

VOX NOSTRA

Vol IV

September 2016

No. 09

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrated on the 8th of September is very dear to us as Catholics of coastal Karnataka because it is not just a liturgical celebration for us, but we celebrate it as our family feast dearly known as *Monthi Fest*. The unique and rich tradition of conducting novena in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and offering flowers by children to her in preparation to this feast is to be fostered in all parishes. I request all parish priests to organize the Novena and encourage all children to participate in these celebrations. The blessed new corn, flowers, first fruits, family meal, sweets, sugar canes, etc. bring back nostalgic memories.

With joy overflowing in my heart at the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I wish you dear Rev. Fathers and your dear parishioners and religious communities of men and women who are rejoicing at this most beautiful feast, a very happy *Monthi Fest*. I hope all of you will find some time on the day to visit your own family and while you do so kindly convey my festal greetings to your family members as well. ***“Happy Monthi Fest”***

2. GIRL CHILD’S DAY

As we in the coastal region of Karnataka joyfully celebrate the feast of the Infant Mary, the Catholic Church in India has given a clarion call to all of us to protect each and every girl child as God’s wonderful creation by dedicating this day to the girl child. Hence I appeal to all of you to highlight the importance of the girl child on the feast of the Infant Mary in your homily with special prayers included in the prayers of the faithful.

3 OUR LADY OF SORROWS - SALVI

The devotion of conducting the *Salvi*, from 9 to 15 September, present in some of our parishes needs to be fostered. This is an occasion to meditate on the seven sorrows of our Lady along with the mystery of the Cross. Do encourage the faithful, especially the youth and children, to participate in this devotion whereby they grow in their devotion to our Lady of Sorrows and to ensure that this devotion is transmitted and preserved for future generations as well.

4 ST THERESA OF KOLKATA

It is a moment of great joy for us that the Canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata will take place in Rome on 4 September 2016 with the theme “carrier of God’s tender and merciful love” during the Sunday mass celebrated as part of the Jubilee of workers and volunteers of mercy. Together with the entire Missionaries of Charity family – Sisters, Brothers, Fathers, coworkers, Corpus Christi Movement for Priests, lay associates (Lay Missionaries of Charity and I Thirst Movement), we rejoice and remain grateful to Pope Francis for this significant event in the life of the Church in India during this Jubilee of Mercy.

Mother Teresa’s canonization becomes a major event of the Jubilee of Mercy. Even in her lifetime, Mother Teresa was an icon of God’s tender mercy, radiating the light of God’s love to so many through the works of mercy, both material and spiritual. From heaven she continues to fulfill her mission as she “lights the light of those in darkness on earth.” With her canonization, the Church presents her as a model and intercessor of those who like her, “long to light the fire of love and peace throughout the world.”

“The cry of Jesus on the Cross, ‘*I thirst*’ (Jn 19: 28), expressing the depth of God’s longing for man, penetrated Mother Teresa’s soul and found fertile soil in her heart.”—Pope John Paul II. By her example and through her intercession, may Mother Teresa inspire many to give their ‘hearts to love and their hands to serve’, starting with those closest to them. May we all continue to live and deepen our awareness of being in need of mercy and our willingness to extend mercy in our

communities, in our families and in our service of the poor.

5. CONGREGATION FOR LAITY, THE FAMILY, AND LIFE

Pope Francis announced on Wednesday, 15 August 2016, the creation of a new dicastery, the Congregation for Laity, the Family, and Life. It will come into existence from 1 September 2016. The Irish-born Bishop Kevin Joseph Farrell, presently bishop of Dallas, Texas, is the first Prefect of the new Congregation. In the Vatican hierarchy, a Congregation is a higher entity than a Pontifical Council, has more public visibility, and has more direct access to the Holy Father. In his Apostolic Letter *Sedula Mater* the Pope wrote that the new Dicastery will be “governed by special Statutes” and all the responsibilities and functions held by the current Pontifical Councils for the Laity and for the Family will be transferred to the new Dicastery from September 1st. After that date the two Councils in question will cease to exist. As a loving Mother, the Pope wrote, the Church has always throughout the centuries shown her concern for the laity, the family and life, by witnessing our Lord’s merciful love for humanity and we want to ensure that “the riches of Jesus Christ are poured out appropriately and with profusion among the faithful.” For this reason, we are taking prompt moves so that that “the Dicasteries of the Roman Curia can respond to the situation of our times and adapt to the needs of the universal Church. In particular, our thoughts are turned towards the laity, the family and life to whom we wish to offer our support and help so that they are active witnesses of the Gospel in our times and as a sign of the goodness of the Lord.” We welcome this move by Pope Francis and I hope this would motivate us to offer our help and support to our laity in their Christian and family life.

6. TEACHERS’ DAY

We will be celebrating Teacher’s Day on September 05, 2016. This celebration affords us an opportunity to reflect on teaching and on the sacred role teachers play in shaping and forming the minds and hearts of young students. Teaching, as we know is a vocation – a call from God to serve the students. God invites teachers to be partners and coworkers with him. On this day we remember with gratitude all

those who moulded us. We salute the teachers who are engaged in forming the tender young minds and hearts entrusted to their care. Let us pray for the teachers who render dedicated and selfless service in our Educational Institutions. We owe them a debt of gratitude for their care and concern. Every teacher should bear in mind that teaching is not merely giving information but bringing a transformation among the students. May the good Lord bless them, their work and their families.
Happy Teacher's Day.

7. APPOINTMENT

Fr Roshan Herald D'Souza, OFMCap has been appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest to Holy Family Church, Brahmavar w.e.f. 16 July 2016. We wish him all the best in his pastoral ministry.

8. DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2016

The updated Directory 2016 is ready and available to you at a cost of ` 75 per copy in the Bishop's House, at chancery and at Divya Jyothi as well. If you so wish, you may take a few extra copies to make them also available for your parishioners who would surely be interested in them, by making an announcement about it and its availability. I thank Rev. Fr Chetan Lobo, OFMCap who like in previous years, has worked towards collecting the updated information, editing it and having it printed.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

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Gerald I. Lobo
Bishop of Udupi

CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY UDUPI (CESU)

Dear Rev. Fathers

I am happy to inform you that this year The Teachers' Day for the schools/colleges under CESU will be celebrated on Saturday 03, Sept 2016 at 9.30 am at St Mary's CBSE School, Kannarpady. Our Bishop Most Rev. Gerald Isaac Lobo will preside over the function. Sri Pramodh Madhwaraj, Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Sports and Youth Empowerment, GOK and the Incharge Minister for Udupi District will be Chief Guest. Sri R. B Wayak, in charge Deputy Director of PU Educations will be the guest of honour. Teachers who have retired/will retire during the period from June 2016 to March 31, 2017 will be honoured by the Bishop; Top scorers in SSLC and PUC and the schools securing 100% results in SSLC and PUC will be felicitated during the function. There will be a short Cultural Programme. The function will conclude with lunch.

I cordially invite you to this Programme. Your presence will be a source of encouragement for our teachers. You have already received invitation to this function. Please do come.

Rev. Fr Lawrence D'Souza

Secretary

COMMISSION FOR SCCs

PROGRAMS IN SEPTEMBER 2016

- 11.09.2016 Ward Samithi Training at Udupi Parish
13.09.2016 Diocesan level SCC parish Conveners meeting at Udupi
30.09. 2016 Team Training for VAT of 5 deaneries at Udupi.

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira

Director

**COMMISSIONS' COORDINATOR'S PROGRAMS
IN SEPTEMBER 2016**

- 04.09.2016 Children Program at Thottam Parish
11.09.2016 Family Commission Program at Pangla
18.09.2016 Minority Rights Awareness Program for Kallianpur
Deanery by Justice and Peace Commission

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira

DIVYA JYOTHI (DBCLC)

Programs in September 2016

- Sept 4 Liturgical Seminar at Milagres Cathedral
Sept 13-15 National Catechetical Conference, Bhopal
Sept 25 Liturgical Seminar at Kuntalnagar
Sept 30 Diocesan Catechism Teachers' Jubilee at Milagres
Cathedral (9.15 am to 1.00 pm)

Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza

Director

CORRECTIONS IN DIRECTORY 2016

Page 58

1. Minor Seminary (2016)

Address : Naalku Beedhi, Kattingeri Post
Via Moodubelle, Udupi - **576 120**
Rector : Fr Alphonse D'Lima

IN SEPTEMBER 2016

Date	Description
05 Sept	Proximate Preparation for Attur Parish Youth 9 – 4pm 11
Sept	Proximate Preparation for Pangala Parish Youth 9 – 4pm 12
Sept	Proximate Preparation for Miyar Parish Youth 9 – 4pm 17,
18 Sept	Marriage Preparation Course
25 Sept	Resource Team Meet 3 – 5 Pm

Mr Leslie Arouza

Director

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12