

Hatima Vani



News Letter
Diocese of Warangal



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No. 12

క్రీస్తు జయంతి శుభాకాంక్షలు



Inter-Diocesan Games and Sports Meet, Karimnagar



25 Years Jubilee of Church & Community Hall, Jagityal



Blessing of Divine Mercy Chapal & Confirmations at Deendayal Nagar

I. Traditional to Technological Christmas

From Factual to Ritual towards Virtual Christmas

Have Christmas celebrations have changed in digital age? Christmas was factual at Bethlehem in Palestine around 2000 years ago. The Birth of Christ was celebrated by some chronologically. Most celebrate it theologically though December 25 might not be the actual date of Jesus Birth. Some celebrate it ritually with the gifts under Christmas tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, turkey dinners with family and friends, snow in the yard, stockings hanging in the living room, and shouts of "Merry Christmas" to those who pass us in the streets? Of late, Christmas is celebrated virtually, computer generated! Thus Christmas appears to have lost its meaning across the globe



in a secularised and a materialistic world. However the Bible hasn't changed nor the Church. The people have changed over time due to transformation characterised by information and digital technology. Over the years, Information Communication Technology has bombarded people with visual and audio entertainment which has transformed their outlook. The good old days of sending and receiving greeting cards to friends through postal mail had its own peculiar fulfilling charm. Now people whatsApp, instagram, tweet, email et al. their feelings and thoughts which are transposed into an virtual and digital space.

At the click of a mouse, it is possible to scour through shopping websites to order gifts. With this backdrop, a simple pastoral narrative which depicts the birth of Jesus over 2000 years ago at Bethlehem seems out-dated and old-fashioned. People of the day like to debate over how appropriate it is to wish their non-Christians colleagues, neighbours and friends "Happy Christmas". Over time the universal greeting of "Merry Christmas" has been substituted with "Happy Holidays?" There has been a consistent effort to drop the word "Christmas" and substitute it with a secular and beautifying "Happy Holidays." Is it not true that many Christmas carols sung today were written by non-Christians? This is a clear example of the growing secularisation and the cultural relativism prevalent today.

The modern man is no longer ardently attached to a uniform religious or cultural identity. Therefore Christmas would still be celebrated, but minus the earlier spiritual fervour. The words of Charles Dickens can be applied to the post-modern condition of Christmas which is at the same time "the best of times and the worst of times, a day wisdom and a day of foolishness, a time of belief and a time of disbelief, a season of light and a season of darkness, a spring of hope and also a winter of despair". Today connectivity that the Internet has facilitated acts as the great equaliser. Christmas would continue to evolve and articulate a certain attitude to life. Christmas festivities would be observed in future too but may not conform to past rituals or actuals but rather adapt to emergent socio-religious requirements.

Christmas is supposed to be the time of year when we celebrate the birth of Christ. Unfortunately, it has become a commercial holiday rather than a religious one. It's mostly known as a time for businesses to make money, for people to give gifts, for children to be excited, for parties, etc. The "reason for the season" is supposed to be Jesus, not gifts, not parties, and not watching "the big game." Of course, having celebrations, attending parties, and watching the big game are not wrong. It's just that the meaning of Christmas is supposed to be the recognition and appreciation of the birth of the one who loves us and died in our place."Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit," (Mt 1:18).

Distractions abound to keep us from concentrating on Christmas as the celebration of the birth of Jesus, our Saviour. Yes, there's a passion of shopping and buying but it's usually for other people. Is there too much consumerism, too much shopping, this season? But as long as buying gifts is for others, it is not be criticized. So, in all the buying, there's a sense of selflessness, because it's all to give away! God the Father gave the first, and best Christmas present: His Son! "Christmas spirit" is synonymous with charity, and even the most hardened heart is a bit softer these weeks, with a special concern shown to the poor. Such charity seemed to be limited to Christmas, but let us, at least, rejoice that charity is popular during these weeks. But the atmosphere of 'Joy' pervades and permeates everywhere during this season. 'Joy' is the infallible sign of God's presence and let's relax in it. True, it may at times be superficial, associated with excess of food, drink, or possessions, but there's still no denying that there's a deeper sense of joy in our hearts, the kind St. Paul calls a "fruit of the Holy Spirit."

Finally, these days of Christ's birth, we all have a sense of the divine, a scent of the transcendent. Even an atheist has to wonder when he or she hears "Silent Night," In the age of doubt, scepticism, and agnosticism, those undeniable stirrings of the eternal are welcome and revealing. Undoubtedly, there is a refreshing "Christmas spirit" that all the secularism cannot erase. It's a start. We believers hardly stop here, and vigorously and intentionally strive to preserve the high spiritual identity of the season. In spite of or amidst these ritual and virtual practices, people could be sure that they haven't lost the true meaning of Christmas!

As 2018 draws to a close, billions of people around the world are preparing to celebrate another Christmas. For the third of the world's population who identify as Christian, December 25 is a sacred date, marking the birth of Jesus who was born human to make humans divine. There is no single thought that encapsulates Christmas, in either its mystical, Christian sense, or as a modern, secular, ritual or virtual or social celebration of gift-giving and eating! All the meanings put together make Christmas celebrations relevant to today's humans.

Therefore, we should warmly and joyfully wish each other a Holy Christmas for a Blessed New Year. Look at Christmas in a new way this year. This is the year to invite Jesus into your heart. You will then have a "Merry Christmas." The joy and peace you will receive will last all year as you look to God for all your needs to be met.

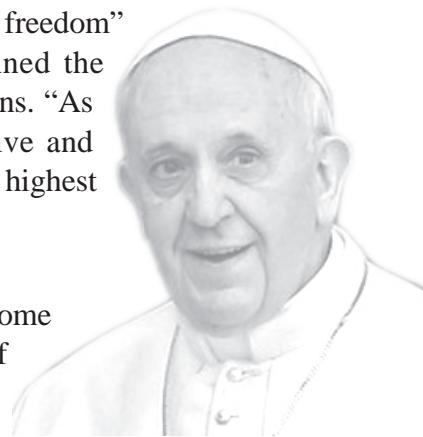
Jesus Is The Reason For The Season! Rejoice!

II. “The Risk of Freedom”

The Holy Father said the event’s theme - “The risk of freedom” - invites reflection on what has always underpinned the experience of men, women, societies, and civilizations. “As Christians,” he noted, “we are called to be attentive and vigilant so that the ‘risk of freedom’ does not lose its highest and most demanding meaning.”

To Risk Means Getting Involved

The Pope said Christians must work together to overcome “whatever deprives men and women of the treasure of freedom.” Pope Francis then spoke about three situations in which people have difficulty living their God-given freedom: extreme poverty, technological domination, and reduction of the person to a consumer.



Indigence

The Holy Father said indigence, or extreme hardship and poverty, is caused by “great injustices” that come from the culture of waste, which views people as “leftovers”. “If a man or woman is reduced to ‘surplus material’ … they are robbed of the very possibility of ‘risking’ their own freedom to better themselves, or their family, in search of a good, just, and dignified life.”

Domination of Technology

Pope Francis said technological development can also negatively impact human freedom, “when it is not accompanied by adequate improvements in responsibility, values, and conscience.” “The sense of limits is lost,” the Pope said, “resulting in an inability to perceive the epochal challenges with which we are faced. The absolutization of technology can turn against humanity.”

Mere Consumer

Lastly, Pope Francis said there is a danger of reducing people to mere consumers. He said the freedom to risk becomes an illusion. “This paradigm leads people to believe that they are free as long as they have the supposed freedom to consume. But those really free are the minority who wield economic and financial power (LS 203). He called this illusion of freedom a type of slavery: “daily life comes to be marked by resignation, distrust, fear, and closure.”

Risk of Freedom

Pope Francis also invited participants in the Social Doctrine Festival not to lose the desire to “risk” their freedom. He said Festival participants will hear testimonies of people who have rediscovered their freedom after escaping from situations of prostitution and usury. “They are stories of liberation in act, which give strength and hope. They help us to say ‘Yes! The risk of freedom is possible!’”

III. ‘Politics is a Commitment to Humanity and Holiness’

“At a time when the complexity of Italian and international political life requires statesmen of substantial human and Christian” value in the service of common good, Pope Francis held up the figure of the Venerable Giorgio La Pira saying he is an exemplary model for the Church and for the contemporary world.

The Pope was addressing some 200 members of the “Giorgio La Pira Foundation” whom he received in the Vatican.

The Venerable Giorgio La Pira

Giorgio La Pira, whose cause for beatification was approved by Pope Francis this year, was a committed Catholic MP in the years after World War II and then mayor of Florence until 1966. He was known well beyond the Florentine borders for his evangelical inspired social battles and for promoting peace events.

St. Pope John Paul II recalled La Pira several times pointing out his “extraordinary experience as a politician and a believer, capable of uniting contemplation and prayer to social and administrative activity, with a preference for the poor and the suffering”.

In his speech, Pope Francis described La Pira as “an enthusiastic witness to the Gospel and a prophet of modern times” saying that his attitudes were always inspired by a Christian perspective, while his action was often ahead of his time. He mentioned his long career in the public space, of how he gave life to charitable works, and of how, when persecuted by the fascist regime he took refuge in the Vatican before being able to join the Constituent Assembly and to contribute to the drafting of the Italian Constitution.

“But his mission in the service of the common good found its summit in the period when he was mayor of Florence, in the fifties” the Pope said, when “La Pira took a political line open to the needs of social Catholicism and always on the side of the last and most fragile sections of the population.”

Prophets of Peace and Workers for the Common Good

He encouraged those present to “keep alive and to spread the patrimony of ecclesial and social action of Venerable Giorgio La Pira; in particular his integral witness of faith, his love for the poor and marginalized, his work for peace, the implementation of the social message of the Church and his great fidelity to Catholic guidelines”. “These are all elements which constitute a valid message for the Church and society today” he said.

Example for those who work in public sector

Pope Francis noted that La Pira’s example “is especially valuable for those who work in the public sector” and are called to be vigilant towards those negative situations that undermine the common good and the dignity of the person.

“Swallows, he said, are needed today : you are swallows!”

IV. Season of Advent

The New Year in the Church begins with the season of Advent — a time to help us prepare for Christmas, when we celebrate the fulfillment of our longing for the Savior with the birth of Jesus.

So, what is Advent: It's the season that lasts about four weeks, beginning four Sundays before



Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. The Church's Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and lasts for twelve days. So, Advent is a season of anticipation that leads up to Christmas.

Advent Traditions : One of the primary traditions of Advent is the lighting of the Advent wreath. Each candle lit represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The circle of branches of the wreath symbolize the eternal cycle of the seasons while the evergreens and lighted candles signify the persistence of life in the midst of winter.

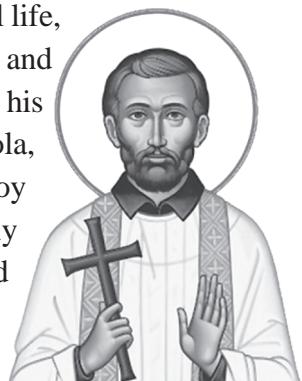
Advent Candles

The Advent wreath contains 4 candles. All of the candles are purple except the third (which is rose). The symbolic meanings of the candles can vary but they are often:

1. Hope — expectation of what is to come and sometimes prophecy
2. Love — sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle
3. Joy — this rose candle is often called Mary's Candle
4. Peace — it can often be called the Angel's Candle

V. Feast of St. Francis Xavier

Francis Xavier had planned to devote himself to the intellectual life, but at a strategic moment he surrendered to God, who had long and patiently pursued him. That surrender changed the course of his life—and the course of history as well. Even Ignatius of Loyola, the leader of the new Jesuit community, had planned to deploy Francis as a scholar. But India beckoned, and Ignatius reluctantly sent Francis to preach the gospel there. Thus, the man who had planned on a leisurely intellectual life became a missionary apostle, perhaps second only to St. Paul.



In 1525, Francis left Xavier, his mother's castle near Pamplona in Navarre, to study at the University of Paris. He enrolled at the College of St. Barbara, where he pursued an unwaveringly successful academic career. Within three short years he had earned his degree and was lecturing in philosophy. At St. Barbara, circumstances put Xavier's spiritual career on course. Through his roommate, St. Peter Faber, Francis became a friend of Ignatius of Loyola. This relationship gradually revolutionized his life.

Ignatius had experienced a radical conversion to Christ and had devoted his life to helping others in their spiritual quests. He challenged his friends to yield their lives to Christ, abandon their own plans, and follow the Lord's design for their lives. Although Francis felt drawn to Ignatius's ideals, he was reluctant to make them his own. He resisted Ignatius's magnetic influence for six years because it threatened the comfortable life he wanted as a church-supported scholar.

As Francis reached his decision, the text of Genesis 12:1 crossed his mind: "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you." That verse gave him a prophetic inkling of the unanticipated direction his life would take.

VI. Immaculate Conception of Mary



The angel Gabriel greeted Mary, "Hail, full of grace!" Normally at that time after greeting someone with "Hail" you would give them their title, so "full of grace" is actually a title or name that the angel Gabriel gives to Mary. And names were very important in that part of the world because your name told something about who you were. So "full of grace" describes Mary's very being. Mary was full of grace from the first moment of her existence when she was immaculately conceived. In the words of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, "God the Father made a gathering of all the waters and called it the sea; he made a gathering of all graces and called it Mary."

Mary's first response to the greeting was being "greatly troubled." The Greek word Luke uses to describe Mary's response is unique in the New Testament, but it is very closely related to the word used to describe Herod's response of learning of Jesus' birth, which was to be "troubled" so much he would try to kill Jesus. Luke also uses the word to describe Zechariah's response to the angelic message that he would be a father, and the Disciples' response when the resurrected Jesus appears to them. The Annunciation of God's work in our lives may cause us fear or overwhelming anxiety but it is also an invitation to believe.

What God invites us to do and to believe may appear impossible. This is the intended point conveyed by Mary's "virginity." Here as throughout the Bible, God demonstrates he "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Eph 3:20).

VII. Memoria of John of the Cross

On December 14, 1591, just before midnight, John of the Cross was dying. He wanted to make up his bed in case anyone would come to visit him. He asked to have "Song of Songs" read to him. While listening, he was heard to say, "So beautiful are the flowers!" And then he died.

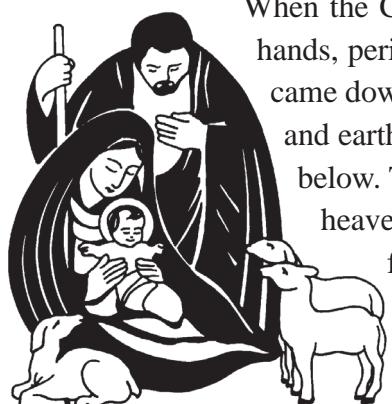


Born in 1541, St. John of the Cross grew up in poverty and was drawn to the contemplative life. His soul longed for mystical union with God that his piety offended members of his order, including its head.

The turning point of his life came in 1567 when he met Teresa of Avila, a kindred spirit who was looking for a partner in her Carmelite reform movement. She appointed him prior of the first community of discalced friars. Later, John of the Cross served as a spiritual director at her convent.

John wrote: "Contemplation is nothing else but a secret, peaceful, and loving infusion of God, which if admitted, will set the soul on fire with the Spirit of love." In 1577, he was imprisoned for nine months during which he wrote about his "dark night of the soul."

VIII. Nativity of the Lord



When the Creator saw that man, who He had made with His own hands, perish, He was so moved that, "He bowed the heavens and came down". The Feast of Nativity is the reconciliation of heaven and earth. The birth of Christ has united those on high and those below. Today God has come down to earth, and man ascends to heaven. Today the invisible God, manifests himself in flesh for the sake of His creation. Let our souls and lips cry out – Christ is Born, Glorify Him! Today the Creator has come down into the full reality of His creation.

The Feast of Nativity is a time of joy and celebration – of much giving – but we need to ask ourselves, what is the true meaning of the Feast? If we look around, Christmas in the world today is heavily commercialized, and how much do we as Orthodox Christians contribute to the cheapening of this great Feast?

Today, Christmas is about everything but Christ. To a lot of us, the Feast is just an opportunity to have a jolly good time with mulled wine and sumptuous food. It is important for us to step away from the noise and hear the real significance of this Feast. In the words of Isaiah the glorious Prophet: "... to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called 'Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace'" (Isaiah 9: 6).

IX. SC Orders Scrutiny of Entry, Hygiene, Assets of all Shrines

'Judges' reports To Go To HCs, Be Treated As PILs'

New Delhi: In a sweeping order, the Supreme Court has begun a massive judicial audit of all religious places and charitable institutions with regard to hygiene, assets, access and accounts, asking district judges to examine complaints in these respects and send reports to high courts which can treat them as PILs.

The SC order will apply to all temples, mosques, churches and other religious and charitable institutions in India and reports submitted by district judges, to be treated as PILs, could be the basis for high courts to pass suitable judicial orders.

"Difficulties faced by visitors, deficiencies in management, maintenance of hygiene, appropriate utilization of offerings and protection of assets with regard to shrines, irrespective of religion, is a matter for consideration not only for the state government and the central government but also courts," said a bench of Justices Adarsh K Goel (since retired) and S Abdul Nazeer last month.

This suo motu initiation of an exercise of such magnitude, given that India has over 20 lakh major temples, three lakh active mosques and thousands of Churches, could well prove to be a huge strain on the judiciary, already groaning under the pendency of nearly three crore cases and further hamstrung by a large number of vacancies in district courts, HCs and the SC. Amicus curiae Gopal Subramanium informed the court that "there are 7,000 antique temples in Tamil Nadu alone".

The informal nature of many shrines and the absence of specific rules governing them will add to the challenge. The district judges may need the assistance of the local administration which will need to find the time and manpower to examine complaints.

While initiating a similar scrutiny for the Jagannath Temple in Puri on the basis of a PIL filed by one Mrinalini Pdhi, the bench exponentially expanded the scope of the PIL to cover all shrines and charitable or religious institutions by permitting any devotee to move the district judge with grievance about the management of visitors' entry hygienic conditions and assets and wealth.

“We direct that if any devotee moves the jurisdictional district judge throughout India with any grievance on the above aspect, the district judge may either himself/herself, or by assigning the issue/matter to any other court under his/her jurisdiction, examine the above aspects and if necessary send a report to the high court. We have no doubt that the HC will consider these aspects in public interest in accordance with the law and issue such judicial directions as necessary having regard to individual factual situation,” the SC said and posted the matter for further hearing on September 5.

**X. THE STATEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
THE RECTORS OF MAJOR SEMINARIES (ARMS) IN INDIA
ON PASTORAL FORMATION OF SEMINARIANS
NEDSF, GUWAHATI – ASSAM
NOVEMBER 4-8, 2018**

INTRODUCTION

1. This statement of the 18th ARMS meeting on pastoral formation of seminarians is the outcome of the reflection of 66 participants who are involved in the noble mission of formation of seminarians. Pastoral formation aims at enabling the seminarians to engage with the world to fulfill the mission and vision of Jesus with joy in the specific context of our country and the world. Jesus’ radical commitment to his Father’s will and mission originated in his intimate relationship with the One he addressed his “Abba” (Cf. Jn 10:15, 10:30, 15:10)
2. As Pope Francis emphasizes, “We are called to form pastors and not functionaries.” The Charter of Priestly Formation for India demands that “at every stage of their formation, the seminarians should be in touch with the societal, cultural and religious realities . . . the seminarians should be enabled to have first-hand experience of the real conditions of the world and the expectations of the people to whom they will have to minister by being close to the people and sharing their cares and concerns.” (CPFI 3.2.4. c).

I. JESUS’ VISION FOR PROPHETIC MINISTRY

3. We begin our reflection on Pastoral Formation in the seminaries with the ministry of Jesus himself, whose saving work comprising three related dimensions of teaching, sanctifying and governing is traditionally seen in terms of Jesus’ attributes as Prophet, Priest and King.
4. We acknowledge that Jesus engaged in the triple ministry while placing special emphasis on the prophetic dimension of his mission as One sent by the Father with whom he had an intimate relationship (Jn 10:30). This challenged him to speak out

courageously in God's name against the atrocities being perpetrated on God's people on the peripheries. Jesus himself was able to read perfectly the signs of the times. Therefore, he took up his mission to establish the Reign of God based on the profound values of freedom, fellowship and justice, and invited his followers to take upon themselves the proclamation of the Good News of the Reign of God and He would be with them until the end of time (Mt. 28:19-20). The Church, therefore, takes upon herself this commitment to follow Jesus in the way she structures her prophetic ministry and forms seminarians to continue the Church's pastoral mission.

5. We are aware that over the years the following of Christ in the Church and in seminary formation has perhaps not been sufficiently focused on his prophetic mission. Both, the Church as a whole and seminary formation in particular, would therefore need to emphasize Jesus' pastoral charity to the vulnerable members of society, the poor, the weak, women, subaltern groups, Tribals, Dalits and those suffering injustices. Pastoral formation in seminaries needs to prepare seminarians to take up their mission with the mind and heart of Christ through institutions that are truly faithful to the vision of Jesus.

II. THE CHURCH'S VISION OF MINISTRY AFTER THE HEART OF JESUS

6. The pastoral formation of seminarians has to make them capable of engaging in the mission of the Church in the world today. We draw inspiration from Pope Francis' exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* to clarify the various dimensions of this prophetic ecclesial worship and action for societal transformation. We take recourse to the Holy Father's analysis of the socio-economic and political context in the contemporary world in order to understand our reality in India. We become aware that inequality is the root cause of all social evils (cf. EG 202), compounded by the abuse of power, crass materialism, spiritual worldliness and lack of concern for genuine communion.

7. The Church desires to transform such a society into an organic communion of communities based on freedom, fellowship and justice. Therefore, apart from the traditional pastoral and charity works, there is a necessity of collective action based on justice, empowerment of the weak, and effective socio-political involvement. The Church would require collaborating with society as a whole to achieve such macro-level transformation, necessitating a spirituality of dialogue with peoples of other faiths and ideologies. Such activity promoting social justice will have to be seen as being constitutive of the Church's pastoral mission (cf. J W, 58-59).

8. As major seminary rectors we realize the necessity for a change of emphasis in the way pastoral formation of seminarians is conceived. Along with training for sacramental and animation ministry we ought to choose to train seminarians with a broader vision of leadership in a world that stands in need of developing relationships based on justice.

9. Genuine pastoral formation of seminarians, ready to take on Christ's mantle of pastoral charity, would demand the following of Jesus in rooting the love for the anawim in an authentic spirituality, not just superficial religiosity. The latter focuses on external practices, which do not help interiority; Jesus rejected it. The former, authentic spirituality goes to the core of our inner dispositions before God and before others, fostering relationships based on freedom, acceptance of differences, and compassion. Only authentic spirituality will enable us to relate genuinely to people of other faiths, recognizing that we share with them the same quest for communion with the divine, with our neighbor and with nature, making it easy to commune with all for pastoral action.

III. PASTORAL FORMATION IN SEMINARIES TOWARDS INTEGRATED ECCLESIAL ACTION

10. Our readiness to shift focus on to the prophetic dimension of pastoral ministries with Jesus' vision of building a communion of communities leads us to see that each of our small communities form part of civil communities from which they cannot be dissociated. Our communities would need to be inclusive, leading us to shift emphasis from gathering only for devotional practices, to activity concerning the issues faced by everyone in the locality and exploring joint action towards solving them.

11. At the same time, such local activity cannot be devoid of a consciousness of what is happening at the macro level, the level of the nation and of the world. This will lead us to see that while the communities at the local level may be harmonious, some of the dynamics at play there could be divisive because of caste, tribe, politics, denominational narrowness and other considerations. We require, therefore, strategizing to think globally and act locally. The Church's ministries have to be concerned about building of the Reign of God in these complex situations and about understanding that the Church is called by the Lord to provide this leadership. Seminary formation for prophetic pastoral life has to enable the seminarians to be involved in the building of such a communion of communities, the vision for which is provided by Jesus himself as well as the Indian Constitution.

IV. METHODS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

12. Through baptismal consecration all the faithful participate in the triple ministry of Jesus, both in the Church and in the world. Hence, the presbyter is to be primarily at the service of the royal priesthood of the faithful so that they may fulfill their ministry in the Church and in the world. Therefore, we suggest that pastoral formation in the seminary focuses the following essentials:

- i) Promoting animators of Small Christian Communities for building Basic Human/Civil Communities.

- ii) Introducing the study of the Indian Constitution in the pastoral curriculum.
- iii) Teaching and practicing the values of secular democracy and pluralism.
- iv) Promoting missionary discipleship with prophetic mission.
- v) Celebrating life-oriented liturgy leading to meaningful pastoral apostolate.
- vi) Sharing and reflection on pastoral, social and alternative ministries of the seminarians.
- vii) Giving enough scope for village and family visits in pastoral formation. (cf. AL 203,288)
- viii) Adopting a covenantal approach towards the Mother Earth, our common home, by protecting and preserving nature heeding to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. (cf. LS 49).
- ix) Involving the laity in the evaluation of weekend ministry of the seminarians.
- x) Promoting exposure to the urban areas, villages as well as civil and religious institutions which are engaged in dialogue and development.

V. ONGOING FORMATION

13. In keeping with the vision of new Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis - The Gift of the Priestly Vocation, it is recommended that rectors ought to accompany clergy for five to ten years after priestly ordination (RFIS 152).

CONCLUSION

14. Constant pastoral accompaniment of the seminarians is necessary for effective prophetic pastoral formation, as given in the Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis - The Gift of Priestly Vocation: “The call to be pastors of the people of God requires a formation that makes future priests experts in the art of pastoral discernment, that is to say, able to listen deeply to real situations and capable of good judgment in making choices and decisions” (RFIS 120).

Guwahati

8 November 2018

Patron of ARMS	President of ARMS	Ex-officio Secretary of ARMS
Most Rev Bp Udu mala Bala Bishop of Warangal	Fr. Joseph Felix Michael Sacred Heart Seminary, Chennai	Fr. I Raymond Joseph CCBI Centre, Bangalore

XI. 2nd Dalit Christian Artists Workshop

ISI Bangalore, 18-20 January 2019

The CBCI Office for SC/BC is organising a Dalit Christian Artists workshop at ISI Bangalore from 18th to 20th January 2019. This is the second of its type. The artists will be guided by Senior artist Dr. Jothi Sahi from Bangalore during these three days. Sarianna Kranz and Jussi Eskolaartists from Sweden will be also with us during the workshop.

Purpose : Arts (Drawings and Paintings) play an important role in the lives of the marginalised people. Through drawings and paintings we can visually express our culture, lives, joys, happiness, agonies, and rights.

The workshop for the Dalit Christian Artists is aimed at bringing together the Dalit artists at the National level. They will be motivated to paint and draw from the perspective of the Oppressed and Marginalised communities at the same time keeping in mind the rich cultural history of the Dalits.

Exhibition : There will be an exhibition of the art works prepared by the artists on a later date. After the art exhibition the art works can be taken by the artists. The ownership of the arts belongs to the artists. A small portion of the sale of the art works will be shared by the CBCI Office for SC/BC.

May I request you to identify and encourage the Dalit Christian artists who can participate and contribute to the workshop.

Please Note : It is not a training but production of Dalit arts. So please don't encourage people who want to learn arts. This workshop is to produce Dalit Christian Arts.

Eligibility : Should be a Dalit Christian. Should be referred by the Diocesan or Regional SC/ST commission secretary/ Or can come through National SCM office.

Travel Allowance : Two way Sleeper class train ticket or non AC bus ticket will be provided to the participants of the workshop. One way ticket will be provided if the participants are coming by 3rd AC train or AC bus.

How to apply: Apply through E-mail with a short biography with some attachments of your drawings and paintings.

Last Date: The last date for the applications to reach our office is December 20, 2018.

Fr. Devasagayaraj

XII. Bishop's Engagements in the Month of December, 2018

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 01 | : | Office |
| 02 | : | Advent Begins
am. Year of Family Celebrations, Jangaon Deanary
pm. St. Xavier's Seminary 20th Anniversary Feast Mass at 6:00 pm. |
| 03 | : | St. Xavier's Feast Mass and Confirmations at Kothagudem, Khammam Diocese |
| 04 | : | Divya Vani Board of Directors' Meeting, Hyderabad |
| 05 | : | TCBC Extraordinary Meeting, Hyderabad |
| 06 | : | Office |
| 07 | : | Office |
| 08 | : | Grotto blessing and Silver Jubilee of School of St. Ann's, of Providence, Peddapally Parish |

- 09 : Communio India: Celebrations and Special Collection
 am.St. Augustine Convent Blessing, Nekkonda
 pm. Divya Vani TV Christmas Celebrations
 10 : Christmas Celebrations with HIV Children, Handicapped, etc, Lodi
 MSSS
 11 : Office
 13 : Christmas Recollection for Clergy
 14 : CCBI Ratio Nationalis Meeting, Bangalore
 15 : am. CRI Mass, Divya Deepthi Centre
 Sr. Georgina's Centenary Birthday Celebrations, Regina Mundi,
 Fatimanagar
 Pm. United Christmas Celebrations, Hanamkonda
 16 : Banjara Christmas Celebrations, Yesu Gutta, Mahabubabad
 18 : Memorial Mass for Rev. Fr. Antonio Grugni, Fatimanagar
 19 : Offcie
 20 : SDB Priestly Ordination, Elkaturthy
 21 : SDB Priestly Ordination, Reddipalem
 22 : Office
 23 : Blessing of Parish Church, Confirmations and Holy Communions at
 Nashkal, Vangalapally
 24 : Office, Mid-night Mass at Fatima Cathedral, Fatimanagar
 25 : Christmas Celebrations at Janakipuram, Unikicherla Parish and
 Samudrala, Guduru Mission
 26 : TCF Ruby Jubilee, Hanamkonda
 27 : Priestly Silver Jubilee of Fr. Shanthi Reddy, Kathva, Nalgonda Diocese
 28 : am. Holy Matrimony at Fatima Cathedral
 30 : Concluding of Year of Family, Warangal Diocese
 31 : Holy Matrimony at Fatima Cathedral

January 2019

- 01 : Mid-night Mass- New Year & Visit to Sick & Suffering
 02 : Holy Matrimony, Hyderabad
 03 : Holy Matrimony, Hyderabad
 04 : Lodi Exco Meet, Fatimanagar
 05 : Office
 07-14 : CCBI Meet at Joe Beach, Chennai

XIII. Communications

- 1. Christmas Recollection :** in preparation for Christmas, a recollection is arranged for the clergy at Bishop's House on 13th of December, 2018, starting on the previous day at 8:45 pm. All the Priests are requested to participate in it.
- 2. '3' Stipend free Masses to be offered for the Diocesan Priest Departed :** It is our diocese tradition and so kindly offer three Stipend free Masses for the departed soul of Rev. Fr. Pothireddy Papi Reddy and for all Diocesan Priest in future too.
- 3. Warangal CRI :** Dear All, Christmas program is organized on December 15, 2018 from 8:30 am to 1:00pm. at Jeevadhara, Rampur. You are requested to bring gifts along with you for your Christmas friend. Let's prepare ourselves during the season of advent to welcome Our Lord and celebrate together His Birthday.
- 4. Prison Ministry :** Dear Priests and Consecrated, urgent need that we have to work for Prison Ministry. Those who are interested please Join. Following qualifications needed for Prison Ministry: BA and MA in Psychology or B.Ed. Give your names as early as possible.
- 5. Marriage Preparation Course :** Marriage Preparation Course for the month of December 2018 is on 08th and 09th of December, 2018. Registration begins from 8:00 am. And ends at 9:30 am. Latest on the 8th of December. Two days compulsory. For real emergencies please contact me at 9392719991/9100445055.
- 6. Drum Dance Demonstration Beating** for Scheduled Caste RightDemanding SC right to Dalit Christians 4th December 2018, 2 pm onwards Parliament Street, New Delhi Dalit Christian Artists Coordination Committee (DCACC) Tamil Nadu, India is organising a demonstration on 4thDecember 2018 from 2 pm to 5.30 pm at Parliament Street, New Delhi demanding Scheduled Caste rights to Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims. Dalit Christian Artists Coordination Committee (DCACC) is a Civil Society Organisation from Tamil Nadu is voluntarily taking up the issue of the Dalit Christians' SC right issue. A professional cultural team will lead the demonstration through their Dalit Drums and folk dances.
- 7. Concluding Year of Family :** All especially Parish Priests are requested to meaningfully and solemnly close the Year of Family of Warangal Diocese on the Feast of Holy Family, 30-12-2018.



XIV. Informations

1. News from Youth Centre

Visitation and Strengthening of Youth Groups: The Youth Director Rev.Fr.Anil had visited and addressed the Youth of Dharmasagar, Bheemaram, Devannapet, Waddepally, Mallakpally and celebrated the Holy Eucharist. He spoke about the Synodal theme “Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment” and also about the upcoming programs in Arunodaya Youth Center.

Gnana Jyothi Youth Celebrations : Gnana Jyothi Youth of Waddepally Parish had celebrated Youth Day in their village. Rev Fr.Anil, Diocesan Youth Director was the Main Celebrant and the Chief Guest for this Program. The day began with Holy Eucharist followed by Cultural Programs and Bible Quiz. The Diocesan Executive Committee also took part in this Program.

Meeting at Pastoral Center : On November 16th there was a meeting held at Diocesan Pastoral Center in which Fr.Anil and the Committee members participated. The meeting was organized by Fr.Jaya Paul regarding the Year of Youth in our Diocese. Along with the Youth other priests from different commissions also participated. All of them together discussed about the situation of youth in various parishes in our Diocese and also about various programs that can be done in the Year of Youth.

Rev. Fr. P. Anil, Youth Director

2. News from Lodi MSSS

Title of the Project: NRM program, Devarappula Mandal

Mr Wilhelm Schumacher, Vice President and a Team of 12 members from Rosi Gollmann Foundation, Bonn, Germany visited LODI MSSS from 20th to 22nd October, 2018.

On this Occasion Mr. Wilhelm Schumacher, Vice President of Rosi Gollmann Foundation Vice President has given certificate of selected partners to Fr.Vijaya Paul, Director as LODI MSSS is the best partner for Rosi Gollmann Foundation in India. Certificate of selected partners and appreciation is given to LODI MSSS for our sincere, committed and dedicated work since 28 years with Andheri Hilfe bonn, Germany and for the successful implementation of the project “Poverty Reduction of Rural Households in Warangal through protection of Natural resources”. It’s a great honour for Lodidss.



Title of the Project-Child Line : “Jesus said little Children come to me,for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them “ The Child Line Program brought forth colorful life to little children .On 14 th November celebrated Chilidence day at Lodi Premise .Child line “Se Dosthi” programe held at Warankal Rural District, 1500 children took part in it. Created Awareness program on “Child Line” No.1098 and “Child Right”. In Parvathighiri Mandal Inaugurated ‘Doste Band’, it was inaugurated by District Women and Child Welfare Officer (DWO). The candle light rally and Child Line ‘Se Dosthi Pledge “took place in the District level and in Narsampeta Madal inaugurated “Child Line Broacher” which inaugurated by District Women and Child Welfare Officer.

- Rev. Fr. D. Vijaya Paul, Director of Lodi MSSS

3. News from WADES

Warangal Diocesan 2nd Inter-School Games & Sports Meet - 2018

Warangal Diocese Educational Society had organized 2nd Event of Games, Sports, Literary, and Cultural meet on November 09th and 10th at St. Alphonse High School, Karimnagar.

The Inaugural Ceremony was held on 09th Nov, 2018 at 9.00 am. Opening Ceremony was presided by Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, President of WADES and Bishop of Warangal Diocese. Chief Guest for the Ceremony was Prof. Mr. Ramesh V, Controller of Examinations, Satavahana University, Karimnagar. Special Guest was Rev. Fr. M. Jaya Paul, DM WADES. and gave the valuable messages to the participants to inculcate spirit of competition, fraternity and noble values.

The Sports and Games meet was declared open by Bishop and the Chief Guest. The motto for this sports meet was ‘BUILD POSITIVE SELF ESTEEM’. In this Games & Sport Meet, twelve diocesan schools consisting of around 1000 children took part with the spirit of sportiveness in various Games and Sports. This year we also conducted literary and cultural competitions. This was yet another milestone which encouraged the students to exhibit their talent.

St. John’s High School-Kesamudram once again bagged the overall Championship Thorpe for the second time. The Head Masters and Correspondents of all the twelve Schools took very keen interest in preparing the students for this sports meet.

Closing ceremony was conducted on 10th Nov. at 5:00 p.m. Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, the President of WADES presided over the closing ceremony. Mr. Madhusudhana Reddy, MEO of Thimmapur was the Chief Gust. Fr. R Thomas, Dean of Karimnagar, Rev. Fr. M. Jaya Paul, DM and all the Head Masters of all the schools under WADES were guests of honor for the closing ceremony. The students were awarded with medals and prizes.

A Grand and spectacular show of Cultural Gala was conducted and performed by the students of ST. Alphonse High School which took the audience to the realm of heavenly joy. I the convener take this opportunity to thank the Almighty God who blessed us throughout this event, and our Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Udumula Bala who encouraged us to organize this Games & Sports Meet. I also appreciate and thank Rev. Fr. M. Jaya Paul D.M, the organizing committee, Fathers and all those who helped to make this event successful and colorful.

Organizing Committee: Convener : Rev Fr. E. Vijay Kumar; Secretary : Rev Fr. D. Prashanth Reddy; Members: Rev Fr. S. Inna Reddy; Rev Fr. T. Sunil Reddy; Rev Fr. B. Joseph Praveen
- Rev. Fr. M. Jaya Paul, D.M.

4. News from Pastoral Centre

1. As the Director of Pastoral Centre I had visited the following parishes during last month and celebrated Holy Eucharist and encouraged the faithful and motivated them to form new mission villages and prepare them for Bible quiz and other competitions. The parishes that I visited are Jagital, Holiland Karunapuram, Kasamudram, Waddapally, Malkapur, Mulugu, Palavalupula, Fathimanagar, Showrinagar, Taralapalli, Athamakur, St.Peters's Colony and St. Xaviour Seminary, Kazipet and different parishes and schools in the Diocese.
2. Marriage Preparation Course MPC Program was conducted on 10th and 11th of November at Pastoral Centre.
3. Jyothirmai Bible Quiz was conducted on 4th November 2018. Thank you for all those who helped me to conduct this Quiz.
4. Year of Family Programs was conducted in different Parishes.
5. Many more activities are conducted in Pastoral Centre and in different Parishes to encourage for mission work and evangelization in the parishes.

Services Available:

- Please form New Mission stations in your parishes and encourage lay prayer groups for this purpose. I am ready to help you from the Pastoral Centre to form and start.
- Since this year is the Year of Families and we are already in the month of December, organize programs in the parishes and institution. I am always ready to help you in the regard to organize the programs.
- As we are entering in to Advent season please do conduct Christmas programs. I am ready to help you in Advent season.

Fr. Gopu Kamal Kumar Reddy, Director

5. News from Ookal Deanary

Report on Family Year Celebrations in Ookal Deanery: Family year celebrations in Ookal deanery level took place on 12-10-2018 at Thimmaraopet. The parishes that participated are Thimmaraopet, Manugonda, Narsampet and Ookal. About 700 faithful attended from those parishes . Fr. T. Jerome was the resource person. The family prayer service was started at 10 am with the talk on the importance of family and the active role of the families in the church. Many people made confession. The lunch was provided to all. The prayer meeting ended with the Holy Mass at 4.30 pm.

Fr. Yeruva Joji Reddy, Dean of Ookal.

6. News from SC/ST/BC Commission

Dalit Liberation Sunday: Warangal Diocese has celebrated Dalit Liberation Sunday prayerfully under guidance of Most Rev. Udu mala Bala. The diocesan SC/ST/BC Commission members Fr. K. Vijay Kumar, Fr. T. Jerome, Fr. N. Surendar, Fr. G. Prashanth, Mr. B. Dayasagar, L. Johnson, J. Vijaya, K. Mary took the initiative to make the program success. The Parish Priests, Sisters, Children, Youth, Elders cooperated for this cause.

Fr. K. Vijay Kumar, Secretary

Masses Remitted in Bishop's House

Date	Parish	Masses	Amount
10-10-2018	Singaram	1300	1,30,000/-
5-11-2018	Fatima Cathedral	466	46,000/-
8-11-2018	Ranipuram	100	10,000/-
8-11-2018	Reddipalem	411	41,000/-
13-11-2018	St. Peter's Colony	67	6,700/-
13-11-2018	Station Rampur	10	1,000/-
14-11-2018	Sagaram	205	20,500/-
14-11-2018	Kanchanapally	230	23,000/-
15-11-2018	Husnabad	60	6,000/-
15-11-2018	Narsampet	61	6,100/-
18-11-2018	St. Peter's Colony	15	1,500/-
19-11-2018	Thimmaraopet	354	35,400/-
27-11-2018	Karunapuram	330	30,300/-
27-11-2018	Ekashilanagar	40	4,000/-

త్రిశ్శుల్
ఖ్రాస్తి విందు

కుటుంబ సమేతంగా వద్దాం, సహవాస విందులో పాల్గొందాం
 కీస్తు జత్తుభినానికి సిద్ధమౌదాం.

మహా ఫ్లున్. డా॥ ఉడుమల బాల
 వరంగల్ హీతాధిపతులు, జోనల్ చైర్మన్, విష్ణువాసి బి.వి.

అదివారం, 9 డిసెంబర్, 2018 సా: 6 గం.లక్ష
ప్రాతిమా గ్ర్యాఫిస్చస్ట్, ప్రాతిమాసగర్, వరంగల్
 ఒక్కలకి మాత్రమే ప్రవేశం
 పాసుల కొరకు సంప్రదించండి
 ఫో.ఎం. కిరణ్
 సార్: 77027 06095

Birthday Babies in December

Fr. G. Chinnappa		12-12-1985
Fr. M.P. Joseph		15-12-1926
Fr. G. Balaswamy		19-12-1965
Fr. Y. Bala		19-12-1967
Fr. B. Anthony		23-12-1936
Fr. G. Thomas (Sr)		30-12-1978

Priestly Ordination Anniversary

Fr. I. Abraham		21-12-1967
Fr. B. Mathias		18-12-1970
Fr. G. Chinnappa		21-12-1970
Fr. A. Prakash		29-12-1970

Feast Mass with Communions & Confirmations at Janakipuram



Year of Family Celebrations in Karunapuram Deanary

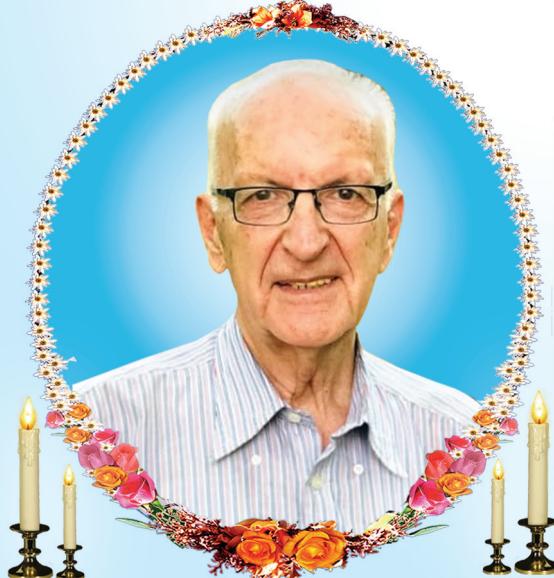
Merry Christmas

Rest in Peace



Rev. Fr. Pothi Reddy Papi Reddy

Born: 13-01-1938 at Jaggayagundla
 Priestly Ordination: 12-04-1966 at Jaggayagundla
 Places of Ministry: Kazipet (1966 - 68)
 Mattampally (1968 - 75) ; Nagarjuna Sagar (1975 - 79)
 Godavari Khanji (1979 - 88) ; Narimetta (1988 - 89)
 Jagithyala (1989 - 94) ; Ragunath Pally (1995 - 97)
 Vianney Home Fatimanagar (1998.....)
 Death: 11-11-2018



Rev. Fr. Antonio Grugni, PIME

Born: 04-07-1941 in Italy
 Priestly Ordination: 03-04-1989 at Eluru Diocese
 Places of Ministry: Mumbai (1977 - 04)
 Worked as Medical Officer at Loka Sevak Sangam
 Fatimanagar: (2005 - 18) ; Worked as Director of Sarva Prema
 Welfare Society - Death: 18-11-2018

