

Jubilee celebration of
Fr. Oswald CMI and reception
to the New Priest Fr. Vibinto CMI
at Tukum



Chanda stall at FIAT Global Mission Exhibition in Kerala (April 2025)



Bishop Ephrem praying at
the stone where body of Jesus
was laid on the lap of
Mother Mary
(27.04.25)



Chanda Darbar

Bulletin, Eparchy of Chanda

जीवन की पवित्रता का वर्ष



चीजों की कीमत होती है और वे बिक सकती हैं, लेकिन
लोगों की गरिमा अमूल्य है और चीजों से कहीं अधिक मूल्यवान है।
- पोप फ्रान्सीस

प्रभु ने धरती
की मिट्टी से मनुष्य को
गढ़ा और उसके नथनों में प्राणवायु, फूँक
दी। इस प्रकार मनुष्य एक सजिव सत्व
बन गया।
- उत्पत्ति २:७

मैं इसलिये आया हूँ की वे जीवन प्राप्त
करें - बल्की पन्नीपूर्ण जीवन प्राप्त करें।
- योहान १०:१०



Thanks to God for Pope Francis



*May His soul
Rest in Peace*



Renovated SJB convent chapel
blessing, Jeevan Vikas, Wardha



The new face of SVG
(Renovated Minor Seminary)



Vocation promotion camp



SJB Jubilee celebration



Muron Holy Qurbana

Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil

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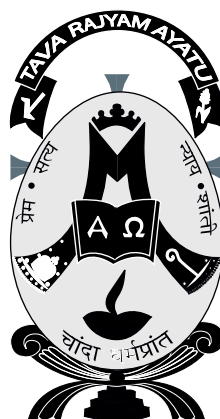
Fr. Deepak Tirkey

Editor (+919404595284)

The

Chanda Samachar

CHANDA DIOCESAN BULLETIN



Thy Kingdom Come (Mt. 6:10)

**Bishop's Home (Balharshah), Ballarpur-442701
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I. SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear People,

Thy Kingdom Come!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The theme of the Jubilee Year 2025 is the *Pilgrims of Hope*. The scriptural quote of the theme is “Hope does not disappoint us” (Rm. 5:5). Hope is the theological virtue that lead us ahead even in the midst of despair and distress. Abraham and Sarah were of old age and had no offsprings of their own, yet they hoped and was born to them Isaac (Gen. 17:15-19). The prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea and others had their own limitations and pitfalls, yet they hoped and they were turned to be great prophets (Is. 6:1ff, Jer. 1:4-10). Zachariah and Elizabeth were promised a son while they were in old age. The spark of hope ignited by the angel gave them the flames of hope in their life. They became parents of John the Baptist (Lk. 1:5-25). Five loaves and two fishes were insufficient for people numbering more than five thousand, yet it was sufficient for the whole crowd including women and children. The words of Jesus gave hope to the disciples (Mt. 14:17-19, Mk. 6:31-44, Lk. 9:12-17 & Jn. 6:1-4).

*“Without Jesus there is a hopeless end,
but with Jesus there is an endless hope”.*

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son
that whosoever believes in him should not perish

but have eternal life” (Jn. 3:16).

“We must not let hope abandon us....
Optimism disappoints, but hope does not”.

- Pope Francis



Yours devotedly in Christ

† Ephrem Nariculam

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda

II. PASTORAL LETTER

Prot. No. 144/2025

04/05/2025

**TO CREATE AWARENESS
AGAINST VOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF HUMAN LIFE**

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and my dear people,

Thy Kingdom Come!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Life is God's gift and we are stewards of life is a general and universal principle. Sacred Scripture in general endorses it and teachings of different religions inexhaustibly affirm it. Every person irrespective of allegiance to any religion or even an atheist accepts this general and universal principle. Indeed life is a free gift from a source that is incomprehensible fully to the human intellect. The life's essence from its inception to its preservation and eventual conclusion, is shrouded in inexplicable complexity. Life is a mystery, we accept, preserve and eventually surrender recognizing the limits of our human existence. Modern medicine has achieved remarkable success in extending human lifespan, yet the creation of new life complexity remains an insurmountable challenge. Naturally this draws us to the conclusion that we have to be in amazement at the mystery of life.

Life is indeed full of mysteries and that's what makes it so fascinating. The unknowns, the twists and turns and surprises that come our way all contribute to the intricate tapestry of life. As ancient Greek philosopher Socrates said “the more I learn, the more I realize how much I don't know”. This awareness of the mystery of life can be a liberating and inspiring force, encouraging us to approach each day with a sense of awe and openness.

In this background we shall briefly analyze the different ways of termination of life, moral principles connected to it and our restricted ownership of life.

Various forms of life-termination exist globally are Abortion, Murder, Euthanasia, Capital Punishment, and Suicide. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* categorically prohibit them and declare them as sin as they violate the fifth commandment – “thou shall not kill” (Ex. 20:13,

Dt. 5:17, Mt. 19:18). Many religious traditions and ethical system consider taking one's own life or the life of another person to be morally wrong and sinful. For life is precious, holy, sacred and a God's gift. The basic proposition is that God is the source of life and we are only stewards, so we have no ownership and we have to preserve it as God wills. I wish to deal with each of them briefly what Church teaches and the moral principles connected to them.

The Holy Mother Church upholds the following moral principles regarding the termination of life in any form. As stewards of life, we acknowledge God as its divine source.

Abortion: A fetus is a human being with right to life from conception, thus making abortion a form of murder. The denial of potential of a fetus to develop into a person is sin as it involves termination of life, the life which is solely a gratuitous gift of God.

Murder: It is indeed the act of taking away of some one's life, typically in a premeditated or intentional manner. Church holds the view that even mutilation of life is sinful. Many ethical systems consider murder to be morally wrong. It often emphasizes the importance of respecting human life, dignity and autonomy. Indeed murder is direct violation of fifth commandment of God (Ex. 20:13 & Dt. 5:17).

Euthanasia: All human life is inherently valuable and that intentionally ending life, even at the request of the individual is morally wrong. As a result the Church upholds that the person request euthanasia and all who assist in it in one way or another commits sin against life.

Death Penalty or Capital Punishment: It is cruel and unusual punishment, a violation of the fundamental right to life. It is totally unacceptable to the Church. The possibility of executing an innocent person is major concerns as mistaken in the justice system are irreversible. The general view of the Church is that life should not prematurely shortened because it is a gift from God. No human person has right neither over one's own life nor on another's life – God is the owner of life and we are its stewards. The concept of stewardship of life – being responsible for managing what God has entrusted to us – is a core theme in the teachings of Holy Bible (1 Pet. 4:10, Col. 3:23, Lk. 16:11, Titus 1:7, Malachi 3:10).

Suicide: The moral principle behind suicide is complex and sensitive topic with various perceptions and beliefs. It is morally wrong as it is seen as rejection of God's gift of life. The humanist views it as disrespect to the dignity of life. The Catholic Church teaches that suicide is morally equivalent to murder and is considered a grave offence against fifth commandment.

The above analysis leads us to the conclusion that any form of termination of human life is sin and goes against the will of God. Only the giver of life has the right to take life back. From the Christian perspective there is also an aspect of participation in divine life. “Jesus came to give life and life in fullness” (Jn. 10:10). Through Christ we participate in the divine life and by his death and resurrection Christ assured us eternal life. Indeed our life in the world is a pilgrimage to life everlasting – a blissful life with God Almighty in the heavenly abode. No one has any right to obstruct or hinder life in any way is the basic proposition that Church teaches. God created the world and God has a purpose, and we the humans have to co-operate with God's purpose and fulfill it as God wills. We shall avail the opportunity of the observance of the Year of the Sanctity of Life in our diocese to co-operate with God's plan to create a conscious awareness amongst us and others to respect life and to preserve it's sanctity. God bless you all.



Yours devotedly in Christ

Ephrem Nariculam

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda



Quotes

“ God asks us not to do the best in the world,
but our best for the world. ”

- Bp. Ephrem

III. CIRCULAR - I

Prot. No. 074/2025

28/03/2025

To,

All Secretaries of the Societies &
Other Priests in the diocese of Chanda,

Sub : Renewal of 12A Registration, reg.

Ref : Intimation from Lancy D'Souza, our auditor.

Dear Fathers,

Thy Kingdom Come!
Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The cause for me to send this circular is a recent communication that I received from Lancy D'Souza, our auditor. In his letter he reminds everyone with regard to the renewal of 12A Registration. It was done last in 2021, now it is time to start the renewal process. The auditor firm is asking us to do the needful to prepare the documents latest by the beginning of April 2025 so as to start the process on time by September. It is a herculean task and too long process. May I request everyone to be alert and fast in collecting the documents and get ready within the stipulated time frame. All the details with regard to the required documents are given in the communication that we have received from the auditor circulated by Fr. Joseph Kalathil, DFO in our WhatsApp group (Once again it is attached, herewith). Please read it carefully and do all what is required as early as possible. 12A Registration process of Wasa and Balapur Societies are blocked due to lack of activities and for some other reasons as well. If 12A Registration is not renewed, we will have difficulty in renewing FCRA registration. When 12A and FCRA are not obtained, the societies will have to face lots of other problems as well. It can even affect the status of our Societies as a charitable institutions. The few challenges that may follow are: we will

have to pay upto 30% tax for all incomes that we receive, we will be blocked from receiving foreign contributions, once it is lost/not obtained it will be almost impossible to regain/renew it later, we will have to reduce the bulk of social and charitable activities of the diocese etc.

Though the process for renewal of 12A registration and FCRA is too hard and time consuming, may I request all secretaries of the Societies in the diocese and others to help one another to do the task for the good of the Church, diocese and for the welfare of our people. Normally every donor when they donate to a charitable institution/Society they presume that it is wholly benefitted by the beneficiaries. If not, some may be reluctant to help voluntarily the charitable institutions/Societies. Tax exemption is an attraction for many to contribute for the welfare of the poor. And as you know the present context is not very congenial to our activities in different ways, we have to handle these tasks with care, lest it backfires. So may I request every secretary of each society to start working on the process meticulously with the co-operation of others, so that all can learn each step and complete the process within the stipulated time frame. It will be useful for our future renewal process as well. So may request everyone kindly to read the communication from the auditor carefully and do the task with diligent care. The Diocesan Finance Department is ever ready to help you in this regard. Please keep in mind that it is also the time for the preparation of the year ending finance reports and drafting the budget for the upcoming year. The PPT meetings are almost done. Now we have to prepare the change reports and furnish other formalities for the requirement of Charity Commissioner's office. Then please note that in the next year (2026) we have to do the renewal process of FCRA registration. I know the work-load is much, but we have no other way. Once again may I request everyone's co-operation and sincere efforts to do all what is needful for the smooth functioning of our Societies, parish administration, evangelising mission along with our personal engagements and needs.

I am happy to state that our accounting system and submission of accounts have improved so much, and the auditors have appreciated it in their last visit to the diocese. However, I avail the opportunity to remind you about usual pitfalls in accounting that the auditors pointed out such as TDS, cash payment limit, proper bills & vouchers, statutory bid of quotations etc. Thanks to all those who submit the monthly/trimonthly accounts as per the schedule. But there are some obstacles to some for timely account submission. Let us work together to show more dedication and passion for timely account submission. My prayerful wishes to everyone of you.

With warm regards and prayers.



Yours devotedly in Christ

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda



PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for our Deacon.....



Dn. Christo Kavil

(Diocese of Chanda)

Date of Ordination : 6th May 2025

Venue : St. Raphael's Church,
Kallur East

Time : 09.00 AM

CIRCULAR - II

Prot. No. 116/2025

06/04/2025

ON CATECHISING

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

Thy Kingdom Come!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In the light of the discussion and sharing that was done in quinquennial meeting of the diocesan priests this year that I sent this Circular. There was a consensus among priests that we have to focus still more on catechizing of our people. The Jeevotsav Retreat and home mission connected to it have given a boost in re-evangelization. The theme-wise dedication of years that we have started from 2016 is meant to lay a greater focus on re-evangelization and catechizing. Parivarik Prarthana Varsh, Bible Vachan Varsh, Vachana Praghoshan Varsh, Aradhana Varsh, Year of the Decalogue and the Precepts of the Church etc. might have some outcome depending on their effective implementation in parishes and institutions. They need not be restricted to the particular year of dedication, on the other hand they are to be taken in the years ahead as part of our evangelizing mission.

Catechizing is our primary task. Pope Francis emphasizes that catechesis or religious instruction is a vital echo of the Word of God, a space for personal encounter with Jesus and should be delivered in a way that is accessible and joyful, focusing on God's love and freedom. In the Apostolic letter Laetamur Magnopere, the foreword, presenting the Catechism of the Catholic Church saint Pope John Paul II wrote: "For an extraordinary commitment to evangelization is urgently needed so that everyone can know and receive the Gospel message and thus grow "to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13-15). Catechizing is a task that we need to continue perennially in our evangelizing

mission. But it is observed that the people have forgotten the basic Catechism. It might be due to lack of regular use. It is good that we provide opportunities to our faithful to use them regularly. Some efforts from our part are highly recommended. A timely reminder is always good to keep the basic prayers of the Church fresh in their minds.

I wish to propose the following to achieve this goal:

- 1) Every Sunday before and/or after the celebration of Holy Qurbana we shall start the practice of recitation of all basic prayers and catechism such as: our Father, Hail Mary, Creed, Ten Commandments, Precepts of the Church, Prayer of repentance, Prayer before confession, Steps for confession, Preparation to receive holy communion, Sacraments and its definition etc. This will take approximately 15 minutes or less. A booklet shall be prepared for this purpose.
- 2) Give more focus on the diocesan level theme-wise dedication of the years in the parishes and institutions. It is primarily meant for direct catechizing on a particular theme. It is a systematic and progressive process in catechizing.
- 3) Every time when village Qurbana is conducted, kindly avail the opportunity to teach basic catechism for fifteen minutes before and/or after the celebration of Holy Qurbana.
- 4) Exhibit bill boards of basic prayers, Bible verse, Quotes from Church documents & Papal teachings etc. in the presbyteries/parish campuses so that they serve as continuous reminders to our faithful and Ad Gentes Evangelization to the visitors/strangers (we have it in our Bishop's Home reception area and in the Cathedral campus).
- 5) Each time when people meet us for their various needs in the parish office or anywhere, kindly avail it an opportunity

to talk about the need and value of catechizing.

- 6) Pay more attention in Sunday Catechism classes of children. It is highly recommended that priests visit children in the classes on regular basis.
- 7) Start regular adult catechism classes in every parish. Do adequate preparation for Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage etc.
- 8) Prepare for each parish an annual schedule of basic catechism, catechetical homilies based on Catechism of the Catholic Church, Catechesis Tradentae, Fidei Depositum etc.
- 9) Arrange regular Quiz for students and adults based on Bible and basic catechism.
- 10) Avail social media platform to disseminate Catechism in capsule form, cartoons, flip art etc. and wherever possible use also audio-visual aids for catechizing.
- 11) Use stage presentation for various occasions to communicate Christian message: Drama, dance, one-act-play, group singing, solo, mime, folk art etc.
- 12) Liturgy is the effective means of God-experience. Use variety in liturgy to make the celebration to deepen God-experience and more refreshing for the congregation. This shall be done in accordance with liturgical norms and traditions.
- 13) The short, well prepared, theme based, Bible focused and contextual Sunday homilies are appreciated by the people, young and old alike.
- 14) The acting out Gospel themes, drawings, paintings etc. with catechetical orientation for children and youth may bring out double effect and desired fruit in catechizing.
- 15) Occasional/periodical catechetical seminars in parish level or Zonal level may also serve good.

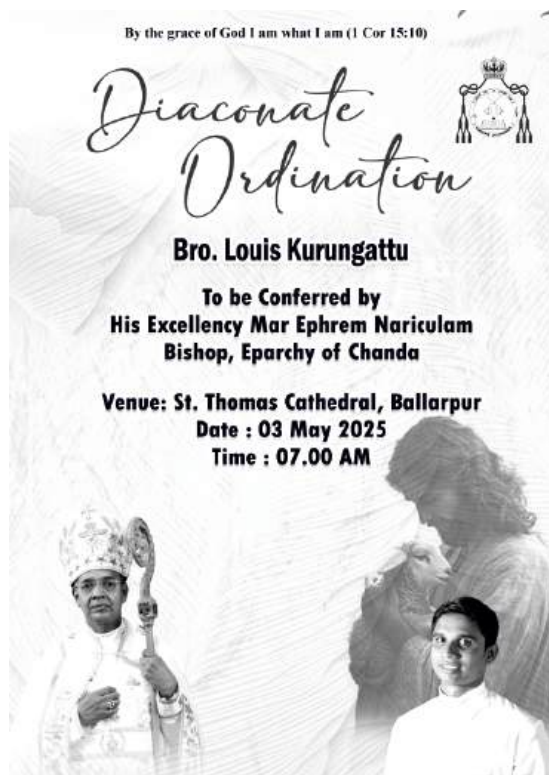
What is enumerated above are just few suggestions. These are general guidelines, not a one-size-fits-all solution; adapt and implement them as circumstances allow. May I request everyone to use innovative ways and take great initiatives for catechizing in our parishes and institutions. God bless everyone



Yours devotedly in Christ

Ephrem Nariculam

† Ephrem Nariculam
Bishop, Diocese of Chanda



IV. BISHOP'S DIARY

JANUARY 2025

- 1 - Celebrated a betrothal at St. George's, Basilica, Angamally.
- 2 - Blessed flag-pole at St. Augustine's Church, Nedungad.
- 3 - Hoisted flag in connection with patron's feast at St. Thomas Church, Shantipuram.
- 4 - Blessed a marriage at Our Lady of Dolours Church, Mookkannoore.
- 5 - Blessed a marriage at Nadavarambu Church in Irinjalakuda diocese.
- 6 - Rev. Sr. Treasa Manickathan SHSp, provincial superior of Hopy Spirit Sisters met with bishop at Bishop's Hope BPQ.
- 6-11 - Attended Synod of Bishops at Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad.
- 10 - Bishop Ephrem inaugurated seminar on "Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults: Cyber and Pastoral Implications" at Pastoral centre, BPQ.
- In the evening bishop conducted funeral service of Sr. Michael SD at Krupa Dham Provincial House, Wardha.
- 13 - Bishop visited the tomb of servant of God Fr. Bruno CMI at Kurianal Monastery Chapel.
- 15 - Attended a 30th Days mind memorial service at St. Augustine Church Nedungad.
- 19 - Blessed a marriage at Annamananada parish in Irinjalakuda diocese.
- 20 - Met with Fr. Siby, CMF, the Claretian Provincial at Provincial House, Karukutty.
- 21 - Hoisted flag in connection with the patron's feast at Mala parish in Irinjalakuda diocese.
- 23 - Blessed a marriage at Adackathode parish in Mananthavady diocese.

- 26 - Sr. Piush SMS, the Superior General of Snehagiri Missionary Sisters met with bishop at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
- 27 - Bishop received Sr. Tessa Sebastiane SJB, Provincial Superior of SJB Congregation at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
- 29 - Bishop attended Monthly Recollection for Priests and Men Religious at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
- 30 - Bishop presided over school day celebration of St. Antony's Public School, Wardha.
- 31 - Bishop offered Holy Qurbana at Monfort school in connection with the feast of St. Monfort.

FEBRUARY

- 1 - Bishop presided over Holy Qurbana in connection with the Golden Jubilee celebration of Dilasagram, Convent Bamini.
- 8 - Bishop conferred Minor Orders to CMI Scholastics at Samanvaya, Bhopal.
- 9 - Bishop conferred Diaconate to CMI Scholastics at Samanvaya, Bhopal.
- 10 - Bishop presided over meeting held in connection with the farewell of X students (the first batch) at St. Mary's School, Kautha.
- 11 - Bishop presided over Holy Qurbana at Warur, in connection with Grotto feast,
- 12-13 - Bishop attended Nagpur Metropolitan Council meeting and the joined meeting of Social Service Directors and Board of Education Directors at Amarawathy Bishop's House.
- 16 - Bishop presided over Holy Qurbana in connection with the feast of Gatta parish.

- 18 - Bishop offered Holy Qurbana at Aspirant's Chapel at Monfort ITI, Bamini.
- 19 - Bishop presided over Holy Qurbana for the Golden and Silver Jubilee of SJB Sisters at their Provincialate, Wardha.
- 20 - Bishop offered Holy Qurbana at FCC Noviciate House, Wardha.
- 21 - Bishop attended Zoom meeting in preparation for the seminar on Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults from Harassment, BPQ
- 22 - Bishop offered Holy Qurbana at Vianney Convent, BPQ.
- 23 - Bishop presided over Holy Qurbana at St. Lawrence Church, Allapally and administered first Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- 25-26 - Bishop attended Mission Conference of Bishops, Priests and Sisters from Syro-Malabar mission dioceses in North India at Ephatha retreat centre in Adilabad diocese.

MARCH

- 1 - Bishop attended Sacerdotal Diamond Jubilee celebration of Fr. Oswald CMI and reception to New Priest Fr. Vibinto CMI at Carmel House, Tukum.
- 2 - Bishop led the Eucharistic procession in connection with the Jeevotsav retreat at Jiwathy parish.
- 3-5 - Bishop attended the 40 Hour Adoration at Cathedral parish, BPQ.
- 3 - Bishop officiated Ash Day service at Cathedral parish BPQ.
- 4 - Bishop attended Monthly Recollection for Priests and Religious, BPQ.
- 5 - Bishop led the Eucharistic procession in connection with 40 Hours Adoration in Cathedral parish, BPQ.

- 6 - Bishop attended meeting of Priests and Sisters in preparation for the WRBC Scheduled in July 8-9, 2025.
- 3-7 - Bishop animated Deacons' Pastoral Orientation Program at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
- 9 - Bishop led the Eucharistic procession in connection with the Jeevotsav retreat at Kopreli parish.
- 10 - Bishop met with the team who came to visit the mission in Chanda organized by SYMM, Kakkanad.
- 10-11 - Bishop animated Qunquennial Meet of Priests at Pastoral Centre, BPQ.
- 15 - Bishop received Rev. Mother Isabel ASMI, the Superior General and Sr. Lilly ASMI, Provincial Superior at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
- 16 - Bishop received Rev. Mother Elsy Vadakkemary MSMI, the Superior General and Sr. Leonsa MSMI, Provincial Superior at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
Bishop received Sr. Amala SABS, Provincial Superior and Sr. Rosebel SABS, Regional Superior at Bishop's Home, BPQ.
- 17 - Bishop offered Holy Qurbana at Sanjo Bhavan, SABS Regional Superior's House, New Daheli.
- 19 - Bishop received Rev. Fr. Seby Mathew Njavallikunnel CMF, Provincial Superior of Claretians at Bishop's Home, BPQ and signed the contract of entrusting Wasa station to Claretian missionaries.
- 20-23 - Bishop animated Pastoral visit at Sacred Heart of Jesus parish, Bhamragarh.
- 23 - Bishop led Eucharistic procession in connection with Jeevotsav Retreat at Gomini Parish.
- 26 - Bishop led Solemn entry through Holy Door at Cathedral of the Vocation Camp students numbering 72 including

- boys and girls and he offered Holy Qurban for them and delivered homily.
- 28 - Bishop offered Requiem Holy Qurbana for Bp. Januarius on his 30th Death Anniversary at Cathedral, BPQ.
- Bishop addressed Vocation Camp students at the concluding session of the camp at Divine Vachan Ashram.
- 30 - Bishop led Eucharistic procession in connection with Jeevotsav Retreat at Balapur parish.
- 31 - Bishop addressed the Youth Camp at Divine Vachan Ashram.

APRIL

- 2 - Bishop celebrated Holy Qurbana for English language course students at pastoral centre chapel.
- 9 - Bishop attended Episcopal Ordination of Bp. Prakash S. of Cudapha at St. Joseph's boys' School ground, Cudapha.
- 10 - Bishop inaugurated seminar on Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults at Pastoral Centre, BPQ, organized CLC, diocese of Chanda.
- 11 - Bishop met with the 'come and see' boys at Sant Vianney Gurukul, New Daheli
- 13 - Bishop officiated Palm Sunday Service and Holy Qurbana at St. Alphonsa parish, Nandgaon.
- Bishop offered Holy Qurbana for marriage preparation course candidates at Pastoral Centre Chapel, BPQ.
- 15 - Bishop attended Monthly Recollection for Priests and Men & Women Religious at BPQ. Bishop presided over Muron Holy Qurbana at Cathedral, BPQ.
- 17 - Bishop officiated Holy Thursday Service at Carmel Church, Gadchiroli.
- 18 - Bishop officiated Holy Friday Service at Wadsa Church.

- 20 - Bishop presided over Easter Service and Holy Qurbana at Cathedral parish, BPQ.
- 22-27 - Bishop joined Neo Catechumenate group for Holy Land pilgrimage.
- 29-30 - Bishop animated Major Seminarians' Diocesan Formation Program at SVG, New Daheli. (The program is scheduled from 21 April to 2nd May).



PATRON'S DAY

Our Dear Bishopji celebrates his Patron's day on June 09. Let us specially pray for God's choicest blessings on our Bishopji on the special day. Chanda Family wishes a HAPPY FEAST.



Bp. Ephrem Nariculam
(Diocese of Chanda)

Quotes

“ The reason for our existence is to quench the thirst of Jesus. When the asked for water, the soldier gave him vinegar to drink-but his thirst was for love, for souls, for you and me.

- Mother Teresa of Culcutta ”

WESTERN REGION BISHOPS' COUNCIL (WRBC)

The Customary WRBC in July will be conducted in Chanda Diocese July 8 morning to 9 afternoon 2025. If all turn up there will be two Cardinals and twenty Archbishops and bishops. WRBC is the regional council of CBCI consisting of three States, viz – Maharashtra, Gujath, Goa and Daman. The Dioceses in this region are:

Mumbai Province: Archdiocese of Bombay & Dioceses of Nashik, Kalyan, Vasai, Khidki, Sindhudung and Pune

Nagpur Province: Archdiocese of Nagpur & Dioceses of Amravathi, Chanda and Aurangabad

Goa Province: Archdiocese of Goa (Goa State)

Gandhi Nagar Province: Archdiocese of Gandhinagar & Dioceses of Ahmadabad, Rajkot and Baroda

Representation of Bishops: 2 Cardinals, 4 Archbishops, 12 Bishops, 4 Auxiliary Bishops, 2 Administrators and 13 Bishops Emeritus

Along with the WRBC will be held also directors' meeting of Western Region Social Service Forum (WRBC). The meeting of the directors of Social Service wing of these dioceses will be held simultaneously in Chanda along with WRBC. The venue of Bishops' meeting will be CMI Provincial House, Bamini and that of Social Service Forum will be the Pastoral Centre, BPQ. A reception and Holy Qurbana is arranged for Bishops and others on 8th July evening at 6.00 PM in the Cathedral, BPQ. Please pray for the success of the meetings.

Fr. Benny Mulackal
(General Convenor)

V. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

MAY

- 1-2 - Major Seminarians Diocesan Formation Program, SVG, New Daheli.
- 3 - Diaconate, Cathedral, BPQ.
- 6 - Priestly Ordination, Kallur in Trichure Archdiocese.
- 7 - June 30 Visit to Canada & USA.
- June 7 Online recollection for Priests and Men Religious.

JULY

- 8-9 Western Region Bishops' Council at Marthoma CMI Provincial House, Bamini
- 14 - Monthly Recollection for Diocesan Priests, BPQ.
- 22 - Silver Jubilee, SD Provincial House, Wardha.

AUGUST

- 2 - School Jubilee Gughuse.
- 3 - Monthly Recollection, Diocesan Priests, BPQ.
- 4 - Vianney Day, SVG, New Daheli.
- 13 - Wednesday Jubilee, Cathedral, BPQ.
- 18-29 - Synod of Bishops, Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad.

SEPTEMBER

- 1-5 - Mangalore
- 13 - CRI General Body.
- 15-19 - Priests Annual Retreat, BPQ.
- 20 - SABS Vestition, Cathedral, BPQ.
- 21-22 - Ujjain
- 27 - Jubilee, Mannumpetta.
- 30 - Year Plan Committee of Curia, Department heads and Zonal Convenors.



SPIRITUAL ORIENTATION FOR MISSIONARIES Monthly Recollection Schedule - 2025 • (Diocese of Chanda)

Month	Date	Time	Occasion	Participants	Venue	Special Event	Organizer
May	May 18		Prayer Day for Priests, Men & Women Religious and People (Parish Level) (If this day is inconvenient, please fix the date according to the convenience in the parish)			Parish Day/Gathering	Respective Priest-in- Charge
June	Jun. 07	06.45 PM	Recollection	Priests and Men Religious	Online		Bishop's Secretary
July	Jul. 14	05.45 PM	Recollection	Diocesan Priests	BPQ	Spiritual Orientation	CLC Director
August	Aug. 03	05.45 PM	Recollection	Diocesan Priests	BPQ	Vianney Day & Diocesan	CLC Director & SVG Rector
September	Sep 14-19	09.00 PM (14 th to By noon (19 th))	Priests' Annual Retreat	Priests and Men Religious Preacher: Fr. Jilson Kakkattupillil, VC	BPQ	Presbyterium Priests Renewal + Spiritual Orientation	Bishop
October	Oct. 11	10.00AM	Chanda Family Day	All Missionaries and Lay Delegates from Parishes	BPQ	A Gathering in Diocesan Level	Proto-Synceillus
November	Nov. 29	10.00 AM	Missionary Conference	Priests and Men & Women Religious	BPQ	Diocesan level gathering for missionaries	Cathedral Vicar
December	Dec. 20	09.30 AM	Recollection	Priests and Men & Women Religious	BPQ	Christmas Gathering	Bishop's Home Administrator

VI. CURIA MATTERS




TRANSFERS / APPOINTMENTS Eparchy of Chanda (April-May 2025)




No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
	Fr. Shibu Monipallil	Rector Sant Vianney Gurukul, Chancellor & Manager, Babupeth School	Priest-in-Charge, Gatta	01/04/2025
	Fr. Vigil Parassery	_____	Rector SVG & Chancellor	01/04/2025
	Fr. Nikhil Varghese	Vice-Principal, BPQ	Principal, Gughus School (Continues Awarpur)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Denny David CSsR	Asst. Parish Priest, Chandrapur	Priest-in-Charge, Gughus and Administrator & Correspondent Gughus School	26/04/2025
	Fr. Naveen Varghese	Asst. Parish Priest, Brahmapuri	Asst. Priest-in-Charge, Kurkheda	26/04/2025
	Fr. Priju Puthenpurackal	Asst. Parish Priest, Cathedral	Vice Rector & Administrator SVG (Continues AVD + Jeevotsav)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Ajay Puthukkattuchira	Asst. Parish Priest, Wardha	Asst. Parish Priest, Warur	26/04/2025

No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
	Fr. Vishal Janagam	Vice Rector & Administrator, Sant Vianney Gurukul	Asst. Parish Priest, Chandrapur & Asst. Director, Talent Club	26/04/2025
	Fr. Shaiju Madapallikunnel	Priest-in-Charge, Gughus & Principal, Gughus School	Priest-in-Charge Jiwati & Manager, Jiwati School	26/04/2025
	Fr. Somy Varghese	Priest-in-Charge, Jiwati & Manager, Jiwati School	Administrator, Santwadi, Mul, Asst. Co-ordinator for land Issues and Transactions, Executive Secretary, Asha Niketan Church Society, Wasa & Pastoral Assistance Mul+Nandgaon (Residence, Mul)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Binu Thomas	Administrator, Santwadi, Mul	_____	26/04/2025
	Fr. Jibin Perumakkunnel	_____	Vice-Principal, BPQ (Additional)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Pius Mathew	Priest-in-Charge, Aksapur	Zonal Vicar & Parish Priest, Allapalli	26/04/2025
	Fr. Shine Manjaly	Parish Priest Allapalli & Secretary to the Bishop	Priest-in-Charge, Visapur & Director, Kiranoday Enterprises (Continues Administrator, Bishop's Home)	26/04/2025

No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
	Fr. Jobin Ovelil	Priest-in-Charge, Visapur Director, Kiranoday Enterprises & Director, Talent Club	Priest-in-Charge, Repanpalli	26/04/2025
	Fr. Deepak Tirkey	Pastoral Assistance, Cathedral	Secretary to the Bishop	26/04/2025
	Fr. Saju Chamakalayil	Priest-in-Charge, Repanpalli	Priest-in-Charge, Kopreli	26/04/2025
	Fr. Joseph Kalathil	Pastoral Assistance, Mul	Priest-in-Charge, Gomini & Manager, Kaotha School (Additional)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Benny Mulackal	_____	Manager, Gughus + Babupeth Schools & Project Committee (Member) (Additional)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Varghese Puthuparambil CMI	Manager, Kaotha School	_____	26/04/2025
	Fr. Sebastian Orapuzhickal CMI	Priest-in-Charge, Kopreli & Gomini	_____	26/04/2025

No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
	Fr. Alwin Varghese	Asst. Priest-in-Charge, Kopreli	Asst. Parish Priest, Cathedral & Asst. to House Administrator, Bishop's Home	26/04/2025
	Fr. Johny Narikat	Priest-in-Charge, Pattaguda	Priest-in-Charge, Balapur	26/04/2025
	Fr. Jacob Eraly	Priest-in-Charge, Gatta	_____	01/04/2025
		Parish Priest, Ettapalli	Priest-in-Charge, Pattaguda	26/04/2025
	Fr. Joshy Madathiparampil	Priest-in-Charge, Balapur	Parish Priest, Ettapalli & Manager, Chavara English Medium School, Ettapalli	26/04/2025
	Fr. Tiji Karakunnel	Asst. Parish Priest, Warur	Asst. Director, LSSS	26/04/2025
	Fr. Shimon Cheenikkal	_____	Asst. Priest-in-Charge, Aksapur Pastoral Assistance, Gojoli & Principal, Aksapur School	26/04/2025
	Fr. Bernard Kujur	_____	Priest-in-Charge, Aksapur & Manager, Aksapur School (Additional)	26/04/2025

No.	Name	From/Relieved	To/Appointed	W.E.F
	Fr. Jinson Thakarappillil	_____	Asst. Priest-in-Charge, Ettapalli	26/04/2025
	Fr. James Karakombel	_____	Principal, Kaatha School	26/04/2025
	Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil	_____	Director, Talent Club & Project Committee (Member)	26/04/2025
	Fr. Peter Kisan	Co-ordinator for land issues & Transactions	_____	26/04/2025
	Fr. Dinesh Mate	_____	Co-ordinator for land issues & Transactions	26/04/2025
	Fr. Tony Villiadath	_____	Director, LSSS	26/04/2025
	Fr. Thomson Pullasherry	Director, LSSS	(Continues Director, Kalabhavan)	26/04/2025
  <p>† Bp. Ephrem Nariculam Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Fr. Vigil Parassery Chancellor </p>				

Project Committee	Fr. Tony Villiadath (Director & Co-ordinator) Fr. Benny Mulackal (Member) Fr. Vivek Puthenpurayil (Member)
	Fr. Dinesh Mate (Co-ordinator) Fr. Somy Varghese (Assistant)
  <p>† Bp. Ephrem Nariculam Bishop, Eparchy of Chanda</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Fr. Vigil Parassery Chancellor </p>	

VII. NEWS FROM THE MISSION STATIONS

ST. THOMAS CHURCH, BALLARPUR

1. Jubilee Year Holy Door was inaugurated at the hands of His Excellency Bishop Ephrem Nariculam ahead of Christmas celebration, 2024. The Jubilee candle was lit in the beginning of the Mass.
2. The year 2024-25 is declared as the year of Sanctity of life by Bishop Ephrem after the Christmas Mass and elucidated the importance of sanctity in our personal and family life.
3. We celebrated the our Parish Day (*Apnotsavu*) on 12th January 2025. The day was really energetic with fun and competitive spirit. The gathering of our family members made our life more supportive and joyful. St. Joseph ward took away the winners trophy.
4. Cathedral Youth Participated the CPL match.
5. We celebrated the 50 & 25 years of Religious Profession of Sr. Floria SHSp, Sr. Geetha SHSp, Sr. Vinaya SHSp & Sr. Josephine SHSp respectively. Representing parishioners, Mr. Bhaskar Thakur, Mrs. Rani Jose and Kum. Catherine Tirkey felicitated them. Mr. Joseph Domala welcomed the gathering. Choir members greeted the Jubilarian with their melodious song. Agape was arranged by Mr. Wilson George and Amrut. Thanks to everyone.
6. 40 hours of adoration was conducted in the Cathedral from 3 March to 5 March 2025. Many priests, religious and faithful participated the adoration. The conclusion of 40 hours of adoration was done with the Eucharistic procession by Bishop Ephrem.
7. The Parish retreat was conducted from 14-16 March 2025. It was led by Bro. Raju and team from Kerala and Bhopal. In preparation for the retreat, we had home mission arranged by the CLC department. Sisters from Don Bosco, DM, CMC, and MSMI made the home visit a real sharing moment. Special thanks to the Team and dear Rev. Sisters.

BRAHMAPURI

New Year Celebration - 2024 to 2025 The Holy Hour began on 31st December 2024 at 11:00 p.m., with heartfelt thanksgiving for the blessings of the past year and a prayerful invocation of God's grace for the New Year 2025. The service was led by Rev. Fr. Kurian, the Parish Priest. At 12:00 midnight, we had a solemn Eucharistic Celebration, co-celebrated by Rev. Fr. Kurian, Rev. Fr. Emmanuel, and Rev. Fr. Naveen. During the Mass, special prayers were offered for Rev. Fr. Emmanuel on the occasion of his feast day. Following the Holy Mass, the celebration continued with a cake cutting ceremony and the felicitation of Fr. Emmanuel in a joyful and affectionate gathering.

Inauguration of the Year of Life On 1st January 2025, the Year of Life was solemnly inaugurated. This special initiative is intended to help everyone recognize the inherent value and dignity of every human life, from conception to natural end. It also aims to inspire individuals to embrace life fully—with gratitude, purpose, and deep faith—encouraging a renewed commitment to living each day meaningfully and compassionately.

Manager's Day Celebration 4th January 2025 was a special and memorable day at Christanand School as we joyfully celebrated Manager's Day. The occasion was marked with vibrant cultural programmes, heartfelt felicitations, and expressions of gratitude towards our beloved Manager Rev Fr Kurian Panayalil. The entire school community came together to honour and appreciate the dedicated leadership and guidance provided by the Manager, making the day truly meaningful and festive.

Obituary We deeply mourn the passing of Mrs. Alice Titre, one of our dear parishioners from Nagbhir, who was under medical care and treatment. She was called to her eternal home on 13th January 2025. May her soul rest in peace, and may God grant strength and comfort to her family during this time of loss.

Republic Day Celebration Republic Day was meaningfully celebrated at both Christanand Hospital and Christanand School with

great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The celebrations began with the flag hoisting ceremony, followed by cultural programs that highlighted the values of unity, diversity, and national pride. A special highlight of the day was a thematic presentation performed by 45 students from the school at the Tehsil Ground, which was well appreciated by all present.

Zonal Level Monthly Recollection On 9th February 2025, the Zonal gathering of Priests and Religious from the Brahmapuri Zone took place at Carmel Ashram, Gadchiroli, for the monthly recollection and the birthday celebration of Rev. Fr. Panthenus CMI. The session was graced by Rev. Fr. Jijo CMF as the resource person, who delivered an enriching and inspiring talk. This was followed by the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, and the Sacrament of Confession, allowing the participants to experience a deep spiritual renewal. After the spiritual nourishment, all gathered joyfully to celebrate and felicitate Rev. Fr. Panthenus on his birthday. Those who celebrated their birthdays and feast days in the months of January, February, and March were also warmly acknowledged and honored during the occasion.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was celebrated with great solemnity and devotion. The day began with a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration, during which special prayers were offered for the sick and suffering. In keeping with the spirit of compassion and healing associated with Our Lady of Lourdes, visits were made to the sick members of the parish, offering them comfort, prayers, and support. The celebration was a meaningful reminder of Mary's intercession and the call to care for those in need.

Obituary – Sr. Little Tresa FCC With deep sorrow, we inform the passing of Sr. Little Tresa FCC, former Local Superior of Clare Bhavan Community and a devoted teacher at Christanand School. She was called to her heavenly reward on 15th February 2025. On 16th February, Rev. Fr. Kurian along with two sisters from the community, visited Daya Sagar, Amravati to pay their last respects and participate in the funeral rites. May the Lord, whom she served so faithfully, grant her eternal peace and reward her with the joy of heaven

Medical Camp On the occasion of Shivaji Jayanti, Christanand Hospital organized a medical camp at Rui Village on 19th February 2025. The camp aimed to provide essential healthcare services and raise awareness about preventive health measures among the villagers. The initiative was wellreceived and appreciated by the local community.

Feast of Blessed Martyr Rani Maria The Feast of Blessed Martyr Rani Maria was solemnly commemorated on 25th February. Her heroic life and unwavering faith were highlighted through a brief introduction before the Holy Mass, inspiring all to follow her example of love, sacrifice, and service. At the end of the celebration, sweets were distributed to everyone, adding a joyful touch to the occasion.

Monthly Adoration and Eucharistic Procession Every last Friday of the month, a whole-day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held, culminating in a Eucharistic Procession in the evening. The procession moves through the hospital premises, invoking blessings upon the hospital, its staff, and patients. This sacred tradition is a moment of great grace and spiritual renewal, bringing peace, healing, and hope to all who participate.

Lenten Season – The Great Lent Like the people of Nineveh, with repentant hearts and humble spirits, the faithful gathered at the Parish Church to mark the beginning of the Lenten Season by participating in the Liturgy of Vibhuti (Ash Monday). During the Holy Mass, Rev. Fr. Kurian, the Parish Priest, delivered a meaningful homily, explaining the true essence of Lent and encouraging the faithful to embrace penance, prayer, and acts of charity, beyond mere abstinence. On the same day, the Vibhuti Liturgy was also celebrated in Devulgav for the village faithful, allowing them to enter into the spirit of Lent. Throughout the Lenten season, the Way of the Cross is devoutly conducted: Every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday at the Parish Church Every Wednesday and Sunday at the Hospital Church These devotions serve as a powerful reminder of the passion and sacrifice of Christ, drawing the faithful closer to the Lord in preparation for Easter.

Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony 12th March marked a red-letter day in the history of Christanand School and Junior College, as the

institution joyfully celebrated its Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony. This memorable occasion was a significant milestone, showcasing the talents, confidence, and growth of the little ones in the pre-primary section. The highlight of the event was witnessing the nursery children confidently anchoring the program and participating in various cultural performances with great enthusiasm and charm. Their joyful presence and achievements were a true reflection of the nurturing environment provided by the school. Shri Lade Sir, BEO, Brahmapuri, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, encouraging and appreciating the efforts of both students and teachers. The event was a beautiful celebration of early learning and a joyful send-off as the children step forward into a new academic journey.

Youth Day Celebration On 31st March 2025, 10 enthusiastic youth from Christ Bhavan actively participated in the Youth Day Celebration organized by the Diocese at Divine Vachan Ashram, Bamini. The event provided a vibrant platform for young people to come together in faith, fellowship, and inspiration, strengthening their spiritual journey and commitment to Christian values.

Commencement of New Academic Session 2025–26 The new academic session of Christanand School and Junior College commenced on 1st April 2025, marking a fresh beginning filled with hope and enthusiasm. Aligned with the diocesan theme, the school inaugurated the year with the inspiring message: “My Life – God's Gift.” During the welcome assembly, Manager Rev. Fr. Kurian Panayalil and Principal Rev. Sr. Pavana officially unveiled the theme, encouraging students and staff to reflect on the preciousness of life and the responsibility to live it with purpose and gratitude. The monthly assembly themes and various activities planned throughout the year are thoughtfully designed to cherish the gift of life and explore meaningful ways to nurture and celebrate it.

Summer Camp The period from 16th March to 12th April 2025 was a time of fun, creativity, and joyful learning for the students of Christanand School, as they actively participated in the Summer Camp. The camp provided a refreshing break from regular academics, allowing students to explore their talents and interests through a variety

of engaging activities. From arts and crafts to games, music, dance, and team-building exercises, each day was filled with excitement and laughter. The camp concluded on 12th April with a vibrant and memorable campfire evening, where students came together to showcase their talents and celebrate the friendships and memories made during the camp. It was truly a joyful and enriching experience for all the participants!

MBBS – A Remarkable Milestone It was a moment of great pride and joy for the entire parish community as Master Krepansh Akare, one of our dedicated parishioners, successfully completed his MBBS with an 'A' grade. This remarkable achievement stands as a milestone not only in his personal journey but also a source of inspiration for the youth of the parish. The parish congratulates him wholeheartedly and prays for his bright future as he begins his noble journey in the field of medicine. May God continue to bless him in all his endeavors!

Holy Week Special Preparation – 6th April 2025 A spirit-filled day of preparation for the Holy Week was organized on 6th April for the parish community. The day was specially set aside to help the faithful enter deeply into the mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. The spiritual program included a recollection talk, adoration, confession, Holy Mass, and the Way of the Cross, allowing participants to reflect, repent, and renew their commitment to their faith. Rev. Fr. C.C. George served as the preacher and main celebrant for the day, guiding the faithful through moments of reflection and grace. In the evening, the same spiritual preparation was extended to the villagers at Devulgau, enabling them also to participate meaningfully in the Holy Week journey.

Penitential Pilgrimage to Dongargarh On 11th April 2025, 70 faithful from our parish undertook a Penitential Pilgrimage to Dongargarh, embracing the spirit of repentance, prayer, and spiritual renewal during the Lenten season. The journey was a sacred time for reflection, seeking God's mercy and preparing hearts for the celebration of Easter. United in prayer and faith, the pilgrims experienced deep moments of grace, fellowship, and inner peace at this holy shrine.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, DURGAPUR

The Feast of St. Chavara was celebrated at Saint Mary Church Durgapur on January 05. On the same day, prizes were given to the winners of the Christmas crib competition.

Around 60 parishioners from St. Mary's Church made a pilgrimage to Warur and participated in the celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 09/ February .

The Lenten season took off at the church with a greatly packed Holy Mass and Ash service on Ash Monday .

International Women's Day was celebrated at St. Mary's Church on 09/ March. All women were honored with roses, and sweets were shared with all parishioners.

Rev Sr Anija CMC and Sr Nilima CMC led a special seminar for women on 16/March. All the women and girls of the church took part. A community meal was also arranged for all the members of the church.

On March 23rd, 2025, Father Raphael and his team from Divine Vachan Ashram led a retreat for the church community. Special healing prayers were offered for everyone. Rev Frs Bipin Thekkekkara and Jose Vadakkemury helped with Confession.

A Holy Rosary Challenge was organized recently at the church wherein the families were called upon to upload on Whatsapp Rosary prayer said at home as part of efforts to promote the culture of family prayer.

In the same manner, a saint Joseph prayer challenge was also organized for children to help them grow in devotion of the saint. Prizes will be given to the winners in both competitions.

A month long Stations of the Cross was conducted at the families of the parishioners by the parish priest, DM Sisters and Seminarians.

All families were encouraged to complete the Way of the Cross at home before Easter.

On the day of the Easter Sunday, St. Mary's Church, Durgapur, will celebrate Family Day, too. The Easter Mass is scheduled to begin at 10.30 pm.

Astha Peter Chalurkar, a parishioner was elected the vice-president of the diocesan youth at the youth convention held at Divine Vachan Ashram.

CHRISTUVAN CHURCH GOMINI

- On 29th our provincial sr. Tessy visited our center.
- We had new year celebration. The main celebrant was Fr. Sunil Ganghaer.
- On 25th we had picnic for the Boarding children at Ballarsha along with Fr. Linesh, Sr. Margeret and Sr. Lalita. Children enjoyed very much.
- On 26 th January we celebrated republic day. Flag hosting was done by Suman Adhikari.
- Our kinder garden had taken for picnic at Allapali
- Srs. Roseline and Margeret went to Wardha for golden and silver jubilee with Bishop and came back on 20th Feb.
- Sr. Roseline left Wardha for one seminar on latest budget
- On 27th Feb 12th and 10th standard students were given fare well with Holy Eucharistic celebration, conducted cultural programmes and had dinner.
- Sr. Roseline attended 3 days retreat at Sanjeevani Ashram. It was very enriching and inspiring.
- Sr. Jincy and Joel came from Kerala for their field work as the part of their MSW. They stayed here one week and visited many villages.
- We had International women's day program invited Sr. Shiny from Ghott to give class on rights for women. Conducted cultural programmes and provided lunch for them. 100 women participated.
- We had five awareness programs in different villages.
- On 18th March Srs. Jincy, Tessy from MSMI and sr. Tina Rose from DM Sr. Namita SJB Came for three days home mission at Gomini parish. They visited all the villages and prayed in each family it was great blessings by their visit to families. We had three days of Jeevotsav retreat.

ST. ALPHONSA CHURCH, NANDGAON

The New Year Qurbana was celebrated on 1st January by Fr. Jeevan K.D., parish priest of St. Ephrem Church, Pomburna. On 5th January, the parish celebrated the feast of St. Chavara Kuriakose Elias, followed by Harvest Day on 26th January, where parishioners actively participated and brought offerings.

As part of the Jubilee Year, a parish pilgrimage to St. Thomas Church, Ballarpur was held on 2nd February, with the faithful entering through the Jubilee Door to receive indulgences. Bishop Mar Ephrem Nariculam blessed the faithful and distributed rosaries.

A youth gathering and night vigil led by Fr. Vivek was conducted on 6th February. On 19th March, a Pilgrimage of Hope and Women Empowerment Program was organized, including visits to Lourdes Matha Mandir, Maharaj Garden, and Dinshaw's Dairy in Nagpur. This was sponsored by CMC Carmelodaya Province and organized by CMC Carmelwadi Convent, Nandgaon.

The Home Mission took place from 7th to 9th April, led by Sr. Leena and Sr. Mariya of CMC Wardha Province, concluding with Holy Qurbana in Checkfuttana village.

A one-day retreat was held on 11th April, led by Fr. Benson Puthenpurackal. On 13th April, Bishop Mar Ephrem Nariculam presided over the Hosanna Sunday celebration.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, MARAKBODY

January 1st: The New Year was joyfully celebrated with prayers and fellowship.

January 26th: The Annual Day of St. Joseph National School, Dongargaon, was celebrated with great enthusiasm and vibrant cultural performances.

March 19th: A solemn Holy Mass was offered in honor of St. Joseph's Feast Day, followed by a fellowship meal (Agape) bringing the community together in faith and love.

Charity Outreach: St. Mary's Church, Awarpur, generously donated financial support along with stationery and grocery items for the children residing in the boarding facility.

Lenten Observances: Every Friday and Sunday during Lent, the Way of the Cross was prayerfully conducted in the village, allowing the faithful to reflect deeply on Christ's passion.

Sacramental Services: The faithful were given the opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession, and Hosanna Sunday was prayerfully celebrated at Tatri Village.

Easter Vigil: On the evening of March 19th, the Easter Vigil was held with great reverence. During the service, the Sacrament of Baptism was also administered, marking a joyous beginning in the lives of the newly baptized and followed by Fellowship meal.

KRUPASROTH CATHOLIC CHURCH MUL

1. First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

The First Friday Eucharistic Adoration is held every month at Santwadi, offering the faithful a special time for prayer and reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.

2. Parish Day Celebration at Krupasroth Catholic Church

Krupasroth Catholic Church joyfully celebrated its solemn Parish Day on 9th February 2025. The entire parish community came together for the Holy Qurbana, followed by various competitions and a fellowship meal, making it a memorable day of unity and celebration.

3. Family Prayer Resumes

Weekly family prayer gatherings have resumed every Thursday at Krupasroth Catholic Church. This cherished tradition, which had been paused during the COVID-19 pandemic, has been warmly welcomed back by the faithful as a true blessing.

4. Boarders' Picnic

On 1st February 2025, our boarding students enjoyed a delightful one-day picnic to the Botanic Garden and other significant sites near Ballarsha and Chandrapur. It was a joyful and enriching experience for all who participated.

5. English Language Course

Five children from our parish successfully participated in an English language course. Their dedication and efforts helped them significantly improve their proficiency in English.

MARY MATHA CHURCH RAJURA

Welcoming 2025

The community of faithful welcomed the New Year 2025 with a mid night adoration and Holy Mass, to thank the Almighty for all blessings showered during the by gone year and to welcome the New Year. With faith and devotion the parish community gathered in the divine presence, around the Holy Altar, to begin a fresh chapter of life, being in the presence of a loving and caring Lord. The 'Symbolic burning' of the 'Old Man' after the Mass filled the minds of kids and youngsters with curiosity and eagerness.

Parish Day Celebrations

Mary Matha Parish community celebrated its Family Day on 9th Feb, 2025. The day was marked with active participation by all members of the parish community, starting from the youngest and including the most elderly alike! The day began, as usual, with the gathering around the Holy Altar in the Eucharistic celebration, and after that began various games, competitions, fun and fraternity. Morning breakfast was brought from each family, which all shared with one another; lunch was served from the Church, being sponsored by willing faithful, and the day full of joy and fun ended with prize distribution and an evening Tea & Snacks. The day was planned, arranged and ably executed by the youth of the Parish, being guided by our Sisters of both communities.

Reception of, & First Holy Mass by the Newly Ordained Fr. Vibinto CMI

Fr. Vibinto Chirayath CMI was given a warm welcome by the Parish Community and he offered his first mass at Mary Matha Church on 2nd March, 2025. On the same day, he blessed and installed the statue of St. Chavara, the patron of Christian families in the premises of the Church.

Women's Day Celebration

The parish celebrated World Women's Day at our Church with pomp and cheer on 9th March, 2025, showing respect and appreciation to all women- mothers, sisters and daughters. Special prayers and blessings were conducted for all women, and members of Matrusangh later served sweets and breakfast to the Parish Community.

Vailankanni Pilgrimage

61 adults, including the Parish priest and five nuns, and seven kids, thus a total number of 68 members of the Parish Community had a unique experience of being in the presence of Aarogyamaata at Vailankanni, T N. The pilgrimage set out on 21st March, and the group returned on 25th. For many, it was a first time experience, while for a few, it was the renewal of their old memories and unforgettable experiences. On two days, including a Sunday, we could offer special Mass in Syro Malabar Hindi Liturgy at the Upper Basilica of the Shrine. It was indeed a deep spiritual experience for all. The pilgrimage was sponsored by the Pastoral Department of CMI Mar Thoma Province, Chanda. The pilgrims too chipped in with their mite and share.

A new look Campus

Mary Matha Church Campus wears a new and upgraded look with beautification, new gates, Pavers on all sides and a small but elegant looking stage, thanks to the generous contributions from the parishioners, help given by a few Chanda priests working abroad, and above all the selfless efforts in the form of Shramdaan rendered by a few of the parish community, who willingly spent many hours everyday at the Church in the evenings, after their daily work in their own respective fields.

KARUNA NILAYAM, REPANPALLI

Feast of St. Joseph was celebrated on 19th March 2025 in the evening at Nithya Sahaya Matha Church Chellawada. Festal fellowship meal was served. The parish community is grateful to Rev. Sr. Jyothis Parayaruthottam SABS, Sr. Regis SABS and Sr. Jyothi Therese Ramteke SABS for their dedicated service to Karunanilayam

Repanpalli. Srs. Serverd the centre for the period of seven years, two years and six months. A farewell gathering was arranged on 19th March and the priest in charge Fr. Saju Chamakalayil thanked Rev. Sisters for their dedicated service to the People of God.

ST. ANTONY CHURCH, WARDHA

- Parish day (*Apanotsav*) of St. Antony Church, Wardha was celebrated on 5th January with great participation of the Faithful, Seminarians, Religious and Candidates. Parish day celebration began at 8 am with solemn Holy Qurbana, celebrated by Fr. Robinson. Various sports and games were conducted and all have dispersed with tea at 4.30 pm.
- Fr. Ajay Varkey celebrated his birthday on 15th January.
- An ecumenical prayer worship was conducted in the parish church on 24th January. Prayer worship was arranged under the leadership of CAW (Christian Association of Wardha) at 6 pm.
- St. Antony National School celebrated school annual day (*Avishkhar 2025*) on 30th and 31st of January. Hon. State Minister Mr. Pankaj Bhoyar was the Chief guest and Bishop Mar. Ephrem Nariculam was the President for the celebration.
- Bishop Mar. Ephrem Nariculam blessed the altar and renovated chapel of Jeevan Vikas Convent, Sewagram on 31st January. The sanctuary was designed and painted by Fr. Ajay Varkey, the assistant parish priest of Wardha Parish.
- Fr. Thomas Punchayil celebrated his birthday on 3rd February.
- General body meeting was conducted in the parish on 16th February in order to discuss about Church renovation.
- Wardha Zonal wise monthly recollection was conducted in the Kawtha parish on 25th February. Fr James Karakombil was the preacher for the Monthly recollection.
- Parish youth participated in the CPL (Chanda Premiere League) cricket tournament on 26th February and achieved 1st prize in the tournament.
- Fr. Subin celebrated his feast on 19th March.
- Our youth members participated in the youth day celebration which

was held at Bamni on 31st March and Rex Decruz was elected as the diocesan youth president.

- We had Jeevotsav retreat conducted in the parish under the leadership of Fr. Binu and team from 4th to 6th of April with great participation of the Faithful, Seminarians, Religious and Candidates from different congregations. Sisters from CMC, MSMI, SJB, DM congregations visited the families as a part of Home mission in connection with Jeevotsav retreat.
- Face of the faceless, a movie based on the life story of Bl. Rani Maria was showed in the parish on 7th April.
- Sr. Michael Neerakal (94) was called to her eternal reward on 6th April 2025 at 9.30 PM. The funeral service was officiated by Bp. Ephrem Nariculam on 10th April at SD Provincial House, Wardha.

➤ TERAPREM CHURCH, WARUR

The parish community was blessed with a season filled with grace, devotion, and unity, marked by a series of meaningful liturgical and communal events.

1. The spiritual journey began with the Grotto Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on February 11, 2025. The celebration started with a solemn Holy Mass, followed by a Eucharistic procession. A large number of faithful participated with deep devotion, seeking blessings from the Lord through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother. Thousands of pilgrims came together in prayer, making the feast a memorable expression of Marian devotion.
2. On February 12, the community celebrated Parish Day with great joy. The day began with a Thanksgiving Mass in gratitude for the successful Grotto Feast. This was followed by a variety of games and activities for parishioners, fostering fellowship and togetherness. An agape meal brought everyone around the table, and special awards were given to recognize those who actively participated in the events.
3. The parish entered the Lenten season with the observance of Ash Wednesday on March 5, marked by prayerful reflection and commitment to penance. Special prayers were held throughout the village during Lent, encouraging personal conversion and renewal.

4. During Holy Week, the faithful participated in the solemn liturgies with great reverence. On Good Friday, a pilgrimage was made to Lakkadakot, Calvarigiri, where the Way of the Cross was prayerfully observed, drawing many into the mystery of Christ's Passion.
5. The season culminated with the joyful celebration of the Resurrection on April 20. The Easter Vigil brought renewed hope and spiritual joy, as the parish rejoiced in the victory of the Risen Lord.

JIVAN JYOTI CHURCH, HINGANGHAT

We have been blessed to celebrate the recent feasts with profound devotion, particularly the Feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara and the dawn of the New Year.

These sacred occasions were graced by meaningful liturgies and inspiring homilies.

We were privileged to welcome Fr. Sijo Sebastian CMF, President of our CRI unit, who delivered an inspiring message on New Year's Day, and Fr. Prince Munjanattu CMI, Director of Kshitij Ashram Jam, who enriched our celebration of St. Chavara's feast.

Thank you dear fathers.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the SJB and CMC sisters, as well as our students in formation and hostel, for their invaluable leadership and participation in all our liturgical celebrations.

We are overjoyed to announce that Jivan Jyoti Church will commence its Golden Jubilee celebration on July 6, 2025, culminating on July 6, 2026.

I pray that through the collaborative efforts of our religious communities here, this will be realized with grace and excellence.

During this Jubilee year of Hope, we will remember with deep gratitude the pioneer missionary brothers and sisters who laid the foundation for our beloved Jivan Jyoti mission, holding them in prayer during our daily Masses.

This year holds a special blessing for our community as our dear Sister Vandana SJB celebrates the Golden Jubilee of her religious profession. We extend our heartfelt appreciation and blessings to dear Vandana Sister.

VIII. DEPARTMENTS NEWS

CLC

The Department of Language Lab successfully conducted a Spoken English course from 19th March to 10th April 2025 at Bishop's Home Campus. Twenty enthusiastic students from various parishes came together to enhance their language skills in an engaging and supportive environment.

The sessions were enriched by the dedicated guidance of Bp. Ephrem Nariculam, Fr. Vivek, Fr. Vishal, Fr. Priju, Bro. Anto, and Mrs. Fairy, whose inspiring teaching and wholehearted involvement made the course both meaningful and memorable for the Participants.

A Career Guidance and Vocation Promotion Camp was conducted at Divine Vachan Ashram from 26th to 28th March. A total of 78 students from classes 10 and 12 participated in the camp. The program included career guidance sessions, talks on various vocations, and motivational speeches aimed at helping students explore their future paths.

Youth Day was joyfully celebrated on 31 March at Divine Vachan Asharam, with the participation of 160 young people. The event featured a variety of engaging activities including inspiring talks, animation sessions, and a vibrant cultural program.

A key highlight of the day was the election of diocesan-level youth leaders, marking an important step in youth engagement and leadership. The presence of Bp. Ephrem was warmly welcomed and deeply appreciated by all the youth, adding a special significance to the celebrations.

The Department of Family Apostolate of the Diocese of Chanda organized a Marriage Preparation Course from April 11 to April 13 at the Bishop's Home campus. A total of 32 participants took part in the program. The course covered various topics related to marriage and married life, offering valuable insights and guidance to the participants as they prepare for their future together.

JEEVOTSAV RETREATS AND HOME MISSION CHANDA DIOCESE

The Jeevotsav Retreats, in collaboration with the Home Mission, were successfully held in the following parishes of the Chanda Diocese:

1. January 21–26 – Sant Chavara Catholic Church, Ettapalli
2. February 25 – March 2 – Holy Family Catholic Church, Jivathi
3. March 4–9 – St. Joseph Catholic Church, Kopreli
4. March 18–23 – Christ the King Catholic Church, Gomini
5. March 25–30 – St. Mary's Catholic Church, Balapur
6. April 1–6 – St. Anthony Catholic Church, Wardha

The Jeevotsav Retreat Team gratefully acknowledges the wholehearted support and encouragement of Most Rev. Ephrem Nariculam, Bishop of Chanda, the Reverend Parish Priests, the Reverend Sisters of each parish, and the faithful for their active participation and warm hospitality.

We extend our immense gratitude to the Reverend Provincials and Sisters from various congregations — MSMI, DM, SD, CMC, ASMI, SJB, SABS, and DC — for their commitment, service, and dedication in conducting the Home Mission activities and offering spiritual counseling throughout the retreats.

Special thanks to the following members of the Jeevotsav Team for their invaluable contributions:

Rev. Fr. Gregory – Assistant Director, Jeevotsav
 Rev. Fr. Jobin Ovelil
 Rev. Fr. Vivek
 Rev. Fr. Mathew Nirappel
 Rev. Fr. Jeevan
 Rev. Fr. Jacob
 Rev. Sr. Soosi, MSMI and Rev. Sr. Arpita, CMC – for counselling
 Thaksande Nagendra Guruji – Mul Parish
 Mr. Suresh and Mr. Nilesh – for leading the music ministry

We also sincerely appreciate the CMI Evangelisation Department of the Marthoma Province, Chanda for their consistent support.

Many Reverend Fathers, Sisters, and faithful have been fervently praying for the success of the Jeevotsav Retreats, and their intercessions have borne fruit.

We humbly seek your continued prayers and assistance as we strive to organize more prayer gatherings in our parishes, to invoke God's blessings and spread the Good News.

Fr. Binu Thomas Muthalakuzhiyil
 Director, Jeevotsav Retreat Team



Congratulations....!



IX. NEWS FROM FORMATION HOUSES

CLARETIAN ASHRAM, WARDHA

Annual Spiritual Harvest

The Annual Retreat 2025 was a deeply enriching experience, rekindling the spiritual fervor of our students from January 2nd to 5th. Led by Fr. Jameson Thomas, member of Divine Vachana Ashram, Bhellarshah, the retreat centered on the theme, “*The Secrets of the Kingdom of God*,” offering profound insights into the mysteries of faith. This grace-filled time became a sacred journey of renewal and transformation, with moments of deep reflection, prayer, and spiritual awakening. The retreat was further enriched by the compassionate guidance and counseling of Sr. Susie MSMI, whose wisdom and support brought healing and clarity in vocational journey.

Students' Animation Program

Extending the services of CASA, Fr. Sijo Cherukarayil, CMF, conducted a one-day Students' Animation Program at St. John's School, Allipur, for 8th and 9th graders, focusing on effective study techniques. The sessions, held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., provided practical strategies to improve concentration, retention, and time management. Through interactive discussions and activities, students were encouraged to adopt disciplined study habits and a positive academic mindset.

Sports Day

On January 25, 2025, Claretian Ashram celebrated its Annual Sports Day. The event was inaugurated at 6:30 a.m. by Rev. Fr. Joseph Mundackal, CMF. The march-past set the stage for an exciting series of competitions, where participants showcased great enthusiasm and sportsmanship. The day concluded with a joyful lunch, celebrating the spirit of teamwork and athletic excellence.

Republic Day Celebrations

On January 26, 2025, the Ashram community joyfully celebrated the 76th Republic Day with a spirit of patriotism and gratitude. The day

began with a solemn Mass at 7:00 a.m., presided over by Rev. Fr. George Kollampampil, CMF, invoking God's blessings upon the nation and its people, followed by a flag hoisting ceremony at 8:15 a.m., honoring the country's rich heritage and democratic values. After the national flag was proudly unfurled, Stu. Laban delivered a heartfelt message in Hindi, reflecting on the sacrifices of the freedom fighters and the enduring legacy of India's independence.

Formative Visit

Rev. Fr. Xavier Pereira, Prefect of Formation for the Bangalore Province, arrived for an animation visit to foster growth and strengthen the formation process. During his visit, he personally met students from the province of Bangalore, offering guidance and encouragement in their formative journey. He also met with the formators, discussing key aspects of formation, evaluating progress, and providing insights to enhance the overall training process.

Preparatory Thesis Summary Presentations of Third Year B.Ph. students

On February 1, 2025, fifteen Third-Year B.Ph. students at Claretian Ashram presented their thesis summaries, marking a key academic milestone. Each student delivered a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation, followed by a 5-minute discussion for intellectual exchange. A panel of esteemed moderators, including Fr. Sijo Cherukarayil, CMF, Fr. Joseph Koonath, CMF, Fr. Joseph Mundackal, CMF, and Fr. George Kollampampil, CMF, provided valuable feedback. The event fostered academic dialogue, analytical thinking, and scholarly growth.

The World day of the Consecrated

The Claretian Ashram Community joyfully celebrated the World Day of Consecrated Life on February 2, 2025, with a day of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. The celebration began with a Solemn Mass at 7:00 a.m., presided over by Rev. Fr. Joseph Koonath, CMF, setting a sacred and reflective tone for the day. In the evening, at 6:00 p.m., the community gathered for a Solemn Rosary, followed by a Cultural

Fiesta, a Campfire, and a fraternal Agape, fostering a deep sense of unity and joy.

Visit of Rt. Rev. Bishop Mar Sebastian Vaniyapurackal

Rt. Rev. Bishop Mar Sebastian Vaniyapurackal, Curia Bishop of Syro Malabar Church, visited the Claretian Ashram Community, bringing warmth and pastoral presence. Accompanied by Rev. Fr. Sebastian Nandikkara, CMI, he joined the community for a fraternal lunch and enriching conversations. Afterward, he addressed the students in an orientation talk, inspiring them with wisdom and encouragement in their academic, spiritual and formative journeys.

“LUX SPEI” – CALA and CASA Valedictory 2024-25

Claretian Ashram celebrated its Annual Day and Valedictory event, “LUX SPEI” 2024-25, on February 15, 2025, bringing together students, staff, and distinguished guests to commemorate a year of achievements. The program featured vibrant performances, including mime, cultural dances, group song, and a thought-provoking skit, alongside a report highlighting the year's milestones. Chief Guest, Dr. Siby K. Joseph delivered an inspiring address on nurturing talents for meaningful social change, deeply resonating with the audience. The celebration concluded with an agape, fostering unity and fellowship among the priests, religious, and brothers in attendance.

Formative Visit

From February 19 to 20, Rev. Fr. Jaison Perumpallioliccal, CMF, Prefect of Formation of the North East Province, visited the community for an animation visit, inspiring and guiding its members. He met with students from the North East Province, offering encouragement and delivering a conference for all students on "Belongingness to the Congregation as the Basis of Vocational Growth," emphasizing deep-rooted commitment within the Claretian family. Additionally, he engaged with formators to reflect on the ongoing formation process and explore ways to enhance vocational accompaniment.

One-Day Seminar on Creative Fidelity in Consecrated Life

Claretian Ashram, Wardha, hosted a One-Day Seminar on Creative Fidelity in Consecrated Life on February 22, 2025, bringing together over 140 priests, religious, and candidates from the Wardha and Nagpur zones of CRI. The seminar opened with a thought-provoking talk by Rev. Fr. Paulson Veliyannoor, CMF, on the state of religious life, followed by two insightful sessions by Rev. Fr. Xavier Manavath, CMF, highlighting renewal and adaptability in consecrated living. In the afternoon, participants engaged in “Conversations in Spirit”, fostering deeper reflection through small-group discussions. A panel discussion enriched the dialogue, addressing key concerns and perspectives on religious commitment. The seminar concluded with “Resting on the Future,” leaving participants inspired and renewed in their vocational journey.

"Radiant Hearts in Faith": Youth Encounter

A youth group from Fatima Matha Church, Kaghaznagar, visited Claretian Ashram as part of their Mission Exposure Program, accompanied by Frs. Joseph Pulinkunnel, Joshy Arayickal, and two religious sisters. Their visit provided an opportunity for spiritual enrichment, learning, and fellowship. As part of the program, at 7:00 p.m., the "Radiant Hearts in Faith" Youth Encounter was hosted in the auditorium, bringing together young minds in an atmosphere of inspiration and reflection. The highlight of the evening was an engaging talk delivered by Rev. Fr. George Kollamparampil, CMF who shared profound insights on faith, mission, and the role of youth in the Church.

Animation Visit of the Provincial

Rev. Fr. Siby Njavallikunnel, CMF, Provincial of the St. Thomas Province of the Claretians, arrived for his animation visit at 3:45 p.m. on 16th March. He was warmly welcomed by the community. Following supper, Fr. Provincial commenced his personal meetings with the students of the St. Thomas Province. The following day, he continued his one-on-one interactions with the students and subsequently completed his personal meetings with the staff members. On 18th

March at 3:00 p.m., Fr. Provincial convened a common community evaluation meeting, bringing together all members for a reflective and fruitful discussion.

“Dies Custodis” 2K25

On March 19, the Claretian Ashram community joyfully celebrated the Solemnity of St. Joseph, honoring the patron saint of three staff members and five students. The day began with a solemn Holy Qurbana, presided over by Rev. Fr. Joseph Koonath, CMF, alongside festarians Rev. Fr. Joseph Mundackal, CMF, and Rev. Fr. Joseph Vadakkemurickanakuzhiyil, CMF, followed by warm greetings in the refectory with Rev. Fr. Siby Njavallikunnel, CMF, the Provincial. The celebration culminated in the evening with "Dies Custodis"—The Day of the Guardian—featuring cultural performances, heartfelt expressions of gratitude, and a festive agape meal, strengthening the bonds of fraternity and joy.

Earth Hour Day, 2025

On 22nd March, we joined the global community in celebrating Earth Hour 2025, a powerful initiative that reaffirmed our commitment to caring for our common home. From 8:45 pm to 9:15 pm, we symbolically switched off our lights as a gesture of solidarity and engaged in meaningful actions to protect and nurture the environment. As part of this observance, we were privileged to mark the occasion with a special prayer session led by Rev. Fr. George Kollamparampil, CMF. This time of reflection and prayer deepened our awareness of our responsibility as stewards of creation, inspiring us to embrace sustainable practices and foster a harmonious relationship with nature.

B.Ph Comprehensive Viva Voce Examination

The comprehensive Viva Voce examination was conducted at Darsana Institute of Philosophy from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on 28 March, 2025, marking a significant academic milestone for the students. We are delighted to congratulate our B.Ph rank holders for their outstanding achievements: Stu. Leo Mankuzha, who secured the top position with an impressive 87%, followed by Stu. Alan Baby Manaleparampil with

86%, and Stu. Subin Konattel with 84%. Their dedication and hard work have borne fruit, and we commend them for their remarkable performance. May their success inspire continued excellence in their academic and philosophical pursuits.

CMI DARSANA SEMINARY

1. The Darsana Family celebrated the feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara with Profound faith and devotion in collaboration with CMC Carmelodaya Province, Wardha, on 12th January, 2025. The celebration was begun with the Solemn Mass by Rev Fr Santhosh Kotheril CMI, Provincial of Jagdalpur Province, at 05:30 PM and it was followed by the solemn procession to Carmelodaya Provincial House. The festivities included Band-set, Fireworks and a captivating visual saga presented by CMC Candidates from EVB, Paloti.
2. The 23rd of January was a day of immense joy for the Darsana Family as we welcomed 13 of their newly ordained alumni to their alma mater. Following a solemn Mass offered by the newly ordained priests for the community, a warm reception was held in their honour.
3. The DKS and DSKS culminated their programs in a grand event on January 26th, marked by a mega-drama "Achilles." Adding to the prestige of the occasion, Sr. Tessa SJB, the Provincial Superior of Wardha Province, graced the event as the Chief Guest. The ceremony also celebrated academic excellence with the distribution of awards to top performers and the overall champions of the DKS programs. The mega-drama "Achilles," was hailed as Darsana's greatest presentation on the occasion. A heartfelt thanks to Fr. Siby Vadakekara CMI, the Director, Fr. Nithin CMI and Fr. Prince CMI who poured their hard work and support into making the day a great success.
4. As part of the Decennial preparations for the Bicentennial Jubilee of the CMI Congregation, Darsana hosted the CMI Renewal Program on February 8-9. The event began with a welcome address by Rev. Fr. Francis Aykaraparampil CMI, the Rector, followed by an orientation talk by Rev. Fr. Martin Mallath CMI. The sessions

featured Rev. Fr. Jose Nandhikkara CMI, Rev. Fr. Biju Vellakada CMI, and Rev. Fr. Josey Thamarassery CMI, focusing on CMI spirituality, education, and mission respectively.

5. In celebration of the 220th birth anniversary of St. Chavara, DIP, Wardha, organized the Atmodaya Extension Lectures. The keynote speaker was Bp. Sebastian Vaniyapurackal, the Curia Bishop, who delivered an insightful talk on “St. Chavara: The Continuing Legacy of a Wonderworker.” The one-hour lecture was followed by an engaging discussion with the audience, enriching the understanding of St. Chavara's lasting influence. The event concluded with a warm Agape, fostering fellowship and community spirit.
6. Seniors had the Viva Voce exam on March 28th and completed their D.Ph. Studies and returned to the provinces. Juniors are planning to go to mission provinces for their mission exposure program in April-May. Fr Libin Thekkumkattil CMI, the animator of students, has left for Rome for his doctoral studies. The new batch of students will arrive at Darsana on 14th June and the inauguration of the new academic year 2025-26 will be on Monday, 23rd June, 2025. Sant Vianney Gurukul

The new year celebration for the SVG brothers was with the prisoners of babupeth on 1/1/2025. It was a spiritual and pastoral experience for the brothers as they interacted with the faithful and shared their life experiences.

on 7 January 2025, fr. Jinson from Iddki Diocese came to SVG to learn Hindi and marathi language for his priestly ministry in the Diocese.

The SVG community solemnly celebrated the Republic Day on 26 January 2025. Fr. Jinson hoisted the national flag and inspired the brothers with his message. Varieties of programs were performed.

on 28 January 2025 fourth years and first years had adilabad darshan. It was an informative and inspiring experience.

11-28 february 2025 our Third year brothers appeared for their +12 board exams.

on 17 February 2025 Bishop of faridabad visited seminary and interacted with the seminarian.

on 22 March 2025 farewell was given to Rev. Fr. Shibu and the outgoing fourth year brothers and Regent.

on 1 April 2025 fr. Vijil was appointed as the Rector of the seminary.

SANT VIANNEY GURUKUL (SVG)

New Year Celebration

On 1 January 2025, the SVG brothers welcomed the New Year with the inmates of Babupeth Prison. It was a deeply spiritual and pastoral experience as the brothers interacted with the prisoners and shared their life journeys.

Language Formation for Mission

On 7 January 2025, Fr. Jinson from the Idukki Diocese arrived at SVG to begin learning Hindi and Marathi in preparation for his priestly ministry in the diocese.

Republic Day Celebration

The SVG community solemnly celebrated Republic Day on 26 January 2025. Fr. Jinson hoisted the national flag and inspired the brothers with a meaningful message. A variety of cultural programs were presented to mark the occasion.

Adilabad Darshan

On 28 January 2025, the first-year and fourth-year brothers went on an Adilabad Darshan. It was an informative and spiritually enriching experience.

Board Examinations

From 11 to 28 February 2025, our third-year brothers appeared for their Class 12 board examinations. We pray for their success and continued growth.

Episcopal Visit

On 17 February 2025, His excellency Bp. Kuriakose Bharanikulangara, the Bishop of Faridabad eparchy visited the seminary and spent time interacting with the seminarians, encouraging them in their formation.

Farewell Programs

A heartfelt farewell was given on 22 March 2025 to Rev. Fr. Shibu, the outgoing fourth-year brothers, and the Regent. The community expressed gratitude for their contributions and wished them well in their future endeavours.

On 21 April 2025, the SVG community bid a warm farewell to Fr. Vishal Janagam. He was the vice rector and administrator of the seminary. The community expressed heartfelt gratitude for his selfless and dedicated service to the life and mission of the seminary. His presence and contributions will be fondly remembered.

New Rector Appointed

On 1 April 2025, Fr. Vigil Parassery took the charge as the Rector of the Seminary. We extend our prayers and best wishes for his leadership and service.

"Come and See" Programme

From 10 to 13 April 2025, the SVG conducted a "Come and See" programme for prospective candidates in association with Fr. Vivek Putherpurackal, the vocation promoter. Six students, who had recently completed Grade 10, participated in the programme. They had a meaningful and joyful time engaging in various formative activities, along with a memorable outing to Ashti.

Easter Blessing

On 20 April 2025, the SVG community was blessed to receive the Easter blessing from Bishop Ephrem Nariculam, who graciously visited and blessed the seminary. It was a moment of great joy and spiritual encouragement for all.

Welcome to Fr. Priju Puthenpurackal

On 22 April 2025, the SVG community warmly welcomed Fr. Priju Puthenpurackal as the new Vice Rector and Administrator of the seminary. We pray for God's grace and guidance in his ministry and leadership among us.

Major Seminarians' Gathering

The Major Seminarians' Gathering was scheduled from 21 April to 2 May 2025, with seven major seminarians expected to participate. However, due to an unforeseen accident, the planned programmes could not proceed as scheduled. Despite the disruption, Bishop Ephrem Nariculam met personally with each major seminarian on 01 May, offering his guidance and encouragement. On 02 May, Bishop celebrated the Holy Mass for the group at SVG and held a brief meeting during which a new leader was elected for the major seminarians. We continue to keep all those affected in our prayers, asking the Lord for comfort, healing, and renewed strength.

Major Renovation Work at the Seminary

After many years, a major renovation was undertaken at the seminary, made possible through the generous support of the L'Oeuvre d'Orient and Paderborn Diocese. In addition, the fencing around the campus was fortified to ensure safety from wild animals. Heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to this significant work - especially to Fr. Shibu and Fr. Vishal for their dedicated efforts and leadership throughout the project.

X. NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS HOUSES

CARMELODAYA PROVINCE, WARDHA

The Joint Celebration of CMI and CMC (Darsana and Carmelodaya) of the feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara commenced on 12th January 2025. Rev. Fr. Santhosh Kotheril CMI, the Provincial Superior of Jagadapur was the main celebrant of the day. Many Fathers, Sisters, Brothers, Candidates and parishioners and the neighbouring communities were present for this mega feast celebration. After the solemn Eucharistic celebration, the procession was arranged to Carmelodaya Provincial House, carrying the relics of St. Chavara. Here in our chapel, there was 'Ladinj' after which the procession was continued back to Darsana. 'Preeti Bhoj' was arranged for all. It was an occasion to spread the legacy of our founder and the countless contribution he has done to the Society and to the Holy Catholic Church.

We have joined hands with 'Nikshay Mitra' - A project for the eradication of TB, by providing the nutritious kits to the 15 affected patients of Arvi, Wardha, Seloo and Jam Blocks.

A Geriatric Training Programme was arranged in the Province level to equip the sisters to take care of the elderly sisters as well as to do the Palliative care more effectively.

Vocation camp was conducted in our Provincial House for the girls of Chanda, Jharkhand and Odisha, from 25th March to 14th April 2025, in order to discern their call and follow the footprints of Jesus. There were 20 participants.

SISTERS OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND MARY THE QUEEN

Silver and Golden Jubilee Celebration: Sisters of St. John the

Baptist and Mary the Queen, Indian province celebrated the Golden Jubilee of sisters: Jyoti, Archana, Vandana, Flowery & Latika and the Silver Jubilee of sisters: Kalpana, Rani, Sima, and Jessy on February 19, 2025, at Agragami Provincial House. The solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by His Grace Rt. Rev. Bishop Ephrem Nariculam, the bishop of Chanda. The joy of the celebration was doubled by the presence of family members, fellow sisters, priests and well-wishers. During the programme the sisters were felicitated in recognition of their selfless service and unwavering dedication.

Retreats at Sanjeevani Ashram: There was a three-day healing and deliverance retreat in the month of January conducted by Rev. Fr. Robin Devassy of the Sagar Diocese at Sanjeevani Ashram. Brother Varghese from Kerala led the retreat in February, which took place from the 7th to the 9th and was attended by both laypeople and religious. In the month of March there was an anointing and deliverance retreat, led by Br. Shyam Ephrem and Br. Don Bosco from Kerala. Many benefitted from it. To equip participants with essential counselling skills, Sr. Divya conducted a 'Gifted Counselling' course at Sanjeevani Ashram. Sisters from various congregations serving in different dioceses attended the course.

Medical Camps and Community Outreach: Through the generous support of the Hilton Foundation project, granted to SDFI (Sister doctors Forum of India) Dr. Sr. Sally and a team of nurse sisters from the health ministry successfully organized five medical camps across various villages in Allipur. These camps provided essential healthcare services to nearly 1000 individuals, making a significant impact on the local community. Principal Sr. Atulya, the staff, and the students of St. John's School, Allipur, worked tirelessly to ensure the success of these events.

Health Ministry Day Celebration: On March 16th, Health Ministry Day was celebrated at Agragami Provincial House Mhasala. Fifteen SJB sisters involved in health ministry participated in this program, which featured a range of activities, including online prayer services, input sessions, sharing from the field, games, and more.

Jubilee Year 2025: On the eve of March 15th, the health ministry organized an online prayer service in observance of the Jubilee Year theme, "Pilgrims of Hope.". Sisters from around the world participated, reflecting our global unity and shared commitment to our mission.

Programmes and Training: The SJB Department of Education conducted an NEP training session for all teachers of St. John's educational institutions on March 31st at Agragami Convent School, CBSE, Mhasala. A total of 180 staff members attended the training, which was led by Dr. Swarup Dutta. An NLP program was held for students of classes 9th & 10th, as well as the staff of Agragami Convent School, from March 17th to 24th. Mr. Shonit and the Shonytalks team served as the resource persons for this impactful program.



Hearty Congratulations

Sr. Preethy Therese Zade (SABS)
had her Final Profession
on 07 April 2025.



ON GOING FORMATION

ADDRESS	COURSE	DATE
Atma Darshan Mahakali Caves Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai 400 093, India Website: www.atmadarshan-svd.org Ph: 9769694422	Personal Transformation & Commitment (For Priests & Religious)	May 04-31, 2025
	Skills in Counselling & Spiritual Direction (For Superior, Formators & School Counsellors)	Aug 10-23, 2025
	Leadership Retreat (For Priests & Religious)	27 Oct- 02 Nov 2025
National Vocation Service Centre (NVSC) Pune - 411014 Email: nvscpune@yahoo.com www.http://nvscpune.in Ph: 9403021749	Diploma in Counselling & Integral Formation	18 June 2025 to 26 March, 2026
Indian Institute of Spirituality (IIS) P.B. No. 5639, Dr. Rajkumar Road Rajajinagar 1 st Block Bangalore - 560026 Email: benkoottanal@gmail.com www.iispirituality.org Ph: 9739010026	Licentiate & Doctorate in Spiritual Theology	2 to 5 years
Visvadeep Kristu Jyoti Collage Bangalore Email: visvadeepsdb@gmail.com Ph: 974647185354	One year Program: Diploma in Formation of Faith Educators and Youth Ministers	02 June 2025, to 21 March, 2026

ADDRESS	COURSE	DATE
Denahalaya – Institute of Formation & Counselling Punnappara, Alappuzha - 688004 Email: denahalaya@gmail.com www.denahalaya.com Ph: 9188039924	Short- and Long-Term Courses in Formation & Counselling	June 2025 to March 2027
Ishvani Kendra Sainikwadi Vadgaosheri Road, Pune 411014 Email: ishvaniprogrammes@gmail.com www.ishvanikendra.com Ph: 8080450891	Formators Course: New Challenges and Skills in Formation (For Rectors, Superiors, Formators Vocation Promoters, Novice Directors)	16 November to 13 December 2025



Quotes

“**Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.**”
— Lao-Tze ”

XI. HEAVENLY BRETHREN

MAY

1. Fr. Mathew Kaniyamparampil CMI	05-05-2011	Pala
2. Sr. Darsana SJB	07.05. 2012	Kuriachera
3. Sr. Lia CMC	08-05-2001	Thommanna
4. Sr. Rose Margaret CMC	08-05-2012	Thommanna
5. Fr. George Chakkalackal CMI	10.05.2012	Trichur
6. Fr. Lawrence Burle	14.05.2021	Ballarpur
7. Sr. Shaify FCC	25-05-2002	Kadukutty
8. Bro. Jomon Mattapillil CMI	30-05-1997	Bellampalli

JUNE

1. Sr. Jesslima SD	02-06-1995	Chethipuzha
2. Sr. Clementia SHSp	04-06-2018	Germany
3. Fr. Davis Kannampuzha CMI	07-06-2006	Bellampalli
4. Fr. Alex Ukken CMI	11-06-2006	Irinjalakuda
5. Sr. Justina SD	16-06-2002	Wardha
6. Fr. Antony Cyriac Chirayil CMI	28-06-2002	Bellampalli
7. Sr. Lutgardis SJB	24-06-2018	Germany

JULY

1. Fr. Diego Kodankandath CMI	01-07-2004	Pavarty
2. Fr. Mathew Manikompel CMI	09-07-2009	Mutholy
3. Fr. Christian Plakatt CMI	12-07-2005	Mutholy
4. Fr. Callistus Chavarananickal CMI	14-07-2011	Ballarpur
5. Sr. Infant Mary FCC	16-07-1998	Bhopal
6. Fr. Mathew Kalarickal CMI	17-07-2003	Bellampalli
7. Bro. Michael Nellikunnel CMI(Aspirant)	23-07-1988	Ballarpur
8. Sr. (Dr.) Jose Maria FCC	25-07-2004	Aluva
9. Fr. Remiji Nadackal CMI	30-07-1991	Yellareddy
10. Sr. Auxillia ASMI	10-07-2015	Allapally

AUGUST

1. Sr. Vijaya FCC	11-08-1991	Muvattupuzha
2. Sr. Amala SD	11-08-2000	Chethipuzha
3. Sr. Priya SJB	13-08-1998	Hinganghat
4. Fr. Joseph Koikara CMI	14-08-2017	Kochi
5. Fr. Joseph Kozhikothickal	14-08-2021	Vilakumadam
6. Fr. Thomas Pandipally CMI	16-08-2008	Bellampally
7. Sr. Sangeetha SJB	17-08-2022	Wardha
8. (Candidate) Tessy SD	21-08-1997	Athirampuzha
9. Sr. Rose Ambo0ken SJB	21-08-2022	Wardha
10. Sr. Silas FCC	21-08-2022	Wardha
11. Fr. James Thottapally CMI	25-08-1986	Neeleswaram
12. Fr. Dharmanand Muttathottil CMI	25-08-1990	Ballarpur



04th DEATH ANNIVERSARIES



Fourth Death Anniversary of Fr. Lawrence Burle falls on Wednesday 14 May 2025. Please remember him in our prayers.

Fourth Death Anniversary of Fr. Joseph Kozhikothickal falls on Thursday 14 August 2025. Please pray for the repose of his soul and offer prayers on the day.



TRIBUTE TO POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, is the 266th pope of the Roman Catholic Church and the first from the Americas. He is also the first Jesuit pope and the first non-European pope in over 1,200 years.



Early Life: Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Italian immigrant parents, Francis grew up in a working-class neighbourhood and studied in public schools. He obtained a technical certification as a chemist in high school.

Priesthood: At 21, Francis fell severely ill with pneumonia and had part of his right lung removed. He entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) on March 11, 1958.

Bishop and Archbishop: Francis became an auxiliary bishop in 1992 and the Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998.

Papacy: As pope, Francis was known for his humility, concern for the poor, and commitment to dialogue. He was the first Jesuit pope, the first from the Americas, and the first from the Southern Hemisphere. He resided in the Domus Sanctae Marthae guesthouse instead of the papal apartments.

Key Focus Areas: Environmental Stewardship: His 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'* called for urgent action on climate change and care for "our common home," becoming a cornerstone of Catholic teaching on the environment.

Social Justice: He criticized trickle-down economics, consumerism, and overdevelopment, and advocated for the abolition of capital punishment. He had great concern for the migrants and refugees.

Interfaith Dialogue: Francis promoted dialogue and inclusivity and encouraged the Catholic Church to be more compassionate to

LGBTQ individuals.

Encyclicals: Lumen Fidei (The light of Faith) 2013
 Laudato Si (Praise be to you) 2015
 Fratelli Tutti (All brothers) 2020
 Dilexit Nos (He loved us) 2024

Legacy: Pope Francis, a beacon of compassion, humility, and justice, left an indelible mark on the world. He was a symbol of love, forgiveness, and peace, guiding humanity toward greater kindness, understanding, and justice. Pope Francis championed inclusion for individuals with intellectual disabilities and was a fierce advocate for the Special Olympics movement.

Pope Francis passed away on April 21, 2025, at the age of 88, due to cardiac arrest after having a stroke.



Quotes of Pope Francis

A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.

“If God calls you by name, it means that for God none of us is number, but a face and a heart.”

We are all called to be instruments of God's peace, not just in the church but in the world.

Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.



A TRIBUTE TO SR. MICHAEL

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants” (Ps 116::15)

Sr. Michael was born on 1 July 1932, in the devout Neerakkal family of the Muttuchira parish in the Diocese of Pala. Sr. Michael, also called Theyyama, was the eldest of fifteen children of late Mr. N. J. Korah and Tresiamma. After the SSLC exam, she joined the SD Congregation. Late Sr. Rose SD, late Sr. Ann SD and Fr. Cyriac Neerakkal OCD are her siblings who embraced religious life.



Sr. Michael made her first profession on 6 January 1953 and perpetual profession on 25 May 1958. She was sent for Teachers Training Course in 1954 at Palluruthy. She served as a teacher at Chunangamvely, Nazareth and Perumanur Schools in Kerala before she was sent to the mission areas. Madras, Jagadhri, Gandhidham, Adilabad, Nirmal, Warangal and Lakkadakot were her fields of mission. Through her selfless service in these mission schools, she became a beloved mother and an effective teacher to countless young hearts. After her retirement, from October 1995 she was residing at Krupadham Provincial House Wardha. During long 27 years of her life at the provincialate, she was engaged in teaching English language and songs to the candidates. She lived her motto “Love Serves” by her round the clock services attending the little details of each sister who comes to provincial house. She was also constant intercessor for the universal Church, suffering humanity, SD Congregation and her dear family members. She had utmost respect for superiors, warmth for all sisters and a soft corner for the youngsters, especially formees. She embraced a life of discipline and devotion, observing every fast and abstinence with reverence and joy. She was ever ready to do night vigil every First Friday along with the community even at the age of 94 igniting new energy and inspiration among the sisters. Sr. Michael would stay updated her knowledge by reading the newspapers and periodicals daily and watching TV news. She showed particular interest in sharing these updates with the community members.

Her health was feeble with Hernia and BP. As she felt much discomfort after the Holy Mass on 2 April 2025, she was taken to Datta Meghe Hospital and from there to Christ Hospital, Chandrapur. On 5th April by 9.00 am her condition became critical and Fr. Bipin, Director of Christ Hospital Chandrapur administered the Anointing of the sick. Rt.Rev.Ephrem Nariculam, the Bishop of the Diocese of Chanda visited her by 11.00 am at the hospital and gave his paternal blessing . As there was nothing much to do than palliative care, she was shifted back to Provincial House. On April 6th at 9. 30 pm, she bid farewell to us and flew to eternity in a most serene way. The mortal remains of Sr.Michael were taken to Sevagram hospital after the *Office of the Dead*, led by Rev.Fr.Francis and Priests of Darshana, Rev.Fr.Sijo and priests of Claritian Ashram, Rev.Fr.Robinson and priests from parish Church Wardha. On Thursday 10th April 2025, the body was brought to the Provincial House in Wardha at 7.00 a.m. Rev.Fr.Jose Manikkathan CMI, Vicar General of the Diocese of Adilabad and various priests and religious from the dioceses of Adilabad and Chanda were present to pay their loving tributes and prayers to Sr.Michael. The funeral service began at 4.30 p.m and the Holy Qurbana was officiated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Ephrem Nariculam, Bishop of Chanda and the mortal remains were taken to the tomb and laid to rest at 6.45 pm.

Dearest Sr. Michael, We are ever grateful to you for your exemplary, selfless and committed services for SD and the people of God during your glorious 71 years of consecrated life in SD. May your memory be a source of inspiration for generations to come! Eternal farewell dearest Sr. Michael!



Quotes

“Sing like no one’s listening, love like you’ve never been hurt, dance like nobody’s watching, and live like it’s heaven on earth.”



THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS ENTRUSTED TO THE WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK FOR THE YEAR 2025

MAY

FOR WORKING CONDITIONS.

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

JUNE

THAT THE WORLD MIGHT GROW IN COMPASSION.

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

JULY

FOR FORMATION IN DISCERNMENT.

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

AUGUST

FOR MUTUAL COEXISTENCE.

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.

- Pope Francis