

VOX NOSTRA

Vol. XIII

JULY 2025

No. 7

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. SOLEMNITY OF ST THOMAS, THE APOSTLE OF INDIA

As we celebrate the Solemnity of St Thomas, the Apostle of India, on **Thursday, 03 July 2025**, we honour the great faith and missionary zeal of the one who proclaimed, “My Lord and my God.” His courageous witness laid the foundation of Christianity in our land. After his example, we are all called to deepen our faith and boldly proclaim Christ through word and deed. May St Thomas inspire us to overcome doubt with trust and to live as true disciples. Let us celebrate this solemnity with gratitude, praying for unity and renewed missionary fervour in our Church and our communities.

2. ANNIVERSARY OF THE ERECTION OF THE DIOCESE OF UDUPI

As we commemorate the anniversary of the erection of the Diocese of Udupi on **16 July 2025**, our hearts are filled with gratitude to God for His providence and blessings over the last thirteen fruitful years. This occasion is a time to reflect on our journey—our spiritual growth, pastoral initiatives, and united efforts in building a vibrant, Christ-centered community. We remember with appreciation the priests, religious, and laity who have contributed to the mission of the Diocese with faith and dedication. This celebration invites us to renew our commitment to evangelization, service, and communion. I urge every parish and family to remember wholeheartedly this joyful occasion, offering prayers of thanksgiving. May the Diocese of Udupi continue to be a beacon of light, love, and faith in the coastal region and beyond. As we march forward with courage, trusting in God’s grace to lead us, let us also ask

the intercession of Our Lady of Miracles, our patroness that we may be able to truly serve the people of God with greater commitment and zeal.

3. JUBILEE OF SEMINARIANS – 06 JULY 2025

As we celebrate the Jubilee of Seminarians, I extend my heartfelt blessings to all seminarians discerning the call to priesthood. Their commitment reflects the future hope of the Church. May their formation be deeply rooted in prayer, humility, and joyful service. I urge families and parishes to accompany our seminarians with prayer and encouragement. May Christ, the Eternal High Priest, guide their journey and shape them into shepherds after His own heart. Let this jubilee renew their zeal to follow Him closely and serve His flock faithfully in the years to come.

4. JUBILEE OF FAMILIES AND FAMILY APOSTOLATE – 13 JULY 2025

As we mark the Jubilee of Families and the Family Apostolate, I joyfully affirm the sacred mission of every family in building God's kingdom. I thank all who are involved in the Family Apostolate for their tireless efforts in strengthening marriages and family life. May this jubilee renew their commitment to love, unity, and the Gospel. Let families become beacons of hope and sanctuaries of peace in a troubled world. I invite all parishes to celebrate this jubilee in a meaningful way.

5. ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

The annual clergy retreat for the priests of Udupi Diocese will be held from **13 to 18 July 2025** at Shanthi Kiran, Bajjodi, Mangalore. I invite all diocesan priests to join this retreat which will help us with our spiritual nourishment and also fill us with renewed vigour in our pastoral work. Rev. Fr Assisi Saldanha, CSsR will animate the retreat with his talks and guidance. I request you to reach the venue by 07.00 pm on Sunday, 13 July 2025 and join the Rosary followed by Evening Prayer. The retreat will begin with an introductory talk after the supper at 08.30 pm. Kindly bring your personal mass diary for my scrutiny when you come for the retreat.

6. OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

We celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on **Wednesday, 16 July 2025**. Mary, under this beautiful title, is a model of prayer, contemplation, and unwavering trust in God. Her maternal care has accompanied us, offering comfort in trials and strength in our mission. On this day, let us renew our devotion to Our Lady by imitating her humility, obedience, and deep love for the Lord. I encourage all the faithful to entrust their families and vocations to her intercession. Through the scapular, we are reminded of her promise of protection and guidance. May this celebration deepen our Marian devotion and unite us more closely with her Son, Jesus Christ. May Our Lady of Mount Carmel continue to intercede for us and lead us along the path of holiness and peace.

7. JUBILEE OF BISHOPS – 20 JULY 2025

The Jubilee of Bishops is a time of gratitude and reflection. We recall with reverence the apostolic mission entrusted to us: to teach, sanctify, and shepherd God's people. I thank my brother bishops for their fraternal support and collaborative spirit in service of the Church. Let this celebration renew our dedication to Christ and the Gospel, especially in our pastoral care for the faithful. May we continue to walk in humility, wisdom, and courage, ever mindful of our call to unity and holiness. I ask you all to pray for all Bishops in the Church, particularly for all Bishops in India.

8. JUBILEE OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY – 27 JULY 2025

The fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated as a Jubilee on **Sunday, 27 July 2025**. Grandparents and the elderly are treasures of wisdom, faith, and love. On their Jubilee, we honour their enduring witness and thank them for nurturing generations with strength and prayer. In a fast-paced world, their presence reminds us of the beauty of patience, listening, and legacy. Let us continue building bridges between generations, affirming the dignity and mission of every elderly person in our midst. May God bless them with peace, joy, and continued purpose.

The Holy Father has chosen the theme, “**Blessed are those who have not lost hope**” (cf. *Sir* 14:2), for the Fifth World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, express the blessedness of the elderly and indicate hope placed in the Lord as the way to a Christian and reconciled old age. The Jubilee is intended to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly can become a sign of hope in every family and church community. I invite all parishes to celebrate this Jubilee in a befitting manner.

9. PASTORAL VISIT AND CONFIRMATION

The pastoral visits to Kundapur deanery will begin from January 2026. I kindly request the Parish Priests of Kundapur Deanery to start catechism on Confirmation to children in 9th Std and above from July 2025 based on the textbook for our Diocese. In addition, kindly book the dates of pastoral visit to your parish in consultation with me.

10. PASTORAL ISSUES FOR PASTORAL CONSULTATION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR REVISED STATUTES

As suggested in the Council of Meeting held on 24.06.2025, the Pastoral Consultation 2025 will be held in September 2025. In preparation for this important event, I kindly request all Deans to gather any pastoral issues during the priests’ meetings in July, and forward them to the Bishop’s House by **15 July 2025**.

Additionally, as we are in the process of revising the statutes of participatory structures such as the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), Parish Finance Council (PFC), etc., the Deans are requested to collect and submit any suggestions for revision by the same date — **15 July 2025**.

11. NEW EPISCOPAL VICAR FOR RELIGIOUS

Rev. Fr. Joe Tauro, OCD, has been appointed as the Episcopal Vicar for Religious in the Diocese of Udupi w.e.f. 01 July 2025. Fr Joe Tauro, known for his dedicated priestly service and close collaboration with various religious communities, will now take on this important role and will serve as a bridge and support for all religious men and women in the Diocese, helping to promote greater unity, mutual understanding, and shared mission. I invite all Religious working in the Diocese to extend their wholehearted cooperation to him as he takes up this responsibility in the service of the Church.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the former Episcopal Vicar for Religious, Rev. Fr Roshan Cyril Menezes, OFM Cap, for his dedicated and faithful service over the past 12 years. His commitment, guidance, and pastoral presence have been a great blessing to the Religious and to the entire Diocese of Udupi.

12. INAUGURATION AND DEDICATION OF CHAPEL AT PAKALA

I extend my sincere congratulations to the Parish Priest, Assistant Priest, Parish Finance Council, Parish Pastoral Council, donors, and parishioners of St Joseph Church, Belman, on the joyful occasion of the inauguration and blessing of St Anthony's Chapel at Pakala on 10 June 2025. Their unity, dedication, and faith have brought this sacred project to completion in a short time. This chapel will continue to grow and serve as a spiritual center of devotion to StAnthony. May StAnthony intercede for all who gather there in prayer with their intercessions.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ 
+ Gerald Isaac Lobo

CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF UDUPI
DIOCESE (CESU), UDUPI
Academic Results of
10th and 12th Grade Examinations– 2024-25

| State Board Private Aided Kannada Medium Schools | | |
|---|--|--------|
| 1 | StLawrencePU College(HighSchoolSection),Moodubelle | 100% |
| 2 | St John’s High School, Shankerapura | 95.74% |
| 3 | St Mary’s High School, Kundapura | 92.68% |
| 4 | St Joseph High School, Belman | 90.20% |
| 5 | Milagres High School, Kallianpura | 85.41% |
| 6 | St Lawrence High School, Karkal-attur | 83.33% |
| 7 | St Mary’s PU College (High School Section), Shirva | 81.08% |
| 8 | St Mary’s High School, Udupi | 80.64% |
| State Board Private Unaided English Medium Schools | | |
| 1 | Nirmala English Medium School, Brahmavara | 100% |
| 2 | St Antony English Medium School, Sastan | 100% |
| 3 | Milagres English Medium School, Kallianpura | 100% |
| 4 | Church English Medium School, Ajekar | 100% |
| 5 | St Joseph English Medium School, Belman | 100% |
| 6 | Holy Rosary English Medium School, Kundapura | 100% |
| 7 | Mount Rosary English Medium School, Santhekatte | 98.49% |
| 8 | St John’s Academy School, Shankerapura | 96.77% |
| 9 | St Maria Goretti English Medium School, Hirgan | 96.55% |
| 10 | St Lawrence English Medium School, Moodubelle | 94.7% |
| 11 | St Francis English Medium School, Mudarangadi | 94.37% |
| 12 | StFrancis XavierEnglishMediumSchool, Udyavara | 90% |
| ICSE Board School | | |
| 1 | Lourdes English Medium School, Kanajar | 100% |
| CBSE Board Schools | | |
| 1 | StMary’sEnglishMediumSchool, Kannarpady, Udupi | 100% |
| 2 | Don Bosco English Medium School, Shirva | 100% |
| 3 | Christ School, Manipal | 99% |

State and CBSE Board - Pre-University Colleges

| | | |
|---|--|--------|
| 1 | St Mary's Composite PU College, Kundapura (Unaided State Board) | 98.97% |
| 2 | St Mary's English Medium School, Kannarpady, Udupi (CBSE Board) | 97.44% |
| 3 | St John's Composite PU College, Shankerapura (Unaided State Board) | 91.89% |
| 4 | Milagres PU College, Kallianpura (Aided State Board) | 91.67% |
| 5 | St Mary's PU College, Shirva (Aided State Board) | 90% |
| 6 | Don Bosco English Medium School, Shirva (CBSE Board) | 66.66% |

Congratulations to all our dear students, parents, joint secretaries, heads of institutions, staff, and local management committees for the excellent results. Your dedication and teamwork have brought immense pride to CESU. May God continue to bless our mission of education.

Rev. Fr Vincent Robert Crasta
Secretary, CESU

COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

1. COMMISSION FOR LITURGY

- 06 July - Liturgical Seminar for Parishioners and the Liturgy Group of Trasi Parish
- 06 July - Recollection for the Extraordinary Ministers for the Distribution of Holy Communion of Kundapur Deanery
- 13 July - Recollection for the Extraordinary Ministers for the Distribution of Holy Communion of Shirva Deanery
- 20 July - Liturgical Seminar for Parishioners and the Liturgy Group of Basrur Parish
- 20 July - Recollection for the Extraordinary Ministers for the Distribution of Holy Communion of Udupi Deanery

Rev. Fr Wilson D'Souza
Director

2. COMMISSION FOR BEC

- 06.07.2025 - Children's Training at Padukone Parish
- 13.07.2025 - Training at Palimar Parish
- 20.07.2025 - Training at Brahmavar Parish

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira
Director

Published at **Bishop's House, Udupi - 576 101**
Email: **voxnstraeditor@gmail.com** Editor: **Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza**
(For private circulation only)