



DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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Circular No. 244

† ROBERT M. MIRANDA
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

October 2025

Holy Father's Intention for the Month: For collaboration between different religious traditions. Let us Pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

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

1. The message of the Holy Father for World Mission Day 2025: World Mission Sunday 2025 will be celebrated on the next-to-last Sunday of October with the theme "Missionaries of Hope among all Peoples." On this day, Catholics renew their baptismal call to be missionaries through prayer, the Eucharist, and generous support for the Pope's missions. Pope reminds us to be messengers of hope in a world overshadowed by darkness. Our prayers and offerings support the Church's service to the poor and vulnerable in over 1,150 mission dioceses worldwide.

The Mission Sunday will be celebrated this year on 19th October 2025. I sincerely appreciate the enthusiasm and dedication each of you consistently show in making Mission Sunday meaningful every year. As I extend my gratitude for last year's contributions, I also encourage you to inspire your parishioners once again this year to generously support the missions through their prayers, sacrifices and offerings. The message of the Holy Father is sent to your E-mail and WhatsApp.

2. Jathra Utsav 2025: The preparations for the Jathra Utsav 2025 are progressing on full swing. Various committees are actively involved in organizing the Event. Everyone is doing their best to ensure everything runs smoothly. It is also crucial to motivate our mission and parish communities to engage in this Faith Event, which will undoubtedly bring blessings to each of us in this diocese. As always, the offertory collection on the first Sunday of November 2 has been set aside for Jathra 2025. If you need any further information or clarifications, do not hesitate to reach out to the Convener of the Jathra Utsav - Fr David Anthony (Mob: 8861408025) please read out/explain the circular on Jathra on 2 Sundays 5th and 12th October.

3. Patron of the Laity in India: St Lazarus Devasahayam Patron of the Laity in India by the Holy See (decree 215/25) Decastery of Divine worship and Discipline of sacraments has confirmed St Lazarus Devasahayam. Let us announce this joyful news to our people on 15th October and make the day joyful.

4. Preparations for First Holy Communion and Confirmation: I invite the parish priest to hold at least a week long residential camp for the First Holy Communion and a full three days camp for Confirmation candidates during the Dussehra holidays (From September 28th - 7th October 2025) and prepare the children well for the Sacraments. Please see that children learn by heart all the basic prayers and catechism well; so also candidates must know the faith and be convinced.

5. Month of the Holy Rosary: October is dedicated to the Rosary, with the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. Each Hail Mary is like offering a rose to Mary, and a full Rosary forms a garland in her honor. The Mysteries help us reflect on the lives of Christ and Mary, guiding our spiritual growth. This month is a special time to renew devotion to the Rosary, praying it daily in families. I urge Parish Priests and Mission Directors to organize community Rosaries and encourage MCA children to lead rosary in their wards and villages.

Deanery Level Recollections

Bidar Deanery – on 2nd October Recollection and Jathra Meeting, Vijayapura Deanery – on 5th October (Sunday), Gulbarga Deanery – on 9th October (Thursday) All Fathers and Sisters are kindly requested to participate actively in their respective deanery recollection programs.

Visit of the Nuncio to Gulbarga Diocese

As informed before, I am happy to Share the joyful news that His Excellency Leopoldo Girelli The Apostolic Nuncio to India and Nepal will be visiting our Diocese on 1st and 2nd of November. We will plan the program of his visit and let you know at the earliest. Please co-operate. Let's make it a memorable fait Faith Event

6. Feast of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, the Little Flower, Patroness of the Missions, (Oct 01): St. Therese of the Child Jesus, patron saint of missions, showed the power of prayer and spiritual support for missionaries. Though illness confined her to the convent, she spread the Gospel through prayer, letters and sacrifices. She reminds us that hardships draw us closer to God and that even small acts of love lead us to Him. As we serve this mission diocese, may we follow her example of passion for mission and dedication to spiritual growth.

7. Gandhi Jayanthi – a Day of Prayer for the Nation, (Oct 02): we honor the Father of the Nation, the Great Soul (Mahatma) of our country, we reflect on Mahatma Gandhi's priceless contribution to India's freedom, achieved through the principles of Truth and Ahimsa (non-violence). Gandhi was not only the Father of our Nation but also a source of inspiration and motivation for the entire world. As we commemorate his birthday, let us come together in prayer for peace and harmony in India.

8. To be watchful and Alert: You are aware by now that two tragedies occurred, one after another in our mission Diocese in this month of September. First one was at Ekamba mission on 4th September where our school bus ran over a child (Kaveri D/o Akash), Student of the school who died on the spot in our school campus. It was the negligence of the driver. Yet the tragedy could have been avoided if at least the teachers were careful and alert.

Second one was at Kankal Sneha Sangama School run by the sisters of charity. On 21st the PT teacher had taken a boy (Roshan Rathod) from the hostel without proper information of the Sisters for a Sports Event. There after the practice, the boys were sent to take bath in a nearby pond where the boy got drowned.

You can't imagine how violently local people reacted, what an agony it was for the local mission teams, and what a loss it has put us into. Though one may see them as merely accidental, I only wish to tell you that the Lord is giving us a message to be always alert and watch full, not take anything we do lightly. Thanks to Fr. Steven Veigas, Fr. Santosh Bapu Fr. Anil Crasta, father Vincent Periera, Fr. Sunil, Fr. Abhishek. Sr. Reena Ssps and Sr. Cynthia Scg Who have tried their best to help us come out of these tragic events. We sympathise earnestly with the sisters at Kankal and Fr. Abhishek and Team

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME: OCTOBER 2024

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| 04-05 | - Regional Youth Programme |
| 06-07 | - Installation Ceremony of Bishop Francis Serrao, Mysore |
| 10 | - GDES GB Meeting and Orbit GB Meeting |
| 11 | - Think Tank Meeting, Sugyan |
| 12 | - Mass at the Cathedral – Catholic Association Programme |
| 14 | - Jubilee Programme Mangalore |
| 16-17 | - School Visits Bidar |
| 19 - 25 | - Retreat for Clergy of Bhadravathi Diocese |
| 26 | - Pastoral Visit to Hulsoor |
| 27 | - Village Visits (Sunkanal, Beldal) |
| 29 | - DPP - Half Yearly Evaluation |
| 30 | - Village Visit to Siddeshwar |



† Robert Miranda
Bishop of Gulbarga

Kripalaya, Bishop's House
01 October 2025

Clergy Annual Retreat

The annual retreat for clergy 2025 is scheduled from 8th to 13th December 2025. Please mark these dates in your calendar and this time is reserved for the retreat.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR FATHERS AND SISTERS

02	Fr Kuriakose SDB, Kalaburagi	26	Dn Ancy Vion
05	Sr Maria Swarupa AC	27	Fr Roque N. D'Souza**
08	Sr Celine DSouza SCCG	27	Fr William Miranda OCD
11	Sr Chandrakala D'Souza SHM	27	Sr Edna D'Mello SAP
15	Sr Rosaline D'Souza HMR	27	Sr Reshma Minz RNDM
17	Sr Nirmala Joseph SCCG	27	Sr Sumi Sarkar SCCG
21	Sr Maria Menezes SAP	28	Sr Lilly Vas RNDM
22	Fr William S. CSC	28	Sr Marylit CSS
24	Sr Claret DSS *		

HAPPY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY DEAR FATHERS

02	Fr. Roshan Pinto	SJ	18	Fr. Ronald Serrao	SJ
02	Fr. Suman Balu	SJ	18	Fr. Vishal D'souza	SJ
18	Fr. Jeevan D'souza	SJ	18	Fr. Wilson Moras	SJ
18	Fr. Kevin Sequiera	SJ			

News September 2025

Program for Children with Disabilities – Jewargi Mission on September 1, 2025: At Jewargi Mission, a program for children with disabilities was organized. Wheelchairs and study materials were distributed. Rev. Fr. Stephan Vegas inspired the gathering with a message on self-confidence and resilience.

Preparations for Infant Jesus Jathra – Bhalki: In view of the Infant Jesus Bhalki Jatra scheduled for 7th–9th November 2025, a preparatory meeting was held in Bhalki. Directors, Superiors, Vice-Presidents and Secretaries of 14 mission centres participated. Responsibilities were assigned to each centre, with budgets to be submitted by 20th September. Plans will be shared in the next meeting on 2nd October 2025.

Eid-e-Milad Celebration – Inter-Religious Forum on September 6, 2025: The Inter-Religious Forum for Peace and Harmony organized the celebration of Eid-e-Milad at Mother Teresa Hall, St. Mary's Church, Kalaburagi. Around 30 members joined the gathering, promoting peace and harmony among communities.

Constitution Diocesan Charismatic Service Commission at Kotnoor on September 14, 2025: A special program on the Constitution of the Catholic Charismatic was held on 14th September 2025 at Sugyan Diocesan Pastoral Center, Kotnoor. (The sessions, led by Mr. Santhosh Talachira and supported by Mr. Cherian and Bro. William, highlighted baptism in the Spirit, charismatic gifts, service leadership, evangelization, and holiness.) A new diocesan charismatic team was formed, with coordinators, secretaries and treasurers appointed for Bidar and Gulbarga. The program was attended by Priests, Sisters and Lay members, and concluded with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Robert Miranda, who blessed the new team and delivered a powerful homily on self-offering.

Youth Retreat on September 19-21, 2025: The annual three-day Youth Retreat, organized by the Youth Commission at Infant Jesus Shrine, Bhalki, gathered 168 youth under the theme Harshisu ("Rejoice"). Led by Rev. Fr. Richard Quadras, OFM Cap. The retreat featured inspiring sermons, reflections, testimonies, confessions, adoration and the Holy Eucharist. Thanks to Youth Director Fr. Sachin Christy and his team, the event helped participants deepen their faith, renew their commitment to holiness, and return strengthened to face life's challenges with joy.

Gulbarga and Bijapur deaneries Celebrate Laity and BEC Jubilee (September 21, 2025): The Gulbarga and deaneries celebrated the Jubilee of its Basic Ecclesial Communities (BECs) and laity at Mother of Divine Grace Cathedral, Kalaburagi. On 21st September Over 120 faithful joined under the theme "Be devoted to one another in love" (Rom 12:10). Bishop Robert Miranda led the procession and Eucharist urged the faithful to strengthen BECs and embrace their mission as Lay Leaders. Sessions by Fr. Maxim Dias and Dr. Isabella Xavier highlighted faithfulness to BEC method and good Leadership Principles. Cultural performances by youth and women added joy of the day.

ಬಾಲ ಯೇಸುವಿನ ಪುಣ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಜಾತ್ರ ಉತ್ಸವ ಹಾಗೂ ಜ್ಯೂಬಿಲಿ ಮಹೋತ್ಸವ

ದಿನಾಂಕ 7-9 ನವೆಂಬರ್ 2025

ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆ

ಪ್ರಭು ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತನಲ್ಲಿ ಆತ್ಮೀಯ ಸಹೋದರ ಸಹೋದರಿಯರೆ,

ಜೈ ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತ!

ಇದು ಜ್ಯೂಬಿಲಿ ವರುಷ. 'ನಾವು ಭರವಸೆಯ ಯಾತ್ರಿಕರು, ಸಂಭ್ರಮಿಸೋಣ, ಸೇವೆ ಗೈಯೋಣ'. ಎಂಬ ಧೈಯ ವಾಕ್ಯದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಈ ವರುಷ ಜಾತ್ರಾ ಉತ್ಸವವನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಜ್ಯೂಬಿಲಿ ಮಹೋತ್ಸವವನ್ನು ಇದೇ ನವೆಂಬರ್ 7-9 ರಂದು ಸಂಭ್ರಮದಿಂದ ಆಚರಿಸಲಿದ್ದೇವೆ ಈ ಸಂಭ್ರಮದ ಆಚರಣೆ ನಮಗೆ ದೇವರ ಕೃಪೆಯ ಸಮಯ. ಭಕ್ತಿ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸದಿಂದ ಈ ಜಾತ್ರಾ ಉತ್ಸವ ಆಚರಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲುಗೊಳ್ಳೋಣ. ದೇವರ, ಬಾಲ ಯೇಸುವಿನ ಕೃಪಾ ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದಗಳಿಗೆ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗೋಣ.

ಈ ವರುಷ ಪಾದಯಾತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು ಕಿರುವಲಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಜ್ಯೂಬಿಲಿ ಶಿಲುಬೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಕಿರು ವಲಯದ ಮುಖ್ಯಗುರುಗಳು ಇದನ್ನು ಸಂಯೋಜಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ವಿನಂತಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ದಯವಿಟ್ಟು ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಸಹಕರಿಸಿರಿ. ನೀವು ನಿಮಗೆ ನೀಡಿದ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಪಾದಯಾತ್ರೆ ಮುಗಿಸಿ ಪುಣ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸೇರಬೇಕು. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ದೇವರ ವಾಕ್ಯ ಪಾಪನಿವೇದನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ದಿವ್ಯ ಬಲಿಪೂಜೆ ಆಚರಣೆ ಇರುವುದು. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾಗುವ ನಿಮಗೆ ಜ್ಯೂಬಿಲಿ ವರುಷದ 'ಪುಣ್ಯಫಲಗಳನ್ನು' ಧರ್ಮಸಭೆ ನೀಡಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳ ಬಯಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ ಗುರುಗಳು, ಕನ್ಯಾ ಭಗಿನಿಯರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪಾಲನಾ ಪರಿಷತ್ತಿನ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಈ ಪಾದಯಾತ್ರೆ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲು ಸಹಕರಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ವಿನಂತಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ನೀವು ಪಾದಯಾತ್ರೆ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವಾಗ ದಯವಿಟ್ಟು ಭಾಲ್ಕಿ ಪುಣ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರಾಗಿರುವ ಫಾ. ಡೇವಿಡ್ ಇವರಿಗೆ ಮುಂಚಿತವಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀವು ಪುಣ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ತಲುಪಿದಾಗ ಪಾರ್ಥನೆ ಮಾಡಲು, ಪಾಪನಿವೇದನೆ ಆಲಿಸಲು, ಬಲಿಪೂಜೆ ಅರ್ಪಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ದಾಸೋಹ ನೀಡಲು ಸಹಾಯವಾಗುವುದು.

ಭಾಲ್ಕಿ ಜಾತ್ರೆ ಉತ್ಸವದ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ, ಶನಿವಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಭಾನುವಾರ ಬಲಿಪೂಜೆಯ ನಂತರ ಅನ್ನದಾಸೋಹ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಇರುವುದು. ಹಬ್ಬದ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಪನಿವೇದನೆ, ಪುಣ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲಯೇಸುವಿನ ದರ್ಶನ, ರೋಗನಿವಾರಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥನೆ, ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಶಾಂತಿಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥನೆ, ಜವಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಇವೆಲ್ಲವನ್ನು ನೆರವೇರಿಸಲು ಗುರುಗಳು, ಧರ್ಮ ಭಗಿನಿಯರು ನಿಮ್ಮ ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಸದಾ ಸಿದ್ಧರಿರುವರು. ಗುರುಗಳು, ಕನ್ಯಾಭಗಿನಿಯರು ಸ್ವಯಂ-ಸೇವಕರು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಸಹಕರಿಸಿ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಸೇವೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಕರಿಸಲು ವಿನಂತಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಹಬ್ಬದ ಖರ್ಚಿಗಾಗಿ ಉದಾರ ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಿಂದ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕಾಣಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಬೇಕಾಗಿ ವಿನಂತಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 500/- ರೂಪಾಯಿ ನೀಡಿ ಸಹಕರಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ವಿನಂತಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಮೂರು ಸಾವಿರ (3000/-) ಕ್ಕಿಂತಲೂ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು ಕಾಣಿಕೆ ನೀಡಿದವರಿಗೆ ಹಬ್ಬದ ಪೂಜೆಯ ಮೊದಲು ಸನ್ಮಾನಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ನಿಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಪ್ರೀತಿಯ ಸ್ವಾಗತ ಬಯಸುವ,

ಕೃಪಾಲಯ, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ

18-9-2025

†ಆಶೀ ಪೂಜ್ಯ ರಾಬರ್ಟ್ ಮಿರಾಂದ

ಧರ್ಮಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಗುಲ್ಬರ್ಗಾ ಧರ್ಮಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ

(ಈ ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆಯನ್ನು ರವಿವಾರದಂದು (28 ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್ 5 ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 2025) ಜನರಿಗೆ ಸಾರಿ ಹೇಳಬೇಕಾಗಿ ವಿನಂತಿ)