

# VOX NOSTRA

Vol VI

APRIL 2018

No. 4

*Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,*

## **1. DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

The Church celebrates the Second Sunday of Easter as the Divine Mercy Sunday which falls on 8<sup>th</sup> April this year. This feast is based on the Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy that Saint Faustina Kowalska reported as per her encounter with Jesus and is associated with especial promises to her from Jesus. “As a gift to humanity, which sometimes seems bewildered and overwhelmed by the power of evil, selfishness and fear, the Risen Lord offers His love that pardons, reconciles, and reopens hearts to love. It is love that converts hearts and gives peace. How much the world needs to understand and accept Divine Mercy!” said St Pope John Paul II. I wish that all parishes celebrate this day with the devotion associated with the day, such as Divine Mercy Chaplet (Rosary), Prayers to St Faustina and Litany of Divine Mercy, and also encourage the faithful’s devotion to Divine Mercy.

## **2. NEW ARCHBISHOP TO BENGALURU**

His Holiness Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of His Grace Most Rev. Bernard Blasius Moras from the pastoral care of the Archdiocese of Bangalore, according to Canon Law 401 § 1, and has appointed H. E. Msgr Peter Machado, until now Bishop of Belgaum, as the new Archbishop of Bengaluru. This provision was made public in Rome on Monday, 19th March, 2018, at noon local time, corresponding to 16:30 hours IST.

Most Rev. Peter Machado hails from Honnavar in Uttara Kannada District. Born on May 26, 1954, he joined St Michael's Minor Seminary. Later he was sent to Papal Seminary in Pune for philosophical and theological studies. He holds a Commerce degree from Pune University. He was ordained a Priest on 8 December 1978 for the Diocese of Karwar. He holds a Doctorate in Canon Law from the Pontifical Urbaniana University, Rome. He was appointed Bishop of Belgaum on 2 February 2006. His 12 years of service as the Bishop of Belgaum saw great pastoral, educational and developmental activities in the diocese.

While thanking the Lord for the dedicated services Archbishop Bernard Moras to the Church in Bangalore and the Karnataka Region, we convey our prayerful greetings and best wishes to Archbishop-elect Peter Machado and assure him of our prayers.

### **3. VOCATION CAMP**

The Commission for Seminary and Religious Formation has organized a Vocation Camp for our boys, X Std and above, from 9 to 11 April 2018 at our Diocesan Minor Seminary, Naalku Beedi, Kattingeri, Moodubelle. Promotion of Vocations is an urgent need of our Diocese and all priests have this inevitable responsibility to prepare committed priests for the service of the Lord and the faithful in our Diocese for the future. I earnestly appeal to you to identify suitable boys, with a good and devout family background from your respective parishes and motivate them to attend this Vocation Camp. Kindly send their names to Rev. Fr Anil Cornelio by 8<sup>th</sup> April for facilitating effective organization of and arrangement for the same.

### **4. VOCATION SUNDAY**

Vocation Sunday is celebrated each year on the fourth Sunday of Easter, which falls on 22<sup>nd</sup> April this year. The message of Pope Francis for this 55<sup>th</sup> Vocation Sunday dwells on three key points: *Listening, discerning, and living*. Pope Francis reminds us that “we are not

victims of chance or swept up in a series of unconnected events; on the contrary, our life and our presence in this world are the fruit of a divine vocation.” Further, he also asserts that “each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now.” The entire message is given as annexure 3.

## **5. ORDINATION**

Deacon Ashwin Aranha, s/o Mr Vincent and Mrs Precilla Aranha from Kanajar Parish will be ordained by me as a Priest for our Diocese on Tuesday, 24 April 2018, at 10.00 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kanajar. He has been serving as Deacon in the Karkal Town parish for the past five months. We rejoice and thank our Lord Jesus Christ for blessing us with a new priest for the Diocese this year. On behalf of the Diocese, I extend a cordial invitation to all of you to his ordination. Let us welcome him into our Presbyterium.

## **6. FACILITIES AT FATHER MULLER HOSPITAL**

I am happy to inform you that the Director of the Fr Muller Charitable Institutions at Mangalore, by his letter dated 27 March 2018 has granted concessions to medical facilities to our priests applicable from 01 April 2018. I thank him and the Management of FMCI for this favour. His letter is annexed on page 11 for your information.

## **7. MUSIC FOR CHILDREN’S MASS**

Rev. Fr Ronald Serrao has composed a new mass for use during the masses with children. A copy of that will be sent to all parishes by Divya Jyothi. As per the approval, I urge you to use it strictly during the masses with children.

## **8. NORMS FOR CHARISMATIC RENEWAL SERVICES**

We had a fruitful study session on Charismatic Renewal on the day of the Chrism Mass facilitated by Most Rev. Lawrence Mukkuzhy, Bishop of

Belthangady. As a continuation of this study session, I am happy to issue the norms for our Diocese that would help us streamline this ministry in our parishes. The Norms are given as annexure 2.

## 9. TRANSFER OF PRIESTS

1. Fr Joseph Rodrigues - Asst at Kolalgiri – Same Mission (Mangalore Diocese) w. e. f.01/05/2018.
2. Fr Jerald Sandeep D’Mello –Asst at Kundapur to Asst at Kolalgiri w.e.f. 01/05/2018.

We wholeheartedly thank Fr Joseph Rodrigues for his generous services in the Udupi Diocese for the past one year as Asst. Parish Priest and wish him all the best for his mission at Same.

Yours in Christ,

+ 

+ Gerald Isaac Lobo  
**Bishop of Udupi**

# COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

## 1. COMMISSION FOR SEMINARY & RELIGIOUS FORMATION

9-11/4/2018 Vocation Camp at Minor Seminary, Kattingeri -  
Starts at 10.00 am on 9/4/2018 and ends at 2.00 pm  
on 11/4/2018.

**Rev. Fr Anil Cornelio**  
**Director**

## 2. DIVYAJYOTHI

08/4/2018 Youcat Training at Gangolly - 3.00 pm  
11/4/2018 Bible Camp - Talk at Kolalgairi- 10.00 am  
15/4/2018 Lectio Divina Training at Kanajar  
16-17/4/2018 Bible Camp at Pethri  
19-20/4/2018 Bible Camp at Kundapur  
22/4/2018 Bible Camp at Kuntalnagar  
22/4/2018 Liturgical Seminar at Kuntalnagar  
30/4/2018 Bible Camp at Nakre

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

## 3. COMMISSION FOR YOUTH

2-5/4/2018 YCS Village Exposure Camp – Halli Jeevan, Ajekar  
6-7/4/2018 YCS Central Council Evaluation  
8/4/2018 ICYM Convention – Youth Dazzle 2K18, St  
Mary's Eng Med School, Kannarpady-Udupi

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

## 4. COMMISSION FOR FAMILY

04 April Value Education seminar Belman church School  
07 & 08 April Marriage Preparation Course  
15 April Remote Preparation for First year YCS students  
16 -18 April Bible Camp – Thottam Parish  
17 April Seminar for ICDP children Udupi  
21 & 22 April Marriage Preparation Course  
29 April Family Day – Holy Rosary parish, Kundapur

**Mr Leslie Arouza**  
**Director**

## 5. COMMISSION FOR SCC'S

18-20.04.2018 Bible CAmp at Kemmannu Parish

22.04.2018 SCC DAY at Thottam Parish

29.04.2018 SCC DAY at Kanajar Parish

**Rev. Fr Harold Pereira**  
**Director**

### **HOLIDAY PROGRAMME OF SEMINARIANS**

07-14 April Malayalam Course – II, III Philosophers, Regents,  
Theologians

09-11 April Vocation Camp at Minor Seminary - Brs Rohan  
Mascarenhas and Oswald Vaz, I Philosophy

April Human Formation Course Minor Seminary- All Seminarians

26 April -May 15 **Ministry at Belve:**

1. Lawrence D'Souza - II Philosophy
2. Arnold D'Silva - II Philosophy

26 April - May 20 **Ministry at Ozanam Home:**

1. Br Rohan Mascarenhas – I Philosophy
2. Br Oswald Vaz – I Philosophy

26 April - May 20 **Parish Ministry:**

1. Basroor- Br Steven Fernandes – III Theology
2. Belman- Br Rolwin Fernandes – III Theology
3. Kalmady- Br Vijay D'Souza – III Theology
4. Udyavar – Br Jithesh Castelino – III Theology
5. Attur – Br Rikson Monteiro – II Philosophy
6. Gangolly – Br Stephen Rodrigues – II Philosophy
7. Karkal Town – Br Leevan Mathias – I Philosophy

23 May Get together at Kalmady Church - All Seminarians

27 May Retreat for III Theologians

**Rev. Fr Baptist Menezes**  
**Jeppu Seminary**

***Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for  
the 2018 World Day of Vocations***

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Next October, the Fifteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will meet to discuss the theme of young people and in particular the relationship between young people, faith and vocation. There we will have a chance to consider more deeply how, at the centre of our life, is the call to joy that God addresses to us and how this is “God’s plan for men and women in every age” (SYNOD OF BISHOPS, XV ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *Young People, The Faith and Vocational Discernment*, Introduction).

The Fifty-fifth World Day of Prayer for Vocations once again proclaims this good news to us, and in a decisive manner. We are not victims of chance or swept up in a series of unconnected events; on the contrary, our life and our presence in this world are the fruit of a divine vocation!

Even amid these troubled times, the mystery of the Incarnation reminds us that God continually comes to encounter us. He is God- with-us, who walks along the often dusty paths of our lives. He knows our anxious longing for love and he calls us to joy. In the diversity and the uniqueness of each and every vocation, personal and ecclesial, there is a need to *listen, discern and live* this word that calls to us from on high and, while enabling us to develop our talents, makes us instruments of salvation in the world and guides us to full happiness.

These three aspects – *listening, discerning and living* – were also present at beginning of Jesus’ own mission, when, after his time of prayer and struggle in the desert, he visited his synagogue of Nazareth. There, he listened to the word, discerned the content of the mission entrusted to him by the Father, and proclaimed that he came to accomplish it “today” (Lk 4:16-21).

**Listening**

The Lord’s call – let it be said at the outset – is not as clear-cut as any of those things we can hear, see or touch in our daily experience.

God comes silently and discreetly, without imposing on our freedom. Thus it can happen that his voice is drowned out by the many worries and concerns that fill our minds and hearts.

We need, then, to learn how to listen carefully to his word and the story of his life, but also to be attentive to the details of our own daily lives, in order to learn how to view things with the eyes of faith, and to keep ourselves open to the surprises of the Spirit.

We will never discover the special, personal calling that God has in mind for us if we remain enclosed in ourselves, in our usual way of doing things, in the apathy of those who fritter away their lives in their own little world. We would lose the chance to dream big and to play our part in the unique and original story that God wants to write with us.

Jesus too, was called and sent. That is why he needed to recollect himself in silence. He listened to and read the word in the synagogue, and with the light and strength of the Holy Spirit he revealed its full meaning, with reference to his own person and the history of the people of Israel.

Nowadays listening is becoming more and more difficult, immersed as we are in a society full of noise, overstimulated and bombarded by information. The outer noise that sometimes prevails in our cities and

our neighbourhoods is often accompanied by our interior dispersion and confusion. This prevents us from pausing and enjoying the taste of contemplation, reflecting serenely on the events of our lives, going about our work with confidence in God's loving plan, and making a fruitful discernment.

Yet, as we know, the kingdom of God comes quietly and unobtrusively (cf. *Lk 17:21*), and we can only gather its seeds when, like the prophet Elijah, we enter into the depths of our soul and are open to the imperceptible whisper of the divine breeze (cf. *1 Kg 19:11-13*).

## **Discerning**

When Jesus, in the synagogue of Nazareth, reads the passage of the prophet Isaiah, he discerns the content of the mission for which he was sent, and presents it to those who awaited the Messiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He



has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour (*Lk* 4:18-19).

In the same way, each of us can discover his or her own vocation only through spiritual discernment. This is "a process by which a person makes fundamental choices, in dialogue with the Lord and listening to the voice of the Spirit, starting with the choice of one's state in life" (SYNOD OF BISHOPS, XV ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment*, II, 2).

Thus we come to discover that Christian vocation always has a prophetic dimension. The Scriptures tell us that the prophets were sent to the people in situations of great material insecurity and of spiritual and moral crisis, in order to address in God's name a message of conversion, hope and consolation. Like a whirlwind, the prophet unsettles the false tranquility of consciences that have forgotten the word of the Lord. He discerns events in the light of God's promise and enables people to glimpse the signs of dawn amid the dark shadows of history.

Today too, we have great need of discernment and of prophecy. We have to resist the temptations of ideology and negativity, and to discover, in our relationship with the Lord, the places, the means and situations through which he calls us. Every Christian ought to grow in the ability to "read within" his or her life, and to understand *where* and *to what* he or she is being called by the Lord, in order to carry on his mission.

### **Living**

Lastly, Jesus announces the newness of the present hour, which will enthuse many and harden the heart of others. The fullness of time has come, and he is the Messiah proclaimed by Isaiah and anointed to liberate prisoners, to restore sight to the blind and to proclaim the merciful love of God to every creature. Indeed, Jesus says that "today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (*Lk* 4:21).

The joy of the Gospel, which makes us open to encountering God and our brothers and sisters, does not abide our slowness and our sloth. It will not fill our hearts if we keep standing by the window with the excuse of waiting for the right time, without accepting this very day the risk of making a decision. Vocation is today! The Christian mission is

now! Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now.

This “today” that Jesus proclaimed assures us that God continues to “come down” to save our human family and to make us sharers in his mission. The Lord continues to call others to live with him and to follow him in a relationship of particular closeness. He continues to call others to serve him directly. If he lets us realize that he is calling us to consecrate ourselves totally to his kingdom, then we should have no fear! It is beautiful – and a great grace – to be completely and forever consecrated to God and the service of our brothers and sisters.

Today the Lord continues to call others to follow him. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous “yes”, nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord. To listen to that voice, to discern our personal mission in the Church and the world, and at last to live it in the today that God gives us.

May Mary Most Holy, who as a young woman living in obscurity heard, accepted and experienced the Word of God made flesh, protect us and accompany us always on our journey.

---

Published at **Bishop’s House, Udupi - 576 101**

Email: [voxnostaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:voxnostaeditor@gmail.com)

Editor: **Rev. Fr Stephen D’Souza**

*(For Private Circulation Only)*