



Sanmaargi

— to shepherd HIS flock —

MDB 05/2021

MYSORE DIOCESAN BULLETIN

SEPT & OCT 2021



National Intercession Day

2nd October 2021

**May India shine among
all the nations**

BISHOP'S HOUSE
#2939, MOTHER THERESA ROAD, P. B. NO. 12
MYSURU - 570 001

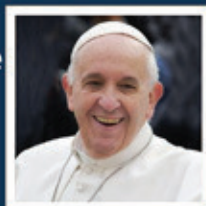
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HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION

September 2021

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



October 2021

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.

DIOCESAN INTENTION



September 2021

By His wounds we are healed

October 2021

To be under the Maternal Care of
Mother Mary-Health of the Sick

Congratulations

*to the newly ordained priest
Rev. Fr. Anthony Clifford*



Belong to God & His Church forever!



MDB 05/2021

MYSORE DIOCESAN BULLETIN

SEP & OCT 2021



SHEPHERD'S VOICE



Dear & Rev. Fathers/Brothers/Sisters/Laity,
Greetings from Bishop William, Mysore.

The months of September and October draws our attention on the two Marian feasts – the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary on 8th of September and the feast of Holy Rosary on 7th October. These feasts remind us the plan of God to humankind through His salvific mission. The Blessed Virgin Mary played an important and prominent role in this great project of God to us. The Nativity of Mary is well knitted to her Immaculate Conception and the Holy Rosary depicts the life, ministry, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. Mother Mary was with Jesus from the beginning till the end of His earthly life, and even after her death as Queen of Heaven and Earth. It is very meaningful to celebrate Girl Child's Day on 7th September. Girl children are a blessing to the humanity. May our Mother Mary protect and take care of them, so that the society may respect and support them for what they are. The feast of exaltation of Holy Cross on 14th September reminds the great Love of Jesus manifested for humankind on the Cross. Again, Mother Mary is at the foot of the Cross, being the part and parcel of the mission of Christ.

With the year of Christ the Healer in our diocese, we are called to be healed by His wounds and to be under the maternal care of Mother Mary – Health of the Sick. Due to the pandemic, we are not able to do much in this concern. However, through our prayers, specially through the reparation for the sins and the renewal of our inner selves and by the acts of mercy,

we are invited to be healed by the precious and Holy wounds of Jesus. Also, by the filial devotion to Mother Mary, we are encouraged to pray for all the sick, specially the ones who are suffering due to the pandemic, and more importantly who are suffering with the post Covid-19 effects. Let us also be instruments for the performance of miracle by God in their lives with good health, as Mother Mary did at Cana.

As we celebrate the World Mission Sunday on 24th October 2021 during the Marian Month (October), let us be involved in the mission of the Church by participating in the Synodality, as proposed by our Holy Father Pope Francis. Let us pray and also contribute generously for the cause of Proclamation. May Mary, the Mother of the Church and the star of evangelization pray for us.

With God's blessings

†**Bishop William**

Diocese of Mysore

IMPORTANT EVENTS

NATIONAL INTERCESSION DAY

On 2nd October we celebrate the National Intercession Day. We join with the Renewal Team praying for several intentions that the benovolent Lord will grant them for the good of all.

In our diocese, all the parish priests are requested to encourage the Lay Members of the Renewal Teams to conduct prayers in the parish campus under proper guidance and animation. Let us pray for each other, specially for our diocese.



ANNUAL RETREAT

As informed earlier, the diocesan annual retreat for this year 2021 for all our priests will be held in two batches as usual at Prabodhana Theologate, Mysuru. The first batch (Juniors) will begin the retreat on Monday, the 4th October 2021 at 05.30 pm and end with lunch on Saturday, the 9th October 2021. The second batch (Seniors) will begin the retreat on Monday, the 11th October 2021 at 05.30 pm and end with lunch on Saturday, the 16th October 2021. For those who require transport facilities to and fro Prabodhana, please contact the Financial Administrator of the Diocese.



I request every priest of the diocese to attend the Annual Retreat according to the list of the batches given in the Annexure of this bulletin. Let us participate in it for our own personal sanctification and for the good of our ministry in the Church. During the retreat, let us not disturb others in any way. A reminder to bring your personal mass diary and submit it to the Bishop during the retreat. For the list of the batches, kindly refer **Annexure – 01**.

ROSARY MONTH

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The best way to Honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for her intercession for us is to pray the rosary every day without fail. Let us meaningfully celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Rosary on the 7th October 2021, and continue to receive the blessings of Blessed Virgin Mary.



HALF YEARLY AUDIT (1ST APRIL TO 30TH SEPT. 2021)

The half yearly audit will be held from the 15th of October 2021 to 15th of November 2021. I request all the Secretaries of the registered

Parish Societies, and those whose accounts are consolidated with the diocesan societies like Mysore Diocesan Society and Mysore Diocesan Educational Society to kindly get the books of accounts audited on time. This will only give us an opportunity to rectify any errors and will also help us to keep our book of accounts upto date. Please co-operate.



SYNODALITY

In view of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Institution of the Synod of Bishops, our Holy Father Pope Francis has convoked the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in October 2023 with the theme “*For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission*”. In view of the preparation to this Synod, he invites the entire Church to participate from the parish to the Universal levels to journey together as pilgrim and missionary people of God.



Hence, we are directed to work together in different levels like parishes / religious communities / institutions / commissions, deaneries and the diocese in contributing by our life of Communion, Participation and Mission. Our Holy Father will inaugurate the preparation of this Synod on 9th and 10th of October 2021 in Vatican, and every diocese will do the same on 17th of October 2021. We shall inform you about the plan of action at various levels under the animation of the executive team headed by a co-ordinator in our diocese. Kindly co-operate for the same and pray for the success of the intention of our Holy Father Pope Francis in this regard. For more details about the forthcoming Synod and our role in this regard, kindly refer **Annexure – 02** of this bulletin.

MISSION SUNDAY

This year the World Mission Sunday falls on the 24th October 2021. This is an opportunity to support the mission dioceses and the faith formation

programme of the Church, to those who are in need of our help. Last year due to severe restrictions on account of the pandemic, we could not contribute very much as in the previous years. It has affected the mission work of the Universal Church. Hence, this year let us have a meaningful celebration and contribute generously for the cause of the Church. The Mission Sunday calendars and covers will be distributed by Rev. Fr. Jebamalai Muthu as usual. Kindly contact him in this regard. Let us make an attempt to support the Church and its mission in the best way possible. Please refer **Annexure - 03** for the Mission Sunday Message and Liturgical Text.



KODAGU HOUSING PROJECT

I am glad to inform that the diocese had initiated the housing project for the victims who suffered with the Kodagu Flood in 2018 & 2019. After lot of obstacles, we have almost completed the construction of 20 houses. I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for your support towards this noble cause, specially the Archdiocese of Bangalore for its support through Caritas India. The blessing and inauguration of these houses will be held in October 2021.



BLESSINGS & INAUGURATIONS

NEW CHURCH AT ABOORKATTE

On 1st of August 2021, the new church building was blessed and inaugurated at Aboorkatte, Somwarpet. We thank and congratulate Rev. Fr. Joseph Alexander and the parishioners for constructing this beautiful church.



NEW FLAG POST AT SRIRAMPURA

On 7th August 2021, a new grand Flag Post was blessed at the parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour at Srirampura in Mysore. We thank and congratulate Rev. Fr. M. Vincent and the donor Mr. Johnson & Fly for putting-up this elegant Flag Post.



NEW CHURCH AT HOLEKERE

On 17th August 2021, a new church, small but beautiful was blessed and inaugurated at Holekere, Nelliadudikeri of the parish at Siddapur. We thank and congratulate Rev. Fr. Michael Mari and the parishioners of the locality for the construction of the same.



RENOVATED SANCTUARY AT VIRGIN OF THE POOR CHURCH

On 23rd August 2021, the renovated sanctuary of the Virgin of the Poor Church in Mysuru was blessed. We thank and congratulate Rev. Fr. Thomas Becket D' Souza and the parishioners for this beautiful sanctuary.



SANCTUARIES AT MARIAMANGALAM

On 31st August 2021, the beautiful sanctuaries of resurrected Jesus, Our Lady of Presentation and the depictions of the Stations of the Cross around the parish church was blessed and inaugurated at Mariamangalam. We thank and congratulate Rev. Fr. Jnana Pragasam and the parishioners for the same.



INFORMATION

COVID 19

- On 1st July 2021, Ten Concentrators were handed over to the District Administration in Mysuru to use in two Government Hospitals as a lifesaving support for those who are infected by Covid - 19. We thank Caritas India for its support.
- Rev. Fr. Alex Prashanth Sequeira and his staff in collaboration with the donor agencies have distributed food kits worth nearly rupees Fifty Lakhs to several parishes in the diocese during the second wave of Covid-19. We thank them for the same.



FR. STAN SWAMY SJ

On 7th July 2021, we had prayer service at St. Philomena's College Chapel, Mysuru by the UCF members for Rev. Fr. Stan Swamy SJ, who served at the cost of suffering for the cause of the tribals and their rights. May his soul rest in peace.



ELDERS DAY

On 25th July 2021, as per the recommendation of the Holy Father Pope Francis, the first Elders Day was celebrated at Home for the Aged, Mysuru by the Little Sisters of the Poor. We thank the Rev. Sisters for their service to the aged inmates.



CONGRATULATIONS

This year the diocese of Mysore is blessed with the Ordination to Priesthood of Rev. Anthony Clifford from St. Theresa's Church, Mysore South. It was held in Mysore South on the 14th September 2021. Let us pray and wish him all the best in his Sacerdotal Ministry. May God continue to bless him to serve the Church selflessly.



APPOINTMENTS

- Rev. Fr. Denis D'Souza is appointed as the Spiritual Director of St. Mary's Minor Seminary, Mysuru.
- Rev. Fr. John Francis SDB is appointed as the Counsellor to help in psycho-spiritual concerns for priests, religious and laity in the diocese. His residence is in Satyaniketan (Catholic Centre), Bannimantap, Mysuru and his contact Number is: 9448786914.
- Rev. Fr. Antony Clifford is appointed as the Secretary to the Bishop of Mysore

NEW SUPERIOR GENERAL

Rev. Sr. Catherine Sona P. SSS is elected as the new Superior General of the Congregation of the Sisters of Sacred Sciences during their General Chapter held in the first week of July 2021. We congratulate and wish her all the best in the endeavors for the good of the Church through the congregation. We also thank Rev. Sr. Siji Narikulam SSS – the outgoing Superior General for her selfless service and co-operation.



NEW DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

We are in the process of printing the new Diocesan Directory. I request all the Parish Priests / Heads of Institutions / Superiors of Religious Houses in the Diocese to update the Office of the Bishop's Secretary on any changes in the name of the Superior, Postal address, email address, telephone number, mobile number or Whatsapp number. The office will take corrections till the 10th of October 2021. If no corrections are given, we will go ahead printing the data available with us. Kindly contact the Secretary to Bishop at his mobile No: 8088320291 and verify the data available with us, to avoid mistakes.

CONTACT NUMBERS & EMAIL ID'S

The following are the official contact numbers and email id's of the below mentioned members in the Bishop's House. Henceforth, for any official information to be communicated, you can call / mail to the following:

Financial Administrator	8884484388 financialadministrator@mysorediocese.com
Chancellor	7899608670 chancellor@mysorediocese.com
Secretary to Bishop	8088320291 secretarytobishop@mysorediocese.com

Please register these details in your contacts.

RENEWALS

As informed and reminded in my previous bulletin, the renewal of the 12A, 80G, FCRA and Societies / Trust have to be attended on time to avoid unnecessary difficulties.

- **Renewal of Societies:** There is an extension given by the Office of the Registrar of Societies to get the Societies / Trust renewed upto date on or before the 31st of Dec. 2021. This is an opportunity to be utilized by those parish societies who have been irregular in filing / renewing their societies. Let us avail this chance to set our records in order. I request you to kindly look into this matter and do the needful at the earliest.

- **Registration of new Societies / Trust:** There are a few parishes who are not yet registered as a Trust / Society, and their parish accounts are amalgamated into the diocesan Society. I request such parish priests to get in touch with the diocesan Financial Administrator in this regard. It is decided that every parish will be an independent Trust / Society at the earliest for better administration of finance and assets.
- **New FCRA bank account & renewal of FC3:** There is an extension for opening of FCRA bank account in State Bank of India, New Delhi and also for the renewal of FC3 in the Home Ministry. Hence, I request all those Parish Priests to avail this opportunity to update these records.

For any assistance with regard to the above matters of concern, you may contact the Financial Administrator of the Diocese or the Diocesan Auditors.

NEW RETAINING WALL

An RCC retaining wall measuring 148ft. in length and 21ft. in height is built at the campus of the parish at Napoklu in Kodagu as a safety measure to protect from danger due to heavy rains. We thank those who have contributed and supported for the same.

EARMARKED FUNDS

Herewith, you will find the earmarked contributions received from various parishes / institutions of the Diocese of Mysore. I thank you all for sending the same in time towards the specific purposes. I request those who have not sent yet the collections, to send them without delay. Please find enclosed the details of the earmarked collections received for the period of July to August 2021 in **Annexure – 04** of this bulletin.

THANK YOU

I take this opportunity to thank all the Deans and Rev. Fathers who arranged and participated in the Annual Society Meetings of the parishes and institutions. I also thank the Rev. Fathers for getting the accounts audited in time and submitting the same to the concerned authorities.

BIRTHDAYS:

The following priests of our Diocese have their Birthdays during the months of September and October. Our Prayerful wishes to them.

SEPTEMBER	Name	Mob. No.
06	Rev. Fr. Martin M.	9880278799
17	Rev. Fr. Joseph Marie A.	9448449149
25	Rev. Fr. Joseph Marie J.	73376692161

OCTOBER	Name	Mob. No.
04	Rev. Fr. Alex Prashanth Sequeira	7483514669
04	Rev. Fr. Francis Borgio CM	9444018512
06	Rev. Fr. Staney Almeida	8861110235
10	Rev. Fr. Ignatius Mascarenhas	9448504530
10	Rev. Fr. John Paul	7353135893
11	Rev. Fr. George Deepak	9480462216
16	Rev. Fr. Mari Raj	9845259128
23	Rev. Fr. David Sagayaraj	9740003161
27	Rev. Fr. Jerald Sequeira	8050045673
30	Rev. Fr. Praveen Kumar Gregory	7829127580



*We also wish a happy birthday to all the
Religious fathers, brothers and sisters
who celebrate their birthdays
in the month of September and October*

NECROLOGY :

We fondly remember the Mysore Diocesan Priests on their death anniversary during the month of September and October. With gratitude we pray for the departed for their service.

September

17.09.2005	Rev. Fr. Francois Marie Godest
19.09.1982	Rev. Fr. Fraigneau Julien
21.09.1979	Rev. Fr. Percy D'Cruz

October

02.10.1992	Rev. Fr. Jerome S.
02.10.1964	Rev. Fr. Cyril Noronha
03.10.1979	Rev. Fr. Frank D'Souza
06.10.1955	Rev. Fr. Joseph Louis
07.10.1979	Rev. Fr. Francis D'Souza
11.10.1988	Rev. Fr. David Doraisamy
19.10.1979	Rev. Fr. Thomas Vazhapilly
26.10.2017	Rev. Fr. Charles A. Lourdunathan



We also pray for the departed souls of religious priests, brothers and sisters on their death anniversary in the month of September and October for their service in our Diocese.

WHATSAPP MESSAGES FROM THE DIOCESE (JULY – AUG 2021)

Date: 01.07.2021



Date : 06.07.2021

FUNERAL OF A SAINT OF OUR TIME

Only 20 people are allowed tomorrow for the “Memorial Mass” of late ✚Father Stan Swamy✚ at Saint Peter’s Church, Bandra. The list is already filled with Priests of Society of Jesus (SJ).

Hence everyone is requested to view the mass online on Saint Peters Church YouTube Channel (Bandra).

KINDLY JOIN ONLINE LIVESTREAMING and Pray for the departed soul of Fr. Stan.

Date : 6 July, 2021.

Time : 12 noon

<https://youtube.com/c/StPetersChurchBandra>

Please do not arrive at the Church since Covid Protocols are in place.

No one will be allowed entry, since the list is already full.

- Fr. Frazer Mascarenhassj

Date: 07.07.2021**SAD DEMISE**

Dear Rev. Fathers/ Brothers/ Sisters and Laity,

Mrs. J. Philomena Antrick, aged 77 years - the beloved mother of Bishop William passed away today the 07th July 2021 at 4.15 pm due to prolonged sickness. May her soul rest in peace.

We also convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members.

Bishop's House

Mysore

Date: 18.07.2021

Dear Rev. Fathers/ Brothers/ Sisters and Laity,

Happy to know that the State Government has revised the SOP and permitted to have Holy Masses in our churches. Hence, all the parish priests are requested to do the needful keeping in mind the norms of thermal scanning, sanitizing, wearing mask and maintaining social distance. Kindly follow the Government guidelines strictly.

Let our liturgical celebrations bring blessings of protection from this Pandemic.

Bishop's House

Mysore

Date: 26.07.2021
Most Rev. Dr. K. A. William
 BISHOP OF MYSORE

 BISHOP'S HOUSE
 2939, Mother Theresa Road (B.N. Road)
 Lashkar Mohalla, MYSURU-570 001
 KARNATAKA, INDIA

Ref: BM/OA-01/678/2021

Date:24.07.2021.....

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dear & Rev. Father / Brother / Sister,

Greetings from Bishop William, Diocese of Mysore.

We thank God for the present relief and relaxation after the second wave of the Pandemic Covid -19. This year, the consequences of the pandemic was worse than last year. Several of us, and our near and dear ones were sick, and we have lost few of them. May God protect all of us from further disaster of the pandemic, as the whole humanity is affected severely. Let us continue to pray for this cause.

Herewith, I am sending some important information. Kindly go through and co-operate in this regard.

1. The next **Clergy Conference** for our Priests will be held on the 2nd and 3rd of August 2021 at Satyaniketan, Catholic Centre, Mysuru. It will commence at 10.00 am on Monday - 2nd August 2021 and end on Tuesday, 3rd August 2021 with lunch. Let us celebrate the Feast of St. John Marie Vianney, the Patron of Diocesan Priests during this gathering. I request all the diocesan and religious priests of our Diocese to attend the Clergy Conference.
2. This year, we could not have the **annual fellowship gathering** of the Diocesan Clergy and the Religious. The Vianney celebration is a good occasion for the same to express our solidarity. Hence, I request all the religious communities to join atleast with two representatives on 3rd August 2021 at Satyaniketan, Catholic Centre, Mysuru at 09.30 am for the input session, the Holy Eucharist followed by the Agape Meal. I cordially welcome you all to participate in this celebration.
3. Please note, that the above celebrations mentioned in numbers (1) and (2) will be conducted with the **norms** of thermal screening, sanitizing, wearing mask, and maintaining social distance. It is better that those who have received their first dose of the vaccination can attend this fellowship gathering.
4. On Wednesday - the 4th August 2021, we celebrate the feast of **St. John Mary Vianney** - the Patron of Diocesan Priests. Let us remember all our priests on this day and pray that we may be another Christ with an indelible priestly character taking care of the people entrusted to us.
5. The CCBI has recommended to join in an hour of **National Prayer Service** for the Health of the World on Saturday, the 7th August 2021 from 08.30 pm to 09.30 pm which will be conducted from the tombs of St. Thomas - the Apostle, 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 with a Eucharistic Benediction will be telecasted on Catholic satellite television channels like Madha TV, Shalom TV, Goodness TV, Divyavani TV, Atmadarshan TV, Ishvani TV, CCR TV and

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Most Rev. Dr. K. A. William
 BISHOP OF MYSORE



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 KARNATAKA, INDIA

Ref :

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Date :

Prarthana Bhawan TV. It will also be streamed through leading Catholic YouTube channels. All are requested to partake in this prayer service online.

6. As scheduled in July first week 2021, we could not have the **Society Meetings** in our diocese. However, as part of the norms of the Societies Act, we are bound to have as usual meetings of our Societies, and other Parishes / Institutions in the Deanery level, with the submission of the Annual Accounts.

Hence, let us have the Annual meeting of the Societies on the date and place as mentioned below:

DATE	PLACE	DEANERY
14/8/2021	Cathedral	Mysore
16/8/2021	Mercara	Kodagu
17/8/2021	Hunsur	Hunsur
18/8/2021	Kollegal	Kollegal
19/8/2021	Chamarajanagar	Chamarajanagar
20/8/2021	Mandya	Mandya
23/8/2021	St. Philomena's College	Mysore

The meeting will begin at 9.30 am in all the places. Kindly audit your accounts in time and keep it ready for the said meeting. For your kind information the auditors have already begun their job in their office at Bishop's House, Mysuru.

7. The **transfer** for our priests are as follows:

1	Fr. S. J. Alexander	St. Lawrence Church, Aboorkatte	Holy Redeemer Church, Shanthinagar
2	Fr. John G. D' Cunha	Holy Family Church, Kudige	St. Lawrence Church, Aboorkatte
3	Fr. Charles Noronha	O.L. Lourdes Church, Pollibetta	Holy Family Church, Kudige
4	Fr. Lourdu Prasad	Nirmala Mathe Church, Kutta	St. Joseph's Church, Mandya + Correspondent
5	Fr. Stephen Joseph	St. Sebastian's Church, Chettalli	O. L. Good Health Church, Rathnapuri
6	Fr. R. Anthony Swamy	Mother of God Church, Jakkalli	Sacred Heart Church, Naganahalli
7	Fr. Belavendran	Holy Redeemer Church, Shanthinagar	St. Joseph's Church, Otterthotti
8	Fr. Durai Swamy	St. Anthony's Church, Jageri	O. L. of Lourdes Church, Gundlupet + Correspondent
9	Fr. Siluvainathan	Holy Cross Church, Belawadi	Mother of God Church, Jakkalli + Correspondent
10	Fr. Jebamalai Muthu	Catholic Centre, Mysuru	Nirmala Mathe Church, Kutta
11	Fr. John Sequeira	St. Joseph's Church, Mandya	Holy Cross Church, Belawadi
12	Fr. Irudhayaraj	Vice Rector, St. Anthony's Basilica, Domahalli	St. Mathias Church, Malavalli

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Ref :

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Date :

13	Fr. Vijayaraj Jaunet	Mary - Mother of Humanity Church, Mandya West	Karnataka Regional Pastoral Centre, Bangalore
14	Fr. Nehru Muthu	Campus Administrator - MDES	St. Anthony's Church, Jageri + Correspondent
15	Fr. Jerald Sequeira	Studies - M.Th	St. Sebastian's Church, Chettalli
16	Fr. Joseph Packiaraj	St. Joseph's Church, Otterthotti	Chancellor, Bishop's House, Mysuru
17	Fr. Joseph Marie J.	St. Mathias Church, Malavalli	Catholic Centre, Mysuru
18	Fr. Chinnappa I.	Asst. St. Francis Assisi Church, Kollegal & Cluster Correspondent	Mary - Mother of Humanity Church, Mandya West
19	Fr. Maria Xavier		Parish Priest, Infant Jesus Church, Pushpagiri + Correspondent/ Director MDCCRS
20	Fr. Sebastian Gilbert	Asst. O. L. Lourdes Church, Martalli	Asst. St. Francis Assisi Church, Kollegal + Cluster Correspondent
21	Fr. Avinash	Asst. Sacred Heart Church, Naganahalli	Campus Administrator - MDES

Retirement & Medical Leave:

1	Fr. Angelo Pais	O. L. Good Health Church, Rathnapuri	Prashantha Nilaya, Mysuru
2	Fr. Henry Monteiro	O. L. Lourdes Church, Gundlupet	Medical Leave


Religious:

1	Fr. Evan Gomes SVD	St. Mother Theresa Church, Rajivnagar
2	Fr. Maria George MSFS	O.L. of Lourdes Church, Polibetta
3	Fr. Xavier Christopher SJ	Asst. St. Joseph's Church - J L Puram
4	Fr. Sunder Uthriyaraj CppS	Asst. St. Anthony's Basilica, Dornahalli
5	Fr. Arun Raj CPPS	Asst. St. Joseph's Cathedral, Mysuru
6	Fr. Prince HGN	Asst. St. John Paul II Church, Kesare

I take this opportunity to thank all the diocesan and religious priests who served in our parishes and institutions. I wish all the best to the Rev. Fathers who have taken charge of the above mentioned responsibilities in their future endeavors. A special word of thanks to Rev. Fr. Angelo Pais who has completed 75 years of age and is retired from active ministry. His contribution to Diocese is praise worthy. We wish him a healthy and happy retired life.

Let us continue to pray for our diocese, specially for the good health of our humanity during this year of Christ the Healer, through the intercession of St. Joseph – the patron of the Universal Church.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy.


 † Bishop K. A. William
 Diocese of Mysore



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PRESIDENT *Jesuit Conference of India*

National Justice Day

28 July 2021

Press Release

To pay our deep respects to Fr. Stan Swamy SJ and carry forward his legacy, we, the concerned citizens of India, stand in solidarity to observe 28 July 2021 as a **National Justice Day**.

Amidst growing inequalities, violence, atrocities, discrimination and exclusion in our country, "not to be a silent spectator" is the message that Stan Swamy left for us. He inspired us to sing the values of the Preamble to the Constitution of our country - Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity - amidst the adversities, as "the caged bird can still sing and sing in chorus." As a Jesuit, he committed himself to walk with the excluded, whose dignity is violated, in a mission of Reconciliation and Justice.

Stan's death is not an end; it is yet another moment of awakening in our journey to affirm our faith in the Constitution of our country. Stan has joined the company of Adivasi martyrs and all those who sacrificed their lives to protect the secular and democratic fabric and diverse cultures of our nation. Stan's death is a moment of deep consolation, as he has united people across cultures, religions and nationalities to walk boldly and courageously in the path of justice to human family and creation.

Stan Swamy stands tall today as an icon of justice to the marginalized. In his death, he has risen in the hearts of many as a cult figure. Through his lifelong accompaniment of the Adivasis, Dalits and marginalized communities and by his martyrdom, he has given us a new ethical mandate to be compassionate, to be the voice of the voiceless and defenders of human rights, speaking truth to power.

At this moment, we profoundly acknowledge and affirm his prophetic spirit that urges us to demand justice for Stan and all the accused in Bhima Koregaon case. Insistently we ask the Central Government, to free the human rights defenders and the under-trial prisoners languishing in jails in appalling conditions and, above all, to defend democracy, to repeal Sedition Law, Unlawful Atrocities (Prevention) Act, and repressive State laws and to restore citizens' right to dissent. On this day, we give to ourselves this mandate.

Trusting in the immense power of God and together with all people of goodwill, we sing in chorus the words of Rabindranath Tagore: "Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."


Dr. Stanislaus D'Souza SJ
Jesuit Provincial of India
28 July 2021



Jesuit Residence, 225 Jor Bagh, New Delhi 110 003 | Email (Office) : president@jcsacuria.org
Website : www.jesuitconferenceofindia.org | Phone : (011) 24642862, 43525831

Stan Swamy's Life and Works as a Jesuit Human Rights Defender

Stan Swamy was born on 26 April 1937 in a village in Trichy district of Tamil Nadu. He finished his early schooling from St. Joseph's at Trichy. Inspired by the work of Jesuits there, he joined the Jesuits. After his novitiate, he opted to join Jamshedpur province, and came to Jharkhand to do his Juniorate at St. Stanislaus College, Sitagarha in 1960. He graduated at St. Xavier's College, Ranchi in 1962 and he completed Philosophy studies at Shembaganur in 1965.

It was in 1967 when he was appointed as a teacher and hostel prefect at St. Xavier's High School, Lupungutu, Chaibasa in Jharkhand where he got an opportunity to visit the families and villages of his students. It was here that he fell in love with the tribals. The HoAdivasis from remote villages come to the weekly market in Chaibasa, where they would be cheated and exploited by non-Adivasi-merchants. Reflecting on such experiences, Stan said, "I felt pain but could not do anything about it." These early exposures gave him first-hand experiences of Adivasi life and culture. He did his theology studies and Masters in sociology simultaneously from Manila, Philippines in 1970. He said, "My masters in sociology dealt with indigenous peoples' life and struggles which helped me understand the dynamics of their struggles against exploitation in other parts of the world as well."

He was ordained a priest on 14 April 1970 in Manila; his first assignment was as the Director of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) near Jamshedpur. He established an office for CRS, built a warehouse to store relief materials, trained two of his old students to manage the activities and he moved on, for he did not want to be distributing food to the poor to be called a 'saint', but went on to question why there were too many poor people without access to food. Around this time, he attended a training at ISI Bangalore on Community Mobilisation and Development, after which he moved to Baraibir, a remote rural Ho village and spent nearly a year living there. He spent his time contacting the youth of the area and helping them to think critically about their life in society. Soon, a few old students and some other volunteers from AICUF joined him. The villagers offered them

a small plot in the middle of their village. They built a small house there with a room and a kitchen.

Meanwhile, he got an opportunity to be a 'free student' at the Department of Social Sciences in Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, where he further equipped himself in social analysis. Back in India, during 1975-1991, he taught a short-term course on 'Social Analysis and Community Organisation'. Youth from different states of India and the neighbouring countries - Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal – participated in the course. Outcomes of his early efforts to train people in scientific social analysis and his lived example of taking sides with the oppressed and exploited in solidarity, have inspired many social activists in South Asia and beyond.

In 1991, Stan came back to his "first love" – the Adivasis of Jharkhand. He said, "Thanks to everyone, I'm still with Adivasis." He first stayed in Chaibasa (1993-2001), West Singhbhum and helped to revive the activities of JOHAR (Jharkhandi's Organization for Human Rights), a secular organisation that accompanies the Adivasis in their struggles. A few Jesuits, involved in Adivasis' struggles to protect their ancestral land and livelihood-resources, especially with the Netarhat Field Firing Range and Koel-Karo hydro-electric dam projects, felt the need to establish a social apostolate centre in Ranchi to coordinate the efforts of people's movements in resisting massive displacement and other processes of pauperization of marginalized societies. Stan took up the responsibility to coordinate the people's movements and to set up a social apostolate centre called BAGAICHA. With this newly assumed responsibility, Stan moved to Ranchi in 2002. Eventually, he set up Bagaicha in a piece of land gifted by the Jesuit province of Ranchi. It has been a platform for people from various communities to come together to discuss their issues and reach a decision through a process of consensus. Stan, Bagaicha's founding director, has been staying here till his arrest.

He remained consistently alert to the state's policies that violated the protective provisions of Adivasi land and resources. He organised workshops, trainings, meetings and discussions in solidarity with socially concerned persons to discuss the issues affecting underprivileged peoples.

He participated in their struggles against displacement and dispossession due to land alienation by various “development” projects proposed to be set up in predominantly Adivasi regions. He regularly wrote about the existing provisions – constitutional and legal – that aimed to protect people’s resources, advocating the state to implement and abide by them.

Stan’s most recent works include preparing training documents to create awareness against the ordinance amending the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, gathering data about the land bank that was being created by the BJP government in Jharkhand to alert people on the impending dangers of becoming landless in their own villages. In 2014, he also initiated a study on under-trial prisoners, published the findings of the study in 2015 and filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the High Court of Jharkhand in 2017 demanding complete details of all arrested under the draconian law - UAPA.

Meanwhile, towards the end of the same year, the local (Khunti district) police foisted a case of sedition on Stan and other 19 social activists merely based on their comments on Facebook, about a few news items related to a resistance movement called Pathalgadi by the MundaAdivasi group, to defend their rights to resources and local self-governance. The Khunti police confiscated some of the belongings from Stan’s room in relation to the Pathalgadi case. Further, on 28 August 2018, Stan’s room was raided by the Maharashtra police. During the raid, the police took away the hard disk of his computer, mobile sim card and a few other electronic items. The reason for the raid, according to the police, was to check if he had any relation to the Elgar-Parishad, a gathering of social and cultural activists from Dalit communities across Maharashtra to plan the celebration of Dalit’s victory over the so-called “upper caste” Peshwar king of Bhima-Koregaon near Pune in the 1800s. It is a fact that Stan had no relation whatsoever with Elgar-Parishad and Bhima-Koregaon.

After this, there was a second raid on 12 June 2019, by NIA as the Bhima-Koregaon case was handed over to the NIA to be investigated, as the BJP was thrown out of power in Maharashtra. After a year of uncertainty,

on 27, 28, 29, 30 of July and 6, 8 of August 2020, an officer from NIA interrogated Stan at his residence at Bagaicha. And finally, amidst the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, on 8 October 2020 he was arrested and taken to Taloja prison in Mumbai by the NIA. After spending about 9 months in prison, his health deteriorated; he tested Covid-19 positive towards the end of June 2021; developed post-covid complications, was admitted at Holy Family Hospital Bandra Mumbai at the intervention of the High Court, Mumbai, and breathed his last on 05 July 2021 as an under-trial prisoner himself. His 15 companions in solidarity and arrested and imprisoned in relation to the same case, continue to be under-trial prisoners in the same case.

His deep faith in the historical life of Jesus helped him to closely live and work in solidarity with the most deprived, defending their rights and dignity. May his beautiful life of commitment and courage to fight for people's rights fearlessly continue to inspire and strengthen us.

P.M. Tony, SJ

Bagaicha

Date: 29.07.2021

CONGREGATIO DE CULTU DIVINO
ET DISCIPLINA SACRAMENTORUM

Prot. N. 35/21

DECREE

**on the Celebration of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus
in the General Roman Calendar**

In the household of Bethany the Lord Jesus experienced the family spirit and friendship of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, and for this reason the Gospel of John states that he loved them. Martha generously offered him hospitality, Mary listened attentively to his words and Lazarus promptly emerged from the tomb at the command of the One who humiliated death.

The traditional uncertainty of the Latin Church about the identity of Mary - the Magdalene to whom Christ appeared after his resurrection, the sister of Martha, the sinner whose sins the Lord had forgiven - which resulted in the inclusion of Martha alone on 29 July in the Roman Calendar, has been resolved in recent studies and times, as attested by the current Roman Martyrology, which also commemorates Mary and Lazarus on that day. Moreover, in some particular calendars the three siblings are already celebrated together.

Therefore, the Supreme Pontiff Pope FRANCIS, considering the important evangelical witness they offered in welcoming the Lord Jesus into their home, in listening to him attentively, in believing that he is the resurrection and the life, and accepting the proposal of this Dicastery, has decreed that 29 July be designated in the General Roman Calendar as the Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus.

The Memorial must therefore appear under this title in all Calendars and Liturgical Books for the celebration of Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours; the variations and additions to be adopted in the liturgical texts, attached to the present decree, must be translated, approved and, after confirmation by this Dicastery, published by the Episcopal Conferences.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments,
26 January 2021, Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops.

Robert Card. Sarah
Prefect

✠ Arthur Roche
Archbishop Secretary



Conference of Catholic Bishops of India

CCBI Centre, P.B.No.8490, Hutchins Road 2nd Cross, Bangalore - 560 084, India.

Phone: + 91 - 96861 10810, 96323 81810

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Ref: CCBI/CIR-09

26 July 2021

To All Members of the CCBI

Your Eminence/Grace/Excellency/Rev. Monsignor,

Cordial greetings from the CCBI General Secretariat.

As I have communicated to you earlier (Ref: CCBI/08, dated 10 July, 2021), the National Prayer Service for the Health of the World will be conducted on Saturday, 7 August 2021, from 8.30 to 9.30 pm, 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 with a Eucharistic Benediction will be telecast on Catholic satellite television channels like Madha TV, Shalom TV, Goodness TV, Divyavani TV, Atmadarshan TV, Ishvani TV, CCR TV and Prarthana Bhawan TV; it will also be streamed through leading Catholic YouTube channels.

I request you to share the attached electronic copy of the Prayer Service with all your parishes, religious communities, institutions and lay faithful. Encourage everyone to actively take part in the Prayer Service by making use of the enclosed prayer text.

It is our earnest desire that all the faithful in India and our people abroad should be encouraged to pray as one family during that hour. Let us pray 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.



Yours fraternally in JESUS,

+ Filipe Neri Ferrão

(+ Filipe Neri Ferrão)

President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India
Archbishop of Goa and Daman

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Date: 31.07.2021



**National
PRAYER SERVICE**
FOR THE HEALTH OF THE WORLD
Let Us Unite in Prayer

SATURDAY, 7 AUGUST 2021
8.30 - 9.30 PM

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 Vallankanni.

LIVE TELECAST
 Madhu TV, Shalom TV,
 Goodness TV, Divyavani TV,
 Atmadarshan TV, Ishvani TV,
 CCR TV and Prarthana Bhawan TV

YouTube
 CCBI Conference of Catholic Bishops of India

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Date: 01.08.2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Mysore Diocesan Service of Communion (MDSC) organizes a Spiritual Recollection and Renewal retreat called JEEVA JWALE – 2021.

Date: 07 August 2022, Saturday (6pm) to 08 August 2021, Sunday (4pm)

Venue: Catholic Centre, Mysuru

Registration: Free

Preachers: Most Rev. Dr. KA William, Bishop of Mysore

Rev. Fr. Franklin D'Souza, Spiritual Director, KRSC

The retreat is open for all members of CCR who are willing to renew their commitment and join together in the mission of Universal Church. Please participate in the retreat. Come, let us rekindle the gifts of God within us.

Rev. Fr. Maria Xavier

Spiritual Director, MDSC

Date: 12.08.2021

Dear & Rev. Father,

Greetings from Bishop's House, Mysore.

A gentle reminder to inform you that the Annual Society Meeting for all the Parishes / Institutions will begin from 14th August 2021. The details of the same is as mentioned below:

Time: 09.30 am

DATE	PLACE/ DEANERY
14/8/2021	Mysore
16/8/2021	Kodagu
17/8/2021	Hunsur
18/8/2021	Kollegal
19/8/2021	Chamarajanagar
21/8/2021	Mandya
23/8/2021	St. Philomena's College, Mysore

Kindly bring along with you copy of the Audited Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2020-2021. This year the Auditors have issued the Provisional Statements for all the parishes / institutions, so that any corrections / observations identified during the Society Meeting, can be updated to the Auditors to take a Final copy of the Statements. This is to avoid multiple print outs and wastage of papers.

Secondly, all those parishes which are amalgamated into the Mysore Diocesan Society Account will leave the books of accounts along with the vouchers and the copy of bank passbooks of the previous financial years including 2020-2021 in the Diocesan Office for Income Tax Verification. You may obtain an acknowledgement from the Procurator after submitting the same. Please Co- operate. Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Fr. James Dominic

Financial Administrator

Date: 19.08.2021

Rev Fathers & Sisters,

Greetings from St. Philomena's College.

The 6th Convocation of St. Philomena's College which was held on 17th August 2021 may be viewed by using the following YouTube Link: Convocation link:https://youtu.be/uH6oTJYV_bg. Continue to support & pray for us!

Thank You!

With Regards

Rector

St. Philomena's Educational Institutions, Mysore

Date: 21.08.2021

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers, Sisters & Laity,

The family Commission of our Diocese is organizing the marriage preparation course on Wednesday, the 25th at 9.00 am and Thursday, the 26th till 4.00 pm of August 2021 at Catholic Centre, Mysuru as they are not able to conduct it during weekends. Hence, the would-be couples and the recently married couples can attend the same, and benefit.

Secretary

Family Commission

Diocese of Mysore

Date: 29.08.2021

SAD DEMISE

Dear Rev. Fathers/ Brothers/ Sisters and Laity,

Sr. Annette from CSST, former principal of Teresiancollege, presently at Nirmala convent in Mysore passed away yesterday (28.08.2021).

The Funeral Mass Will be held today (29th August 2021) in Nirmala Convent Chapel at 3.00 pm, and thereafter, the burial service will be held at DivyaKrupa Convent Campus in Nagoonahalli. May her soul rest in peace.

Our heartfelt condolences to the CSSTs and the bereaved family members.

Bishop's House

Mysore

ANNEXURE - 01

DIOCESAN ANNUAL RETREAT – 2021

FIRST BATCH: 04TH – 09TH OCTOBER 2021

1. REV. FR. MADALAI MUTHU
2. REV. FR. BELAVENDRA SAGAYARAJ
3. REV. FR. CHRISTOPHER CLARET SESU A
4. REV. FR. GEORGE DEEPAK
5. REV. FR. ARUL SELVA KUMAR
6. REV. FR. BERNARD PRAKASH BARNIS
7. REV. FR. JOHN SEQUEIRA
8. REV. FR. SOOSAI
9. REV. FR. FRANCIS XAVIER
10. REV. FR. JOSEPH MARIE A.
11. REV. FR. JOSEPH MARIE J.
12. REV. FR. WILFRED
13. REV. FR. IGNASI MUTHU
14. REV. FR. JOSEPH PACKIARAJ
15. REV. FR. MARTIN M.
16. REV. FR. STEPHEN JOSEPH
17. REV. FR. ANTHONY RAJ E
18. REV. FR. RAYAPPA M.
19. REV. FR. RAYMOND
20. REV. FR. JOHN SAGAYA PUSHPARAJ
21. REV. FR. RONALD DANTHI
22. REV. FR. RONY RAVI KUMAR
23. REV. FR. SANTOSH KUMAR
24. REV. FR. STANEY D'ALMEIDA
25. REV. FR. VINCENT T.
26. REV. FR. ISAAC RATHNAKAR
27. REV. FR. GNANA PRAKASH

28. REV. FR. RAJESH
29. REV. FR. ANTHONY RAJU J.
30. REV. FR. ALEX PRASHANTH SEQUEIRA
31. REV. FR. CHRISTOPHER SAGAYARAJ
32. REV. FR. MANUEL D'SOUZA
33. REV. FR. PAUL C.
34. REV. FR. VIJETH MARTIN
35. REV. FR. TENNY KURIEN
36. REV. FR. DURAI SWAMY
37. REV. FR. SANJAY KUMAR
38. REV. FR. JOMI C. J.
39. REV. FR. NAVEEN KUMAR
40. REV. FR. ROHAN A.
41. REV. FR. VIJAY RAJ JAUNET
42. REV. FR. VIJAY KUMAR
43. REV. FR. JNANA PRAGASAM
44. REV. FR. MARIA XAVIER
45. REV. FR. CHINNAPPA I.
46. REV. FR. IRUDAYARAJ
47. REV. FR. ROXAN THOMAS BAROS
48. REV. FR. NEHRU MUTHU
49. REV. FR. PRAVEEN KUMAR PEDRU
50. REV. FR. ROSHAN BABU
51. REV. FR. JOHN PAUL R.
52. REV. FR. GILBERT SEBASTIAN
53. REV. FR. PRAVEEN KUMAR GREGORY
54. REV. FR. ANTHONY RAJ R
55. REV. FR. AROKIA RAJ LEONARD
56. REV. FR. PRAVEEN KUMAR ANTHONYRAJ
57. REV. FR. AVINASH H. N.
58. REV. FR. ANTHONY CLIFFORD

SECOND BATCH: 11TH - 16TH OCTOBER 2021

01. REV. FR. LOUIS NORONHA
02. MOST REV. DR. THOMAS A. VAZHAPILLY
03. REV. FR. ALOYSIUS MENEZES
04. REV. FR. CYRIL D'SOUZA
05. REV. FR. IGNATIUS MASCARENHAS
06. REV. FR. ANGELO PIAS
07. REV. FR. MARIAN PINTO
08. REV. FR. HENRY MONTEIRO
09. REV. FR. DENIS D'SOUZA
10. REV. FR. JOSEPH G.
11. REV. FR. JOSEPH RODRIGUES
12. REV. FR. DAYANANDA PRABHU
13. REV. FR. SANTIAGO L.
14. REV. FR. WILLIAM E. PINTO
15. REV. FR. STANISLAUS MANICKAM
16. REV. FR. THOMAS BECKET D'SOUZA
17. REV. FR. VINCENT FERNANDES
18. REV. FR. ALFRED JOHN MENDONCA
19. REV. FR. JOHN D'CUNHA
20. REV. FR. SILUVAINATHAN
21. REV. FR. RAYAPPA J.
22. REV. MSGR. RAYAPPA C.
23. REV. FR. GEORGE MARTIZ
24. REV. FR. JACOB KOLLANOOR
25. REV. FR. JOSEPH N. T.
26. REV. FR. CHARLES NORONHA
27. REV. MSGR. LESLIE MORAS
28. REV. FR. JOHANNES L.
29. REV. FR. PAULUS THOMAS
30. REV. FR. AROGYA SWAMY R
31. REV. FR. MICHAEL MARI

32. REV. FR. VINCENT M.
33. REV. FR. ANTHAPPA M.
34. REV. FR. MARI RAJ
35. REV. FR. ANTHONY SWAMY R.
36. REV. FR. GILBERT ARANHA
37. REV. FR. JOHN LOUIS
38. REV. FR. PATRICK XAVIER
39. REV. FR. LOURDU PRASAD
40. REV. FR. JAYARAJ D.
41. REV. FR. JOHN PETER REGO
42. REV. FR. JERALD SEQUEIRA
43. REV. FR. JOSEPH ALEXANDER
44. REV. FR. M. XAVIER
45. REV. FR. ANTHONAPPA C.
46. REV. FR. ANTHONAPPA J
47. REV. FR. EDWARD W. SALDANHA
48. REV. FR. GILBERT D'SILVA
49. REV. FR. JEBAMALAI MUTHU
50. MOST REV. DR. K. A. WILLIAM
51. REV. FR. JOHN BOSCO
52. REV. FR. MICHAEL AUGUSTINE PRO
53. REV. FR. JAMES DOMINIC
54. REV. FR. CHARLES JOSEPH
55. REV. FR. DAVID SAGAYARAJ
56. REV. FR. VALENTINE R. KUMAR
57. REV. FR. CHRISTOPHER M.

ANNEXURE - 02

“FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION”

PREPARING FOR THE FORTHCOMING SYNOD OCTOBER 2021 TO OCTOBER 2023

I. Introduction

The early Church was able to restore and strengthen the unity of the Body of Christ, the Church, because all Christians made efforts to cultivate and nurture relationships between the pastors and the faithful. We could find roots of our present day “synodality” in the above-mentioned initiatives of the early Church. The ancient tradition, known as ‘synod’, was revived by Pope (St) Paul VI in 1965, towards the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council. The Synod was conceived by Pope Paul VI as a way to continue the collegial experience of the Second Vatican Council¹. By now several Synods have taken place in the course of these years (1974-2018; e.g., the first Synod – after Vatican II – was on “Evangelisation in the Modern World”, which took place in 1974; *Evangelii Nuntiandi* the fruit of this first Synod). There have been some ‘extraordinary’ Synod Assemblies as and when the occasions have called for.

II. The Forthcoming Synod: A decentralised Synod

During the ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of the institution of the Synod of Bishops (2015), Pope Francis expressed his desire for a common path for “laity, pastors, the Bishop of Rome.” The forthcoming Synod, **“For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”**, will be for the first time a “decentralised” Synod. It will be a new way of living the Synodal Journey, an integral synodal process.

Pope Francis desires that the whole Church continually lives “*synodally*” and wants that every baptized be involved actively in the synod assembly.

¹The Synod of Bishops (Apostolic Synod) was formally announced by Paul VI at the beginning of the fourth session (of the Second Vatican Council) in the “*motuproprio*”, *Apostolica Sollicitudo* (September 15, 1965). At least 85% of those taking part are to be elected by the episcopate. The Pope will convoke the Synod and provide its agenda. The Synod is to act in the name of the entire Catholic episcopate and, therefore, the Synod is to demonstrate that all the bishops in hierarchical communion share in the responsibility for the universal Church (cf. CD, 5; LG, 2).

Every baptized person has a role to play in the Church, as well as in the mission of the Church in the world. Synod promotes the baptismal dignity and the call of every baptized; the synod values the presence of different gifts given to all the baptized by the Holy Spirit and recognizes the specific ministry entrusted to pastors and bishops in communion with the Pope for the preservation of the faith and the renewal of the Church. St Ignatius of Loyola teaches that the “Church is both, our hierarchical Mother and also the holy faithful people of God”. Every bishop is both, teacher and disciple: teacher, when endowed with specific assistance of the Holy spirit and, disciple when, together with every baptized person, he listens to the voice of Christ speaking through the entire people of God. The document from the General Secretariat (June 2021) states “The fullness of the synodal process can only and truly exist if the local churches are involved in that process”. It is expected that **the preparatory reflection begins in every parish of the world, moving to the diocesan, and then to the national bishops’ conferences as well as continental conferences, culminating at the Coordinating Synod Secretariat in the Holy See.** Then the synod assembly will begin with actual formal deliberations and lasts for approximately three to four weeks”.

III. What does really Synodality mean?

The term “synodality” itself is of recent origin. Synodality is the fruit, of subsequent theological reflection on the Second Vatican Council. Synodality authentically translates and summarises the ecclesiology of communion emphatically expressed by the Council. Synodality brings together the “imperatives” of co-responsibility, collaboration and genuine consultation between Church leaders and the lay faithful. It involves the active participation of all members of the Church as the Church consults, discerns and cooperates “at every level of decision making and mission”. While not intended to undermine the hierarchical structure of the Church, it is considered to be the antidote to clericalism, in turn allowing a more authentic response to the action of the Holy Spirit.

Roots of synodality and the way in which it necessitates the participation of the baptized in the life of the Church are found in Vatican II. When the term synodality is applied to the Church, it is not meant to designate a mere decision-making process. It is not about collaborative decision-making that reviews alternatives, makes choices, distributes responsibilities and carries out programmes. Rather synodality expresses fundamental

characteristics of the Church's identity: its essential communal dimension, its essential evangelizing mission, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit who is the principle of unity that brings all members of the Church, with their different vocations, missions and ministries, together in a single dynamic subject (LG #11; SC # 10).

Synodality consists in calling together all people on earth, of every time and age, and make them participants in the salvation and joy of Christ. Synodality is the *modus vivendi* and *operandi* with which the Church prepares all its members (laity, religious and clergy) to share responsibility, develops their charisms and ministries, intensifies their bonds of fraternal love².

IV. Two Years Synodal Journey (three phases of the forthcoming synod):

The synodality(journeying together) desired by Pope Francis is that it should be concrete and visible; therefore, the forthcoming synod(October 2021- October 2023) will not only be celebrated in the Vatican alone, but also in each particular Church of the five continents, following a two-year itinerary divided into three phases: diocesan, continental and universal.

V. Solemn opening with the Pope in the Vatican

The synodal path will begin at the Vatican, in the presence of the Pope, on 9 and 10 October 2021 with a time for encounter and reflection, followed by a moment of prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist. This will be the beginning of the two-year synodal journey with three phases (diocesan, continental, universal) of consultations and discernment, culminating with the assembly in October 2023 in Rome.

VI. Solemn opening in the Dioceses Worldwide on 17th October 2021

In all dioceses of the world, the Synod will begin on Sunday 17th October 2021. The bishop of the diocese will celebrate the Holy Mass with a representative team and proceed with the "opening session", the

²Pope Francis in Florence, Italy: "in every community, in every parish and institution, in every diocese and circumscription, in every region, try to launch, in a synodal fashion, a deep reflection on the *Evangelii Gaudium*, to draw from it practical parameters and to launch its dispositions, especially on the three or four priorities that you will identify in this meeting. I am certain of your capacity to put yourselves into a creative movement in order to make this study practical. I am sure of it because you are an adult Church, age-old in the faith, firmly rooted and with an abundance of fruit" (November 2015).

discernment process, that is, the process will be carried out through listening to all the baptized. The period also includes the national bishops' conference for reflection (from October 2021 until April 2022). What the Synod is looking for is the *sensusfidei* (a theological term for 'inner voice of the faithful' or 'common conscience' of the baptized concerning the faith of the Church which each baptized person professes). Pope Francis gave new impetus to the doctrine of the *sensusfideifidelium*, (EG, # 119; cf. Ceremony Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Institution of the Synod of Bishops, 17 October 2015) stating that the path of synodality represents an indispensable prerequisite for infusing the Church with a renewed missionary impulse: all the members of the Church are active subjects of evangelization and 'missionary disciples' (EG, # 120). The continental phase is from September 2022 to March 2023. The process will continue with a "universal phase" in Rome in October 2023 (approximately three to four weeks).

The Church is like an "inverted pyramid, the top located beneath the base. Thus, the local Church will become the "constitutive part of the Synod". Every diocese will establish a "team" and hold a pre-synodal meeting with the emphasis on discernment ('where is God calling today the Church to?'). **Findings will be sent to the conferences, which must conduct their own reflections³.**

³**After the parish/diocesan phase, the Synod must move to the national phase.** What is India today? Who is Church in India today? There is no dearth of challenges, if we wish to list them. Let us remember that though not OF the world, the Church exists IN the world (meaning, the Church in a concrete situation of the present, with its past and future ahead). The reality of the world is dynamic as opposed to static. We are not in Christendom, not anymore! Also, in India today, we are no longer the only ones producing culture, neither the first, nor the most listened to. We therefore need a change in our pastoral mentality (cf. Pope Francis to Italian Bishop's Conference in May 2021). Therefore, it is also necessary to discern the internal dynamics of the Church itself, particularly, the undeniable question of "clericalism" which has infested the hierarchy from top to bottom. The Synod (2021-2023) is an open sea, and "we all are in the same boat".

It will be necessary to talk about the proclamation of the Gospel and its difficulties in a world changed by the pandemic, by mobile fluid, rapidly changing plural lifestyle, by the "alternative truths" of special networks and above all, by changes in our country in religious, political, economic equations, social convictions, critical openness to implicit questions that are being asked to the Church by people of other religions, and so many other changes. If we do not take this changing situation into account, we will continue to speak words which may sound "beautiful, cultured, refined, but they will not be words of faith. They will be words that resound of emptiness... Let us be humble. Obsession with preserving one's glory, one's "dignity", one's influence must not play a part in our sentiments. We must seek the glory of God, and this does not coincide with our own. The glory of God which is ablaze in the humility of the grotto of Bethlehem or in the dishonour of the Cross of Christ always astonishes us... Let us be disinterested...i.e., Our duty is to work so as to make this world a better place and to fight. Our faith is revolutionary through an impulse that comes from the Holy Spirit. We must follow this impulse in order to go out of ourselves, to be men and women in accord with the Gospel of Jesus. Any life is decided by the capacity to give oneself. It is there that one transcends oneself, that one becomes fruitful...Let us put the Beatitudes into practise. The Beatitudes that we read in the Gospel begin with a blessing and end with a promise of comfort. To be "blessed", in order to taste the comfort

The laity represents the overwhelming majority of the People of God, and there is much to be learned from their participation in the different expressions of the ecclesial community: popular piety, commitment to ordinary pastoral care, competence in the different areas of cultural and social life (EG # 126). “The Church would look foolish without the laity”, said Cardinal (St) John Henry Newman. **It is therefore necessary to overcome the obstacles that come from a lack of formation (of the laity and the clergy) and the harmful effects of the clerical mentality that risks relegating the lay faithful to a subordinate role; by opening up spaces in which the laity can express themselves and share the wealth of their experience as disciples of the Lord (EG, # 102) should be encouraged. The co-responsibility of the entire People of God for the mission of the Church requires that we begin consultative processes in which the laity participate and speak more actively.** Co-responsibility demands a change in mindset especially concerning the role of lay people in the Church. They should not be regarded as ‘collaborators’ of the clergy, but, rather, as people who are really ‘co-responsible’ for the Church’s being and acting...It is therefore important that a mature and committed laity be consolidated, which can make its own specific contribution to the ecclesial mission with respect for the ministries and tasks that each one has in the life of the Church and always in cordial communion with the bishops. **This way the Church will make full use of the resources and structures that the Church already has. However, we need to be careful and avoid that this becomes a “lay parliamentarism”.**

The consultation of the faithful must be followed by ‘discernment’ on the part of the bishops. Attentive to the *sensusfidei* of the People of God, the Bishops must be able to perceive the indications of the Holy Spirit and distinguish them ‘from the changing currents of public opinion’ (Pope Francis, *Episcopalis Communio*, Apostolic Constitution, 15th September 2018). **EC lays out the synodal practice in three phases: preparation, discussion and implementation.**

VII. Conclusion:

The future life and mission of the Church must be grounded in a prayerful listening to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth, which Pope Francis himself models. Without the “preferential option for the poor, the proclamation of the Gospel, which is itself the prime form of

charity, risks being misunderstood or submerged by the ocean of words which daily engulfs us in today's society of mass communications (EG, # 199). **'Preferential Option for the Poor' is not an expression of "do-goodism"; it must be recognized as an integral part, not only of the gospels but also of the process of ecclesial transformation desired and initiated by Vatican II.**

How to make synodality grow in the Church? How to reach a renewed understanding of 'communion', understood in terms of 'inclusiveness' of all the components of the people of God, especially the poor, under the guiding authority of those whom the Holy Spirit makes pastors of the Church, in such a way that everyone can feel co-responsible in the life and mission of the Church? These are the concerns of the Holy Father.

Without a real conversion in our ways of thinking, praying and acting, without effective 'metanoia' which involves a constant expansion of mutual acceptance, synodality will prove insufficient for achieving the purpose for which it was established. **Pope Francis is establishing the structural conditions for real and open dialogue. His are not just institutional improvements, nor armchair strategies for obtaining better indicators or statistics. The priority is of recalling fundamental principles of the Church's social teaching: inalienable dignity, the universal destination of goods, the primacy of solidarity, dialogue aimed at peace and care for our common home, the Planet Earth.**

of friendship with Jesus Christ, it is necessary to have an open heart...A Church that presents these three traits — humility, disinterest, beatitude — is a Church that is able to recognize the action of the Lord in the world, in culture, in the everyday life of the people. I have said it more than once and I repeat it again to you today: "I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security. I do not want a Church concerned with being at the centre and which then ends by being caught up in a web of obsessions and procedures" (EG, n. 49)." (Pope Francis, Florence, 10 November 2015).

The ecclesial process of renewal is a synodal fact, and the protagonist is not the hierarchy alone but "the people of God". People of God is "the people and pastors TOGETHER". The Holy Father exhorts us to allow people to speak freely and giving space to "the wisdom of the people of God". That is why the synod is also called "synod from below", and it is already set in motion, reflection, discussions and involvement of communities and dioceses. The method of the synod is neither more nor less than the very way the Church exists.

Let us offer a place for encounter, dialogue, analysis and initiative that overcomes at the root, i.e., the unacceptable division between the "institutional Church" and the "real Church".

The local Church (diocesan, national and regional) must find its own voice. Maintaining Communion requires “circularity, reciprocity, journeying together”. From grass-roots the “harmony of diversity” is willed by the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, the enemy (the devil) wants diversity to become opposition and so he makes them to become “ideologies”. But the Synod is not a parliament where majority imposes their ideas. Although reform comes from consensus, it is not the same as allowing a majority to veto any change by force. The synod should be a single movement of bishops and faithful. Holy Spirit works through the people of God. Synod is a visible form of communion, the path of ecclesial fraternity, which the baptized personally participate in and contribute to in their own way. Striving towards universality, the Church must also protect the diversity of cultural identities, considering them an indispensable asset. In other words, synod is intermediary between the unity of the body and the plurality of members.

The Holy Father said to the theologians (international commission) that the Synod is not a walk in the park; the synod journey requires listening and patience. It is not holding hand and going for a walk, having a party with young people or surveying opinions, like “what do you think about women priests”. *Synodality* (journeying together) is an ecclesial journey that has a soul, which is the Holy Spirit and without the Holy Spirit there is no journeying together (synodality). **Allow people to talk so that the wisdom of the people of God will come forth because synod is nothing other than making explicit what *Lumen Gentium* promulgated for all Catholics: “The whole people of God, all from bishops on down, is infallible in belief... i.e., they cannot err when there is harmony among all (*sensusfidei*).**

Pope (St) Paul VI, who revived the synod, said in 1974 that a synod involves “questioning the signs of the times, and even more to interpret the divine plan in depth by bringing together the world’s bishops for a common study of the conditions of the Church and by seeking agreed solutions to questions pertaining to her mission. The synod is not a council; it is not a parliament; it is a synod with its own special nature”.

Archbishop Felix Machado, Secretary General of CBCI

ANNEXURE - 03**LITURGY FOR THE WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2021**
24TH OCTOBER 2021
(30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)**Introduction:**

Mission Sunday reminds every baptised Catholic of the oneness in Christ's mission all over the world. Every year, on this day, we specially remember all the missionaries whether they have come from elsewhere and working amidst us or those who have travelled from our place, reaching far-off lands to proclaim Christ; as well as our special contribution for the Universal mission.

This year, we celebrate the Mission Sunday with the theme "We cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). If there is something amazing in our life, it will just overflow from us so that others would easily notice it. Similarly, those who have truly experienced the love of Christ, cannot keep it with oneself but will express explicitly in what we do or speak, like that of the early Christians, in spite of all the difficulties they could face at that time.

At this complicated time of pandemic and in spite of all the difficulties, still we are expected to be true witnesses in all possible ways:

- Praying for all the missionaries and mission ventures;
- Promoting vocation for the mission and fostering it;
- Contribute generously for the Universal Solidarity Fund which caters especially to the mission territories and young dioceses; and
- To be a missionary in every aspect of our life and proclaim the love of Christ that we are experiencing.

In this World Mission Sunday Eucharistic celebration, let us join together with one mind, united by the Holy Spirit and pray for the mission of each and every individual, especially for all the missionaries.

Prayer of the Faithful:

Cel: Jesus, who healed the blind beggar, is ever ready to bring His grace to all those in need. Let us place all our needs, and also pray for Christ's

mission in this world. Trusting in His grace let us pray, saying: Lord hear our prayer and Strengthen your Mission.

1. For the Universal Church and her leaders: We pray for our Pope, Cardinals, Bishops, Priests, Religious and the faithful of the church, who are inherited with the zeal to be messengers of the love of Christ. Strengthen them with all the necessary support and good health to bear witness to the Light. Let us Pray to the Lord.
2. For the Missionaries and Mission Territories: We pray for all the missionaries and their activities in every mission territory, that they may experience and share your love and compassion to all those who hear Your word for the first time. Let us Pray to the Lord.
3. For all those who contribute for the Mission: Our Good Shepherd, we pray for those who generously contribute for the mission works. We implore you to bless them with good measure so that they all may enjoy a healthy and harmonious life of love, peace and joy. Protect them from all oppression, evil and sorrow. Let us Pray to the Lord.
4. For all of us who are gathered in this Eucharistic assembly: Help us to experience your love, mercy and compassion; deepen our faith; and proclaim you in all the little things that we do and speak. Make us the bearers of your light, especially where there is darkness of life. Let us pray to the Lord.
5. For the deceased Missionaries: we offer the souls of all the deceased missionaries, especially those who were in prison, sick, without proper food, medicine and basic necessities while working in your vineyard. Reward their missionary zeal, to be with you in the heavenly kingdom. Let us Pray to the Lord.

Pray silently for our personal and community needs.

Cel: God our Father, you have blessed us with the gift of faith and fortified us by the Missionary Saints like St. Francis Xavier, St. Therese of the Child Jesus and many more. With our baptismal call, let us take part in the worldwide mission of Christ. We raise all these prayers and petitions through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Mission(after Communion)

Heavenly Father, when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ rose from the dead, he commissioned His followers to “go and make disciples of

all nations” and you remind us that through our Baptism, we are made sharers in the mission of the Church.

Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be courageous and zealous in bearing witness to Gospel, so that the mission entrusted to the Church, which is still very far from completion, may find new and efficacious expressions that bring life and light to the world.

Help us make it possible for all peoples to experience the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Solemn Blessing:

Cel: The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Bow down for the blessing.

May the God of all consolation order your days in his peace and grant you the gifts of his blessing, free you always from every distress and confirm your hearts in his love.

Amen.

And may he who has willed that all his scattered children should be gathered together in his Son, grant that you may become his temple and the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

And so, may you always understand what is good and right, and be found ever hastening along in the path of God’s commands, made coheirs with the citizens of heaven.

Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, +, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Annexure -4												
EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FROM 01.07.2021 TO 31.08.2021												
PARISHES	Christmas Collection	Second Sunday Collection	Holy Childhood Collection	Communio Sunday	Prison Ministry	St. Peter the Apostle Collection	St. Peter's Pence Collection	Girl Child Day	Hunger & Disease	Holy Land Maint	Cancer Campaigning	Holy Thursday
St. Joseph's Church, Mandya	3,443.00	4,585.00										2,553.00
Infant Jesus Church, Balanagar		10,661.00		3,000.00					6,592.00			1,350.00
Divine Mercy Church, K. R. Nagar	1,090.00	1,150.00							3,000.00			
Infant Jesus Mission Station, Udayanagar												
NAME OF THE DONOR	Cancer Campaign	Covid-19										
St. Teresa's Provincialate, Mysore	5,000.00											
ME Sisters, Ramanahalli		10,000.00										
Holy Cross Convent, Prakashpalya		1,000.00										

N.B.: There are a few bank remittances without details. We are not able to trace and issue necessary receipts. We request them to contact the diocesan office with the details of transfer and obtain necessary receipts for the remittances made.

Support During COVID-19 : Second Wave



Theme for the
Year of Christ: the Healer and St. Joseph
for the months of September & October 2021



Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;.....

with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5