

VOX NOSTRA

Vol VIII

NOVEMBER 2020

No.11

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

We begin the month of November with the celebration of the solemnity of all Saints: canonized or beatified, and the multitude of those who are in heaven enjoying the beatific vision that is only known to God. During the early centuries the Saints venerated by the Church were all martyrs. Later on, the Popes set November 1 as the day for commemorating all the Saints. We all have the "universal call to holiness." What must we do in order to join the company of the saints in heaven? We "must follow in His footsteps and conform [our] selves to His image seeking the will of the Father in all things. [We] must devote [our] selves with all [our] being to the glory of God and the service of [our] neighbor. In this way, the holiness of the People of God will grow into an abundant harvest of good, as is admirably shown by the life of so many saints in Church history." (*Lumen Gentium*, 40)

I exhort all of you, dear Fathers, to celebrate this solemnity meaningfully, catechizing the faithful on the importance of this solemnity and also announce to the faithful about the requirements to obtain either plenary or partial indulgence, the details of which are found on page 164 of *ORDO*. Owing to the present situation of Corona Virus Pandemic, the Apostolic Penitentiary, through a Decree on 23 October 2020, has extended the Plenary Indulgences for the deceased faithful for the entire month

of November, with adaptation of works and conditions to guarantee the safety of the faithful. The decree is given as annexure 1.

Wherever there is a custom of having evening mass and commemoration of all souls, I urge you to educate the faithful in this regard and discontinue it, as it goes against the liturgical norms.

2. KARNATAKA RAJYOTSAVA

We celebrate Karnataka Rajyotsava on 1st November. This was the day in 1956 when all the Kannada-speaking regions of South India were merged to form the State of Karnataka. As we belong to the State of Karnataka, let us be proud of the rich heritage and traditions of our state and join the citizens of our State in celebrating the day meaningfully. Let us remember to pray for all leaders of our State so that they always strive for peace and harmony among all religions and work for the all-round development of the State.

3. ALL SOULS' DAY

The Church remembers and prays for all the faithful departed on 2nd November. Our faith teaches us that the Church exists in three states: the triumphant, the pilgrim and the suffering. As members of the Pilgrim Church, we can help the Suffering Church to attain heaven by our prayers and the sacrifice of the Mass. The Church reminds us of the continued and close relationship between the three states of the Church (communion of saints) and invites us, all, to offer prayers and Mass for the suffering Church on 2nd November every year.

I exhort you, dear Fathers, to follow the instructions given in *ORDO* for the celebration of Mass on this day. Since the norms prescribed for the funerals may be applied as regards the number of faithful in the cemetery, it is not

advisable to organize and celebrate masses in the cemetery. Do not arrange any mass for the dead in the church or cemetery on the previous day. Let us encourage our faithful to pray for their dear departed so that those who have gone before them may obtain the remission of sins and be admitted to the triumphant Church.

4. WORLD DAY OF THE POOR 2020

We shall celebrate the fourth **World Day of the Poor** on Sunday, 15 November 2020. This day was launched by Pope Francis at the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy who invited Christians around the world to serve the poor with concrete actions that address their daily needs.

The theme for the 4th World Day of the Poor is “Stretch forth your hand to the poor”, taken from the book of Sirach. Drawing from this text, Pope Francis observes that “its author presents his advice concerning many concrete situations in life, one of which is poverty. He insists that even amid hardship we must continue to trust in God.” The Pope points out that from these pages we see, “prayer to God and solidarity with the poor and suffering are inseparable.” He also notes that “time devoted to prayer can never become an alibi for neglecting our neighbour in need.” Please find the entire message as Annexure 2.

5. DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION

As per the suggestion of the Senate, due to prevailing situation of Corona Virus, we will not be organizing the Diocesan Eucharistic Procession this year on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus *Christ, King* of the Universe. However, I invite every parish to organize one-hour adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the same day at a convenient time, inviting parishioners to praise and adore Christ, our

Saviour, in the Blessed Sacrament and also interceding for the needs of parish, diocese and world.

6. FORM OF BAPTISM

The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, through a Response on 24 June 2020, has alerted the ministers of Baptism about any modification in the formula of Baptism; specifically, the warning is about changing “I baptize you in the name of ...” to “we baptize you...” Baptisms administered with the latter formula have been declared invalid.

7. TRINITARIAN CONCLUSION OF COLLECT PRAYERS

The Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments had a sent a communiqué on 13 May 2020 regarding the Trinitarian conclusions of the Collect Prayers at Mass and the Liturgy of Hours. It said, “The matter in question concerns the Trinitarian conclusion of Collect Prayers. These prayers can be concluded in one of three manners as laid out in n. 54 of the *General Instruction to the Roman Missal*. Currently, in each of these formulae the Latin words “Deus, per omnia saecula saeculorum” are rendered in English as “one God, for ever and ever.” The Congregation has expressed the view that the addition of “one” is mistaken and is problematic because, “on the one hand, it can serve to undermine the statement of the Son’s unique identity within the Trinity which the Latin formulae so strongly convey and, on the other hand, it can also be interpreted as saying that Jesus Christ is “one God”. Either or both of these interpretations is injurious to the faith of the Church. This is of particular import in this time when many people see Jesus simply as a good man or moral teacher, akin to Socrates or the Buddha, and fail to recognize him as the incarnate Son of God and the Second person of Trinity.” Hence, the right rendering

should actually be **“God, for ever and ever”** (omitting the ‘one’). The same applies to the Liturgical Hours. This directive comes into immediate effect.

8. NEW DEANS

V. Rev. Fr Valerian Mendonca, Rector, Milagres Cathedral, Kallianpur and V. Rev. Fr Charles Menezes, Parochial Administrator, Mother of Sorrows Church, Udupi, have been appointed as the Deans of Kallianpur and Udupi deaneries respectively. I convey my best wishes to them and request the priests and religious of the deaneries to offer their whole-hearted cooperation to the new Deans.

9. ANNUAL PARISH FEASTS

The Annual Parish Feasts are around the corner in good many parishes of our Diocese. Parish feasts are occasions for families and relatives to meet and greet each other, come together and share a fellowship meal. However, due to the present situation of Corona Virus, I request the parish priests to celebrate the festal mass in honour of the Patron and related liturgical celebrations in consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council, keeping in mind the restrictions from the civil authorities. All processions, gathering of the people outside the Liturgical celebrations and fancy fairs should strictly be avoided. As per the custom in our diocese, I request the parish priests to set aside the offertory collection made during the annual parish festal mass for the PWS and send the same to the Secretary Cum Treasurer of Priests’ Welfare Scheme.

10. POPE’S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN)

The Holy Father constituted the PWPN on 10 April 2018 as a Pontifical Work with its legal seat in the Vatican City. This ‘Apostleship of Prayer’, which has now been

christened as PWPN began in 1844 in a house of formation for Young Jesuits in Vals in the South of France, “as a way of being Apostles and Missionaries in their daily lives, uniting with Christ everything that they were doing during the day.” It helped not only the Priests and Religious but also simple lay people to become missionaries right where they were and doing their daily activities. Later it was made a Pontifical Organization along with its Youth branch, the ‘Eucharistic Crusade’. In 2010, these organizations were recreated with an attempt to make them relevant for modern times. The ‘Eucharistic Crusade’ became the ‘Eucharistic Youth Movement’ (EYM). Pope Francis changed the name of the ‘Apostleship of Prayer’ to ‘Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network’ (PWPN) in 2018. The vision of the PWPN is “to pray and work to meet the challenges of world identified by the Pope. His intentions are key to prayer and mission”. The mission of the PWPN is “You are Apostles in daily life walking a spiritual path called ‘Way of the Heart’, working to serve Christ’s Mission.”

I have appointed Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta as the Director of PWPN for Udupi Diocese with immediate effect. I request you to kindly cooperate with him in establishing PWPN in our Diocese. Let us encourage our faithful too to join in this Apostleship of Prayer.

11. NEW DIRECTORY FOR CATECHESIS

The Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization promulgated the new Directory for Catechesis on 25th June 2020. It comes as a follow up to the General Catechetical Directory of 1971 and General Directory for Catechesis of 1997, both of which had been issued by the Congregation for the Clergy. As the Catholic Church embarks on the mission of teaching the Christian faith, the new Directory for Catechesis (2020) lays the how-to guidelines for catechesis and presents universal

norms to guide pastors and catechists in the work of evangelization. It guides the proclamation of the Gospel by the Christian faithful to people of all ages and in all seasons of life. The Directory places catechetical instruction and formation of catechetical teachers clearly within the realm of evangelization. It offers guidelines to assist in the creation of local directories and catechisms and clarifies the importance of catechetical renewal in Christian communities. The Directory affirms the presentation of the Catholic faith articulated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church as a sound point of reference for instruction while drawing deeply from Scripture and the writings of recent popes, especially Pope Francis's *Evangelii Gaudium*.

12. FRATELLI TUTTI

Fratellitutti (All Brothers) is the third encyclical of Pope Francis, subtitled "On fraternity and social friendship". It was signed on 3 October 2020, on the occasion of his visit to the tomb of his namesake, Saint Francis of Assisi, and was published the following day, the saint's feast day. The encyclical is roughly 43,000 words long, is divided into 8 chapters and 287 paragraphs and contains 288 footnotes. Pope Francis states as an inspiration for the document his February 2019 meeting in Abu Dhabi with Ahmad al-Tayyeb, Grand Imam of al-Azhar, during which they signed the *Document on Human Fraternity*. Besides Francis of Assisi, he also states that he has been inspired by numerous non-Catholics, including Martin Luther King, Desmond Tutu, and Mahatma Gandhi. He reflects how the COVID-19 pandemic has proven the failure of the world to work together during the crisis.

The encyclical calls for a more human fraternity and solidarity, and has a plea to reject wars. It focuses on

contemporary social and economic problems, and proposes an ideal world of fraternity in which all countries can be the part of a "larger human family." This encyclical can be considered as a systematic, comprehensive rearrangement of the work Pope Francis has produced during his seven-year papacy. I invite all priests and religious men and women to read and study this encyclical, familiarize with its contents and thus widen the horizon of pastoral ministry by promoting the integral human fraternity.

13. BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

Amidst the pandemic of Corona Virus, God has gifted new young Blessed to the Church. Servant of God, Carlo Acutis (3 May 1991 – 12 October 2006) was beatified on 10 October 2020, at the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi in Assisi, Italy, with Cardinal Agostino Vallini presiding on behalf of the Pope.

Blessed Carlo Acutis was an Italian Catholic schoolboy and an amateur computer programmer. He was born in London on 3 May 1991 to a wealthy Italian family. He was baptized on 18 May 1991. As a young boy, he evinced a precocious interest in religious practice and made the effort either before or after Mass to reflect before the tabernacle. He was best known for documenting Eucharistic miracles around the world and cataloguing them all onto a website that he created in the months before his death from leukemia. He was noted for his cheerfulness and his computer skills as well as for his deep devotion to the Eucharist, which became a core theme of his life. When he contracted leukemia, he offered his suffering both for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Universal Church, saying; "I offer all the suffering I will have to undergo for the Lord, for the Pope, and the Church. "Let us thank God for the new young Blessed to the Church and let

us set him as an example for imitation for our youth in their devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

14. CARDINAL OSWALD GRACIAS RE-NOMINATED TO THE COUNCIL OF CARDINALS

Pope Francis has re-nominated Cardinal Oswald Gracias, President of CBCI, to the Council of Cardinals advising the Holy Father for the reform of the Roman Curia and governance of the Universal Church. This was announced by the Vatican Office on 15 October 2020. He has also been re-nominated by the Holy Father to be a member of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts, the highest body in the Church on matters regarding Canon Law. This body suggests amendments and other changes in the Canon Law to the Holy Father, and is entrusted with the responsibility of giving authentic interpretations on the Code of Canon Law.

15. SEASON OF ADVENT

We begin the season of Advent on 29 November 2020. The word *Advent* originates from a Latin word “Adventus” which means “coming” or “arrival.” Advent Season is focused on preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ in all ways, from His birth in the past to His Second Coming in the future, as the Messiah. It is a meaningful season that reminds us of the reality of Jesus Christ and that He has come and He is present in our world and lives. The birth of Jesus is worth celebrating because it reveals His human side and is therefore an example of how we should live our own lives as his followers here on earth. I wish you all a fruitful season of Advent in preparation for the celebration of the feast of the Nativity of our Lord. Since the earmarked collection for Communio India on the feast of the Assumption in August this year was not made then, I request all Parish Priests to earmark the Collection of first Sunday of Advent (29 November 2020) for Communio India and send it to the Procurator.

16. CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS/TRANSFERS

Sl. No.	Name	From	To	w.e.f.
1	Rev. Fr Charles Menezes	Chaplain, IYCS, Paris	Paroch. Admn. Udupi	27.10.2020
2	V. Rev. Fr Valerian Mendonca	PP, Udupi Church	Rector, Cathedral, Kallianpur	28.10.2020
3	V. Rev. Fr. Lawrence D'Souza	Rector, Cathedal, Kallianpur	Resident, Belle Church	29.10.2020
4	Rev. Fr Ronald Miranda	leave & studies	Paroch. Admn., Yermal Church	30.10.2020
5	Rev. Fr Lawrence Rodrigues	PP, Yermal Church	Retires, Resident-ZuzeVaz Home	31.10.2020

17. NEW CONVENT AT ATTUR

The Congregation of the Helpers of Mount Rosary at Alangar, Moodubidri has opened a new convent for their Sisters at Karkal-Attur. The sisters were rendering generous service at the St Lawrence Basilica for many years now from Nakre. We thank them for their new community in our Diocese and convey our best wishes in their apostolate. Their Address: Sr Prescilla D'Souza, Holy Rosary Convent, Attur Post, Karkal 576 117.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ 

✠ Gerald Isaac Lobo
Bishop of Udupi

COMMISSION FOR PROCLAMATION AND EVANGELIZATION

Dear Rev. Parish Priests, this is to bring to your kind notice that due to Covid-19 pandemic Mission Sunday Calendars, Envelops and posters did not reach us in time. Now they have arrived and I request you to take to your parish and distribute to your parishioners. Thank you

**Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta
Director**

PLATINUM BIRTHDAY

Rev. Fr Charles Lewis, Parish Priest
Christ King Church, Trasi – 23-11-2020

RUBY BIRTHDAY

Rev. Fr Roshan Thomas D'Souza,
Studies, NVSC, Pune – 11-11-2020

**Congratulations and Best Wishes Dear Rev. Fathers
AD MULTOS ANNOS**

OBITUARY

Mrs Clara Mascarenhas (86 yrs), M/o Rev. Fr Albert Crasta, Parish Priest, Immaculate Conception Church, Gangolli passed on 22 October 2020. The funeral was held on 23 October 2020 at St Peter Claver Church, Arva. May she Rest in peace.

Published at **Bishop's House, Udupi - 576 101**
Email: voxnstraeditor@gmail.com Editor: **Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza**
(For Private circulation only)