



DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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CIRCULAR NO.208

† ROBERT MIRANDA
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

DECEMBER 2022

Papal Intention: We pray that Non-Profit Voluntary Organizations committed to human development may find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Success of Bhalki Jastra: Hearty Congratulations dear Fathers, Sisters! 'Bhalki Jathra 2022 and Ruby Jubilee of Bidar Mission was a historic, joyful, memorable Faith Event. All arrangements were done well and everything went on smoothly. Thanks to all of you dear Fathers, Sisters and PPC members and Volunteers for your selfless work, cooperation and hard work. Thanks to Fr Roque N D'Souza for his able leadership. May our Lord 'Bala Yesu' keep us always united in his loving care. Special thanks to all the Donors who contributed generously.

Anti Conversion Bill and Way Forward: A consultation on this theme will be held at ORBIT on Tuesday 6th December 2022. I request all the Priests and Superiors of Religious Communities to participate. Others also are welcome. The consultation will begin at 10:00 am and will end at 4:00 PM. Please don't miss it as we may have to take some important decisions in this consultation on our mission approaches. Please send issues to be discussed by WhatsApp to Mons Stany Lobo, the Vicar-General early as possible. Very Rev. Fr. Faustine Lobo and Fr. Teyol SJ will be the resource persons.

Assembly Elections are round the corner. I have already forwarded a letter from the Archbishop regarding this issue. Please motivate everyone eligible to vote. Teach our people not to accept money or sell their votes. Instead let our people present their needs, and tell the candidates how injustice is done to them by not including them in any reservation, insulating minorities, and not issuing (Pravarg – 1B) converted Christian Certificate. Kindly ask the Youth and PPC members to do this work. Not much time is left. Please download the voter's list from the web and entrust the task to youth and leaders to visit every home and verify.

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers: You are aware, some sisters are given faculty to distribute Holy Communion. Please make a proper announcement and explain to the people. The Secretary is preparing the insegna (dress) to be worn. Until then please wait. Thanks for sending Sisters for the training. Please note, those who do not have faculty from me are not to distribute Holy Communion. Please read the guidelines for other clarifications.

Youth Leadership Training by ISI, B'lore: The second phase training of the youth leadership will take place on 9-11 December at SUGYAN. Please remind all the youth of your parish to be in time and not miss the training,

Christmas preparation and celebration: I urge you to convene a PPC meeting at the earliest and plan well for Christmas. Prepare the people spiritually well for Christmas. It is true, all people want Christmas to be on the same day on 25th. Tell them, only at the Parish/ Mission

Centre common celebration is held on 24th night and on 25th morning. The village level programmes can be spread out from 25th until the feast of Epiphany. Jesus is the Saviour of the World and only inviting people of other faith, sharing the Christmas joy with all people we can celebrate Christmas meaningfully. This is what we need to teach and convince our people. Village level celebrations with just a festive mass and no public programme is only fulfilling an obligation. Let our children and youth take care and organize a good public programme and make it truly a meaningful and joyful celebration for all, Christians and non Christians alike in all the villages.

I also request Directors of missions/ parishes come together and organize an Inter – Religious Christmas Programme inviting elected leaders, leaders of other communities, prominent people of the place, officials etc ,at least at the zonal level.

Feast of St. Francis Xavier the Apostle of India (1506-1552): St. Francis Xavier, honoured as the Apostle of India and Patron Saint for all Missionaries ranks one among the greatest missionaries in Christian history. He is a great example and inspiration for us Priests, Sisters and Lay evangelisers serving this mission Diocese. May St Francis Xavier intercede for us that we also may respond to that same love which set him on ‘fire’.

Christmas Octave: From Christmas Day until January 1st, the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is the Octave of Christmas. The Liturgy gives the instruction that every day within the Octave is celebrated with the Joy of the Nativity of our Lord. Let’s remember to celebrate the Octave of the Nativity of our Lord celebrating the feasts: St. John the Evangelist (27), the Holy Innocents (28) Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (30) and the New Year in a meaningful way.

New year 2023: We thank God for all the people of goodwill who have supported us throughout the past year and for the grace-filled events at every Parish/mission and institution in our Diocese. Let us organize an hour of Adoration and Thanksgiving on Friday night (31st Dec) and welcome the New Year (2023) as a Gift from the Lord.

BISHOP’S PROGRAMME FOR DECEMBER-2022

3	Blessing of Holy Cross Mission new House- Afzalpur
6	Consultation- ORBIT
8	Jubilee Mass –SRA Sisters in Mangalore
10	Blessing of Dr. Kiran Hospital, Gulbarga
11	Visit- to Jamgi Colony
14	Village Visit – Kandugol
15	Village Visit – D. Mahagaon
17	Sponsorship Day – Bhalki Silver- Jubilee of St. Joseph English Md School
18	Inter denominational Charismas
18-26	Christmas Week
26	Programme at Guru Nanak, Bidar
Jan 1	New Year Day and Inter –Religious Christmas celebration

Kripalaya, Bishop’s House
01-12-2022

† Robert Miranda
Bishop of Gulbarga

In News:

- Convened by Fr Anil Victor Vas, FBOs in the Diocese came together to share about their social interventions and present-day challenges on Tuesday 15th November. The Bishop in his opening remarks cautioned against working like islands and insisted on the need of remaining inter-connected to share experience and resources. The group decided to form a Forum for Social Concerns. Fr Teyol SJ provided his expertise and insight to the group. He insisted on a more contemporary approach to social work that was in tune with present-day challenges.
- CHETANA - Centre for Early Intervention (EI) and education was inaugurated and blessed by the Bishop at St Mary's School, Cathedral premises on 16th November. A good number of beneficiaries, officials and well-wishers were present for the programme held at Mother Theresa Community Hall. The three years' Programme is funded by APPI. Thanks to Fr. Anil Crasta who worked for this project, Fr. Victor Vas, director of Seva Sangam and ORBIT and his Team implementing the programme in Gulbarga Taluka.
- The Diocese of Gulbarga introduced extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to assist the priests in the parishes. The training session was held on 17 November 2022 at ORBIT, Humnabad under the leadership of Fr David D'Souza, Commission secretary for Liturgy. Most Rev Dr. Robert Miranda, Bishop of the diocese, and Rev Fr Stany Lobo, The Vicar General were the resource persons of the day. They focused on the duties and responsibilities of the Extraordinary Ministers. The bishop conferred faculty on 11 religious sisters to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion following the prayer service.
- Eucharistic Procession held in Bidar city on the day of Feast of Christ the King on 20th Nov. It was well attended by people in large number. Thanks to Fr. Wilson, Fr. John Paul, Fr. James SDB, Sisters, PPC members and the deanery Fathers and Sisters who worked for this event.
- Annual Retreat for Clergy is being held at SUGYAN Pastoral Center from (27th November to 2nd December). Thanks to the Preacher, Very Rev Fr Benny Kootanal MSFS the former Provincial of MSFS for his excellent reflections and spiritual insights.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Date	BIRTHDAY BABIES	Date	BIRTHDAY BABIES
01	Sr. Vasantha SSA, Wadi	17	Sr Nancy Lobo FMM, Chincholli
02	Sr. Jeevalatha DSS, Halbarga	18	Sr Veena Fernandes UFS, Bijapur
03	Sr Lucy Priya BS, Chittapur	18	Sr Cecilia Tirkey RNDM. Almel
03	Sr Hilaria Pinto DHM, Indi	19	Sr Arul Jyothi SJC, Vijayapur
04	Sr Rajani Varghese SRA, Santhpur	20	Sr Flavy RNDM, Santhpur
04	Fr. Prasanna OFM Cap, Halbarga	22	Sr. Pradhansia Kullu RNDM, Almel
05	Sr Lilly D'Almeida SCCG, Kankal	24	Sr. Christina Flora SCB, Muchalamba
05	Sr Geetha C SCB, Hulsoor	24	Sr. Ida D'Souza SCCG, Muddebihal
06	Sr. Lilly Pushpa AC, Bidar Mission	25	Fr Santhosh Bapu, Aland
08	Sr Irene Tauro SCCG, Talikote	25	Sr Shobha SRA
10	Sr Reeni CstT, Kalaburagi	26	Fr Cyril Catelino SJ
10	Sr. Swency Rego SCJ, Bidar Misson	27	Sr Wilma Mathew BS, Jalasangi
10	Sr. Reeni CstT, Kalaburagi	28	Fr Salvador, Halbarga, Bhalki
13	Sr Anthony Mary CSJ, Bidar	30	Sr Oliva Saldana RNDM, Almel
14	Sr Teresa Lynette, Shahabad	30	Fr. Elvis C. Lewis SJ
14	Fr Clevan Gomes , Shahapur		

HAPPY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY TO YOU DEAR FATHERS:

Date	Ordination Anniversary	Date	Ordination Anniversary
02	Fr. Elvis. Lewis SJ	27	Fr. Santhosh Fernandes SJ
03	Fr Vincent Pereira	27	Fr. James Paul SDB
03	Fr David, Kamalnagar	27	Fr. Maxim Misquith SJ
03	Fr Clevon Gomes	27	Fr. Lawrence Dalmeida CSC
03	Fr Vincent Thoras	27	Fr. John B.Gannot MSFS
05	Fr Wilson Fernandes	27	Fr. Lancy Manoj Fernandes SJ
08	Fr Lawrence Arun	28	Fr. Praveen K.J SDB
15	Fr. Santiago Aloysius SDB	29	Fr. John Muttathuparambil
23	Fr. Faustine Crasta OCD	29	Fr. Madapillil Jins SDB
26	Fr. Nilagal Christuraj SDB	30	Fr. Francis Menezes SJ
27	Fr. Adiyayipallil Jim Jose SDB	30	Fr. Mathew Karakkattu SDB
27	Fr. Arun Lobo SJ	31	Fr. K.J. Joseph SDB
27	Fr. Augustine T.A SDB	31	Fr. Keezhethan Sebastian SDB