

# VOX NOSTRA

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*Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,*

## **1. MONTH OF OCTOBER**

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary and every year we celebrate the feast of the Holy Rosary on 7th October. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others. If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. If we turn to history, we see many great triumphs of the Rosary. Early tradition attributes the defeat of the Albigensians at the Battle of Muret in 1213 to the Rosary. St Pius V attributed the great defeat of the Turkish fleet on the first Sunday of October, 1571, to the fact that at the same time the Rosary confraternities at Rome and elsewhere were holding their processions. Accordingly, he ordered a commemoration of the Rosary to be made on that day. Two years later, Pope Gregory XIII allowed the celebration of a feast of the Rosary in churches having an altar dedicated to the Rosary. In 1671, Pope Clement X extended the feast to all Spain. A second great victory over the Turks, who once, like the Russians, threatened the ruin of Christian civilization, occurred on 5 August 1716, when Prince Eugene defeated them at Peterwardein in Hungary. Thereupon Pope Clement XI extended the feast of the Rosary to the whole Church.

I request you, dear Fathers, to continue the devotion of praying the Rosary during this month of October by encouraging your

parishioners to pray it daily in their respective homes, before the celebration of the daily Eucharist in our churches and chapels and, wherever there is the custom, before the Grotto of Our Lady.

## **2. ROSARY FOR PEACE**

Each year on 18th October, the pontifical foundation *Aid to the Church in Need* invites us to join in the wonderful prayer initiative “A Million Children Praying the Rosary.” This idea, began in Caracas, Venezuela was aimed at children to introduce them to praying the Rosary and to ask them to pray particularly for personal peace and family peace, as well as unity and peace throughout the world. St Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) once said, “when a million children pray the Rosary, the world will change.” We all long today- not only in those places torn by war, but everywhere, on every continent - to see the world become a better place! The situation in our own country also calls us to pray for peace. Hence, I invite you all to inform about this initiative to your parish children and invite them to pray the Holy Rosary on 18th October for the peace in the world.

## **3. FAITH FORMATION CAMPS**

As in the past, during October holidays, our Catholic children need to be invited to participate in the Faith Formation camps which take place at the deanery levels. As you know mere Catechism classes on Sunday are not sufficient to catechize our children on the tenets of our faith and teachings of the Church. A strong foundation at childhood on the right understanding of faith and its expression will definitely help them to carry out the mission of the Church when they grow into youth and adults, and, of course, would strengthen their family life. I hope the planning has been already started in every deanery towards organizing these camps: *Jeevamritha* (8<sup>th</sup> Std), *Jeevan Disha* (9<sup>th</sup> Std) and *Jeevan Jyothi* (10<sup>th</sup> Std). Please contact Divya Jyoti, Youth Commission and the Family Commission for the themes and the contact details of the resource persons. I request all Parish Priests to do everything within your capacity to make every child attend the camp without fail.

#### **4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DIOCESE OF UDUPI**

On 15 October 2016, our diocese will complete four years of its establishment and my installation as the first Bishop of Udupi. It is a day to raise our hearts and minds towards God in gratitude for His bountiful blessings on our diocese. We have been witnessing the all-round progress of our diocese in every aspect. Thanks to the slow yet definite implementation of the Pastoral Plan (**MISSION 2025**), we have been able to lay a strong foundation for many of our diocesan initiatives and could see positive results both in quantity and quality. Hence I thank you, dear Rev. Fathers, for your tireless efforts and zeal in your work as Parish Priests/Directors/Secretaries in the different parishes/ institutions of our diocese. Though at times, the demands of the Pastoral Plan may seem overwhelming, I am sure, we will see tangible results in the years to come. I also remember all men and women religious of our diocese who play a great role in the pastoral mission of our diocese and of course, the role and contribution of the lay faithful in our parishes also needs a big applause!

I request you to pray for me so that the shepherding ministry entrusted to me and which I assumed this day trusting in Divine providence through the intercession of Our Lady of Miracles may truly be devoted and dedicated to the greater glory of God and the proclamation of His kingdom on earth.

#### **5. MISSION SUNDAY**

The Mission Sunday will be celebrated on 16th October this year with the theme: *Missionary Church, Witness of Mercy*. Mission Sunday reminds all Catholics to commit themselves to building a better world for all God's people, a world where everyone has all they need to live a dignified and fulfilling life. It is the day on which we reflect on the urgency of proclaiming the Gospel in our times. Missionary activity is a response to the love with which God loves us. It is God, who is Love, who leads the Church towards those farthest away and calls us to be renewed from the original source, Jesus Christ, from whose pierced heart flows the merciful love of God. The God of love is the source of

care, tenderness, compassion, hospitality and interest in other people's problems, for spreading Christ's charity around the world.

Besides the prayers and sacrifices, as every year, let us come forward to offer our financial assistance meant exclusively for missionary activities. I sincerely appreciate the great interest and enthusiasm each one of you take year after year to make this Sunday truly meaningful. Last year our diocesan contribution was Rs 55,43,495 and we stood 8<sup>th</sup> in total collection and 9<sup>th</sup> in per-capita at the all-India-level. While I thank you all for this honour and achievement, I urge you to motivate your parishioners to be generous towards the cause of the missions through their prayers, sacrifices and contributions.

As mentioned in the ORDO, the Mass on the day may be offered "For the Evangelization of Peoples" as indicated in the Roman Missal. Please see Annexure 1 for Mission Sunday message of our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

## **6. NEW DICASTERY FOR PROMOTING INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

Pope Francis has created a new dicastery to better minister to the needs of the men and women the Church is called to serve. The new 'Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development' was instituted in a *Motu Proprio* published on 17 August 2016. It will come into effect from 1 January 2017 and will be especially "competent in issues regarding migrants, those in need, the sick, the excluded and marginalized, the imprisoned and the unemployed, as well as victims of armed conflict, natural disasters, and all forms of slavery and torture". On that same date, the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum*, the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Itinerant Peoples, and the Pontifical Council for Healthcare Workers dedicated to charity and to the promotion of human development will cease to exist and effectively be encompassed in the new dicastery.

The Pope has appointed Cardinal Peter Turkson as Prefect of the new dicastery. Turkson is the current President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. As Pope Francis highlights in the *Motu Proprio*: "The Church is called to promote the integral development of the human

person in the light of the Gospel’, thus the Successor of Peter must ‘continuously adapt the institutions which collaborate with him.’ One of the sections of the new Dicastery is an expression of the Pope’s particular concern for refugees and migrants and of his deep belief that in today’s world integral human development cannot be promoted without special attention for the phenomenon of migration. For this reason, this particular section is placed *ad tempus* beneath the direct jurisdiction of the Pope.

## **7. DIRECTIVES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE LITURGY AND KANNADA MISSAL**

The CCBI has published *Directives for the Celebration of the Liturgy* containing directives for the celebration of the Latin-rite liturgy in India. The 27th Plenary Assembly of the CCBI which was held in 2015 deliberated on the theme ‘Liturgy and Life’. The members of the Assembly requested the Liturgical Commission to prepare directives for the celebration of the liturgy for liturgical renewal in the Church in India. The CCBI Commission for Liturgy headed by Archbishop Dominic Jala and Rev. Dr Ayres Fernandes prepared the Liturgical Directives. It was released by Oswald Cardinal Gracias, the President of the CCBI and FABC during the 75th Executive Committee Meeting of the CCBI on 20 September 2016 at St John’s National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore. We welcome these directives as a gift to the Church in India that raises the beauty and dignity of Liturgy in the Church.

The Karnataka Regional Commission for Liturgy will release the new Kannada Roman Missal on 27 November 2016. This is the translated version of the Third Edition of the Roman Missal introduced by the Holy See in 2002. The Commission is also publishing three other related books in Kannada: Book of Gospels, First Volume of the Lectionary (Seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter), and Mass-booklet for the use of the people. Please contact *Divya Jyothi* for copies of *Directives for the Celebration of the Liturgy* (Rs 150) and you also may place order for Kannada Missal (Rs 1500) and other books in Kannada.

## **8. MR WALTER CYRIL PINTO- STATE PRESIDENT OF AICU**

We received the joyful news that Mr Walter Cyril Pinto, Vice President of Parish Pastoral Council of Milages Cathedral, Kallianpur has been elected the President of the All India Catholic Union (AICU) for Karnataka State in the 62nd Annual General Meeting held on Sunday, September 25, in Kolkata. The term is for two years. We congratulate him on his election and convey our best wishes to him in all his endeavours during his tenure.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

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Gerald I. Lobo

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### **COMMISSION FOR SCCs**

#### **PROGRAMS IN OCTOBER 2016**

- 03.10.2016 Shirva Deanery SCC Conveners meeting at Belman  
09.10.2016 Ward Samithi Training at Katpadi Parish.  
11.10.2016 SCC PRERAKS CONVENTION -2016

**Rev. Fr Harold Pereira**

**Director**

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### **DIOCESAN COMMISSIONS' COORDINATOR'S PROGRAMS**

- 23.10.2016 Shirva Deanery Ecumenism Commission &  
Inter-religious Commission meeting at Shirva  
27,28.10.2016 Inter-religious Regional Training at KROSS, Bangalore.

**Rev. Fr Harold Pereira**

## FAMILY COMMISSION PROGRAMS IN OCTOBER 2016

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
8 Oct	PTATalk at Trinity ITI Udyavara
9 Oct	Proximate Preparation Brammavar parish youth 9 – 4pm
11 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life : 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std. Kallianpur Deanery (Full Day)
12 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life : 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std. Udupi Deanery (Full Day)
10 & 14 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life : 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std. Kundapur Deanery (Full Day)
11 & 13 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life : 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std. Shirva Deanery (Full Day)
11 & 12 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life : 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std. Karkal Deanery (Full Day)
15 & 16 Oct	Marriage Preparation Course
16 Oct	Marriage Enrichment Gangolli Parish
30 Oct	Talk on Family Life – Kemmannu Parish

**Mr Leslie Arouza**

**Director**

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### OBITUARY

**Mrs Alice D'Souza** (77), M/o Rev. Fr Denis D'Souza, Parish Priest of Belve passed away on 13 September 2016 and the funeral was held on 16 September 2016 at Holy Spirit Church, Sampige. May she rest in peace.

**Annexure 1:**

**MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR  
MISSION SUNDAY 2016**

***Missionary Church, Witness of Mercy***

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which the Church is celebrating, casts a distinct light on World Mission Sunday 2016: it invites us to consider the *missio ad gentes* as a great, immense work of mercy, both spiritual and material. On this World Mission Sunday, all of us are invited to “go out” as missionary disciples, each generously offering their talents, creativity, wisdom and experience in order to bring the message of God’s tenderness and compassion to the entire human family. By virtue of the missionary mandate, the Church cares for those who do not know the Gospel, because she wants everyone to be saved and to experience the Lord’s love. She “is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12) and to proclaim mercy in every corner of the world, reaching every person, young or old.

When mercy encounters a person, it brings deep joy to the Father’s heart; for from the beginning the Father has lovingly turned towards the most vulnerable, because his greatness and power are revealed precisely in his capacity to identify with the young, the marginalized and the oppressed (cf. *Deut* 4:31; *Ps* 86:15; 103:8; 111:4). He is a kind, caring and faithful God who is close to those in need, especially the poor; he involves himself tenderly in human reality just as a father and mother do in the lives of their children (cf. *Jer* 31:20). When speaking of the womb, the Bible uses the word that signifies mercy: therefore it refers to the love of a mother for her children, whom she will always love, in every circumstance and regardless of what happens, because they are the



fruit of her womb. This is also an essential aspect of the love that God has for all his children, whom he created and whom he wants to raise and educate; in the face of their weaknesses and infidelity, his heart is overcome with compassion (cf. *Hos* 11:8). He is merciful towards all; his love is for all people and his compassion extends to all creatures (cf. *Ps* 144:8-9).

Mercy finds its most noble and complete expression in the Incarnate Word. Jesus reveals the face of the Father who is rich in mercy; he “speaks of [mercy] and explains it by the use of comparisons and parables, but above all he himself makes it incarnate and personifies it” (John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 2). When we welcome and follow Jesus by means of the Gospel and sacraments, we can, with the help of the Holy Spirit, become merciful as our heavenly Father is merciful; we can learn to love as he loves us and make of our lives a free gift, a sign of his goodness (cf. *Misericordiae Vultus*, 3). The Church, in the midst of humanity, is first of all the community that lives by the mercy of Christ: she senses his gaze and feels he has chosen her with his merciful love. It is through this love that the Church discovers its mandate, lives it and makes it known to all peoples through a respectful dialogue with every culture and religious belief.

This merciful love, as in the early days of the Church, is witnessed to by many men and women of every age and condition. The considerable and growing presence of women in the missionary world, working alongside their male counterparts, is a significant sign of God’s maternal love. Women, lay and religious, and today even many families, carry out their missionary vocation in various forms: from announcing the Gospel to charitable service. Together with the evangelizing and sacramental work of missionaries, women and families often more adequately understand people’s problems and know how to deal with them in an appropriate and, at times, fresh way: in caring for life, with a strong focus on people rather than structures, and by allocating human

and spiritual resources towards the building of good relations, harmony, peace, solidarity, dialogue, cooperation and fraternity, both among individuals and in social and cultural life, in particular through care for the poor.

In many places evangelization begins with education, to which missionary work dedicates much time and effort, like the merciful vine-dresser of the Gospel (cf. *Lk* 13:7-9; *Jn* 15:1), patiently waiting for fruit after years of slow cultivation; in this way they bring forth a new people able to evangelize, who will take the Gospel to those places where it otherwise would not have been thought possible. The Church can also be defined as “mother” for those who will one day have faith in Christ. I hope, therefore, that the holy people of God will continue to exercise this maternal service of mercy, which helps those who do not yet know the Lord to encounter and love him. Faith is God’s gift and not the result of proselytizing; rather it grows thanks to the faith and charity of evangelizers who witness to Christ. As they travel through the streets of the world, the disciples of Jesus need to have a love without limits, the same measure of love that our Lord has for all people. We proclaim the most beautiful and greatest gifts that he has given us: his life and his love.

All peoples and cultures have the right to receive the message of salvation which is God’s gift to every person. This is all the more necessary when we consider how many injustices, wars, and humanitarian crises still need resolution. Missionaries know from experience that the Gospel of forgiveness and mercy can bring joy and reconciliation, justice and peace. The mandate of the Gospel to “go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (*Mt* 28:19-20) has not ceased; rather this command commits all of us, in the current landscape with all

its challenges, to hear the call to a renewed missionary “impulse”, as I noted in my Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*: “Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the ‘peripheries’ in need of the light of the Gospel” (20).

This Jubilee year marks the 90th anniversary of World Missionary Day, first approved by Pope Pius XI in 1926 and organized by the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith. It is appropriate then to recall the wise instructions of my Predecessors who ordered that to this Society be destined all the offerings collected in every diocese, parish, religious community, association and ecclesial movement throughout the world for the care of Christian communities in need and for supporting the proclamation of the Gospel even to the ends of the earth. Today too we believe in this sign of missionary ecclesial communion. Let us not close our hearts within our own particular concerns, but let us open them to all of humanity.

May Holy Mary, sublime icon of redeemed humanity, model of missionaries for the Church, teach all men, women and families, to foster and safeguard the living and mysterious presence of the Risen Lord in every place, he who renews personal relationships, cultures and peoples, and who fills all with joyful mercy.

*From the Vatican, 15 May 2016, Solemnity of Pentecost*

**FRANCIS**

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