



DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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Circular No.216

† ROBERT M. MIRANDA
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

August 2023

Popes intention for the Month: **For World Youth Day:** We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Dear Rev Fathers, Sisters and Lay faithful, Jai Christ!

Pastoral Council Members Convention: In view of promoting better participation of our PPC members and other Lay leaders in implementing the Diocesan Pastoral Plan at the parish, deanery and diocesan level, it was decided at the meeting of the Mission Directors and Parish Priests on 17th August to hold the Laity Convention (ಶ್ರೀ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯರ ಸಮಾವೇಶ) on 5 - 6th August at Don Bosco, Chikpet, Bidar. Most Rev Gerald Isaac Lobo, the Bishop of Udupi with his team has kindly accepted to be the resource team of this Event. The Convention on the theme: 'ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತರ ಅನುಕರಣೆ, ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಪ್ರೇರಣೆ' will begin at 6.00 pm on 5th August and will end 3.30pm on 6th August. I invite all the PPC members of the Mission centers, Parishes, all the Parish Priests, Superiors of the Religious Communities, PPC members, one representative from every village pastoral council (*Gudi Sakmithi*) and any two or three other prominent members in the mission/parish including the Youth to be present for this great event. Let us make sure of the participation of men and women members in equal number. I also request you to pray for the success of this Convention. Similar convention will be held at the Cathedral for the Gulbarga and Vijayapur zone on Sunday 13th August 2023.

Organising Committee:

Coordinator: Fr. Santhosh Dias Food & Accommodation: Fr. Wilson Fernandes & Team
Liturgy : Fr. Rocky & Team Registration : Fr. Mark and Muchalamb Team
Theme song and Action songs: Sr. Prashanthi & Team
Hall arrangements, Stage, Back drop, seating Sound and lights: Fr. Lawrence & team

2. Parish Support System: You are aware, most of the parishes and mission centres in this diocese are depending on the dioceses for their financial needs. It goes without saying that every parish should aim at being self-supportive. I am glad, some of you parish priests have introduced to the people the practice of paying the 'tithe' and quite a good number of people are responding by contributing generously to the parish maintenance a fixed amount of their income. It is a sign of their gratitude to God for His blessings. I appreciate this kind gesture of the people of paying every month one tenth of their Income. While appreciating such people for believing in the Word of God (Mal 3:10) that ensures abundant blessings for their love offering, please explain to the people the needs of the mission/parishes and persuade them to support the church by contributing a minimum of Rs 500/- as the annual family contribution. Here after, every family shall pay Rs 500/- per annum as the family contribution to the church. The mission directors/parish priests shall also maintain a record of all those who were supported by the church for their studies now holding good jobs and motivate them to sponsor or donate to the church needs generously.

3. Mass offerings by the faithful: Most people in the Parish/Mission Centre in our diocese have not been properly introduced to the practice of offering thanksgiving Mass, Masses for family intentions or for their dear departed family members. We need to teach and motivate people to this practice. To quote some relevant canons:

Can 945.1; In accordance with the approved practice of the church any priest celebrating or concelebrating is permitted to receive an offering to apply the Mass for a specific intention. 945.2 It is recommended earnestly to priests that they celebrate mass for the intention of the Christian faithful especially the needy, even if they have not received an offering

Can 946; the Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers. In addition to these, dear priest brothers please read Canon 947- 958 and know for yourself what the church expects from us on the matters concerning Mass offerings and intentions. This will help you to explain to people about Mass offering.

As per the recommendation of the Council of Priests at its last meeting, the Mass offerings have been enhanced to Rs 150 for the daily Mass and Rs 250 for Sunday/Feast days. It is time that we educate the people about this pious practice of Mass offering. Stop announcing several names and their intentions at one celebration. Initiate the practice of announcing the name of the person offering the Mass intention on Sundays and Weekdays. One Mass for one intention shall be the norm.

4. World Youth Day: This year World Youth Day is celebrated with the themes "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39). Let us pray for the success of this world event. May all the youth who participate in this unique event experience the Lord's call to serve the church and go forth to serve and become powerful witnesses of the Lord wherever they are.

5. Prison Ministry Sunday

In every Indian state and diocese, the coordinators of PMI take care of the pastoral needs of Prisoners. Around 8000 PMI volunteers regularly reach out to prisons and through its rehabilitation centres and home for prisoners' children, thousands of our brethren behind bars have been reformed, empowered, rehabilitated, and reintegrated with jobs and settled in families. I thank all the fathers, sisters and lay volunteers for your service. God bless you

Please note the important Programmes in the Month:

Aug 3, 5 & 7	Recollection / Review at Bhalki, Kalaburagi and Vijayapura.
Aug 5 & 6	Convention of the Laity (PPC Members) at Chikpete, Bidar.
Aug 18	Anniversary – Diocese / Bishop's Episcopal Ordination.
Aug 26	Diocesan Pastoral Council
Aug 31	Clergy Recollection and Jathra Meeting

6. The Feast of John Mary Vianney. (August 4th) Saint John Vianney was a French Catholic priest who is best known for his dedicated pastoral work in the small village of Ars in France. Despite facing various challenges, he worked tirelessly to minister to the spiritual needs of his parishioners and became renowned for his holiness, asceticism, and ability to bring about conversions. Pope Pius XI canonized John Vianney in 1925, and he was later proclaimed the patron saint of parish priests in 1929. I take this opportunity to wish you all my dear Brother Priests a very Happy Feast of our Patron St. John Marie Vianney. I feel happy to see you my brother priests working with great devotion and commitment in various parishes, missions and institutions, and I believe you carry a great sense of fulfillment. Inspired by St. John Marie Vianney and patron, let us work for our people and pray for their

conversion. Set the people's hearts aflame through hearing confessions, preaching, devoutly celebrating the Eucharist, visiting families, organizing catechism classes for children etc. I request the Sisters and PPC members will to organize people to greet their parish priests on that day 4th of August or on the nearest Sunday.

7. Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (6th August): This Event is recorded in three of the four canonical Gospels: (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8, and Luke 9:28-36.) signifies Revelation of Jesus' Divine Glory and his true nature as the Son of God, This affirmation from the Father confirmed Jesus' identity as the Son of God, emphasizing his authority and mission as the Savior and Messiah, Foreshadowing of Jesus' Resurrection Moses and Elijah appeared alongside Jesus, symbolizes the continuity of God's plan of salvation throughout history and transformative experience for the three disciples who witnessed it. This experience would later sustain them during the difficult times of Jesus' passion and crucifixion.

8. Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary/76th Independence of our Country (15th August): The Whole Church is in praise of the Creator for the Glorious Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary was preserved from the stain of sin at her birth and in life she fulfilled her mission faithfully. God was pleased to receive her into Heaven Body and Soul and crown her as Queen of Heaven and Earth. This feast of our Lady makes us aware of the challenges of Christian life and invites us to faithfully carry out God's plan in our life. Let us seek the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary in our day to day life and remain blessed. We are completing 76 years of Independence of our Nation. We are all proud of this great freedom moment for which thousands of people sacrificed their precious lives. Let us have a meaningful celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven and the Independence Day.

9. Anniversary of the Diocese (18th August): Our Diocese will be completing 18 years on 18th August, the day the diocese was formally inaugurated in the year 2005. The Lord has truly blessed this diocese. Let us all thank God for this and joyously continue to serve this mission diocese and make ever more vibrant. It is also the day of my Episcopal Ordination. I gratefully acknowledge the support and cooperation of yours at all times during the past 18 years. Do pray for me that I may continue to guide and serve this mission diocese like Jesus the Good Shepherd

10. Justice Sunday (27st August): We are aware, our brethren belonging to SC/ST and minority groups suffer injustice everyday of their life. Let this Sunday celebration remind us of our responsibility to alleviate their suffering and work for Justice in our society particularly for the SC/ST and minority groups in the society.

11. Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting: Please note, the Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting will take place on Saturday August 26th All the members are expected to be present.

12. Clergy Recollection: The Clergy Recollection will be held on Wednesday, August 30^t -31st August. It has been anticipated due to the Novena in the first week of September. Jathra Meeting will also be held on the same day.

Commission Speaks

BEC/SCC Commission: Basic Ecclesial Communities training programme will be held at Humnabad on August 20th and on 27th August at Bidar (from 10:00am to 2:30pm). Kindly encourage the animator to be present for the meeting.

Laity Commission:

- Aug 5 & 6 Convention of the Laity (PPC Members) at Chikpete, Bidar.
Aug 13 Convention of the Laity – Gulbarga and Bijapur Deanery
Deanery pastoral Council Meetings (Details are already circulated)
Aug 26 Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Commission for Education:

- A new Governing Board for GDES was formed on 26-7-23 at the General Body Meeting. Accordingly, Most Rev Robert Miranda (President), Mons Stany Lobo (Vice-President), Fr. Steevan Veigas (Secretary), Fr. Fredrick D'Souza, Fr. Vincent Periera, Fr. Sonthosh Dias, Fr. Wilson Fernandes, Sr. Philomena Menezes and Mr. Rayappa Reddy from the new General Body of GDES.
- Counseling Course: GDES under Commission for Education organizes three days Residential Teacher-Student Counseling Course on 7th- 9th of August, 2023 at Sugyan, Kotnoor. Rev. Fr Joyson Vas SJ has consented to be the Resource Person. Please send at least one High School Teacher for this training. It is compulsory for our GDES Schools. We welcome and invite all religious schools as well. The maximum intake is 25 teachers only. 25 Teachers only are allowed to participate. First Come - First Served. Registration Fee will be Rs 250/- Food and Accommodation will be provided by the Commission for Education. 31st July is the last date to register your names.
-Fr Steevan Veigas, Commission for Education

Youth Commission: Aug 13 Youth Meet and Humnabad zone at ORBIT

Commission activities update: I request all the Commission Secretaries to go through the commission activities of this month and update us about the progress of your commissions. Proper information to be given to the concerned directors of the mission centres.

-Mons Stany Lobo, Commission Coordinator

Bishop's Programme in August 2023

- 1 KUCF Protest Rally in Gulbarga against Violence in Manipur
5-6 Laity Convention, Bidar Deanery
10 KUCF Meeting
13 Laity Convention in Gulbarga (Gulbarga and Bijapur deanery)
15 Independence Day/ inter-Religious Programme at St. Xavier's
16 Village Visit at Nagral and Beeri,B
18 Anniversary of the diocese and Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination
19 Diocese finance Committee Meeting
22-23 School Visits at Bidar , Chincholi
25 Village Visits at Aaloor –Maharajwadi - Mudol
26 Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting
29-31 Caritas (Zech) Team visit to the Diocese.

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Kripalaya – Bishop's House

Date 31st July 2023

† **Robert Miranda**

Bishop of Gulbarga

Episcopal Ordination Anniversary: we the Clergy, Religious and the Faithful assure our dear bishop our prayers. The Lord may bless him with good health, peace and joy. Bishop will offer thanks giving Eucharist on 18th at 6 pm at Cathedral.

-Rev. Fr. Stany Lobo, Vicar General, Gulbarga Diocese

Necrology:

• Mrs. Thresiamma beloved mother of Sr. Jeevalatha DSS, Halbarga is called to Eternal Rest on 23rd July. May the departed soul through the mercy of God rest in Peace. Hearty condolences to you dear Sister and members of your family.

In the News:

- Fr George Antony SCJ has taken charge of the new Parish Priest of St Lawrence Ashram Talmadge mission on 14th July. May his ministry become a great success. Thanks to Fr Livin Fernando for his great service in the mission. We wish him success in his new assignment.
- The CRI members of Gulbarga Diocese met in large number for their first meeting of the year at the Cathedral premises on 1 July 2023. Bishop Robert Miranda inaugurated the programme. The resource person of the day, Rev Fr Dionysius Vaz SJ, Provincial Superior of Karnataka Jesuits and Vice President of CRI Karnataka Region, spoke on the theme: "Discipleship in troubled times". Thanks to Fr Maxim Misquith SJ, president of the Gulbarga diocese CRI, and his team for organizing the event.
- MCA Animator's Trainings was organized at Santpur (on 1st, 35 members), Bhalki (on 2nd, 48 members), Humanabad (on 9th, 22 members), Hulsoor (16th, 28 members), Bidar (23rd, 18 members). Bishop explained the importance of MCA children in the mission of Christ Jesus and the duties of Animators in making the MCA successful. Programme was well arranged by Fr Abhishek, Secretary of the Proclamation Commission, and was also well attended by the lay volunteers, the Animators from the zones.
- Basic Ecclesial Communities training programme was held at Aurad (8th, 45 members) Bhalki (16th, 60 members) were present for the meeting. Fr. Clary D'Souza, Secretary for the BEC Commission organized and gave the input on conducting the BEC effectively. Thanks to Fr Clary D'Souza and the organizing teams.
- Yuva Sporthi, a program for youth was organised at Sacred heart Church on 9th (42 members), at Ujini on 16th (72 members). Youth were motivated through lot of activities. Thanks to Bidar team for the cooperation. Thanks to Fr Sachin and the organizing teams.
- Orientation programmes for the Women Cell members were held at Bhalki and Basava Kalyan zone on 9th July Women Cell members attended the same in good number. Thanks to Sr. Nancy Lobo, Secretary for the Women Commission and the organizing teams.
- Thank you every one for being part of the Protest Rallies against the ongoing violence in Manipur held at Bidar, Humnabad and Gulbarga

DATE	NAMES	DATE	NAMES
1	Fr. Lazar Chetan (Bgllore), Santhpur	12	Sr Priyanka D'souza UFS, Itga
2	Fr Anand Prabhu SJ	13	Sr. Helen Misquith RNDM, Santhpur
3	Sr Gretta D'Cunha UFS, Vijayapur	13	Sr. M Rachel SRA, Santhpur
3	Sr. Jevita Pais UFS, Shahapur	15	Fr. Roshan Dsouza, CSC, Afzalpur
4	Sr. Maria Reetha AC, Bidar	15	Sr. Reema SRA, Santhpur
4	Sr Sangita Soreng SSpS, Ekamba	18	Fr. Clary D'Souza, Bhalki
7	Sr Reshma D'Souza UFS, Shorapur	20	Sr. Vijaya Joseph SCCG, Kankal
8	Sr. Gracy Veigas UFS, Shahapur	22	Sr. Jayashree BS, Kalaburagi
8	Sr Vinitha Gonsalves BS	24	Sr. Vincy SMMI,
8	Sr. Leera Mondonca SCCG, Kankal	26	Fr. Lwarence Arun, Santhpur
9	Fr. David D'Souza, Shorapur	26	Fr. David, Kamal Nagar
9	Sr. Anisha Pinto UFS, B Kalyan	28	Sr. Leena Bennis BS, Humnabad
11	Sr. Ashly DSS, Halbarga,	31	Sr. Angeline Sequeira UFS, Itga
11	Sr. Anasthasia SAB, Shahabad		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU DEAR FATHERS AND SISTERS

Earmarked Collections 2023-24

Sl.No	Name of Church/Centre	Good Friday (Holy Land)	Peter's Pence (Last Sunday of June)	Society of St. Peter the Apostle-	Holy Thursday (Priest Aid Fund)	Easter -Edn.Fund 2018	Lenten campaign	For Manipur
	Opening Balance							
1	Christ the King church, Ujini	2,394.00			1,740.00	2,740.00	21,964.00	2100.00
2	Christashram, Kaudiyal	4,660.00	422.00	1,150.00	439.00	1,729.00	5,358.00	
3	Holy Cross church Santhpur	920.00	300.00	410.00	600.00	1,160.00	27,090.00	1600.00
4	Holy Redeemer Church, Bhalki	3,050.00			1,615.00	2,320.00	22,612.00	
5	Little Flower Church, Chincholi.	1,010.00			210.00	409.00	3,300.00	200.00
6	Maria Ashram, Jalasangi	809.00			295.00	2,898.00	14,000.00	
7	Mother of Divine Grace Cathedral, Glb	20,907.00	5,178.00	8,382.00	4,030.00	9,969.00	36,170.00	9615.00
8	Our Lady of Rosary Church, Shorapur	1,120.00			570.00	380.00	1,800.00	
9	Pawada Mathe Mandira, Itaga							1312.00
10	Queen of Heaven Church, Chittapur	2,650.00	817.00	670.00	1,250.00	2,100.00	18,464.00	2300.00
11	Sacred Heart Church Bidar	5,560.00	1,530.00	2,210.00	2,350.00	3,410.00	4350	2720.00
12	Sahaya Mathe church, Yadagiri							
13	St. Ann's Church, Bijapur	8,160.00			3,281.00	6,960.00	45,812.00	
14	St. Ann's Church, Wadi	1,000.00	650.00		750.00	1,200.00	6,200.00	650.00
15	St. Antony Ashram, Basavakalya							
16	St. Antony Church, Hulsoor	1,069.00			520.00	1,112.00	6,219.00	
17	St. Francis Assissi Church, Halburga							
18	St. Francis Xavier Church, Sedam	1,640.00	660.00		1,010.00	1,040.00	7,995.00	5330.00
19	St. Joseph Church , Bidar	7,044.00	1,976.00	2,732.00	2,442.00	5,920.00	28,960.00	1980.00
20	St. Joseph the Worker Church, Muchalamba							
21	St. Lawrence Ashram, Talamadagi							
22	St. Paul Mission Ekamba, Aurad	1,079.00			1,072.00	984.00	5,200.00	365.00
23	St. Peter Church, Shahapur	500.00	517.00	468.00	500.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	
24	St. Thomas Church, Shahabad	2,966.00			1,527.00	1,935.00	19,101.00	426.00
25	Holy Family church Kamalnagar							
26	Mother Theresa church, Humnabaad							
	Total	66,538.00	12,050.00	16,022.00	24,201.00	47,266.00	2,77,595.00	35,598.00

Those who have not remitted the above collections are requested to remit immediately.