

VOX NOSTRA

Vol. IV

March 2016

No. 03

Editorial

I am happy to inform you that the Senate in its meeting held on 12.02.2016 has chosen a new Editor for *Vox Nostra* in the person of Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza, Director of *Divya Jyothi* and our Bishop having approved the nomination has appointed him to take charge w.e.f. 01.04.2016. I wish Fr Stephen D'Souza every success.

The first issue of *Vox Nostra* came out in October 2013. Till then the news bulletin was titled as: ***Diocese of Udupi, Circular***. In its meeting held on 24 September 2013, the Council of Priests proposed to bring out the diocesan news bulletin every month beginning from October 2013 dedicating the first issue to our beloved Bishop for first anniversary as Bishop of Udupi. I was editing the *Diocese of Udupi Circular* till then. The Senate proposed my name to be the Editor and our Bishop having approved the proposal, I was privileged to christen the news bulletin as **VOX NOSTRA**. The Senate liked it, Bishop approved it and you all have accepted it and hence my thanks to:

- the Senate for offering me to edit the first ever diocesan news bulletin: *Vox Nostra*
- our Bishop for his approval and encouragement, and,
- all of our dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters for your wholehearted support and reading it month after month.

Thanks to everyone; congratulations to the new Editor Fr Stephen; all the best to **Vox Nostra**.

Prayerful Easter Greeting to all.

Fr Baptist Menezes
Editor

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. TWENTY FOUR HOURS WITH THE LORD

As a part of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, it is the mind of the Holy Father Pope Francis that 24 hour adoration is held in all parishes of respective dioceses. The date is also proposed by him which is: 04 March Friday evening from 05.00 hours to 05 March Saturday evening 05.00 hours. While the facility for confessions could be provided to the faithful during the 24 hour adoration, Saturday evening Mass could follow after the closing of the adoration. I appeal to you dear Rev. Fathers to plan well and hold this 24 hour adoration giving an opportunity to your parishioners to feel the mercy of the Heavenly Father through continuous Eucharistic adoration of 24 precious hours.

2. CBCI MEETING

It will be held in St John's National Academy of Health Sciences in Bangalore from 02 to 09 March 2016. The theme for reflection and discussion is: *the Response of the Church in India to the present day challenges*. I appeal to you all to pray for the success of the CBCI meeting so that an august Body of the Church in India will be able to feel the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all its deliberations, resolutions and messages to further strengthen, guide and lead the Church in India and God's People.

3. CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral Church, Kallianpur on 17 March 2016 at 04.00 pm. I invite all priests: Diocesan and Religious to concelebrate with me as a sign of our priestly unity, solidarity and belonging as *unum presbyterium*. It is also the Day of Priest. I request Parish Priests to announce to your parishioners about the Chrism Mass and its importance inviting them to participate in large numbers and to pray for all priests rendering their priestly ministry for God and His People in the Church.

4. SEMINAR FOR PRIESTS

There will be a Seminar for all priests in all priest in teaching and pastoral ministry in the Diocese on 16 and 17 March 2016 on the theme: *personality Integration for pastoral Work*- conducted by V. Rev. Fr Joe Mathias, SJ, Rector of St Peter's Pontifical Seminary at Bangalore. On 16

March registration will be at 09.30 am and the Seminar will begin at 10.00 am. It will conclude on 17 March with the Chrism Mass at 04.00 pm. I request and invite all Rev. Father to make it a point to attend the Seminar on both the days.

5. ANNUAL BUDGET AND PASTORAL REPORT

The financial Year 2015-2016 is going to end by 31 March 2016. The statement of accounts will take some time to be submitted to the CA for audit and received thereafter and you have time till 15 August 2016 on or before which date to submit it to this office for scrutiny. I request all Parish Priests to have the Budget for 2016-17 prepared and placed it before the PFC and then to submit it to me for approval with PFC resolution before 31 March 2016 along with your annual parish pastoral Activity report based on Mission 2025. Let this be the trend from now onwards. There is no point in submitting the Budget along with audited statement of annual accounts as late as August. Please follow the model provided by the diocese while preparing the budget.

6. COUNCIL OF PRIESTS

The second Senate of this Diocese had its first meeting on 12 February 2016. Following are the members of the newly constituted Council of Priests of the Diocese of Udupi:

EX OFFICIO

1. Most Rev. Dr Gerald Isaac Lobo Bishop
2. Rt. Rev. Msgr Baptist Menezes Vicar General
3. V. Rev. Fr Roshan Menezes Episcopal Vicar
4. V. Rev. Fr Valerian Menezes Judicial Vicar
5. V. Rev. Fr Valerian Mendonca Chancellor
6. V. Rev. Fr Stany B Lobo Dean- Kallainpur
7. V. Rev. Fr Joswey Fernandes Dean- Karkal
8. V. Rev. Fr Anil D'Souza Dean- Kundapur
9. V. Rev. Fr Stany Tauro Dean- Shirva
10. V. Rev. Fr Fred Mascarenhas Dean- Udupi
11. V. Rev. Fr Lawrence C. D'Souza Director, Pastoral Institute

ELECTED MEMBERS

12. Rev. Fr Xavier Pinto
13. Rev. Fr Roque D'Souza

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 14. Rev. Fr Charles Noronha | 15. Rev. Fr Ferdinand Gonsalves |
| 16. Rev. Fr Sunil D'Silva | 17. Rev. Fr Royson Fernandes |
| 18. Rev. Fr Mahesh D'Souza | 19. Rev. Fr George D'Souza |
| 20. Rev. Fr Henry Mascarenhas | 21. Rev. Fr William Martis |
| 22. Rev. Fr Chetan Lobo, Cap | 23. Rev. Fr Victor Fernandes, Cap |

NOMINATED MEMBERS

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 24. Rev. Fr Alban D'Souza | 25. Rev. Fr Paul Rego |
| 26. Rev. Fr Vincent Lobo | 27. Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza |

7. INFORMATION

A) Appointment

- Rev. Fr Harold Pereira, Diocesan Co-ordinator for Commissions, w.e.f. 08.12.2014
- Rev. Fr Lawrence C. D'Souza, Director, Pastoral Institute, w.e.f. 23.06.2015
- Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza, Editor *Vox Nostra* w.e.f. 01.04.2016
- Rev Fr Henry Machado, Assisting Holy Childhood Association Director (form Mount Rosary Parish, Kallainpur) w.e.f. 03.02.2016

B) Elections

(i) Diocesan Council of Priest:

- Rev. Fr. Lawrence C. D'Souza, Secretary
- Rev. Fr. Sunil D'Silva, Joint Secretary

(ii) Agenda Committee:

- V. Rev. Fr Stany B. Lobo; Rev. Fr Ferdinand Gonsalves

(iii) Pastoral Consultors as per can 1742§1:

- V. Rev. Fr Stany Tauro; V. Rev. Fr Joswey Fernandes;
- V. Rev. Fr Anil D'Souza; V. Rev. Fr Fred Mascarenhas;
- Rev. Fr Ferdinand Gonsalves

(iv) Diocesan Building Committee (second term):

- V. Rev. Fr Xavier Pinto (Convener); V. Rev. Fr Stany B. Lobo;
- V. Rev. Fr Fred Mascarenhas

8. A REQUEST

I had made this request once before, i.e. to provide the date of jubilee of your priesthood (25,40,50,60...) religious profession (25,40,50,60...),

birthdays (25,40,50,60...) both of diocesan and religious men and women and information in the event of a death in your family (of close family members and relatives). I request you to pass on the necessary details/information to the Editor Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza to be announced in the *Vox Nostra* as and when these events/incidents take place.

9. COMMISSION FOR PROCLAMATION AND EVANGELIZATION

Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta, PP Nakre Parish and Mr Hendry Machado (of Mount Rosary Parish in Kallainpur) have participated in the New Evangelization Course at the *Suvartha Kendra* in Madya Pradesh for one month and have undergone studies on the recent Documents of Pope Francis. They are specially trained in the Course on “Merciful like the Father” for the Jubilee Year of Mercy and are ready and willing to give retreat on the same topic during the Jubilee Year in any parish of this Diocese. They also have a regional team to give this course to various groups in your parish such as: the youth, school children, Catholic employees of the institution and member of apostolic associations. You may contact Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta for further information and the role he could play in conducting/organizing Courses specialized by the regional team, by him and Mr Henry Machado in your parish.

10. EASTER GREETINGS

After 40 days of Lenten prayer, fasting, penance and almsgiving, the Holy Mother the Church invites us to rejoice at the Solemnity of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is risen. “Love has triumphed over hatred, life has conquered death, light has dispelled the darkness” (Pope Francis). Out of Love for us, Jesus Christ stripped himself of his divine glory, emptied himself, took on the form of a slave and humbled himself even to death, death on a cross. For this reason God exalted him and made him Lord of the universe.

In the words of Pope Francis, “Let us pray for peace for all especially among those countries torn apart due to violence, terrorism and sectarian indifference. May the Lord’s resurrection bring the light... of peace and freedom for the many men and women subject to old and new forms of enslavement on the part of criminal individual and groups.. and we ask peace

for this world subjected to arms dealers, who profit from the blood of men and women. May the marginalized, the imprisoned, the poor and the migrants who are so often rejected, maltreated and discarded, the sick and the suffering, children, especially those who are victims of violence; all who today are in mourning, and all men and women of goodwill, hear the consoling and healing voice of the Lord Jesus: "Peace to you!" (Lk 24:36). "Fear not, for I am risen and I shall always be with you" (cf. Roman Missal, Entrance Antiphon for Easter Day).

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, I extend to all of you my best wishes for a Happy Easter. Please extend my Easter wishes to your dear parishioners and members of your religious communities.

HAPPY EASTER to everyone.

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Gerald Lobo
Bishop of Udupi

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH, UDYAVAR

Inauguration and Blessing of St Francis Xavier Church, Udyavar

Date: **Thursday, 28 April 2016** Time: **09.00am**

Please make a note in your. Formal invitation will follow

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