

# VOX NOSTRA

Vol VI

MAY 2018

No. 5

*Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,*

## **1 FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER AND INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY**

The feast of St Joseph the Worker and International Workers' Day, also known as Labour Day/May Day, is celebrated all over the world on May 1. May Day gives us the beautiful remembrance of the events and endeavours contributed to the solidarity of workers, dignity of labour and prosperity, unity and harmony, the workers endeared through their sweat and toil. The message for May Day 2018 given by CBCI Commission for Labour reminds us that it is indeed a day of celebration for the workers to showcase their strength, unity and accomplishment to the country and society at large. It also provides a brief sketch of the problem of employment and the plight of the unorganized workers in India and elaborates on the response of the government of India, of the civil society and the Church in India. It further reminds us of our responsibility towards our migrant brethren who live in our vicinity and those languishing in foreign countries. The Commission for Labour in our Diocese works towards the organization of the unorganized labourers to secure their rights. Let us support its activities and promote the welfare of all workers, without any discrimination.

## **2 MAY DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

It is a Catholic tradition to offer special honour to Mother Mary in the month of May:: pilgrimages, visits to Marian churches, little sacrifices in her honour, and a more meaningful recitation of the Rosary. We have a beautiful tradition of reciting Marian Rosary at the Grotto of our Lady in our parishes. Hence, I hereby exhort you, dear Fathers, to continue

to uphold this tradition by inviting your parishioners to gather around the Grotto for the Rosary. The month of May is also an occasion for us to catechize our faithful on the devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Catholic Church and her role in the salvation history. May the Milagres Mother, patroness of our Diocese, intercede for all of us to live a fervent Christian life, following her son Jesus Christ.

### **3 WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY**

World Communications Day is celebrated each year on the Sunday before Pentecost and this year it falls on 13 May 2018. In his message for the World Communications Day 2018, Pope Francis calls for a “journalism for peace” in response to the threat of fake news, which “thrives on the absence of healthy confrontation with other sources of information”. **“The truth will set you free” (Jn 8:32). ‘Fake news and journalism for peace’** is the theme of the Pope’s message. The Holy Father explores what makes fake news ‘fake’, how to recognize it, truth as an antidote, and how a ‘journalism for peace’ takes people as its focus. The entire message is given as annexure 1 on page 14.

### **4 SINCERE THANKS AND BEST WISHES**

Rev. Sr Lydia Mendonca, BS, who has put in five years of dedicated service in the office of the Bishop’s House in Udupi as the Diocesan Financial Administrator will be completing her term on 31 May 2018. She took up this office and responsibility at a time when Udupi Diocese was just established and hence a proper order had to be planned and implemented right from the beginning. Sr Lydia played a major role in this regard by maintaining the Diocesan Accounts as per the rule book and instructions of the Diocesan Chartered Accountant. It was not an easy task since she had to, at the same time receive earmarked collections, the budget and annual audited accounts of parishes and

institutions and help the Vicar General in the review, which she has done faithfully and efficiently. The Diocesan Finance Council has expressed great appreciation for the manner she has discharged her office and hence, while I place on record her generous service, as the Financial Administrator of the Diocese, I thank her immensely in the name of all of you for her dedicated service to this Diocese in and through the office entrusted to her. I wish her all the best and every success in the assignment to be given to her in her Province, invoking God's plentiful blessings upon her and her apostolate.

## **5. NEW FINANCIAL OFFICER**

I am happy to inform you that Mr Marshal D'Souza, a parishioner of Udupi, will take over the maintenance of the Diocesan accounts from 01 June 2018 as the Financial Officer. I request you, dear Fathers, to cooperate with him in his great responsibility and maintenance of the Diocesan Accounts.

## **6. ADMISSION TO THE SEMINARY**

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (Lk 10:2). We are all aware of the need of priests for our Diocese and, therefore, we must strive our best to promote vocations to the Diocese. The diocesan minor Seminary at Kattingeri in Moodubelle is in its third year and ready to welcome the students for PUC and Degree studies. Those who have completed their graduation or equivalent studies would be sent to the Major Seminary. Therefore, I request you to kindly motivate boys to join the Seminary as candidates to the Priesthood for the Diocese of Udupi.

## **7. INSTALLATION OF ARCHBISHOP PETER MACHADO**

The installation of newly appointed Archbishop of Bengaluru, Most Rev. Dr Peter Machado, will take place on 31 May 2018 at 4.30 pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Bengaluru. We offer our congratulations and best wishes to the new Archbishop as he begins his ministry of shepherding the archdiocese of Bengaluru. We pray that God may grant him good health of heart and mind in carrying out his mission. We also

pray that, as metropolitan and head of the Karnataka Region Catholic Bishops' Council, he may become a bond of unity and strength and a true shepherd after the Good Shepherd, our Lord, Jesus Christ. We assure him our whole-hearted support in his ministry.

Yours in Christ,

+ 

+ Gerald Isaac Lobo  
**Bishop of Udupi**

## **COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS**

### **1. DIVYA JYOTHI**

- 11/5/2018 Sunday Catechism Coordinators' Meeting (9.00 am to 1.00 pm) at Udupi
- 14/5/2018 Training of New Catechism Teachers (9.00 am to 4.00 pm) at Udupi
- 24/5/2018 Training of VII Std Sunday Catechism Teachers (9.00 am to 1.00 pm) at Udupi
- 25/5/2018 Kundapur Deanery Catechism Teachers' Training (9.00 am to 1.00 pm)
- 26/5/2018 Karkal Deanery Catechism Teachers' Training (9.00 am to 1.00 pm) at Karkal Town Church
- 27/5/2018 Udupi Deanery Catechism Teachers' Training (9.00 am to 1.30 pm) at Udupi
- 27/5/2018 Shirva Deanery Catechism Teachers' Training (2.30 pm to 5.00 pm) at Udupi

### **Please Note:**

1. All Sunday and School Catechism and Value Education (Kannada and English) text books are available at Divya Jyothi.
2. The training of new Catechism Teachers is compulsory for all the newly selected Sunday Catechism teachers. Please register their names

before 11 May 2018. The registration fees (Rs 250) can be paid on their arrival for training.

3. Since new text book will be introduced for VII Std. for Sunday Catechism, training has been arranged to introduce this textbook to the teachers of VII Std.. The Registration fees (Rs 200) can be paid at their arrival for training.

**Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza**  
**Director**

## **2. COMMISSION FOR SCCs**

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| 01.5.2018 | SCC Conveners Family Visit -Kallianpur<br>Deanery   |
| 06.5.2018 | SCC DAY at Nakre Parish                             |
| 08.5.2018 | Shirva Deanery SCC Conveners Meeting at<br>Pamboor. |
| 13.5.2018 | Bible Mirror Method- Hirgan Parish                  |
| 18.5.2018 | SCC DAY at Gangoli Parish                           |
| 20.5.2018 | SCC DAY at Kemman Parish & Attur Parish             |
| 27.5.2018 | SCC DAY at Udupi Parish                             |

**Rev. Fr Harold Pereira**  
**Director**

## **3. SAMPADA**

### **Information regarding Education Interest Free Loans**

1. EDUCARE interest free loan for studies- online application will be open in the month of May 2018 in CODP website. For further information please read the letter sent to you by Fr Oswald Monteiro, CODP.
2. KCWA interest free loan for PUC, Degree and ITI Diploma students, through SAMPADA - applications are available in SAMPADA office from 01<sup>st</sup> May 2018.

**Rev. Fr Reginald Pinto**

## CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF UDUPI

Dear Rev. Fathers,

I am happy to share the following information with you:

**1. Good news from the PF department:** According to an official communication received from the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the employers' contribution towards EPF will be paid by the Government of India for a period of three years (from 1-4-2018 to 31-3-2021). The employees/Institutions who fulfill the following conditions could avail this benefit:

- a. The employee is registered under EPF after 1-5-2016. Those who are registered prior to this date are not eligible for this benefit.
- b. The employee's gross salary should not exceed Rs. 15000 per month.
- c. Only those employees who have joined the EPF for the first time are eligible for this benefit.
- d. The Institution/individual which wants to take advantage of this benefit should be registered under PMRPY ( Pradhan Manthri Rojgar Protsahan Yojane). I am told that this can be done on line within minutes provided you follow the procedure which is found in the internet (under EPF).

**2. Withdrawl of Gazette Notification:** I am happy to inform you that the Gazette Notification spelling out the Eligibility Criteria for Recognition as Minority Educational Institution issued by the Education Secretariat, Government of Karnataka on 19-3-2018 has been withdrawn thanks to the objections filed by the Christian leaders and Managements of Minority Institutions. Through this notification the Government of Karnataka wanted every educational institution wanting to be recognized as a Minority Institution to fulfill these two criteria namely, 1. At least two-thirds of the trust members should belong to the minority community and 2. At least 25 percent of the total number of students in the educational institution in an academic year should belong to the minority community. We were asked to file our objections if any, to this

proposal within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notification. Some of you too had filed your objections to this notification. Our hard work and concerted efforts have yielded encouraging results. Overwhelmed by the response of the Minority educational Institutions, the Cabinet instructed the Education Secretariat to withdraw the Notification forthwith. I thank you for joining in this campaign to save our Institutions from the clutches of the anti-minority forces.

**Rev. Fr Lawrence D'Souza**  
**Secretary**

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