



DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

KRIPALAYA, Kotnoor (D) Nandikur P.O, Gulbarga 585 102,
KARNATAKA, INDIA,
gulbargadiocese@gmail.com Website: www.gulbargadiocese.org

Circular No. 214

† ROBERT M. MIRANDA
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

June 2023

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION: To pray for the abolition of torture: We pray that the inter-national community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

Dear Rev Fathers, Sisters and Lay faithful, Jai Christ! Greetings of Peace in the Lord!

1. Month of June is special for many reasons and we welcome it with renewed enthusiasm as it marks the beginning of Mission Calendar Year, School academic year, planning mission activities and preparing a Year Plan in all mission centres, parishes and institutions, arrival of new team members. Last, but not the least, we welcome arrival of rains after a hot summer! Yes ! This month sets the ball rolling. If we play our part well with clarity and precision, the victory will be ours. As we are stepping into 19th year of our service in this new Diocese, let's be thankful to God for his bountiful blessings on us. We have made a great progress in the past 18 years in this Diocese and I am grateful to all the missionaries: the priests and sisters especially those who left us recently on transfer. They have toiled day and night for this Diocese and we are just enjoying fruits of their hard work and sacrifice. While remembering them gratefully let us take up this mission with enthusiasm and commitment and take it forward.

Hearty welcome to all of you dear Fathers, Sisters, Brothers joining the Gulbarga Diocese Mission Team this June. We wish you a very fruitful stay and a rich mission experience. My sincere thanks to your Bishops and Provincial Superiors for their special concern for this mission Diocese.

In line with the useful tradition, this year also we are having deanery wise Mission Orientation Programmes for all the Priests and Sisters. We will also be having Zonal-wise planning sessions, to help you get into the planned approach of the mission.

2. Deanery level Mission Orientation Programmes for Bidar Deanery is on Saturday 10th at ORBIT, Humnabad at 9:00 am, for Gulbarga Deanery on Sunday 11th at 10:30 am at the Cathedral; for Vijayapura Deanery it is on Sunday 25th at St. Ann Church Vijayapura. As this programme will explain our mission approach and the thrust areas of our mission work, it is mandatory for all the Priests, Mission Directors and the Superiors of the Religious houses to attend this programme.

Zonal level Mission Planning - 15th - 08.00 a.m at Bhalki and Bidar at 4.00 pm
- 16th - 09.00 am Santpur,
- 19th - 09.00 am Humnabad and Kawdiyal at 3.30 pm

Zonal leaders playing the host may kindly take care of all physical arrangements.

Parish/Mission Centre Pastoral Plan: Every parish/mission centre should also have a Year Plan. The copy of the Year Plan of the diocese will soon be in your hands. Keeping room for the diocesan level programmes, all Mission Directors/Parish Priests along with the PPT and PPC shall prepare the Year Plan of your respective Missions/Parishes by 20th June and send a copy of the same to the DPP Coordinator at the earliest but not later than 30th June.

3. By God's grace, Karnataka has a Congress led Government. This is the time to get our pending works done. It is been brought to my notice by my friends and well wishers in and outside the diocese that this is an opportunity whereby we can push our lay people into places/positions where the government nominates. It can be Taluka level or district level boards. My earnest request to all of you to send me the names of persons worthy of these postings. Secondly, this is the time you must apply for all government schemes specially those coming under Christian Development Council, schemes like renovation of churches, compound wall, Community Hall, Study scholarships, compound wall for the burial ground etc. Please take it as a God given opportunity and work for it.

4. Admissions to Schools and Colleges: As the new Academic Year begins, it is important that our children and youth get admitted to good schools and colleges. As a policy, all catholic schools will give admission to the catholic children giving 50% concession to the poor. The diocese also encourages all poor students to join job oriented courses at degree level offering 50% of the fees in colleges and other institutions.

I request you dear Fathers, sisters to give proper guidance and motivation to the children and see that they are well placed for education. It is observed, in many places the catholic parents are not cooperating to pay even the 50% fee that they should be paying. I request you to make a special announcement in the church on this and make them aware of this special concession and they be grateful to this. We shall not make further concessions unless a case is specially deserving. Let's not make people permanently dependent on the church.

5. Feast of the Holy Trinity (4th June): The Feast of the Holy Trinity, also known as Trinity Sunday, is a Christian observance that celebrates the doctrine of the Holy Trinity—the belief in the three-in-one nature of God. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. This Feast provides an opportunity for Christians to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the profound nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Corpus Christi (11th June): The Corpus Christi feast, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is observed on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, which falls on 11th June. It was instituted to emphasize and honor the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The Corpus Christi feast is an important celebration in the Catholic Church, highlighting the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of the faithful.

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (16th): The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus has its roots in the visions and revelations received by Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun, in the 17th century. According to her accounts, Jesus appeared to her and revealed His Sacred Heart, expressing His deep love for humanity and His desire for devotion and reparation. The Feast focuses on the immense love and mercy of Jesus Christ for all people highlighting the belief that Jesus' Heart symbolizes His compassion, forgiveness, and unconditional love for humanity. The devotion encourages the faithful to respond to this love by offering their own love and commitment in return.

Nativity of St John the Baptist (24th June): The Nativity of St. John the Baptist feast serves as a reminder of the important role that John the Baptist played in the story of salvation and his unwavering commitment to proclaiming the coming of Jesus Christ. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the call to prepare our hearts and lives for the Lord, to embrace the message of repentance and conversion. It is also the day when our Diocese was erected by Pope Benedict XVI who also appointed me as the first Bishop of this new Diocese

Feast of St Peter and Paul (29th June): This feast honors the martyrdom and significant contributions of two prominent apostles St. Peter and St. Paul. It serves as a reminder of the Church's roots and unbroken succession of faith from the apostles to the present day. It also invites us to reflect on the courage, commitment, and selflessness exemplified by St. Peter and St. Paul and encourages us to emulate their virtues in our own lives.

6. Report of Mission Centres (2022-23):

Please submit a brief report of the various Faith Formation activities in your mission center during the year. Let the report contain information on Village visits, Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmations, Pre-Cana Prgm, Marriages, Marriage Enrichment Programmes (MEP), Faith formation Camps, MCA activities, Youth Activities, any other faith formation activities along with few photographs and statistics. Please submit the soft copy to chancery@gmail.com. This is needed for us to prepare the consolidated report of the Diocese.

Welcome to Regent Brothers: Bro Peter Avinash and Melwy Fernandes who are placed at Jalasangi and Itga respectively. We wish them fruitful regency.

7. Contribution of the MCA Children

Maria Ashram, Jalasangi	- 2,500/-	Sacred Heart Church, Bidar	- 1,500/-
Mother of Devine Grace, Cathedral	- 5,500/-	Christ the King church	- 1,200/-
Pawada Mathe Mandira, Itga	- 1,258/-	St Thomas Church, Shahabad	- 700/-
Holy Redeemer Church, Bhalki	- 1,558/-	St. Joseph the Worker, Muchalamba	- 350/-

Thanks and hearty congratulations to all the above MCA groups, animators and parish priests

8. An Online Diploma Course in Liturgy I am glad to inform you that CCBI Commission for Liturgy is offering an Online Diploma Course in Liturgy. It is a one-year course costing 3000/- All can participate in the course – (Priests, Religious and Laity). Classes will be on Thursdays 9.30 pm to 10.00pm. The launching of Course and First Session will be on 8 June 2023 at 9.30. Details of the course and registration contact Fr. Duming Gonsalves, Executive Secretary, CCBI Commission for Catechetics. Contact No: 91 93091 10391 (Office), 91 94815 63208 (Personal) Email ID: shantisadangoa@gmail.com.

9. Roman Missal (Chapel Edition): The CCBI has published the Chapel Edition of the third edition of the Roman Missal in English language for India. The new Chapel Edition of the Roman Missal is prepared according to the new Liturgical Calendar for India. The Chapel Edition of the Roman Missal costs Rs. 3,500/- + 100/- for postage. For copies, kindly contact the CCBI General Secretariat or Email: info@atcpublishers.com; Mobile: +91-9886730224. The Missal is also available in the online store, please click the link below:

<https://joyofgifting.com/product/THE-CHAPEL-EDITION-OF-THE-ROMAN-MISSAL-9420/>

10. Commissions Speak:

Yuva Chetana:

- Please elect the new office bearers for the year 2023 -2024 at the first meeting (11th June) and prepare the action plan. If a new youth animator, please do inform me so that we can share informations.
- The Diocesan Office bearers' election will take place on 25th at Sugyan. All the unit level office bearers shall attend the programme along with the animators.

- Fr. Sachin Christy, Secretary

Commission for Catechism: Request the Parish Priest to begin the Sunday Catechism classes by Sunday 11th June. Mission Directors and Parish Priests, please see that the text books are distributed at your place for all children. The Diocese will make it available at an affordable price for all the children. Please make sure, all the children buy the catechism books at your mission.
- Fr. David D'Souza, Secretary

Women Commission: is organizing the Women training programme for animators on 24th at ORBIT.
- Sr. Nancy Lobo FMM, Secretary

Evangelization Commission: MCA animators Training – 24th at Cathedral
- Fr. Abhishek Moses, Secretary

11 S.S.L.C Results 2022-23

Hearty Congratulations to all the Managers, Principals, Staff and Students for this excellent result! May God be praised. Let's continue our efforts of imparting value based education to our students and make them responsible citizens of this nation.

St. Mary School, Kotnoor	98.3%	Premanjali School Ujini, (Kan)	92.85%
St. Joseph School (Kan), Bidar	80.61%	Bethany School (Eng), Chitapur	91.0%
St. Joseph School, (End) Bidar	88.75 %	Berny Public School, (Eng) Jewargi	92%
Loyola Yomiuri, Vijayapura (Eng)	92%	Helen's school, Chincholli	84%
Loyola School, Vijayapura (Kan)	94.87%	St Ambrose School, (Eng) Wadi	93.88%
Mt Carmel School, Shahabad	100%	St. Joseph Convent, Gulbarga (Eng)	97.47%
Prerana School Shorapur (Eng)	98%	St. Mary School, Gulbarga	91.02%
Vidya Jyothi School Hulsoor,	100%	St. Joseph Convent, Gulbarga (kan)	86.96%
Gyan Priya, B.Kalyan (Eng)	97%	Sacred Heart, Talikote	97%
Divya Jyothi, Bhalki (Kan)	71.18%	St Peter's School Shahapur	92%
Bethany School, Humnabad	88%	Sneha Sangama, Vijayapura	97%
Nirmalalaya, Almel	96.70%	Deepalaya CBSC School – Santpur	100%
Sneha Sadan, Kanakal (Eng)	100%	Anugraha High School, Halbarga	96.8%

PRIESTS' APPOINTMENTS


Sl.No	Names	designation	W.E.F
1.	Fr. Lazar Chetan (Bangalore)	Asst Director, Santpur Mission	4-6-2023
2.	Fr. Magimaidas (Bangalore)	Asst Director, Ujini Mission	5-6-2023
3.	Fr. Vincent Kumar (Bangalore)	Asst Director, St. Joseph Church, Bidar	5-6-2023
4.	Fr. Robin Pereira MSFS	Asst Director, St. Paul Mission, Ekamba	4-6-2023
5.	Fr. Sachin Christy	Youth Director	25-5-2023
6.	Fr K S Vijay Kumar (Shimoga)	Asst. Director, ORBIT	9-6-2023
7.	Fr. Deeepak Furtado	Secretary, Catechism/Vocation/Formation	1-6-2023
8.	Fr. Abhishek Moses	Secretary, Proclamation and Evangelization	1-6-2023
9.	Fr. Gerald Sagar	Secretary, Bible and Liturgy	1-6-2023
10.	Fr. Anil Crasta	Secretary, SC/ST/BC Christians & Justice/Peace	1-6-2023
11.	Sr. Vasantha SSpS	Secretary, Prison Ministry	1-6-2023

Bishop's Programme , June 2023

9-10	Mission Orientation Programme - ORBIT and Cathedral
12	St. Mary School Inauguration - Humnabad
13	Mass – St. Anthony's Feast Mangalore
15-16	Mission Planning, Bhalki – Bidar – Santpur
18	Festal Mass Sacred Heart Church, Bidar and Cathedral
19	Mission Planning - B. Kalyan Zone
21	GDES – GB Meeting
22	Mission Orientation to the new members – Bidar
24	MCA Animator's Training Programme -Cathedral
25	Mission Orientation Programme – Vijayapura Election of DEXCO – Sugyan
28	Youth Animator's Programme - Humnabad

Kripalaya, Bishop's House

Date: 31-05-2023


† Robert M Miranda
Bishop of Gulbarga

In News:

- Inauguration of Holy Cross School, Afzalpur: The Fathers of Holy Cross Congregation, belonging to the province of South India opened the doors of education ministry at Afzalpur on 4 May 2023. This newly built school in Afzalpur has been named Holy Cross School, Afzalpur which has been blessed and inaugurated by Very Rev Fr Stany Lobo, the Vicar General of the Gulbarga Diocese in the presence of Rev Fr Martin, the Vice Provincial of South India Province, and other priests of the congregation and diocese.
- The Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee celebration of Fr Santhosh Dais and Fr Clary D'Souza was celebrated on 6 May 2023 at Mother of Divine Grace Cathedral, Gulbarga. Solemn thanksgiving Mass was offered by Fr Santhosh Dais along with his brother priests of the diocese. Most Rev Robert Miranda preached the homily and shared the importance of the priesthood. At a short ceremony that was held in Mother Theresa Community Hall, the Bishop thanked and congratulated the fathers for their dedication and commitment to the mission entrusted to them.
- Interview to the candidates for those who are interested to join the Diocese, was held on 25th of this month at Kripalaya, Bishop's house. Bishop interviewed candidates from parishes and mission centres along with their parents. Thanks to all parish priest and directors for sending the candidates.
- Rev Fr. John Crasta SJ took charge as the Manager of Divya Jyothi School, Principal of Divya Jyothi High School on 26th May. We wish him all the best.
- Rev Fr Sachin Christy took charge of Yuvachetana, youth ministry of Gulbarga diocese at ORBIT 26 May 2023. Congratulations dear Fr Sachin Christy,! God bless you and all our Youth. We whole heartedly acknowledge and thank you dear Rev Fr Christuraj SDB for your tireless work in the past 3 years in building up youth. All the best for your future ministry.
- Welcome to Samaritan Sisters Sr. Karuna and Sr. Marylith who landed at Don Bosco Mission Bablad this day 31st May 2023

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Date	Name	Date	Name
01	Sr. Benny FMM, Itga	19	Fr. Sunil Andrade, Ujini
06	Sr. Gloria Crasta SCCG, Kankal	20	Sr. Susan Joseph SJC
08	Sr. Leena Saldanha SCCG, Kankal	21	Sr. Maria Ferrao, UFS, Shorapur
10	Sr. Precinta SMMI, Talmadige	21	Fr. Sandeep OCD, Kadaganchi
10	Bro. S. Balasamy SHJ, Jewargi	22	Dn. Arone Vas, Bishop's House
10	Sr. Margaret Kumar SCB, Hulsoor	22	Sr. Reeta D'Souza SCSC, Zalki
11	Fr. Jithin C SDB, Yadgir	23	Fr. John Muttathuparambil
15	Fr. James Paul SDB, Chikpet	30	Sr. Amala SCCG, Gulbarga
15	Sr. Kavita BS, Chittapur	28	Sr. Pramila A SCCG, Muddebihal

'FULLY PRESENT'

"Towards Full Presence - A Pastoral Reflection on Engagement with Social Media"

FullyPresent is the title of the document published by the Dicastery for Communication on Monday 29 May. The aim of the document is to promote a common reflection on the involvement of Christians in social media, which have increasingly become part of people's lives. Inspired by the parable of the Good Samaritan, the document offers an opportunity to begin a shared reflection on how to promote a culture of being "loving neighbours" also in the digital world. Looking at the theme within the context of the world of social media, where individuals are often both consumers and commodities, the pastoral reflection seeks a faith-based response. And this response begins with discerning the stimuli we receive and with intentional listening.

Christians bring to social media a distinctive "style," one of sharing that has its origin in Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us with his words, actions, soul and body. He taught us that truth is revealed in communion and that communication also springs from communion, that is, from love. The presence of Christians in digital media should reflect this style that communicates truthful information in a creative way, one that springs from friendship and builds community. This style often makes use of stories. It will bring to bear its influence online in a responsible way, as Christians become "weavers of communion." It will be reflective, not reactive, and it will be active in fostering activities and initiatives that promote human dignity. It will also be helping us to open our hearts and welcome our brothers and sisters.

The presence of Christians in social media will also bear the mark of witness. Christians are not there to sell a product or proselytise, but rather to bear witness. They are there to confirm with their words and their lives what God has done by creating a communion that unites us in Christ. Whether Christians may find themselves the wounded or the Good Samaritan, or both, their engagement on social media platforms can be encounters with neighbours, brothers and sisters, whose lives concerns them and, therefore, encounters with the Lord. In this way, communication offers a glimpse of the communion that is rooted in the Holy Trinity, our true "promised land."