



May 2019

No. 63

# News Bulletin Diocese of Sultanpet

Bishop's House, St. Sebastian's Cathedral, Matha Kovil Street, Sultanpet, Palakkad- 678001  
Kerala, India. Phone: 0491-2803420 | Cell: 09645279101

Email: sultanpetdiocese@gmail.com / peterabir@gmail.com | Web : sultanpetdiocese.org

## Bishop Speaks...

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and Lay Faithful,



### Go to Galilee!

“Go to Joseph”! This was the exhortation given by Pharaoh to all the people of Egypt in order to escape from the great famine in Egypt (Gen 41:55). This journey to Joseph was for self-deliverance from the physical and natural calamity. Instead, in the apparition narrative of the Risen Lord there is a call to the disciples “Go to Galilee” for a completely different motif (cf. Mk 16:7).

#### What is Galilee?

Galilee, the northern region of Palestine, was not at all important for the pious Jews. It was once a part of the Assyrian Empire (732 BC). The victorious Assyrians, as was their custom, evacuated and relocated the entire population out of Galilee and replaced them with other peoples from their far-flung empire. It was geographically, culturally and religiously a marginal province of the Roman Empire. Politically it was an insignificant region occupied by poor peasants and migrants from Syria and Phoenicia. The Jezreel valley which is part of this region became a battle ground for many wars. Consequently conflicts and poverty became prevalent even in the time of Jesus. Galileans were considered by Judeans to sit rather loosely to the law and to be less biblically pure than those in or near Jerusalem. Isaiah had already nicknamed it “Galilee of the Gentiles” (Isa 8:23; cf. Mt 4:15). It was a region of outcasts, representing the secular world, with its concerns, hopes, worries, frustrations and meagre income.

#### Jesus the Galilean!

Nevertheless, it is in the village Nazareth of this region Galilee where Jesus grew up; lived as a village carpenter, trying to make both ends meet (Mt 18:22-23). He started his proclamation from Galilee (Mk 1:14-15). Most of his public ministry was here, so much so that he was even called the Galilean (Mt 26:68). It is noteworthy that, of his thirty-two beautiful parables, no less than nineteen were spoken in Galilee. And it is no less remarkable that of his entire thirty-three great miracles, twenty-five were wrought in this province. His first miracle was wrought at the wedding in Cana of Galilee, and his last, after his resurrection, on the shore of Galilee's sea. In Galilee he called his first disciples. He spent most of his time in Galilee, the despised and insignificant region, filled with migrants, outcasts, poor peasants and fishermen. This gives witness to his life-manifesto: “I have come for the sinners and the outcasts” (cf. Mt 9:13; Lk 5:31-32; 15:1).

#### Risen Lord in Galilee!

As commissioned by the heavenly Father, Jesus was born in Judea (Bethlehem), sacrificed his life on the Cross and rose to life in Jerusalem. Thus Jerusalem played a vital role in the fulfilment of his messianic events. As Moltmann says, the saving significance of the cross manifests in his resurrection and both his death and resurrection are interconnected and Jerusalem became a suitable stage for his messianic activities (Cf. *The Crucified God*, 182). But Jesus chose Galilee for his missionary activity where he found a good soil for this (Mk 4) because of its 'sinful' and marginal status.

During the three years of his public ministry Jesus prepared the hearts of the Galileans with his evangelical message (Mt 5-7); now when he rose from the dead he hurried to the same Galileans to share

his Resurrection experience. This is why he said “After I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee” (Mk 14:38). Lucien Legrand rightly comments (*The Way of Jesus, Unpublished Monograph, March 2019*) that the term “Galilee,” here refers to his universal mission as the whole world is in need of Christ's deliverance (Rom 8: 22). As the Shepherd of the flock he is leading his disciples to go to Galilee to experience his resurrection, the life of the 'Beatitudes.'

### **Galilee Experience!**

When Jesus says that “I will go to Galilee” (Mk 16:7) it is clear that the Galilean Jesus becomes the way of the Risen Christ whose experience he wants to share with his disciples. Why Galilee? It is here that the simple and poor disciples were called and formed; it is here where there were the marginalised and the despised who were craving for salvation, who were disposed to experience of new life (resurrection); who were not contaminated by sophisticated and critical ideologies, philosophies and way of life like the Pharisees and Sadducees.

In fact Mary Magdalene and Peter had the personal experience of the Risen Lord at the empty tomb in Jerusalem. But according to Jesus this personal experience is not sufficient to live the resurrection in one's life. A fuller experience of resurrection is witnessed in the mission field of society. Magdalene was asked to proclaim and Peter was asked to go to Galilee to see the Risen Lord and to share the same experience there which is the rich soil to witness the love and mercy of God to the sick, poor, oppressed and marginalised. With the newness of the resurrection-hope we the disciples are invited to resume the journey and the mission of the Galilean Jesus.

### **Galilee Mission!**

The Risen Lord continues to tell us: “Go to Galilee!” Our resurrection experience must be manifested in our efforts to follow this Galilean Jesus who gave solace to the sick, the despised, and those living on the fringes of society. Our joy of resurrection must echo in the hearts and minds of the oppressed and voiceless people living in the clutches of the mighty power of manipulated politicians, corporate world, and 'white-washed graves' of the so-called religious and social leaders.

The Risen Lord lives/manifests in us when we give hope to the disheartened and love to the victims of greed and violence. When someone asked Rahul Gandhi why he hugged the Prime Minister of India during the Parliament session, he very aptly said, “He hates me and my family members. But love is the foundation of any religion; I genuinely feel love for him” (*His Speech in Stella Maris College, Chennai, May 16, 2019*). This is the resurrection experience: *love for hatred*; this is the call of our Galilean Jesus! Our resurrection experience should not be confined to “multitude of doctrines” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 35), but giving the eight-fold joy of the Beatitudes (Mt 5), proclaiming the same in spite of persecutions and contradictions (Acts 5:41-42), joyfully received (Acts 8:8, 39) and celebrated (Acts 2:46). This is our “Galilee” which we have to encounter and witness!

### **A Gentle Reminder please!**

1. All our priests and religious are kindly requested to take care of the Sunday catechism and School Catechism wherever it is possible. Please get the required text books in Malayalam, Tamil or English as per the need from the Secretary of the Diocesan Catechetical Commission.
2. Parish Priests are kindly requested to announce once a month the income and expenditure of the parish to the people on the fourth Sunday of the month and send a copy of the same to the Procurator.
3. Kindly see to it that BCC is functioning both in the Parish and in all the Mission Stations.
4. Please form also the **parish Council** and **Finance Committee** as per the norms of the Diocese and give the lists of both to the Vicar General on 20<sup>th</sup> May when you come for the next Monthly recollection..
5. The Diaconate ordination to Bro. Joy Nelson will be held in the Cathedral, Sultanpet, on 20<sup>th</sup> May at 5.30 pm.

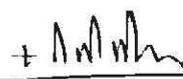
### **Silver Jubilee of Ordination!**

Rev. Fr. Lazar Arulappan is celebrating on 1<sup>st</sup> May the Silver Jubilee of his priestly ordination. On behalf of the Diocese let me wish him *Ad Multos Annos!* May God continue to bless him with good health and joyful heart!



## RIP

Msgr. A. S. Madalaimuthu, VG, lost his elder brother: While we express our deep sentiments of condolence to our VG and his dear ones we pray for the eternal reward for the deceased.

  
+ Antonysamy Peter Abir  
Bishop of Sultanpet

## Bishop's Appointments

Date	Time	Programme	Place
2	10.30 am	Requiem Mass	Sorapara
3	10.30 am	Consultors' Meet	Bishop's House
4	04.30 pm	Priestly Ordination	Kanakankalam
6-8		CCBI Executive Body Meeting	Bangalore
11	10.00 am	SMSSS Fifth Anniversary	Sultanpet
	05.30 pm	Feast Mass	Chettikad (Kottapuram)
12	10.00 am	Feast Mass & Confirmation	Padagiri
13-16	05.30 pm	Feast Mass	ITI, Kanjikode
		FABC Bible Convention	Bangkok
17	10.00 am	Sisters' Golden Jubilee Mass	Trichy
18	06.00 am	Special Mass	Vailankanni
19	05.00 pm	Feast Mass	Olavacode
20	02.30 pm	Priests' Recollection	Bishop's House
	05.30 pm	Diaconate Ordination	Cathedral
23	10.00 am	Marriage Mass	Neyveli
27-30			Out of Station

## Vatican News

### Pope Francis: To stop evil, give more love than required

Apr 24, 2019 - 04:46 am .- To stop the spread of evil in the world, Catholics must go above and beyond, loving and forgiving others even when it is undeserved, Pope Francis urged Wednesday.

### Pope Francis gifts 6,000 rosaries, asks for prayers on name day

Apr 23, 2019 - 10:16 am .- Pope Francis celebrated the feast of his patron St. George Jorge in Spanish by giving away rosaries to 6,000 young people from Milan, asking them to pray for him through Mary's intercession.

### Pope Francis: The resurrection is the most shocking event in human history

Apr 22, 2019 - 05:05 am .- Pope Francis said Monday that the resurrection of Christ is the most shocking event in human history.

### Easter brings a 'new world,' Pope Francis says in UrbietOrbi

Apr 21, 2019 - 04:56 am .- Christ's resurrection ushers in a new world one of peace, love, and fraternity, Pope Francis said on Easter Sunday, as he prayed for the many people who are suffering throughout the world.

### Pope Francis at Easter Vigil: Ask Christ to roll back the stone blocking your heart

Apr 20, 2019 - 02:16 pm .- In his Easter Vigil homily, Pope Francis said that the Risen Christ desires to "roll back the stone" that blocks the entrance to one's heart, so that God's light and love can enter.



### **Good Friday at the Vatican: Christ is among the pariahs**

Apr 19, 2019 - 10:00 am .- At the Vatican's Good Friday service, the papal preacher connected Christ's Passion with all in history who have suffered the degradation of their human dignity, highlighting in particular the experience of African-American slaves.

### **Pope Francis: Like holy oil, priests must pour themselves out for others**

Apr 18, 2019 - 02:57 am .- The holy oil blessed at the Chrism Mass is a reminder of the priest's call to be close to the People of God, pouring himself out in service to them, Pope Francis said Thursday.

### **Pope Francis: Christ's glory is found in suffering for love**

Apr 17, 2019 - 04:06 am .- Jesus' glory is not found in the acclaim or applause of the world, but in the act of suffering and dying out of love the same love demanded of everyone, Pope Francis said Wednesday.

### **Pope Francis joins Paris in sorrow after Notre-Dame fire**

Apr 16, 2019 - 05:28 am .- Pope Francis Tuesday expressed his unity with the people of France following a major blaze at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, encouraging the rebuilding of the “architectural jewel” and “witness of the faith.”

### **Don't let your cell phone become an addiction, pope warns high schoolers**

Apr 15, 2019 - 05:28 pm .- Pope Francis met with a group of high school students this weekend, encouraging them to monitor their cell phone use, so as not to create obstacles to a culture of encounter.

### **Pope Francis on Palm Sunday: True triumph is found in Christ's humility**

Apr 14, 2019 - 04:37 am .- On Palm Sunday, Pope Francis warned against the temptation of “triumphalism,” encouraging Catholics to follow Jesus's way of humility and obedience exemplified in His Passion.

### **Pope Francis makes surprise visit to Alzheimer's patients**

Apr 12, 2019 - 11:30 am .- Pope Francis paid a surprise visit to a center for Alzheimer's patients Friday afternoon.

## **BIRTH DAY**

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 6 Fr. Charles Ceasar              | 20 Fr. Binu Michael. SJ         |
| 10 Fr. Sylvester D' Cruz          | 21 Fr. T. Antonysamy. OFM (Cap) |
| 11 Fr. K.P. Vincent               | 24 Fr. VimalArokiaraj           |
| 13 Fr. Joseph Xavier Tharayil, CP | 30 Fr. Thomas Mooleparampil     |
| 15 Fr. A. Antonysamy              | 30 Fr. Martin Jose              |
| 19 Fr. Antony Xavier Pius         |                                 |

*SNL wish you a  
Happy Birth Day*

## **ORDINATION DAY**

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 <b>Most Rev. Dr. A. Peter Abir</b> | 4 Fr. A. Sundarraj                |
| Fr. L. Lazar Arulappan               | Fr. A. Albert Anandaraj           |
| Fr. M. Prince Robert                 | 6 Fr. X.Vincent MSFS              |
| Fr. VimalArokiaraj                   | 8 Fr. L. Jabamalai Peter Lorance  |
| Fr. E. Arularasan                    | Fr. Charles Ceasar                |
| Fr. Manuel Muthumakuzhy, TOR         | 10 Fr. Joseph Xavier Tharayil, CP |
| 2 Fr. M. Paul                        | 12 Fr. Jesudass                   |
| Fr. Antony Xavier Pius               | 14 Fr. Sylvester D' Cruz          |
| 3 Fr. A. Antonysamy                  | 18 Fr. Antony Sagayanathan        |
| Fr. Martin Jose                      | Fr. J. Paul Vincent               |
| Fr. Jesmin Nelson                    | 21 Fr. F.A Bbiyan OMI             |

*SNL wish you a  
Happy Ordination Day*

## **FEAST DAY**

- 1 Fr. C. Maria Joseph  
3 Fr. Philip Parackal MSFS

*SNL wish you a Happy Feast Day*

## From the Procurator's Desk

a) I wish to remind all the parish priests to submit the account of the parish (2018-19) for auditing soon. You are reminded to submit following details

- 1) *Tally Data*
- 2) *All the bills-receipts and payment*
- 3) *If you pay more than 5000/- signed with stamped voucher,*
- 4) *Updated copy of Bank pass book*
- 5) *Copy of Fixed Deposit Details*
- 6) *Your parish name & contact number*

b) I remind you that following are the last months (2019) special collections

- 1) *Opus Securitatis - January*
- 2) *Holy Child Hood & Communio India - February*
- 3) *Maintenance of Holy See - March*
- 4) *Hunger and deacease & Good Friday April*
- 5) *Peter Pence - May*

c) Again remind you that open a joint account (Procurator and Parish Priest). The necessary documents are ready in the procure office. Please come and collect it.

### Medical Help

We distributed medical help of Rs.5000/- each to the parishioners of Pazhaniyarpalayam and Mannarakad in the month of April 2019.

### Education Fund

Opening Balance	21,60,453.00
Interest	5,049.00
Closing Balance	21,65,502.00

*Rev. Fr. Lorange L.,  
Financial Administrator*

## From Vicar General Desk

The next recollection for priests will be held at 2.30 pm on Monday 20 May 2019 which will be followed by the Diaconate Ordination-Mass in the cathedral at Sultanpet.

### Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Our Bishop led a group of 41 members (priests and lay people) from our Diocese along with 27 Catholics from Kula Lumpur (Malaysia) to the Holy land from 21st April to 1st May. The Pilgrimage started from Cairo, proceeded to Sinai, then to all the holy places in Israel and then to Jordan (Mt Nebo and Mukawir). It was a very good biblical journey and all the participants benefitted both biblically and spiritually. them in our prayers. May the Good Lord grant them 'Rest in Peace.'

### Way of the Cross

A solemn Diocesan Way of the Cross was held in the Diocesan level, for the first time, for a distance of 15 km, from Thenkara to Mukkali (Attapadi) on Sunday 7th April 2019. Thousands of people from various parishes, along with their priests of our Diocese participated in this Way of the Cross on foot. The Diocesan Charismatic Commission along with the parishes of Mannarkad and Mukkali organized this programme. The faithful prayed the fourteen Stations of the Cross climbing the hill of Attapady toward Mukkali. The programme started at 10.45 am and ended at 5 pm with the Mass presided over by our Bishop at St. Jude Church, Mukkali. We appreciate the organizers.



*Rev. Msgr. A. S. Madalaimuthu, VG*

## News of the various Activates

### Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday celebration with a solemn Mass, presided over by our Bishop, was held in the Cathedral on Sunday 14 April. With much devotion and prayer hundreds of people participated in it. The procession went through the streets of Sultanpet. This is a public witness to our faith and devotion.



### Good Friday



A solemn Way of the Cross was conducted by the Cathedral parish on Good Friday (19 April 2019). The carrying of the Cross with prayer went about three kilometres in the town of Palakkad. Many participated with much devotion and it was a great witness of our Faith to the non-Christians in the town.

### Lenten Retreat

As planned earlier the Lenten Retreat for three days (4-6) April 2019 was held at the cathedral hall for the parishes of the Palakkad vicariate. Many faithful along with all the priests of this vicariate actively participated in this retreat conducted by Augustinian Fathers. The same retreat was held at for the Sorapara vicariate at Sorapara on 5-6 April 2019 and for Mannarkad Vicariate at Mannarkad on 6 April.

*Rev. Fr. Chinnapparaj,  
Secretary to the Bishop*

### Marriage Preparation Course

The marriage preparation course will be held only in the month of July.

*Rev. Fr. Paul Vincent  
Family commission*

### Vocation Commission

Bishop meets with our Seminary Students:

Our Beloved Bishop the Most Rev. Dr. Antony Samy Peter Abir, met with all our Seminary students in different stages at the Bishop's House on 16th April 2019. It was in view to enable them to get to know each other and to create a sense of Unity and belonging to the Diocese. The Bishop spent quality time in confabulating with them, and reminded them of their responsibility to be united in their commitment to the Diocese, by working together for the well-being and growth of the Diocese. He repeatedly insisted on their unity. He asked them to "study well" utilizing every opportunity provided in their given situations. He also asked them to pray constantly for the Diocese and for their benefactors. He further wished them the very best in their studies and prayed for God's abundant blessings upon their entire life. He thanked their parents for giving them to serve in our Diocese.

We will have for the Scholastic Year 2019-2020:

Students in Theology Studies	: 3
Students in Philosophy Studies	: 5
Students in Degree Studies	: 2
Students in +2	: 1
Students in +1	: 2
Students to Minor Seminary (new Ones)	: 4 = 17

Thanks to our Beloved Bishop and to all the Priests who help our Seminary students with Pastoral Ministry and with their constant prayers. Special thanks to their Benefactors and to Fr. Sagaya Nathan in particular. In the name of all the Seminary students I thank you all.



*Rev. Fr. Sylvester D'Cruz  
Secretary, Vocation Commission*