

VOX NOSTRA

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No. 9

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

We celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, dearly known as *Monthi Fest*, on Thursday, 8th September 2022. We always look forward to the celebration of the birthday of our earthly mother and gratefully remember her selfless love and sacrifice in our growth. Fittingly then, how much more joyfully should we not celebrate the birthday of our heavenly mother, who always shows her maternal care towards the followers of her son, Jesus Christ! It is a beautiful tradition to prepare ourselves as one parish community for this feast with nine days of novena where, all, especially the kids gathered around the statue of Infant Mary, offer flowers of love to her. Let us foster this tradition in all parishes with due planning and preparation. Let us also make use of the opportunity to catechise the faithful on the role of Mother Mary in the history of salvation and in the Church. May the celebration of the novena and feast help us to foster unity in our parishes and also in our families. I wish you, dear Rev. Fathers and your dear parishioners and religious communities of men and women, a very happy *Monthi Fest*. ***Happy Monthi Fest to you, all!***

2. DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

As we joyfully celebrate the feast of the nativity of Infant Mary, the Catholic Church in India invites us to celebrate the day as the *day of*

the girl child. Through this, the Church calls us to protect every girl child as a wonderful creation of God. Given the reports of the various atrocities against the girl child in various parts of our nation, the Indian Church recognizes and reminds us that there is a long way to go so that the people of all religions and regions accept gender-equality and honour the rights of every 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. TEACHERS' DAY

We celebrate the Teachers' Day on Monday, **05 September 2022.** Teaching, as we know, is a vocation – a call from God to form the students. On this day, when we remember the great teacher, Dr Radhakrishnan, we recall, with gratitude, all those who moulded us. We salute the teachers who are engaged in forming the young and tender minds and hearts entrusted to their care. Let us pray for the teachers who render dedicated and selfless service in all the educational institutions in our Diocese. May the good Lord bless them, their families and their work. **Happy Teachers' Day!**

4. 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. Let us set before our faithful, the seven sorrows of our lady as a model to keep faith and hope in the Lord in the face of their daily personal and family struggles and invite the faithful to see the continued accompaniment of Mother Mary in their journey of faith. May our Lady be an inspiration to all of us, priests and religious, to find meaning

in our own life-struggles and challenges in our ministry in our parishes and institutions.

5. PREPARATION FOR HOLIDAY CAMPS

We were organising Faith-Formation Camps, namely Jeevan Amrith, Jeevan Disha and Jeevan Jyothi for the children of standards 8th, 9th and 10th respectively at the deanery level during the Dasara holidays, in the month of October, every year prior to pre-covid 19. We could not organize these camps during the last two years due to the restrictions in view of Covid-19. But this year we can organize these camps in October 2022. I urge every deanery to organise these camps for the children without fail. I request the dean of every deanery to form a team, oversee the timely planning in September itself and proper implementation of the plan with the support of deanery priests by selecting themes concerning the Catholic faith and finding appropriate resource persons who would give inputs on the assigned themes appropriate to the level of children by the use of the modern means of communication.

6. PASTORAL CONSULTATION 2022

The Pastoral Consultation 2022 will be held on **Thursday, 06 October 2022**. I kindly request you to keep the day free so that you are able to attend the consultation without fail. The theme and the modalities of the consultation will be informed to you in due time.

7. ST THERESA OF KOLKATA

05 September 2022 marks the twenty-fifth death anniversary of St Theresa of Kolkata, popularly known as Mother Theresa. By her

enormous missionary work of caring for the poor through her Congregation of the Missionaries of Charity and through her own personal witness, Mother Theresa was a powerful witness to Christ, our Saviour and Lord, in our motherland, India. She often said that the poorest of the poor were those who had no one to care for them and no one who knew them. She often remarked with sadness the desolation of millions of souls in the developed world whose spiritual poverty and loneliness was such an immense cause of suffering. As we thank God for her gift to the Church in India, let us meaningfully celebrate her 25th death anniversary in our parishes by informing the faithful about this occasion. It is fitting that we offer special prayers for the sisters of her congregation who are facing many challenges in continuing her missionary work in India. At personal level, may she continue to inspire us, all, to care for the poor in our own parishes and institutions, and to offer appropriate assistance to them in their poverty and suffering.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ 

+ **Gerald I. Lobo**

COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

1. FAMILY COMMISSION

- 04 Sept Resource Persons' Meet
- 10-11 Sept Marriage Preparation Course
- 11 Sept Proximate Preparation for Family Life - Tallur
Parish Youth
- 11 Sept Remote Preparation for Family Life 7th Std
- Kallianpur Deanery
- 13 Sept Remote Preparation Text Book Committee
- Meeting 24-25 Sept PFC Training at Gulbarga Diocese
- 28 Sept Regional Family Commission Directors' Meeting

Mr Leslie Arouza

Director

2. COMMISSION FOR SCC'S

- 04.09.2022 - SCC Programmes in Miyar and Nakre Parishes
- 05.09.2022 - Shirva Deanery Sanchalaks' Meeting
- 18.09.2022 - Udupi Deanery Parishes' Preraks' Convention at
Kalmady
- 24.09.2022 - Shirva Deanery Parishes' Preraks' Convention at
Shirva

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