

# VOX NOSTRA

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No. 5

*Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,*

## **1 FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER AND INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY**

The feast of St Joseph the Worker and International Workers' Day, also known as Labour Day/May Day, is celebrated all over the world on May 1. May Day gives us the beautiful remembrance of the events and endeavours contributed to the solidarity of workers, dignity of labour and prosperity, unity and harmony, the workers endeared through their sweat and toil. It is eminently fitting that St Joseph, a worker who became the foster father of Jesus is the patron of the universal Church. The feast of St Joseph the Worker was established by Pope Pius XII in 1955 in order to Christianize the concept of Labour and give to all workmen a model and a protector. The theme for May Day 2017 given by CBCI commission for Labour is 'Migration and Human Trafficking': "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Mt 25:35) It invites us to reflect on the problem of migration and human trafficking which are interlinked, where unorganized workers and uninformed persons leave their homes for work or brought for work. The Commission for Labour in our diocese works towards the organization of the unorganised labourers to avail their rights. Let us support its activities and promote the welfare of all workers, without any discrimination.

## **2 MAY DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

The *May Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary* refers to the special Marian devotion held in the Catholic Church during the month of May honouring Mother Mary as the 'Queen of May'. Catholics

offer special honour to Mother Mary in May: pilgrimages, visits to Marian churches, little sacrifices in her honour, and a more attentive recitation of the Rosary. We have a beautiful tradition of reciting Marian Rosary around the Grotto of our Lady in our parishes. Hence I hereby exhort you, dear Fathers, to continue to uphold this tradition by inviting your parishioners to gather around the Grotto for the Rosary. The month of May is also an occasion for us to catechize our faithful on the devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Catholic Church and her role in the salvation history. May the Milagres Mother, patroness of our diocese, intercede for all of us to live a fervent Christian life, following her son Jesus Christ.

### **3 DIOCESE OF KARWAR: RUBY JUBILEE & BISHOP DEREK FERNANDES: DECENNIAL OF EPISCOPACY**

The Diocese of Karwar is all set to celebrate in a grand and fitting manner two joyful events: first being the Ruby (40 years) of the establishment of the Diocese and second, 10 precious years of Episcopacy of Most Rev. Derek Fernandes as Bishop of Karwar Diocese. A thanksgiving celebration has been planned for 29 April 2017 to praise God for the unique and wonderful gift of the Diocese of Karwar through which God Almighty has truly showered upon all His precious blessings, mercies and benevolence, thanks to the farsighted vision and shepherding leadership and mission of the first Bishop the late Most Rev. William D’Mello towards proclamation and evangelization. The Diocese has borne abundant fruits: spiritual, pastoral, social and developmental these past 40 years to the greater glory of God. The legacy of this spiritual governance and leadership has been continued with zest and zeal by Bishop Derek Fernandes the present Bishop of Karwar since ten years and therefore all in the Diocese of Udupi join me in thanking God for these two precious occasions and celebrations wishing the Bishop, the clergy, religious and laity of the Diocese of Karwar happy Ruby Jubilee and Bishop Derek Fernandes Decennial of Episcopal Ordination.

#### **4 ADMISSION TO THE SEMINARY**

“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Lk 10:2). We are all aware of the need of priests for our diocese and, therefore, we must strive our best to promote vocations to the diocese. The diocesan minor Seminary in Kattingeri, Moodubelle, is in its second year and ready to welcome the students for PUC and Degree studies who show willingness to become priests. Those who have completed their graduation or equivalent studies would be sent to the Major Seminary. Therefore, I request you to kindly motivate boys to join the Seminary as candidates to the priesthood.

#### **5 VOCATION SUNDAY**

Vocation Sunday is celebrated each year on the fourth Sunday of Easter, which falls on 7<sup>th</sup> May this year. In the message for this day, titled, “Led by the Spirit for Mission”, Pope Francis reflects on the missionary dimension of our Christian calling. The Holy Father says that “commitment to mission is not something added on to the Christian life as a kind of decoration, but is instead an essential element of faith itself.” “A relationship with the Lord,” he adds, “entails being sent out into the world as prophets of His word and witnesses of His love.” Even if at times when “we are conscious of our weaknesses and tempted to discouragement,” Pope Francis underlines, “we need to turn to God with confidence”, and he reiterates that by “virtue of baptism, every Christian is a ‘Christopher’, a bearer of Christ, to his brothers and sisters.”

#### **6 WORLD DAY FOR SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS**

World Day for Social Communications is celebrated each year on the Sunday before Pentecost and this year it falls on 28 May 2017. This day was established by Pope Paul VI, after Vatican II, in order to draw attention to the “the vast and complex phenomenon of the modern means of social communication.” The Pontifical Council for Social Communications has chosen ‘**Fear not, for I am with you:**

**communicating hope and trust in our time**’ as the theme for the day. It is “an invitation to tell the history of the world and the stories of men and women. In accordance with the logic of the ‘good news’ that reminds us that God never ceases to be a Father in any situation or with regard to any man. Let us learn to communicate trust and hope for history.”

## **7. PRAYER FOR RAIN**

We are all aware of the drought situation all over India. Lots of people are suffering due to the shortage of potable water. Only God is our hope who can send us rain. Therefore I request all of you to offer special prayers for sufficient rain. Please include a prayer for rain in the prayers of the faithful during mass on Sundays and also encourage the faithful to pray for this intention during their family and personal prayers.

## **8. SASTAN PARISH TO KALLIANPUR DEANERY**

This is to inform you that as per the request made by the Parish Priest of St Antony’s Church at Sastan having taken the Parish Administrative Body into confidence and approval of the Statutory Bodies of the Diocese, St Antony’s Parish at Sastan has been attached to Kallianpur Deanery from that of Kundapur Deanery.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

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+ **Gerald I. Lobo**  
**Bishop of Udupi**

## COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

### 1. DIVYA JYOTHI

13/5/2017 Sunday Catechism Coordinators' Meeting (9.30 am to 3.00 pm) at Udupi

15/5/2017 Training of New Catechism Teachers (9.30 am to 4.00 pm) at Udupi

24/5/2017 Training of X Std Sunday Catechism Teachers (9.30 am to 1.00 pm) at Udupi

26/5/2017 Udupi Deanery Catechism Teachers' Training at Udupi

28/5/2017 Karkal Deanery Catechism Teachers' Training

#### **Please Note:**

1. All Sunday and School Catechism and Value Education (Kannada and English) text books are available in Divya Jyothi.

2. The training of new Catechism Teachers is compulsory for all the newly selected Sunday Catechism teachers. Please register their names before 13 May 2016. The registration fees (Rs 250) can be paid on their arrival for training.

3. Since new text book will be introduced for X Std. for Sunday Catechism, training has been arranged to introduce this textbook to the teachers of those classes. The Registration fees (Rs 200) can be paid at their arrival for training.

*Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza*  
*Director*

## **2. FAMILY COMMISSION**

6-7/5/2017	Marriage Preparation Course
08/5/2017	Talk at Shirva Don Bosco Summer Camp
14/5/2017	Married Couples Day Basrur
21/5/2017	Saireek Sangam Diocesan Level
22/5/2017	PFC Convenors' Meet Kundapur Deanery
24/5/2017	PFC Convenors' Meet Karkal Deanery
25/5/2017	PFC Convenors' Meet Kundapur Deanery
26/5/2017	PFC Convenors' Meet Kallianpur Deanery
27/5/2017	PFC Convenors' Meet Shirva Deanery

*Mr Leslie Arouza*  
*Director*

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## **3. EDUCATION COMMISSION**

08-05-2017 – Education Commission Diocesan Committee meets at 3.00 pm – Conference Hall at the Bishop's House. DPC and Deanery Representatives and Representative from all the Parishes are requested to attend the meeting.

*Rev. Fr Lawrence D'Souza*  
*Secretary*

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## **PLATINUM BIRTHDAY**

Rev. Fr William Martis, PWS 31/5

## **GOLDEN BIRTHDAY**

Rev. Fr Philip Neri Aranha, Mount Rosary 26/5

## **RUBY JUBILEE OF PRIESTHOOD**

V. Rev. Fr Frederick Mascarenhas, Udupi 5/5

Rev. Fr Lawrence B. D'Souza, Kalathur 5/5

Rev. Fr Lawrence C. D'Souza, CESU 5/5

Rev. Fr Frederick D'Souza, Manipal 5/5

## **AD MULTOSANNOS**

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