful are obliged to assist the parish financially, so that the Church has what is necessary especially for divine worship, for works of the apostolate and of charity and for the appropriate support of its ministers.

§2. They are also obliged to promote social justice and, mindful of the precept of the Lord, to help the poor from their own resources (c. 25).

489. Insofar as it is necessary for the good of the eparchy, the Eparchial Bishop has the right, to impose a tax on persons subject to him (c. 1012).

490. §1. As originated from the Old Testament, tithe is the voluntary contribution of one-tenth of one's income to the Church.

§2. The Christian faithful are invited to support the Church and its various activities through tithe or other free contributions.

§3. The following seven general collections are to be done as per the eparchial directions:

- i. Preshithavaram (January)
- ii. Lenten Campaign (March-April)
- iii. Good Friday
- iv. Sabha Dinam (July 3)
- v. Chanda Foundation day (Sunday after 15 August)
- vi. Mission Sunday (October)
- vii. Seminary Fund (During period of Annunciation/Advent)

§4. Parishes (not mission stations) are expected to give tithe of Sunday collection to the poor fund of the Eparchy.

Venerable Fr. Varghese Payyappilly



Pope Francis has approved the advancements of the cause of Fr. Varghese Payyappilly, founder of the Congregation of Sisters of the Destitute. The pope met with the prefect of the Congregation for the cause of Saints Cardinal Angelo Amato, April 14, giving his approval for Fr. Varghese and seven other

Servants of God to be recognised as 'Venerable'. Fr. Varghese Payyappilly, was born in perumannoor, in Kerala on Aug. 1876. He was a priest of the archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamali (ordained a priest on Dec. 21, 1907). While serving at Marth Mariam Syro-Malabar Catholic Forane Church in Arakuzha, he started St. Mary's Higher Secondary School. He managed the school for 14 years, during which time priestly vocations at the school flourished. Fr. Payyappilly was considered a good mediator and was sought after for solutions to problems. He was also held in great esteem by both church and government officials and was noted for his punctuality, discipline, piety and fraternal charity. His concern for the poor led him to establish a congregation called the Sisters of the Destitute in 1927 as a way to continue what he considered Christ's redemptive mission among the poor. Today the congregation includes over 1,500 sisters and is present in Asia, Europe, Africa and the United States. They run schools, hospitals, homes for the sick and needy, rehabilitation centers for mentally and physically disabled children, health centers for AIDS and cancer patients, and libraries. Payyappilly's care of the poor was also made apparent when he turned St. Mary's High School into a

shelter for people who lost their homes and property in a flood in 1924, bringing food to people in a hired boat. The priest died on Oct. 5, 1929 of typhoid. His cause for beatification was opened on Aug. 25, 2009, and he was declared a Servant of God on Sept. 6, 2009. Chanda Family congratulate SD Sisters on this great moment of joy and thank the Sisters for their relentless service in the diocese and wait for still glorious moments in the future!



CONGRATULATIONS & PRAYERFUL WISHES

The new provincial team of Missionary Congregation of the Daughters of St. Thomas (DST) of St. Thomas Province,

Ujjain:

- Provincial Superior - Sr. Deepa DST
- First Councillor - Sr. Jovan DST
- Second Councillor - Sr. Mary John DST
- Third Councillor - Sr. Rosin DST
- Fourth Councillor - Sr. Rosily DST

Samaritan Ministry

Cathedral, Ballarsha announces that the following statues are available free of cost to be used in village missions. Please contact Bishop's office:

1. Resurrection statue (2.5 Feet)
2. St. Thomas statue (3.0 Feet)
3. Holy Family statue (3.5 Feet) 3 pieces, width -2.3 Feet

Parishes/Mission Stations/Institutions are requested to inform Bishop's Office if they have any useful pious articles (Statues, Crucifix, vestments, altar lace, tabernacle, chalice, monstrance etc.) to be donated for the use in village chapels.

PRAYERFUL GREETINGS



Dn. Vivek Puthenpurakal
St. Thomas Church
Cheppukulam
16 May 2018



Dn. Somy Thannikapara
Mar Sleeva Church
Vannapuram
17 May 2018

HEARTY CONGRAULATIONS

Chanda Family congratulates Bro. Shine Antony Manjaly for his selection to Vatican Cricket Team. The team will soon participate in a tournament in England, UK. Bro. Shine is doing the first year Theology at Maria Mater Ecclesia Seminary in Rome for the diocese of Chanda.



POPE'S NEW ENCYCLICAL: A QUICK GLANCE

PEARLS OF APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION *GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE* OF OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS ON

THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD

We are pleased to present to you the Apostolic Exhortation *GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE* of Pope Francis given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, on 19 March, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, in the year 2018, the sixth of his Pontificate. The Exhortation however was made public on 9th April 2018.

GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE gives Practical Advice on How Not to Settle for Failure or Mediocrity.

The five-chapter, 98-page document can be considered somewhat of a practical handbook on how to help us achieve

holiness in the circumstances of our ordinary lives. The chapters include: 1) The Call to Holiness 2) Two Subtle Enemies of Holiness 3) In the Light of the Master 4) Signs of Holiness in Today's World 5) Spiritual Combat, Vigilance and Discernment.

It is next to impossible to summarise the rich text without losing its vividness. We give only a few pearls from the document to stimulate your interest in the document

CHAPTER I: CALL TO HOLINESS: THE SAINTS WHO ENCOURAGE AND ACCOMPANY US: These witnesses may include our own mothers, grandmothers or other loved ones (cf. 2 Tim 1:5).

THE SAINTS "NEXT DOOR": I like to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God's people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile.

THE LORD CALLS: Within these various forms, I would stress too that the "genius of woman" is seen in feminine styles of holiness, which are an essential means of reflecting God's holiness in this world...

FOR YOU TOO: Are you called to the consecrated life? Be holy by living out your commitment with joy. Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife, as Christ does for the Church. Do you work for a living? Be holy by labouring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain.

YOUR MISSION IN CHRIST: That mission has its fullest meaning in Christ, and can only be understood through him.

ACTIVITY THAT SANCTIFIES: Needless to say anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness.

MORE ALIVE, MORE HUMAN: Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy.

CHAPTER II: TWO SUBTLE ENEMIES OF HOLINESS

CONTEMPORARY GnosticISM: When somebody has an answer for every question, it is a sign that they are not on the right road.

CONTEMPORARY PELAGIANISM: Once we believe that everything depends on human effort as channelled by ecclesial rules and structures, we unconsciously complicate the Gospel and become enslaved to a blueprint that leaves few openings for the working of grace

CHAPTER III: IN THE LIGHT OF THE MASTER

In the Beatitudes, we find a portrait of the Master, which we are called to reflect in our daily lives.

GOING AGAINST THE FLOW: (the Beatitudes) Although Jesus' words may strike us as poetic, they clearly run counter to the way things are usually done in our world

Wealth ensures nothing. Indeed, once we think we are rich, we can become so self-satisfied that we leave no room for God's word, for the love of our brothers and sisters, or for the enjoyment of the most important things in life.

If we are constantly upset and impatient with others, we will end up drained and weary

Much energy is expended on fleeing from situations of suffering in the belief that reality can be concealed. But the cross can never be absent.

True justice comes about in people's lives when they themselves are just in their decisions; it is expressed in their pursuit of justice for the poor and the weak.

Mercy has two aspects. It involves giving, helping and serving others, but it also includes forgiveness and understanding.

Nothing stained by falsehood has any real worth in the Lord's eyes.

The world of gossip, inhabited by negative and destructive people, does not bring peace. Such people are

destructive people, does not bring peace. Such people are really the enemies of peace; in no way are they "blessed".

Peacemakers truly "make" peace; they build peace and friendship in society.

Persecutions are not a reality of the past, for today too we experience them, whether by the shedding of blood, as is the case with so many contemporary martyrs, or by more subtle means, by slander and lies.

THE GREAT CRITERION: If I encounter a person sleeping outdoors on a cold night, I can view him or her as an annoyance, an idler, an obstacle in my path, a troubling sight, a problem for politicians to sort out, or even a piece of refuse cluttering a public space. Or I can respond with faith and charity, and see in this person a human being with a dignity identical to my own, a creature infinitely loved by the Father, an image of God, a brother or sister redeemed by Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER IV: SIGNS OF HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD: PERSEVERANCE, PATIENCE AND

MEEKNESS: We need to recognize and combat our aggressive and selfish inclinations, and not let them take root.

Christians too can be caught up in networks of verbal violence through the internet and the various forums of digital communication. Even in Catholic media, limits can be overstepped, defamation and slander can become commonplace, and all ethical standards and respect for the good name of others can be abandoned.

At times, precisely because someone is free of selfishness, he or she can dare to disagree gently, to demand justice or to defend the weak before the powerful, even if it may harm his or her reputation.

JOY AND A SENSE OF HUMOUR: Far from being timid, morose, acerbic or melancholy, or putting on a dreary face, the saints are joyful and full of good humour.

BOLDNESS AND PASSION: We are inspired to act by the example of all those priests, religious, and laity who devote themselves to proclamation and to serving others with great fidelity, often at the risk of their lives and certainly

with great fidelity, often at the risk of their lives and certainly at the cost of their comfort.

IN COMMUNITY: A community that cherishes the little details of love, whose members care for one another and create an open and evangelizing environment, is a place where the risen Lord is present, sanctifying it in accordance with the Father's plan.

IN CONSTANT PRAYER: Meeting Jesus in the Scriptures leads us to the Eucharist, where the written word attains its greatest efficacy, for there the living Word is truly present.

CHAPTER V: SPIRITUAL COMBAT, VIGILANCE AND

DISCERNMENT: The Christian life is a constant battle. We need strength and courage to withstand the temptations of the devil and to proclaim the Gospel.

COMBAT AND VIGILANCE: The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy and vice.

DISCERNMENT: All of us, but especially the young, are immersed in a culture of zapping. We can navigate simultaneously on two or more screens and interact at the same time with two or three virtual scenarios. Without the wisdom of discernment, we can easily become prey to every passing trend.

MOTHER MARY: Mary our Mother does not need a flood of words. She does not need us to tell her what is happening in our lives. All we need do is whisper, time and time again: "Hail Mary..."

(Adapted from CBCI Communications)

"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." *Evangelii Nuntiandi*

HEALTH CORNER

WALKING BAREFOOT is good for health

Walking barefoot on any natural surface such as soil, grass or sand is known as Earthing. Earth has its own natural charge and when our body comes in contact with it, we gain many health benefits such as increasing antioxidants, reducing inflammation, improving sleep, reducing cancer risk, improving cardiovascular health and so on. The soles of our feet are highly sensitive because of nerve-endings present in the feet. Nerve tissue is electrically conductive. This leads to interaction between Earth's natural (negative) charge and our bodies. So, when a person who has excessive . negative charge or excess of electrons walks bare foot on ground, the excess electrons are absorbed into the earth. Similarly, when a person with positive charge or less electrons steps onto the ground bare foot, the Earth supplies the needed electrons and creates a balance. In earlier days, people often used to walk barefoot on ground and also sleep on the ground. In some way or the other, their bodies interacted with the ground. But today, modern life style has changed everything. We hardly walk bare foot and no longer sleep on the ground. Gaining good health in a natural way is always better than taking medical treatment.

Courtesy: Twinkle Star, The Hitwada, Saturday, March 10, 2018

Marathi and Hindi Language Courses 2018

Date: 27 May to 27 June

Venue: Pastoral Center, BPQ

To register and for More details Please Contact:

Fr. Johny Narikkat : 9423398141

Fr. Antony Munjanattu : 9404387627

Fr. Satish Jamnik: 9405819703

VI. NEWS FROM THE MISSION STATIONS

BALLARPUR ZONE

AKSAPUR

- Medical camp was conducted at Chintaldaba village of Aksapur parish from Christ Hospital Chandrapur on 27th February 2018. The blood group test for the borders and the students of Navjyoti convent school was done here at Aksapur on the same day with awareness class on health and hygiene. Thanks to the Hospital Director Fr. Joshy Chettiyanchira and team. More than five hundred people benefitted from the camp.

CATHEDRAL, BALLARPUR

- We had our annual retreat on 17th and 18th March. Fr. Sunil Gaandhare CMF was the preacher.

- Palm Sunday was celebrated solemnly. Fr. Sumesh Cheruchilampil was the main celebrant.

- We had the Muron Holy Qurbana on 27 March 2018. Bp. Ephrem was the main celebrant. Other priests joined for the Holy Qurbana. There were many Sisters and faithful for the celebration. There was a talk on Eucharist by Fr. George Kulangara CMI before the Holy Qurbana.

- A solemn Requiem Holy Qurbana was celebrated by Bp. Ephrem on the occasion of the 23rd death anniversary of late Bp. Januarius Palathuruthy CMI on 28th March. Fr. George Canisius CMI preached the homily for the Holy Qurbana.

- Bp. Ephrem was the main celebrant for the Maundy Thursday Holy Qurbana. Fr. Binoy Chekonthayil CMI preached the homily. We had *Pascha Bhojan* and Holy Hour after the Qurbana.

- Fr. Sebastian Vayalil CMI led the Good Friday liturgy. Fr. Binu Muthalakuzhy preached the homily. We had Way of the Cross around the church after the Good Friday liturgy led by Fr. Mathew Nirappel.

- Fr. Benny Mukalel CMI was the main celebrant for the

Easter Liturgy.

- On 22 April, we had Requiem High Holy Qurbana for the repose of the Soul of His Grace Abraham Viruthakulangara, Archbishop of Nagpur. Bishop Ephrem was the main celebrant. Bishop also felicitated Sr. Annies FDSHJ who celebrates her Silver Jubilee of perpetual profession and distributed prizes to the catechism students.

DURGAPUR

- Special Lenten Services

March 23, 2018, the 40th day of lent was specially observed with Holy Mass, Sacrament of Confession, Eucharistic Procession and healing service. Fr. Binu Thomas, Rector of Sant Vianney Gurukul was the main celebrant of the day.

- Palm Sunday Celebration with Bishop

March 25, 2018, Palm Sunday was a memorable day for the parish. Bp. Ephrem Nariculam was the main celebrant of the Palm Sunday Celebrations with Fr. Binoy and Fr. Joseph as the co-celebrants. After the mass Bishop was specially welcomed and honored by the parish community. In the presence of Bishop Fr. Joseph Poonely for the Golden Jubilee of his religious profession and Sr. Vimala DM for the Silver Jubilee of her religious profession were also honored. The three children who bagged first prize in the diocesan level Bible Quiz competitions were also accorded special prizes on behalf of parish. Palm Sunday celebrations concluded with the agape in the company of Bp. Ephrem Nariculam.

- Holy Week Services

The Holy week especially the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter were observed with traditional piety and enthusiasm. 14 parish members volunteered to arrange for and to conduct way of the cross on Good Friday. There was good attendance of the faithful for the Holy Week services especially for Easter.

Substitution

Fr. Jimmy Koottala, Fr. Sumesh and Fr. Vigil offered services

in the absence of Fr. Joseph Poonely for about two weeks (April 2 to 18). Fr. George Uthumattathil CMI also assisted on another occasion.

- Jubilee Celebrations

Golden jubilee of the religious profession of Sr. James Mary and Silver Jubilee of Sr. Vimala were celebrated in the DM convent on April 10. On April 22 Holy Mass was offered in their honor in the church and after Holy Mass the Faithful were served breakfast by the convent.

- Late Archbishop Remembered

Holy Mass and office of the Dead were Offered on April 23rd in honor of Late Archbishop Abraham Viruthakulangara, archbishop of Nagpur.

- Catechism Examination Prizes

In the catechism examinations conducted on the diocesan level, Durgapur parish bagged 1 First Prize and 2 Second Prizes first prize to Manisha Paulose Dethé of 7th standard; second prizes to Princy Chako and Piush S. Biswas of the 10th and 5th standard respectively.

CMI PROVINCIAL HOUSE

- Annual Retreat for Priests, preacher- Fr. Joseph Puthenpurackal, date- October 29 to November 2, 2018 organised by CMI Mar Thoma Province, Chanda. Interested people may register their name with Fr. Bipin Ottaplackal CMI at the earliest. Contact number- 9665292779.

- The CMI Mar Thoma Province is also organising a one day seminar for priests to update their knowledge in Holy Bible on August 22, 2018, free of cost. Interested people may give their names to Fr. Bipin Ottaplackal CMI.

WARDHA ZONE

- CARMELODAYA PROVINCIAL HOUSE

- Home Mission

Our sisters Josy, Mercitta, Maria and Joice went for Home mission to Ghugus Parish from April 09 to 15, under the

leadership of Fr. Robert the Parish Priest. The programme was well arranged and the sisters were guiding the people to Jesus through word of God, visit, prayers etc. It gave them a spiritual banquet. Hearty congratulations dear Fr. Robert and Sisters.



- Women Empowerment:-

Kairose group is formed in Nandgaon parish to motivate the mothers of parish to lead a good sacramental life under the guidance of Sr. Yajna.



- A visit to Jail on Maundy Thursday:-



Conducted feet washing ceremony in Chandrapur Jail. Rev. Fr. KD Chacko inspired every one with an enriching Message. There after Rev. Fr. Joshy Chettianchira washed the

feet of 12 prisoners with the assistance of Sr. Yajna. It was really a heart moving programme to show the forgiving love of Jesus.

WIRUR ZONE

- Kalvarigiri Theerthayatha 2018 -- Good Friday Observation at Lakkadakot

This was again a memorable day for the Lakkadakot parish. Every year the number of devotees is increasing. And Faithfull from all over the diocese of Chanda come together for the observation of Good Friday.

This was also an occasion for the people of other faith in Lakadakot to serve and collaborate with the Christians. It ated by Fr. Prem parish priest. After the kissing of the cross

was they who served drinking water and food for the pilgrims. The observation began at 2.15pm in front of the Kappela. Good Friday liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Prem parish priest. After the kissing of the cross the faithful lined-up for procession. Rev. Fr. Joshy Chettianchira and Faithful from Chandrapur Parish led the procession others followed them. Mrs. Radhika and team led the Telugu Way of the cross. After the arrival of procession at the foot of the mountain in the forest Rev. Fr. Mathai Velupula from Raipalliwada parish, Adilabad diocese gave Telugu Pravachan and Rev. Fr. Antony Munjanattu from Wani parish gave Marathi pravachan. Both homilies were highly emotional and inspiring. Then Rt. Rev. Dr. Ephrem Nariculam blessed the gathering.

The way of the cross in Marathi was led by youth from Warur parish. People devotionally climbed the mountain. To inspire devotees, youth from Wirur Parish prepared Tablo for each station of the way of the cross. Mr. Divakar led the group and acted as Jesus Christ. At the end of the procession Bishop blessed the gathering on the top of the mountain.

The Mahaprasad was prepared by Poornachanran, Chandi and team from Vijay Hotel. It was well arranged by them. Rev. Fr. Dinesh Matte and members from parish arranged Linbu sarbath and Mr. Antony Das sponsored drinking water for the public. It is learned that many organizations supplied eatables on the way specially to those who reached the spot by walking. And CMI aspirants from Ballarsha and Mr. Shankar helped for arranging dustbins, cleaning the surroundings and so on. There were more than 2500 devotees gathered. Fr. Prem and Rev. SD sisters thanked all for their cooperation.

-SD SISTERS, WIRUR

- Women's day celebrations

On 8th March 2018 in collaboration with Krupadham Social Service Society (KSSS) we have conducted a women's gathering. Around 62 ladies were present for the same. Miss. Bhagyashree Atram our sarpanch, Anganwadi area



supervisor Mrs.Nivruta, & Sr. Lisbet S.D guided the day. A group discussion took place on the topic 'Common problems which women's face today ' in which all the participants enthusiastically shared their views. The group as a whole decided to adopt a destitute widow. Gifts were distributed. All got dispersed after having tea & snacks.

- A day with the prisoners

In collaboration with the charity commissioner, we have visited Chandrapur prison on 11th March 2018. . Total inmates were 507 including 27 women. We could do a medical camp, an awareness programme using power point & counselling to the women. It was a touching experience for the women prisoners who could share their hidden inner sorrows, with us freely. This new venture, which helped us to be the partakers of Jesus the redeemer was really an eye opener.

-Ten days with the villagers(Insertion Community)

Three of our sisters(Srs.Lisbet,Karunya&Athulya)stayed with the villagers of Navegaon, from 16th to 25rd March. They have visited all the 55 families of the village eventhough there is only one catholic family, and took part in all their activities. Eating with them and living in a room of theirs, they moved around the village conducting awareness programmes to different groups like Mahila mandal, Youth etc. They could take classes both in Z.P

awareness programmes to different groups like Mahila mandal, Youth etc. They could take classes both in Z.P school as well as In their Anganwadi.

- Congregation day

On March 19th 2018 , our Congregation Day was celebrated with a get together of senior citizens of wirur. Fr.Robinson, the vicar of Wirur inaugurated the day with his thought provoking speech of graceful living in the old age. Fr. Emmanuel too gave a speech and helped them through the sacrament of reconciliation to become closer to Jesus. Sr.Lisbet S.D Mr.Nikhil Kasturbar, and our youth leader too shared their views with them. After having an agape together and receiving small gifts everyone went home by evening.



- World Tuberculosis Day

On world Tuberculosis Day(24th March), in collaboration with the management of Christ school, Wirur we have conducted an awareness programme through a rally, skit & speeches. Fr. Robinson, Fr.Emmanuel & Miss Bhagyashree, our sarpanch also were there to guide the programme. Many who participated in the programme got a clear idea of the causes and remedies of Tuberculosis. A free medical camp also was arranged. The day was really a fruitful one for the participants.



VII. DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

- CLC

Below is the result of the Diocesan Level Catechism Annual Exam 2018.

STD	Position	Name	Parish	Marks
V	I	Avinash L. Khess	Ettapalli	35
V	II	Prianshu S. Biswas	Durgapur	34
VI	I	Joseph Bhagwat Palmet	Pattaguda	36
VI	II	Samson Ramesh Yelmule	Rajura	34
VII	I	Manisha Poulus Dethe	Durgapur	43
VII	II	Anita Thomas	Chandrapur	40
VIII	I	Augnes Nagendra Taksande	Mul	38
VIII	II	Karmila Joseph Minj	Kalmana	37
IX	I	Vaishnavi Amit Bator	Kalmana	46
IX	II	Monika Sudarshan Dussi	Ballarpur	45
X	I	Justin Roy	Awarpur	41
X	II	Princy Chacko	Durgapur	39

Congratulations to the Winners!

NB:- Prizes will be distributed on Chanda Day as usual.

VIII. NEWS FROM FORMATION HOUSES

1. Archbishop Emeritus Mar George Valiyamattam celebrated Holy Qurbana at SVG on 21st March 2018.
2. The feast of Rev Fr Joseph Pooneli was solemnly celebrated on 19th March 2018.
3. SVG community attended holy week services in Kalmana Parish.

4. First year Seminarians of SVG went for Holidays with our spiritual director on 26th March.
5. SVG choir led the congregation during the Chrism mass at Ballarpur on 27th March
6. SVG community paid tribute to the departed soul of our first bishop of Chanda Rt. Rev Bp Januarius during the Requiem mass at St. Thomas Cathedral on 28th March.
7. The annual exam for the Seminarians at SVG were held from 10th March to 22 March 2018.
8. Second years SVG brothers attended their University exam from 5th April 2018.
9. SVG brothers made annual self evaluation on 3rd March for the academic year 2017-18.

IX. HEAVENLY BRETHREN

MAY

1. Fr. Mathew Kaniyamparampil CMI 05-05-2011 Pala
2. Sr. Darsana SJB 07.05. 2012 Kuriachera
3. Sr. Lia CMC 08-05-2001 Thommana
4. Sr. Rose Margaret CMC 08-05-2012 Thommana
5. Fr. George Chakkalackal CMI 10.05.2012 Trichur
6. Sr. Shaify FCC 25-05-2002 Kadukutty
7. Bro. Jomon Mattapillil CMI 30-05-1997 Bellampalli

JUNE

1. Sr. Jesslima SD 02-06-1995 Chethipuzha
2. Fr. Davis Kannampuzha CMI 07-06-2006 Bellampalli
3. Fr. Alex Ukken CMI 11-06-2006 Irinjalakuda
4. Sr. Justina SD 16-06-2002 Wardha
5. Fr. Antony Cyriac Chirayil CMI 28-06-2002 Bellampalli

JULY

1. Fr. Diego Kodankandath CMI 01-07-2004 Pavarty
2. Fr. Mathew Manikompel CMI 09-07-2009 Mutholy
3. Fr. Christian Plakatt CMI 12-07-2005 Mutholy
4. Fr. Callistus Chavarananickal CMI 14-07-2011 Ballarpur
5. Sr. Infant Mary FCC 16-07-1998 Bhopal

6. Fr. Mathew Kalarickal CMI	17-07-2003	Bellampalli
7. Bro. Michael Nellikunnel CMI	23-07-1988	Ballarpur
8. Sr. (Dr.) Jose Maria FCC	25-07-2004	Aluva
9. Fr. Remiji Nadackal CMI	30-07-1991	Yellareddy
10. Sr. Auxillia ASMI	10-07-2015	Allapally

X. ONGOING FORMATION

Address	Course	Date
Don Bosco Renewal Centre Sos post, Bannerghatta Rd Bangalore 560 076 Ph: 080 26584115 Email: admitdbrc@gmail.com	Personal Growth and Renewal	27th May to 19 June
	Fully Alive after 50	26 June to 11 July
	Renewal course and retreat for the silver Jubilee celebration.	5 August to 2 September
	Renewal course and retreat for the silver Jubilee celebration.	27 September to 25 October
Atmadarshan Digha Ghat P.O. Patna 800 011 Ph: 0612-2560537 Mob: 9430032436	A journey into Self awareness and transformation through Enneagram	5 PM June to 5 PM 10 June
	Formators' Programme	5 PM 7 July to 5 PM 2 Sept.

Inspiring Quotes from GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE

“Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy.”

“We need ‘to acknowledge jubilantly that our life is essentially a gift, and recognize that our freedom is a grace. This is not easy today, in a world that thinks it can keep something for itself, the fruits of its own creativity or freedom’.”

“I like to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God’s people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile.”

“Discernment is not about discovering what more we can get out of this life, but about recognizing how we can better accomplish the mission entrusted to us at our baptism.”

“The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy and vice. When we let down our guard, he takes advantage of it to destroy our lives, our families and our communities.”

“I do not believe in holiness without prayer, even though that prayer need not be lengthy or involve intense emotions.”

“The saints do not waste energy complaining about the failings of others; they can hold their tongue before the faults of their brothers and sisters and avoid the verbal violence that demeans and mistreats others.”

“Thanks be to God, throughout the history of the church it has always been clear that a person’s perfection is measured not by the information or knowledge they possess, but by the depth of their charity.”