



DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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CIRCULAR NO. 220

† ROBERT MIRANDA
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

NOVEMBER 2023

Papal Intention: We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Fathers, Sisters, Jai Christ.

BHALKI JATHROSTAVA- RUBY JUBILEE OF BHALKI MISSION (10-12 Nov 2023)

With immense joy and profound gratitude to God for all His blessings upon us, as Bhalki Mission celebrates its Ruby Jubilee, we express our thankfulness for His blessings upon the Bhalki Mission over the last 40 years of its allround development. Let us all – priests, sisters and volunteers cooperate wholeheartedly with the Organizing Committee and fulfil the tasks assigned to us so that this Jathra Utsav and Ruby Jubilee becomes a blessed and memorable event. As usual, we will be sending first Sunday Contribution of November from our missions/parishes towards the Jathra expenses. Please motivate your people to contribute generously towards the Jathra Expenses.

The Ecclesiastical Tribunal of the Diocese of Gulbarga is established at Yesu Nilya, Bhalki on 5 October 2023 with its office at Kripalaya, Bishop's House, Kalaburagi. Rev Fr Roque Naveen D'Souza is appointed as the Judicial Vicar, Rev Dr Lourdusamy the President of CLSI and a professor of Canon Law at St Peter's Pontifical Institute in Bangalore as the Defender of the Bond, and Rev Fr Clary D'Souza, the Notary. Please contact Fr. Roque Naveen D'Souza to submit the marriage cases and help people live in good conscience.

The Recollection and Planning for Jathra Utsav 2 November at the Bidar Deanery level will take place on Thursday, 2nd November in Bhalki. The Jathra Committee Heads are requested to come well-prepared to provide a comprehensive report on their preparations and submit a copy, either in hard or soft format, to the Coordinator for effective follow-up. Your presence is mandatory for this final and concluding meeting. Please be present.

Communio Sunday (3 December): Communio India" is an initiative of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI) to assist all mission Dioceses and Religious Congregations working in rural and mission areas, in their pastoral ministry. The Communio India was inaugurated during the 29 Plenary Assembly held in Bhopal from 31 January to 8 February, 2017 with the objectives of Communio India: (1) To assist mission dioceses and religious congregations working in the missions. (2) To build a culture of sharing among our own people in order to express solidarity with our needy brothers and sisters in the country. (3) To encourage our faithful to pray and help the missions and the missionaries and to promote missionary vocations. (4) To inspire our lay faithful to work in mission areas as lay missionaries. (5) To prepare all our faithful as missionary disciples envisaged by Pope Francis in Evangelii Gaudium. Through our prayers and contribution we support missionaries

everywhere in our country spreading the Good News. Let us make a proper announcement and motivate our people to contribute generously to Communio India

Annual Retreat for Priests: The Annual Retreat for the priests will be held at Sugyan from 26th November to 3rd December 2023. All the priests are expected to reach the venue Sugyan by Sunday 26th November as the Retreat begins with morning meditation talk on 27th. Let us keep all those days of Retreat only for the Lord and not compromise on this. Fr Gregory Pinto SVD will be animating the group. Please bring your Bible copy, Personal Mass diary etc, along with you when you come. Those who cannot do retreat due to some valid reasons shall meet me personally. Please request the people to pray for the Priests in Retreat.

All Saints Day (Nov-1): On this day, the church commemorates the feast of all the Saints, both known and unknown. This celebration serves as a reminder that each and every one of us is called to strive for holiness, and that saints are individuals who, like us, lived on this earth but always remained steadfast in their faith in Christ. In a special manner, we offer our prayers to all the saints, their continued assistance and guidance throughout our life's journey. Additionally, as we observe Karnataka Rajyotsava Day, let us fervently pray for our State, its leaders, and all people in Karnataka that they may experience peace, equality, justice, and prosperity.

All Souls Day (Nov-2): On All Souls' Day, we honor and remember those who have passed away, praying for their eternal rest and reflecting on our own mortality. As we strive to imitate the holy souls who have gone before us, customs such as visiting cemeteries and lighting candles serve as a way to celebrate the lives of our loved ones. It is important to educate our communities on the practice of offering prayers and masses for the repose of souls in November, and to encourage visits to graveyards as a means of remembrance. Anyone praying for the dead in a cemetery can gain an Indulgence applicable to the dead: a Plenary Indulgence from Nov 1 to Nov 8; a Partial Indulgence on other days. On Nov 2, one Plenary Indulgence applicable to the dead can be gained under the usual conditions (Visit to a Church, Sacraments, Prayer for the Pope's intentions).

World Day of the Poor (Nov 19): Pope Francis in his message for the annual World Day of the Poor, says "whenever we encounter a poor person, we cannot look away, for that would prevent us from encountering the face of the Lord Jesus." According to Pope Francis, it is for each individual to take personal responsibility and become actively involved in addressing the needs of the poor. Pope Francis also highlights the importance of not delegating charity to others, but rather every Christian to personally engage in acts of charity. Additionally, he refers the parable of the Good Samaritan as a timeless challenge for individuals to help those in need.

Solemnity of Christ the King (Nov 26): On the final Sunday of each Liturgical year, the Church commemorates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This Sunday is observed on the Sunday preceding the beginning of Advent. As we are going to start the Advent season, it serves as reminder that Jesus Christ reigns as the King of this world, the everlasting sovereign, and the ultimate judge of humanity. Traditionally, a Eucharistic Procession takes place on this day at the deanery level. I kindly request the Deans to coordinate the Eucharistic Procession on Sunday 26th November, urging all priests within the deanery to collaborate. On November 26th is not feasible, an alternative option would be to hold the procession on the first Sunday of the New Year, which coincides with the Feast of the Epiphany.

Constitution Day (Nov 26): Constitution Day also known as 'Samvidhan Divas', is celebrated in our country on 26th November to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India. The Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India on 26th November 1949, which came into effect from 26th January 1950.

New Appointment: Fr. Mark Arun D'Souza SAC is Appointed as the Secretary of the Commission of Laity in the diocese. We wish him all the best for a successful and fruitful ministry.

Family Commission: PRE-CANA Programme will be held on the 25 - 26th (Saturday and Sunday) at ORBIT. The programme begins on Saturday Evening. Please let me know the number of candidates from your Parish/mission center who wish to attend this programme.

- Fr. Lawrence Arun, Secretary, Family Commission

Necrology:

1. Mr Thomas beloved brother of Sr. Regina has gone to His Eternal Abode on the 1st of October.
2. Fr Louis Vas OP served in Muchalamba Mission in our diocese died of cardiac arrest on 17th October.
3. Mrs Bridget Lobo (70) beloved mother Fr Wilbert Lobo passed away on the 17th of October. May their soul rest in the heavenly abode. Condolences to Fr Wilbert Lobo, Sr Regina and all members of their family.

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ: ಮತದಾರರ ವಿಶೇಷ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಅಭಿಯಾನ ನಡೆಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ

ಮಾನ್ಯರೇ..... ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಆಯೋಗವು ಮತದಾರರ ಪಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಹೊಸತಾಗಿ ಹೆಸರು ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆಗೆ ನಾಲ್ಕು ಅರ್ಹತಾ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಅದರಂತೆ ನವೆಂಬರ್ 18 ಮತ್ತು 19, ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ 2 ಮತ್ತು 3 ರಂದು ಮತದಾರರ ವಿಶೇಷ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಅಭಿಯಾನ "ನಡೆಯಲಿದೆ.* ಮತದಾರರ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಸರು ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವವರು ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆಗೆ, ಮೃತರಾದವರ ಹೆಸರು ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ತೆಗೆದು ಹಾಕಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ 9ರವರೆಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರಲಿದೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ದಿನದಂದು ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಬೂತ್ ಮಟ್ಟದ ನಾಯಕರು, ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮುತುವರ್ಜಿವಹಿಸಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಮತ್ತು ಮತದಾರರ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಾಗಿ ಗಮನಹರಿಸಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಮ್ಮಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋರಿದೆ.

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME

- 1 - All Saints Day
- 2 - Recollection and Jathra Meeting
- 4 - Forum Meeting
- 10-12 - Jahtra Utsav 2023
- 14-16 - Visit to Vijayapura Missions
- 18 - KUCFHR Meeting
- 19 - Confirmations and PPC/PFC training Programme, Ujini
- 20 - Village Visits Nagur - Chetnal
- 25 - Inauguration and Blessing of Divine Mercy Chapel at Hippurgaon, Jalasangi Mission
- 26 - PPC/PFC Training, Bhalki Mission
- Constitution Day - Forum Programme, GLB
- 27 Dec 1- Clergy Retreat

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Kripalaya,
Bishop's House, 1-11-2023

† **Robert Miranda**
Bishop of Gulbarga

In the News

The Bicentennial Birth Anniversary Celebration of Venerable Mother Veronica: The commemoration of the 200th birth anniversary of Venerable Mother Veronica, the founder of the Apostolic Carmel, took place on Sunday, 1st October 2023. Most Rev Robert Michael Miranda, Bishop of Gulbarga presided over a Eucharist. Additionally, a blood donation camp was conducted at Saint Joseph's English Medium School, led by Maria Nilaya and the Carmel Niketan Sisters, in partnership with BIMS Hospital Bidar.

Annual Youth Retreat: A Youth Retreat was conducted by Youvachethana, Gulbarga Diocese on 1-2 October 2023 at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bhalki, under the guidance of Fr Sachin Christy, the Youth Director. Fr Arogya Das, Fr Anil Prasad, Fr Lawrence, and Fr Clary D'Souza provided assistance to the youth in their spiritual development and prayer. Most Rev Robert Miranda, Bishop of Gulbarga, gave a good start to the Event as he gave an introductory talk on the life of Saint Francis of Assisi. The retreat included preaching, adoration, confession, and bhajans, which actively engaged the youth. The retreat culminated with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Approximately 120 youths actively participated in this retreat.

The Diocese received the Relic of St. John Paul II and reverently placed it at the Mother of Divine Grace Cathedral, Gulbarga on the 7th and 8th of October. Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Bishop, followed by Adoration, Rosary and Praise and worship were conducted. Many youths actively participated in this significant spiritual event. It was in preparation for 'Jago' Programme that the relic was taken all over the country.

Renovations of St Antony Chapel in Hakial: St Antony Chapel in Hakial village, Kamal Nagar mission, was blessed and inaugurated after renovations on 8th of October. We express our gratitude to the donors for their generous contributions. Congratulations to Fr. David and his team for their tireless efforts.

Jeevan Jyothi Camp took place from October 15-18, 2023 at Infant Jesus Shrine, Bhalki. The camp was inaugurated by Rev Fr Stany Lobo and Fr Sachin Christy, the youth coordinator of Youvachethana. A total of 50 participants were divided into four different groups, each with an animator. Throughout the camp, several priests and sisters served as resource persons dealt on topics that could contribute to the development of the personality growth of the participants. The concluding ceremony was graced by Bishop Robert Michael Miranda, whose valuable presence and message was a source of motivation. Thanks to Fr. Sachin and Team for organising the programme well.

Blessing the Sahaaya Mathe Chapel at Village, Daddapur in Mariapur took place on 20th October. We extend our congratulations to Fr James Paul SDB and the other SDB priests for their efforts in constructing the new Chapel. It's first of the chapel and outreach mission of Chickpet (Don Bosco) mission.

Political Awareness Program: the United Christian Forum, in collaboration with the Methodist Christian Youth Gulbarga, organized a Political Awareness Program at Central Methodist Church on 24th of this month. The program aimed to shed light on the current political situation of the country and discuss how youth can play a positive role. The resource persons for the event were Ms Mallige Sirimane and Mr Nissar Ahmed, leaders of the EDDELU KARNATAKA MOVEMENT. 135 youth from various Christian denominations participated.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR FATHERS AND SISTERS

DATE	B' DAY BABIES	DATE	B' DAY BABIES
2	Sr. Stella Mendonsa	18	Sr. Leonilla AC, St. Joseph Bidar
5	Sr. Daiohhun Theodora RNDM	18	Sr. Stella SCCG, Muddebihal
7	Sr. Karuna CSS, Glb	20	Sr. Philomena SCCG, Kotnoor
10	Sr. Veena Lobo DHM, Indi	20	Fr. Roshan D' Souza, Wadi
11	Sr. Sunita BS, Chittapur	22	Fr. Mark Arun Kumar SAC
11	Sr. Rita JMJ, Devara Hippargi	23	Fr. Thomas D'Souza, Vijayapur
13	Sr. Jacinta Machado DHM, Indi	23	Sr. Rita D' Souza DHM, Indi
14	Sr. Philomena Saldanna BS, Glb	24	Sr. Raxy SJT, Vijayapura
16	Sr. Jyothi Galbao BS, Humnabad	28	Sr. Reena D'Souza SSpS, Glb
16	Sr. Reethika AC, St. Joseph Bidar	30	Sr. Shobha SCCG, Muddebihal

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

Fr. Sunil Mankare	10	Fr. Anil Victor Vas	29
Fr. Anthony Lawrence SJ	15	Fr. Wilbert Lobo	29
Fr. Salvadore Fernandes	29	Fr. Joseph Praveen	30

Bhalki Jathrotsava- Ruby Jubilee of Bhalki Mission 2023 Competition Results

✿ Congratulations to the Winners ✿

COMPETITIONS	FIRST	SECOND	
Bible Patana MCA Juniors	Sinchana- Hulsoor Mission	Sneha, Bhalki Mission	
Bible Patana MCA Senior	Arpita- St. Joseph-Bidar	Anusha- Halbarga Mission	
Dance MCA Junior (Group)	Hulsoor Mission	Bhalki Mission	
Dance MCA Senior (Group)	St. Joseph – Bidar Mission	Santhpur Mission	
Bible Still MCA Junior	Hulsoor Mission	Itga, Mission	
Bible Stil MCA Senior	Hulsoor Mission	Sacred Heart - Bidar.	
Speech on any Saints MCA Senior	Anusha- Halbarga Mission	Rohan - Sacred Heart -Bidar.	
Speech ICYM (Boys)	Yeshappa- Ujini Mission	Snehal –Bhalki Mission	
Speech ICYM (Girls)	Asharani- Bhalki Mission	Rebecca- Santhpur Mission	
ICYM Folk Dance (Girls)	Bhalki Mission	St. Joseph- Bidar Mission	
Bible Patana ICYM (Boys)	Praveen- Ujini	Ivan- Sacred Heart - Bidar.	
Bible Patana ICYM (Girls)	Neha- St. Joseph, Bidar	Nikita- Bhalki Mission	
Drawing ICYM (Boys)	Anand-Ujini	Ivan- Sacred Heart - Bidar.	
Drawing ICYM (Girls)	Prescilla St. Joseph, Bidar	Asharani- Bhalki Mission	
Mime ICYM (Boys)	Bhalki Mission	Ujini Mission	
Games Competitions	First	Second	Third
Volly Ball	Ujini Mission	Itga Mission	Fathers Team
Throw Ball	Santhpur	Jalsangi & Humnabad	Basavaklyan Zone

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 2023 WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

19 November 2023, Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor” (Tob 4:7)

Summary

The scale of the problem

Pope Francis begins his message by stressing that “a great river of poverty is traversing our cities and swelling to the point of overflowing; it seems to overwhelm us, so great are the needs of our brothers and sisters who plead for our help, support and solidarity.”

“We are living”, he continues, “in times that are not particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor. The pressure to adopt an affluent lifestyle increases, while the voices of those dwelling in poverty tend to go unheard.”

In particular, he stresses “new forms of poverty”, such as “peoples caught up in situations of war”, the “inhumane treatment” of many workers, and “speculation in various sectors”, which he said had led to “dramatic price increases that further impoverish many families”.

Our response

Faced with problems of this magnitude, Pope Francis writes, our responsibility is clear. We must heed Tobit’s words to Tobias: ““Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor.”

“In a word,” he continues, “whenever we encounter a poor person, we cannot look away, for that would prevent us from encountering the face of the Lord Jesus.”

Thus, “the parable of the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37) is not simply a story from the past; it continues to challenge each of us in the here and now of our daily lives. It is easy to delegate charity to others, yet the calling of every Christian is to become personally involved.”

The political process

Pope Francis goes on to point out that this year is the 60th anniversary of the publication of Pope John XXIII’s landmark encyclical *Pacem in Terris*, in which he urged that “Every human being enjoys the right to life, to bodily integrity and to the means necessary for the proper development of life, including food, clothing, shelter, medical care, rest, and, finally, the necessary social services.”

How to act, Pope Francis asks, in the face of the failure of the political process to deliver these goods?

The answer, he says, is two-fold. There is, on the one hand, “a need to urge and even pressure public institutions to perform their duties properly”, but, on the other, “it is of no use to wait passively to receive everything ‘from on high’”.

Those living in poverty, Pope Francis stresses, ought also to be included in this search for “change and responsibility.”