



DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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Circular No. 230

† ROBERT M. MIRANDA
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

August 2024

Holy Father's Intention for the Month: For Political Leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brethren, *Jai Christ!*

Samavesha - PPC/VPC/PFC Convention

To enhance the involvement of the members of our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), Parish Finance Committee (PFC) and Village Pastoral Council (VPC) in executing the Diocesan Pastoral Plan at the parish, deanery, and diocesan levels,

We are organizing

Laity Convention

For Bidar Deanery on 03 - 04 August 2024 at Don Bosco Hall, Chikpet, Bidar.

For Gulbarga and Vijayapur Deanery on 18 August 2024 at Cathedral, Gulbarga.

Rev. Fr Anil Prasad, Coordinator KRPPC and Rev. Fr Santhosh Dias, Secretary for National Level Health Commission, have graciously agreed to lead this event as the resource team. The Convention, at Bidar themed “ಜೊತೆಜೊತೆಯಾಗಿ ನಡೆಯೋಣ, ಧರ್ಮಸಭೆಯ ಬೆಳೆಸೋಣ” will commence on **Saturday 3rd August at 06:00PM and conclude on the following day, Sunday by 04:00 PM.** I invite all the Priests, Sisters, PPC, PFC & VPC Members to attend this significant event. We aim for equal participation of both men and women members in the convention.

I request your prayers for the success of these Conventions.

1. The Feast of St John Mary Vianney, (August 04): 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. On this special occasion, I extend my heartfelt wishes to all my fellow priests as we celebrate the 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 that this brings you a profound sense of fulfillment. Inspired by St. John Marie Vianney, let us continue our work with zeal, praying for the conversion of our people. Ignite their hearts through the sacraments of confession, inspiring homilies, devout celebration of the Eucharist, family visits, and catechism classes for children. I request the Sisters and PPC members to organize a special greeting for their parish priests on Sunday, August 4th.

2. Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (August 06): This event is recorded in three of the four canonical Gospels: Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8, and Luke 9:28-36. It signifies the revelation of Jesus' divine glory and his true nature as the Son of God. The affirmation from the Father confirmed Jesus' identity as the Son of God, underscoring his authority and mission as the Savior and Messiah, while also foreshadowing his resurrection. The appearance of Moses and Elijah alongside Jesus symbolizes the continuity of God's plan of salvation throughout history encouraging the believers to remain steadfast in faith amidst trials.

3. Feast of St Lawrence the Martyr (August 10): St Lawrence, a prominent figure in early Christianity, is celebrated for his martyrdom and his exemplary service to the Church, particularly in the context of charity and care for the poor. As a deacon, Lawrence was responsible for the distribution of alms and care for the poor in Rome. His famous act of presenting the poor as the true treasures of the Church when ordered to hand over the Church's riches exemplifies his dedication to charity. His life serves as an inspiration for the Church's mission to serve those in need and to live out the Gospel message.

4. National Youth Sunday (August 11): The Church across India celebrates National Youth Sunday, a day dedicated to the youth. Much like World Youth Day and Asian Youth Day, this occasion highlights the remarkable energy and faith that young people infuse into our community. This year's theme is particularly inspiring: "Those who hope in the Lord will run and not grow weary" (*Isaiah 40:31*). I request all the Mission Directors and Parish Priest to celebrate this Youth Sunday meaningfully in your mission centers and parishes.

5. Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary/Independence Day (August 15): The entire Church exalts the Creator in celebration of the Glorious Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. By her immaculate conception, Mary was preserved from sin, and throughout her life, she faithfully fulfilled her divine mission. In recognition of her purity and devotion, God assumed her into Heaven, body and soul, and crowned her as Queen of Heaven and Earth. This feast of Our Lady brings to light the challenges in the Christian journey and calls us to faithfully cooperate with God's plan in our own lives. Let us earnestly seek the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother in our daily lives and remain blessed.

As we also mark the 78th Independence Day of our nation, we take pride in this monumental freedom, achieved through the sacrifices of countless individuals who gave their lives. Let us honor this dual celebration—the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven and our Independence Day joyfully and meaningfully.

6. Anniversary of the Diocese (August 18): Our Diocese will joyously step into 20th year since its formal inauguration in 2005. The Lord has abundantly blessed this diocese. Filled with gratitude let us continue to serve and enhance its vibrancy. This date also marks the anniversary of my Episcopal Ordination. I am deeply thankful for your support and cooperation in the past 19 years. I humbly request your prayers that I may continue to lead and serve this mission diocese with the heart of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

7. Justice Sunday (August 18): This year, Justice Sunday will be observed on August 18, 2024, the Sunday following Independence Day. The CBCI Office for Justice, Peace, and Development has chosen the theme, "*Human Dignity Beyond Every*

Question: A Call to Action for Justice." As we observe Justice Sunday, let us reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding human dignity in every aspect of life. May our churches shine as beacons of hope, where every person is valued as a beloved child of God. Let us move forward with the conviction that human dignity is not negotiable. It is the truth upon which we build a just, peaceful and compassionate society. I request all the Mission Directors and Parish Priest to celebrate this Justice Sunday meaningfully in your mission centers and parishes. The liturgy for this day will be sent to you soon.

9. Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting:

Please note, the Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting will take place on Friday 09th August 2024 at 02:30 PM. All the members are expected to be present.

Please facilitate the travel of Lay participants.

10. Clergy Recollection:

The Clergy Recollection will be held on 28-29 August.

First *Jathra* Meeting will also be held on the same day.

11. Deanery Recollection/ Review:

Day	Date	Deanery	Place
Saturday	03 August	Gulbarga	Cathedral
Sunday	04 August	Vijayapur	Vijayapur

12. Study of Vatican II Documents: The Fifth episode will be streamed on 15.08.2024 on the theme "Sacred Scripture in the Life of the Church", presented by Fr Joseph Praveen. The Sixth episode will be streamed on 30.08.2024 on the theme "The Liturgy in the Mystery of the Church", presented by Fr Gerald Sagar.

Hearty Welcome

Rev. Fr Steevan Lawrence SDB, Superior, Chikpet Mission.

Commissions Speak:

Commission for BEC: BEC/SCC training program for Bidar Zone is scheduled on 18th August 2024 from 09:30 AM to 01:00 PM at Sacred Heart Church, Bidar. We invite you to join the Holy Eucharist at 8:30 AM, at Sacred Heart Church. Please remember to bring your Bible, a notebook, and a pen.

- Fr Clary D' Souza, Secretary, Commission for BEC

Commission for Youth: The Youth Commission is organizing *Yuvaspandana* programme for Basavakalyan Zone on 18th August 2024 at Hulsoor.

- Fr Sachin Christy, Secretary, Commission for Youth

Commission for Women: Women Commission animators and office bearers training programme for Bhalki Zone is scheduled on 18th August 2024, from 02:30 to 05:00 PM at Holy Redeemer Church, Bhalki

- Sr Maria Reetha AC, Secretary, Commission for Women

Commission for Family Life: There will be Pre-Cana programme on 24th and 25th August at ORBIT. Programme begins on Saturday, 24th at 9:30 AM and concludes on Sunday 25th at 4:30 PM. Please confirm the number of candidates to 9535707929.

- Fr Salvadore Fernandes, Secretary, Commission for Family Life.

Commission for Social Communications: Premavani Communications of the Gulbarga Diocese is organizing a workshop on low-cost and free website building tailored for parishes, educational institutions, social development centres, health apostolate, and commissions. This workshop will cover website management, documentation, and related skills. The event will be held at ORBIT. The specific date will be communicated once we finalize the number of participants and available dates. We request you to designate two or three representatives from your organization to attend and manage the relevant tasks. Please confirm your participation by 15 August. Fr Anil Fernandes, Director of Canara Communication Center, Mangalore, will be the resource person guiding the sessions.

- Fr Roshan D' Souza, Secretary, Commission for Social Communications.

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME: AUGUST 2024

03	- Jubilee Mass of Fr Anand Prabhu SJ
03-04	- PPC/PFC/VPC Convention - Bidar Deanery
08	- KUCF Meeting
09	- Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting
11	- Visit to Bhalki Parish (PPC Training)
13 - 15	- Visit to Talikote, Muddebihal, Kankal, Devar Hippargi & Sindagi
18	- PPC/PFC Convention - Gulbarga & Vijayapura Deanery
19	- Visit to Shahabad School
21	- Visit to Ekamba Mission & Village
22	- Visit to Kamalnagar Mission & Village
25 - 26	- Pastoral Visit - Cathedral
27 - 28	- Visit of Director, Caritas Czech
31	- Blessing of Chapel, Eklaspur Wadi

Kripalaya, Bishop's House
01 August 2024



† 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 August 2024 at 10:00 AM at Cathedral.

-Rev. Fr Stany Lobo, Vicar General

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR FATHERS AND SISTERS

02	Fr Anand Prabhu SJ, <i>Kalaburagi</i>	15	Sr Reema crasta SRA, <i>Santpur</i>
03	Sr Jevita Pais UFS, <i>Shahapur</i>	15	Fr Roshan D' Souza CSC, <i>Afzalpur</i>
03	Sr Jyothi Lakra BS, <i>Hebbal</i>	17	Sr Pavana Francis, <i>Afzalpur</i>
04	Sr Maria Reetha AC, <i>Bidar</i>	18	Fr Clary D' Souza, <i>Bidar</i>
04	Sr Sangita Soreng SSpS, <i>Ekamba</i>	18	GULBARGA DIOCESE
05	Sr Mary SCCG, <i>Kalaburagi</i>	19	Sr Vinisha Rodrigues BS, <i>Hebbal</i>
05	Sr Sujata Ekka SSpS, <i>Ekamba</i>	20	Sr Vijaya Joseph SCCG, <i>Kankal</i>
08	Sr Gracy Veigas UFS, <i>Shahapur</i>	21	Sr Leenet Monteiro, <i>Santpur</i>
08	Sr Leera Mendonca SCCG, <i>Kankal</i>	22	Sr Jayashree BS, <i>Kalaburagi</i>
09	Fr David D'Souza, <i>Shorapur</i>	22	Sr Bindu Varghese SJT, <i>Vijayapur</i>
09	Sr Anisha Pinto UFS, <i>Itga</i>	24	Sr Vincy SMMI, <i>Talmadige</i>
11	Sr Anasthasia SAB, <i>Shahabad</i>	26	Fr David, <i>Kamalnagar</i>
12	Sr Priyanka D' Souza UFS, <i>Vijayapur</i>	26	Fr Lawrence Arun, <i>Santpur</i>
13	Sr Helen Misquith RNDM, <i>Santpur</i>	28	Sr Leena Bennis BS, <i>Humnabad</i>
14	Fr Robin Pereira, MSFS, <i>Ekamba</i>	31	Sr Angeline Sequeira UFS, <i>Itga</i>

News July 2024

Blessing of the New Grotto and Parish Feast at St Thomas Church, Shahabad (July 07, 2024): St Thomas Church in Shahabad witnessed a significant event with the blessing of the newly erected grotto. The ceremony was graced by the Bishop, who imparted his blessings upon the grotto, marking it as a sacred space for the community. This solemn occasion coincided with the celebration of the Parish Feast, where Bishop presided as the principal celebrant, leading the congregation in a day of spiritual reflection and festivity.

Inauguration of Newly Built St Ambrose High School at Wadi (July 10, 2024): The newly constructed St Ambrose High School building was inaugurated and blessed by the Bishop in the presence of the Provincial Superior, Fathers, Sisters, and the school staff. Following the inauguration, Bishop celebrated the Holy Eucharist and delivered a homily emphasizing the importance of education as a foundational element in the lives of students.

MCA Animators Training (July 13, 14, 2024): A training session for Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) animators was held at Holy Cross Church, Santpur and Sacred Heart Church, Bidar on 13 and 14 July, respectively catering to the Aurad and Bidar Zones. Over 40 lay animators benefitted from the training programme. The session aimed to enhance the skills and knowledge of the animators, ensuring better guidance and support for the children in their respective communities.

Photoshop Poster Design Workshop Organized by Premavani Communications (July 17, 2024): Premavani Communications of the Gulbarga Diocese organized a one-day workshop on Photoshop poster design at the Sevasangama Social Development Center on July 17, 2024. The workshop saw enthusiastic participation from 13 attendees, led by Fr Roshan D' Souza. The training aimed to enhance participants' skills in poster design, promoting creative and effective communication within the community.

YUVA SPANDANA 2024 (July 14 & 21, 2024): Holy Cross Church, Santpur and Sacred Heart Church, Bidar hosted the YUVA SPANDANA 2024 programme for the Aurad and Bidar Zone on 14th and 21st July respectively under the theme "Unity and Diversity: Celebrating Our Commonality and Differences." The event saw the enthusiastic participation of over 150 youth members. The program aimed to foster a sense of unity and appreciation for diversity among the youth, highlighting the importance of celebrating both commonalities and differences within the community.

NECROLOGY

Mr A. Lourdunathan (78 Years),

F/o Rev. Fr Praveen Joseph, Parish Priest, Mother of Divine Grace Cathedral,
Gulbarga passed away on 25 July 2024.

May the Lord receive him in His Eternal abode.

Our heartfelt condolences to dear Fr Joseph Praveen and his family members.

THE PRIEST WHO THOUGHT HE FAILED: The parish priest of a small town arrived at the church encouraged and motivated to perform another evening Mass, but the hour passed and the town did not come. After 15 minutes delay, three children entered, after 20 minutes two young people entered. So the priest decided to start the mass with the five people. Over the course of Mass, a couple came in who sat on the last benches of the church. When the priest preached and explained the Gospel, another half-dirty person came in with a rope in his hand. Disappointed and not understanding the cause of the weak involvement of the faithful, the priest celebrated Mass with love and preached with enthusiasm and zeal. On his way back home he was robbed and beaten by two thieves who stole his folder where his Bible and other valued belongings were. Arriving at the parish house and bandaging his wounds, he described that day as: The saddest day of my life, a failure of my ministry, and the most unfruitful day of my career; but... never mind, I do everything with God and for Him.

After five years, the priest decided to share this story with parishioners at church. When he was finished telling the story, a couple in that parish stopped him and said, " Father, the couple in the story that sat at the back was us. We were on the brink of separation because of several problems and disagreements in our home. That night we finally decided to divorce, but first we decided to come to church one last time as a couple and then each one would follow their path. Meanwhile, we left the thought of divorce aside after listening to your homily that same night. As a result, today we are here with our home and family restored ".

As the couple spoke, one of the most successful entrepreneurs who helped in the livelihoods of people of that church saluted, asking to speak. And giving him the opportunity, the entrepreneur said, " Father, I am the person who came in half dirty with a rope in my hand. I was on the verge of bankruptcy, lost in drugs, my wife and my kids had left home on account of my behavior. That night I tried to kill myself but the rope broke so I went out to buy another one. When I got on my way, I saw the church open, I decided to come in even though I was really dirty and had a rope in my hand. That night, your homily pierced my heart and I walked out of here a changed person. Today I'm off the drugs, my family came home and I became the most successful businessman in the town." At the gate of the sacristy entrance, the Deacon shouted, " Father, I was one of those thieves that stole your belongings. The other one died that same night while we were doing the second robbery. In his briefcase, there was a Bible. I read it every time I woke up in the morning. After all this reading, I decided to apply it to my life and participate in this church."

The priest was shocked and started crying along with the faithful. After all, the night he regarded as a night of failure was the most fruitful of his ministry.

Reflection: Exercise your calling (work / mission) with dedication and zeal. Give it your best every day, because you are an instrument of good for someone's life. In the worst days of your life you can still be a blessing to someone else. God can use the " bad circumstances " of a life to produce the best for others.

COLLEGE OF CONSULTERS - 2024

Members	Name	Place	Mobile No.
Ex-Officio			
Bishop	Most Rev. Robert M. Miranda	Kripalaya	9448568555
Vicar General	Mons. Stany Lobo	Kripalaya	9448716111
Procurator	Fr Fredrick D'Souza	Kripalaya	9480200497
Deans	Fr Joseph Praveen	Gulbarga	9632351072
	Fr Clary D' Souza	Bidar	9972540237
	Fr Francis Menezes	Bijapur	9448627209
Nominated:	Fr Vincent Pereira	MTCH	9632266168
	Fr Lawrence D' Almeida CSC	Afzalpur	7769996561
	Fr Santhosh Babu	Aland	9448790575

THE COUNCIL OF PRIESTS - 2024

Members	Name	Place	Mobile No.
Ex-Officio			
Bishop	Most Rev. Robert M. Miranda	Kripalaya	9448568555
Vicar General	Mons. Stany Lobo	Kripalaya	9448716111
Procurator	Fr Fredrick D'Souza	Kripalaya	9480200497
Deans	Fr Joseph Praveen	Gulbarga	9632351072
	Fr Clary D'souza	Bidar	9972540237
	Fr Francis Menezes	Bijapur	9448627209
Elected Members			
Bidar Deanery	Fr Sunil Andrade	Ujini	9845799129
	Fr Roque Naveen D'Souza	Bhalki	9845833657
	Fr Victor Vas	ORBIT	9843112739
	Fr Arogradas SAC	Hulsoor	9665404138
	Fr Satish Kumar OFM Cap	Halbarga	8762578713
Gulbarga Deanery	Fr Vincent Pereira	MTCH	9632266168
	Fr Gerald Sagar	Shahabad	8722195758
	Fr Stephen Veigas	GDES	9449273504
	Fr Antony Selvam	Sedam	9916455915
Vijayapur Deanery	Fr Robert Crasta	Talikote	9964002484
	Fr Joseph Vas Monteiro SJ	Vijayapura	8123870289
Nominated Members	Fr Wilson Fernandes	Bidar	9481541478
	Fr Santhosh Baapu	Aland	9448790575
	Fr Lawrence D' Almeida CSC	Afzalpur	7769996561
	Fr Clevon Gomes	Santpur	8861091762

DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL - 2024

Office	Members	Name	Parish
EX-OFFICIO	President	Bishop Robert Miranda	Bishop's House
	Vice-President	Mons.Fr Stany Lobo	Bishop's House
	Procurator	Fr Fredrick D'souza	Bishop's House
	Dean	Fr Clary D' Souza	Bidar
ELECTED BIDAR DEANERY	Lay Representatives	Dr Priya (Secretary)	Kaudayal
		Samuel	Jalasangri
		Sithal	Kamalnagar
		Adv. Dayanand	Halbarga
		Sudhakar	Bidar
		Arjun Kanak	Kaudayal
	Religious Sisters	Sr Maria Reetha AC	Bidar
		Sr Preethi BS	Jalasangri
		Sr Christina Flora SCB	Muchalamba
	Priests Representatives	Fr Sunil Andrade	Ujini
Fr Arogyadas		Hulsoor	
	Dean	Fr Joseph Praveen	Bidar
ELECTED GULBARGA DEANERY	Lay Representatives	Viola (Secretary)	Kalaburagi
		Kavitha	Chittapur
		Dr. Kiran	Kalaburagi
		Anand	Wadi
	Religious Sisters	Sr Sajana CSST	Kalaburagi
		Sr Philomena SCCG	Kalaburagi
	Priests	Fr Martin SDB	Kalaburagi
		Fr Bapu	Aland
	Dean	Fr Francis Menezes SJ	Vijayapura
ELECTED VIJAYAPURA DEANERY	Lay Representatives	Vice-President	Vijayapura
		Secretary	Vijayapura
	Religious Sisters	Sr	Vijayapura
		Sr	Vijayapura
	Priests Representatives	Fr Josephvas Monteiro SJ	Vijayapura
		Fr Robert Crasta	Talikoti
NOMINATED MEMBERS		Bini Shah	Bidar
		Adv. Amal Nathan	Shahabad
		Royappa Reddy	Cathedral
		Saritha Jude	Cathedral
		Robert Rajkumar	Bhalki
		Laxman Mural	Bhalki
		Savitha	Talmadgi
		Peter (Youth President)	Ujini
		Fr Saji Superior SDB	Yadagiri
		Fr Maxim Misquith S.J	Gulbarga