



# DIOCESE OF GULBARGA

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Circular No. 245

† ROBERT M. MIRANDA  
BISHOP OF GULBARGA

November 2025

**Holy Father's Intention for the Month: For the prevention of suicide:** Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community and be open to the beauty of life.

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

## 1. Visit of the Nuncio to Gulbarga Diocese

Dear Rev Fathers, Sisters and Lay Faithful, I'm happy to announce the good news of the visit of His Excellency Leopoldo Girelli, Apostolic Nuncio to India and Nepal, on 1-2 November 2025 to Gulbarga Diocese. Indeed, a great privilege and honour to Gulbarga Diocese in the Jubilee Year. We thank God for this visit of the Nuncio, the Papal Representative, to our diocese; and I request for your prayers that this Visit may go smooth. I exhort all the priests and religious to be present on the occasion. I also request the Directors of all the missions and Parish Priests to encourage people as many as possible to attend the Holy Eucharist to be celebrated by the Nuncio at Bhalki (Infant Jesus Shrine) or at Gulbarga (Cathedral) and obtain Papal Blessing and make the event a happy and memorable one for our beloved Nuncio and also for us in the diocese in this Jubilee Year.

**2. Bhalki Jathra Utsav (07 -9 Nov):** With immense joy and deep gratitude to God for His abundant blessings, we are delighted to invite you to the Bhalki Jathrotsava, the mission festival of our Diocese taking place from November 7-9, 2025. This occasion is a testament to the growth and development of our Missions, for which we are profoundly thankful to the Almighty. We urge all priests, sisters, and volunteers to work wholeheartedly with the Organizing Committee in fulfilling the tasks assigned. Let us work together and make this Jathra Utsav a cherished faith experience for all. As before please send the offertory collection of first Sunday of November from our missions and parishes to support the Jathra expenses. I request you to encourage your people and friends to contribute generously to this worthy cause. The detailed programme is already sent to you.

**3. Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi te :** Pope Leo XIV has released his latest Apostolic Exhortation 'Dilexi te' (I have Loved You) on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The document focuses on the church's special call to care for the poor, emphasizing that love of God is inseparable from Love of the Poor. The Apostolic Letter was originally prepared by Pope Francis and was completed by Pope Leo XIV. The Apostolic Exhortation starts that encountering the poor is a fundamental way of encountering Christ. The poor are not subjects of charity but can also be evangelists who convert others.

**4. Solemnity of All Saints Day (01 Nov):** On this day, the church commemorates the feast of all the Saints 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 God. In a special manner, we offer our prayers to all the saints, their continued assistance and guidance on this day in our life's journey. Additionally, as we observe Karnataka Rajyotsava Day, let us fervently pray for our State, its leaders, and all people that all may experience peace, equality, justice, and prosperity.

**Clergy Annual Retreat (8<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> December):** The 2025 Annual Retreat for clergy is scheduled from December 8<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Sugyan Pastoral Centre in Gulbarga. All priests are expected to arrive at the venue by Sunday, December 7, as the Retreat will commence with a morning meditation talk on December 8. I urge all the priests to dedicate these days solely to the Lord and to uphold this commitment without compromise. Rev. Lopez CSSR will be leading the sessions. Please remember to bring your Bible, Personal Mass diary and cassock with you. If anyone is unable to attend the Retreat for any valid reason, kindly inform me. Please request our people to pray for the priests in Retreat.

**5. All Souls Day (02 Nov):** On this day we honor and remember those who have passed away, praying for their eternal rest while reflecting on our own mortality. As we strive to follow the example of the holy souls who came before us, traditions like visiting cemeteries and lighting candles allow us to celebrate the lives of our loved ones. It is essential to educate our people about the practice of offering prayers and Masses for the repose of souls throughout November and to encourage visits to Cemetery as a means of remembrance. Those who pray for the deceased in a cemetery can receive an Indulgence for the dead: a Plenary Indulgence from November 1 to November 8, and a Partial Indulgence on other days. On November 2, a Plenary Indulgence for the dead can be obtained under the usual conditions, which include visiting a church, receiving the sacraments and praying for Pope's intentions.

**6. World Day of the Poor (16 Nov):** The Holy Father Pope Leo XIV has given us a call to observe Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November Day of the poor with the theme: "You are my hope" (Ps 71:5) In every trial, we place our trust in God our rock and refuge who never disappoints. True hope is found not in wealth or power but in God's faithful love revealed in Christ our hope and salvation. The poor remind us that trusting in God brings lasting joy, for the greatest poverty is to live without Him. Christian hope anchors us in faith and blossoms in charity, urging us to work for justice and share the goods of creation with all. With Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted, we pray: "**In you, O Lord is our hope, and we shall never hope in vain.**" The complete message from Pope Leo XIV has been shared with you via email and in the WhatsApp group.

**7. Solemnity of Christ the King (23 Nov):** On the last Sunday of each Liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, observed on the Sunday before Advent begins. As we prepare to enter the Advent season, this day serves as a powerful reminder of Christ's reign as the King of the world, our eternal sovereign and the ultimate judge of humanity. Traditionally, an Eucharistic Procession is held at the deanery level on this day. I request the Deans to coordinate the Eucharistic Procession on Sunday, 24 November and encourage all priests within the deanery to work together for this event. If November 24 is not feasible, an alternative option is to hold the procession on Sunday that coincides with the Feast of the Epiphany.

**8. Constitution Day (26 Nov):** Constitution Day, or 'Samvidhan Divas', is observed in our country on November 26 to honor the adoption of the Constitution of India. The Constituent Assembly officially adopted the Constitution on November 26, 1949, which came into effect on January 26, 1950.

#### **Commissions Speak:**

**Commission for Youth:** Capacity building training module 5th will be held on November 18-20 at Sugyan, Kalaburagi.

- Fr Sachin Christy, Secretary, Commission for Youth

**Commission for Health:** Manashdhara – Free Mental Health Camp Govt. of Karnataka & Mother Theresa Hospital, Kalaburagi are offering free treatment and counselling for mental health patients. Services: Psychiatrist, counselor, medicine, therapy. At Cathedral premises. Please Contact: 7975969590.

- Fr Anil Crasta, Secretary, Commission for Health

**Eucharistic Procession:** On behalf of Priests, Sisters, and lay leaders of the Bidar Zone, I cordially invite you to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King on Sunday, November 23<sup>d</sup> at Sacred Heart Church, Bidar. The festivities will begin with a festive Mass at 2:30 PM, followed by a Eucharistic Procession and a community meal. We request the presence of all Priests, Sisters, and lay faithful to join in this event. - Fr. Clary D'Souza Dean Bidar Zone

#### **Jathra Bhajan Competition – Nov 7– 2025 7:30 PM**

- One team per parish (number of People 12–15).
- Only Christian Bhajans allowed; no recorded music.
- Judging: Voice, rhythm, presentation, costume.
- Duration: Max 5 minutes.
- Entry fee: ₹500

**Prizes:** 1st – ₹15,000 | 2nd – ₹10,000 | 3rd – ₹5,000

**Contact:** – 8861408025 / 7847977779

**BISHOP'S PROGRAMME: NOVEMBER 2025**

01-03	-Visit of Nuncio His Excellency Leopoldo Girelli
05	-Episcopal Ordination, Belthangady Diocese
07-09	-Jathra Utsav 2025
13-14	-Visit to Hebbal – Talikote –Muddebihal and Kanakal
16	-Ekamba – Kamal nagar
17-18	-Visit to Mangalore
20	-GDES – GB Meeting
22	-Village Visit – Mural
23	-Sr. Rose Florine CSSG – Golden Jubilee Mass
26 – 29	-Asian Mission Congress. Manila

Kripalaya, Bishop's House  
01 November 2025



† Robert Miranda  
**Bishop of Gulbarga**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR FATHERS AND SISTERS**

<b>05</b>	Sr Priyanka BS, <i>Chittapur</i>	<b>14</b>	Sr Papulamma JMJ, <i>D-Hippargi</i>
<b>05</b>	Sr Florence D'souza SCCG	<b>15</b>	Sr Leera Maria BS, <i>Humnabad</i>
<b>07</b>	Sr Elvina Souz BS, <i>Kalaburagi</i>	<b>18</b>	Sr Stella SCCG, <i>Muddebihal</i>
<b>07</b>	Sr Karuna CSS, <i>Kalaburagi</i>	<b>18</b>	Sr Manisha Ambati MSMHC
<b>12</b>	Fr Devikanth Vivek SDB Yadgir	<b>20</b>	Fr Roshan D' Souza, <i>Wadi</i>
<b>13</b>	Sr Jacinta DHM, <i>Indi</i>	<b>21</b>	Sr Lovita CSST, <i>Shahabad</i>
<b>14</b>	Sr Anthony Mary JMJ Kamalnagar	<b>22</b>	Fr Thomas Palakuzha SDB
<b>14</b>	Sr Philomena BS, <i>Kalaburagi</i>		

**HAPPY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY DEAR FATHERS**

<b>06</b>	Fr Christopher Xavier SJ, <i>Bhalki</i>	<b>29</b>	Fr Salvadore Fernandes, <i>Ujini</i>
<b>10</b>	Fr Sunil Mankare, <i>Itga</i>	<b>29</b>	Fr Victor Anil Vas, <i>ORBIT</i>
<b>14</b>	Fr Sunil Fernandes Sj, <i>Vijayapura</i>	<b>29</b>	Fr Wilbert Lobo, <i>Aland</i>
<b>15</b>	Antony Lawrence Sj, <i>Vijayapura</i>	<b>30</b>	Fr Joseph Praveen, <i>Cathedral</i>

**News October 2025**

**Youth Retreat at Bidar (21, September 2025)**-The Youth Commission organized a three-day retreat at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bhalki, for 168 youth. Led by Fr. Richard Quadras, OFM Cap., on the theme "Harshisu" (Rejoice), the program included confessions, adoration and Mass. Thanks to Fr. Sachin Christy Youth Director, Bhalki Team for their co-operation.

**Jeevan Jyothi Camp at Bhalki - (28-30, September 2025)** The Jeevan Jyothi Camp held at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Bhalki, brought together 80 Catholic students for three days of prayer, learning, and fellowship. Organized by the Youvachetha Team. The camp included sessions on discipleship, vocation, relationships, and online safety. Bishop Robert Miranda celebrated Holy Mass and encouraged the youth to live a holy and joyful lives.

**Together with Mary: Jubilee of Family Prayer (5, September 2025) - Kalaburagi** "Together with Mary: Jubilee Rosary Day for Families", was celebrated at the Cathedral at Kalaburagi. On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September. About 140 faithful joined for prayer, reflection and a candlelit Rosary rally. Fr. Vinay Kumar spoke on the sanctity of family life and the Rosary's power for unity and peace. Thanks to Holy Cross Fathers for organizing sponsoring this programme.

**Manasadhara Day Care Center Kalaburagi (October 2025 )**– The District Health and Family Welfare Department, in collaboration with Mother Teresa Charitable Hospital Trust, inaugurated the *Manasadhara Day Care Center* for mental health patients and caregivers. The center provides therapy, skill training and rehabilitation services.

**Online Rosary by Yuvachetana – ICYM Gulbarga (7, October 2025)**–On the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, 46 youth joined an online Rosary organized by Yuvachetana – ICYM Gulbarga, praying for various intentions.

**Inauguration of the Think Tank Unit Kalaburagi (11, October 2025)** –The Diocese of Gulbarga inaugurated its new *Think Tank Unit* at Sugyan Pastoral Centre to engage professionals in diocesan development. Bishop Robert Miranda led the event with Fr. Sudeep Paul and Mr. Roy Castelino The President of the Regional Think Tank. Office bearers elected: Mr. Niel Santhosh President, Mr. Peter Vice President(Vijaypur), Mrs. Anitha Secretary, Mr. Praveen Paul Joint Secretary. Congratulations to the office bearers.

**Blood Donation & Eye Check-up Camp (12, October 2025) – Kalaburagi**  
As part of its 20th Anniversary, the (Catholic Association Diocese of Gulbarga), with the Indian Red Cross Society, organized a blood donation and eye check-up camp at St. Mary Church. Bishop Robert Miranda led prayers, and Smt. B. Fouziya Taranum, IAS, inaugurated the event. Around 50 donors gave blood, and many availed of eye tests.

**Foundation Stone was blessed and laid for Holy Family Church, Hupla–Halbarga (October 2025)** by Fr. Clery, joined by Fr. David, DSS Sisters and the faithful of Hupla village on October 2025.

**Congratulations to Brothers of Gulbarga Diocese (12<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October2025)**– Congratulations to Bros. Melwin, Peter Avinash (Lector) and Br. Manoj, Arun (Acolyte) studying at St. Joseph and St Peter’s Seminary, Bangalore and Mangalore. May God bless their ministry and guide them in faith and love.

**Protest for Government Medical College – Bijapur (19<sup>th</sup> October 2025)** - Jesuit Fathers, Sisters, and parishioners of Bijapur joined a protest demanding a Government Medical College at Bijapur on.

**Basavakalyan Padayatra to Infant Jesus Shrine (October 19, 2025)**–Faithful from Basavakalyan and Sankalpa students from the Bishop’s House walked in a *Padayatra* to the Shrine, participating in Mass, Novena, and confessions. Around 450 people joined, celebrating with jubilee crosses and learning about indulgences.

**Medical Camp at Central Prison, Bijapur (4, October 2025)**–A medical camp was held at the Central Prison, Bijapur, benefitting 171 prisoners. Thanks to BELD doctors, Sparsha Service Centre, Sr. Jaya, and CNFE staff for their assistance.

#### NECROLOGY

- **Sr. Stalin**, a devoted sister who served faithfully in Wadi. May the Lord grant her eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon her.
- **Sr. Aileen D’Cruz (87 years)**, She was the first Headmistress of St. Mary’s School, Kotnoor, May her soul rest in peace.

**Our heartfelt condolences to all the family members.**

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