

VOX NOSTRA

Vol X

AUGUST 2022

No. 8

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. ANNIVERSARY OF ST LAWRENCE BASILICA

The sixth anniversary of the Proclamation and Dedication of St Lawrence Minor Basilica at Karkal Attur will be celebrated in the month of August. The celebration will be held from 1 to 10 August 2022 with the beginning of novena on Monday, 01 August 2022, and will culminate with the Titular Feast of St Lawrence on Wednesday, 10 August 2022, at 10.30 am. I invite you, all, to these celebrations as we thank God for the gift of this Basilica to our Diocese and also for the numerous favours granted to the devotees through the powerful intercession of St Lawrence.

2. ST JOHN MARIE VIANNEY

The memorial of St John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of Parish Priests, is celebrated on Thursday, 04 August 2022. In his encyclical *Sacerdotii nostri primordia* written in 1959 for the 100th anniversary of Vianney's death, Pope John XXIII called St Vianney a 'model of priestly holiness': "The priest is no longer supposed to live for himself. He must be aflame with charity toward everyone. Not even his thoughts, his will, his feelings belong to him, for they are rather those of Jesus Christ who is his life." I wish you, dear Rev. Fathers, retired and in service, a very happy Patronal Feast. I invite you to celebrate the gift of priesthood so that it becomes truly rewarding both for

ourselves and for the people entrusted to our care. May St John Vianney intercede for us, all!

3. PRISION MINISTRY SUNDAY

The Church in India celebrates the Prison Ministry Sunday on 14 August 2022. In India, according to the National Crime Records Bureau, there are 4,88,511 prisoners in 1306 prisons. Among them are 413 death-row prisoners, 20,046 women prisoners and 1,427 children living with their mothers. As we celebrate the Prison Ministry Sunday, let us remember all these incarcerated members of our human family who are living in utter misery, pray for them in a special way, and re-dedicate ourselves to seek, serve and save them.

Let us collaborate with Prison Ministry India to rehabilitate and reintegrate these broken, vulnerable, rejected, lonely, deprived, harmed, damaged, destroyed, hurt and injured brethren behind bars.

I acknowledge and appreciate the PMI volunteers for their profound commitment in reforming and reintegrating the prisoners, which all of us know, is a very challenging task. May St Maximilian Kolbe, the patron of prison Ministry India, intercede for the fruitfulness of this ministry and may Mary, our blessed Mother, be always there to protect you as we rededicate ourselves to the integral human development of our imprisoned brethren.

4. NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

National Youth Day, to be celebrated on 14 August 2022 this year, is a celebration of youth, an expression of the Church in India and an intense moment of evangelization for the world of the youth. Like World Youth Day pilgrimage, National Youth Sunday is a special day for young people. Pope Francis has chosen the theme: “Mary arose and went with haste” (Lk 1:39) for the forthcoming WYD in Portugal and the same is the theme of the National Youth Sunday 2022. I request the

Commission for Youth along with ICYM/YCS in all parishes to celebrate the National Youth Sunday in a befitting manner.

5. SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION AND INDEPENDENCE DAY

We celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady on Monday, 15 August 2022. The feast has its origin in the 5th Century. St Juvenal of Jerusalem stated as early as the Council of Chalcedon in 451 that Our Lady, after her death, was assumed body and soul into heaven. Pope Pius XII, on 1 November 1950, in *Munificentissimus Deus* officially defined the doctrine of the Assumption as an article of the Catholic Faith. He stated: “By the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define as divinely revealed dogma: The Immaculate Mother of God, Mary ever Virgin, after her life on earth, was assumed, body and soul to the glory of heaven.” Since it is a **Day of Obligation** in India too, I exhort Parish Priests to arrange sufficient Masses so that the faithful are able to partake in the Holy Eucharist. Please send the collection of the day to Bishop’s House towards Communio-India.

On the same day, as proud citizens of India, we celebrate the Independence Day of our nation. Although our country has achieved a lot during the 75 years since Independence, we are aware of the problems faced by all sections of people in our society. Hence as we celebrate the Independence Day, let us join our fellow citizens and strive to uphold the rights of all enshrined in the Constitution and work towards redeeming our country from all divisive forces. I offer you my festal greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the Independence Day.

6. VAILANKANNI CENTRE AT KALMADY AS A DIOCESAN SHRINE

The Vailankanni Centre at **Stella Maris Church at Kalmady** will be officially declared as the **Diocesan Shrine** during the Solemn Eucharistic Celebration on Monday, **15 August 2022**, at 10.00 am. We rejoice and thank God for the gift of this new and third Diocesan Shrine to Our Diocese. Since its beginning, the Vailankanni Centre at Kalmady has been attracting many pilgrims and their number is in a steep rise after the blessing and inauguration of the newly built Church and the Shrine. The Centre has been a place of solace and comfort to all who sought the maternal intercession of our Lady of Vailankanni for their various intentions for themselves and their families. Keeping this in mind and following all the guidelines of the Church, we are happy to raise this Centre as a Diocesan Shrine. I invite all fathers, religious men and women and the lay faithful of the Diocese, to join us for the Eucharistic Celebration and thank the Lord for this gift to the local Church.

7. JUSTICE SUNDAY

The Justice Sunday this year falls on **21 August 2022**, the Sunday after the Independence Day. Let us pray that justice and peace may prevail among all sections of our society and also support the work of the Commission for Justice and Peace in our Diocese.

8. DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2022

The new and updated Directory of our Diocese for the year 2022 is ready and available to you at Divya Jyothi and with Rev. Fr Joachim D'Souza, Procurator, at the Bishop's House.

9. RESUMING THE PASTORAL PLAN

Since the outbreak of Corona, we had halted most of the parish activities for implementing the Pastoral Plan- Mission 2025. We have

now the revised pastoral plan for the Diocese. I appreciate the parish priests who have resumed the implementation of this pastoral plan in the parishes by carrying out the activities indicated in the pastoral Plan. Hereby, I wish to remind to all parish priests to resume implementing the pastoral plan in all the parishes vigorously as soon as possible.

10. A WORD OF GRATITUDE

Our annual retreat, held from July 17 to 22, was a joyful spiritual experience to all of us. I am delighted by your active participation in all common spiritual exercises. I thank the preacher, Rev. Fr. George Puthenapura, C.Ss.R, for his inspiring sessions, deeply rooted in the Word of God. A special word of thanks to our Deans and priests, who shouldered various responsibilities such as liturgy, singing and other arrangements. I remain grateful to the Director, Rev. Fr Santosh Rodrigues, and his team of the Pastoral Institute, Mangalore, for making our stay comfortable and our retreat a pleasant spiritual experience.

Yours sincerely in Christ

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+Gerald I. Lobo

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COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

1. COMMISSION FOR SCC'S

- 01.08.2022 Kallianpur Deanery Committee Meeting
- 07.08.2022 Bible Mirror Method Training at Gangolli and Piusnagar
- 14.08.2022 Kundapur Deanery Committee Meeting.
- 21.08.2022 Information on Anti-conversion Bill to Preraks
- 28.08.2022 Kallianpur Deanery Convention
- 31.08.2022 Karkal Deanery Convention

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira

Director

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DIAMOND BIRTHDAY

V. Rev. Fr Leslie D'Souza, Parish Priest,
Our Lady of Health Church, Shirva

19-08-2022

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES DEAR FATHER

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INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS FOR AUGUST 2022

Small Businesses

We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating

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