

Tribute to Fr. Stan Swamy

As Independent India turns 75 on Day of Heavenly Assumption of Mary

O most dear Stan Swamy, dead? Incredibly inhuman death? No, you are not dead but very much alive in the hearts of millions, not only in India but all over the globe. You are such a dynamic inspiration for us Bishops, Priests and Consecrated. We are mediocre and calculative in our Mission. Your daring and dashing spirit of heroism for Christ is beyond words. That is the reason we see you alive amidst. You are a wonderful human person, authentic Christian, a prophetic priest, passionate missionary for Christ and compassionate 'Best Samaritan' for the poor. We silently stood by you while in prison and wished



your adventurous live witness continue to inspire us by your poem 'even a caged bird can sing'. But your unexpected death was incredible and it was a thunderbolt from above. We have been already suffering from Covid-19 Variants and this 'inhuman virus of injustice' hammered us and crushed humanity. What words or prayers can offer you fitting tribute? We are sorry, the society, 75 year independent India is crying!It's poor especially tribals and dalits are wailing and mourning as orphans. But they are joyful tears with loud statementsexpressing grief and calling for justice: "His death an "institutional murder", Goodbye Fr. Stan, you are unquenchable inspiration", "Sorry Stan, we failed you", and "Forgive Us Not, Father", and more.

God bailed him out of Independent India

Stan Swamy 84, a liberator but ironically imprisoned, was suffering with Parkinson, not able even to drink water, asked a sipper which was denied and did not get even interim bail, although personally requested from jail itself. But God heard his agony and bailed him out of this world, and of independent India. As aware, he was arrested in connection with the Bhima Koregaon conspiracy case in October 9, 2020. And was lodged at Mumbai's Taloja Central Jail till he was shifted to a private hospital. He suffered a cardiac arrest on July 4 and was put on a ventilator, before he passed away on July 5 "while in custody". He was suffering from Parkinson's disease and other age-related ailments, and contracted Covid-19 on May 30. The 84-year-old was laid to rest at St Peter's Church in Bandra, where the funeral service was carried out with just 20 persons on the evening of July 6, 2021. May his Holy Soul rest in Peace!

International Tribute

People around the world paid tribute to the tribal rights activist and termed his death an injustice. The UN body on human rights said it was "deeply saddened and disturbed" by the death of 84-year-old activist in pre-trial detention. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Bachelet and the UN's independent experts have repeatedly raised the cases of Swamy and 15 other human rights defenders with the government of India over the past three years and urged their release from detention.

National Homage

Senior advocate Mihir Desai of Bombay High Court, representing Fr. Swamy, said: "we have no grievance against the hospital. However, we cannot say the same thing about the National Investigation Agency [NIA] and State authorities. I am seeking judicial custody into this as there was a delay of 10 days in taking him to the hospital from jail". The Bench said, "With all humility at our command, this is a shocking news. We passed that order, to take him to the hospital of his choice. We have no words to express our condolences". The Advocate said the NIA did not seek his custody even for a day and he was sent to the Taloja Jail as soon as he was arrested. He requested the court to pass an order to hand over Fr. Swamy's body to Father Frazer. The Public Prosecutor Deepak Thakare said as per prison rules, an investigation 'panchnama' and a post-mortem examination was necessary before handing over the body for the last rites. India on Tuesday rejected mounting international criticism over the handling of the case of Fr. Stan, the Ministry of External Affairs said India remains committed to the promotion and protection of the human rights of all its citizens and that the country's democratic polity is complemented by an independent judiciary and a range of national and state-level human rights commissions.

Saare Jahase Achha

Leaving aside the allegations that the late Stan Swamy was a Moist, Naxalite, Terrorist, etc., which were sadly not decided by due legal processes, the fact that when he was in judicial custody he was denied a straw/sipper to drink water from his glass is mean and despicable. Who is responsible for his untimely death? We have to admit shame-facedly the brutal, savage aspects of our society, contrary to the usual tall claims of our ancient glorious civilisation, 'Saare Jahase Achha'! It is also for the Jesuits, who educated thousands of students with graduate and postgraduate studies in flying colours, to ponder what kind of education they imparted. Why that was hardly any voice was raised to condemn the unjust treatment for an 84 year aged Priest-educator and the brutal death that was accorded by a country, we pride-in 'Mera Bharath Mahan Hai'? Christian especially catholic education, if we offer like Christ should transform people into more and more human and humane and not turn them into corrupt rulers, business people and inhuman beaurocrats!

Recommitment at INDIA 75

Celebrating Indi's political independence, We All, irrespective of caste, creed, language, region and race, unitedlyonce more decide and make all-out efforts to redeem India's honour and Indians' humanity in order to restore our own self-respect as decent human beings! The Blessed Virgin Mary, freed from all bondages, assumed into heaven on the same day as the Day of India's Freedom may be a vibrant source of faith for comprehensive and total freedom, not merely political freedom but from all clutches of satanic, brutal and inhuman bondages, being suffered by especially the people on peripheries, the voiceless, marginalized, the nobodies, a constant phrase of the Current Holy Father Francis. Fr. Stan is a **living Icon and undving inspiration for**

II. Holy Father's Intention: Intention for evangelization -The Church

Let us pray for the church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

III. Pope's Message

New norms regarding use of 1962 Roman Missal: Bishops given greater responsibility

Pope Francis publishes a motu proprio on Friday to redefine the use of the pre-Vatican missal granting the decision to allow its use the local bishops. Groups attending the pre-Vatican liturgy must not deny the validity of the liturgical reform dictated by the Second Vatican Council and the magisterium of the Supreme Pontiffs. After consulting the bishops throughout the



world, Pope Francis has decided to modify the norms regulating the use of the 1962 missal granted 14 years ago by his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, as the "extraordinary form of the Roman Rite". The Pope has published the <u>Motu proprio</u> *Traditionis custodes*, dated 16 July 2021, regarding the use of the Roman liturgy prior to 1970. It is accompanied by a letter in which he explains the reasons behind his decision. Here are the main points.

The responsibility to regulate the celebration of the pre-conciliar liturgy returns to the Bishop, as the moderator of the liturgical life of the diocese: "it his exclusive competence to authorize the use of the 1962 Roman Missal in his diocese, according to the guidelines of the Apostolic See". The bishop is to verify that groups already celebrating the liturgy with the 1962 Missal "do not deny the validity and the legitimacy of the liturgical reform, dictated by Vatican Council II and the Magisterium of the Supreme Pontiffs".

Masses celebrated according to the 1962 Missal are not to take place any longer in parishes. Bishops are to establish both the location(s) where and the days on which it will be celebrated. It is required that the readings be proclaimed "in the vernacular language", using the translations approved by the Episcopal Conferences. The celebrant will be delegated by the bishop. The latter is also to evaluate whether or not to retain the celebration of the pre-Vatican liturgy according to its "effectiveness for spiritual growth". It is also necessary that the designated priest not only have at heart the correct celebration of the liturgy, but also the pastoral and spiritual care of the faithful. The Bishop is "to take care not to authorize the establishment of new groups".

Priests ordained after the publication of today's Motu proprio who want to celebrate the preconciliar liturgy, "should submit a formal request to the diocesan Bishop who shall consult the Apostolic See before granting this authorization". While those who are already doing so may request from their diocesan Bishop the authorization to continue. The institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life, "erected by the Pontifical Commission *Ecclesia Dei*", will now come under the competence of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. The Dicastery for Divine

Worship and the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life will monitor the observance of these new provisions. In the letter accompanying the document, Pope Francis explains that the established concessions granted by his predecessors for the use of the 1692 Roman Missal were above all "motivated by the desire to foster the healing of the schism with the movement of Mons. Lefebvre". The request directed to the Bishops to generously welcome the "just aspirations" of the members of the faithful who request the use of this Missal was also motivated by "the ecclesial intention of restoring the unity of the Church". Pope Francis observes that, "many in the Church came to regard this faculty as an opportunity to adopt freely the Roman Missal promulgated by St. Pius V and use it in a manner parallel to the Roman Missal promulgated by St. Paul VI".

The Pope recalls that Pope Benedict XVI's decision promulgated with the Motu proprio Summorum Pontificum (2007) was sustained by the "confidence that such a provision would not place in doubt one of the key measures of Vatican Council II or minimize in this way its authority". Fourteen years ago, Pope Benedict declared "unfounded the fear of division in parish communities, because 'the two forms of the use of the Roman Rite would enrich one another' ".However, the responses to the recent questionnaire circulated by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith among the Bishops, Pope Francis writes, "reveal a situation that preoccupies and saddens me, and persuades me of the need to intervene". Benedict's desire to ensure unity, Pope Francis says, has "often been seriously disregarded", and the concessions offered with largesse have instead been "exploited to widen the gaps, reinforce the divergences, and encourage disagreements that injure the Church, block her path, and expose her to the peril of division".

The Pope expresses he is "saddened by abuses in the celebration of the liturgy on all sides". In addition, he deplores the fact that the "instrumental use of *Missale Romanum* of 1962 is often characterized by a rejection not only of the liturgical reform, but of the Vatican Council II itself, claiming, with unfounded and unsustainable assertions, that it betrayed the Tradition and the 'true Church'". To doubt the Council, Pope Francis explains, "is to doubt the intentions of those very Fathers who exercised their collegial power in a solemn manner *cum Petro et sub Petro* in an ecumenical council, and, in the final analysis, to doubt the Holy Spirit himself who guides the Church".

This is the final reason Pope Francis gives for his decision to modify the past concessions:

"Ever more plain in the words and attitudes of many is the close connection between the choice of celebrations according to the liturgical books prior to Vatican Council II and the rejection of the Church and her institutions in the name of what is called the "true Church." One is dealing here with comportment that contradicts communion and nurtures the divisive tendency — 'I belong to Paul; I belong instead to Apollo; I belong to Cephas; I belong to Christ' — against which the Apostle Paul so vigorously reacted (1 Cor 1:12-13). In defense of the unity of the Body of Christ, I am constrained to revoke the faculty granted by my Predecessors".

IV. National Prayer Service

To All Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious, Catechists and Lay Faithful of the Latin Catholic Church in India

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

We are all going through a very difficult time and many of us are facing seriously challenging situations on account of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Those who lost their dear ones to the virus had to resign themselves to having a dismal funeral rite accorded to their beloved. Many are still in the hospitals, struggling under the grip of the invisible enemy. Many others lost their jobs and are finding it hard to make ends meet.

With a view to pray for the departed souls, express solidarity with the grieving families and communities and pray for the health of the world,the CCBI Office Bearers resolved, at their last online meeting on the 9th instant, to hold a one-hour National Prayer Service on **Saturday**, **7 August 2021**, **from 8.30 to 9.30pm**. The event will be conducted from the tombs of St. Thomas, St. Francis Xavier and St. Teresa of Kolkata and from the Marian Basilicas of Bandra (Mumbai), Sardhana (Meerut), Hyderabad, Shivajinagar (Bangalore) and Vailankanni. This Special Prayer Service witha Eucharistic Benediction will be telecast on Catholic satellite television channels like Shalom TV, Goodness TV, Madha TV, PrarthanaBhavan TV and Dhiyavani TV; it will also be streamed through leading Catholic YouTube channels.

We request everyone, particularly families and religious communities to join in the prayer service and ask that this event be shared also with those whose family and community members are abroad, so that they too may join in.

We also request dioceses, religious congregations, associations, movements as well as diocesan, regional and national bodies to refrain from organizing any meeting or programme during this time, so as to enable as many as possible to participate actively in this National Prayer Service.

Let us pray as one family to Our Lord and seek the intercession of our Blessed Mother and our beloved Saints to help us in this time of pain and suffering.

(+ Filipe NeriFerrão)
President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India
Archbishop of Goa and Daman

(+ George Antonysamy) (+ Anil Couto) Vice President, CCBI Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore

Secretary General, CCBI Archbishop of Delhi

V. ON INITIATING PRIESTS 'FRIENDS OF PEACE' FELLOWSHIPS

What is a Priests 'Friends of Peace Fellowship'?

A fellowship is "a community bound together in friendship love – to a lesser or greater extent of depth of commitment." Friends of Peace is 'a movement' of God's Holy Spirit in the Church calling all to sustain and deepen their life in God by congregating in fellowship regularly at least once in a month. In true fellowship is friendship love. We are qualifying the meaning of love in the context of developing friendship according to the mind and heart of Jesus (John 15:15). Friendship grows on trust, surely and steadily, if 'saving love' is allowed to flow through the veins of the fellowship. In this one builds friendships through fellowship with all who are friends of Jesus.

Priests Friends of Peace is an integral part of Missionaries of Peace, along with Bishops Friends of Peace and other Friends of Peace. For priests, according to their particular status and way of life, the priest is initiated into a loose program where the spirituality of Peace is celebrated. The Spirituality of Peace does not clash with, but rides on and integrates into all existing spiritualties in the Church.

Missionaries of Peace is an initiative of renewal of one's faith-life in the 'saving and friendship love of God'that recognizes this truth, that the Church needs to move from being mere servants of God engaged in ministry, to now become also friends of the Master. How necessary it is for Bishops and Priests separately and together, also with others in the Church to engage in 'fellowship'where one shares life and is supported to grow into a healthy holistic life in God.

How to begin in the diocese?

We offer two possibilities of ways to get started. (1) Contact Missionaries of Peace and indicate your interest in having a Priests Friends of Peace fellowship in your diocese. With the permission of the Bishop a plan for the first Fellowship will be made. It is more feasible to have a priest selected first who would gather a group of priests for the first one-day (at least 5 hours including lunch) program, if resource-persons from Missionaries of Peace would come over for the purpose. The group will be initiated, and then be able to move ahead as a community. (2) Another possible way is that an interested priest connects with Missionaries of Peace, and is provided with the necessary information. Let him get started bybringing together a small group of three or more priests to begin the work. The Constitution (section 3) will offer the necessary guidelines on how to begin and move on in growth and development of the community in the diocese. The priest/group could then approach the bishop for approval.

JOY ANNE GONSALVES International Co-ordinator, Missionaries of Peace

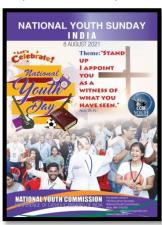
Address: Desa House, 17/2, Apt. 102, Harinagar Land 3, Vadgaonsheri, Pune 411 014; India. Phone (Mobile): +91 9999095043; Email: joy.admin@gmail.com

VI. National Youth Commission: National Youth Sunday - 8th August 2021 **National Youth Sunday 2020**

Theme: "Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen" (cf. Acts 26:16).

Brothers and Sisters, today the Church in India celebrates the

National Youth Sunday 2021. Like the World Youth Day and Asian Youth Day, the Church in India celebrates this special day for the young people across the country. This year the theme "Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen" (cf. Acts 26:16). Amidst COVID -19 pandemic, where we young people are facing a lot of problems like migration, unemployment, uncertainty of the future, education and stress, the theme chosen for this year gives a new hope.



The whole world has experienced a time of great darkness, sickness and difficulty from the COVID-19 outbreak. Each of us has been affected, but none of us are alone. Nothing can separate us from "the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:39). Even when we cannot be physically present at Mass or receive the Eucharist, Jesus still reassures us in the Gospel today: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid". Kindly conduct all feasible youth Special Services and sound activities.

VII. TCBC Women Commission

Women in the world are very active but women in the Catholic Church are lagging behind in their women empowerment activities in the Dioceses. Hence my humble request to you is appoint a Diocesan Women Commission Secretary. It should constitute 8-10 members. Many of the Dioceses have only one lay woman or a religious sister as the secretary but no other members at all. Kindly do the needful. Inform your Diocesan Secretary to collect the data of number of women members in all the parish councils in each parish in your diocese.

Encourage the women to raise funds for the activities of women commission at the local level.

NB:- For any clarifications please contact Rev. Sr. Saritha JMJ, TCBC Women Commission Secretary.

VIII. National Friendship Day (Aug 1)

National Friendship Day was originally founded by Hallmark in 1919. It was intended to be a day for people to celebrate their friendship by sending each other cards. However, by 1940 the market had dried up, and eventually, it died out completely. Then, in 1998 Winnie the Pooh was named the world's Ambassador of Friendship at the United Nations. In April 2011, the United Nations officially recogni National Friendship Day



30th July as International Friendship Day; although most countries celebrate on the first

Sunday of August. On the first Sunday in August, National Friendship Day encourages people across the country and world to connect with friends. Make a new friend or reconnect with an old one. Friendships come in many forms, and we begin developing them when we're very young. Throughout our lives, friendships and their meanings evolve. Our classmates and neighborhood pals explored the world with us.

IX. Feast of St. John Mary Vianney (Aug 4) Patron of Priests

On August 4, the Church celebrates the feast day of St. John Vianney, patron of priests. John Vianney, also known as the Holy Curé de Ars, was born May 8, 1786 in Dardilly, near Lyon, France to a family of farmers. He was ordained a priest in 1815 and became curate in Ecully. He was then sent to the remote French community of Ars in 1818 to be a parish priest. Upon his arrival, the priest immediately began praying and working for the conversion of his parishioners. Although he



saw himself as unworthy of his mission as pastor, he allowed himself to be consumed by the love of God as he served the people.

Vianney slowly helped to revive the community's faith through both his prayers and the witness of his lifestyle. He gave powerful homilies on the mercy and love of God, and it is said that even staunch sinners were converted upon hearing him. In addition, he restored his church, formed an orphanage, "La Providence," and cared for the poor. His reputation as a confessor grew rapidly, and pilgrims traveled from all over France to come to him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Firmly committed to the conversion of the people, he would spend up to 16 hours a day in the confessional. Plagued by many trials and besieged by the devil, the St. John Vianney remained firm in his faith, and lived a life of devotion to God. Dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament, he spent much time in prayer and practiced much mortification. He lived on little food and sleep, while working without rest in unfailing humility, gentleness, patience and cheerfulness, until he was well into his 70s. John Vianney died on August 4, 1859. The Holy Curé of Ars was canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1925. He is the patron of priests. In 2009, Pope Benedict XVI, commemorating the 150th anniversary of St. John Vianney's death, declared the Year for Priests. The Pope wrote a Letter to Clergy, encouraging all priests to look to the Curé of Ars as an example of dedication to one's priestly calling.

X. Feast of Transfiguration of Jesus Christ (Aug 6)

Our divine Redeemer, being in Galilee about a year before His sacred Passion, took with him St. Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, Sts. James and John, and led them to a retired mountain. Whilst Jesus prayed, he suffered that glory which was always due to his sacred humility, and of which, for our



sake, He deprived it, to diffuse a ray over His whole body. His face was altered and shone as the sun, and his garments became white as snow. Moses and Elias were seen by the three apostles in his company on this occasion, and were heard discoursing with him of the death which he was to suffer in Jerusalem.

In the Transfiguration Christ enjoyed for a short while that glorified state which was to be permanently His after His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The splendor of His inward Divinity and of the Beatific Vision of His soul overflowed on His body, and permeated His garments so that Christ stood before Peter, James, and John in a snow-white brightness. The purpose of the Transfiguration was to encourage and strengthen the Apostles who were depressed by their Master's prediction of His own Passion and Death. The Apostles were made to understand that His redeeming work has two phases: The Cross, and glory—that we shall be glorified with Him only if we first suffer with Him.

XI. Dalit Mourning Day - Aug 10

The Commission (Scheduled Caste) Order 1950 was signed on 10th August 1950 by the then President of India which says that "No person who professes a religion other than Hinduism shall be deemed to be a member of the Scheduled Caste" which was later amended to include Sikhs (1956) and Buddhists (1990) in the Scheduled Caste net. Civil Writ Petition 180/2004 in the Honorable Supreme Court of India praying the deletion of Para 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Caste) Order 1950 is still pending for the past 14 years in which the CBCI and NCCI have also impleaded. The case had been referred to a higher bench and still it has not been constituted. Thus Constitutional Rights for Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims are denied based on religion for the past 68 Years. To express our dissatisfaction about this "Constitution Scheduled Caste Order 1950 Para 3 which is "unconstitutional and it is a black letter written outside the Constitution introduced through the back door by an executive order"

XII. St. Maximilian Kolbe – (Aug 14)

St. Maximilian Kolbe was born in Poland in 1894 and at about the age of 10 had a vision of the Virgin Mary. She offered him a white crown and a red crown, representing purity and martyrdom. He chos both, a foreshadowing of his life to come. In 1910, he joined the Conventual Franciscan Order. He was sent to study in Rome where founded the M.I. on October 16, 1917. Ordained a priest in 1918, Father Maximilian returned to Poland and began his untiring missionary activity, starting a monthly magazine and establishing two evangelization centers dedicated to the Immaculate Virgin:

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Niepokalanów, the "City of the Immaculata," in Poland, and Mugenzai no Sono in Japan, and envisioned missionary centers worldwide.

To better "win the world for Christ through the Immaculata," the friars utilized the most modern techniques. St. Maximilian used short-wave radio and planned to build a motion

picture studio. In 1939, during WWII, at Niepokalanów he welcomed thousands of refugees, especially Jews. In 1941, St. Maximilian was arrested by the Nazis and taken to the Auschwitz concentration camp. There he offered his life for another prisoner and was condemned to slow death in a starvation bunker. He died on August 14, 1941, with an injection of carbolic acid. Pope John Paul II canonized him as a Saint and Martyr of Charity on October 10, 1982. St. Maximilian Kolbe is considered a patron of journalists, families, prisoners, the pro-life movement, the chemically addicted and those with eating disorders.

XIII. Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary (Aug 15)

The Feast of the Assumption is one of the oldest holy days in the Church ,with accounts of celebrations going back to the sixth century. Christian s in the East, both Catholic and Orthodox refer to it as the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, or "the falling asleep of the Mother of God." The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century, in a document entitled "The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross



had entrusted the care of His mother, and it recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin. Tradition variously places Mary's death at Jerusalem or at Ephesus, where John was living.

An Official Belief on November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII, exercising papal infallibility, declared in an Apostolic constitution known as the Munificentissimus Deus that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." As a dogma, the Assumption is a required belief of all Catholics. Anyone who publicly dissents from the dogma, Pope Pius declared, "has fallen away completely from the divine and Catholic Faith."

XIV. 75th Independence Day of India (Aug 15)

Every year India celebrates 15th of August as Independence Day. This day is significant for the Indian. After the slavery of years, India got independence on the same day from British rule, 15 August 1947. This day has been declared as a gazetted holiday throughout India to honor the great sacrifice of our countrymen. India is a country with a rich cultural heritage and it is the world's largest democracy. The citizens here are committed to taking the



country to higher heights. As soon as the tricolor wakes up in the sky, every citizen promises to work hard to increase the glory of the country and takes a firm resolve to make India a nation that is always firm for human values. For any country, the effect of history on its future journey is obvious. Because of this, the present generation should aware of the ancestor's sacrifice. Be respectful towards them.

This day is very important for the current generation. So that they can take the lessons from history so as a citizen of the country we should not repeat the old mistakes. The importance of August 15 has increased even in our lives. The country is facing many challenges within and outside boundaries. Social, political and religious stability in the country is constantly under threat. It is now the responsibility of today's youth to realize the spirit of that magical night of 1947 and move on to the path shown by freedom fighters.

XV. National Senior Citizens Day (Aug 21)

You have probably been told many times before that you need to respect your elders. In fact, this is a phrase that most children hear throughout their lives! Well, Senior Citizen Day is all about respecting your elders. It is about honoring those people who have been on this earth longer than we have. Getting old is not easy. You have been independent your whole life, and then you feel this being



stripped away from you. It can be very difficult to deal with, and that is why we all need to make sure that we are there for our grandparents and older people in general. That's what this day celebrates, and it's special to be a part of it. After all, seniors bring so much to the world!

XVI. Rakhi: The Thread of Love (Aug 22)

Rakhi is basically a sacred thread of protection embellished with the love and affection of a sister for her brother. This day is also known as Raksha Bandhan and celebrated on the full moon day of the Hindu month of Shravana in India. This frail of thread of Rakhi is considered as stronger than iron chains as it binds the most beautiful relationship in an inseparable bond of love and trust. Rakhi festival also has a social significance because it underlines the notion that everybody should live in harmonious



with each other. In India, festivals are the celebration of togetherness, of being one of the families. Raksha Bandhan is one such festival that is all about affection, fraternity and sublime sentiments. It is also known as Raksha Bandhan which means a 'bond of protection'. This is an occasion to flourish love, care, affection and sacred feeling of brotherhood.

XVII. St. Bartholomew, the Apostle (Aug 24)

Saint Bartholomew, (flourished 1st century AD—died unknown date, traditionally Albanopolis, Armenia; Western feast day Aug 24; date varies in Eastern churches), one of the Twelve Apostles. Apart from the mentions of him in four of the Apostle lists (Mark 3:18, Matt. 10:3, Luke 6:14, and Acts 1:13), nothing is known as out him from the New Testament. Bartholomew is a Family name meaning "son of [Hebrew: *bar*] Tolmai, or Talmai," so he may have had another personal name. For that reason and because



he was always associated with St. Philip the Apostle in the Gospel lists, a 9th-century tradition identified him with Nathanael, who, according to John 1:43–51, was called with Philip by Jesus. Upon seeing Nathanael, Jesus said, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" This identification sought to explain how the otherwise unknown Bartholomew could be mentioned in the Apostle lists, while Nathanael, whose call is explicitly described by John, does not figure in them. His full name would then be Nathanael bar Tolmai. The apostle is said to have been martyred by flaying and beheading at the command of the Armenian king Astyages. His relics were supposedly taken to the Church of St. Bartholomew-in-the-Tiber, Rome.

XVIII. The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner of the Lord, John the Baptist (Aug 29)

The Evangelists Matthew (Mt.14:1-12) and Mark (Mk 6:14-29) provide accounts about the martyric end of John the Baptist in theyear 32 after the Birth of Christ. Following the Baptism of the Lord, St John the Baptist was locked up in prison by Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch (ruler of one fourth of the Holy Land) and governor of Galilee. (After the death of king Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts, and put a governor in charge of each part. Herod Antipas received Galilee from the emperor Augustus).



The judgment of God cameupon Herod, Herodias and Salome, even during their earthly life. Salome, crossing the River Sikoris in winter, fell through the ice. The ice gave way in such a way that her body was in the water, but her head was trapped above the ice. It was similar to how she once had danced with her feet upon, she flailed helplessly in the icy water. Thus she was trapped until that time when the sharp ice cut through her neck. Her corpse was not found, but they brought the head to Herod and Herodias, as once they had brought them the head of St John the Baptist. The Arab king Aretas, in revenge for the disrespect shown his daughter, made war against Herod. The defeated Herod suffered the wrath of the Roman emperor Caius Caligua (37-41) and was exiled with Herodias first to Gaul, and then to Spain. The Beheading of St John the Baptist, a Feast day established by the Church, is also a strict fast day because of the grief of Christians at the violent death of the saint.

XIX. Bishop's Schedule for August, 2020

4	:	Feast of St. John Mary Vianney: Pastoral Clergy Day:
		Virtual Recollection by Fr. Rex SJ
7	:	National Prayer Service 8.30-9.30 pm
8	:	National Youth Sunday
10	:	Dalit Mourning Day
15	:	Solemnity of Assumption of Mary & 75 th Independence Day
21	:	St. Pius X Minor Seminary, Karunapuram
22	•	Rakhi: The Thread of Love

24 : St. Bartholomew, the Apostle

29 : The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet

Forerunner of the Lord, John the Baptist

31 : TCC Meeting &Divya Vani 5th Anniversary Celebrations,

Hyderabad

September 2020

1-3 : TCBC Extraordinary Meeting

8 : Girl Child Day, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast

Mass at 10.30 am, Diesel Colony

XX. Communications

1. Independence Day & Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: As we celebrate our country's Independence day and solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 15th of August, we thank God for all the blessings He has been showering and continue to pray that our country develops in every sector with a special attention to the poor and the rural areas. We pray that Mary assumed into heaven may protect from Covid-19 pandemic and promote the unity and prosperity of India.

- **2. National Youth Sunday**: National Youth Sunday will be celebrated on 8th August this year with the theme "Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen" (cf. Acts 26:16). Kindly celebrate in whatever way possible and send that Sunday's collection to the Diocesan office, some of it will go to the National Office. May the Youth grow in Faith, Wisdom and Service for the Church and Nation!
- **3. Dalit Mourning Day**: As you know, 10th of August every year is commemorated as PROTEST DAY (earlier called Black Day). It was on this day, the Presidential Order 1950, para 3, denying SC status to Dalit Christians and Muslims was promulgated. On this occasion, we do different activities like Rally, Dharna, Protest Meetings, demonstrating at Dr. Ambedkar Squares and before Collectorates, giving memorandum to District Collectors. These are organized by SC, ST and BC Commissions, NCDC and other Dalit Muslim and Christian groups in different places, in collaboration with other likeminded groups.

Since we have Covid-19 regulations not to gather in great numbers, we can have protests in small groups of 20 to 25 in many common places and give Memorandum to Govt. officials such as Collectors etc. Let us join the nationwide protest, by organizing different activities in our respective places following regulations of Covid Variants.

4. Pastoral Centre

1. Marriage Preparation Course and Counseling was conducted on second and Fourth Saturdays of this month that is on 10th and 24th of August. On the second Saturday 18 members and on fourth Saturday 20 members participated for MPC. All these classes are conducted under the direction of Director Rev. Fr. Y. Chinnappa, Fr. T. Santosh and spokes persons explained about marital life and family life. It was really fruitful. During this second

wave of Covid 19 situation we are following SMS (Social distancing, Mask, Sanitization) in pastoral center.

- 2. Since Masses are resumed in the parishes, pastoral centre team rendered their services in different parishes as per the need expressed by the Parish Priests.
- 3. Animator's meeting was conducted and the new evangelization programme for animators was resumed.
- 4. Marriage preparation Course is resumed, so kindly make a note and inform that every second and fourth Saturday of the month classes are conducted.
 - As per the instructions given by Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, Bishop of Warangal please do not celebrate marriage without the certificate of MPC
 - All the programs are resumed in the Pastoral Center so kindly make a note and avail our services.

Fr. Gopu Kamal Kumar Reddy, Director.

5. Lodi MSSS: "No one has ever become poor by giving" Anne Frank.

I. Poverty Reduction among Poor and Marginalised rural households with Livelihoods, Ecological farming and Natural Resource Management in Kodakandlamandal

- 1. 16 farmers were supported with Napier super fodder stems for the promotion of milk animals and enhancement of milk yield.
- 2. 67 farmers were trained on ecological farming methods, waste decomposer bacteria, Jeevamrutham methods plates to improve the soil fertility and soil nutrients and pest control with traps and yellow plates etc.
- 3. 60 farmers were provided with plastic drums, cans to promote natural farming for preparation of waste decomposer bacteria, Jeevamrutham methods and to improve the soil fertility and soil nutrients.
- 4. 26 Mandal development committee members attended meeting and reviewed on planning, implementation and monitoring of project activities.

II Covid 19 Second Wave Response:

- 1.Covid19 second wave Response dry ration food kits distribution to 200 disables children at Mahabubabad district in six different mandals- Kesamudram, Nellikudhuru, Kuravi, Maghabubabad, Gudur and Kothaguda. Rev.Fr.D.Vijaya Paul Reddy, Director Lodi M SSS started the program at Gudurmandal June'2021 last week and it continues for July and August'2021 for three months with support of CHAI.
- 2. ChildLine Warangal Rural Dist: 81 covid positive children and 44 Covid affected children were supported in Warangal Rural District with basic food materials worth of Rs 1000 each.
- 3. Childline- BhupalapallyDist :13 Covid positive children and 25 Covid affected children were supported in Bhupalapally District.

III. ChildLine 1098 Programs in Warangal Rural & Bhupalapally Districts:

The Childline teams have rescued 150 children in both districts who were involved in child marriages, child labour, runaway, child abuse, child selling cases during the month of July.

IV. Sustainable Livelihood Based Food Security program for the Marginalized Communities of 20 villages of Raikal Mandal of Jagityal district

KKS staff (Fr. D. VijayaPaul Reddy, Director, Mr. Nageshwar, Mr. Arla Reddy &Mr. Jaya Kiran Reddy) attended training program on Virtual Field Visit on 8 & 15, July 2021 at Lodi MSSS office.

IV. Revolving Fund Loans Details

No. of Villages - 12
No. of Beneficiaries - 269

• Total Loan Amount - 57,55,000/-

Fr. D. Vijaya Paul, Director

6. Blessing and Inauguration of Saint Mother Teresa Convent, Choppadandi

Saint Mother Teresa Convent is blessed and inaugurated by His Lordship Most Rev. Dr Udumala Bala, Bishop of Warangal and President of WADES at 5:30 pm on 18 July, 2021. Bishop has welcomed Missionary Sisters of Mother Mary to collaborate in Choppadandi Mission. This is the fourth community working in our Diocese. Indeed it was a great joy in the Mission of Choppadandi. Bishop has highlighted in the Mass services of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta and instructed to follow the spirit of her. Sr Jessy K. Varghese, Mother General of MSMM, Rev. Fr. Madanu Jaya Paul, Deputy Manager of WADES, Rev. Fr. Golamari Bala Martin, FCT Director and Rev Fr Reddimasu Thomas, Dean of Karimnagar, other fathers and religious have participated in the inauguration ceremony. Sr. Martha, Superior of Choppadandi remembered the generosity of Donors and thanked the every one for their valuable presence.



Fr. Bellamkonda Joseph Praveen, Choppadandi Mission Director

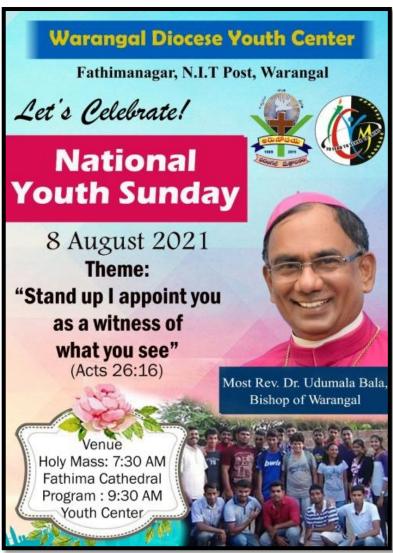
Van Mahotsav

(A special plantation drive on the occasion of PARENTS DAY)

Nature is God's most beautiful creation. Parents are the most valuable and precious gift of god to all of us. Sensing this we, St. Paul's High School, Jangaon came up with an innovative and noble campaign Van Mahotsav- a special plantation drive on the occasion of parent's day on 25th July, 2021 between 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. On this special day, every student from our school gifted a sapling to their parents as a sign of love towards them and planted a sapling in their home premises in the presence of them. Most of the parents expressed that this gift from their children is the most valuable gift they received in their life so far. Knowing this great campaign DEO of Jangaon visited our school and appreciated the great efforts taken by the management. The local MLA and other district authorities too applauded the management, staff, students and the parents saying that such little steps taken together by our school will surely help in fostering a strong sense of respect towards environment among the students. Overall, this campaign created a history involving all the students and parents to plant saplings at a time.

Fr. N. Maria Joseph, H.M& Correspondent

8. Arunodaya Youth Center



- **i. National Youth Sunday**: Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, Bishop of Warangal celebrates the Holy Mass in Cathedral at 7. 30 am and a Program for Youth in Diocesan level at Youth Center is arranged. Parish Priest kindly announce and encourage the Youth to participate in Diocese level on August 8, 2021. If it not possible to come to Fatimangar, kindly conduct special programs in your respective Parishes for Youth on National Youth Sunday and send the Pictures to me.
- **ii. Parish Youth Wattsapp Group**: Requesting Parish Priest to create the Parish Youth wattsapp group then we connect to Denary wise and then Diocesan Level. Kindly cooperate in this regard.

Fr. Simon, Director

9. Warangal Zonal Divyavani Social Communications:

Reflections: Clergy and Consecrated are welcome to give Spiritual Reflections which will be recorded in Warangal and send to Divyavani Social Communications, Hyderabad

Rosary/Divine Mercy Chaplet: Convents, Institutions and Parishes are welcome to give your voice we are ready to record.

Fr. Simon, Director

Birthday Babies in the Month of August Celebrate your Birthday today

Rev. Fr. S. Shobhan Reddy	03-08-1970
Rev. Fr. A. Vincent	06-08-1963
Rev. Fr. S. Mahipaul	09-08-1988
Rev. Fr. Y. Sebastian	11-08-1938
Rev. Fr. A. Inna	15-08-1965
Rev. Fr. T. Sunil	15-08-1977
Rev. Fr. D. Jaya Prathap	15-08-1971
Rev. Fr. P. Dasaiah	15-08-1979
Rev. Fr. T. Santosh	19-08-1987
Rev. Fr. A. Bala	21-08-1958
Rev. Fr. E. Vijay Kumar	25-08-1985
Rev. Fr. Y. Sathish	26-08-1984
Rev. Fr. T. Manohar	31-08-1972

