



KURNOOL VANI

NEWS LETTER - KURNOOL DIOCESE



February 2020

Issue 02

Vol XXXIII



Our Lady of Lourdes - Pray For us!

Patroness of Kurnool Diocese (February 11, 2020)

Hearty Congratulations



to Your Excellency

Most Rev. Anthony Poola

Bishop of Kurnool

on your

Priestly Ordination Anniversary

(20-02-2020)

With Best Wishes and Prayers

Priests, Religious & Faithful of Kurnool Diocese

**World Day of
the Sick 09-02-2020**

*"Come to me, all you
who labour and are
burdened, and I will
give you rest"
(Mt 11:28)*





BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Lent is a special time for Christians: a time of grace, of conversion and of renewals. The Gospel teaches us to pray, do penance and give alms. The church calls us to fast and abstinence, personal and communal worship, the works of self-denial, daily mass and reach out to neighbors in need. The cry of the prophet Joel which the church uses to open this season of Lent, is "Rend your hearts, not your garments" (Joel 2:13). The external acts of penance such as fasting and alms giving must touch our hearts, not merely our external behaviors. Meanwhile amid the temptations and struggles of life, we should always remember that "God keeps his promise. He will not let you be tested beyond your strength. Along with the test he will give you way out of it so that you may be able to endure it. Let the lent be effective and special for everyone this year.

Every year we are also celebrating the feast of our Lady of Lourdes on 11th of February. Lourdes is one of the most beautiful little towns in the world and one of the most famous catholic pilgrim centers where Mother Mary appeared to the child of poor peasant called Bernadette in the region on 11th while she was gathering firewood. Bernadette saw **The Lady** in a sort of radiant mist high up in a rock in a grotto above the river. After the first day Mother Mary appeared to Bernadette in a series of apparitions. She spoke to the child saying, "Please come year every day for a fortnight. Go and tell the priest to build a chapel in this spot. Tell them to pray and do penance! Go and drink in the spring and wash in it.

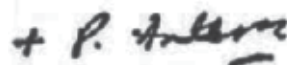
I am the **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**. A small and a powerful stream became most famous by the cures. It is famous because thousands of people have been reported cured instantly, permanently and completely of every known disease. They have been cured at the Shrine of Lourdes miraculously. Every year five to

six million people from different faiths and nations visit this universal shrine of the world. They visit this shrine with one common purpose-to be healed of their sicknesses and miseries. Medical Bureau of Lourdes has been established mainly to study and investigate scientifically the cures at Lourdes. Only after their thorough investigations a miracle is officially declared cured. This is the only shrine in the world where the Medical Bureau for the investigations of the cures is established. When it is cured be sure that it is authentic based on evidences.

The shrine has an answer not only for the physically sick and the suffering but for the ills and the problems of all the pilgrims. It has an answer for the world sickness and for our individual sickness also. That is why Pope John Paul II on 11th February initiated the day and declared it as the **WORLD DAY OF SICK** in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their care givers. The Pope himself was diagnosed with Parkinson's a year before, in 1991, and it is considered that his own illness was impetus for his designation of the day. Pope Francis in his message for the 27th World Day of the Sick, urges that those who care for the sick and give of themselves with generosity and straightforward love – like St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta - are amongst the Church's most credible evangelizers. Pointing out that each of us "is poor, needy and destitute" needing the care of our parents to survive when we are born and remaining in some way dependent on the help of others at every stage of life, Pope Francis said a frank acknowledgement of our limitations "keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life". Pope Francis also highlighted the figure of Saint Teresa of Calcutta as a model of charity who made God's love for the poor and sick visible.

We are blessed in Kurnool that name of our Cathedral is Our Lady of Lourdes and she is also the patron saint of our diocese. She has been protecting and guiding us all through these years. Always we seek her blessings and guidance. She never ceased praising God for all the wonders He worked for her. We also must along with Mother Mary always say "for **He who is Mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His name**".

With prayers and blessings,



+ Anthony Poola

Bishop of Kurnool

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE XXVIII WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2020

11 February 2020

"Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

1. Jesus' words, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28) point to the mysterious path of grace that is revealed to the simple and gives new strength to those who are weary and tired. These words of Christ express the solidarity of the Son of Man with all those who are hurt and afflicted. How many people suffer in both body and soul! Jesus urges everyone to draw near to him – "Come to me!" – and he promises them comfort and repose. "When Jesus says this, he has before him the people he meets every day on the streets of Galilee: very many simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalized by the burden of the law and the oppressive social system... These people always followed him to hear his word, a word that gave hope! Jesus' words always give hope!" (Angelus, 6 July 2014).



On this XXVIII World Day of the Sick, Jesus repeats these words to the sick, the oppressed, and the poor. For they realize that they depend entirely on God and, beneath the burden of their trials, stand in need of his healing. Jesus does not make demands of those who endure situations of frailty, suffering and weakness, but offers his mercy and his comforting presence. He looks upon a wounded humanity with eyes that gaze into the heart of each person. That gaze is not one of indifference; rather, it embraces people in their entirety, each person in his or her health condition, discarding no one, but rather inviting everyone to share in his life and to experience his tender love.

2. Why does Jesus have these feelings? Because he himself became frail, endured human suffering and received comfort from his Father. Indeed, only those who personally experience suffering are then able to comfort others. There are so many kinds of grave suffering: incurable and chronic diseases, psychological diseases, situations calling for rehabilitation or palliative care, numerous forms of disability, children's or geriatric diseases... At times human warmth is lacking in our approach to these. What is needed is a personalized approach to the sick, not just of curing but also of caring, in view of an integral human healing. In

experiencing illness, individuals not only feel threatened in their physical integrity, but also in the relational, intellectual, affective and spiritual dimensions of their lives. For this reason, in addition to therapy and support, they expect care and attention. In a word, love. At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and is in need of support and comfort.

3. Dear brothers and sisters who are ill, your sickness makes you in a particular way one of those “who labour and are burdened”, and thus attract the eyes and heart of Jesus. In him, you will find light to brighten your darkest moments and hope to soothe your distress. He urges you: “Come to me”. In him, you will find strength to face all the worries and questions that assail you during this “dark night” of body and soul. Christ did not give us prescriptions, but through his passion, death and resurrection he frees us from the grip of evil.

In your experience of illness, you certainly need a place to find rest. The Church desires to become more and more the “inn” of the Good Samaritan who is Christ (cf. Lk 10:34), that is, a home where you can encounter his grace, which finds expression in closeness, acceptance and relief. In this home, you can meet people who, healed in their frailty by God’s mercy, will help you bear your cross and enable your suffering to give you a new perspective. You will be able to look beyond your illness to a greater horizon of new light and fresh strength for your lives.

A key role in this effort to offer rest and renewal to our sick brothers and sisters is played by healthcare workers: physicians, nurses, medical and administrative professionals, assistants and volunteers. Thanks to their expertise, they can make patients feel the presence of Christ who consoles and cares for the sick, and heals every hurt. Yet they too are men and women with their own frailties and even illnesses. They show how true it is that “once Christ’s comfort and rest is received, we are called in turn to become rest and comfort for our brothers and sisters, with a docile and humble attitude in imitation of the Teacher” (Angelus, 6 July 2014).

4. Dear healthcare professionals, let us always remember that diagnostic, preventive and therapeutic treatments, research, care and rehabilitation are always in the service of the sick person; indeed the noun “person” takes priority over the adjective “sick”. In your work, may you always strive to promote the dignity and life of each person, and reject any compromise in the direction of euthanasia, assisted suicide or suppression of life, even in the case of terminal illness.

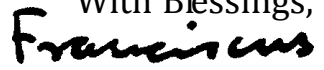
When confronted with the limitations and even failures of medical science before increasingly problematic clinical cases and bleak diagnoses, you are called to be open to the transcendent dimension of your profession that reveals its ultimate meaning. Let us remember that life is sacred and belongs to God; hence it is inviolable and no one can claim the right to dispose of it freely (cf. Donum



Vitae, 5; Evangelium Vitae, 29-53). Life must be welcomed, protected, respected and served from its beginning to its end: both human reason and faith in God, the author of life, require this. In some cases, conscientious objection becomes a necessary decision if you are to be consistent with your “yes” to life and to the human person. Your professionalism, sustained by Christian charity, will be the best service you can offer for the safeguarding of the truest human right, the right to life. When you can no longer provide a cure, you will still be able to provide care and healing, through gestures and procedures that give comfort and relief to the sick.

Tragically, in some contexts of war and violent conflict, healthcare professionals and the facilities that receive and assist the sick are attacked. In some areas, too, political authorities attempt to manipulate medical care for their own advantage, thus restricting the medical profession’s legitimate autonomy. Yet attacking those who devote themselves to the service of the suffering members of society does not serve the interests of anyone.

5. On this XXVIII World Day of the Sick, I think of our many brothers and sisters throughout the world who have no access to medical care because they live in poverty. For this reason, I urge healthcare institutions and government leaders throughout the world not to neglect social justice out of a preoccupation for financial concerns. It is my hope that, by joining the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity, efforts will be made to cooperate in ensuring that everyone has access to suitable treatments for preserving and restoring their health. I offer heartfelt thanks to all those volunteers who serve the sick, often compensating for structural shortcomings, while reflecting the image of Christ, the Good Samaritan, by their acts of tender love and closeness.

To the Blessed Virgin Mary, Health of the Sick, I entrust all those who bear the burden of illness, along with their families and all healthcare workers. With the assurance of a remembrance in my prayers, I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.

With Blessings,

 Holy Father Pope Francis.

	<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY FATHER’S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to the Migrants’ Cries: <i>We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.</i> 	
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BISHOP'S PROGRAMME

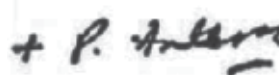
FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Feb 2	4:30 p.m.	Silver Jubilee Celebrations of St. Joseph's Degree College, Sunkesula Road, Kurnool-4: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
Tue	Feb 4-5	10:00 a.m.	Pastoral Visit to Atmakur Parish, Karivena & Velugodu Parish.
Thu	Feb 6	9:30 a.m.	Blessing and Opening of Srisailamatha EM School at Sunnipenta, Srisailam: Celebrates Holy Eucharist
Fri	Feb 7	10:30 a.m.	Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Capuchins' Presence in Andhra and Telangan at Warangal.
Sun	Feb 9	10: 00 a.m.	Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Montfort Fathers' Presence in Bethemcherla Parish, Kurnool Diocese: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
Mon	Feb 10	10:00 a.m.	Blessing and Inauguration of Grotto of Our Lady at Gospadu: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
		6:30 p.m.	Annual Parish Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes' at Yerraguntla: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
Tue	Feb 11	6:30 a.m.	Thanksgiving Mass at KDSSS, Venkayapalle, Kurnool.
		5:30 p.m.	Annual Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes's Cathedral, Kurnool-2: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
Wed	Feb 12	7: 00 a.m.	Meeting with Rev. Sr. Fabia OSSS, Mother General of Bridgettine Congregation at Bridgettine Convent, Premagiri: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
Thu	Feb 13-20	9:00 a.m.	34 th Plenary Assembly of CBCI at John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore.
Sat	Feb 22	10: 00 a.m.	10 th Class Farewell programme at SJRS, Anantapur.

Mon	Feb 24	10:30 a.m.	KOLPING INDIA Programme at Gundampadu Parish.
		5:00 p.m.	Blessing and Inauguration of Little Angels School at Pasurapadu: Celebrate Holy Eucharist.
Tue	Feb 25	3:30 p.m.	Annual Day Celebrations of St. Joseph's EM School, Bishop's House Campus, Kurnool-02.
Wed	Feb 26	6:30 a.m.	Ash Wednesday: Celebrates Holy Eucharist and blesses the ashes at Our Lady of Lourdes's Cathedral, Knl-02.

MARCH 2020

Tue	Mar 3-6	9:00 a.m.	TCBC Meeting at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad.
Wed	Mar 18	6: 00 p.m.	Annual Feast of St. Joseph's Parish at Gooty: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.
Wed	Mar 25	5:00 p.m.	Annual Feast of Velugumatha at Velugodu: Celebrates Holy Eucharist.


+ Anthony Poola D.D.,
 Bishop of Kurnool

COMMUNICATIONS

1. 28TH WORLD DAY OF THE SICK IS CELEBRATED ON 11TH FEBRUARY 2020:

As per the direction and instructions given by the Holy Father Pope Francis, we need to observe the 28th World Day of the Sick on 11th February, 2020 (The Feast Day of our Lady of Lourdes). The theme given by Holy Father for the World Day of the Sick is "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28) these words of Christ express the solidarity of the Son of Man with all those who are hurt and afflicted. How many people suffer in both body and soul! Jesus urges everyone to draw near to him – "Come to me!" – And he promises them comfort and repose. "When Jesus says this, he has before him

the people he meets every day on the streets of Galilee: very many simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalized *by the burden of the law and the oppressive social system*. All the Parish Priests/ Heads of the Institutions are called upon to announce and observe the World Day of the Sick on 11th February 2020 in all our Churches/ Institutions. All the priests are requested to highlight, during homily, the message given by the Holy Father Pope Francis.

2. LENT: 26TH FEBRUARY 2020:

Every spring, many Christians from different denominations celebrate Lent. Although you might have heard of—or even observe—the holiday, there's quite a bit to know about the Lenten season that leads up to Easter Sunday. Here's a look at the holy time that will occur from Wednesday, February 26, to Thursday, April 9, 2020. This year, **Lent begins on Wednesday, February 26, 2020**. But before Lent even begins, there's Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent, which is a time to “clean the soul,” according to the *BBC*. The first day of Lent is called Ash Wednesday. On Ash Wednesday, priests gather ashes from the previous Palm Sunday (more on that later) and rub them on the congregant's foreheads.

They do this while citing Genesis 3:19: “...For you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” In addition to heading to church, many honor the beginning of Lent by choosing to give up something for the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, such as alcohol, sweets, or even swearing. Another option is to give them to a cause, which could include volunteering. The key is to focus time on repenting for our sins and consecrating ourselves to God, not on trying to earn God's favour or increase His love for us. Let us take this Lenten season to open our eyes and truly see good everywhere and see God and as our self and in everyone everywhere. Make this your season to a resurrected Christ Consciousness.

3. FINAL REMINDER TO SEND VARIOUS COLLECTIONS:

Dear Fathers as you have received the Inventory forms and also the forms for details of Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and other details please duly fill them and send to the Diocesan office. Give a copy to your Dean and retain a copy to your parish.

4. INNER HEALING RETREAT:

Dear Fathers and Sisters there is a special Inner Healing Retreat (*in English*)

for Priests & Religious at the Divine Retreat Centre, Muringoor(Kerala) led by Rev. Fr. Jose Prakash, Rev. Fr. John Prince Puthenpurackal VC and Fr. Augustine Vallooran VC. The retreat begins at 6 p.m. Sunday, 19th April 2020 and ends by 2 p.m. on Friday, 24th April 2020. *(Retreat Fee is Rs.400/- Prior registration is not required.* For more details kindly contact Ph:0480 278098 Email: divineretreatcentre@gmail.com

5. MONTHLY RECOLLECTION FOR THE PASTORAL CLERGY:

Recollection for the pastoral clergy for the month of February 2020 will be conducted on Deanery level. Deans are requested to take note of it and make necessary plans to have recollection in your respective deaneries according to the convenience of your priests.

6. RECOLLECTION FOR THE REGENTS:

Monthly Recollection for the Regents will be at Sinai Divine Retreat Center, Premagiri on 8th February 2020 that is on 2nd Saturday. All the in-charge Fathers who are assisted by the Regents are requested to send them by February 7th, Friday by 4:00 p.m. to Sinai Divine Retreat Center, Premagiri.

7. HOLY MASSES RECEIVED:

Thank you dear fathers for remitting extra Masses to the Diocesan Office. As the priests are increasing every year, we need to distribute Masses to them. Hence, we request you dear fathers to understand that we are in dire need of mass intentions. Even if you get 2 or 3 Mass intentions, kindly forward them to the Diocesan Office. The following parishes have forwarded Mass intentions to us:

1. Infant Jesus Church, Maddikkara	14 Masses	Rs. 1,400/-
2. Sacred Heart Church, Velugodu	52 Masses	Rs.5,200 /-
3. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, P. Yaleru	120 Masses	Rs.12,000/-
4. Holy Family Church, Polur	50 Masses	Rs.5,000/-
5. Sinai Divine Retreat Centre, Premagiri	312 Masses	Rs. 31,200/-
6. Our Lady Health Shrine , Guntakal	140 Masses	Rs. 14,000/- (December)
7. Our Lady Health Shrine , Guntakal	203 Masses	Rs. 20,300/- (January)

8. PROGRAMME AT SINAI DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE – PREMAGIRI: FEBRUARY 2020.

February 7th : First Friday- Fasting Prayer
(9.30 am to 4.00 pm)
Preaching of the Word of God, Holy Mass,
Eucharistic Adoration & Healing Service

February 8th : 2nd Saturday Bible Convention
Preaching of the Word of God, Holy Mass,
Eucharistic Adoration & Healing Service

February 8th to 12th : Widows' Retreat

February 23rd to 27th : Second Residential Retreat

February 29th : Night Vigil From 9:00 pm to 5:00 am

Night Vigil is on the last Saturday of Every Month

Note: Every Sunday from 5pm to 7:30pm there is Adoration

- Rev Fr. Jaison VC, *Director*, Mb: 9494173950.

BISHOP POOLA ANTHONY EDUCATION FUND		
S.No	Names	Amount
1.	Rev. Fr. Jaison VC , Premagiri	5000/-
2.	Rev. Fr. Pappula Sudhakar , Divyavani Tv Channel, Kurnool	2000/-
3.	St. Mary's EM School, Guntakal	5000/-
4.	Bro. Thomas, Sacred Heart Brothers, Hindpur	10,000/-
5.	Rev. Fr. S. Bhaskar, KDSSS Director	25,000/-
6.	Rev. Sr. Superior, Sisters of St. Joseph, Bathallapalle	5000/-
7	Rev. Sr. Shiny & Community, Velugodu	2000/-
8	Our Lady of Lourdes Convent, Koilakuntla	5000/-
9	FSI Sister, Bathalapalle, Anantapur	2000/-
10	CRI Unit, Kurnool	2500/-
11	Rev. Fr. G. Praveen, Bandiatmakur	5000/-
12	De Paul Hostel, Atmakur	3000/-
	Total Amount -	71,500/-

1. ONE DAY PRAYER CONVENTION AT PREMAGIRI:

With mighty Divine providence the eighth Krupabhishekam Bible Convention was held at Sinai Divine Dhyanashram, Premagiri, on 3rd January 2020. The Bible



Convention was a blissful occasion for many faithful to receive blessings, healing, deliverances, and new strength and renewal of their spiritual life in the New Year 2020. The main preacher was Most Rev. Prince Anthony D.D., the Bishop of Adilabad Diocese. The Programme started at 8.30 am and the Opening Prayer was led by Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. Chowrappa, the Vicar General of Kurnool Diocese. Following that, Rev. Fr.

Jaison VC, the Director of Sinai Divine Dhyanashram officially welcomed Bishop Prince Antony and all the distinguished guests of the day, Priests, Religious and Faithful. After the first session by Bp. Prince, there was Solemn Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Most Rev. Anthony Poola D.D., the Bishop of Kurnool Diocese. It was followed Eucharistic Adoration and Healing service led by Bp. Prince Antony. Many people who participated in it received physical, psychological and spiritual healing. After the adoration, all the faithful were served lunch, who came from near and far villages and townships. It was an amazing day that the mighty hand of the Lord blessed us with very good climate and participation of a very good number of people including priests and religious. After the lunch, there were special prayer services, blessings and Anointing Adoration. The eighth Krupabhishekam Bible Convention concluded with felicitations for the Bishops and dignitaries. We sincerely thank all who joined us in these spiritual celebrations and prayed and worked hard for the success of Bible Convention.



Following the Bible Convention, a special ***Eucharistic Retreat*** was organized at Premagiri for the faithful to know more about The Holy Eucharist. The retreat

began on 4th January and many people participated in it. Rev. Fr. Jaison VC, the Director of Sinai Divine Dhyashram led the retreat with specific classes on the topic. There was Praise and Worship, Holy Mass, Confessions, Eucharistic Adoration and Counseling services during the retreat that helped the people to grow to Divine experience. The retreat concluded on 7th January 2020 with anointing adoration. – **(Rev. Fr. Jaison VC, Director, Premagiri)**

2. CRI, SUPERIORS MEETING AT DON BOSCO TECHNICAL SCHOOL:

CRI conducted the Superior's meeting on 4th January 2020 in Don Bosco technical School, Pasuala, Kurnool. His Lordship Most Rev. Anthony Poola, Bishop of Kurnool was the chief guest of the gathering. Rev Fr. N. Anthaiah SDB welcomed the gathering and followed by speech by Rev. Sr. Lalitha Syamala JMJ. The Prayer service was conducted by Rev. Bro. Gregory SDB and SJT sisters. We should live in unity and peace to bring in the Universal Church. Secondly He expressed about the issues of child abuse, Pray for India and what our role in the church. After the session CRI President Rev Fr. Varaprasad thanked for all the participants. We also thank specially Rev. Sr. Precilla SJT, MC of the programme, and Rev. Fr. K. Ravi Kumar ALCP for the vote of thanks. - **(Rev. Fr. Varaprasad , CRI President)**



3. BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF ST. CATHERINA OF SIENA CHURCH AT KARIMADHELA:

On 20th January 2020, it was a memorable day for the people of Karimeddala village of Bandi Atmakur parish. Their dream of having a new church in the village came into existence; the church named after St. Catherina of Siena, church was



blesed and inaugurated by our beloved bishop Most Rev. Poola Anthony. The program started with peaceful procession to his Excellency most Rev. Poola Anthony, and followed by the Holy mass. In the Eucharist bishop exhorted the faithful to keep the place holy and allow the people to pray well in the presence of the lord, that's how we build the community which the Lords wants from us,

therefore the place that we build is meant only for the prayer through which we build the hearts which are the temples of the Holy Spirit. The newly built church is very beautiful, which would be surely of great use for the people around especially enhancing the faith of the People. We are grateful to all the benefactors who helped us, Special thanks to Rev Fr. Rayappa Reddy who made many sacrifices make this venture possible. There were also priests and sisters from Nandyala deanery present on this special occasion The parish priest Fr. Praveen Kumar Godugunur thanked the Almighty for the benefactors, bishop for his tireless support and then to all the priests and to the sisters at last remembered the faithful who supported to run this program in a peaceful manner, after which the people proceeded for the festal meal. We are grateful to the Lord for all His blessing and graces. - **(Fr. G. Praveen, Parish Priest)**

4. ANNUAL FEAST OF MARIYAGIRI AT UPPALAPADU:

The Maria Giri Feast took place on 15.01.2020 at Uppalapadu, Orvakal Mandal, Kurnool. There were huge crowd gathered for procession at 5:30 PM from the



Church to Maria Giri Shrine Mountain. People from Uppalapadu, Uyyalawada, Loddipalli, Nannur, Veldurti, Hosennapuram, Orvakal, Embai, Kumbrel and Kurnool etc... have come. It is a great joy in the Lord to say that the Sisters of CMC, CTC, JMJ, ST. ANNES of Bangalore, Samarpana, DSS, MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY, Brigatine

and so on.. from Kurnool have participated in the procession and in the Mass. Fr. K.D. Joseph (the Parish Priest of Nandikotkur) celebrated the Mass and encouraged the people to come to the Lord Jesus to receive the blessings of the Almighty. Fr. D. John Britto gave the Homily on "The importance of Prayer as Mother Mary Prayed". Fr. Kola Vijay Raju (Parish Priest of Cathedral), Fr. Arun (Sinai Divine Retreat Centre), Fr. Lourdaiah (Bishop's Secretary), Fr. Prashanth (DESK Director), Fr. Pappula Joseph Sudhakar were concelebrating in the Mass and prayed for the People. After the Mass, there was Felicitation and cultural Programmes. The Maria Giri Feast ended with Love Meal for all. Special thanks and appreciation to Fr. Kola Vijay Raju and Fr. Pappula Joseph Sudhakar who were leading and guiding the procession from the beginning to the end and who remained till the end of the cultural programme and encouraged the children and people as was done last year. - **(Fr. D. John Britto, HFF, Uppalapadu)**

1. BISHOP RAJAPPA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (Higher & Professional Courses):

Faith Formation Program was held on January 14th Tuesday, 2020 on which we issued the scholarship cheques to the students. Thanks to the goodness of our priests, the Program was held in the Kurnool and Nandyal Centres on the same day. Most of the students reached on time and so we could have a meaningful program. Lunch in the noon and Tea & snacks in the evening were provided to all the students.

We had

1. An inaugural Prayer Session;
2. The Bible Exam;
3. The Holy Mass;
4. Lunch;
5. Talks by fathers;
6. Distribution of Cheques;
7. Tea and Departures. 5 of the top scoring students from each Deanery have been rewarded with special cash prizes.

2. DESK thanks our beloved Bishop **Most Rev. Anthony Poola and Reverend Fathers especially Rev. Fr. A. John Devadas, Parish Priest at Arogyamatha, Nandyal, and Rev. Fr. Ery Balaraju, Director, JPC for the kind cooperation, accommodation and hospitality in organizing the Scholarship Program. DESK is also grateful to many other priests, sisters and lay people who collaborated for the Program.**

DESK specially thanks Rev. Fr. Lourdu, Bishop's Secretary, Rev. Fr. Tarun, Rev. Fr. S Devadas, In-charge Sponsorship, St. Ann's Madavaram Sisters (Nandyal) and DESK Staff Sr. Rosy SJT, G Pradeep, M Hari Chandra and the Diocesan Youth who selflessly worked hard to conduct the Program.

[Fr. K. Prashanth, DESK- Director, Mobile: +91-9182248907]

1. ONE DAY TRAINING OF TRAINEES (TOT) DISSEMINATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN OF CARITAS INDIA:

The meeting was held in Montfort Bavan at Hyderabad. Many were present for the meeting from Telugu speaking states. Most Rev. Dr. Poola Anthony chairman of APSSF was chief guest of the day. He encouraged all the participants for their good services in the Telugu region and enriched us with his talk. Fr. Anthaiah led the team with the help of Mr. Sudhakar AP Forum Coordinator. After the lunch we all had group discussion and sharing on the four points. 1. Empowering animation 2. Dialogue with the



community 3. Volunteering 4. Sharing communities. It was good opportunity for all the Christian NGOs to gather together. **General body meeting of APSSF took place in Monfort Bavan Hyderabad:** Most Rev. Dr. Poola Anthony chairman of APSSF, Executive Director, Governing Body and General Body members were present. Fr. Anthaiah presented the report of last year, paper was passed and accepted by the members. Fr. Anthaiah thanked everyone for their presence and participation.

2. WOMEN ARE THE PILLARS OF THE SOCIETY:

Introducing Kolping India programmes in Sirivella village: Kolping India Self Help Groups in Sirivella. Rev. Fr. Bhaskar, Director, of Kurnool Diocese Social Service



Society along with Sr. Vijaya Co-ordinator and Sr. Nirmala had conducted meeting to the women. Nearly 60 members were presented for the meeting. Fr. S. Bhaskar explained about the organization of Kolping India and about Blessed Adolf Kolping. With the intention to uplift

the poorest of poor to render his self less service particularly for the women who are marginalized and downthrown. Fr. S. Bhaskar the Director of KDSSS, came forward to help this kind of poor people with the support of Kolping India. We thank Fr. Amruth Raj for the support and help.

3. WORKSHOP FOR THE DIOCESAN SECRETARIES AND LAY LEADERS ON CCBI NATIONAL DALIT POLICY ADOPTING INTO REGIONAL DALIT POLICY TOOK PLACE IN JESUS CENTER NELLORE:

Most Rev. Dr. Jayarao Polimera, D.D. Chiarman , SC/BC Commission and Most Rev. Dr. Moses D. Prakasam, D.D. Bishop of Nellore , regional secretary , diocesan secretaries and lay leaders have participated in the programme. Bishop M.D Prakasam had unlighted us on Christian values



and morals. Mr. Abraham has given us input session on the dalith policy and to take policy to the people. There was group discussion and sharing and followed by mass and then all dispersed.

4. LET GIRL CHILD LIVE:

International Girl Child Day begets its own importance when it is celebrated where there are girls from rural area who are innocent, vulnerable and at the same time very competitive. It was on 24th January 2020 the Staff took a lead to a Zilla Parishad High school in a remote village called Thummaluru in Pamulapadu mandal, Kurnool District. It was a sunny day and weather was hot. Still the Headmaster and the staff of the School welcomed us very warmly and gathered the Girl Children of the School in a hall. KDSSS staff spoke to the children relating the importance of Girl Child Day. It is celebrated all over the country on 24th January. If the Girl has to live in the society with dignity and honor, she has to be educated, given medical care, nutrition, gender equality, pay parity etc., she has to be well taken care of.

In the olden days when a girl child is born In a family it was thought that the child is bringing prosperity to the family and every one would be happy. But now the girl child is massacred in the womb of the Mother itself. The world is indirectly telling that there is no place for a girl in the world. We forget that there is no existence of life without a girl's presence in the world. She has to live as a mother, a sister and more as a wife. A girl child who plays an important role in everyone's life is rejected outright by the society. After spending few moments of awareness programme with girl children of that school, the staff of KDSSS conducted few games for them and distributed prizes (Exam pads, pouches etc) to the winners. Mr. Sunkanna, the Head master of the School thanked the Director of KDSSS Rev. Fr. Bhaskar and the Staff for conducting such a beautiful programme in their school. All the girls were very happy and said good bye to us as we left the school.

5. CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS:

It is true as it is said that cleanliness is next to Godliness. Where there is cleanliness is maintained, good health prevails there. We the staff of KDSSS marched towards Government High school in Tharigopula village to conduct an awareness programme on cleanliness and hygiene. Head Master and other members of the Staff welcomed us warmly. We introduced ourselves to them and told them the purpose for which we have reached their school. Children both boys and girls were gathered under the trees since the school building was small and there was no other place to have a gathering. Few guidelines were given to children about personal cleanliness and how to keep themselves clean and what are the ways where they can safeguard their health through their daily habits. They were asked many questions to know how far they are in the habit of keeping their surroundings clean and whether they are in any way contributing to the cleanliness In their houses, in the school and in their class rooms. Explained to them of the consequences of not being clean. They were very much interested to know more things about this topic and they were interacting with many doubts. They were



enthusiastic and active. National Cleanliness Day is celebrated on 30th of January as it is the death anniversary day of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. As a mark of remembrance of our visit to the school Rev. Fr. S. Bhaskar, the Director of KDSSS has given Plastic bucket, mugs and soaps to the students. Head Master Mr. Maddaiah and other Teachers thanked for the beautiful and edifying programme conducted in their school and thanked the KDSSS whole heartedly.

6. NATIONAL VOTERS' DAY:

Proud to be a voter.....Ready to vote... In order to encourage more young voters to take part in the political process, Government of India has decided to celebrate January 25 every year as "National Voters Day". It has been started from January 26, 2011 to mark Commission's Foundation day. On this occasion a meeting was conducted in District Collect orate in Kurnool in Santayana Auditorium. Many eminent personalities were present for this gathering. Many of them spoke about the voter and voting. Also about the politics of today.

A leader gets his position in the society through the voting system. Votes of the voters from the local area decide the leader whom they want to govern over them. In the past the persons who has a clear conscience and a good character used to be the leaders. Now the trend has been changed. Present leaders all are not falling in that



category. Whatever it may be it is the decision of the voter to choose what kind of leader they prefer. Youth of today should decide their future and future of the country. They have the capacity to lead the people in the right path and bring development and progress in their localities. So theirs is the choice today to decide.

Mr. Danamaiah, the Programme Coordinator from KDSSS attended this programme as a sign of solidarity of our Organization with the Society.

– (Fr. Sanike Bhaskar, Director, KDSSS)

1. JNANA JYOTHI BIBLE EXAM MARKS OR RESULTS- 2019:

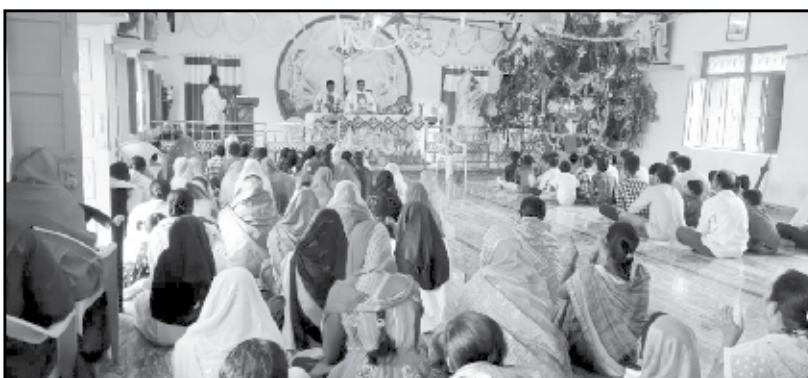
Dear fathers and sisters a word of thanks to all of you for taking initiative to conduct well the Gnana Jyothi bible exam in our diocese. This programme is very much appreciated by many priests, religious and lay people as well. Through this exam we have inspired and enabled many Christians and non- Christians of our diocese, to know more about Jesus Christ the Savior of the world, and about the Bible. Like Last year, this year too all most all the parishes of our diocese and religious have participated in this exam. We appreciate sincerely very much the services you have done. Once again pastoral centre is grateful to you fathers and sisters, for your gracious support and encouragement. Hearty congratulations to all those who written and those who secured highest marks in the Gnana Jyothi bible exam in the diocesan level.

CATEGORY- 1-2019							
S. No.	Name	Marks	First	Second	Third	Prize money	Parish
1.	R. Amalraj	88	1 st			Rs. 1000	Joharapuram
2.	P .Charles Jaswanth	71		2 nd		Rs.500	Dhone
3.	M.Swathi	61			3 rd	Rs. 300	SJRS
4.	G .keerthana	61			3 rd	Rs. 300	Ananthapuram
CATEGORY- II - 2019							
1.	L. Priyanka	99	1 st			Rs. 1000	Pathikonda
2.	E. Sandhya	98		2 nd		Rs. 500	SJRS
3.	S. Joji	95			3 rd	Rs.300	SJRS
CATEGORY-III - 2019							
1.	P. Ramya	97	1 st			Rs.1000	Yemmiganur
2.	Y. Rajitha	94		2 nd		Rs.500	Orvakal
3.	P. Nancy	93			3 rd	Rs.300	Yemmiganur
CATEGORY- IV - 2019							
1.	Ghandam Ganaprakash	93	1 st			Rs.1000	Cathedral
2.	M. Joshep raj	93	1 st			Rs.1000	Premagari
3.	Nallabotul Esappa	91			2 nd	500	Aluru
4.	S. Balaswamy	71			3 rd	Rs. 300	SFS Ananthapuram

CONSOLATION PRIZES (category-1)- 2019				
S.no	Name	Marks	Prize Money	Parish
1.	Talari lilly suhasini	66	RS.100	Yemmiganur
2.	Kk. jaswanth	60	Rs.100	Gundampadu
3.	B .chinnappa	57	Rs100	Aluru
CONSOLATION PRIZES (category-II) 2019				
S.no	Name	Marks	Prize Money	Parish
1.	E.Anil	72	RS.100	Aluru
2.	B.Gayathri	69	Rs.100	Atmakur
3.	P.Aravind	60	Rs100	pathikonda
CONSOLATION PRIZES (category-III) 2019				
S.no	Name	Marks	Prize Money	Parish
1.	T.Praveen	87	RS.100	Aluru
2.	S.Kumar	85	Rs.100	Yemmiganur
3.	K .Kalyan	80	Rs100	Aluru

2. VISWASA VIKASA SADDASULU AT PATHIKONDA PARISH:

Fr.Balaraj , pastoral centre director conducted faith formation programme at Pathikonda Parish. The programme started with Holy Rosary and followed by Holy Mass. The director preached the word of god. He has spoken about the faith of the church. He also explained to them faith of the different saints and the prophets. People were happy and taken up by the faith of the saints and people experienced the devotional atmosphere. Many people attended for the holy mass. Very thankful to Fr. Joseph for arranging one day faith formation programme.



3. FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMME AT UPPALAPADU PARISH:

At the invitation of Rev. Fr. Britto pastoral centre director invited, to inaugurate the novena by, flag hosting Mother Mary for the feast of Mariayagiri. The programme started with Rosary. The director conducted the rosary for the faithful and for the children. Many people participated and recited the rosary with more devotion. The director celebrated the holy mass and preached the Word of God. The director explained to them the qualities of mother Mary. People were more interested in listening the word of God on Mother Mary. Very thankful to Fr. Britto for arranging the programme so well.

4. FEAST OF MARIYAGIRI SHRINE AT KRISHNAPURAM PARISH:



At the invitation of Rev. Fr. Amal Raj (SJ) the pastoral centre team participated in the feast of Mariyagiri. The programme started with the procession of Mother Mary. Many faithful participated in the procession and recited rosary devotedly. Pastoral centre director celebrated Holy Mass and Fr. Anthaiah SDB preached the word of God. Many people participated in the feast and expressed their love for Mother Mary. Very thankful to Fr. Amal Raj for conducting the programme so well. - *(Fr. Ery Balaraj, JPC Director)*

NEWS FROM HOLY CHILDHOOD

1. HOLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMME AT PATHIKONDA PARISH:

Holy Childhood programme was conducted in Pathikonda Parish. After the Sunday Holy Mass, the in charge priest gathered the children in the church and made them to sit. The director enquired the children about the prayers and mass

prayers. Children were very active. The director encouraged the children to participate in the holy mass and recite rosary every day. He also encouraged the children to study well for better citizen. We concluded the programme with a small prayer.



2. HOLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMME AT UPPALAPADU PARISH:



Holy Childhood Programme was conducted at Uppalapadu Parish village. In view of the feat of Mother Mary some guidelines were given to children how to participate in the Holy mass. How to recite the Holy Rosary .The director recited rosary with the children. We distributed few medals

Jesus and Mary pictures. Many children attend for the Holy Mass.

3. HOLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMME AT GADIVEMULA PARISH:

Holy Childhood programme was conducted at Gadivemula Parish. The in-charge priest gathered the children after the holy mass. He interacted with the children. Children were happy and active. The priest in- charge asked them few mass prayers. With the help of father Bhaskar we have distributed Jeevadhar Hymn



Books for the children. He encouraged the children to participate in the holy mass and in the rosary too. Special thanks to Fr. Balaswammy Polishetty for arranging the programme. . - **(Fr. Ery Balaraj, Holy Childhood In- Charge)**

1. CHURCH URGED TO PROMOTE SOLIDARITY AND SECULARISM IN OUR COUNTRY: CARDINAL OSWALD GRACIAS:

Benaulim, Goa 9 January, 2020: Inaugurating the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India's (CCBI) Secretariat Extension in Benaulim, Goa His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias the Archbishop of Bombay and the President of the CBCI urged the Church in India to promote solidarity and respect all in our country. "The Citizenship Amendment Act is a cause of great anxiety for all citizens and there is a danger that there could be a polarization of our peoples along religious lines, which is very harmful for the country. It is the responsibility of all to promote solidarity and respect for all in our country" said Cardinal Oswald.

He also requested all Christian faithful to continuously pray for our country to prevail peace and harmony. Shanti Sadan (House of Peace), the CCBI Secretariat Extension in Benaulim was dedicated to the Service of the Church in India by Cardinal Oswald Gracias in the presence of 12 Bishops, priests, religious and lay faithful. His Grace Most Rev. Filipe Neri Ferrão, the President of the CCBI and the Archbishop of Goa, unveiled the plaque and blessed the ground floor. His Grace Most Rev. George Antonysamy, the Vice President of the CCBI and the Archbishop of Madras Mylapore blessed the first floor and gave homily during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. His Grace Most Rev. Anil Couto, the Secretary General of the CCBI and the Archbishop of Delhi, blessed the second floor.

The three story building has 25 self-contained rooms and can accommodate 40 persons. It has a chapel, conference and dining halls. The new Secretariat Extension building is situated in Benaulim, the birth place of St. Joseph Vaz, the Apostle of Sri Lanka. It is 17 kilometres from the Goa airport and 4 kilometres from the city railway station. The Episcopal Conference will organise small animation and training programmes from Shanti Sadan. The CCBI has five Secretariat buildings in India, Suvarta Kendra, Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh is the Secretariat of the CCBI Commission for Proclamation. Bethania, Faridabad, New Delhi is the CCBI Youth Commission Secretariat, PMO Secretariat, Ulsoor, Bangalore, is the Secretariat of the Pontifical Mission Organisation (PMO). The Headquarters of the CCBI is the CCBI Centre,

Bangalore from where the Deputy Secretary General and four other Commission Secretaries operate.

There are 16 Commissions and 3 Departments under the CCBI where 23 personnel are working as Executive Secretaries or Directors.

The Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI) is canonically the National Episcopal Conference for the Latin Church. It is the largest Bishops Conference in Asia and the fourth largest in the world. It consists of 132 dioceses with 190 bishops. *(- Rev. Dr. Stephen Alathara Deputy Secretary General, CCBI)*

2. POPE ASKS CARDINAL GRACIAS TO CONTINUE AS BOMBAY ARCHBISHOP

Pope asks Cardinal Gracias to continue as Bombay Archbishop Church leaders in India have welcomed Pope Francis asking Cardinal Oswald Gracias to continue as the Bombay archdiocese. It is good news. We welcome the cardinal's extension as the Archbishop of Bombay," Bishop Allwyn D'Silva told Matters India on January 28, responding to the Pope's decision. Cardinal Gracias had on November 30, 2019, submitted to the Pope in person his resignation from the archbishop's post as he was to complete 75 years on December 24 the same year.

A letter from the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples to Cardinal Gracias says the "Holy Father has asked you to continue 'donec aliter provideatur (until other provision is made).'" The congregation's December 6 letter expresses its gratitude to the cardinal for what he is doing for the service of the Church in Mumbai, in India and the Universal Church. "Permit me to add my own personal esteem and affection," said Cardinal Filoni Fernando, prefect of the Vatican congregation. Bishop D'Silva, one of the auxiliaries of Bombay archdiocese, says people in Mumbai had expected the extension because of the cardinal's caliber, knowledge, and experience of Church affairs both in India and the Universal Church. The environmentalist-turned prelate hailed the cardinal as "an effective spiritual leader, who is respected across the political spectrum in India and abroad. Gracias has guided the church in India with courage and prudence." Cardinal Gracias is one of the six advisers of Pope Francis. He is the president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, which is scheduled to hold its biennial plenary meeting in Bengaluru mid February. The cardinal is eligible for another term as the head of the Indian Catholic Church as he continues as the Bombay archbishop. Until a

year ago, he was the president of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences. Gracias Gracias was born in Mumbai to Jervis and Aduzinda Gracias of Goan origins. He completed his school studies at St. Michael's School in Mahim and joined Jesuit-managed St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

Let us listen to the Holy Father Pope Francis

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2020

"We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favorable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. We must continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity.

1. The paschal mystery as the basis of conversion Christian joy flows from listening to, and accepting, the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This kerygma sums up the mystery of a love "so real, so true, so concrete, that it invites us to a relationship of openness and fruitful dialogue" (Christus Vivit, 117). Whoever believes this message rejects the lie that our life is ours to do with as we will. Rather, life is born of the love of God our Father, from his desire to grant us life in abundance (cf. Jn 10:10). If we listen instead to the tempting voice of the "father of lies" (Jn 8:44), we risk sinking into the abyss of absurdity, and experiencing hell here on earth, as all too many tragic events in the personal and collective human experience sadly bear witness. In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation Christus Vivit: "Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love, and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew" (No. 123). Jesus' Pasch is not a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer.

2. The urgency of conversion It is good to contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God's mercy has been bestowed upon us. Indeed, the experience of mercy is only possible in a "face to face" relationship with the crucified and risen Lord "who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20), in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent. Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God's love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will. In this favorable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. Hos 2:14), so that we can at last hear our Spouse's voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us. May we not let this time of grace pass in vain, in the foolish illusion that we can control the times and means of our conversion to him.

3. God's passionate will to dialogue with his children The fact that the Lord once again offers us a favorable time for our conversion should never be taken for granted. This new opportunity ought to awaken in us a sense of gratitude and stir us from our sloth. Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God's unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us. In the crucified Jesus, who knew no sin, yet for our sake was made to be sin (cf. 2 Cor 5:21), this saving will led the Father to burden his Son with the weight of our sins, thus, in the expression of Pope Benedict XVI, "turning God against himself" (Deus Caritas Est, 12). For God also loves his enemies (cf. Mt 5:43- 48). The dialogue that God wishes to establish with each of us through the paschal mystery of his Son has nothing to do with empty chatter, like that attributed to the ancient inhabitants of Athens, who "spent their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new" (Acts 17:21). Such chatter, determined by an empty and superficial curiosity, characterizes worldliness in every age; in our own day, it can also result in improper use of the media.

4. A richness to be shared, not kept for oneself Putting the paschal mystery at the center of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence.

They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry. Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness.

We can and must go even further, and consider the structural aspects of our economic life. For this reason, in the midst of Lent this year, from 26 to 28 March, I have convened a meeting in Assisi with young economists, entrepreneurs and change-makers, with the aim of shaping a more just and inclusive economy. As the Church's magisterium has often repeated, political life represents an eminent form of charity (cf. Pius XI, Address to the Italian Federation of Catholic University Students, 18 December 1927). The same holds true for economic life, which can be approached in the same evangelical spirit, the spirit of the Beatitudes. I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. Mt 5:13-14).

2. Pope sets special day to study Bible: Pope Francis has set a special day to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God: "The newly established "Sunday of the Word of God" is an invitation to Catholics across the world to deepen their appreciation, love and faithful witness to God and his word, Pope Francis said. By papal decree, the third Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 26 this year — is to be observed as a special day devoted to the Bible study. A day dedicated to the Bible will help the church "experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world," the pope said in the document establishing the special Sunday observance. Dioceses and parishes have been invited to respond with creative initiatives, helpful resources and renewed efforts for helping Catholics engage more deeply with the Bible at church and in their lives. Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, said added emphasis on the importance of the word of God is needed because "the overwhelming majority" of Catholics are not familiar with sacred Scripture. For many, the only time they hear the word of God is when they attend Mass, he told

Vatican News September 30, when the papal document, titled “Aperuit Illis,” was published. “The Bible is the most widely distributed book, but it’s also perhaps the one most covered in dust because it is not held in our hands,” the archbishop said.

With this apostolic letter, the pope “invites us to hold the word of God in our hands every day as much as possible so that it becomes our prayer” and a greater part of one’s lived experience, he said. In his letter, Pope Francis wrote, “A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a yearlong event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers.” “We need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness,” he wrote. Sacred Scripture and the sacraments are inseparable, he wrote. Jesus speaks to everyone with his word in sacred Scripture, he said, and if people “hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us.” Pope Francis urged priests to be extra attentive to creating a homily each Sunday that “speaks from the heart” and really helps people understand Scripture “through simple and suitable” language.

3. Pope Francis: Every human has an irrepressible dignity: Pope Francis emphasized the importance of each person’s dignity Friday in his message for World Communications Day: “In the history of every person, the Father sees again the story of his Son who came down to earth. Every human story has an irrepressible dignity,” Pope Francis said in the message signed Jan. 24. The pope said it is important for each person to remember who and what they are in God’s eyes and to bear witness to what the Holy Spirit has written in their hearts. “In order to do this, let us entrust ourselves to the woman who knit together in her womb the humanity of God,” Francis said. “O Mary, woman and mother, you wove the divine Word in your womb, you recounted by your life the magnificent works of God ... Look at the tangled knots in our life that paralyze our memory. By your gentle hands, every knot can be untied,” Pope Francis wrote in a prayer at the end of the message.

Pope Francis focused on storytelling as an essential part of the human experience in his message for World Communications Day. The message was published on Jan. 24 for the feast of St. Francis de Sales, the patron of writers,

journalists, and the Catholic press. “Amid the cacophony of voices and messages that surround us, we need a human story that can speak of ourselves and of the beauty all around us,” he said. Much of the pope’s reflections on storytelling centered on the Bible as the quintessential human story. “Sacred Scripture is a Story of stories,” he said. “It shows us from the very beginning a God who is both creator and narrator. Indeed, God speaks his word and things come into existence.” “The Bible is thus the great love story between God and humanity. At its centre stands Jesus, whose own story brings to fulfilment both God’s love for us and our love for God,” Pope Francis said. The pope encouraged men and women in every generation to memorize the most significant episodes recounted in Sacred Scripture to better communicate its meaning. He said that Jesus taught in parables, stories taken from everyday life.

“Our own story becomes part of every great story. As we read the Scriptures, the stories of the saints, and also those texts that have shed light on the human heart and its beauty, the Holy Spirit is free to write in our hearts, reviving our memory of what we are in God’s eyes,” he said.

4. Pope Francis: When we do not worship God, we worship ourselves: On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Pope Francis said worship of Christ reveals the true meaning of our journey of life, as it did for the magi in the Gospel. “When we do not worship God, we end up worshiping ourselves,” Pope Francis said Jan. 6 in St. Peter’s Basilica. “Worship means concentrating on what is essential,” he said. “In worship, we learn to reject what should not be worshiped: the god of money, the god of consumerism, the god of pleasure, the god of success, the god of self. Worship means bending low before the Most High and to discover in his presence that life’s greatness does not consist in having, but in loving.” In his homily for the Epiphany of the Lord, Pope Francis reflected on the magi, or wise men, who bearing gifts, came to worship the Child Jesus in Bethlehem.

The Magi brought gold to the Lord to tell him that nothing is more precious than he, the pope said. They offered him incense to tell him that only in union with him can our lives rise up to heaven, and healing myrrh to promise Christ aid to marginalized and suffering neighbors in whom he himself is present. “In worshiping, we too will discover, like the Magi, the meaning of our journey. And like the Magi, we too will experience ‘a great joy,’” Francis said.

“Worship means realizing that you and God belong together to one another. It means being able to speak to him freely and intimately,” he said. “Worship means

discovering that, in order to pray, it is enough to say: 'My Lord and my God,' and to let ourselves be pervaded by his tender love." "Through worship, we discover that the Christian life is a love story with God," the pope said. "This is what the Church ought to be, a worshiper in love with Jesus her spouse." Pope Francis said that worship is an act of love that transforms one's life. "In worship, we allow Jesus to heal and change us ... to kindle light amid our darkness, to grant us strength in weakness and courage amid trials." "Once we lose the sense of worship, we lose our direction in the Christian life, which is a journey towards the Lord, not towards ourselves," the pope said. "This is a grave risk," he said. "We use God instead of serving him ... How many times have we confused God's power, which is for serving others, with power of this world, which is for serving ourselves..."



Human trafficking is a crime against humanity. We must unite our efforts to free victims and stop this crime that's become ever more aggressive, that threatens not just individuals, but the foundational values of society.

— Pope Francis —

5. Pope Francis: It is beautiful when babies cry at Mass: Pope Francis baptized 32 babies in the Sistine Chapel Sunday, telling parents not to worry if their children cry at Mass. "Let the children cry," the pope said. "It is a beautiful homily when a child cries in church, a beautiful homily." On the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Pope Francis celebrated Mass on Jan. 12 with the parents and godparents of 17 boys and 15 girls, who were baptized surrounded by Michelangelo's frescoes. "Just as Jesus went to receive baptism, you bring your children," Francis said. "The power of the Holy Spirit comes to defend them for the rest of their lives." "This is why it is so important to baptize them as babies because they grow with the power of the Holy Spirit," the pope added. Pope Francis said that he wanted to keep his homily short because the babies might not feel

comfortable in their baptism gowns and in a new environment. “Babies are not used to coming to the Sistine Chapel,” he joked. The pope reminded the parents that their personal example at home will help their child to grow in faith. He said that baptizing a child is an act of justice because the child receives the pledge of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament. Each of the 32 baptized infants are children of Vatican employees born in 2019. St. John Paul II began the papal tradition of baptizing children in the Sistine Chapel on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Following the Mass, Pope Francis prayed the Angelus prayer from the window of the Vatican’s Apostolic Palace with pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square.

6. Pope Francis prays for coronavirus victims in China: Pope Francis prayed Sunday for people infected by the coronavirus, which has killed 56 people in China. “May the Lord welcome the deceased in his peace, comfort families and support the great commitment of the Chinese community, already put in place to fight the epidemic,” Pope Francis said in his Angelus address Jan. 26. Originating in the Chinese city of Wuhan, the virus has spread to nine countries with 1,975 confirmed cases. The World Health Organization’s latest report Jan. 25 stated that among the confirmed cases, 237 people have been reported as severely ill. The number of people with coronavirus has increased by 655 cases in the 24-hours since the WHO report’s release, the Chinese government reported Jan. 26, one day after Lunar New Year. Hundreds of millions of people travel for the holiday, which is the biggest celebration of the year in China.

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,

We humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



THE DAYS TO REMEMBER

*Many Many Happy Returns of the day to you dear
Father ...*



Rev. Fr. K.D. Joseph22-02-1968

Rev. Fr. Polisetty Balaswamy10-02-2012

*Hearty Congratulations and best wishes to you dear father
on your Priestly Ordination Anniversary*

Rev.Fr. K. D. Joseph 02-02-2000

Rev. Fr. Y. Joji Reddy 07-02-1979

Rev. Fr. S. Joseph 11-02-2011

Rev. Fr. E. Bala Raj 11-02-2011

Rev. Fr. K. Prashanth 20-02-2014

Rev. Fr. S. Devadas 20-02-2014

Rev. Fr. S. Vijay Amruth Raj 20-02-2014

Re. Fr. S. Sudhakar 20-02-2014

Rev.Fr. K. Lourdaiah 20-02-2014

Rev. Fr. Joy Andrew 23-02-1975



*Let us remember our Departed Brother Priests. May the souls of
the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God Rest in Peace.*



Rev.Fr. Aurilius OCD 05-02-2002

Rev.Fr. Gnanayudham 15-02-2000

Rev.Fr. Jacob 27-02-1977



Bishop Rajappa Scholarship & DESK Sponsorship Cheque Distribution Programme : 14-01-2020





ASH WEDNESDAY

Prepare the way of the Lord

*Remember that
you are dust, and to
dust you shall return.*

Ecclesiastes 3:20