

VOX NOSTRA

Vol V

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No. 10

Dear 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. The Rosary is Christocentric, setting forth the entire life of Jesus Christ, the passion, death, resurrection and glory. Of course, it honors and contemplates Mother Mary too. Through the meditations of the complete Rosary one recalls, as the Popes tell us, “the chief mysteries of the Christian religion,” “the mysteries of our Redemption,” “the great mysteries of Jesus and His Mother united in joys, sorrows, and triumphs.” The twenty mysteries are divided into four equal groups, the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and the Luminous.

I request you, dear Fathers, to continue the devotion of praying Rosary during the month of October by encouraging your parishioners to pray daily in their respective homes, before the celebration of Holy Eucharist in our Churches and chapels, and wherever there is the custom, before the Grotto of our Lady.

2. CHILDREN’S ROSARY FOR WORLD 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 initiative had a massive response worldwide from the beginning and last year the children of 69 countries took part in it. Being in the one hundredth anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, it is appropriate for us to recall the words of Our Lady during her apparitions to children, urging them to

continue praying the Holy Rosary to attain “peace in the world and end of war”. We can surely do nothing better to promote peace in the world than by once again taking seriously this message from heaven. It is significant that in Fatima God chose children to reveal his most important plan of peace for our new age. The situation in our own country also calls us to pray for peace.

Let us then imitate the trust of the Fatima children and take up the Rosary, the mighty weapon in the spiritual battle, thus giving a living example to our children. Hence, I invite you all to apprise 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

It is customary in our Diocese, to organize Faith Formation Camps at Deanery levels during the October holidays. Our Catholic children need to be invited to participate in these Camps. 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 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 adulthood, and, of course, would strengthen their family life. I hope the planning has been already started in every deanery towards organizing these camps: *Jeeva*, *Amrith* (8th Std), *Jeevan Disha* (9th Std) and *Jeevan Jyothi* (10th Std). Please contact Divya Jyoti, Youth Commission and Family Commission for the themes and the contact details of resource persons. I request all Parish Priests to do everything within your capacity to make every child attend the camp without fail despite the different dates for holidays for children in various schools.

4. SEMINAR ON JUSTICE AND PEACE

As a part of the Ongoing Formation, a **seminar on Justice and Peace for priests** will be held on **Thursday, 19 October 2017** at Udupi Church Hall. Rev. Fr Stephen Fernandes, Secretary of CBCI

Commission for Justice and Peace, has kindly consented to be the resource person. The registration will start at 9.30 a.m. and the programme will begin at 9.45 a.m. and will go on till 1.00 p.m. I request **all Priests, Diocesan and Religious**, to attend this important programme without fail.

5. MISSION SUNDAY

The Mission Sunday will be celebrated on 22nd October this year with the theme: *Mission at the heart of the Christian faith*. In his message for Mission Sunday 2017, Holy Father Pope Francis invites us to understand, more than ever, that mission constitutes an essential aspect of the ‘Christian faith’. We are sent to our brothers and sisters in order to bear witness to our faith in Christ and to proclaim his Gospel.

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 67,37,967. 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. LAND RECORDS

We have been constantly reminding the Parish Priests and heads of institutions to set right the land records and do everything possible to safeguard the rights and interest of the Church for the sake of a peaceful and untroubled apostolic service. Although this exercise was taken up as a priority from the beginning of our Diocese, we have not been able to complete it. Hence, I request all the concerned to do the needful at the earliest considering it on a priority basis.

7. NEW BISHOP OF PUTTUR

The Synod of Bishops of the major archepiscopal Syro-Malankara Church, after consulting the Apostolic See and receiving prior pontifical assent for the candidates to the episcopate, has elected Rev. Msgr. George Kalayil, as the new Bishop of Puttur diocese. He was born on 16 July 1958 in Renjalady in Karnataka. After attending the minor seminary, he studied philosophy at St Joseph's Seminary, Mangalore, and theology at the Papal Seminary, Pune. He was ordained a priest on 1 May 1986. He holds a doctorate in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He served as secretary to the bishop, director of Saint Joseph's School, Battery and vice-rector and rector of Saint Mary's Major Seminary. Since 2010 he was protosyncellus of the diocese of Puttur. The Episcopal Consecration took place on 21 September 2017 at Adur Pattanamthitta, Kerala and was installed at Pro Cathedral in Puttur on 30 September 2017. We congratulate him and wish him every success in his Episcopal ministry in his diocese.

8. REGIONAL CHARISMATIC CONVENTION

On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of Charismatic Renewal in the Catholic Church, the Catholic Charismatic Service Team of Karnataka Region, representing the 14 Catholic Dioceses, has organized a Charismatic Convention, **Pavithrathma Abhishekotsava- 2017** from 9 to 12 November 2017 from 4.00 to 8.00 pm in the Rosario Cathedral Church Grounds, Mangalore. The convention includes praise and worship, Mass, adoration and healing prayer. Let us pray for the success of this convention and also inform our faithful about this convention.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ 
+ Gerald I. Lobo

COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

1. DIVYA JYOTHI – DBCLC

- 01/10//2017 Bible Sunday at Moodubelle
08/10/2017 Bible Sunday at Miyar
11-14/10/2017 Faith Formation Camps
22/10/2017 Lectio Divina Training at Manipal
17/10/2017 Bible Day- VIII Std - Karkal Deanery
18/10/2017 Bible Day - IX Std - Karkal Deanery
19/10/2017 Bible Day - X Std- Karkal Deanery
29/10/2017 Bible Camp for Chidlrenat Manipal
29/10/2017 Liturgical Seminar at Udyavar
29/10/2017 Litugical Seminar at Pangla

Note: Since the Director goes to St Joseph's Seminary, Mangalore for classes in Church History, he wont be avaible in his office on Fridays from 20th October till 24th November 2017.

Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza
Director

2. COMMISSION FOR SCCs

01.10.2017	Sastan	Bible Mirror Method
08.10.2017	Kuntalnagar	Ward Samithi Training/ Service Activities
	Kemman	Bible Mirror Method/Service Activities
15.10.2017	Pangla	Bible Mirror Method/Service Activities
17.10.2017	Attur	SCC Training (Jeevan Jyothi participants of Karkal Deanery)
22.10.2017	Katpadi	Ward Samithi Training/ Service Activities
29.10.2017	Miyar	Bible Mirror Method/Service Activities
	Yermal	Bible Mirror Method/Service Activities

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira
Director

3. FAMILY COMMISSION

01 Oct	Father's Day Kanajar Parish
08 Oct	Father's Day Attur Parish
11 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life - 8 th , 9 th & 10 th - Kallianpur Deanery
12 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life 8 th Std - Shirva Deanery
12 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life - 8 th , 9 th & 10 th - Udupi Deanery
12 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life 8 th & 9 th Std- Kundapur Deanery
13 Oct	Remote Preparation for Family life 10 th Std- Kundapur Deanery

- 13 Oct Remote Preparation for Family life 9th & 10th Std-
Shirva Deanery
- 14-15 Oct Marriage Preparation Course
- 16 Oct Remote Preparation for Family life 8thStd -
Karkal Deanery
- 17 Oct Remote Preparation for Family life 9thStd- Karkal
Deanery
- 18 Oct Remote Preparation for Family life 10th Std- Karkal
Deanery
- 22 Oct Marriage Enrichment Mulky Parish 9 - 11
- 22 Oct Marriage Enrichment Pangala Parish 3 - 5
- 29 Oct Proximate Preparation for Family Life – Christ King
Karkal Parish youth

Mr Leslie Arouza
Director

Annexure 1:

MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR WORLD MISSION DAY 2017

Mission at the heart of the Christian faith

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again this year, World Mission Day gathers us around the person of Jesus, “the very first and greatest evangelizer” (Paul VI, *Evangeli Nuntiandi*, 7), who continually sends us forth to proclaim the Gospel of the love of God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit. This Day invites us to reflect anew on the *mission at the heart of the Christian faith*. The Church is missionary by nature; otherwise, she would no longer be the Church of Christ, but one group among many others that soon end up serving their purpose and passing away. So it is important to ask ourselves certain questions about our Christian identity and our responsibility as believers in a world marked by confusion, disappointment and frustration, and torn by numerous fratricidal wars that unjustly target the innocent. What is the *basis* of our mission? What is the *heart* of our mission? What are the *essential approaches* we need to take in carrying out our mission?

Mission and the transformative power of the Gospel of Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life

1. The Church’s mission, directed to all men and women of good will, is based on the transformative power of the Gospel. The Gospel is Good News filled with contagious joy, for it contains and offers new life: the life of the Risen Christ who, by bestowing his life-giving Spirit, becomes for us the Way, the Truth and the Life (cf. *Jn* 14:6). He is the *Way* who invites us to follow him with confidence and courage.

In following Jesus as our *Way*, we experience *Truth* and receive his *Life*, which is fullness of communion with God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit. That life sets us free from every kind of selfishness, and is a source of creativity in love.

2. God the Father desires this existential transformation of his sons and daughters, a transformation that finds expression in worship in spirit and truth (cf. *Jn* 4:23-24), through a life guided by the Holy Spirit in imitation of Jesus the Son to the glory of God the Father. “The glory of God is the living man” (Irenaeus, *Adversus Haereses* IV, 20, 7). The preaching of the Gospel thus becomes a vital and effective word that accomplishes what it proclaims (cf. *Is* 55:10-11): Jesus Christ, who constantly takes flesh in every human situation (cf. *Jn* 1:14).

Mission and the *kairos* of Christ

3. The Church’s mission, then, is not to spread a religious ideology, much less to propose a lofty ethical teaching. Many movements throughout the world inspire high ideals or ways to live a meaningful life. Through the mission of the Church, Jesus Christ himself continues to evangelize and act; her mission thus makes present in history the *kairos*, the favourable time of salvation. Through the proclamation of the Gospel, the risen Jesus becomes our contemporary, so that those who welcome him with faith and love can experience the transforming power of his Spirit, who makes humanity and creation fruitful, even as the rain does with the earth. “His resurrection is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 276).

4. Let us never forget that “being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a Person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction” (Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas Est*, 1). The Gospel is a Person who continually

offers himself and constantly invites those who receive him with humble and religious faith to share his life by an effective participation in the paschal mystery of his death and resurrection. Through *Baptism*, the Gospel becomes a source of new life, freed of the dominion of sin, enlightened and transformed by the Holy Spirit. Through *Confirmation*, it becomes a fortifying anointing that, through the same Spirit, points out new ways and strategies for witness and accompaniment. Through the *Eucharist*, it becomes food for new life, a “medicine of immortality” (Ignatius of Antioch, *Ad Ephesios*, 20, 2).

5. The world vitally needs the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the Church, Christ continues his mission as the *Good Samaritan*, caring for the bleeding wounds of humanity, and as *Good Shepherd*, constantly seeking out those who wander along winding paths that lead nowhere. Thank God, many significant experiences continue to testify to the transformative power of the Gospel. I think of the gesture of the Dinka student who, at the cost of his own life, protected a student from the enemy Nuer tribe who was about to be killed. I think of that Eucharistic celebration in Kitgum, in northern Uganda, where, after brutal massacres by a rebel group, a missionary made the people repeat the words of Jesus on the cross: “My God, My God, why have you abandoned me?” as an expression of the desperate cry of the brothers and sisters of the crucified Lord. For the people, that celebration was an immense source of consolation and courage. We can think too of countless testimonies to how the Gospel helps to overcome narrowness, conflict, racism, tribalism, and to promote everywhere, and among all, reconciliation, fraternity, and sharing.

Mission inspires a spirituality of constant exodus, pilgrimage, and exile

6. The Church’s mission is enlivened by a spirituality of *constant exodus*. We are challenged “to go forth from our own comfort zone in

order to reach all the peripheries in need of the light of the Gospel' (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 20). The Church's mission impels us to undertake a *constant pilgrimage* across the various deserts of life, through the different experiences of hunger and thirst for truth and justice. The Church's mission inspires a sense of *constant exile*, to make us aware, in our thirst for the infinite, that we are exiles journeying towards our final home, poised between the "already" and "not yet" of the Kingdom of Heaven.

7. Mission reminds the Church that she is not an end unto herself, but a humble instrument and mediation of the Kingdom. A self-referential Church, one content with earthly success, is not the Church of Christ, his crucified and glorious Body. That is why we should prefer "a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security" (*ibid.*, 49).

Young people, the hope of mission

8. Young people are the hope of mission. The person of Jesus Christ and the Good News he proclaimed continue to attract many young people. They seek ways to put themselves with courage and enthusiasm at the service of humanity. "There are many young people who offer their solidarity in the face of the evils of the world and engage in various forms of militancy and volunteering... How beautiful it is to see that young people are 'street preachers', joyfully bringing Jesus to every street, every town square and every corner of the earth!" (*ibid.*, 106). The next Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, to be held in 2018 on the theme *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*, represents a providential opportunity to involve young people in the shared missionary responsibility that needs their rich imagination and creativity.

The service of the Pontifical Mission Societies

9. The Pontifical Mission Societies are a precious means of awakening in every Christian community a desire to reach beyond its own confines and security in order to proclaim the Gospel to all. In them, thanks to a profound missionary spirituality, nurtured daily, and a constant commitment to raising missionary awareness and enthusiasm, young people, adults, families, priests, bishops and men and women religious work to develop a missionary heart in everyone. World Mission Day, promoted by the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, is a good opportunity for enabling the missionary heart of Christian communities to join in prayer, testimony of life and communion of goods, in responding to the vast and pressing needs of evangelization.

Carrying out our mission with Mary, Mother of Evangelization

10. Dear brothers and sisters, in carrying out our mission, let us draw inspiration from Mary, Mother of Evangelization. Moved by the Spirit, she welcomed the Word of life in the depths of her humble faith. May the Virgin Mother help us to say our own “yes”, conscious of the urgent need to make the Good News of Jesus resound in our time. May she obtain for us renewed zeal in bringing to everyone the Good News of the life that is victorious over death. May she intercede for us so that we can acquire the holy audacity needed to discover new ways to bring the gift of salvation to every man and woman.

From the Vatican, 4 June 2017
Solemnity of Pentecost

FRANCIS

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

Email: voxnstraeditor@gmail.com

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

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