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News Bulletin Diocese of Sultanpet

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Bishop Speaks...

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



The Living Martyr!

Hate-speeches and hate-violences against religious, caste and gender minorities are sadly common these days in India and in other parts of the world. Both the innocents and those who raise their voice against injustice are the worst prey. There is someone who was and is the victim of such hatred on this globe. That is Jesus Christ! It is not only the physical person of Jesus who was hated and despised in the land of Palestine but also his spiritual body, that is, the Church/disciples (Acts 9:5; 1 Cor 15:3) continue to suffer daily martyrdom all over the world (cf. 2Cor 4: 4-12). As such Jesus continues to suffer; and thus he is the living martyr! In his life Jesus showed this nature of eternal martyrdom.

June: the month of Martyrs!

The liturgical calendar of June is filled with martyrs, starting with Justine Martyr, also remembering the greatest martyrs, like St. Peter and St. Paul and the first martyrs of the Holy Roman Church. Indeed, we honour them with high esteem as their blood became the seed of the church (Tertullian, *Apologeticus*, 50). However, we should remember that all these martyrs, then and now, follow the eternal martyr Jesus Christ. Jesus on Calvary showed his extraordinary martyrdom when his heart was pierced, not to confirm his death but to manifest his love and mercy for the victimized world!

Evangelical Witness!

Jesus' sermon on the mount stands on top of his evangelical message which ends in inviting us to follow, not just Himself, but the heavenly Father (Mt 5:48) and in all the previous 47 verses of this chapter Jesus shows who the heavenly Father is: merciful, loving, forgiving, just and holy. In this chapter itself Jesus gives witness to the Father by his evangelical preaching. The nature of God the Father's love and concern for sinners, the sick and despised is very well shown by Jesus in his parables of the "Lost" (Lk 15). He said very emphatically that whatever he says and does is from the Father (Jn 5:19-21) and thus gives a very vivid witness to God the Father through his evangelical mission. This is much more evident in his address to the Father: "I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you have given to me to do" (Jn 17:4; 14). This evangelical mission and witness brought him severe challenges and conflicts which he overcame with a spirit of martyr!

Missionary Witness!

Jesus took upon himself all the challenges/conflicts of life for a mission. When he predicted his suffering and death Jesus very clearly said that he was setting his mind on divine things (Mt 16:23), that is: "to give his life for many" (Mk 10:45). The divine mission which he undertook to fulfil is not to live for himself but to "fall into the earth and die" (Jn 12:24) so that 'he will draw all people to himself' (Jn 12:32). This motivation, even in the severe situation of shedding his blood-sweat at Gethsemane, urged him to seek the will of God the Father (Lk 22:47). And this missionary journey for him was not a compulsion or a painful process but a willingly undertaken mission as he himself said: "No one takes it from me, but I lay it

down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father" (Jn 10:18).

Sacrificial Witness!

We are aware of the great blood-martyrdom of Jesus in Calvary, nailed to the cross. A Roman soldier pierced his side (heart) and at once blood and water came out (Jn 19:34). In the mind of the Romans and Jews this should have been a fatal blow to Jesus; but for Jesus it was a life-giving act to all his believers. Just as Adam's rib (*pleura*) gave life to the formation of woman Jesus' broken rib gives to his believers sacramental life of baptism (water) and Eucharist (blood) that sanctifies them from sin and sustains them for a life of discipleship (cf. Raymond Brown, *The Gospel according to St. John, II*, 953). Here Jesus proves his sacrificial witness by taking upon himself 'the Lamb of God' who takes away the sins of the world (Jn 1:19). His 'blood and water' here signifies his spirit of compassion as that of the 'living water' flowing from Jerusalem (cf. Zech 14:8).

The Martyred Sacred Heart!

This fact of the sacrificial witness of Jesus, who is ever full of compassion and love (Mt 11:19) is very much underlined in our devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion which is very popular all over the world, especially in the East, should not remain only with our prayers and petitions in the church but should reflect in our life of mercy, compassion and forgiveness as in the model of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Our constant commitment to our Christian faith/principles is to be in the footsteps of Jesus the great witness to the Father and to his mission by heroically facing all the challenges/conflicts of personal, family, social and political life. In our daily trials and tribulations we are not alone, nor do we claim personal martyrdom; it is Christ Jesus who becomes a martyr in us! This life of our enduring witness will make Jesus alive as the living martyr, because "it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me" (Gal 2:20).

FABC Seminar on Bible & Evangelization

I was invited to participate in the FABC seminar on Bible and Evangelization in Bangkok on 14-17, May 2019, organized by Bishop Broderick Pabilio (Auxiliary Bishop of Manila), Chairperson of FABC Office of Evangelization. He inaugurated the seminar by giving a talk on *What is the Biblical Apostolate in the Church*. His Eminence Cardinal Charles Maung Bo, SDB, (Myanmar), President of FABC, gave a very factual sharing on *"Dark Forces, Inhuman Violence Vs the Option for the Poor in Asia"* and Archbishop Emeritus John Ha (Malaysia), basing on Gen 15 and Jn 17, gave very inspiring talks on *Mission ad Gentes* and *Re-Evangelization* in the context of Asia today. I also presented a talk on *"The Biblical Witness in the Context of Asia today."* There was fruitful discussion and sharing on *"Working together with the Catholic Biblical Federation"* and the *United Bible Societies*.



Transfers and Appointments - May 2019

Name	From	To
Rev. Mgr. A. S. Madalaimuthu, VG, PP, Walayar		VG & PP, Kovilpalayam
Rev. Fr. A. Antonysamy,	Chancellor, Vandazhy	Confessor, Kovilpalayam
Rev. Fr. Maria Louis Pappu	PP & VF, Cathedral	PP & VF, Palaniarpalayam
Rev. Fr. Lorance	Procurator	PP & VF, Cathedral
Rev. Fr. A. Sagayanathan	Studies, Rome:	Procurator & In Charge of Seminarians, Holy Childhood & Private Schools (<i>from October</i>)

Rev. Fr. Sylvester D'Cruz	PP, Palaniarpalayam	PP. Vadakancherry& VF, Mannarkad Vicariate (<i>from November onwards</i>)
Rev. Fr. Vimal Arokiaraj	Studies, Rome:	Chancellor, Judicial Vicar, Coordinator of Pastoral Commissions, Secretary of BCC & Media Commissions. In charge of Fatima Church, ITI, Kanjikode (<i>from October</i>).
Rev. Fr. C. Maria Joseph	PP, Kovilpalayam	PP, Sayathurai
Rev. Fr. Devaraj, ocd	PP, Sayathurai	Relieved
Rev. Fr. Irudayaraj, cpps,	PP Erumaikaranur	Relieved
Rev. Fr. SagayaVendan, csc	PP, Pampupara	PP, Walayar
Rev. Fr. Nelson	-----	PP, Pampupara
Rev. Fr. Prince Robert	Director, SMSSS	PP, Kanjikode
Rev. Fr. Sundar Raj	-----	PP, Eruthenpathy
Rev. Fr. M. Paul	PP, Eruthenpathy	PP, Attapallam
Rev. Fr. Jesudass	PP, Attapallam	PP, Erumaikaranur
Rev. Fr. Martin Jose	PP, Olavacode	PP, Chittur
Rev. Fr. Antony Asariparambil, osj	Asst. PP, Cathedral	PP, Olavacode& Associate Director, Paalana Hospital
Rev. Fr. Antony Pious Xavier	PP, Kanjikode	Director, SMSSS
Rev. Fr. Paul Vincent	PP, Chittur	Studies, Rome
Rev. Fr. Arul Arasan	Asst. PP, Palaniarpalayam	Minister, Bishop's House
Rev. Fr. Chinnaparaj	Bishop's House	Asst. PP, Palaniarpalayam
Rev. Fr. Christopher	Asst. PP, Sayathurai	Asst. PP, Eruthenpathy
Rev. Fr. Amal Charles, cpps	Asst. PP, Kanjikode	Asst. PP, Sayathurai
Rev. Fr. Dixon Antony	From Diocese of Quilon	Asst. PP. Cathedral

Secretaries of the Commissions:

Bible	:	Rev. Fr. Antony, ocd,
Liturgy & Children	:	Rev. Fr. Martin Jose
Catechetics	:	Rev. Fr. Prince Robert
Evangelization & Charismatic Renewal	:	Rev. Fr. C. Maria Joseph
Education	:	Rev. Fr. Louis Maria Pappu,
BCC, Communications & Media	:	Rev. Fr. VimalArokiaraj
Holy Childhood, Vocation & Seminarians	:	Rev. Fr. Antony Sagayanathan
Family	:	Rev. Fr. George, ocd Rev. Fr. Jesudass (Associate Secretary)
Labour, Social Action	:	Rev. Fr. Antony Pious Xavier
Migrants	:	Rev. Fr. Joy Kuzhinjalil, msfs

Laity & Political Affairs`	: Rev. Fr. Albert Anandaraj
Health	: Rev. Fr. Antony Asariparambil, osj
Ecumenism & Dialogue	: Rev. Fr. A. Antonysamy, OFM (Cap)
Prison Ministry	: Rev. Fr. Chinnapparaj
Youth	: Rev. Fr. Vincent Arokia Xavier, SDB
Women	: Ms. Theresa

College of Consultors

The newly appointed college of Consultors are the following:

Very Rev. Fr. A.S. Madalaimuthu, Vicar General,
 Very Rev. Fr. ArokSundar, OFM, Episcopal Vicar for Religious
 Rev. Fr. Louis Maria Pappu, VF, Soarapara
 Rev. Fr. Lorance, VF, Palakkad
 Rev. Fr. George, ocd, VF, Mannarkad
 Rev. Fr. A. Antonysamy, Chancellor
 Rev. Fr. Lazar Arulappan, Appointed member

They will assume their membership on Thursday 6th June 2019. May I wish them God's blessings for a successful ministry.

US Mission

I will be going to the USA for the Mission Appeal program from 12th June to 15th July this year. In my absence Msgr. A. S. Madalaimuthu, VG, will be in-charge of the Diocese. You can approach the VFs for any immediate reference.

Thank You!

The Congregation of the Precious Blood was looking after the parish at Erumaikaranur for the last fifteen years. I would like to thank the Provincials and the Fathers for their service in this parish.

Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome the Trichy Province of the Salesians to the parish at Athicode and Rev. Fr. Vincent Arokia Xavier, sdb, to be the secretary of the Diocesan Youth Commission. I too welcome Rev. Fr. Dixon Antony from the Diocese of Quilonto serve as the Assistant Parish Priest in our Cathedral from June onwards. I wish to thank his Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Paul Antony Mullassery for having lent him to our Diocese.

Contact Person!

Fr. L. Lorance will look after the secretarial job in the Bishop's House until 15th October 2019. All are requested to contact him for any appointment or work in the Bishop's House.

Condolence!

Mr. Jayaraj, father of Fr. Christopher passed away on 7th May 2019. We convey our deep feelings of condolence to Fr. Christopher and his family member for this great loss. May the Lord grant his father, Mr. Jayaraj, eternal reward.

Seminarians of the Diocese (2019-2020)

St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Aluva

1. Rev. Deacon Nelson Joy Antony 4th Year Theology

Sacred Heart Seminary, Poonamallee

2. Vijeesh 3rd Year Theology
3. Benedict 2nd Year Philosophy

4. Liju George 1st Year Philosophy

Urban University, Rome:

5. Abhisek , 1st Year of Theology

Good Shepherd Seminary, Coimbatore

6. Jesson James, 1st year of Philosophy

7. Johnson Thomas, Spiritual Year

Morning Star College, Culcutta

8. Abhin Alex, 1st Year of Philosophy & B.Ph First Year

St. Joseph's College, Cuddalore

9. Ragesh, 3rd Year Degree (BA. English)

10. Shalu, 2nd Year Degree (BA English)

St. Paul's Minor Seminary, Kozhikode

11. Amal Raj, +2 at Jesuit Junior College, Kozhikode

St. Aloysius Minor Seminary, Punalur

12. Ranjith +1 (English Medium Metric)

13. Rinto Paulson +1 (English Medium Metric)

14. Denny - Minor Seminary (after class X)

15. John - Minor Seminary (after class X)

16. Allan - Minor Seminary (after class X)

17. Albert Rosario - Minor Seminary (after class X)

18. Christy - Minor Seminary (after class X)

I would like to appreciate and thank Rev. Fr. Sylvester D'Cruz for his strenuous effort to find these suitable candidates and to follow them in their formation. I do appreciate Rev. Fr. Sagayanathan for finding sponsorship for the formation-expenses of these seminarians.


 + Antony Peter Abir
 Bishop of Sultanpet

Bishop's Appointments

Date	Time	Programme	Place
1	08.00 am	Blessing of the MF Provincialate	Malampuzha
3	10.00 am	KRLCBC Bible Commission Meeting	Cochin
	05.00 pm	KRLCBC Meeting	Cochin
4	09.00 am	KCBC Meeting	Ernakulam
5	10.30 am	Marriage Mass	Vadalur
	05.00 pm	Hoisting of the Flag & Feast Mass	Nariyappanur
6	10.00 am	Consultors' Meeting	Bishop's House
8	11.00 am	Catechism Commission General Body Meeting	Palakkad
9	08.45 pm	Installation of the New PP of Cathedral	Sultanpet
	11.00 am	Blessing of New Chapel & Mass	Kulukkupara
11	07.00 pm	Feast Mass	Trissur

From Vicar General Desk

The next recollection for priests will be held at 10 am on Monday 17 June 2019. The program will be over, as usual, with the lunch. All the secretaries of the Commissions are requested to bring with them the list of their executive members and a brief report of their commissions.

Special Seminar for Priests

As informed by our bishop on the Recollection day of May (20th) there will be a one-day seminar for priests on the parish administration conducted by Rev. Prof. A. Rayappan (St. Peter's Seminary, Bangalore) on Sunday 21st July. Kindly have all the liturgical celebrations before 10 am and be at the venue (Cathedral Hall, Sultanpet) at 11 am to begin the seminar on time. This will end by 4 pm. All priests, both diocesan and religious, are expected to attend this seminar without fail.

Rev. Msgr. A. S. Madalaimuthu, VG

From the Procurator's Desk

I wish to remind you to submit the amount of the following special collections:

- 1) *Opus Securitatis* - January
- 2) *Holy Child Hood & Communio India* - February
- 3) *Maintenance of Holy See* - March
- 4) *Hunger and disease, Good Friday* April
- 5) *Peters' Pence* May
- 6) *Vocation Sunday* - June

Medical Help

We distributed medical help of Rs.5000/- to parishioner of Kanakankalam in the month of May 2019.

Education Fund

Opening Balance	21,65,502.00
Kovilpalayam	5,000.00
Padagiri	5,000.00
Olavacode	10,000.00
Individual donation	10,000.00
Closing Balance	21,95,502.00

Rev. Fr. Lorance L.,
Financial Administrator

Marriage Preparation Course

The next marriage preparation course will be held at Sorapara in the month of July. The date will be announced later.

Rev. Fr. Paul Vincent
Family commission

BIRTH DAY

14 Fr. Arul Arasan
14 Fr. Antony PichaiMuthu SDB
24 Fr. Francis Xavier Kavalakkal

*SNL wish you a
Happy Birth Day*

ORDINATION DAY

11 Fr. Chinnapparaj

*SNL wish you a
Happy Ordination Day*

FEAST DAY

13 Fr. A. Antonysamay
13 Fr. Antony Sahayanathan
13 Fr. G. Antony OCD
13 Fr. Antony, SJ
13 Fr. Antony Asariparambil, OSJ
14 Fr. Antony Pichai Muthu SDB
25 Bro. William Mariadass, BSM
29 Fr. M. Paul
29 Fr. A. Chinnappa Devaraj OCD
29 Fr. J. Paul Vincent
29 Fr. Peter Saleth Nathan, OFM
29 Fr. Chinnapparaj
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Fr. Irudayaraj CPPS

*SNL wish you a
Happy Feast Day*

News of the various Activates



Diaconate Ordination

Rev. Bro. Nelson Joy Antony was ordained a Deacon by our Bishop in our Cathedral on Monday 20th May. The concelebrated Mass and the ceremony began at 6 pm. After the ordination service dinner was served to all the participants.

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

Altar Servers Meet

The first meeting of the Diocesan Altar Servers was held on Saturday 25 May 2019, organized by the Diocesan Liturgy Commission. One hundred and twenty four servers, mostly boys, from 20 parishes participated in this one-day programme held at the Cathedral hall, Sultanpet. Motivation talk, emphasizing on their disposition of devotion and decorum when serving the liturgical services, was given by the Commission Secretary. Our Bishop congratulated them all for their generous service and encouraged them to be models to the other faithful in attending the liturgical services devotedly.



*Fr. C. Maria Joseph
Secretary, Diocesan Charismatic Commission*

Fifth Anniversary of SMSSS

Sultanpet Multipurpose Social Service Society (SMSSS), a Charitable NGO of the Latin Catholic Diocese of Sultanpet, celebrated its 5th anniversary on Saturday on 11 May 2019 in the parish hall of St. Sebastian's Cathedral. The program was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Antonysamy Peter Abir, Bishop of Sultanpet. Sri.K. Krishnankutty, the honourable Minister for Water Resources in Kerala, inaugurated the programme. Rev. Fr.Prince Robert, Executive Director of SMSSS, welcomed the gathering. Fr. George Vettickattil, Executive Director, KSSF, Mr. Ramesh Venugobal, NABARD Manager, Fr. Alfred, Executive Director of Calicut Diocese Social Service Society, Fr. MariaPappu, VF, and Fr. Pious, the New Executive Director of SMSSS, were present and enriched the programme. There were 1800 participants from Kolping groups, self-help groups, Farmers groups and children's groups. Walayar Village was given the MODEL VILLAGE-2018 award and best tuition centres award was given to Menonpara, Kerampara and Palaniyarpalayam. The program ended with prize distribution and cultural events.



Excellence In Talent (EXIT)- 2019



Sultanpet Multipurpose Social Service Society (SMSSS) conducted the Excellence in Talent [EXIT] - 2019 program for three days to develop the children's talents through different events and competitions. The first-day session held at St. Paul's High School, Kozhinjampara on 2nd May. Various competitions such as pot painting, hand writing, hair dressing, fancy dress, hand painting and drawing were conducted. The second-day session was in the same place on the following day. On this day the completions such as solo dances, solo singing, English speech, and party games were conducted. The third-day session was held in St. Sebastian's Cathedral Hall on 4th May, when completions such as group dances, group singing and comedy skit were conducted. More than 600 children from 18 villages participated in the events. This programme was organized with the help of MSW students from Stella Marys College (Chennai), Hindhu College (Chennai), St. Joseph College (Trichy) and Presidency college (Chennai).

*Rev. Fr. Prince Robert,
Director, SMSSS*