

VOX NOSTRA

Vol X

FEBRUARY 2022

No. 2

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE

We celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on 02 February 2022. This celebration commemorates the presentation of Jesus by Blessed Virgin Mary, His mother, to the Lord in the Temple. The liturgy of the day invites us to organize the blessing of candles and the faithful coming into the Church in a procession, holding lighted candles in their hands, proclaiming Christ as the light of the world.

The Church invites us to celebrate this day as the Day of the Consecrated life. I request you, dear Fathers, to apprise your faithful of the significance of the Consecrated Life that is set apart for God in the Church which needs to be promoted, encouraged and appreciated because the Religious Men and Women, being an integral part of the Church, play a very constructive role in building the Church and the People of God. On my part, I express my gratitude and appreciation to all Religious Men and Women who are rendering their respective services in the diocese of Udipi as per their charisms, contributing thereby to the growth of our local Church. Let us keep all of them in our prayers.

2. MISSIONARY HOLY CHILDHOOD DAY

The second Sunday of February, this year the 13th, is celebrated as the Missionary Holy Childhood Day. The aims of the Missionary Childhood Association are: 1. To meet the spiritual and material needs of all children, so that they can live worthily as true children of God. 2. To sensitize children regarding the needs of others by teaching them the value of solidarity and mutual support. 3. To instill a missionary spirit in children that will accompany them throughout their lives, regardless of

whether God will guide them towards lay or religious lives, making them valid and responsible members of society. I am happy that several parishes have established Missionary Childhood Associations in their parishes. I hereby appeal to all of you to make this day meaningful for children who are enthusiastic members of this association, motivating them further to be effective signs of the Church's mission by organizing activities and celebrations that will suit their age and enthusiasm.

3. WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

February 11 is the World Day of the Sick, an observation started by Pope St John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes. People around the world take time to pray for the sick and those who work hard to alleviate the sufferings of the sick on this day. Faith-organizations mark this day especially, to provide the sick with medicines, food, and spiritual guidance. Let us all be solicitous towards the plight of our sick and suffering brethren in our parishes and, above all, in our own families, and make it a point to care for them and alleviate their pain and suffering as much as we can. I urge all of you to offer special prayers for the sick who suffer from Covid-19-related sicknesses, especially, those who are affected by the new Omicron variant of Corona virus. The message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 30th World Day of the Sick 2022 is given as Annexure 1.

4. BLESSING OF MILAGRES HOME AND ANUGRAHA

The inauguration and the blessing of MILAGRES HOME, the home for the Retired Priests of the Diocese and ANUGRAHA, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, were held on 06 January 2022 and 13 January 2022 respectively in the presence of Bishops, Priests, Religious Men and Women, Donors and the representatives of the faithful from every parish. Both buildings are spacious and are constructed to provide the best of the modern facilities. We raise our hearts in gratitude to God for His bountiful blessings through the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Miracles, the Patroness of the Diocese. We sincerely thank V. Rev. Fr Valerian Mendonca and his team who shouldered all the responsibilities

of organizing both the programmes. Both the functions were meticulously planned and implemented by the team and were appreciated by all those who were present for them. We remain grateful to all the parish priests for your encouraging presence and your generosity in mobilizing funds in your parishes towards these projects from the inception of these two important projects of the Diocese. The Diocese remains ever grateful to all the donors in and out of the Diocese who contributed generously towards these projects even in the face of the prevailing adverse economic conditions due to the pandemic. Do convey our sincere thanks to the donors in your parishes and assure them of our continual prayers for them and their families.

5. PASTORAL VISITS

We had asked the parish priests of Karkal and Shirva deaneries to fix the dates of pastoral visit by 31 December 2021. While I thank those who have already done it, I hereby remind the parish priests who have not yet fixed the dates, to do them as early as possible so that the required preparations may be done in time.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ 

+ **Gerald Isaac Lobo**



ST ANTONY'S SHRINE, KEREKATTE

Dear Rev. Fathers,

On behalf of the St Antony's Diocesan Shrine Committee, with great joy in my heart, I hereby extend to you and your parishioners a cordial invitation to the annual Feast of the Relic of St Antony to be celebrated on 15 February 2022.

I request you also to announce to your parishioners about this invitation and the celebration of the Feast of the relic of St Antony to be celebrated on 15 February 2022 at the Kerekatte Shrine.

I also request for your ministry at the confessional on the feast day from 8.30am.

Please concelebrate in the festive mass and take part in the festive lunch that will follow the celebration.

Yours fraternally,

V. Rev. Fr Sunil Joseph Veigas
Rector

RUBY BIRTHDAY

Rev. Fr Roshan D'Souza, Rome

02-02-2022

Congratulations and Best  wishes Dear Rev. Father

OBITUARY

Mr Edward D'Souza (73 Yrs), Br/o Rev. Fr Frederick D'Souza, Parish Priest, Christ Church, Manipal expired on 24 January 2022 and the funeral was held on 25 January 2022 at Holy Family Church, Brahmavar.

MAY GOD GRANT HIM ETERNAL REST

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

Email: voxnostaeditor@gmail.com

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

(For Private circulation only)