



# DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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CIRCULAR NO. 219

† ROBERT MIRANDA  
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

OCTOBER 2023

**PAPAL INTENTION: For the Synod:** We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Dear Brother Priests, Sisters and Lay Faithful, Jai Christ!

**1. Synod of Bishops:** The People of God have been on the move since Pope Francis convened the whole Church in Synod in October 2021" (*Instramentum laboris* I), and now we have reached another milestone in this process that began with the consultation of the People of God. In a few days, on October 4, the Holy Father will open the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synodal Church, Communion, Participation, and Mission. The Synod is, above all, an event of prayer and listening that involves not only the members of the Synodal Assembly, but every baptized person and every particular Church. Indeed, all of us are called at this time to unite in communion of prayer and insistent invocation of the Holy Spirit to guide us in discerning what the Lord is asking of his Church today. I invite you to pray for the Synodal Assembly especially on October 1, XXVI Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A), remembering it in the homily, the Universal Prayers, and in the final blessing of the Eucharistic celebration. For this purpose, I attach some texts that can be used for the Universal Prayers and the final blessing

**2. The message of His Holiness the Pope for World Mission Day 2023** urges us to reflect the significance of mission, drawing inspiration from the two disciples who journeyed to Emmaus. The theme for this year's Mission Sunday is HEARTS ON FIRE, FEET ON THE MOVE (Lk 24:13-35). Pope Francis calls us to rekindle our commitment for evangelization in the contemporary world, by reflecting on (i) *Hearts on fire with passion*, (ii) *feet set out*: In missionary activity, the word of God illumines and transforms hearts; Jesus in the Eucharist is the source and summit of the mission; and our feet set out on the way, with the joy of telling others about the Risen Christ. Keeping this in mind, I request you dear Fathers, Sisters and Lay Brethren, for a more meaningful and creative celebration of this World Mission Sunday in your parishes and institutions, to ignite the spirit of mission in all our people. Let it help us not to forget the baptismal commitment towards Missionary Charity through prayers and generous contribution to the Universal Solidarity Fund, as is needed for our Mission and the World Mission. At this juncture, let us also pray for the Pontifical Society of Propagation of Faith and all the collaborators who support our diocese for its maintenance. The Mission Sunday will be celebrated on October 22. Mission Calendars /Posters/Covers are already supplied for you. Please revert back to us if you need more materials. Please distribute in time the calendars and covers to every family and motivate all to pray for the missions.

**3. Jathra Utsav 2023 and Ruby Jubilee of Bhalki Mission:** Jathra Preparations are going on full swing with different committees getting down to the preparation for the celebration of our diocesan Mission Event. We already had second round of sitting with all the committees and they are all doing their best. Enclose please find the list and order of competitions given by the cultural Programme committee. Let us all extend our full cooperation be it collection from families /individual contribution /sponsor for items and also preparing our mission /parish communities to participate in the Faith Event which will bring lot of blessings to each and everyone in our mission diocese. As usual, the first Sunday offertory collection is earmarked for the Jathra 2023. For any clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact the convener or the Dean at Bhalki.

**4. Jubilee 2025:** Our Holy Mother Church is now heading towards the First Session of the Final Phase of the Synod for a Synodal Church 2021-2024. At the same time, we have another celebration around the corner: the Jubilee 2025, an Ordinary Jubilee marking the 2025 years of the Birth of Jesus. 'Pilgrims of Hope' is the theme of the celebrations of this Ordinary Jubilee 2025. The purpose of the Jubilee is threefold: to celebrate Jesus, to celebrate the Church and to celebrate our Faith. More information will soon follow.

**5. October month dedicated to Mary, our Lady of Rosary:** The Rosary, which derives its name from the term "Crown of Roses," were recitation of the each Hail Mary symbolizes the offering of a beautiful rose to the Virgin Mary thus completion of a full Rosary can be like creation of a crown adorned with roses, presented as a tribute to her. This prayer includes the narrative of our redemption and contemplates the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous mysteries of Jesus and Mary. Through the recitation of the Hail Mary, we extend an invitation to Mary to intercede on our behalf through her prayers. We believe that Mary's supplications are unfailingly granted, as Jesus never denies the petitions of His mother as we see in the Gospel at the wedding in Cana. In various instances of her apparitions, the Virgin Mary has urged the faithful to embrace the Rosary as a potent weapon against evil, leading to the attainment of peace. I invite all the MCA children to take leadership in organizing Rosary in all families in the in Ward/Village.

**6. Jeevan Jyothi Camp:** Jeevan Jyothi Camp comes at a very important phase in the faith life of the SSLC children. We need to form our children not only in right values of Christ our Master but also a solid faith experience. Jeevan Jyothi Camp is meant for it. Let us motivate and ensure all the SSLC students participate in Jeevan Jyothi camp at Bhalki on 15-18 October. The certificate they are given in this camp is a document required in all their future needs.

Deanery Recollection/Review is to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> for Bhalki Deanery, on 7<sup>th</sup> at Cathedral for Gulbarga Deanery and on 8<sup>th</sup> for Vijayapura Deanery. At Bhalki, we will have an input session by Rev Fr. Lourduswamy, the president of Cannon Law Society for all priests and religious and also the inauguration of the Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of Gulbarga. I urge all the priest of the deanery and Superior of Religious communities be present.

**7. Data Collection/ Minority Benefits:** As per the decision taken during the Laity Convention (August 5-6) we are initiating the survey of the basic documents each family must possess in order to be eligible for Government benefits. Please call a meeting of the members of PPC and others who are able to collect this data in your parish explain the task to them and see that you complete this process by 20<sup>th</sup> October.

ORBIT, Bidar will help us consolidate this data. You are also requested to identify one person for every village who can help our people obtain the required documents and also the benefits and send their names to the Director, ORBIT who will train your volunteers on the job of helping people obtain the government benefits. It is not an easy task, but with your cooperation and active follow up our people will succeed in getting the government benefits.

**8. Feast of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, the Little Flower, Patroness of the Missions,**

**(Oct1):** St. Therese of the Child Jesus is the patron saint of missions because she embodied the power of prayer and was a spiritual sister to many missionaries. She had a passionate desire to be a missionary from a young age, wanted to spread the Gospel to all parts of the world. Due to her chronic illness she remained a Cloistered Contemplative Nun, but accompanied missionaries from her monastery through her letters, prayers, and by offering continuous sacrifices for them. She encourages people to talk to God, look inside themselves, and focus on being their best selves. She believed that the trials and tribulations of life can help us grow closer to God. She also believed that even the smallest gestures of kindness can lead us closer to God. All of us serving this mission diocese must imitate her and imbibe her zeal for the mission.

**9. Gandhi Jayanthi – a Day of Prayer for the Nation, 2<sup>nd</sup> October:** On this day as we pay our respect to the Father of the Nation, the Great Soul (Mahatma) of our country for his invaluable contribution to India's freedom through the path-breaking principle of Ahimsa. Mahatma Gandhi was just not the Father of our Nation, but an inspiration and motivation to the entire world. As we remember him on his Birthday, let us pray for Peace and Harmony in India. *The United Christian Prayer for India (UCPI)* invites all of us to hold a Inter-denominational Prayer meeting inviting local officials and leaders on this day of National importance.

**10. New Appointment:**

Fr. Praveen Joseph - appointed Parish Priest of the Cathedral Parish, w.e.f 10-9-2023.

Fr. Chetan Lazar - appointed Assistant Parish Priest at Cathedral, w.e.f 12-9-2023.

Fr. Santhosh Dias – Appointed Secretary of CBCI Commission for Health

**COMMISSIONS SPEAK:**

**Review of DPP:** We have the Diocesan Pastoral Plan Review on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October. The Regional Coordinator Fr Anil Prasad has kindly consented to be present. Secretaries Kindly submit the soft copy of your commission's half yearly report by 10<sup>th</sup> October to: [vicargeneralglb@gmail.com](mailto:vicargeneralglb@gmail.com) - Rev. Fr Stany Lobo, Coordinator

**Payments for the Priest Aid Fund:** Those who have not paid their dues for Priest Aid Fund please do the payments at the earliest. - Rev. Fr. Fredrick D' Souza, Procurator

**Youth Commission**

1. The Youth Retreat shall take place at Bhalki on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. The theme for this event is "We live by faith not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). We kindly request that you encourage and motivate all the youth at your mission/parish to attend this spiritual uplifting event.

2. The Relic of St. John Paul will be brought to the Diocese and ceremoniously placed at the Mother of Divine Grace Cathedral in Gulbarga. We request our youth to partake in this

spiritually significant occasion. The event will commence promptly at 8:00 am and conclude at 3:00 pm on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

3. The Youth Sports Day is scheduled to take place on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October, at 1:00 p.m. The venue will be announced in due course.

**Free Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate surgeries at Indo German Hospital, Chittapur:** Dr. Ohm Indo German Hospital, Jyothi Seva Kendra Trust, Chittapur will be organizing Free Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate surgeries from 18 - 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023. These surgeries will be performed by German Doctors who are specialized in this field. You are also will also offered General and Cosmetic surgeries at reasonable charges. We kindly request to you to pass on this information to those who are in need in your mission place. Please feel free to contact the following numbers: 7090560912 (Hospital phone) or 8970924899 (Sr. Sandra BS.).

- Sr. Lucy Priya BS Administrator, Dr. Ohm indo German Hospital Chittapur

### Bishop's Programme - October 2023

- 1 - Bicentenary Birthday of Mother Veronica AC. Bidar  
- Youth Retreat
- 2 - Golden Jubilee Mass of Sr. Irene Fernandes, Ex Provincial
- 5 - Recollection and Review – Bhalki
- 7 - Blessing the new Grotto at Shorapur Church
- 8 - PPC/PFC Training – Itga
- 10 - Village Pastoral Visits – Mugnoor
- 11 - KUCF Meeting – Cathedral
- 15 - PPC/PFC Training – Ujini  
- Jeevan Jyothi Camp Inauguration
- 16 - Inter – Religious Forum Meeting
- 20 - Blessing of Daddapur Chapel
- 21 - DPP Evacuation
- 22 - PPC/PFC Training Jalasangi
- 23 - Village Pastoral Visit – Nagur N, Chetnal
- 29 - PPC/PFC Training – Talmadagi

Kripalaya, Bishop's House  
01-10-2023



† Robert Miranda  
Bishop of Gulbarga

#### In the News:

- The Methodist Church organized a program to raise awareness about Minority Schemes. Distinguished guests included Sri Allam Prabhu Patil, MLA of Kalaburgi, Sri Das Suryavamshi, Karnataka State Commissioner of the Department of Disability, Sri Javeed, District Minority Officer, and Sri Ravi A Bheraiji, KMDC District Office.
- A BEC/SCC training session was conducted for the Basavakayan Zone and Muchalamba Center on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September. The training program proved to be beneficial for all the participants. Thanks to Fr. Clary D' Souza, Secretary of BEC.
- The Basavakalyan Zonal youth gathering was held at Muchalamba on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023. 20 Youth participated in the event. Thanks Fr. Sachin Christy, Youth Director.
- The PMI (Prison Ministry) - Gulbarga unit convened a meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 at St. Mary's Cathedral Church Hall, Gulbarga, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was

attended by 20 members. Sr. Therese Mascarehas SCB, the Karnataka State PMI Coordinator, served as the Resource Person. The meeting provided a platform for sharing experiences, gaining insights, and strengthening the commitment to the Prison Ministry. Thanks to Sr. Vasantha SSpS, Co-ordinator PMI

- The Indian Social Institute, Bangalore, organized a capacity building training from September 22-24, 2023. A total of 18 Youth Participated in this third phase programme .
- Diocesan Commission for Migrants and Refugees, organised a webinar via Google meet on Saturday, September 23rd at 6p.m. Fr. Edward Thomas, SDB was the resource person, who enlightened all participants to know the rights of Migrants and the Challenges they face. There were 42 participants. Thanks to Fr. Lawrence D’Almeida, Secretary for the Commission for Migrant.
- The Pre-Canna programme was held at ORBIT on the 23 - 24<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- MCA program on 10<sup>th</sup> September at Hupla on 23 – 24<sup>th</sup> September at Ujini. There were over 25 and 90 children participants respectively

## Happy Birthday

DATI	BIRTHDAY BABIES	DATE	BIRTHDAY BABIES
2	Fr. Kuriakose, Kalaburagi	23	Sr. Neetha Alva SCSC, Zalki
3	Sr. Anitha Lobo SSPS, Gulbarga	23	Fr. Kiran Pashan SJ, Vijayapura
4	Sr. Daisy Maria BS, Chittapur	24	Sr. Shanthi Mary SJT, Bijapur
8	Sr. Tracy Swer RNDM, Almel	27	Fr. Roque N. D’Souza, Bhalki
11	Sr. Chandrakala SHM, Sedam	27	Sr. Francina Csst, Kalaburagi
11	Fr. Francis Menezes SJ, Vijayapura	27	Sr. Edna D,Mello, B. Kalyan
15	Sr. Arogya Mary UFS, Vijayapura	27	Sr. Sumi Sakar SCCG, Bhalki
17	Sr Dr Treasa Terrance JMJ (MTCH)	28	Sr. Marylit CSS, Kalaburagi
17	Sr. Nirmala Joseph SCCG, Kankal	31	Bro. Jeyaprakash SHJ , Shahapur
21	Sr. Maria Menezes SAP, B.Kalyan	31	Sr. Lucy D’Souza UFS, Shorapur

### THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
 may the faith you have gifted us in  
 your son Jesus Christ, our brother,  
 and the flame of charity  
 kindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
 reawaken in us, the blessed hope  
 for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
 into diligent cultivators of the evangelical seeds  
 that make humanity and the cosmos rise  
 unto the confident expectation  
 of the new heavens and the new earth,  
 when with the powers of Evil overcome,  
 your glory shall be manifested eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
 reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
 the yearning for heavenly treasures  
 and pour over all the earth  
 the joy and peace  
 of our Redeemer.  
 To you God blessed in eternity,  
 be praise and glory for ever and ever. Amen.



## ACTIVITIES / COMPETITIONS ON THE OCCASION OF BHALKI JATHRA - 2023

Category	Section	Programme	Theme	Time	Time	
<b>1</b>	<b>MCA</b>	<b>Junior 4-7</b>	Bible Patana	Mt. 8: 23-27	3 Minutes	Memorising with Action
			Dance	Christian Songs	3 Minutes	Any language but no remix strictly
			Bible Still	Biblical Scenes	1 Minute	Only for Competition at the deanery
		<b>Senior 8-10</b>	Bible Patana	Psalm 90:1-16, 51:1-19	3 Minutes	Memorising with Action
			Bible Still	Biblical Scenes	1 Minute	
			Speech on any Saints	Any one favorite Saint	4 Minutes	
			Dance	Christian Songs	4 Minutes	Any language but no remix strictly
		<b>2</b>	<b>ICYM</b>	<b>Boys</b>	Speech	ಮಾಧ್ಯಮ-ಯುಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಯುವಕರ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ ಮೌಲ್ಯಗಳು ಜೀವನಾಧಾರವಾದಾಗ....
Bible Patana	Lk. 1:47-55, 1:68-79				4 Minutes	Memorising with Action
Mime	Social Issues				5 Minutes	
Drawing	Christian's faith at Manipur					ಮಣಿಪುರದ ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ ಸಭೆ
Dance	Christian Songs				4 Minutes	Any language but no remix strictly
<b>Girls</b>	Speech			ಮಾಧ್ಯಮ-ಯುಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಯುವಕರ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ ಮೌಲ್ಯಗಳು ಜೀವನಾಧಾರವಾದಾಗ....	5 Minute	
	Bible Patana			Lk. 1:47-55, 1:68-79	4 Minutes	Memorising with Action
	Drawing			Christians faith at Manipur		ಮಣಿಪುರದ ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ ಸಭೆ

### Guidelines and the Dates to Mark

- ℒ Competitions to be held at your parish by **8th October**.
- ℒ Zonal Level Competitions on **15th October**.
- ℒ Deanery Level Competitions on **28th October** at Bhalki.
- ℒ Only first prize winners are qualified for the deanery level competition will be given chance at Denary.
- ℒ Only good/standard programmes will be presented at the Jathra.
- ℒ Deanery Level TA, food and other basic arrangements shall be made at Bhalki. All the songs to be in pen-drive in advance. Any clarification should be done in advance to the Cultural Team.

Zone	Responsible / Zone and Facilitator
<b>Bidar</b>	Fr. Vincent & Sr. Ritika AC
<b>Bhalki &amp; Basavakalyan</b>	Fr. Abhishek - Bhalki
<b>Aurad</b>	Fr. Lawrence - Santhpur
<b>Humnabad</b>	Fr. George - Talmadige
<b>Gulbarga</b>	Fr. Chetan Lazer- Gulbarga

To the Directors / Parish Priests
Kindly send the names of toppers
1. SSLC - 85%
2. PUC - 80%
3. Degree & PG - 75%
with xerox copy of Marks Card
Last minute names will not be entertained, kindly note.

**Fr. Wilson Fernandes & Team - Cultural Committee - Bhalki Jathra, 9481541478**