

VOX NOSTRA

Vol XI

JULY 2023

No. 7

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. SUNDAY FOR PEACE AND PRAYER IN MANIPUR

We are all aware of the grim situation of our fellow brothers and sisters in the state of Manipur for the last 50 days. Violence and arson have continued unabated since the conflict began, houses and villages have been torched or completely destroyed. Places of worship have been desecrated and set on fire. More than 50,000 people have been displaced, rendered homeless and are suffering in various relief camps and private residences. The violence claimed the lives of almost 100 people. In this context, the CBCI has invited us all to observe Sunday, 2 July 2023 as a Sunday for Peace and Prayer for the suffering people in Manipur and suggested a few activities for the day. For details, please refer to the attached letter in PDF. Kindly go through the contents, select a few activities and organise this Sunday effectively. You may add your own initiatives too so that all people in our locality are aware of this situation.

I exhort all parishes and religious houses to observe this Sunday for Peace and Prayer without fail, inform the parishioners of the situation in Manipur and also invite them to participate and pray for our brothers and sisters in Manipur. Let us add a prayer for Manipur during the prayers of the faithful in all masses. In addition, I ask you to organise special adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on this day and pray for the people of Manipur and especially for the central and state governments so that they recognize their bounden duty in this situation of law and order, and work towards restoring peace and normalcy in the state.

We had asked to make a collection on 28 May 2023 as contribution to help the suffering people of Manipur. While I thank the parish priests who have already sent this collection to Bishop's House, I request all those who have not forwarded the collection to do it as soon as possible so that we will be able to send our contribution to the concerned persons.

2. TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ERECTION OF THE DIOCESE

On 16 July 2023, we step into the twelfth year of the erection of the Diocese of Udupi that was erected on 16 July 2012 by the then Pope Benedict XVI. Our hearts are full of joy and overflow with gratitude to God for all the divine blessings that we received in the past years through the intercession of Our Lady of Miracles, our patroness. In addition to the implementation of the pastoral plan- mission 2025 and various developmental works in parishes and institutions, we have been able to complete two major projects of the pastoral centre and a home for the retired priests of our diocese. Last year we also organized a meaningful decennial year celebration. I remain grateful to every priest in the Diocese for you have contributed to the best of your ability in whatever ministry assigned to you in parishes or institutions. The religious men and women have contributed in a true spirit of cooperation with their unique charisms and we remain grateful to their generous services to the people of God. The involvement of the lay faithful in the implementation of the pastoral plan and in all other initiatives at the parish, deanery and diocesan level is noteworthy and we offer them our sincere appreciation. As we march forward with greater enthusiasm and hope, let us ask the intercession of Our Lady of Miracles, our patroness that we may be able to truly serve the people of God in this local Church with greater commitment and zeal. May God bless all of you.

3. OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

We celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on 16 July 2023. Mary, the Mother of God, has a multitude of titles under

which she is invoked for various needs. Since the 15th century, popular devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel has been centered on the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, also known as the Brown Scapular, a sacramental associated with the promise of Mother Mary's special aid for the salvation of the devoted wearer. The scapular stands for a commitment to follow Jesus, like Mary, the perfect model of all the disciples of Christ. It is also an expression of the belief that the bearers of the scapular will meet God in eternal life, aided by the intercession and prayers of Mary, our heavenly Mother. Let us invoke the maternal help of Our Lady of Mount Carmel as we remember and pray to her memorial.

4. ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

The annual clergy retreat for the priests of Udupi Diocese will be held from 16 July 2023 to 21 July 2023 at Pastoral Centre, Bajjodi, Mangalore. I invite all diocesan priests to join this retreat that will help us for our spiritual nourishment and also fill us renewed vigour in our pastoral work. Most Rev. Dr Ignatius D'Souza, Bishop of Bareilly has agreed to be the preacher for the retreat. I request you to reach the venue by 7.30 pm on Sunday, 16 July 2022. The retreat will begin with introductory talk after the supper. Kindly bring your personal mass diary for my scrutiny when you come for the retreat.

5. WORLD DAY FOR GRAND PARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

The third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be celebrated on July 23, 2023, will have the theme, "His mercy is from age to age" (*Lk* 1: 50). This verse reminds us that God's mercy is manifested in history through the testimonies of those who have experienced it and passed it on to their children and grandchildren. Grandparents and the elderly are called to carry this mercy, to tell through words and life how God has been faithful to His promises and how He continues to love His people. They are also called to receive God's mercy, and to allow themselves to be comforted by His fatherly love

that never abandons them. The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is an occasion to once again express with joy that the Church wants to celebrate together with those whom the Lord — as the Bible says — has given “a full life”.

This year’s *Day* is characterized by its close connection with the World Youth Day, which will be held in Lisbon from 1 to 6 August. This relationship is evident in Pope Francis’ message to elders, inviting them to pray for and bless the youth who will participate in the WYD, and to young people, urging them to visit and listen to the grandparents and the elderly in their community. The Pope stressed that between the two generations there is a communion of life and faith, a mutual giving and gratitude, a witness of hope and charity. Let us meaningfully celebrate in our parishes highlighting the importance of grandparents and the elderly in families.

6. SCHOOL CATECHISM AND VALUE EDUCATION

Catechism and Value Education classes in all Catholic educational institutions offer us with an opportunity to provide faith formation to Catholic students and formation in Christian values to other students. It also offers a unique Christian identity to our schools and serves the purpose of spreading of Gospel values in the society and contributes to forming better citizens for the nation. Hence, I request all Catholic Educational institutions (diocesan and religious) in Udupi Diocese to organise classes in Catechism and Value Education at least for two periods in a week. For classes from 1st to 10th, do follow the syllabus and textbooks prescribed for the Diocese. In PU and Degree colleges, Theology classes based on *Youcat* or Adult Catechesis books should be held for Catholic students. Moreover, an annual retreat, Holy Eucharist once a month, confessions also should be organised for Catholic students in all schools. I urge the correspondents to see that these directives are strictly followed in all the schools.

7. NEW JUDICIAL VICAR

Very Rev. Fr Walter D'Mello, having served the Ecclesiastical Tribunal of the Diocese of Udupi as its Judicial Vicar since past six years effectively and devotedly, has completed his term of Office of the Judicial Vicar on 30 June 2023. I hereby offer my sincere thanks to V. Rev. Fr Walter D'Mello for his generous and wholehearted service to our Ecclesiastical Tribunal by clearing the pending cases. May God bless him and his future ministry. I have appointed Very Rev. Dr Roshan D'Souza, the Chancellor of the Diocese of Udupi as the new Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Udupi, w.e.f. 01 July 2023. I invoke God's blessings upon him and his ministry.

8. APPOINTMENT OF REV. LOUIS MASCARENHAS AS THE BISHOP OF ALLAHABAD

We rejoice at the appointment of Rev. Louis Mascarenhas (64) as the Bishop of Allahabad by His Holiness Pope Francis on Saturday, 17 June 2023. With this appointment, he becomes the first Bishop from the new Diocese of Udupi.

He was born on 29 September 1959 at Kelmbet parish in Shirva Deanery. After his earliest years of education, he pursued his priestly formation at St. Paul's Minor Seminary in Lucknow from 1978 to 1981. From 1981 to 1984 he studied philosophy at St. Joseph's Regional Seminary, Allahabad. He then completed his formation in local languages during his regency, from 1984 to 1985. He continued his theological studies at St. Joseph's Regional Seminary, Allahabad, from 1985 to 1989. He was ordained priest on 4 April 1989 for the Diocese of Allahabad. After his priestly ordination, from 1989 to 1992, he was Assistant Parish Priest at St. Joseph the Worker's Church, Chakeri, Kanpur. From 1992 to 1995 he was Assistant Parish Priest at St. Peter's Church, Akbarpur and In-charge of the Visiting Station, Jaffarganj. From 1997 to 2005 he was the Director of the Diocesan Development and Welfare Society, Jan Hit Sadan. From 2005 to 2014 he was the Principal of St Joseph's College, Allahabad. From 2014 to 2020 he was the Parish Priest of St. Peter's Church and the Principal of St. Peter's School. Since 2020 he has been the Director of Nazareth

Hospital, Prayagraj and from 2021 he has also been the Diocesan Administrator of Allahabad. The episcopal consecration will take place on 24 August 2023 at Allahabad.

We thank and praise God for raising Msgr Louis Masacrenhas, a native of Udupi Diocese, to the honour of the episcopate. On behalf the clergy, the religious and the laity, I offer my hearty congratulations and best wishes to the bishop-elect Msgr Louis Masacrenhas and implore God's choicest blessings on him and on his future episcopal ministry.

11. CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS/TRANSFERS (see page 7)

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ 

+ Gerald Isaac Lobo

PLATINUM BIRTHDAY

Msgr. Baptist Menezes

28.07.2023

Congratulations and Best Wishes Dear Monsignor.

Transfers and Appointments (continued):

S.No.	Priest's Name	From	To	w.e.f.
24.	Rev. Fr Ashwin Rebello, SJ	Asst. Priest, Karkal - Attur	Back to Province	09.04.2023
25.	Rev. Fr Norbert D'Mello CSC	Asst. Priest, Karkal Town	Back to Province	08.05.2023
26.	Rev. Fr Peter Fernandes OP	Asst. Priest, Kolalgi	Back to Province	01.06.2023
27.	Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta	Secretary, CESU (Continues)	Director, 'Anugraha' Pastoral Centre, Santhekatte (additional)	12.06.2023
28.	Rev. Fr Harry Pereira	Director, 'Anugraha' Pastoral Centre	Parochial Administrator, Kanajar	13.06.2023
29.	Rev. Fr Vishal Lobo	Parish Priest, Kanajar	Studies, Pune	15.06.2023
30.	Rev. Fr Henry D'Souza SFX	Goa Province (SFX)	Asst. Priest, Pangla	20.06.2023
31.	Rev. Fr Walter D'Mello	Judicial Vicar, Bishop's House	Back to Mangalore Diocese	30.06.2023
32.	Rev. Fr Roshan D'Souza	Chancellor, Bishop's House (Continues)	Judicial Vicar, Bishop's House (additional)	30.06.2023
33.	Rev. Fr Steevan Fernandes	Director, Youth Commission (Continues)	Guardian, Milagres Home, Kallianpur (additional)	01.07.2023
34.	Rev. Fr Reginald Pinto	Guardian, Milagres Home, Kallianpur	Director, Sampada (Continues); Residence: Pastoral Centre	01.07.2023
35.	Rev. Fr Denis Alexander D'Sa	_____	Diocesan Director - Social Communication Commission	01.07.2023
36.	Mr Edward Larsen D'Souza	_____	Diocesan Director – Justice and Peace Commission	01.07.2023
37.	Dr Gerald Pinto	_____	Diocesan Director - Laity Commission	15.07.2023

COMMUNICATION FROM ANUGRGRAHA

1. BASIC ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES (BECs)

02.07.2023 - BECs Training at Pamboor parish

10.07.2023 - DAT Meeting.

30.07.2023 - BECs PRERAKS' Training at Shirva parish

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira
Director

2. FAMILY COMMISSION

01 July	PTA Meet Holy Rosary Eng. Medium school Kundapur
04 July	Senior Citizens' Club Inauguration – Shirva Parish
05 July	Regional Meet, Udupi
8 & 9 July	Marriage Preparation Course
09 July	Proximate preparation for Family Life -Pamboor Parish Youth
16 July	Proximate preparation for Family Life -Kemmannu & Thottam Parish Youth
23 July	Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
30 July	Married Couples' Day -Miyar Parish
30 July	Elders Day and Senior Citizens 'Club Inauguration – Tallur Parish

Mr Leslie Arouza
Director

INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS FOR JULY 2023

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

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