

VOX NOSTRA

Vol XI

AUGUST 2023

No. 8

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. ANNIVERSARY OF ST LAWRENCE BASILICA

The anniversary of the proclamation and dedication of St Lawrence Minor Basilica at Attur, Karkal will be celebrated on Tuesday, 01 August 2023 with the solemn Eucharistic celebration at 09.45 am. The novena to St Lawrence in preparation for the titular feast will begin on the same day. The titular feast of St Lawrence will be celebrated on Thursday, 10 August 2023 with the festal mass 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. Kindly inform the faithful about these celebrations at Minor Basilica and encourage them to participate in the Novena and the Eucharistic celebrations.

2. FEAST OF JOHN MARIA VIANNEY

The memorial of St John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of Diocesan Priests, is celebrated on **Friday, 04 August 2023**. 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. PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY

The Church in India celebrates the Prison Ministry Sunday on **13 August 2023**. 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. In order to assist the mission of Prison Ministry a second collection will be taken by the members of SVP on this Sunday.

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 Sunday to be celebrated on **13 August 2023** 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. 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 **Tuesday, 15 August 2023**. 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 76 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. KALMADY SHRINE FEAST

The first anniversary and the annual shrine feast of Our Lady of Vailankanni Diocesan Shrine at Kalamdy will be held on **Tuesday, 15 August 2023** with the solemn Eucharistic celebration at 10.00 am. The annual feast is centred on the theme: Blessed Virgin Mary- An Inspiration for Virtuous Life. The other masses on the day will be at 07.30 am, 04.00 pm and 06.00 pm. The novena in preparation of the feast will begin on Sunday, 06 August 2023 with hoisting of flag at 03.45 pm followed by mass at 04.00 pm. I invite you, all, to these celebrations as we thank God for the gift of this Marian Shrine to our Diocese and also for the numerous favours granted to the devotees through the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Vailankanni. Kindly inform the faithful about these celebrations at this Diocesan Shrine and encourage them to participate in the Novena and the Eucharistic celebrations in large numbers.

7. WORKSHOP ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

A workshop on Fundamentals of Public Relations, Basics of Social Media and Managing Crisis Communication is organised on **Wednesday 16 August 2023 from 09.30 am to 05.30 pm** at ‘Anugraha’ Pastoral Centre, Kakkunje. The registration begins at 09.30 am. Mr Amith Prabhu, Public Relations and Reputation Management Professional, Gurgaon, New Delhi will be the resource person. The seminar is for all the priests of the Diocese, both Diocesan and Religious. I kindly request to be present in time for this important, useful and relevant seminar.

8. JUSTICE SUNDAY

The Justice Sunday this year falls on **20 August 2023**, 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.

9. A WORD OF GRATITUDE

Our annual retreat, held from July 16 to 21, 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, Most Rev. Dr Ignatius D'Souza, Bishop of Bareilly, 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,

+ 

+ **Gerald Isaac Lobo**

ANUGRAHA – Programmes in August 2023

06-08-2023	Meeting of all presidents of parish units S.V. P. – 9.30 am
06-08-2023	Training for New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – 9 am
14-08-2023	Orientation to New Priests of the Diocese of Udupi – 9.30 am
20-08-2023-	Meeting of Communication Commission Team – 11 am
21-08-2023	Pastoral Consultation – 9.30 am

V. Rev. Fr Vincent Robert Crasta

Director

1. BASIC ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES (BECs)

06.08.2023	- Udupi parish
20.08.2023	- Pangla parish
27.08.2023	- Pamboor parish

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira

Director

2. COMMISSION FOR ECUMENISM

10.08.2023 - Meeting of United Christian Forum of Udupi Zone

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira

Director

3. LABOUR COMMISSION

30.08.2023 Diocesan Committee Meeting - Anugraha- 10.30 am

Mr Elroy Kiran Crasta

Director

4. MIGRANTS COMMISSION

30.08.2023 Diocesan Committee Meeting -Anugraha- 10.30 am

Mr Elroy Kiran Crasta

Director

5. JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION

06.08.2023 Discussion on UCC, Shirva Deanery – 3.15 to 4 pm

13.08.2023 Programme at Sasthan Parish – 8.15 am to 10.00 am

13.08.2023 Programme on Constitution and Human Rights, Katpadi – 3 to 5 pm

18.08.2023 Programme at CESU for Heads of Institutions – 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

20.08.2023 JPC Meeting at Anugraha – 3 to 5 pm

26.08.2023 Programme on Constitution:

Kalmady – 9 to 11 am

Kuntalnagar – 3 to 5 pm

Mr Edward Larson D'Souza

Director

6. COMMISSION FOR EDUCATION AND CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF UDUPI DIOCESE (CESU)

04-08-2023 Meeting of the Management Committee Members-St Mary's College, Shirva – 3 pm

05-08-2023 Private Colleges Management Association- Mangalore – 3 pm

18-08-2023 Meeting of Heads of High Schools and PU Colleges at Anugraha – 10 am

28-08-2023 Governing Board Meeting of Catholic Educational Society at Anugraha at 4 pm

V. Rev. Fr Vincent Robert Crasta
Director/Secretary

7. COMMISSION FOR PROCLAMATION AND EVANGELIZATION

11.08.2023 Retreat/Training for lay evangelizers – Anugraha- 9.30 am to 4 pm

Rev. Fr Vincent Robert Crasta
Director

8. FAMILY COMMISSION

06.08.23 Elders' Day – Parapady
12-13.08.23 Marriage Preparation Course
13.08.23 Remote Preparation for Family Life –
Shirva Deanery – 7 to 10th Std
15.08.23 Proximate Preparation for Family Life- Padukone
and Trasi Parish Youth
17.08.23 Regional Meeting at Mangalore
20.08.23 Elders' Day – Miyar
27.08.23 Remote Preparation for Family Life –
Udupi Deanery – 7 to 10th Std

Mr Leslie Arouza
Director

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

Email: voxnostaeditor@gmail.com

Editor: **Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza**

(For Private circulation only)